

Come along and join the Team:

## UPDATED TASK LIST

### TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY

10.00am onwards

Wall Clearance,  
Garries Wood  
Meet: Town car park,  
Gatehouse of Fleet. NX599561

### WEDNESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY

9.30am onwards

Footpath Maintenance  
Gutcher's Isle  
Meet: Glenstocken Farm  
car park, Colvend, NX865537

### TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY

9.30am onwards

Rhododendron and Laurel  
Clearance, Cally Woods.  
Meet Old School House, Cally  
Woods, Gatehouse of Fleet.  
NX600557

### THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup>

and...

### MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY

9.30am onwards

Footpath Maintenance  
Gutcher's Isle  
Meet: Glen Stocken Farm  
car park, Colvend, NX865537

### TUESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY

10.00am onwards

Hedge Management,  
Meet: Cairnsmore of Fleet  
walker's car park, Cairnsmore  
Estate, Creetown, NX463632  
**WHOLE VOLUNTEER TEAM  
REQUIRED PLEASE**

### TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY

10.00am onwards

Cally Walls Clearance,  
Meet: Robber's Gate, on the  
B727, Cally, Gatehouse of Fleet.  
NX610559

### TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY

7.00pm – 9.30pm

and ...

### WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup>

FEBRUARY 9.30am onwards

Practical Hedge Management  
Course, Auchencairn  
Booking essential

### FRIDAY 26<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY

9.30am onwards

Rhododendron and Laurel  
Clearance, Cally Woods.  
Meet Old School House, Cally  
Woods, Gatehouse of Fleet.  
NX600557

**For more information or to book for these events please  
contact Ian Brown, National Scenic Area Ranger,  
01387 260180, mobile 07824708110 or  
[ian.brown2@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:ian.brown2@dumgal.gov.uk)**

Implementing the Management Strategies for the National Scenic Areas



# FEBRUARY 2010



## Rockcliffe to Sandyhills Coastal Path

As stated in January's newsletter, this month the volunteers have been asked to focus our efforts on the Rockcliffe to Sandyhills path. As you will see from the task list, all four of this month's tasks are located at Glenstocken Farm, Colvend. I think that most of the volunteers know where this is now, however if anyone wants more information or a map please contact me. *Ian*

## Colvend Orchard 07.01.2010

Although the icy and snowy weather knocked out some tasks at the beginning of the month, Ian and I did make it to Colvend to complete the compost bin! The proposed new gate and fence were abandoned until the ground thaws. We'll be back!



Proof we've finished!

Photos and text courtesy of Doug Walker

*Yes we will be back, date booked in for March. Also good news from Mrs Gair; Colvend School were successful in obtaining their Green Flag Eco-school award in December. Mrs Gair asked me to pass on her thanks the volunteers involved.* *Ian*

## Volunteer Annual Review 14.01.2010

A small but enthusiastic group of volunteers and agency staff gathered at the Murray Arms in Gatehouse for Ian's illustrated and entertaining review of the tasks we have undertaken in 2009. It was very gratifying to see how many projects had been accomplished, and to feel that we had made a contribution. Good grub as well!

Text courtesy of Doug Walker

*For those of you who weren't able to attend, there will be another opportunity to see the presentation (and maybe get a free lunch!) in March. Details to following in the next newsletter...* *Ian*

## Knockbrex Path 19.01.2010

A very welcome large group of combined volunteers and supporters gathered to make a real impact on the new but somewhat overgrown Knockbrex Coastal Path. With so many willing hands a wide range of tasks was quickly completed. These included generally trimming back vegetation, driving a new path through a blackthorn thicket, disposing of the resultant off-cuts, fixing non-slip facings to the steps, building a bridge, and adding direction arrows to the posts along the way to the Summer House (sorry no pics of that Pam!).



Ian briefing the group



Jim and Pauline step to it!



New path through the blackthorn



Warmest job of the day!



Who needs Telford!



Wot no sausages?

Photos and text courtesy of Doug Walker

## Kirkbean Glen 20.01.2010

January seems to be the month (so far!) for increased numbers of volunteers on Ian's tasks, so a very warm welcome to Tony and Frank who joined the NSA team to do a further clearance of the path to the picnic table, and also to create some additional steps up the muddy slope from the bridge. Great to get the average age down significantly!!



The A Team!



Getting started



Nearly finished



Tony and Ian's great new steps

Photos and text courtesy of Doug Walker

## PRACTICAL HEDGE MANAGEMENT COURSE

**FH Land Management is holding a Practical Hedge Management Course**

**on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> & Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

**The course is fully funded by Sulwath Connections NSA Field Boundaries Project**

**Places are limited and booking is essential,**

**so please call Ian for further details on: 01387 260180**

- This course is aimed at those interested in management of hedges, particularly older hedges needing restoration.
- The course will provide you with the basic skills to understand and practice hedge restoration, including coppicing, laying, re-planting and aftercare. You are instructed on tool maintenance and their safe use.
- An evening session at Auchencairn Village Hall (7.00 – 9.30 pm) will cover the theory behind hedge management and various techniques employed whilst the following day will be spent outside putting the theory to practice by laying and planting a length of hedge at Torr Farm, Auchencairn by kind Permission of Ross Paton.
- Warm clothing essential!
- Lunch will be provided on the Wednesday



**Overgrown hedge before work.....**



**..... and after**