



# C.V.C.W.T.

Summer 2007

Woodland habitats from "source to sea"

Issue 7

## Woodland Updates

During 2006 we have concen-



trated on maintaining and improving access to the woodlands. Many woodland paths have been cleared of overgrown vegetation and windblown trees. New woodland signs have been sited at all of the CVCWT managed woodlands. The signs have been protected with waterproof wood stain by Stuart McHarg, Fritz Pukies and George Glendinning who volunteered their help at the Activity and Resource Centre, Newton Stewart.



## Montane Scrub Habitat project

This exciting new project (co-funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund) is directed at the conservation and restoration of montane and treeline scrub habitat in the Galloway Forest Park. The Forestry Commission Scotland is the lead partner working with CVCWT. In June, FCS staff dangled off



the Merrick and collected over 400 Downy willow (*Salix lapponum*) cuttings. Later that day CVCWT volunteers potted up the cuttings into 3inch pots that are now housed temporarily in a polytunnel at the Tropic House, Newton Stewart. Many thanks to Alex and Fiona Reynolds for your generous help that included refreshments!

In June, the community volunteers visited the National Trust for Scotland nursery

Near Ben Lawyers, at Killin, where Downy willow and juniper have both been successfully grown from seed. The



volunteers also enjoyed a visit to the montane scrub demonstration site at Ben Lawers National Nature Reserve, an absolute joy!

## Project Funding

Projects during the year have been funded by Community Economic Redevelopment Fund, Rural Development Small Awards Fund, Forestry Commission Scotland, and Scottish Natural Heritage, CVCWT is grateful to The Big Lottery Fund for the receipt of a grant of £9750 which will support its ongoing habitat management and survey work.

*Please pass this newsletter on to a friend when you have finished with it.*

## Volunteers

Testimonials from some of our volunteers.

Simon Peter Hamilton:

"My Cree Valley Woodlands Trust article. I really enjoyed making the cat, bird box, planter and wheelbarrow. My bird house was made to look like a dog's kennel. I enjoyed working with Colin in the workshop doing my pyrography and burning my de-



signs on the bird box, cat and wheelbarrow. I made my wheelbarrow and my tool box and painted them as well as burning on the design. I drew the design out first. I varnished the signs for CVCWT signs and this was a very big and fantastic success. I enjoyed working with CVCWT and Linda and Peter."

Christian P Tillyer:

"I joined a group of volunteers to help site bird boxes. I had a good time meeting different people who were all interested in finishing making the boxes and fixing them to the trees. We had Peter and Linda to show us what to do and keep us on the right lines. I wore good boots and a warm jacket which helped but the sun was out anyway. I had good fun as well as doing something useful."

G Christie:

"From the start of 2006 I have been a volunteer with CVCWT, learned a variety of skills and been involved with lots of activities. I have had fun, met new and interesting friends. Sometimes you do get a bit soggy. However if you have the right clothing it really does not matter. Lots of fun, fresh air and exercise

I am really pleased I got the opportunity to do this."

During 2006/2007, volunteers

have continued to remove tree protectors from planted trees at the Minnoch, made wooden bird boxes and installed these at Caldons, put up woodcrete boxes at various woodlands, made habitat piles at High Camer carried out wildlife recording at High Camer and cleared vegetation from a medieval corn kiln at Knockman.

**Volunteer Events 2007 All events are on a Wednesday, 10am - 3pm, unless stated otherwise.**

Events include tree planting, creation of habitat piles, butterfly & wildflower recording, litter picking and nest box cleaning.

*If you have some spare time, enjoy being out in the countryside and want to contribute positively to your environment,*



*why not join us. All equipment is supplied, you just need appropriate weatherproof clothing/walking boots, a packed lunch and maybe your binoculars.*

## Walks in 2007

Tuesday 24th July 2pm to 4pm Woodland Birds, Caldons Wood. Meet at Caldons car park, on back road from Minnigaff to Bargrennan. (NX397791).

Sunday 7th October, 1pm to 4.30pm Woodland and Riverside Walk, Brighton. Meet at Water of Minnoch. Parking area next

to bridge near Brighton on back road from Minnigaff to Bargrennan (NX361750).

*Refer to website for events 2008.*



This newsletter has been prepared with the assistance of Gavin Christie

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