

The days are getting longer and as the woodland wakes up from its winter rest we are getting ready for another season of events, activities, clubs and courses. Meanwhile, there's steady progress on the cabins and amenity building.

Event Feedback Survey—tell us how we are doing?

⇒<https://forms.gle/oP1wDCMbXvdzLqZj6>

Part of our task as Community Woodland is to provide an ongoing benefit to the local community. We do this by hosting a range of kids clubs, putting on seasonal events, educational outings and craft courses. Last year was our first complete season after Covid-19 and in the run-up to another busy season we are gathering feedback from those who joined us and those who didn't. We'd like to know if our events were of use to you, what we can do to encourage you to come along to more events and what types of events you want to see more of.

So, whether you attended an event or a club or nothing at all, please take a few minutes to fill in our feedback questionnaire linked above. If you prefer filling in a paper copy, you can collect one at our office (The Old Depot), the post office or the petrol station. Your feedback helps us deliver a programme that has value to as many members of our community as possible!



Kids from Into the Woods top up the squirrel feeder with seeds and nuts.

Spring-time events kick off a busy season

With the Easter holidays coming on early this year, it's not long until we'll be taking the kids back out *Into the Woods* and for *Junior Rangers*. After a couple of years of hard use by the *Into the Woods* kids, we have

decided that the old campsite needs a rest and will be moving the camp in time for Easter. Soon the kids will have a whole new patch of the woods to explore!

Also at Easter, we'll be running our annual Easter family event. Come along to help the spring flowers grow and the birds sing, as the Queen of Winter tries to stop the Spring from coming! See below for the dates for all these events.

Our regular Volunteer group is still going strong, with sessions over the winter clearing rhododendron, helping with cladding the cabins, and taking part in wildlife conservation projects on GCW land. If you are interested in joining or volunteer group, we meet every second Friday morning, from 9.30am. Contact bruce@glengarry.org.uk for more details.



A red squirrel investigates the feeder and is captured by our wildlife camera.

One of the major wildlife projects the volunteers have been helping with is Trees for Life's Squirrel Relocation Project. This involves relocating squirrels from strong populations, like ours in Glengarry Community Woodland, to support smaller populations in the north and west of the highlands. The work is being licenced and monitored by NatureScot to ensure the welfare of all the animals involved. If you'd like more information about this project please contact Sarah at sarahw@treesforlife.org, or speak to Bruce. Sarah will also be presenting a talk for us in the near

future, about this project, and squirrels in general. Keep an eye on Facebook and local notice boards for more information.

Amenity Building supplies arrive and works begin

Winter has kept us busy on our various construction projects. Up on the hill, Vince has been cladding our Cabins with larch boards milled from our own trees. Down the hill work has begun on the amenity building, which will house a kitchen and shower block for the Cabin visitors. In November Sandy MacRae dug out the foundation and in December concrete was poured. An inspector from building standards has been out and approved the foundations earlier this year.



The amenity building under construction.

In December a big septic tank arrived, which is waiting to get buried. And at the end of February a big lorry from BSW timber delivered all the timber needed for the walls and roof. BSW Timber kindly donated this load, which is helping us manage the ever increasing costs for materials.

This week a team of 5 helpers got together and began working—under the watchful eye of the buildings' designer Robert Borruso—to construct the walls of the amenity building.

Firewood availability

The storms early on in the year affected our woodland, too, and a number of trees now need to be processed into firewood as soon as possible.



Sawmill offcuts stacked for drying.

We are looking to make some space in the wood-store by selling our remaining hardwood stock and sawmill offcuts.

- ⇒ A small bag of larch offcuts is available for £7.48 + VAT and a trailer load* for £89.77 + VAT.
- ⇒ A small bag of hardwood logs is available for £9.65 + VAT and a trailer* load for £115.80 + VAT.
- ⇒ Delivery can be arranged at extra cost.

(* A trailer load equates to 12 bags.)

To place an order, please email bruce@glengarry.org.uk or phone 01809 501 287.

We've also been busy on the sawmill throughout the winter to mill cladding boards for the cabins and amenity building. We now have a sizeable stack of "sawmill seconds" - boards of irregular sizes and dimensions that could be used for various home construction projects. We've decided to sell these boards for a small contribution to our running costs. If you're planning on building a shed or similar, do get in touch with Tom (tom@glengarry.org.uk).

Dates for your Diary

- Easter Event**
Sat, 30 March
2 PM to 5 PM
- Into the Woods (P1 - P6)**
2 -3 & 9 - 10 April
- Junior Rangers (P7-S6)**
5 & 12 April, 25 May

If you're interested in any of these events, please contact Bruce on **01809 501 287** or by email: bruce@glengarry.org.uk