

Friends of Glenan Wood
Annual Report and Financial Statement
For the year ended 30 September 2021

Friends of Glenan Wood

Administrative information

Trustees

Robin Webster Chair

Eve MacFarlane Secretary

Rob Borruso

Mark Appleton

Heather Muir resigned April 2021

Andree Hawke resigned May 2021

Niall McFarlane Treasurer

Katharine Lowrie

Ed Pybus appointed December 2020

Craig Ward appointed September 2021

Charity Number SC047803

Registered Office Tigh Eoin, Portavadie, Millhouse PA21 2DA

Bankers Bank of Scotland Direct Business

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Trustees' Report

History

The Friends of Glenan Wood is a charity (SCIO:SC047803) formed to purchase Glenan Wood for the local community. With the support of our members and the wider community we finally brought Glenan Wood into community ownership in December 2019. We received a grant for this from the Scottish Land Fund, who also helped us to employ a Forest Ranger and a Development Officer at the start of 2020, to aid conservation activities and generate new opportunities. The Development Officer left in October 2020, while the Forest Ranger (Rhyddian Knight) continues to be employed for one day a week.

Friends of Glenan Wood is a member of the Atlantic Woodland Alliance and is the only community woodland within the project. We also have a Memorandum of Understanding with the Northwoods Rewilding Network (part of "Scotland the Big Picture") who may be able to assist us with finding funding in the future.

Charity Aims

The aim of the charity is to maintain and support the ancient oak forest (a remaining part of the Atlantic Temperate Rainforest), for the benefit of the community and to sustain this ancient and important site. Several areas requiring action have been identified and during the year the following activities have been undertaken to support the woodland.

Ringbarking

We have a programme of ring barking to take out non-native conifer species. All non-native conifers should ultimately be removed from the woods as they will compete with the native trees, shrubs and herb layer for light and root space and they continue to colonise more ground through the establishment of seedlings. This ringbarking is currently being carried out by the Forest Ranger with the help of volunteers.

Over-grazing by Deer

The population of native roe and red deer in Glenan (and across Scotland) is believed to be at record levels due to lack of native predators (lynx and wolves). The deer are grazing and browsing woodland plants, preventing regeneration of woodland, and preventing understories

to form within the woodland. Left unchecked, such relentless herbivory will cause the death of the woods.

One of the methods we intend to tackle this problem is through the creation of temporary deer “exclosures”. We have identified areas in the wood for volunteers to begin to install lightweight, temporary “exclosures”, using netting and ropes. These “exclosures” will therefore be protected for several years, allowing a generation of seedlings to become established. We have received a grant to supply the materials for this and for ring-barking from Argyll Forests.

Removal of Rhododendrons

Invasive rhododendron is one of the most serious threats to any woodland ecosystem. We have been fortunate in receiving help this year from Argyll Community Trust (ACT) to tackle this problem. They have employed a local Kames contractor (Ascog Ltd) on our behalf to clear a large amount of dense rhododendrons in the wood, although inevitably small patches remain, and constant vigilance is required to ensure it does not return. To this end, we are asking members of the community to pull any rhododendron they see while walking in the woods.

The Community Orchard

We received a grant from “Keep Scotland Beautiful” (CCAF) to create an orchard at the eastern boundary of the wood. An area of existing non-native conifers were felled while the brash was cleared by volunteers. The area was fenced off to keep deer out, and 85 fruit trees have been planted, along with some soft fruit. The trees are now in blossom, although we do not expect to harvest them for a couple of years. We expect eventually that harvesting the fruit and juice and jam making activities will be a popular community activity.

“Boost it” Fund

Our development officer negotiated a loan from the “Boost It” fund to develop six shepherds huts, a community kitchen, hall, toilets and storage. We received planning permission for these buildings in December 2021 but decided to pay the remainder of the loan back, as we were unable to meet their timetable, and the Board felt that it was not a priority for us. We will seek funding to build the toilets and kitchen (which are located by the orchard), which will help with community activities there, and may eventually decide to build the rest in due course.

