



CWA E-bulletin Issue 41 – October 09

Member Survey

Thank you to all that responded to the membership survey over the summer. We had a 50% response from the 121 groups surveyed. Opinion on priority and importance of member services was generally listed as 'useful' or 'important' and ratings for satisfaction of content and quality of services was very positive. Individual comments on current services and our future plans were very useful and as a result we have already started to make some changes. You can download the full report from <http://www.communitywoods.org/memberdocs/>

CWA Starts Blogging!

As a result of the membership survey we have changed the forum (which never got used) to a Blog. Chief Exec, Jon Hollingdale, will regularly submit a blog and you are invited to add comments. The first of these 'Assets or Partnership?' can be viewed at <http://www.communitywoods.org/blog/comments/437/>

Places are going fast – get your booking forms in as soon as you can.

Roots To Health Seminar – 6th November 2009, Inverness – aimed at those working in community engagement and health and wellbeing this event is open to agencies, NGO's and community woodland groups. www.communitywoods.org for more details and booking forms.

Returning to Roots – 10th Annual Community Woodlands Conference 7th and 8th November 2009 – Drumnadrochit, Loch Ness. Further details and booking forms available from www.communitywoods.org Presentations, workshops and site visits will cover a wide variety of topics including woodland management for maximum community benefit and for wildlife, how a community successfully developed their woodland, life long learning in the outdoors and much more. Contact Diane diane@communitywoods.org or tel 01854 613737

Contents

Training – e.g. Breaking Ground, Woodfuel Supply Chain Workshops, etc

Events – e.g. Nature's Homecoming, Carse O' Gowrie Orchard Festival, etc

General News – Items of interest to community woodland groups.

Funding – loads of funding streams of use to groups developing a variety of projects

Training

CWA Members Skills Development / Knowledge Share Events

Would you like to host future knowledge share events and earn income? – payments are available for members groups to host events. If you would like to host an event or would be interested in delivering training for other community groups then please contact Diane diane@communitywoods.org in the first instance.

Other Training Events

Highland Environmental Network Training - Breaking Ground, Programme Working with Challenging Young People in the Outdoors Part 1

Learning. This programme runs from November 2009 through to March 2010. The emphasis on this programme will be interaction and group participation as well as including role play and activities. Some of the training involves the use of professional role players (as used by the police, social work and the private sector) to enable participants to rehearse and develop key skills in a safe learning environment.

Working with Challenging Young People in the Outdoors Part 2

Connecting. Part 2 will run from April to October 2010 and will involve participating organisations attending one day per month for 6 months. This programme will involve both environmental organisations AND organisations who are currently working with young people – who would like to engage more with environmental organisations and work in partnership. For details contact hen@highlandenvironment.org.uk or Jenny Sleeman at j.sleeman@btcv.org.uk

Woodfuel Supply Chain Workshops Across Scotland

Full course details and booking information can be found under General Events at www.forestryscotland.com. All workshops run from 09:30 to 16:30. The venues and dates are as follows: -

Day 1 - 'From Forest to Gate' Aimed at foresters, land managers and all others interested in engaging in the supply chain of the emerging wood biomass sector

Tuesday 20th October - Cairndale Hotel, **Dumfries**

Wednesday 21st October - Isle of Skye Hotel, **Perth**

Thursday 22nd October - The Kintore Arms, **Inverurie**

Friday 23rd October - The Thistle Hotel, **Inverness**

Saturday 24th October - Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park HQ, **Balloch**

Day 2 - 'From Gate to Grate' takes a closer look at the decision-making process which might cause consumers to favour woodfuel over other fuels

Tuesday 10th November - Woodland House Hotel, **Dumfries**

Wednesday 11th November - Isle of Skye Hotel, **Perth**

Thursday 12th November - The Kintore Arms, **Inverurie**

Friday 13th November – The Thistle Hotel, **Inverness**

Saturday 14th November - Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park HQ, **Balloch**

BTCV - <http://shop.btcv.org.uk/shop/level2/106/level> short courses across Scotland. Go to the link above for further details. Click through to various courses listed alphabetically by topic on the left hand menu. You will find a comprehensive list of courses in subjects such as: Trees and Woodland, Environmental Education, Publicity and Fundraising and Footpaths and Access.

