

## Out and about this winter with the Woody Group

The Woody Group is CCWT's band of volunteers who meet up throughout the autumn & winter to carry out maintenance tasks in Culag Woods. Before Christmas a wreath making session was held in the CCWT office. These wreaths were sold at the Made in Assynt Christmas Craft Fayre to help raise funds for the ongoing maintenance work in Culag Woods & at Little Assynt. But its not all been indoor work! Throughout this rather wet and windy winter, the group have met regularly to carry out essential repairs to the much loved nest and tepee. Further work has been done on some of the sections of path which are not included in the current path upgrade funding programme; the Duke's stone has been cleaned and fallen trees cleared at the Black Pool.

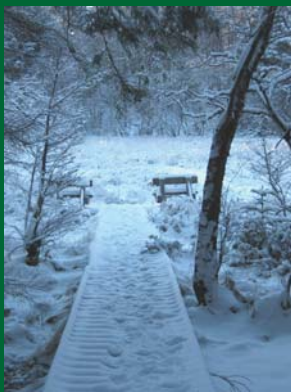
The group will continue to meet this season until mid April and are always happy to have new volunteers join. Please contact the CCWT office for further details.

### Notices

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place in Culag Woods on Saturday 14th April. Look out for further details to be published locally, closer to the time.



The dragonfly bog boardwalk in Culag Woods has been removed temporarily for Health and Safety reasons. Much of the decking was rotten and broken after many years of footfall along its length. It is hoped to have a new boardwalk in place by this summer.



Festive fun with the Woody Group



Continuing the willow weaving at the tepee



## Coigach & Assynt Living Landscape Project

The proposal for a Tree Nursery at Little Assynt Field has been given the go ahead by funders The Robertson Trust, The Youngman Trust and The Forestry Commission Seedcorn Fund. The next step in the process is to recruit a Tree Nursery Manager (see below) to oversee the construction of the site, get seedling production underway and start to produce a supply of trees for habitat restoration schemes in the CALL area.

Alongside the production of trees a community engagement programme will be an important part of the Tree Nursery Project. Two part time employees, to be appointed, will be responsible for producing marketing and educational materials to engage the wider community. At the end of the 3 year funding period it is anticipated that the nursery will be self financing through plant sales.

Another project currently in the planning stage is a Deer Festival to be held in late October 2012. This "Deer Feast" will promote venison with cookery demonstrations and fun and games for all ages.

The CALL Project Manager, Viv, would be delighted to hear from you if you are interested in any of the above CALL projects. Please feel welcome to contact her by email, phone or post, or via the CCWT office:

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**CALL Project Manager,**  
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### Coigach Assynt Living Landscape (CALL)

offers the post of:

**Tree Nursery Manager**

28 hours per week: 3 years

~£20k pro rata

CALL has raised funds to establish and run a new native tree nursery near Lochinver in Assynt, Sutherland.

The successful applicant will be employed by the Scottish Wildlife Trust, one of the CALL partners, on behalf of the partnership.

For application pack see [www.swt.org.uk](http://www.swt.org.uk), email [recruitment@swt.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@swt.org.uk) or telephone 0131 312 7765.

Closing date 24th February. Interviews 7th March.

Post funded by:

The Albert  
 George and Nancy  
 Caroline  
 Youngman Trust



The CALL Project is currently funded by:



## Urras Coillie Choimhearsnachd Chulaig

### Culag Community Woodland Trust

# NEWS UPDATE

#### CCWT wins Community Woodlands Association award

The annual Community Woodlands Association conference and awards were held in Boat of Garten in November and welcomed delegates from many of its members across Scotland. Speaking at the conference MSP Stewart Stevenson confirmed the Scottish Government's continued support for Community Woodlands with the announcement of a £250,000 allocation towards next year's Forestry Commission Seedcorn Fund. This fund helps communities kick-start projects giving financial support for volunteering, skills development and community health promotion schemes.

The CWA annual awards were announced at the conference, with CCWT being awarded the top spot in the Best Employment and Business Project category for the Little Assynt Access Improvement and Training Project. Other category winners included Abriachan Forest Trust, Dunnet Forest Trust and Gearrhoille Community Wood.

#### Next Issue:

More on the Culag Woods Access Project

Update on the Little Assynt Tree Nursery Project

Forest School Leader training update

#### Contact:

Get in touch with your news and views  
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## Culag Woods School Path completed

The Culag Enterprises team has continued their work on the path project throughout the autumn and the onset of winter and have made great progress.

The School Path is now complete. This is a great asset to the local community, visitors and schools as it gives direct pedestrian access to the woodland. The full length of this path is now a made path where previously it had just been way marked. Recently the Pre School pupils walked its full length to gain access to the White Shore, a feat that would have taken much longer a couple of months ago. A much needed face lift has also been given to the well worn Woodside Path. This path takes the walker from Woodside Car Park into the heart of the woods, past the giant nest, the dragonfly bog and to the junction at the Play area.



*The entrance to the School Path*



*The upgraded path winds down the hill to join the Woodside Path*

The Funders for the Culag Woods Access Project are:



The European Agricultural Fund  
for Rural Development:  
Europe investing in rural areas



**The Brown Forbes Memorial Fund**

The Hugh Fraser Foundation



## Historic shelter at Loch an t-Sabhail



The final part of the Little Assynt Access Improvement and Training Project was completed in April 2011, with the turving of the historic shelter roof. The construction of the shelter was the result of a partnership between Historic Assynt and CCWT, built as part of a training programme. It provides an interesting resting point at the northernmost section of the circular Loch an t-Sabhail Path whilst giving some idea of the original appearance of the ruins which can be found around Little Assynt Estate.

