



www.logiecoldstone.org

NEWSLETTER

Welcome,

Logie Coldstone Trust is a registered charity which aims to foster active citizenship and community development. The Trust owns and manages Logie Coldstone Hall and is run entirely by volunteers.

We are happy to report that the hall continues to be very well used by our community groups including the walking group, badminton group, craft group, the rural/WI, reading group, gardening group and baby/toddler group. Logie Coldstone school enjoy their PE sessions at the hall during the winter and have put on some terrific concerts during the past year. The monthly community café raises our spirits with its inter generational buzz provided by our fun loving and energetic toddlers and embraced by our older attendees. We are grateful to Julie Mitchell-Mehta, Laura Bull and Emma Murphy who do a fantastic job organising some of our favourite annual events including the Morven Walk and the Fun Games. Thanks also to June and Rob for taking such good care of the flowers around the war memorial and for cheering up the heart of Coldstone.

With ever increasing energy costs, a need for carbon reduction, and a desire to increase sustainability, the Trust is delighted to have installed solar PV panels and battery storage at the hall. Many thanks to Paul Mather, Trevor Birt and the trusty project team for all their hard work.

As ever, the Trust extends its thanks to all of you who support community activities and contribute to making Logie Coldstone a good place to be.

To hear about local new/events on a regular basis please email: lctrust2012@gmail.com and ask to be added to the email circulation list

Event dates

Community Café, LC Hall
1st Friday of every month (except Jan.), 10am-12, at the hall

Duck Race, Sunday 12th May,
from 2pm, at the burn side near Cairngorm Lodges

Car Wash & coffee morning,
Saturday 18th May, 10am -12,
at the school

Morven Walk, Saturday 25th
May, meet at 10:30am at hall

Fun Games, Saturday 29th
June, opens 2pm, at park next
to Airedale

Cromar Food Pop Up, once a
month on Tuesday at 2:45pm to
3:30pm at hall, 14th May, 18th
June etc.

Hall bookings

For any booking enquiries,
please
contact us at
lctrust2012@gmail.com



2023/24 Logie Coldstone groups and activities

Logie Coldstone Walkers

With the onset of the years we are now more of an ambling to health group, but whatever our speed we are out there in most weathers for about an hour on a Thursday afternoon, going for a wander and a blether around Logie Coldstone, or sometimes further afield. After all that exertion we then retire to the warmth of the hall for our fly cup and a fine piece. To join the fun, be at the hall at 1:30pm on a Thursday.



Logie Coldstone Badminton

Our badminton group meets weekly in the hall on a Wednesday night between 8.00pm and 10.00pm, with a once a month change of evening when the SWI is meeting at the hall. All abilities are welcome. For further information call Hitesh on 07801 432093.



Logie Coldstone Curling Club

Logie Coldstone Curling club is run by local volunteers. New members are always welcome. You can find information by joining our Facebook group or call Hitesh on 07801 432093. Along with curling when the weather is cold enough, the curling club host social events, including a festive karaoke sing along featuring a visit from Santa Sandy, and an easter egg hunt around the woodland which was enjoyed by wee ones and not so wee ones. You can also enter our 100 club.



Logie Coldstone Community Café

Our Community Cafe goes from strength to strength - we meet regularly on the first Friday of the month 10am till 12 noon. Come and join us for a fine piece and a catch up with friends and meet new ones.

The cafe would not be possible without our fab group of volunteers who help with setting up, producing fine treats and running the cafe - thank you all for your contributions! (New volunteers always welcome - contact Pat Turner on 07547867531 if you would like to volunteer).

The cafe has a lovely community feel and it's great to hear the buzz of friends catching up. The toddlers are a delight to watch and it's always good when pupils and teachers from Coldstone School entertain us on special occasions.