SCVO Training Courses SCVO is a major organiser of training courses for the Voluntary Sector in Scotland. Their courses cover a broad range of topics from IT to organisational governance, from personal development to capacity building to meet the training requirements of the Sector. Click here <http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/SCVOEvents/SCVOTrainingByMonthHome.aspx>

Scottish Natural Heritage Sharing Good Practice events for 2009/10. Go to <http://www.snh.gov.uk/www/education/educ-sgp.asp> to download the programme. Invasive Non Native Species, Planning and Access for Community Benefit, etc.

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Events

Nature's Homecoming - An evening at Eden Court, Inverness 21st October 2009

SNH and RSPB are joining together for a positive celebration of species re-introduction.

This special evening, hosted by Scottish broadcaster and journalist, Lesley Riddoch, will use video, still images, music and discussion to examine the sometimes controversial Homecoming of some of Scotland's best-known species including beavers, corncrakes and sea eagles.

The speakers will be John Lister-Kaye on beavers, John Love talking about sea eagles and Dr Paul Walton discussing corncrakes.

Alongside them will be Arthur Cormack, head of Fèisean nan Gaidheal, who will provide some Gaelic song accompaniment and Gaelic Poet, Angus Peter.

Details can be found here: www.eden-court.co.uk/whats-on/shows/nature-s-homecoming

Carse of Gowrie Orchard Festival 17th to 25th October. The festival kicks off with the **Glendoick Apple Weekend on 17 & 18 October** from 11.00 to 4.30pm, with freshly-pressed juice tasting, Children's Art Competition, a cooking demonstration by Fiona Bird from her new book "Kids' Kitchen", and a host of other exciting fruit-related activities. On **National Apple Day, on 21 October**, Carse schools will be visiting an orchard to learn how to make apple juice.

Errol Apple Fair takes place on 24 October when you can join the local community at 2.00 pm at Gas Brae to do some fruit tree weeding at the newly-planted orchard avenue, then at 3.30pm you can go along to the Community Hall for apple cake and apple juicing, and join in the Longest Peel. Cairn o'Mohr Winery are holding the Rootstock Fruitfest in Errol starting at 11.30 am with an apple pressing demonstration, winery tour and tasting and music in the afternoon.

On the final weekend of **24 & 25 October, there will be a Family Fruit Weekend at Elcho Castle**, Rhynd, by Perth from 11.00 am - 4.00 pm, where you can explore the orchards, pick a bag of fruit, make juice straight from the tree, ask the expert and help compile an archive of local fruit recipes, among other activities.

http://www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk/Information_Events_Events2009.html

Use Wood Fuel, Biomass for Businesses Events – These events have been organised by the FCS Regional Biomass Advice Network for businesses, organisations, farmers and landowners who are looking to install woodfuel systems, or those considering entering the woodfuel supply chain.

<http://www.usewoodfuel.co.uk/Docs/Forthcoming%20Woodfuel%20Events%202009-10.pdf>

17th November – Ellon (venue tbc)

24th November – Pitlochry (venue tbc)

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General News

Land Reform Conference Harris

Representatives from many of the largest community buy-outs met last week in Tarbet on Harris to discuss some of the thornier aspects of community land ownership. Historian and former chair of Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Dr Jim Hunter gave a fascinating talk in which he set out a number of propositions which if acted upon, he argued, would go a long way to getting community land ownership back on track, <http://www.hie.co.uk/learningworks/community-land-conference.html> to download the podcast of his speech.

