

# Perth and Kinross Tree Wardens' Network Quarterly Newsletter

## Introduction & 2021 AGM

We are pleased to confirm that our new Executive Committee has held its first successful virtual meeting comprising updates from each area and positive discussions about actions to take forward. It was decided that the 2021 PKTWN AGM will also be held online, in April (a little later in the year than usual, owing to other commitments in March and the timing of Easter weekend). Please note the date - **Saturday 10th April at 10.30 am - 12.30 pm**. A new PKTWN Communications Plan will be circulated prior to the AGM, along with the 2020-21 Annual Report. The members are as follows:

- Catherine Lloyd - Hon. Chair
- Julia Henriksson - Hon. Secretary
- Ormungandr Melchizedek - Hon. Treasurer/Trainer
- Rosie Hooper - Joint Tree Warden for Forthingall/NW Perthshire
- Jackie Polakowska - Joint Tree Warden for Forthingall/NW Perthshire
- Fran Gillespie - Joint Tree Warden for Forthingall/NW Perthshire
- Sandy Watts - Tree Warden for Doune/SW Perthshire
- Rachel Bower - Tree Warden for Blairgowrie/NE Perthshire
- Jane Bryan-Jones - Tree Warden for Kinnoull/City of Perth

As Lead and Deputy Representatives for Scotland, Catherine and I recently attended an online Tree Council Tree Warden Advisory Group meeting. The Tree Council is currently discussing the best way forward for reintroducing its annual membership fee from April – we did not need to renew our national membership last autumn. There is a possibility that different layers of membership will be brought in so we await with interest the news on this.

We hope that everyone is continuing to stay safe and well. As Covid restrictions ease in Scotland we can hopefully arrange a few physical events, including our planned visit to Forthingall. In the meantime, for updates please follow our Facebook page at: [facebook.com/PerthandKinrossTreeWardens](https://facebook.com/PerthandKinrossTreeWardens), and our (new!) Twitter account at: [twitter.com/PKTreeWardens](https://twitter.com/PKTreeWardens).

- Julia Henriksson, Hon. Secretary - Events & Membership

### Winter Tree ID Quiz Winners

Many thanks to those who took part. The winner of Jon Stokes' book *Heritage Trees* was Angus Macrae, and the runner up, Graham Pinfield, received a Woodland Trust tree ID leaf swatch booklet. Well done!

### We need new members!

With high quality training for all the UK's Tree Wardens about to start, now is the perfect time to bring more people on board. Can you recommend a neighbour or a friend in a different part of Perth & Kinross to join us? Membership is still free and everyone is welcome. Please contact Julia at [secretary@perthandkinrosstree wardens.co.uk](mailto:secretary@perthandkinrosstree wardens.co.uk).



Spring is here!

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## Chair's Update

Julia and I have been quietly working on a draft Communications Plan which we hope will help focus us all on what we want to achieve within Perth & Kinross as the Covid-19 restrictions start to lift. We will circulate the Plan ahead of the AGM and would really appreciate as much feedback as possible so that we can finalise it during the summer.

In the meantime, the rest of my news is 'national': there is so much going on that is highly relevant to us. Where the Tree Council's Orchards for Schools project is concerned, 730 schools across the UK have now planted an amazing 32,000 fruit trees and fruiting hedgerow saplings. This includes 13 schools in Perth & Kinross (and a further six in Dundee and Angus). There is an interactive map to use to see where the new orchards have been planted: <https://treecouncil.org.uk/schools-and-education/orchards-for-schools/>. A second phase of applications is now open to receive orchard kits in the autumn, so if you can recommend any local schools, please let us know.

The Tree Council's second youth project, the Young Tree Champions programme #ForceForNature!, will provide a tree pack and tech kit, as well as resources for teachers and a public speaking workshop led by the Speakers Trust. The closing date for applications is imminent so we will let you know if any of our local schools sign up as there will be opportunities for us to link with them in the future.

We are all eagerly awaiting the launch of the Tree Council's training modules - and edging ever nearer to news of the actual dates. The training will be for everyone: long-term Tree Wardens and new members alike. It really should help put us on the map. The training will, of course, be necessarily online. We will let you know the programme for all modules as soon as we can.

- Catherine Lloyd, Hon. Chair

## WSWG Woodland Consultation

West Stormont Woodland Group (WSWG) is working hard to bring Taymount Wood and Five Mile Wood into community ownership. The group's mission is to safeguard the future of both woods and promote 'Ecoforestry for the Planet', whilst also ensuring the woodlands are managed for community wellbeing. Their woodland management proposal is now open for consultation (between 22 February and 19 March) and anyone can take part. For more information and details on how to complete the survey, head to <https://www.weststormontwoodlandgroup.scot/consultation/>.



Can you ID this tree? \*

© Julia Henriksson

### ZoomIn2 - A MONTHLY TIME-LAPSE PROJECT

#### Do you have a favourite tree you would like to study throughout the seasons?

The Tayside Biodiversity Partnership have relaunched the photography project 'ZoomIn2'. To get involved, take a photograph of your chosen subject and submit it to [web@zoomin2.co.uk](mailto:web@zoomin2.co.uk). Go back to the same spot each month and repeat the process until you have a year's worth of photos. These can then be made into a time-lapse showing you the seasons changing! Photos will be displayed at [www.zoomin2.co.uk](http://www.zoomin2.co.uk).



## Dendrochronology in Scotland

The work of Dendrochronicle, a consultancy led by Dr Coralie Mills, a dendrochronologist and wooded landscape archaeologist, focusses on woodland heritage, Historic Woodland Assessment and Surveys. Dendrochronology is the study of time using trees (tree-ring dating). In collaboration with Current Archaeology Dr Mills produced a virtual talk on Dendrochronology, in which she explains

how, through recent research in Scotland, this science can shed light on historic buildings, archaeological sites, and landscapes. The talk has been recorded and can be watched at: [https://youtu.be/QVR80bWy\\_VM](https://youtu.be/QVR80bWy_VM). Also check out the website at <http://dendrochronicle.co.uk>.

## Tayside Recorders' Forum

Instead of a one day event at Perth Museum as in the past, this year's Tayside Recorders' Forum event will be held online over three half days: **Thursday 18th, Friday 19th and Saturday 20th March.**

If interested in joining one or all of these events, please book via [taysidebiodiversity@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:taysidebiodiversity@pkc.gov.uk) as soon as possible (all three need to be booked separately, so please clearly state which day(s) you would like to attend). If you would prefer to watch the recordings afterwards these can also be requested.

**Sessions 1 and 2 on 18th and 19th March**, both chaired by David Lampard, will focus on Species Recording and Recording in Scotland. They will include national and regional updates from various organisations, for example the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, the Scottish Biodiversity Information Forum, the Scottish Invasive Species Initiative and Scottish Forestry. There will be an opportunity for general networking before and after the meeting, as well as during the comfort breaks.

**Session 3 on 20th March**, chaired by Mark Simmons, is all about Citizen Science and will include a talk on insects globally by Entomologist and Photographer Will Hawkes. Various organisations will also deliver updates on their projects, such as Marine Conservation Society's Great British Beach Clean and Big Seaweed Search; West Stormont Woodland Group's work to bring Taymount and Five Mile Woods into community ownership; the Tayside Biodiversity Partnership's Biodiversity Villages Concept; and the British Trust for Ornithology's birdwatching projects.

For the full programme go to: <https://www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/2021-Tayside-Recorders-Sessions-Programme-181920-March-FINAL-2.pdf>.



\* Answer: It is a Horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*).