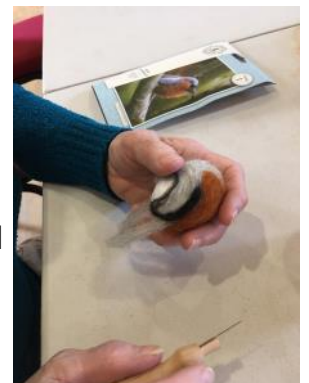
Logie Coldstone Craft Group

Logie Coldstone Craft Group meets at the village hall, fortnightly on a Tuesday from 9:30am to 11:30am, throughout the year including school holidays. It is a very informal group and everyone is welcome (all ages and genders), including children & visiting friends or parents. Little people are welcome to play with the Toddler Group toys. We always have a fly cup and a chat.



People usually bring along something to work on, but its perfectly ok to just come along for the chat. Projects can range from knitting, crocheting, darning, sorting out beads, making greeting cards or even getting on with some paperwork that you've been putting off. At a recent meeting, needle felting was popular - there is something very therapeutic about stabbing a lump of wool with a needle, until you accidentally stab yourself! If you're not sure how to get started, someone will hopefully be able to give advice.

Thanks to the wonderful grant funding, there is no cost for meetings in 2024 but donations to the LC Trust are very welcome. Normally we pay £2 per person . Future dates: 14th May, 28th May, 11th June, 25th June etc. (before we got 3 bins, it was so much easier to say "black bin" week). If you have any queries, please contact Rachel on pmather@dialstart.net. Feel free to just turn up - we look forward to seeing some new faces.



Logie Coldstone Scottish Women's Institute 'the rural'

Logie Coldstone SWI are a small, friendly group and our ladies meet on the second Wednesday of the month (Sept-May) at 7.30pm in the hall. You can keep in touch with us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/logiecoldstoneswi>

We come together to share and learn, with guest speakers and activities, and there are always plenty of laughs. New faces and ad hoc attendees are most welcome, so please come along one evening. £2 includes a delicious spread of refreshments prepared by one of our members, and ticket for a small raffle.

Since the last newsletter, we have been out and about a fair bit! Last June several of the ladies with their children and grandchildren headed to Stonehaven for a (chilly!) summer visit to step back in time at the Tolbooth Museum, followed by afternoon tea at Cool Gourmet.



Later in June, member Gill Lumsden made a beautiful carrot cake to raise funds during the Fun Games, with lucky winner Hazel guessing the exact weight of the cake at 5lb! Our lockdown sewing project bunting was proudly back on display, marking out the Games arena.

In August, several of our ladies provided their expertise as Judges. Jude headed up to Keith Show to judge SWI Banffshire Federation entries, while Mary and Agnes were invited to judge *Cookery and Preserves at the Cromar and District Horticultural & Industrial Society Show*.

September saw us resume regular meetings with a fine catch up and blether at the hall, meanwhile our October meeting took us out and about for a celebratory meal at Kinker Kitchens, Aboyne Golf Club, where we were thoroughly looked after. Happy 103rd birthday Logie Coldstone SWI!



In November we hosted an open SWI evening, with members attending from Aboyne, Lumphanan and Ballater institutes. Our invited speaker was Fraser Wenseth who gave an excellent talk and answered questions on amateur radio, mountaineering, the International Space Station, his time on BBC Countryfile and more! Thank you so much Fraser for a great evening.



The following week, several of our ladies headed to Ballater SWI's open evening of local history and music with Paul Anderson, which was a real treat.

As the colder weather came in, our December meeting was a cosy gathering of festive crafting with our ladies making rag wreaths, button Christmas tree decorations and pom-pom wreaths. Non-alcoholic mulled wine tea was a fine accompaniment served with a lovely spread of refreshments.



In the new year, we met in January for another cosy night in—Games Night—members each bringing a game to share. One word game had the objective of thinking of the longest word containing certain letters. A selection of 15-letter words were no match for Kathleen Farquhar's 17-letter "chiropractitioner" – impressive! Our February meeting was all about planning and ideas for the sessions ahead.



