

What's On

Regular activities in the hall

Table Tennis

Everyone is welcome to come along for a game on Monday evenings from 6.30pm

Library

The library is open on the 2nd Sunday of the Month from 11.00am to 12.00pm. There is a wide range of books available for all ages, fiction and non-fiction to suit a wide range of interests. You can put in requests for books.

Scottish Country Dancing

The ideal exercise for the long winter evenings. The class meets on a Wednesday evening at 7.30 pm. Come along and give it a go

Christmas Party

This year the party will be on 28th December - details to follow.

Community Work Day

Join us for a woodcutting session at the AFT carpark on 27th December at 1.30pm
You can take a load of wood home with you and you can enjoy some light refreshments in the Forest School and discuss future directions of the Abriachan Forest Trust as we approach our 10th anniversary in March 2008.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Nollaig Chridheil agus Bliadhna Mhath Ur!

Abriachan Forest Trust

Solar Saturday

The Starlab show on the 20th of October provided our many visitors with a very enjoyable day packed full of interesting and informative talks as well as exciting activities for children of all ages.

A special thank you to Douglas Scott for his very interesting presentation on early solar henges and for all his help and advice with our crofting calendar. If you would like to buy a copy of his excellent video you can e-mail Dougie :

douglas.scottt@virgin.net



A tense moment before the launch of Anna's rocket

Many of us look up at the night sky wishing we could identify stars and planets. There is a very helpful website which provides a guide to the stars and planets you can see from your own locality:

www.heavens-above.com

SSE Donation

A very big thank you to SSE for their very generous £1,000 donation. This will enable us to buy some green woodworking equipment for our Forest School as well as to buy some small bikes for some of the younger Forest School pupils who will now have the opportunity to have some expert mountain biking tuition which is an integral part of the Forest School experience at Abriachan.

Walking Groups

The Drumnadrochit Group of Step It Up Highland have been enjoying weekly walks in the Abriachan Forest. They have been driven to the Forest by Bill Ross who operates the Dial-a-bus in the Aird district. To contact Bill to book the bus or to find out more about this very useful service, phone 01463 761250

We were also pleased to welcome the young women from Wildwalks who tried out Nordic Walking under the guidance of one of our qualified Nordic Walking instructors.

Big Wild Read

Every year, Highland Libraries run a reading challenge throughout the summer holiday period for primary school children. This year the challenge was called the "Big Wild Read" and as well as reading their 6 books, the children were encouraged to think about ways in which they could look after the environment and reduce their carbon footprints. The children who successfully completed the challenge were invited to receive their awards in the Forest School classroom. As a special treat Abriachan Forest Trust invited Nick Martin and his "Creatures Great and Small" to meet the children and their parents. Children and adults were captivated with Nick's interesting and informative talk and with his exotic creatures which included a giant millipede, a hissing cockroach, a friendly scorpion, a seriously large spider, a lizard called Huff and Monty, the huge but friendly carpet python.



To contact Nick to give a talk to your organisation phone 01463229952

Kelpie banished from Abriachan

Thanks to the pupils of Kilchuimen Primary 6/7 it is again safe to walk in the Abriachan forest. They discovered Alastair the trapper, who had been missing for days, lying in a bog, his face marked with large hoof marks which could only have been made by the Kelpie.



Even more disturbingly, they found more Kelpie prints heading towards the ark treehouse.

Drawing on Morag MacLeod's secret book of spells the pupils made up some powerful spells guaranteed to drive the Kelpie away.



Hallowe'en Party

A big thank you to the Hall Committee for organising the Hallowe'en party and quiz. Below you can see some of the disappointed contestants who failed to make it to the finals of the annual beauty competition. If you have any make-over tips which you feel might help these people please send them in as soon as possible. Unfortunately there are no photographs of the winner - despite our requests his agent would not release them for publication.



Bribery is not an option!

Lynn, the chairperson of the Hall Committee taking a tough stand against sleaze.

Thank you Mike for compiling the quiz, and to all who came along to support this event.



Ark treehouse

The Ark treehouse is a very popular feature of the Abriachan Forest and it has been so well used over the past 7 years that some repairs are now necessary. The Bridge students have taken this project on board and after surveying the treehouse they have worked out a repair and maintenance programme including the design and construction of new ladders. The students will be carrying out the practical work in the near future and we would like to thank them for this. We are sure that everyone who enjoys playing in the treehouse will appreciate all the hard work they are putting into this project.

Drumadrochit Walking Festival

The Abriachan walk will start from the main AFT car park on the 31st December.

We will be taking the hill path around the summit of Carn na Leitire so be prepared for all weather conditions. Everyone is very welcome to join us. We will be starting off at 10.00am and will finish at about 12.00am. when you are all invited to enjoy a strupag in the new Forest School classroom in front of the log burning stove.