



AGM 2001

BCT'S THIRD AGM WAS ON 18th April and attended by nearly 90 members. The formal business of the meeting included the election of two new Trustees, Pam Taylor and Guy Haslam, and a wide ranging discussion on BCT's current operation and future plans.

Interspersed through the programme were three wonderful performances by local members:- Jack Taylor played the pipe tune specially composed for the dedication of the Birse Millenium Standing Stone 'The Gathering at Corsedarder', David Duncan recited the local doric poem 'The Muckle Spate of Twenty Nine' and Frieda Morrison re-told the old tale of 'The Warlock of Glen Dye'.

There was also an exhibition of material from some of BCT's projects and for next year's AGM, BCT plans to continue to develop this successful approach of adding local performances and an exhibition to the formal business of the meeting.



BCT's Patron, local member and Lord Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire, Angus Farquharson (centre) at the 2001 AGM.



BCT's Trustees

(left to right): Rev. Jack Holt (Chairman), Robert Dinnie (Vice Chairman), Joanna Strachan, Guy Haslam and Pam Taylor.

Acknowledgements

BCT IS EXTREMELY GRATEFUL to everyone whose donations, grants, goodwill and other forms of help have supported BCT so far, including the following organisations for their funding or support in kind for BCT's work during the first six months of 2001:- Aberdeenshire Council, Birse Estate, BP, Duncans of Deeside, Forestry Commission, Historic Scotland, Millennium Forest for Scotland Trust, North East Rivers Project, PGS Production, Prince of Wales's Charitable Foundation, Scottish Enterprise Grampian, Scottish Natural Heritage, James Thin Charitable Trust and TotalElfFina.



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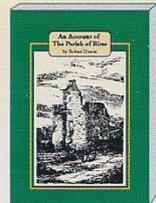
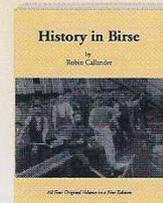
Histories of Birse

You can order copies of the Trust's local books *post free* (UK only) direct from BCT:-
Robert Dinnie's "An Account of the Parish of Birse"

£8.50 (£7.50 for BCT members)

Robin Callander's "History in Birse"

£9.75 (£8.50 for BCT members)



Supporting BCT

PLEASE SUPPORT BCT and its local projects by becoming an Associate Member of the Trust. The subscription is £20 (£25 overseas) for twelve months. Members receive free copies of BCT Updates, other mailings, special opportunities to visit BCT's projects and discounts on BCT's publications.

The Trust also greatly appreciates any donations, as these are vital in enabling the Trust to take forward its work.

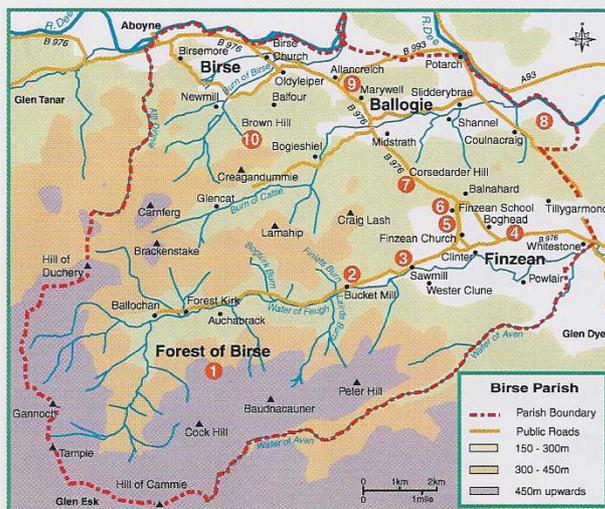
Involvement

There is lots of scope for BCT's local and associate members to become involved with BCT projects that interest them. To find out more, please contact BCT's Manager Robin Callander at the address below.

BCT Address

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Birse Parish covers over 125 sq.km (50 sq.mls.) of Mid Deeside and has a total population of nearly 700 in c.260 households. The four main parts of the parish that form the basis of BCT's logo are the communities of Finzean, Ballogie and Birse and the largely uninhabited Forest of Birse. The sites that BCT is directly involved in managing are marked on the map and listed below with the legal basis of that involvement:



1. Forest of Birse Common (c.3750 ha, ancient rights)
2. Bucket Mill (c.1 ha, ownership)
3. Finzean Sawmill (c.1 ha, ownership)
4. Finzean Community Woods (15 ha, long-term lease)
5. Finzean School Wood (c.0.3 ha, long-term lease)
6. Finzean Old School (0.3 ha, long-term lease)
7. Corsedarder (0.3 ha, long-term lease)
8. Slewdrum Forest (155 ha, long-term agreement)
9. Ballogie Souter's Shop (building only, ownership)
10. Balfour Wood (240 ha, long-term agreement)