



## Finzean Wood Mills

FOLLOWING BCT'S MAJOR RESTORATION WORK at Finzean Sawmill and Turning Mill, important smaller scale improvements continued at the mills during the second half of the year with more joinery, lime pointing, lade repairs and creosoting and painting. While a list of further repairs remains to be completed during 2001, regular maintenance work has also been on-going at these mills and the Bucket Mill.

All the mills have also continued in production. The photo on the right shows David Duncan sawing a 170 year old locally grown Finzean oak to produce timber for use in the new Scottish Parliament building – an interesting and privileged order that BCT has been able to fulfil with the help of Finzean Estate and locally based Deeside Woodland Products.



Photo Anke Addy

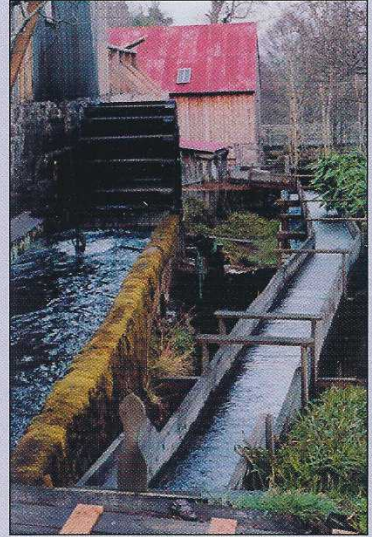


Photo John Anderson

## The Rivers & Burns of Birse



BIRSE PARISH AND THE COMMUNITIES WITHIN IT, are very largely defined by rivers and burns. Over 90% of the parish's boundaries are a river or burn or else the catchment boundary of one, while the communities of Finzean, Ballogie and

Birse very largely co-incide with the catchments of the Water of Feugh, Burn of Cattie and Burn of Birse respectively.

This link between these rivers and burns and the communities was reflected in the Dedication of the Birse Millennium Stone on 1st January 2001, when the chairmen of each Community Association brought water from their respective rivers for combined use in anointing the Stone.

Following on from that event, BCT has started a project to find out more about the parish's rivers and burns. The project includes mapping them all, finding out the names of as many as possible and collecting together existing information on aspects such as their water quality, wildlife and management. The results will then be published for the interest of Trust members and others. If you would like to help, please contact Paul Chapman, Myreside, Finzean (tel.011330.850645).

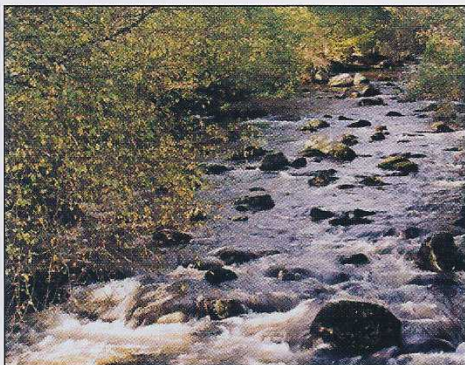


Photo Anke Addy

The Water of Feugh and part of the environmentally important native woodlands that line its banks for over 5 miles through Finzean.

## The Commonty

DURING THE LAST SIX MONTHS, BCT's management of the native pinewoods in the Forest of Birse Commonty has included completing a vegetation survey of the riverine strip up the floor of the glen, cutting bracken to protect the 4000 native broadleaves planted in the spring and replacing some losses; and working with Ballogie Estate to increase the deer cull on the North Hill to protect the naturally regenerating trees.

BCT also organised an Archaeological Training Day in September as a follow up to its archaeological survey of the Commonty earlier in the year. The event involved representatives of the five largest private landholdings in the parish and the local members most involved in surveys and mapping work for BCT. The day was designed to help people recognise different types of archaeological sites, and so increase both the protection of such sites and the identification of previously unrecorded sites.

BCT plans to hold another training day in 2001 for local members. If you would like to participate, please contact Robin Callander (tel.011330.850264).



Photo Anke Addy

A group photo during BCT's very wet, but successful Archaeological Training Day in September.