



Craigenalt Rural Community Trust

- to live and enjoy

www.craigenalttrust.org.uk **Newsletter** Spring 2015 no 10

Another Busy Year Ahead at Craigenalt Rural Community Trust

Since January there has been keen interest at the loch to view the Kingfishers at the bird hide. The birds have been very happy to fish in front of the hide in plain and spectacular view of watchers. They were there for months but have now gone off to nest in better seclusion. Hopefully they will return later in the year. It was great to chat to folk who had travelled from as far away as Glasgow or Aberdeen to visit our Kingfishers. Some regular bird photographers with huge lenses have taken some excellent shots of the birds and there should be some high standard entries for the next Trust photo competition.

Spring has arrived at the loch. The toads have journeyed to lay their spawn in the loch and many birds are nesting. Our resident pair of swans have built their nest on one of the barley straw rafts, so we hope that they are successful. There is certainly plenty to see and enjoy at the loch and the good weather has brought out lots of folk walking, cycling, horse riding and nature gazing. I hope you can manage to come for a walk, even to visit our troll under the bridge on Rodanbraes Path.



Name the Troll

info@CraigenaltTrust.org.uk

We have still not given our Troll, be it him or her, a name yet. Any suggestions for names, please email it in to us and we can organise a vote on it and produce a name plaque for the Troll.



date	event	location	time
Saturday 9th May	Come & Try Day	Kinghorn Loch	1-4 pm
Monday 25th May	Presentation Life Cycle of Insects by Gerald Lincoln	Kinghorn Community Centre	7.30pm
Sunday 28th June	Bumble Bees <i>a walk about with</i> Derek Abbott	Meeting at Kinghorn Loch car park	2pm
Friday 21st August	Annual Fundraising Barbecue	Craigenalt cottage	6.30pm - 9 pm
5 - 13th September	Walking Festival	Daily walking events	Morning Afternoon All day
Monday 21st September	Presentation Kinghorn Loch 'the last 30 years' by Ron Edwards	Kinghorn Community Centre	7.30pm

Look out for posters on local notice boards or visit www.craigenalttrust.org.uk

CRCT Kinghorn Pathways Walking Group

Wednesday Walking Group

The walks from Craigenfalt have continued throughout the year, on the first Wednesday of every month, leaving from the layby before the entrance to Kinghorn Loch at 10am.

The winter weather has been extremely kind to us and on some of the walks the visibility has been superb.

On the 4th March, nine walkers set out in glorious sunshine, heading up the Kissing Trees Road. We branched off past Banchory Farm and Drink Between with clear views of Kirkcaldy in the distance.

We turned towards the sea, past Tyrie Farm, through Seafield and onto the coastal path beside Seafield Tower.



Lots of seals could be seen basking on the rocks. We continued along the coastal path, with all appreciating the beautiful scenery we have on our doorstep. Kinghorn Harbour looked so inviting we had to stay awhile before heading back to the lochside..... a beautiful walk on a beautiful day.

Walking is good for YOU....please join us



The CRCT 2015 Walking Festival will be from 5th – 13th September. Keep an eye on our website and local notice boards for more information nearer the time.

Walking Programme 2015

Wednesday 6th May
Wednesday 20th May
Wednesday 3rd June
Wednesday 17th June
Wednesday 1st July
Wednesday 15th July
Wednesday 5th August
Wednesday 19th August
Wednesday 9th September
Wednesday 23rd September
Wednesday 7th October
Wednesday 4th November
Wednesday 2nd December

Walks last one hour to two hours maximum based around the beautiful countryside of Kinghorn Loch. Lots of interesting birds, animals and plants to see on the way. Good walking boots/shoes recommended as well as waterproofs

Participants must inform Walk Leader if they wish to attend any of the walks by phone/text or email prior to the date. If inclement weather, please phone before 9am on day of walk to establish if it will take place.

Meeting Place :

From B923 at crossroads turn up road signposted Ecology Centre and Earthship. Take first turning on the left once past the derelict tannery site. There is hard standing to take quite a few cars. Meet here.

