



Colintraive and Glendaruel Development Trust
Making Colintraive and Glendaruel a better place to live and work

Community Newsletter June 2014



Our Greener ColGlen Community



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Registered Office: The Village Hall, Colintraive, Argyll, PA22 3AS
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A Report from Colintraive and Glendaruel Development Trust

Making Colintraive and Glendaruel a better place to live and work

Colintraive and Glendaruel Development Trust is a membership-led charitable enterprise formed to work with and for the Community to develop environmentally and economically sustainable projects and activities that will enhance community resilience, employment, education, health and recreation.

AGM 2013-14 - 20th July at 2pm, in Colintraive Village Hall.

This year we celebrate our 5th AGM. We would like to update the Community on all our Projects – past, present and future, extend a warm invite to our AGM and also welcome new Directors to join us on the Board If you are interested in becoming a director, nomination forms are enclosed for anyone who has the interests of the Community at heart and is willing to contribute at least a couple of hours every week.

What do we do? Here's just a few of the recent contributions CGDT's directors have made: **Policies:** Sandra Wilson has been working on business employment legislation, which is now being put in place. **Renewables:** Bill Carlow has been working on the wind turbine project and liaising with our renewables consultants. **The Cowal Way:** Jim McLuckie has been working on a combined brief of the Forest and the Cowal Way. **Finance:** Colin Boyd has taken on the role of Treasurer. Along with Charles Dixon-Spain and Alex McNaughton the CGDT team clocked up more than 200 volunteer hours last month!

Achievements to Date

Employment – Since inauguration in 2008, 7 people have been employed by CGDT in various ways; part-time; free-lance; full-time; contracted, and PAYE. Development Officer Rhona Sutherland retired at Christmas after 4 years of sterling work for CGDT.

Income - CGDT has attracted £2.2M of funding into the area, and in addition, local contractors have been employed to carry out specific tasks, and local facilities and businesses have benefited from the extra business brought by CGDT's activities.

Insulation of Community Buildings – £37.5K of the funding for the **Warmer ColGlen** Project helped to attract over £52K of additional funding to insulate, upgrade and improve both our **Village Halls**. The lifetime carbon savings of **Warmer ColGlen** were estimated to be over 740 Tonnes CO₂e, and 14 households saved over £6,500 between them in the first year from **energy efficiency** improvements.

Community engagement – CGDT provide the capacity and a framework to **support** the Community to take forward and fully explore **Community interest projects** such as the Pontoon Project, Colintraive Gateway, Glendaruel Hotel, Micro-hydro schemes, River Ruel study, Are We Ready? Colintraive path/ bridge project. A great deal of ground work has been carried out and support has been provided to other local Community Organisations in terms of funding applications and governance.

Stronafian Community Forest – The purchase in 2013 of the Community Forest is helping to build a more resilient future and fulfill many of the community's aspirations.

News of our current and future work

Behind the Scenes - CGDT networks and communicates with other organisations to ensure we are in line with current legislation, funding news, and national and regional policy in all our areas of work. We've developed a good reputation amongst our peers and have a high profile with policy-makers and funders.

Community Broadband - Thanks to Anne Lamb for circulating the Broadband Survey; there was an excellent return rate of 100 forms, which shows how **important** fast Broadband is to the Community. At the meeting with Community Broadband Scotland (CBS) on 15th May, it was agreed to advance to the second stage of the project. This involves applying to CBS for funding to complete a full feasibility study on how our Community might deliver broadband.

Stronafian Forest - We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mark Chambers for all his hard work and wish him well for the future. We're also pleased to announce that Eamon King and Margaret Shields have been recruited on a job-share basis to cover the Community Forest Development Officer role for the next year. Meanwhile, the Directors have been meeting regularly with the working groups to ensure the continuity of projects going forward.

In response to strong support from the Community we had a **Community Wind Turbine Meeting** on 28th May, where our consultants, Locogen, made a presentation followed by a discussion on the options open to us, finance, and our plan going forward. The **Archaeology** Group is holding another weekend on **21st-22nd June** in **partnership** with the ACCORD project, which works with communities across Scotland to co-design and produce 3D digital models of heritage places and monuments. It's **free** and open to all. There will be site visits to the Cairn, hands-on activities and discussion; tea, coffee and lunch will be provided. For more information contact Ros McKenna, 01700 841708.

Greener ColGlen is funded by the **Climate Challenge Fund (CCF)** until March 2015. Community consultation - the "Are We Ready?" pilot - highlighted widespread support to build on the success of **Warmer ColGlen**, aiming to tackle **Community resilience** - in particular to establish a Community food-growing project. Sara Maclean and Nikki Woolf were appointed in November 2013 to deliver the project.

