



Craigencalt Rural Community Trust

- to live and enjoy

Newsletter no 4

April 2013

ONE YEAR ON... much has been achieved and the Trust continues into its second year with the same energy. The recent successful upgrade of the Burnside Path was achieved with many volunteers lending a hand. Come freeze, snow, mud and icy wind, folk arrived to get the job done. Mike Gilbert, Chairman of Kinghorn Pathways would like to thank all the volunteers who braved the weather and helped complete the Burnside path. A Special mention should go to Ron Edwards for his driving of the dumper, the Henderson Family for their driving of the Roller, James Hazel without whose efforts and machinery it would not have been possible, landowner Mrs Cochran for her co-operation, our sponsors (Central Scotland Green Network and Rio Tinto Alcan) and of course everyone else for their raking and digging. A great job well done.

The Burnside Path..... is now ready for you to walk !



overgrown in Autumn 2012



laying the new path



last few loads

2013 Diary Presentations & Events

May 11th 1pm – 4 pm	Come & Try Day Kinghorn Loch <i>all welcome</i>
May 27th 7.30 pm Community Centre	Friends Presentation <i>Origins of the Oil Shale industry</i> (Ron Edwards)
August 23rd 6pm – 9 pm	Summer BBQ Craigencalt Cottage
September	Friends Presentation <i>to be advised</i>
November 11th 7.30 pm Community Centre	Annual Meeting <i>social & photo competition</i>

Our flower cards have been well received by local schools who intend to use them on their spring walks. The Information Kiosk is now planned and we are ready to begin construction.

Rodanbraes Path improvements have funding, so hopefully work will begin soon to complete the disabled route with its bridge and troll for the children. Several workdays have already been spent on continuing the path along the ridge, over and under cliffs, to give a circular route.

Our **Friends Presentation on May 24th** will be **Origins of the Oil Shale Industry**. Please come along and enjoy hearing about a very important period in the past history of this area. If you would like healthy exercise in the fresh air helping out with some of the projects, or would like to be part of project planning, please register at info@CraigencaltTrust.org.uk. by emailing Ron or Marilyn or telephone 01592 891330.

We would like to compile a list of available Friends and their area of interest. Once project programmes have been detailed, we will be able to advise days and times of project meetings and work parties.

Visit www.craigencalttrust.org.uk for all the latest news.



Friends membership fees are now due.

Please return your completed renewal form now. If setting up a standing order payment please contact Rena first or if you require another form phone Rena on (01592) 891179

Walking Group

The new season of walks commenced on Wednesday 27th March at 10am, and will continue on every second Wednesday until 23rd October 2013. We do hope for improved weather this year !

If you would like to join us please see the Poster for full details. Available on-line at www.craigencalttrust.org.uk

We look forward to seeing everyone again.

**Booking is essential by contacting
Rena Wallace on (01592) 891179**

Loch Users

Banchory Farm have again donated barley straw bales to top up the floating rafts to maintain good water quality. Our volunteer CRCT Friends have recently helped with this. The annual watersports **Come & Try Day** this year is on **May 11th**. Please bring the family along and enjoy the experience of canoeing or sailing. The Earthship will be open and there are interesting walks around the area. Tea and coffee will be available. The East of Scotland Open Water Swimming Club are intending to use the loch as a regular training venue, for further information contact andregellan@gmail.com

www.kinghornsailingclub.org.uk
www.kirkcaldycanooclub.co.uk

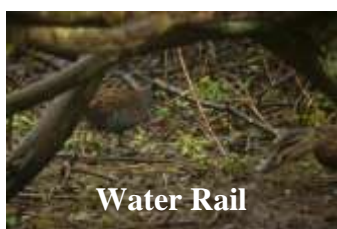


CRCT Photo Trophy

Get your cameras at the ready.....the judging of the annual photo competition will take place at the Annual Meeting for Friends in November. The subject can be anything that is connected to CRCT area - views, wildlife, flowers, trees, loch, birds, people, natural features.

Birdwatching

Chaffinches and Robins have been the first to burst into song about the loch this year, closely followed by Song Thrushes, Wren and Greenfinch. Spring is definitely in the air. One or two nests have already been built as this recent mild spell has lulled the birds into a false sense of security only to be rudely reminded this week that winter is most definitely not over. We still have some "Winter Thrushes" in the area visiting from the Continent, notably Fieldfares but also some of our Blackbird, Song and Mistle Thrushes are also visitors escaping a Scandinavian winter. The wildfowl have also been anticipating the forthcoming breeding season and I wouldn't be surprised if you saw a Mallard sitting on eggs hereabouts. Great Crested Grebes are already engaged in mating dances on the loch and will hopefully stay on to nest again. An interesting development last week was the reappearance of a Water Rail. This species hasn't been seen here by me since December 2010. This shy and



Water Rail

skulking bird is similar to a Moorhen in appearance but sligher with a long sharp bill. You may just see it visit the area of the feeders opposite the hide though you may be more likely to hear its pig like squeal in the undergrowth. Hopefully it will stay on but it also may be just visiting. There was also a report of Common Crossbill in the area in January though I wasn't fortunate enough to see them myself this time.

Happy Birdwatching ! Danny Wallace info@CraigencaltTrust.org.uk

For up to date bird surveys, please look at the website www.craigencalttrust.org.uk