



THE ENCHANTED FOREST TRUST

Chairman's introduction

It goes without saying that we all find ourselves in unusual times, our normal lives on hold while we fight a battle against an invisible virus that has taken so many folk from us far too early. Every business and individual is affected by the coronavirus outbreak and, in Highland Perthshire, the events and tourism sectors have been greatly impacted.

It's why, with an extremely watchful eye on what is a rapidly evolving situation, The Enchanted Forest team continues to work with hope towards our October show. We know how important the event is to the Autumn tourism season for the area and its importance to the great many small businesses across the region who have had to temporarily close their doors.

It's also why The Enchanted Forest is marking our support of those hard-working front-line professionals and, in particular, the NHS staff who are working around the clock to care for us, by joining the national Light it Blue campaign. To mark our involvement, all our social media channels and website have been "lit up" blue with images of previous shows and we proudly display our support for the NHS on all these channels.

We know this is a challenging time for everyone. Please stay safe, look after your families and be kind to your neighbours. We are all in this together.

Ian Sim, **Chairman**
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Community trust news
May 2020

The Enchanted Forest hopes that customers will see that the lights shine in October

In the wake of the coronavirus outbreak, The Enchanted Forest, has issued a public statement to let visitors to one of Scotland's most popular Autumn events that their hope is clear: the lights will shine come October.

Zoe Squair, Producer of The Enchanted Forest Community commented:

"The Enchanted Forest operations team are continuing to work towards the event taking place in October 2020 and at the moment, we are optimistic that the show will go on as planned and that our lights will shine once again. We are living through strange and unprecedented times. We are monitoring the coronavirus outbreak closely, following the guidance issued from both the UK and Scottish Governments, and will continue to do so as time moves on. The health and safety of our visitors and team members is – and always will be – our top priority.

"So much is still unknown, but with The Enchanted Forest still five months away, we remain hopeful and positive that the show will go on as usual this October. Over the next few weeks, we will be continuing our planning and day-to-day operations in line with the latest advice and recommendations."

Local groups receive almost £35,000 from The Community Fund

The Enchanted Forest Community Fund, launched in 2012, has donated almost £35,000 which will be distributed locally thanks to the success of last year's record-breaking show, Cosmos, which attracted more than 80,000 visitors to Faskally Wood.

The lucky beneficiaries this year are:

Aberfeldy Arts & Crafts Fairs, Aberfeldy Rugby Football Club, Aberfeldy Repair Café, Aberfeldy Small Business Association, Atholl Centre, Auto-Immune Support Group, Blair Atholl Toddler Group, Climate Café Pitlochry, Dunkeld & District Strathspey & Reel Society, Horizon Lunch Club, Loch Tayside CIC, Mid Athol Strings and Things, Mini Moovers, Moulin Hall Committee, Pegasus Vaulting Group, Pitlochry Bonfire Committee, Pitlochry Baptist Church Youth and Children Group, Pitlochry and Blair Atholl Pipe Band, Pitlochry and District Choral Society, Pitlochry Path Group, Rannoch Paths and Open Space Group, Ruth McLaren Consulting, Soldiers of Killiecrankie, Struan Trust, The Den, Vale of Atholl Pipers Association.

Paul Keith, Trustee of The Enchanted Forest Community Trust, said: "2019's record-breaking show saw more people visiting The Enchanted Forest than ever before. This incredible support means we are able to fund more exciting community events, projects and organisations. We're delighted that our show helps makes this support possible, and visitors should feel proud that, just by visiting the Enchanted Forest, they have done their bit to give back to the community and benefit the local area."



Pup-Tastic News for The Enchanted Forest Community Trust

In March we received some pup-tastic news about the birth of Cosmos, a golden retriever and future "guide dog in training" that has been named after our hugely successful 2019 Enchanted Forest show.

The Trust sponsored the guide dog after Guide Dogs Scotland (Perth & Kinross) were chosen as one of the official charity partners in 2019, alongside the Bumblebee Conservation Trust and PKAVS.

Cosmos, a little girl pup, was born on 21 January 2020, alongside four other canine siblings named Flossie, Wendy, Harley and Hazel. Officially named Cosmos, she has been placed with her puppy walker who will start to teach her the skills she will need as a future guide dog. Guide Dogs received a donation of £5,000 from funds raised by the 2019 show's ticket sales.

Tricia Fox, Marketing Manager of The Enchanted Forest, said: "Cosmos, the theme of our very popular 2019 Enchanted Forest show, has literally been given a new lease of life with the birth of our this little guide dog in training, a gorgeous golden retriever. We're delighted with this news, particularly in the current climate when everyone needs a little bit of cheering up, and thrilled that, after her training, Cosmos will be able to give a blind person a better quality of life and a freedom that without a guide dog they would not be able to have."

Kyla McVicar, Business Development Manager at Guide Dogs Scotland, commented: "We are extremely grateful to the Enchanted Forest Community Trust for their generous support. The birth and naming of Cosmos has been such fantastic news amongst all the current challenges we are facing as a society. We look forward to the day when she is able to provide a blind person with the ability to get out and about and enjoy some level of freedom. Every hour, another person in the UK goes blind. When someone loses their sight, Guide Dogs are here to make sure they don't lose their freedom as well."



Cosmos



Advertising Options for 2020 Now Available Online

Advertising renewals will shortly be due for advertising listings on The Enchanted Forest website and, with most of our customers now purchasing their tickets online, our digital listings remain the key way for visitors to the event to find out about accommodation, eating and activities in the area for when they visit.

Our website attracts over half a million visitors every year and this year and advertisers can select a variety of options including a web directory listing, boosted social media posts and e-newsletter adverts.

For more information visit
www.enchantedforest.org.uk/shop/advertisers/

Search for New Trustees

The Enchanted Forest Community Trust is seeking to appoint new Trustees to the board.

Applications to the board of trustees are now open for community minded individuals who are interested in steering the strategic future of the event.

This is not a remunerated post and time commitment would include attendance at regular bi-monthly Trustee meetings plus some follow up activity in between meetings.

We are particularly interested in speaking to individuals who have experience and strength in the areas of business, technology and marketing.

To apply or discuss, please contact
info@enchantedforest.org.uk



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