



## Annual Reception

IN DECEMBER, OVER FIFTY PEOPLE attended the BCT's Trustees' and Patron's annual reception for those most closely involved in working for the Trust and representatives of the Trust's main partners.

In a short address at the reception, Lord Wilson of Tillyorn observed that: "In only three years since the Trust started, it is quite remarkable what has been achieved. The way that BCT can operate as a local community business is now being recognised as a model for other rural communities. The fact that all this is being done by initiative and enthusiasm locally, rather than through top-down intervention from outside, is a huge credit to the many people involved".



Photo by Scotgen

BCT's Patron, local member and Lord Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire, Angus Farquharson (left), who introduced the speaker at BCT's Annual Reception, local member and Chancellor of Aberdeen University, Lord Wilson (right).

## Supporting BCT

PLEASE SUPPORT BCT and its local projects by becoming an Associate Member of the Trust. The subscription is £20 (£25 overseas) per household 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.

We need your help as there are many costs involved in the Trust's projects that cannot be met from BCT's grant income.



Photo by Kate Sutherland Photography

BP's Government and Public Affairs Advisor, Richard Grant and BCT Chairman, the Reverend Jack Holt in front of the Birse Millennium Stone that BCT erected at Corsedardar. The visit was part of one of the regular meetings between BP and BCT to discuss the three year funding programme through which BP is supporting the Trust. The funding, which is linked to BP's Global Social Investment programme, has been vital to the Trust's development.

## 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"

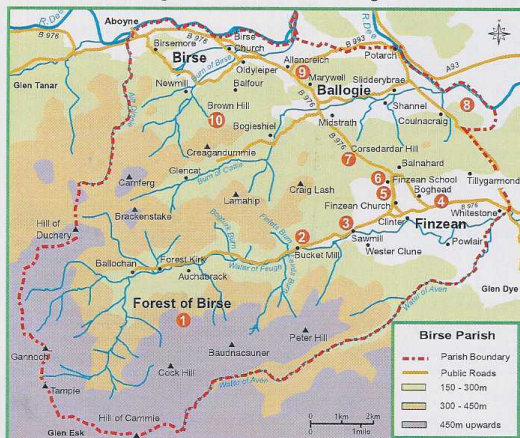
£9.75 (£8.75 for BCT members)

"The Statistical Accounts of Birse Parish: 1792, 1842, 1950"

£3.95 (£3.50 for BCT members)



**Birse Parish** covers over 125 sq.kms (50 sq.mls) of Mid Deeside and has four main parts that form the basis of BCT's logo: the communities of Finzean, Ballogie and Birse and the largely uninhabited Forest of Birse. The ten sites in the parish 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 Commony (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. Corsedardar (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)

## BCT Address

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