

Falkland Centre for Stewardship Newsletter Autumn 2011



Even without a Big Tent this year, it's been another busy summer at Falkland Centre for Stewardship. Over two weeks in July 28 children took part in our very successful **Summer Clubs**. The children were out every day building dens, making music, creating art and learning to identify trees and wildlife.

Supported by Hazel Darwin Edwards and with assistance from volunteers, Sam Docherty, Kirsty Emberton and Megan Adair the children were encouraged to devise their own programme from a wide range of possible activities on Falkland Estate. Feedback from the event has been very positive so we plan to run holiday clubs in the October and Easter holidays.

For the grown-ups there was lots of fun too with a **Wood and Willow Summer School**. Participants worked with skilled craft makers Jim McKeen, Lise Bech and Kenny Grieve to learn rustic furniture making, basket weaving and green woodworking. Everyone left with a basket or a three legged stool of their own design, as well as some great memories, helped in no small part by a great ceilidh with the Homecoming String Band in Falkland Community Hall.

We also ran a **hut building course** and with expertise from Hill Holt Wood in Lincolnshire, our participants learned how to design and create huts using locally sourced wood.

In other news we have begun work to **the Stables building** which will see the transformation of the north side of the Stables in to a larger multi purpose space. Our plans for the Stables include a volunteer resource room, the development of a Love Food, Hate Waste training centre and more interpretation about Falkland Estate for visitors.

Our other exciting news is the successful **Living Lomonds Landscape bid** to the Heritage Lottery Fund. In partnership with heritage and community groups, and led by Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, we have secured funding to develop plans for heritage activities in and around the Lomonds and Benarty Hill. Falkland Centre for Stewardship will be leading on the creative public engagement process.

As ever, we continue to rely on the goodwill, expertise and generosity of volunteers to help support much of our work. If you would like to join our volunteer programme then we have the following opportunities available:

CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS: a chance to work on a variety of woodland tasks such as rhododendron control, pruning young hardwoods, squirrel surveys and other biodiversity work.

ZERO WASTE VOLUNTEERS: help spread the word about the benefits of reducing food waste, the joys of composting and other ways to avoid increasing landfill mountains. You can help in a number of ways such as attending events and providing information and support to members of your community.

With all our volunteering, we provide training and support. And you can give as much or as little time as you wish.

Please find on the next page a list of our forthcoming events - hope to see you there!

Best wishes

The team at Falkland Centre for Stewardship

With thanks to the following funders for their on-going support: Zero Waste Scotland, Heritage Lottery Fund, Scottish Natural Heritage, Leader in Fife, Forestry Commission, Fife Council, Fife Environment Trust.



Falkland Centre for Stewardship Programme of Events



Toddlers' toddle, Tues 6th September, 11am-12.30pm.

Join the fun as we explore the woods at a very slow pace looking at details others may miss!



Tree walk, Fri 9th Sept, 11am -12.30pm.

A guided walk through Falkland Estate looking at trees from the native to the exotic and how to identify them from leaves and bark.

Squirrel survey training, Sat 10th Sept, 2pm-5pm (Ages 16+)

Find out what's involved in helping to conserve red squirrels in Fife.



Tour of the House of Falkland, Wed 14th Sept, 11am-12.30pm.

With its fantastical arts and crafts interiors, the A-Listed House of Falkland remains one of Scotland's untapped jewels.

Wild art with Jan Hendry, Thurs 15th Sept, 10am-4pm.

Collect and use natural materials from the woodlands to create colourful collage and sculptures.

Family baking workshops with fruit, Sat 17th Sept & Fri 21st Oct 10am - 1pm or 2pm-5pm. Using in season fruit creating delights such as apple pie, muffins and plum cake.



Red squirrel fun day, Sat 22nd Oct, 1pm-6pm.

Celebrate the red squirrels with fun activities, games and stalls.

Bushcraft and fungal foray, Mon 10th & Tues 11th Oct, 10am-4pm.

Two days in the woods learning bushcraft skills with campfire cooking and a fungal foray.

A-B Tree: Creative Writing in the Woods, Wed 12th Oct, 1.30pm-3.30pm. A workshop for teachers led by Mandy Haggith exploring how getting close to trees can help develop creativity and stimulate new writing.



Apple Pressing and Pasturing, Tues 15th Nov, 9.30am-12noon & 1pm - 3.30pm. A chance to learn how to press and pasturise local apples into delicious apple juice.

Hedgerow Basketry, Fri 18th Nov, 10am-4pm.

Take a walk on the Estate to collect hedgerow material then weave a hedgerow tension tray with instructor Jane Wilkinson.

Kids Holiday Clubs, 10th-14th Oct; 2nd-6th Apr '12; 9th-13th Apr '12
Week long holiday clubs for children aged 7-12. Craft, den making, treasure hunts, walks, theatre, puppetry and more!



Christmas Wreath Making with Jan Hendry, Sat 10th Dec, 11am -12.30pm & 1.30pm-3pm. Make a beautiful Christmas wreath with natural and locally sourced materials.

Big Tent Festival, Sat 21st to Sun 22nd July 2012.

Make a date in your diary for Scotland's environmental festival. A weekend of family activities, craft, wood, debates, talks, great music and great food.

For more information on these events including ways to book and prices, visit our website at www.centreforstewardship.org.uk or call 01337 858838.