The Cowal Way - Following a survey completed last autumn to determine the long-term viability of the Cowal Way, we have now submitted a 'stage one' application to the Coastal Communities Fund to **upgrade and improve** the entire 57 miles. If successful, we will be in a position to **employ** two people – a Project Manager and Path Ranger. The ultimate aim is to bring the Cowal Way to a standard where it would be accepted as one of Scotland's Great Trails. We should have feedback by mid to the end of June.

The Slipway Project – Caledonian Maritime Assets (CMAL) are consulting via CGDT, their plans to improve the ferry slipway, parking and access to the old slipway.

The Glendaruel Hotel – Community feedback was overwhelmingly in favour of having a **pub and eating place** in the centre of the Clachan. The Trust has advanced plans to create this and fund it from the income of a **Forest visitor centre**, and by letting other premises in the hotel. We are well advanced with acquiring grant funding for the purchase, but we need the Scottish Government to confirm whether the application falls within State Aid (de-minimis) rules, and this is causing delays.

~ June 2014 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Stone carving workshop (Caol Ruadh) Volunteer day, Colintraive water supply (CVH)	2 Stone carving workshop (Caol Ruadh)	3 The ColGlen Chorus (8pm- 9pm, CVH)	4 Talkie Walkies (2pm, CVH)	5 Stone mosaic workshop (Caol Ruadh)	6 Stone mosaic workshop (Caol Ruadh)	7 The Big Lunch (12noon-5pm, CVH)
8	9	10 The ColGlen Chorus (8pm- 9pm, CVH)	11 Talkie Walkies (2pm, GVH)	12	13	14 20 th anniversary lunch & bowling (12pm, Colintraive Bowling Club)
15	16 Community Council meeting (7.30pm, GVH)	17 The ColGlen Chorus (8pm- 9pm, CVH)	18 Talkie Walkies (2pm, CVH)	19 Tearoom presents Commonwealth Museum (10am, Kilmodan School)	20 Sports Day (All day, Kilmodan Primary School)	21 Archaeology weekend (10am-3pm, CVH)
22 Archaeology Weekend (10am-3pm, CVH)	23	24 The ColGlen Chorus (8pm- 9pm, CVH)	25 Talkie Walkies (2pm, GVH)	26	27 Prize Giving Service, (12.15pm, Kilmodan Church)	28
29	30	Notes: Venue Code: Colintraive Village Hall (CVH); Glendaruel Village Hall (GVH)				

~ July 2014 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 The ColGlen Chorus (8pm-9pm, CVH)	2 Talkie Walkies (2pm, CVH)	3	4	5
6	7	8 The ColGlen Chorus (8pm-9pm, CVH)	9 Talkie Walkies (2pm, GVH)	10	11	12 Stone carving workshop (Caol Ruadh)
13 The ColGlen Chorus performs for the Commonwealth Games Baton (Strachur)	14 Stone carving workshop (Caol Ruadh)	15 The ColGlen Chorus (8pm-9pm, CVH)	16 Talkie Walkies (2pm, CVH)	17	18	19 Glendaruel Fair (2pm, GVH)
Stone carving workshop (Caol Ruadh)						
20 CGDT AGM (2pm Colintraive Hall)	21	22 The ColGlen Chorus (8pm-9pm, CVH)	23 Talkie Walkies (2pm, GVH)	24	25	26
27	28	29 The ColGlen Chorus (8pm-9pm, CVH)	30 Talkie Walkies (2pm, CVH)	31	Notes: Venue Code: Colintraive Village Hall (CVH); Glendaruel Village Hall (GVH)	

And looking ahead to August...

- 1st August – Club Pairs Playoff (Colintraive Bowling Club)
- 2nd August – Colintraive Village Fete and annual ColGlen Shinty Club dance (CVH)

Greener ColGlen News - Where are we now?

The ColGlen Growers - Officially formed on 31st March - now have 37 members in total, with 29 full members taking a raised bed in one of the two polytunnels. Associate membership is open to all Community members, either growing - or with an interest in - **local food**, whilst full-membership is restricted by the number of raised beds available.

Now, with grateful thanks to the sterling team-work of local contractors and cooperative Community spirit - the two sites in Colintrave and Glendaruel are looking great and work continues to prepare the **polytunnels** for growing food. Meanwhile The ColGlen Growers are planning a **visit** to Kyles Allotment Group (KAG) on 14th June to see the polytunnel in full production. They are also planning a plant/ seedling swap, when there will no doubt be much bartering going on! If anyone has any spare greenhouse space to temporarily store the abundance of seedlings until the polytunnels are ready, please get in touch!

Community composting facilities will also be set up, so that the collected garden waste, processed through our new **shredder**, can be composted. Six local volunteers are now qualified to operate the shredder, having successfully gained their **NPTC wood chipper** qualifications.