DTA Scotland Promoting Asset Transfer Project

DTAS are currently conducting interviews with all Scottish local authorities to find out what their asset management strategy and policy is, how far the disposal of assets to community groups features in them, and their approach to disposing of assets to community groups (including how many transfers they have made in recent years and on what terms)

It would be really helpful for DTAS to get your perspective on and any experience of your local authority's approach to transferring assets to community groups. So if you have views on or experience of your local authority's policy and practice on asset transfer please let them know by e-mailing Sally Miller at sally@dtascot.org.uk or calling her on 0131 220 2456.

Scottish Native Woods Fundraising Events

December 6 – Edinburgh

The **Edinburgh Christmas Run** – another 5km around Inverleith Park and you could follow it with the **Edinburgh Christmas Walk**, 6 miles round Inverleith Park, Botanic Gardens and the Water of Leith. Also there will be the **Golden Tinsel Mile** for toddlers, children, older folk or those who feel that distance will do just fine. www.edinburghchristmaswalk.com

June 6 2010 – Edinburgh

Walk for Scotland – 12 miles around Edinburgh with most of it off road. Start and finish in Holyrood Park. Pre-walk **5k fun run** is open to all and there will be the **Golden Mile** for the little ones and older ones and those who like a slower pace. www.walkforscotland.com

June 19 -20 – The Tough Ness Challenge – Inverness to Fort

William Team Event – teams of three.

This is a 40 mile walk and a 30 mile bike along the Great Glen Way: from one side of Scotland to the other. It is a truly stunning route that will take your breath away, keep your feet moving and give you inspiration for every step. You will walk along woodland tracks and through forests, rewarded with beautiful views of the Lochs and the mountains at each break in the trees. Following an old railway line and tow paths you'll get to see the flight of 5 locks at Fort Augustus and the famous Neptune's Staircase at Fort William. Take on the Tough Ness Challenge, push yourself to your limits and experience Scotland's unique and precious natural heritage at its best. Includes camping and free barbeque, hoolie on the Sunday. <http://www.motivationcompany.com/event/12>

Call Dianne on 01368 840627 or email Dianne.laing@scottishnativewoods.org.uk

Company Looking for Areas to Carry Out New Planting <http://www.eforests.co.uk> If you have any tree planting / woodland schemes that you'd like help with, this may be an option for free trees. Sites in Scotland are limited and the company are looking for more places to plant. So far community groups benefiting from the planting are Knoydart Forest Trust, Milton Community Woodland and Cree Valley Community Forest.

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Funding

FunderFinder Service for when you are looking for grants. CWA offers members the FunderFinder service, a database of over 4000 potential funders. Contact Diane 01854 613737 with details of your project and we can give you a big list of funders to follow up. The link below takes you to a list of schemes that FunderFinder have been asked to promote.

http://www.funderfinder.org.uk/links_awards.php We have also recently registered for Company Giving, a website that identifies companies who want to support various types of charitable giving which gives an even greater list of potential pots of cash.

Grants Net – another website that can help you find suitable funders for your projects. Type in key words (e.g. environment, access, community) and it should give you back a list of suitable funders for you to investigate. www.grantsnet.co.uk

Changes to Knowledge and Skills Exchange Fund - up to £1000 available to community woodland groups. Local People Leading (www.localpeopleleading.org.uk) has launched a new fund, part of which will be administered through CWA. If you would like to visit another community woodland group to learn from their experience please get in touch with Diane Tel 01854 613737 or email diane@communitywoods.org. This is a change to the original guidelines where the fund was open to applications for training events, it will now only be available for experience visits.

Fuserna Foundation aims to revitalise existing charities and individual charitable projects that are failing in their objectives, due to financial constraints and/or lack of exposure and publicity. They will usually issue grants of between £5,000 and £15,000 to projects which:

- Alleviate poverty and financial hardship, relieve sickness and poor health.
- Enable individuals to reach their potential despite social, physiological or environmental limitations.
- Assist, promote and encourage sustainable projects that create long-term benefits for disadvantaged local communities
- Assist in the treatment and care of individuals suffering from mental or physical illness or those in need of rehabilitation

For more information, visit www.fusernafoundation.org or tel: 0207 409 3900.

