



Evanton Community Wood News



December 2013



We would like to thank all who have assisted us in one way or another over the past year. We have recently passed our 3000th participant in of our organised Events and Education programme – including volunteer sessions - since we started in Sept 2012.

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Please join us for Native Tree Planting on Sat 28 Dec from 10am to 1pm. Meet at the stacking yard.

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The most recent event was the 2-day joint event with the Forestry Commission. On the Friday 29 Nov we had some 200 youngsters in the wood – including the whole of Kiltearn Primary, also mixed groups from Coulhill and Obsdale primaries and Evanton nursery group. One highlight was meeting Tarzan the comtois horse and seeing him in action, along with his handler Brian, hauling logs through the trees and along the paths.

Some children also witnessed a large leaning spruce tree being felled by the Forestry Commission lads. Some had a chance to plant some native trees and all were able to witness expert chainsaw carver Iain Chalmers in action. (We will be welcoming Iain back to the wood in 2014 to create some special sculptures in situ).



On the Open Day over 100 people attended including one aged 101 and a retired horse-logger. Various family groups also took part in tree planting. Quite a number of children who

had been in the wood with their school returned with their families.





“The kids thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the woods on Friday, despite the weather they came back smiling, having loved their visit” (Isobel Sutherland, Obsdale Primary School)



During the year we have completed botanical/biological surveys of mammals, amphibians, moths and we have a habitat survey in place. The invertebrate survey (many hundreds of beasties) is nearing completion. The results are available on the [website](#). Evanton Walking group had an interesting time investigating galls and wood miners – indeed the walking group are very regular visitors to the wood. We also had illustrated talks by Chris Sharratt and Jonathan Willet in Cornerstone- who have continued to provide us with display space – for which



many thanks!



Regular volunteer sessions will continue on the last Saturday of the month - currently focussing on native tree planting. There are also **opportunities for volunteering** during the week (Contact Adrian on 01349 830517). *We hope to see you at some of these forthcoming events. No need to be a member – although you are welcome to join!*

We will be undertaking management of some of the recent wind-blow over coming months. We will also be installing the 3 Information Boards. Meanwhile the

Orienteering Course is now in place.

Stop Press: We have just received planning permission to go ahead with the cabin at the corner of the staking yard. Evanton Nursery plan to use this every week: *“A basic cabin would be fantastic for use within the Community and for education purposes”* (Evanton Nursery leader). If you happen to see a rather unprepossessing metal portacabin arrive in the coming weeks – do not worry as we will be cladding it with wood and giving it a sloping roof. We will welcome volunteer help.

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Firewood Scavenging Day Sat 18 Jan. 10.30 – 3pm. We now have piles of logs. We will be asking for a suggested donation per load. Hand tools only. A good chance to stock up!

The Evanton Wood Board and Simon would like to wish you a Happy Christmas and a great 2014!

www.evantonwood.com



The co-operative, Garfield Weston Foundation, Technip, Isleburn/Global, Mackenzie & Cormack