NEWSLETTER

Autumn/Winter Edition 2022

In this issue:

- Langamull Replant
- New Lorry & Staff
- Rental Opportunity
- Ulva Walled Garden Report
- Ulva Updates
- Ulva Tartan

Our Newsletter is Back!

We are excited to announce the reboot of NWMCWC's newsletter. We have lots of updates we are proud to share. It is our hope that with a regular quarterly newsletter we can keep you in the loop.

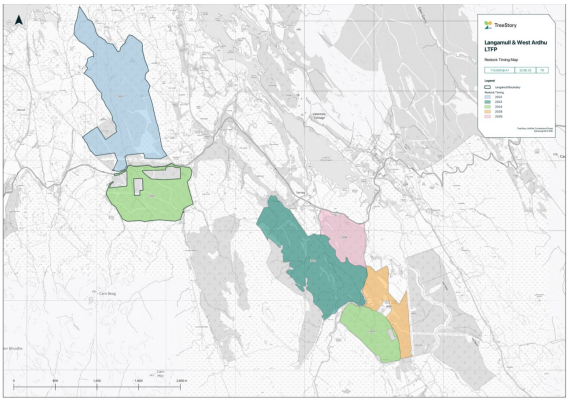
Langamull Forest Replant

We are thrilled that with the help of Treestory our Long Term Forest Plan is in its final stages of approval. This means that groundworks at the Langamull North site will commence next month with the main replant commencing in February.

For this 'Phase one' of the replant the central area from the forest track and the spur road - down to the burn at the Langamull North site will all be planted with native broadleaf, much of which has been grown from local seed by the Dervaig Tree Nursery and also by Andy Robinson on his Woodland croft tree nursery. We are so excited by this – it really will be a chemical free native broadleaf woodland. They will also be planting the mixed productive woodland on the higher areas of Langamull North which will supply fuel and income for the community in years to come.

The long-awaited fencing of the Langamull South site will commence next year as will the replanting of the felled area in West Ardhu. As you can see from the map – replant of the Langamull South site is planned for 2024. It is good to be able to share this positive news about the progress being made

Some free trees which were kindly donated by the Woodland trust last autumn were planted this spring and have fared well with the very wet summer we had (pictured above.)



New Lorry and New Staff

While we are sad to see Paul leave Mull we are happy to announce not only our new driver, Duncan, but our shiny new (to us) lorry as well! We also welcome Alex Lane who is working with us as our new Office Administrator. Helen is still with us but concentrating on Finance and the accounts.

No. 1 Bracadale Available to Let

North West Mull Community Woodland Company are delighted to be able to offer No1 Bracadale on the Island of Ulva for long-term rent.
The property is a 1 bedroom semi-detached house with a shared outdoor drying area and has recently been extensively renovated.

Rent £340 pcm plus water service charge; Council Tax Band A; EPC rating C. Private Residential Tenancy

This house will be offered via an allocations policy, with priority given to those living & working locally and in housing need.

For an application pack or further details, please contact Wendy Reid on 07930 725522 or email Helen Murray helen@nwmullwoodland.co.uk

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS 18TH NOVEMBER 2022

Paul receiving his wood themed gifts. A cherry wood bowl, a bottle of Wychwood ale, and a copy of 'Norwegian Wood'.

100 CLUB

Did you know we run a 100 club? There are four draws a year and each has a 1st prize of £35, with other prizes of £15, £8 and £5.

If you would like to buy a ball for 2023, which are £12, then please contact Alex at:

Admin@nwmullwoodland.co.uk

A New Way to Donate

We are pleased to announce that we have implemented a new and easy way to donate through the use of the Enthuse platform. To see our new fundraising website please scan the QR code below, visit nwmullwoodland.enthuse.com/profile or when you are on our website click on the Enthuse Donate button seen below.

enthuse Donate

Ulva Garden Report

Ulva Garden Force was set up in July 2018 with the objective of tidying up and renovating the walled garden. Over four years, around fifteen gardeners have been involved; at present there are between four and nine of us who garden every Monday, weather permitting! And we now have a Facebook page – Ulva Community Garden!

The drone photograph above was taken in June 2022. It gives a good idea of the way the garden is laid out with the semicircular Escallonia hedges dividing up the more formal part of the garden and the orchard, the overgrown kitchen garden and the large area of shrubs – mainly Rhododendrons and Azaleas. These are in flower from February to late May and are one of the major attractions of the garden during this time.

The compost bins (pictured right) have been made using wood rescued from the refurbishment of the houses. They are not quite finished as we need to find some sort of cover to stop the compost from getting too wet.

A photograph was found of the greenhouse as it was before it collapsed and was replaced by a polythene covering. This was good enough to protect us when it rained, but it broke up in the gales during 2020. The bricks which form the base come from a variety of Scottish sources. We were lucky enough to get funding to replace the old greenhouse with a similar one from Hartley Botanic. Contributions to the funding came from the Mushroom Trust together with several bequests from the Bruce MacQuarrie estate in the USA, Anne Morrison, James Galbraith and donations from Tobermory Horticultural Society and the many visitors to the garden who put money in the donations box. The photograph (left) shows the early stage in the construction of the greenhouse – we are now at the stage of putting in the glass.

During the times when we work in the garden visitors chat – ask what is going on, identify the plants and encourage us in our work. In September Jean Bateman and her husband came to the Garden. Jean's father, Jim Smith, was the gardener in the 1960s and this was the first time she had been able to go into the garden – she wasn't allowed during the time the family lived there! She left when she was 12. Her husband took a drone video of their visit. This is on YouTube - Ulva Island Scotland with the DJI Mini 3 Pro drone.]

Ulva Updates

As well as all the work in the walled garden there's been a lot of other activity on Ulva over the past year. The refurbishment of the existing housing stock has now been completed, with 5 of the properties permanently occupied and the process for finding a tenant for the 6th well underway. Earlier in the year we finished the work to improve the pier at Ulva Ferry, providing safer landing conditions for the local fishermen and those using the Ulva Ferry.

In June we welcomed a new livestock manager, Phil Bertin, to the island. It's been great to see Phil's own stock integrating into the landscape and we are looking forward to seeing both new-born sheep and cattle in the spring. A service was held in the Church last month for the first time since 2019 and was attended by almost 40 people. Many thanks to Liz Gibson and Kate Burger for working with us on this. It is hoped that we'll be able to host more services in the future.

Special Ulva Tartan

Once again, Sarah's Weaving Shed in Tobermory has hand woven some exclusive items in Ulva's own tartan. This year we have some very limited-edition scarves, flower brooches and button sets. The tartan is registered with the Scottish Register of Tartans and was designed to reflect the Ulva landscapes. Its hand-woven by Sarah using pure Scottish lambswool. If you would like to find out more about purchasing an item please contact Admin@nwmullwoodland.co.uk for prices

Call for Members

If you are in the North West Mull area and would like to become a member, please email admin@NWMullwoodland.co.uk. Being a member costs you nothing and gives you a chance to be more involved in your community, while also requiring very little of your time. Members are invited to join us for our annual general meeting, where you can share your ideas and feedback with the board. In addition, you will be added to our mailing list to receive updates, event notifications and the newly re-launched quarterly newsletter.

scottish community foundation

LOTTERY FUNDED

Argyll and the Islands LEADER

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The Scottish Government

HIE
Highlands and Islands Enterprise
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