For further details phone Kathleen on 01592 643318 or 07757 282455 or Pat on 01592 890449 or 07971 521943

kathleen363@yahoo.co.uk
patco111@yahoo.co.uk

For mid month walks please contact Marilyn on 01592 891330 or 07740 999514
my.edwards@aim.com

Kinghorn Loch Users Group

KLUG Come and Try Day

It is almost time for the annual “**Come and Try Day**” at Kinghorn Loch. The first such event was on Saturday 6th October 2007, and it was held to celebrate the completion of the new jetty at the loch. This was a big project, undertaken by Kinghorn Loch User’s Group (now part of the Trust) and it has proved so beneficial to everyone. At the October event visitors were invited to try out canoeing and sailing. The day was a total success but it was decided that May might be warmer and a better month in which to hold the event. Hence the Come and Try Day has become an annual event every May in the loch calendar ever since. It continues to draw new people, young and old, to try out the water sports and to enjoy the lochside. The youngest participant has been four years old and the oldest person has been eighty three, so it is truly open to all. Now the loch is a popular venue for lots of activities and recently open water swimming, bird watching, walking interests and radio controlled yacht sailing has been added to the list of activities available at the Come and Try event.

The Earthship opens up for visitors and there are refreshment and tombola stalls to add to the enjoyment of the afternoon. This year we are delighted to have Kinghorn Radio Sailing Club joining us for the first time. Please read their article on the next page. Support for the afternoon is provided by Kirkcaldy Canoe Club (KCC), Kinghorn Sailing Club (KSC), The Birdwatching Group, The Earthship (SCI), East of Scotland Open Water Swimming Club, Kinghorn Radio Sailing Club (KRSC), and the refreshments by CRCT.

This May will be the eighth Come and Try day at the loch and long may they continue. Also some good weather is always nice on the day, so here’s hoping!

Please come along and have a great time.



The Earthship (SCI)

The Earthship Fife Visitor Centre, run by the registered charity *Sustainable Communities Initiatives (SCI)*, is a fully autonomous, self-sustaining building. The Earthship is a highly energy efficient building made from natural and recycled materials - mostly tyres filled with earth, aluminium cans and bottles. It is powered only by renewable energy, catches its own water supply and treats its own sewage.

The Earthship was built in 2004 with the help of over 200 volunteers and is now run by volunteers as a visitor centre. There are also events throughout the year, open to the public. The next event will be a music session with **Caro** (from Caro Bridges and the River band) on Saturday 23rd May (2-4pm). These are informal and fun music sessions – everyone is welcome, including complete beginners and children.



The Earthship

For further information and opening times, please have a look at our website www.sci-scotland.org.uk or contact Louise on 01592 891884 or email inquiry@sci-scotland.org.uk

Kinghorn Loch Users Group

Introducing Kinghorn Radio Sailing Club (KRSC)

Kinghorn Radio Sailing Club has been formed this year, by former large boat sailors who previously travelled outwith Fife to sail radio controlled yachts, but felt the need of a more convenient venue to pursue their sport of radio yacht racing.

What do we do? Well we race, just like the big sail boats on the sea and lochs. As with the big yachts, Radio Sailing is a competitive sport, but the yachts are controlled from the shore by a radio transmitter. As many as 14 to 16 yachts, normally of the same class, sail against each other round marker buoys to determine a winner. On club afternoons we will sail probably ten scoring races to determine the winner of that day.

The yachts we sail are 'International One Metres' (IOM), and have been specifically designed and built for radio yacht racing. These yachts are often built in the garage with loving care by skilled amateurs, but more often are the product of a professional yacht designer and builder, of whom there are many to choose from in the UK.

KRSC sail every Saturday between 12.00hrs and 16.00hrs. I invite any interested persons to join us at Kinghorn Loch, meet the members and see our newly formed Radio Sailing Club in action. Skippers will be very pleased to talk to you, explain what they are doing, and perhaps try your hand at sailing from the shore, as opposed to onboard a yacht. The thumb actions are as used on a computer games, but much more fun and in a lovely outdoor setting.



Six IOM yachts racing approximately 5 seconds after the starting signal.



An IOM yacht sailing down wind at speed

If you wish to support the aims of Craigencalt Rural Community Trust (CRCT) and become involved, either as a volunteer helper or as a supporter, become a Friend of the Trust by asking for an application form or emailing info@CraigencaltTrust.org.uk

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Registered office: 71 Kirkbank Road, Burntisland, KY3 9JA**