At our most recent meeting in March we thoroughly enjoyed Sylvia Anderson's storytelling session to celebrate World Book Day, with the Doric version of "The Boy Who Cried Wolf" one of the favourites that night. Several of the ladies were accompanying puppeteers

and there was much hilarity - thank you Sylvia!

We are looking forward to the sessions ahead, including a visit from Mesolithic Deeside who will talk on May 8th - we hope you can join us.

Logie Coldstone Reading Group (ELSIE)

Elsie meets in the upstairs room of Logie Coldstone Hall every six weeks or so. Books are usually chosen from Aberdeenshire Library's Reading Group Collection though we do sometimes chose our own book.

This years books have included - Based on a True Story by Delphine de Viga, Cloud Cuckoo Land by Anthony Doerr, Footprints in the Sand by Sarah Challis, Witchfinder's Sister by Beth Underwood and Wolf Winter by Cecilia Ekback.

It's a great chance for a catch up with friends and enjoy the often differing views on the books. New people always welcome - phone Pat on 07547867531 if you are interested in joining us.



Logie Coldstone Gardening Group

We are a small group of enthusiastic folk, age 10 to 80. We aim to meet in the hall, 2nd Sunday of every month 10.00am until 12.00. Everyone is welcome, it is free, and we are delighted to welcome new Logie Coldstone residents.

Normally there are 5 or 6 of us, and we like to dedicate some hardy 'study and discussion' to any range of topics (sometimes including gardening), but always accompanied by beverages and a fine piece, before we look out the window to decide what to do, weather permitting. We are indeed spoilt for task choices as the couch grass and broom invade the beds around the hall - we will not win any prizes, (even if we call it naturalistic planting) but we keep the worst of it under control, prune the fruit trees (to keep compact, wind sturdy, and easy to crop), plus other tidying tasks. With more members (and perhaps better weather) we could achieve more of course, but every little bit helps, and we enjoy what we do.

Last year we organised and helped clear all the debris and overgrowth behind the hall to maintain the fire escape route, with the indispensable work of Carmela and Mark Earle-Wright from Alpine Tree Care. Many thanks to them.

Before



After



In the last few months the group has become blended with the LC path reconnaissance group, having members in common, and so maps have been added to blathering, beverages, and pieces.

So please pop along, even if only to say hello. Spectating and moral support is very welcome too. Gardening can be amazingly relaxing, (to watch and to do) good fun if in company, and we are helping keep the hall look welcoming. Please email the trust if you would like any more information, or be added to an email group. We post on FB when we are meeting, but we aim for every 2nd Sunday. Hope to greet you soon.

Paths

Aberdeenshire Council invited community groups to apply for consultancy support to explore the development of path networks. We are at the very early stages of exploring the possibility of developing an off road path for walking and cycling between Logie Coldstone and Tarland and Coldstone to Dinnet.

Logie Coldstone Baby and Toddler Group

Logie Coldstone Toddlers is a small and friendly group for toddlers, babies and their carers, meeting on Friday mornings 10am-12pm in the hall. We have craft activities, a nursery rhyme sack, lots of toys, including ride-ons and plenty of space to move around in. Once a month our session happily coincides with the community café. During the session we provide snacks for the tots and a cuppa for the adults. New faces are always welcome, so please come by! No parental rota, All attendees just help. Check out our Facebook page; search for Logie Coldstone Toddlers



Hogmanay Ceilidh

2024 was brought in with good cheer and good music from our very own Coldstone Roses ceilidh band.



Yesteryear—a rare night at the Airedale



The late Rob McCombie on accordion and Ed Anderson singing.
(Photo thanks to Sandy Moncur)

Logie Coldstone School - Term 4 2023 – Term 3 2024

Hot on the heels of our return to school after Spring Break in 2023 was Run Balmoral. Many children (and staff and parents!) from Logie Coldstone School took part in the races at Balmoral Castle. It was a glorious sunny day, and the children ran in the 1.5km Primary School Race. Clem was our first runner home in 31st position, and Alice finished in an impressive 164th place (out of almost 600 runners!). A big shout out to Finn who ran his first Balmoral race with a broken arm! Neve ran her first Balmoral race saying, "I loved doing Balmoral Run and I'm going to do it most years" while Charlie said that he "liked it a lot but it was very tiring." Well done to everyone who took part in the day – what a great achievement.