Covid

We have still been impacted by Covid, and as a result the intention of mobilising groups of volunteers to help maintain this special Atlantic oak wood habitat has been put on hold and instead “lone wolf” volunteering has taken place during the pandemic with the support of our forest ranger. We hope that more volunteering can now take place, as originally planned.

Funding Sought

The Trust needs to find core funds to pay for insurance, the Forest Ranger, and ongoing maintenance of the wood. We expect to make further applications for grants to help us with this, while contributions from members, volunteers, and friends are always welcome!

We are seeking funds to help us with a number of items:

1. The paths need improvement and whilst work has been undertaken on drainage and access, we need to enhance the network with better signage, as some folks have become lost and have contacted the coastguard and emergency services to rescue them.
2. To build a shelter, noticeboard, and honesty box at the entrance car park, to help visitors to learn more about the wood which can encourage them to contribute to its maintenance.
3. Long term funding to allow us to employ a forest ranger for four days a week.
4. Funding to bring water and electricity to the orchard, and build some storage, toilets and a kitchen there to assist with community activities.

Independent Examiner’s Report

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44 1(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulation, and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Frederick John Ross

Dalgety Bay

Fife

KY11 9YA

Dated 17/4/22

Friends of Glenan Wood

Statement of Financial Activities including Income and Expenditure Statement

For the year ended 30th September 2021

		Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	2021	2020
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income from:	1				
Donations and Legacies		0	2,737	2,737	860
Charitable Activities		22,206	3,286	25,492	371,264
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Income		<u>22,206</u>	<u>6,023</u>	<u>28,229</u>	372,124
Expenditure on:					
Charitable Activities	2	70,926	3,942	74,868	316,427
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Income/(Expenditure)	3	(48,720)	2,081	(46,639)	55,697
Fund Balances at 1 Oct 2020		56,339	161	56,500	803
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund Balances at 30 Sept 2021		<u>7,619</u>	2,242	<u>9,861</u>	56,500

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2021

	Notes	2021	2020
		£	£
Fixed Assets	4		
Tangible Assets		290,000	290,000
Current Assets			
Tools		1,408	1,760
Bank		9,861	56,500
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		11,269	58,260
Net Assets			<u>9,861</u>
Income Funds			
Restricted Funds		7,619	57,343
Unrestricted Funds		<u>2,242</u>	<u>(843)</u>
		<u>9,861</u>	<u>56,500</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements

Notes 1

	Unrestricted Funds	Total
	2021	2020
Donations	2,737	860
Charitable Activities	2021	2020
Keep Scotland Beautiful*	9,871	
Scottish Land Fund Staffing*	11,000	
TDDT	3,136	
NFU*	1,335	
Other Activities	150	
Total	<u>25,492</u>	<u>371,264</u>
Analysis by Fund		
Restricted*	22,206	368,063
Unrestricted	<u>3,286</u>	<u>3,201</u>
Total	<u>25,492</u>	<u>371,264</u>

Notes 2

Charitable Activities

	2021	2020
Land Purchase		293,875
Staff Costs	11,809	16,974
Insurance	785	783
Glenan Gathering	0	456
First Port	49,001	999
Keep Scotland Beautiful	9,871	0
Sundries	1,066	204
Equipment	<u>2,336</u>	<u>3,137</u>
Total	<u>74,868</u>	<u>316,428</u>

Notes 3

Tangible Assets

	Land	Tools	Total
As at 1 Oct 2020	<u>290,000</u>	<u>1,760</u>	<u>291,760</u>
Depreciation charged			
in year	0	352	352
Carrying amount as at			
30 Sep 2021	<u>290,000</u>	<u>1,408</u>	<u>291,408</u>

Depreciation of tools calculated on a 20% straight line method.

Notes 5

Trustees – None of the trustees received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

Notes 6

The average number of employees during the year was 1. Our Forest Ranger has been employed since December 2019 and continues in his role. The Development Officers final salary was paid in Oct 2020.

Employee Costs

	2021	2020
Wages and salaries	11,264	15,928
Social security costs	176	512
Other Pension costs	<u>369</u>	<u>534</u>
Total	<u>11,809</u>	<u>16,974</u>