Barcapel Foundation awards for health, heritage and youth The Barcapel Foundation has been supporting charitable works for over 40 years. They are particularly supportive of organisations who are in the early stages of development and in need of help to get off the ground. The foundation awards grants predominantly, but not exclusively, to charities operating in Scotland. Their three priority areas of interest for funding are:

Health - all areas of medicine and healing are supported by the foundation, with a particular interest in complementary and alternative therapies.

Heritage - they are committed to preserving and protecting our artistic and cultural heritage, especially with reference to the built environment

Youth - the foundation supports all areas of development for young people especially those from socially disadvantaged backgrounds.

For more information, visit www.barcapelfoundation.org or contact Moira Givens on tel: 01475 521616 or e-mail: moira@barcapelfoundation.org (Mon-Wed, 10am-4.30pm).

Scottish Natural Heritage: Attractive Places to Live - Urban

What's it for? Encouraging green spaces in Scottish towns and cities

Who can apply? Charities, community groups and local authorities

What is available? 50% of project costs

This programme aims to provide green spaces in and around towns and cities, to allow people to enjoy and take pride in a clean, safe, healthy and attractive environment. Applications should:

- * encourage a partnership approach to improving the quality, quantity and accessibility of green space;
- * get more communities involved in creating and improving green space;
- * get more people using and enjoying their local green space;
- * help improve landscapes that have been damaged by previous land use;
- * improve the planning, design and management of green spaces.

More info: Scottish Natural Heritage <http://www.snh.org.uk/>

West Lothian Grassroots Public Art Fund Deadline: 31 October 2009

Grassroots Public Art is a new project devised to fund and support the creation of new public art in communities across West Lothian, so anyone who has ever found themselves thinking "that place would look so much better if..." can now do something about it. Local groups or individuals are invited to apply for a grant to create a high quality public art project around the themes of art, well-being and the environment. The result should make people, especially those taking part, feel better about themselves and their community and it should be in a public space (especially undervalued places, under-appreciated places, unexpected places or under-used places). Every project must involve a professional artist at an early stage. Grassroots Arts Grants are available to community or arts groups, large or small, new or established, resident in West Lothian or to artists with a project that meets the aims of the project. More information from www.howdenparkcentre.co.uk/news/grassroots

Co-operative Community Fund Community Fund grants, between £100 and £2,000 are awarded to community, voluntary, or self-help groups to run projects that meet the following criteria. To be successful a group must carry out positive work in the community and their project must:

- * address a community issue
- * provide a good long-term benefit to the community
- * support co-operative values and principles
- * ideally be innovative in its approach

To read more about the Fund and fill out an application form, visit www.co-operative.coop/membership/Community-Fund

Inspiring Scotland. Play equipment for 3 to 15 yr olds. A very tight timescale for applications – **6th November**. The funds are only for voluntary sector organisations (which must also be or become registered charities). One of the main focuses of the funding is to build the capacity of national/regional voluntary organisations which support the 5 - 13 play sector e.g. through the provision of staff, training, basic IT equipment etc.

