

We now sell firewood!

After spending months cutting, splitting, and drying firewood, it's finally ready for sale! It's all hardwood, and consists mainly of birch, with a mix of other hardwoods including hazel, oak, and alder. The wood has been air dried for months and is ready to burn.



Bags are £25/each and each bag is ¼ size of a builders bag

We have bought specially designed log bags to sell it in, which have vented sides to allow air to pass through, and lids which stick down with Velcro to keep the rain off. At the moment its collection only, but we will shortly have a trailer so will be able to deliver. A bag of logs is priced at £25 each, with a £5 returnable deposit on the bag. Even though its summer time, this is an ideal time to buy firewood and get your logshed filled ready for autumn. Ring or email Tom to arrange collection: 01809 501287 / tom@glengarry.org.uk

We will have a constant supply of firewood to sell and have recently purchased equipment that will allow us to process wood at a bigger scale.

Springtime the woods

Spring is always a busy time in the community woodland, as the programme of community events start up again. This year we ran the forest school club 'Into the Woods' for two days during each week of the Easter holidays. Using the new format of six hour days, children took part in a

range of activities including making bow and arrows (with target practice), making a woodland orchestra, as well as the usual cooking on the campfire, tool work and games.



Children in their den at Into the Woods this Easter

The annual Easter Eggstravaganza event took place on Easter Saturday, attended by some 70 people. This year we did two different egg hunts; one for the younger children, and one for the older children. They all had to work hard, exploring a large area of the woods before they got their chocolate. There were two egg and spoon races, which were double the length of previous years, and hot cross bun dough to toast on sticks over the fire.



Older children lining up for the egg and spoon race

Junior Rangers

In March we started a new monthly club called Junior Rangers. It's for older children, (P7 through High School) and gives them a chance to try advanced activities that they haven't tried at any of our other clubs. This includes using advanced tools, doing ecological surveying, map reading and practical forest activities such as making survival shelters, and wild food foraging. The club runs monthly on the last Saturday of the month, get in touch for more info.



Junior Rangers taking a compass bearing in the woods

Eco-tourism developments

The consultants we employed to help us plan an eco-tourist business in the woods have presented us their first draft. The aim of the business is to generate revenue so we can continue to deliver benefits to the community without depending on grants, and develop the woodland so it serves the community better. The next task is to meet the consultant team and go over their proposals, before agreeing a final draft and organising a community consultation. Final drafts of all plans will be available on our website in the coming months.

Upcoming events *(all free!)*

Dawn Chorus Saturday 11th May, 6am @ the Depot

The annual dawn chorus talk and short walk with resident expert Bruce, followed by breakfast cooked on the campfire

Junior Rangers, new forest skills club for teenagers. Weekends, monthly on last Saturday of month

A new club for children ages in P7 – High School. Get in touch if you're interested or for more details.

New Website

We now have a new website with up to date descriptions of what we are doing, and new pictures of activities. On the website you'll also find all the previous newsletters for download, and the Feasibility Study that was produced before the community bought the woodland, and is a useful reference for what we're trying to achieve. There's also the Forest Plan which sets out how we plan to manage the trees over the next 20 years. To access the website go to:

www.glengarry.org.uk

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We've been looking into community ownership of the field opposite the community woodland for a while. For community ownership to become a reality, there must be a plan for how we want to use the field, and we were recently awarded funds from the Scottish Land Fund to help us develop this plan. We are exploring three main uses: eco-tourism development, wood processing facilities, and a community growing space. More information will follow once planning work has started.

Ardochy Forest

There are still a wide range of proposals being discussed for Ardochy, including a hydro scheme, community housing, and new crofts. Get in touch to find out more or get involved.

Volunteering

Over the last three years many volunteers have made a big contributions to the community woodland. But we'd like to mention Bryan Millar, who continues to put in a huge amount of time, and his own resources to making the community woodland a success. Bryan has played a major part in getting the firewood business set up – Thanks Bryan!