

KILMAGAD WOOD FACT SHEET



Kilmagad Wood is a community woodland on the outskirts of the village of Scotlandwell in Kinross-shire. It is owned by the Woodland Trust Scotland and managed by them in conjunction with the Portmoak Community Woodland Group. Its size is 31 hectares or 77 acres.

It has been designated as a Long Established Woodland of Plantation Origin. It's likely there's been woodland here since before the 14th century when Gaelic was spoken in the area. The name is from the Gaelic and translates as the Wood of the Twigs. 1998: Woodland Trust Scotland buy Kilmagad Wood with help from the community

2008: Woodland Trust Scotland buy 2 adjoining fields of rough pasture beside the A911, which extends Kilmagad Wood

2009: Planting of native woodland species eg oak, ash, holly, rowan, hazel and birch. The Woodland Trust choose 'the Field Abin the Kirk' as one of three sites in Scotland to help in a national attempt to break the world record for the most trees planted in an hour on 5th December. Nearly 1000 are planted here.



2010: More planting of native woodland species - increasing the number of young trees to more than 5,000 over the two years.

2011: The Portmoak Community Woodland steering group and members of the community successfully plant the first 50 trees of a new community orchard, mostly apple but also pear, plum and cherry plum.



2012: Another 50 trees planted.

2014: Wins the Kinross-shire Civic Trust Environmental Award - given jointly to WTS and PCWG

2016: More tree planting, including on the site previously surrounded by rabbit fencing to allow natural regeneration. It didn't work for various reasons, including gates being left open.

2018: Earthworks to level the ground in the orchard gully and create Chris's Place, in memory of PCWG member, Chris Vlasto. There's a flattened play area and another terrace for a picnic table.

2019: Picnic table and benches by Angus Turner installed at Chris's Place and a public opening.

Site features include a limekiln in the gully just west of Portmoak Village Hall car park and tracks used for access to and from the limestone quarries, which were worked until the beginning of the 19th century. There was also the common grazing of cattle.

There are excellent paths to the top of the Lomond Hills and a viewpoint indicator on the way up highlights features far and wide, from the Bass Rock to the east and the Wallace Monument to the west.

Kilmagad Wood is also known as the Cuckoo Wood from a poem by the Kinnesswood poet Michael Bruce, written in the 1760s. Cuckoos can be heard here to this day. The Michael Bruce Way is a circular path that takes you from Kilmagad Wood north west to Kinnesswood and to the other community woodland, Portmoak Moss, which lies to the south, before returning to Scotlandwell.