However, there are also opportunities for **voluntary organisations** which wish

- To pioneer new or creative approaches to play (and they mean new and creative not something that has simply been re-packaged!)
- Or those which provide play services in 8 specifically identified LA areas

Potential applicants, can only get an application form after they have phoned Inspiring Scotland and discussed their ideas with them. So, if you might be interested contact **Inspiring Scotland** as a first step. <http://www.inspiringscotland.org.uk/Home/Go-Play>

First Group Plc Grants Scheme

The FirstGroup Plc is committed to making a real difference to the communities in which they operate in the UK, by supporting a wide range of charitable causes and community organisations. The Grants charitable criteria include: young people; health and the environment. Funding is not available for: grant making bodies; promotion of political or religion beliefs; government funded schemes and animal welfare. Arts and research projects will only be considered in exceptional cases. The funding available is discretionary. The application form is available from the FirstGroup PLC website and applications can be submitted at any time.

www.firstgroup.com/corporate/community/charity_and_sponsorship.php

The Kids Fund

The Field Studies Council is an independent educational charity committed to raising awareness about the natural world. The Council works through a network of 17 residential and day Centres in the UK providing courses for schools and colleges at all levels in addition to adult Individuals & Families courses, outreach education, training and consultancy. The Kids Fund aims to bring environmental understanding to disadvantaged young people by attending a course at a Field Studies Council centre. It helps disadvantaged young people to attend a course who may otherwise be excluded due to some form of disadvantage - health, mobility, deprivation or financial. Funding will normally be up to 80% of the cost of your group's course to an FSC Field Centre to a maximum of £3000. Applications can be submitted at any time with decisions being made in February, June and October. www.field-studies-council.org/supporters/kidsfund_application.aspx

The Mark Leonard Trust

Not for profit organisations and organisations with a charitable purpose can apply for funding from this trust which focuses on environmental education in the UK. In particular the Trust seeks to support projects that focus on; finding practical ways of involving children and young adults. Applications to the Trust can be submitted at any time.

http://www.sfct.org.uk/mark_leonard.html

Esmee Fairbairn Foundation Biodiversity Grants

The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation has announced that it has changed the funding criteria for its Biodiversity funding scheme. The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation is one of the UK's largest grant making Trusts. It makes grants of approximately £25 million per year and funds projects in the areas of arts and culture; education and learning; the natural environment and addressing social disadvantage. Under the Biodiversity strand a total of £3 million will be available in grants until December 2010. Grants will be available for projects that develop a greater knowledge and understanding of certain habitats and their associated species. The Foundation will consider applications from research organisations, practical conservation charities and voluntary nature societies. Although there is no specified minimum or maximum grant amount per projects previous grants have ranged from £17,000 to £195,000. Applications can be submitted at any time. <http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk/funding/biodiversity.html>

The Ryklow Charitable Trust

The Ryklow Trust supports organisations and individuals involved in activities that include:
Environment & conservation

The Conservation priority is for activities that positively impact on natural species, landscapes and environmental resources. <http://ryklowcharitabletrust.org/index.html>

£5,000 For New Start Environment Social Enterprises

Firstport is offering up to £5,000 to support entrepreneurs who wish to set up social enterprises that will have a positive effect on the environment and climate change in Scotland. Projects that they are seeking to support include; green spaces; waste and recycling; transport; energy; food; ecology. The deadline for applications is the 30th October 2009. If shortlisted applicants will then be invited to a business planning day with a team of experts (12 November) and will then face a "Dragon's den" style panel at the Environment and Human Rights conference in Glasgow on 23 November. <http://www.firstport.org.uk/news-events/opportunities/48>

People's Postcode Trust

The People's Postcode Trust, a trust set up by the "People's Postcode Lottery" in April 2009, is inviting new grant applications from small organisations and community groups all across Scotland. Grants of between £500 and £10,000 are available for projects that prevent poverty, sickness and distress; promote, maintain, improve and advance health; advance citizenship or community development; advance public participation in sport; promote, improve and advance human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation; and promote and advance environmental protection or improvement. Projects supported can last for up to 3 months. The closing date for applications is the 16th October 2009. <http://www.postcodetrust.org.uk/>

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Some of the content of this ebulletin has been taken from other newsletters received by CWA. Small Woods Association, Senscot, Greenspace Scotland, The Woodland Trust, DTA Scotland, Angus Council and Scottish Community Land Network, amongst others.