In May we celebrated the King's Coronation with some fun activities in school including decorating tea biscuits and creating a crown for the King using loose parts. May also saw us take a trip to Aberdeen Biodiversity Centre to learn all about the point of plants! We attended a workshop before exploring the Zoology Museum and the Cruickshank Botanical Gardens. It was a super educational experience for everyone. Bea "loved it so much" and Callum "really liked it." Thanks go to Jude Bain for suggesting and assisting with the organisation of the trip.



Following a big fundraising effort by the Parent Council at the beginning of May where families completed a sponsored cycle along the Deeside Way, the P6s and P7s enjoyed a 4-night residential experience at PGL Dalguise. Lots of outdoor fun was had whilst testing their endurance, appetite for fun, climbing skills and ability to work together. Leon overcame his fear of heights and said the activities were memorable. Skye and Rosie got a (good / funny) shock on the giant swing resulting in lots of screaming laughter.

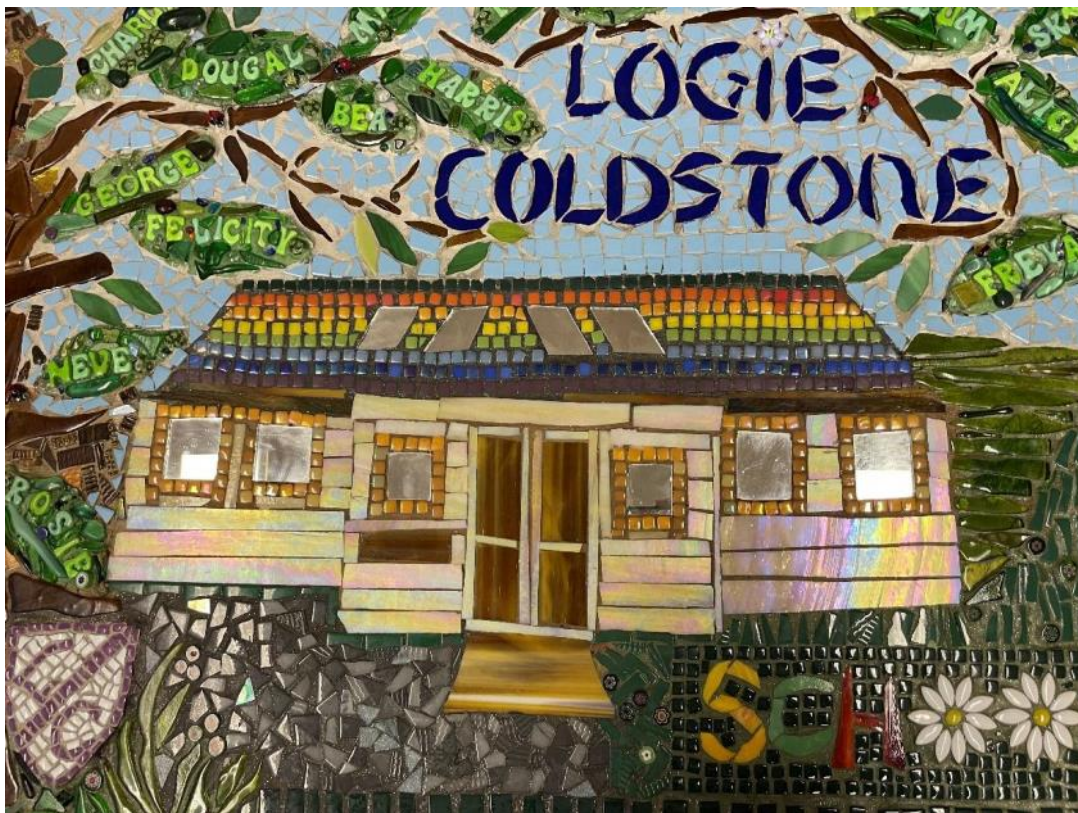
While P6 and P7 were at Dalguise, P1-5 visited Belwade Farm to learn about animal welfare. The children got to see many different horses, and Neve enjoyed grooming them whilst Harris enjoyed stroking them.

