

As we begin the new year, we look back at an eventful busy season of activities in the woods and around the yard. Much has been achieved and even more is in the pipeline for this year that we are excited to share with you soon.

Our AGM

On December 12th we held our Annual General Meeting for our members at the Woodlands Office. Members who could not attend in person were also able to join virtually. During the AGM we reviewed our previous year and actions for the upcoming year.

At the AGM members also voted to change the name of the organisation from Glengarry Community Woodlands to Glengarry Community Development Trust. The new name better reflects the role that we play in developing a range of projects for the community.



Our cabins fully clad and watertight for the winter



Amenity Building and Cabins

The teams working on the cabins and on the amenity building have been working hard over the last few months. The Amenity Building has been clad in the beautiful larch that we have milled ourselves, and the internal fit has commenced starting with our underfloor heating. Our underfloor heating pipes will be run on hot water generated by thermal solar panels and backed up with a woodfired boiler run on wood from our sawmill. In the next few months the team will be adding a shower block, Kitchen and Sitting area to the Amenity Building.

Up on the hill meanwhile, the Cabin build is almost complete with all the cabins built and fully clad. Work on the grounds has started to clear fallen trees and develop new pathways. Next for the cabins will be the internal fittings and the communal fire pit to be built. We hope to be able to welcome our first guests in the spring of 2025.

Firewood Sales

As the colder months have started, we have continued to grow our Firewood sales. If you are looking to heat your home with locally grown firewood this winter we can help. The proceeds from the orders we take for our air-dried split logs continues to support the work we do maintaining the community woodland and putting on kids' clubs, seasonal events and educational talks.

We can take orders for a couple of bags to a couple of trailer loads. Delivery is available locally and can be arranged at your convenience. Just give us a call on 01809 501287 or email admin@glengarry.org.uk to place an order.

		Firewood Price List			
					
Small Bag of Firewood		Trailer of Firewood Consisting of 12 small bags			
		Incl. VAT	Excl. VAT	Incl. VAT	Excl. VAT
Larch & Pine	£8.66	£8.25	Larch & Pine	£104	£99.05
Larch Backs	£7.88	£7.50	Larch Backs	£94.50	£90
Delivery		Incl. VAT	Excl. VAT		
Invergarry Village	£11.55	£11			
Outside Invergarry Village	£17.53	£16.50			

To place an order,
please contact
Bruce@glengarry.org.uk
or call
01809 501287 or
0791 857 3509.

A look back at the Woodland Activities in 2024

Our woodland Activities started off in February this year with our Junior Ranger sessions. A sunny February morning was simply perfect for learning about squirrels. The Junior Rangers took nuts and seeds out to top up our squirrels' feeders and checked the camera traps to see if any visitors had stopped by. Our Junior Rangers Sessions ran monthly throughout the year with longer sessions during the school holidays. They ended the year with a session in November. This time, as well as the kids coming along to the woods, we invited the grownups too! This was a chance for our Junior Rangers to show off what they have been up to over the last year, as well as parents/carers to take part in new activities.



Our Junior Rangers during the Summer

Our 'Into the Woods' Sessions started off in April this year, during the Easter holidays. During the first session of 'Into the Woods' the kids got to explore a new site up the hill from the Old Depot. The old site is getting a rest this year and the kids relished the opportunity to conquer an entirely new stretch of the woods, complete with "The Big Rock" which provided hours of entertainment for our boys and girls. For our Summer session the kids continued their efforts to decorate the forest. The target of their creativity was the Big Rock with colourful chalks, and the kids themselves, with charcoal make-up. Our last session of 'Into the Woods' was during the October holidays. The kids enjoyed time exploring the woods and decorating the forest with Charcoal. They also enjoyed rolls and bacon made on the campfire and some marshmallow sweet treats.

Our 'Into the Woods' sessions are for children aged P1 to P6 and our Junior Rangers outdoor and nature club for children aged P7

to S6. We look forward to welcoming more kids to the woodlands in 2025.

We also held numerous events for the whole family during the year starting off with our Easter Event in April. During the event, Beira, the Princess of Spring, appealed to all the youngsters for help freeing herself from the Winter Queen Beira. The kids set about with great enthusiasm to plant and craft flowers, smash icicles, make chocolate treats and learn a little bird song. With their combined effort they drove away Beira and made room for Spring to come again.

In June to mark (one of) the longest nights of the year we gathered around the campfire to enjoy company, music, and tales and of course some delicious, wood-fired pizzas. It was a small gathering of visitors to the area and more local members, which made for a cosy and relaxed evening that was enjoyed by all. In October we hosted our annual Halloween event. We were joined by Beira - The Queen of Winter, who shared her story around the campfire. We also enjoyed pumpkin carving, we looked for apples, and made willow wands.

During the year we also hosted talks on Squirrels, Composting, Foraging, with guest speakers, and later held our Christmas craft afternoon, where we gathered to enjoy a hot cup of tea, a few mince pies and a few Christmas themed woodland crafts.

We had a busy year in 2024, and we are looking forward to running another packed event programme this year. We have some innovative ideas for everyone to enjoy. Look out on our social media or for our posters in the spring, as the Easter holidays approach.



Our 'Littlest' member during our Spring Celebration