



Craigencaht Rural Community Trust

- to live and enjoy

www.craigencahttrust.org.uk **Newsletter** Winter 2013 no 6

The Trust has moved swiftly into practical projects this year with some great results. Achievements include printing our seasonal flower cards, loch maintenance, the upgrade of the Burnside path and its extension over to the loch side. The Rodanbraes visitor facility has been our main project and this now has a variety of new features in place and will be completed during the first part of next year. I think that if you walk the length of this path you will enthuse and be really impressed with what has been achieved by your Trust and entirely by voluntary effort. Next year we have Rodanbraes to complete and perhaps continue work to extend the path. There is still the information kiosk to put together.

There will be maintenance of completed projects to consider. We hope our supporters will feel well pleased with our efforts as we ask for their continued support over the coming year.

Enjoy a good seasonal break.
Ron

The CRCT Year in Pictures



Doric Well



Come & try day



Willow Warbler



Rodanbraes



Burnside Path



Rodanbraes



Wishing you
a
Merry Christmas
and
Best Wishes
for
The New Year
from the Trustees

**CRCT Annual Photo Competition
Winner 2013 Trophy - Danny Wallace**

Great Crested Grebe

© Coogedon



Rodanbraes



Walking group

Wildflowers of Craigencaht:

Winter

Larch (*Larix laricina*) is the only common conifer that bears its cones in winter after a colorful autumn display. Huge numbers of cones can fall from the bare winter branches. The cones carry the seeds. The larch is tough and water-resistant and is also used to make the Cullin in pipe nearly 5m long and weighing 70kg for Highland Games.

Snowdrops (*Galanthus nivalis*) can be seen in a carpet of white beneath woodland from January to March or just in patches here and there. Snowdrops herald the first signs of Spring and there are now several Snowdrop Festivals to help celebrate the passing of winter.

Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) The berries are good food for birds, especially thrushes. Together with ivy it is a traditional Christmas decoration and often made into wreaths.

Mosses and liverworts: A wide range of mosses divided in the grass and in the woodland and made up of cultures and mosses grow on dead timber. Many are poisonous so do not eat any unless certain.

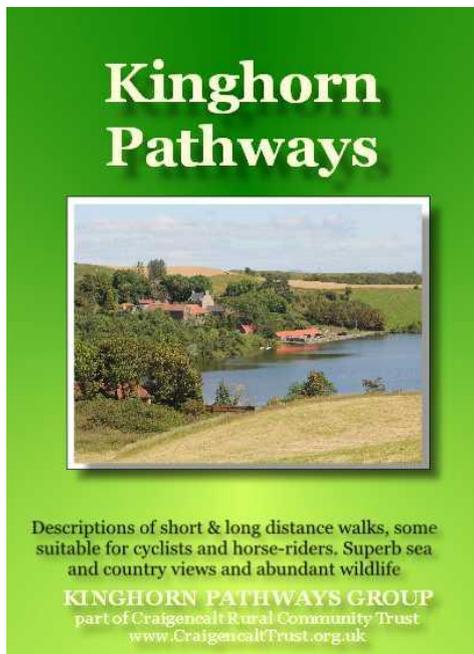
Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) Berries come in redness and are a food source for birds, especially hawthorn, over the winter.

* Photographs were sent to: Danny Wallace

Produced and published by Craigencaht Rural Community Trust © 2012

Recently we had the launch of the new Kinghorn Pathways Booklet and all this in addition to our usual events and presentations. We are indeed fortunate to have such good support and expertise in our Trust. Without this, none of our projects would be possible. Our thanks to our funders Awards for All and Fife Environment Trust for all their support.

Please get your copy to enjoy these walks and the wonderful views. In Kinghorn available from The Community Centre, The Wee Shoppe, Library, and Dragons Den. In Burntisland, from The Heritage Centre, Library, Sands Hotel and The Toll Centre. In Kirkcaldy, from The Tourist Information Desk within Kirkcaldy Galleries. A donation of £1 would be appreciated on picking one up



Launch of CRCT new Pathways Booklet



Bill Campbell of Fife Access Forum was delighted to receive a copy of the new Pathways Booklet. The photo shows r. Bill Campbell of Fife Access Forum with members of Fife Disabled Walkers Group and CRCT

International help at CRCT

Work on the upgrade of Rodanbraes Path this past year has only been possible with the help of committed volunteers. While most of these have been local people from Kinghorn and Burntisland, a valuable addition has been the help of WWOOFers. Diana Neil of Craigencaht Farm hosts many of these people throughout the year and generously offered their help to CRCT. Diana explained that WWOOFING stands for world wide workers on organic farms. Young as well as older people come from all corners of the globe to experience life in other cultures, with families and in enterprises.

The volunteers come from April till about October each year, for periods of one to four weeks, and often go on to other places in Scotland or come from other placements. Diana said “ We get to know what kind of organisations are hosting this group of people and a lot of new ideas and experiences are had by all involved. Here at Craigencaht they stay in the farm house and share breakfast together.”

Diana explained that the WWOOFers work on the farm in the mornings and after lunch go to help Adam McIntosh who has a workshop at the farm, then have their evening meal with him. Their weekends are free for exploration and enjoyment of the area. She concluded with “ It is a wonderful idea and no money changes hands. We host, they work and we all learn and share our stories. “

We look forward to welcoming more of these volunteers in the future.”

If you wish to support the aims of Craigencaht 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@CraigencahtTrust.org.uk

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