

Cormonachan Woodlands

Sent: 1st May 2023

Welcome to Cormonachan Community Woodlands Ltd.

Cormonachan Community Woodlands - Members Update No 54

The Latest News - <https://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/news.htm> and Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/cormonachan> are updated regularly so in between Members Updates please look at these for news.

Cormonachan Community Woodlands Latest News

1) Great news to report that the Upper Cormonachan Heritage Paths will be open to the public from Saturday 1st July 2023



Upper Cormonachan Heritage Paths and new South Car Park will be Open to the public from Saturday 1st July 2023.

These new paths from the new South Car Park will lead to Cormonachan Falls, the Medieval Settlement, the Forest Road, where you will be able to walk off-road to and from Carrick Castle and Lochgoilhead and join the Cowal Way at Lettermay.

Once the new paths are open, you will be able to book a Guided Tour on the following Mondays from 10 am to 12 noon:-

3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st July & 7th & 14th August 2023 (£5 per Adult & Children under 16, Free - Max 12 persons per tour).

Look out for 'Guided Tours' link on our website, coming soon, which will also be shown at the notice board in the North Car Park.

The new 2 km of paths will join up with the existing 2.5 km of circular paths in the north of Cormonachan Community Woodlands at the Contemplation Shelter and the North Car Park.

The existing paths are open every day of the year for visitors to enjoy as will the new paths from 1st July... However, the North Car Park will be closed to the public on Friday 30th June 2023 for the Official Opening of the new paths by the Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority. Stewards will be in attendance.

2) Volunteering - Your help is urgently needed



Monday, 8th May 2023 from 10 am, meeting at the North Car Park

The next Volunteers Days will be on Monday 8th May at 10 am for "The Big Help Out" Volunteers Day where we are joining the rest of the United Kingdom in offering experience of what it's like to volunteer. The next Volunteers Day will be on Thursday 11th May at 10 am. Both days will be led by Frances Walker, our Volunteers Leader and Team Leader.

In order to volunteer, please register at <https://cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/volunteering/> where you can fill in the form and book the day(s) of your choice. Whilst the volunteering period is shown as 10 am to 4 pm, you can help out as long as you wish...

There will be erecting signs on both these days for the new path, but if you would like to do some other tasks as shown on the website, there can be pruning to do in these areas as well.

We have just had two days of Sitka spruce felling at the top of the middle path done by eight members of the Fife Conservation Group. This work is a licensed felling of 210 non-native trees over five years, that over two weekends in the last two years, they have felled 85 of those trees and will continue in November and onwards until 2026 clearing them all. We will then replant the area with native trees.

On thanking the group, who have been coming to Cormonachan Woodlands for the last 22 years, they responded with the following comment:-

"The pleasure is, genuinely, ours. We all love coming over and helping to gradually return the woods to their rightful state. After all, why else would we keep coming back?"

The few local volunteers we have, all enjoy helping to maintain the woodlands. Without volunteers, the woodlands would not be available for us to conserve them, be able to educate the thousands of children through Ardroy OEC who have visited them and for the public to have a wonderful outdoor place for recreation. We hope more local people will be willing to try volunteering.

3) People Counters

The number of visitors to the woodlands throughout 2022 was 10,456 compared to 9,945 in 2021.

There will be an additional counter at the start of the new paths in the south car park.

The monthly visitor numbers can be seen recorded in the board meeting minutes each month..

4) Board Member availability

We are still looking for a member who has web site content management and social media experience or who is willing to learn these skills under instruction over the next year. The object is to relieve our Secretary of her Webmaster additional position. Any member who would be interested in this longer term position should contact Dee, the Secretary at Secretary@cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk.

We are also looking for any member who would be interested in supporting the woodlands and the board members for the future. We are currently seeking a Woodlands Manager. For further information and job descriptions, visit <https://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/board-members/>

5) Argyll Community Lottery

Argyll Community Lottery is currently raising £286.00 annually from seven of our members with 10 tickets, if you wish to support us, visit...

[Support Cormonachan Community Woodlands Ltd when you play Argyll Community Lottery - Argyll Community Lottery](#)

For every £1 you spend to win the top prize of £25,000, we receive 50p - our target is still to have 50 members supporting us however we only have 7 supporters at present with 3 members winning £25 each so far.



6) Internet Shopping



The Cormonachan Community Woodlands are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online.

We have raised £463.18 to date through 16 members who are supporting this valuable source of income for maintaining the woodlands.

Help us to support Cormonachan Community Woodlands by signing up for FREE on #easyfundraising. You can raise donations whenever you shop online with over 7,400 retailers, including John Lewis & Partners, eBay, Argos, ASOS, M&S, B&Q, TK Maxx, Bookings.com and many more.

Sign up today - this will make a BIG difference to us this year:
https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?invite=1KQ390&char=243146&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=refsharebox

Funds raised go to support the maintenance of Cormonachan Community Woodlands. Thank you so much!

Tail Piece...



The latest Board Meeting Minutes of 12th April 2023 can be viewed on this link: <https://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/minutes-of-meetings/>

And, Finally...

Please put a note in your diary for a talk on "Otters" by Ben Yoxon, International Otter Survival Fund with a focus on the Otters of the West Coast of Scotland and further afield. This event is free to attend but a voluntary collection will be made for the Lochgoilhead Primary School to help them adopt an otter at the Skye Rescue Centre. A talk is also being given to the school earlier in the day.

This event is being run by the new local "Wild Goilers Association" in the Village Hall on Wednesday 10th May at 7 pm.

Contact: Dee (Douglas) Locke, Secretary (Voluntary)
Cormonachan Community Woodlands Ltd.
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<https://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cormonachan>
Highly Commended Award in Scotland's Finest Woods Awards 2022

