



Craigencait Rural Community Trust

- to live and enjoy

www.craigencaittrust.org.uk

Newsletter no. 5

August 2013

Our busy year continues with a lot of good work already completed on the upgrade of the Rodanbraes path. In June, a valiant group of friend supporters willingly turned up over two weeks to clear and lay the disabled section at the path. This will be completed once the linking bridge is made and delivered, hopefully in August. Then a wooden troll can be carved to guard the bridge and add an element of mystery and fun for youngsters. This is our biggest project to date, and I would like to express thanks to everyone for their continued help and support. The Rotary Club of Burntisland and Kinghorn have gifted the Trust an attractive seat to go on this pathway, so once everything is in place it should be a lovely place to visit and relax.



Bridge foundations on Rodanbraes



CRCT thanks the Rotary Club of Burntisland and Kinghorn for the gift of this beautiful bench to be placed on Rodanbraes

The extension work to the Burnside path is now organised and work should go ahead once the breeding season for birds is over. This will provide a safe route from Kinghorn to the lochside which we believe will prove a big asset to folk. Making our information kiosk is progressing and should look very nice once put together. The information board with map is taking longer than expected to commission and this is holding up the construction. Hopefully this will be in place soon and our flower cards, booklets and other information will be on display soon. Our Barbecue fundraiser this year is towards building a new nesting platform for the swans after the first one, built on a shoestring, proved unsuccessful. We hope you can manage along to support this project but also to enjoy a good event.

For all the latest news visit www.craigencaittrust.org.uk

2013 Diary Presentations & Events

August 23 Craigencait Cottage Kinghorn 6 pm – 9 pm	Summer BBQ <i>All Welcome</i>
September 16 Community Centre Kinghorn 7.30pm – 9 pm	Friends Presentation <i>Life of Honey Bees</i> <i>Presented by</i> <i>Derek Abbott</i>
November 11 Sands Hotel Burntisland 7.30 pm – 9 pm	Annual Meeting <i>social & photo</i> <i>competition</i>

Invitation to our Trust BBQ

At Craigencait Cottage
Friday 23rd August
between 6 – 9pm

£5 donation for food and bring your own drink

Raffle and all proceeds to go towards a new swan nesting platform

Hope you can come rain or shine it will be on.



Walking Group

The Walking Group has done eight fortnightly walks this season so far. The weather has been a great improvement from last year and we have had nice weather to date.

Those on the first walk in March were faced with a heavy snow shower. However undeterred the group set off up the Kissing Trees road and took the footpath down to the new improved Mire Path. The sun making a welcome appearance, we continued over to Templars Walk, down the North Overgate and along the much improved Doric Wells Path, down to the school and up the side of the Golf Course, continuing on to walk the Burnside Path. The Pathways Group had just finished upgrading this path and everyone was very impressed with the new surface.

Our next walk in April started rather dull, but again it brightened up and became warmer. We took some cars over to Kilrie Woodland car park and walked through the woodland to the bridge, crossing the main road and on to the Auchtertool road. Turning left at Easter Balbairdie and along to Wester Balbairdie, the group walked the circuit by Balmuto Castle then round via Mourn House to rejoin the Auchtertool road, passing Lambert's Mill and back by a different route through the woodlands.



Loch Users

Kinghorn Loch User's Group, now a committee of the Trust, has been in existence for ten years. It is no small achievement that a management group comprising a number of diverse sports and leisure activities has thrived and cooperated together over such a long period. It first formed in order to improve the water quality within the loch, designing the rafts that carried barley straw to rid the loch of algal blooms, a maintenance regime that has proved so effective. In 2007 the group built the new jetty, a big improvement all round – including for the geese who like sitting out on it. KLUG continues to work to improve the environment for wildlife, sailors, canoeists, carp fishermen, bird watchers, open water swimmers and all visitors to the loch, so everyone can continue to enjoy it.

Subsequent walks in May, June and July have included the Grangehill circuit, Banchory Circuit, the Binn hill and an excellent walk via Banchory Farm and Tyrie and returning by the Coastal Path. The weather has been very much in our favour compared to last year.

Booking is essential

Contact Rena Wallace on (01592) 891179 or 07717 831148

Birdwatching

After a long winter with little spring, June saw the arrival of a summer not seen on the loch for some years and the birdlife seems to have made the most of it. We have had a large number of nests recorded on land and water. All the Tit boxes were made use of as well as natural sites and the vegetation has been alive with sounds of young birds, though affording only fleeting glimpses due to the dense greenery (what a difference from early May when there was hardly any cover at all). You can still see juvenile Great Tit, Tree Sparrow, Chaffinch, Greenfinch, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Goldfinch, Dunnock, Robin and Blackbird at the feeders from the hide. Even young Moorhen have been attempting to climb their way up for the nuts. Now is also a good time to watch for young Swallows resting on fences or wires and begging to be fed by parents busily snatching hatching flies from the surface water. They may produce two and sometimes three broods before leaving for Africa in the Autumn.

On the water there are record numbers of Mallard ducklings and young Coot and if you look hard you will also see juvenile Great Crested Grebes and a brood or two of Tufted Duck. And the breeding season's not over yet, as many species will go for second and third broods as they try to make up for poor summers past. And who can blame them!

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Great spotted Woodpecker



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 on 11th November.

The subject can be anything that is connected to the CRCT area, views, wildlife, flowers, trees, loch, birds, people, natural features.