Training is an important part of the project. We also delivered **Emergency First Aid at Work** for 12 local people, and our Project Officer, Sara, is completing the Diploma to become a **Green Deal Advisor**, which will qualify her to provide ColGlen homeowners with Green Deal Advice Reports. These will enable householders to obtain energy saving improvements, at no up-front cost through the **Green Deal**. More info coming soon!



All credit to our **Volunteers**; a big thank you for all the help and support – and there's something in it for everyone; whether it's socialising with others, **learning new skills** or just participating for the fun of it. Other volunteering opportunities will be coming up soon and all are welcome. Keep in touch for ways to get involved.

Coming up...

- **The Big Lunch 7th June, Colintrave Village Hall. Starting at 12 noon**, a celebration of local food, showcasing seasonal local produce, including free range eggs, cheese, venison, lamb, beef, salmon and preserves... as well as a sustainable cookery demo with Alison Sykora, live music, barbecue and a bar!
- **Polytunnel Opening event TBC in July – Glendaruel, celebration with barbecue.**

For more info about the project, contact Sara or Nikki on 01700 841358.

Or sign up to our email list to get news updates

sara@cgdt.org nikki@cgdt.org

Join us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/WarmerColglen>

Greener ColGlen's "From Invader to Woodfuel!"

Rhododendron Ponticum is the most damaging and widespread non-native terrestrial plant in Britain, and has been recognised as a particular problem in Cowal. The threat of **Phytophthora**, to which *Rhododendron P.* plays host, has made *Rhododendron* control a national priority, and **Greener ColGlen** is keeping up to date on the emerging National Strategy to control the plant.



Phytophthora (Greek for 'plant destroyer') is one of the world's most destructive genera of plant pathogens. Probably the most famous species of the genus is *Phytophthora Infestans*, which attacks the leaves and stems of potato plants and causes the disease that contributed to the potato famine in Ireland in the mid 1800's.

Greener ColGlen, in partnership with *Forestry Commission Scotland* and *Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust*, will hold **workshops** in conventional and alternative control techniques and a **charcoal-making** demonstration, helping to show that the timber from cleared *Rhododendron Ponticum* can be used in a variety of ways, and not wasted.

We are going to trial different techniques to eradicate some local colonies of rhododendron. **Stem Injection, Lever and Mulch, and Cut and Chip.** These will all help to interrupt the spread for one season, begin a programme of eradication, and also provide slow burning hardwood logs, kindling and charcoal. This is a vital land-management activity that will help to prepare us for responsible Community Woodland ownership in the long-term whilst **raising awareness** and leaving a legacy of **skills in the Community.**

Greener ColGlen is keen to hear from any ColGlen residents that have colonies of mature *R. Ponticum* they would like cleared, and anyone who would like to take part in this project or find out more. Please contact Sara or Nikki on 01700 841358.

The 'Bin Men' Theatre Production - a review

Back in April, AJTC Theatre Company, in conjunction with the York Theatre Royal came to Colintrave Village Hall to present '**Bin Men**', a **fun and informative** play about what happens when we throw things away, and how we can **re-use** much of what we call 'rubbish'. After an update of the Greener ColGlen project and information about local **recycling** by Fyne Futures, we took part in an interactive workshop to get us thinking about how items might be used differently, or 'reused'. Who knew a plastic bottle could double up as a caterpillar? Here's what happened next...

The 'Bin Men' spring into action, busily emptying bins along a residential street, to a background of moody accordion music and a colourful set display. When out of the blue, one of the Bin Men transforms himself into a knight, wearing armour made of tins, wrappers and bottles, donning a broom as his trusty steed. He is on a one-man crusade, battling against the 'monster' (rubbish), shouting about how it his mission to save the world from this evil. He is eventually detained for his 'mad' behaviour, and we then find out he has been signed off work due to illness. But he is missed, and in his absence he has sown a seed in the minds of the residents, encouraging them to start thinking about what they are throwing away, and spurring them on to take action; to 'reduce, re-use and recycle'.

The Bin Men continued...

Feedback from the audience was very positive and when asked, **“Did you find out anything new?”** they responded –

“The inside of sleeping bags are made from recycled plastic bags!”

“There are 299 buttons on a button accordion!”

“How to recycle rubbish and make armour and a helmet. Guess what we’ll be making in the holidays!”

“To use my imagination more for reusing items”

“Plastic bags make good bunting!”

“There is a website for sharing unwanted goods”



Recycling Facilities in ColGlen ...

Recycling is easy, and small efforts go a long way. You can recycle..

GLASS @ Glendaruel Caravan Park and Colintraive Hotel

PLASTIC, PAPER, CANS @ Colintraive Hall and Glendaruel Caravan Park

CLOTHES, TEXTILES @ Kilmodan Primary School and Colintraive Hall

See also Fyne Futures collections calendar for local uplifts.

Or join Cowal-Peninsula-Freegle@yahoo.com



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