Sports Day was in June too – it is always a fun day for the school, and it was lovely to see so many parents coming to watch (and take part!).

Freya said she tried her best, George liked being active and Finn felt good afterwards.

We said farewell to our P7s, Clem and Andrew at the end of Term 4 and wished them well in our leaver's assembly. We hope Aboyne Academy is looking after them!

August saw the start of a new school year, and we welcomed Felicity to Logie Coldstone School. In August we also began our Reading Schools Journey – throughout the year we are taking part in lots of different reading activities towards earning our Reading Schools accreditation. Scottish Book Trust runs the accreditation scheme and states that “reading can change lives, from improving attainment across the curriculum to boosting wellbeing, empathy and critical thinking.” We aim to build a fun, exciting and sustainable reading culture across the whole school.



In September we welcomed Maggie Patience into school – Maggie worked with the children to design and build a beautiful mosaic of the school building, incorporating the names of each child in the school. Millie “really liked this because it showed me a different way of creativity” and George “loved being artistic.”

Parents and carers were invited into school in October to learn about our Reading Schools Journey and to see what the children had been learning about the Cairngorms National Park. It was also an opportunity to unveil the mosaic to parents. We were able to show Dougal's award-winning film for Aboyne Kids 4 Climate Action too – a great achievement Dougal, well done. All the children enjoy being able to show parents and carers their work and what they get up to in the school day.

Logie Coldstone School - Term 4 2023 – Term 3 2024

As is tradition at Logie Coldstone School, we marked Remembrance Day with a short assembly at the village war memorial. Poems were written and read out and we remembered those who lived locally and lost their lives in war. Harris liked wearing his dad's medals to the assembly and Bea liked that we remember people from the war.



We put on a show at Christmas – Jesus' Christmas Party – and performed it at Logie Coldstone Hall. With Millie and Leon as the Innkeeper's Wife and the Innkeeper, the story of Christmas was told from their perspective. Leon loved his big role and Neve enjoyed being a shepherd and loved the singing and dancing. Thank you to everyone who came to watch! We also enjoyed our Christmas lunch and Christmas Party in school.



Term 3 has seen us welcome Childsmile and ALEC into school to assist in delivering our Health and Wellbeing curriculum. The ALEC tent was in school this year, with Andy delivering a workshop on 'Acceptance' to the P1-4s and one entitled 'Protecting Myself – Body and Mind' to the P5-7s.

As part of our Health and Wellbeing curriculum, we enjoyed a super couple of days skiing at The Lecht in February. We enjoyed learning and practicing new skills across the 2 days on the beginners' slopes. Thursday was cold and windy, but Friday was a beautiful still, sunny day.

We also welcomed Deeside Rugby's Development Officer, Finlay Hall, to Logie Coldstone to provide a 5-week programme of rugby training for the P4-7s.

Also in Term 3, P1-7 pupils took part in a workshop on Fairtrade clothing, delivered by Jude Bain. There was a particular focus on the clothing industry in Bangladesh. The school will be working towards the renewal of its Fair Achieved School award.

World Book Day is celebrated in March and this year we welcomed Sylvia Anderson (and her puppets!) into Logie Coldstone School for some storytelling. Thank you to Sylvia for helping the stories come alive!



Alongside these fun learning experiences, we all continue to work hard in the classroom across all our curricular areas. Learning never stops!

A blast from the past

Logie Coldstone School in 2013 at the opening of a new exhibit at the Burn o Vat visitor centre.



The Defibrillator has moved

The defibrillator is now located at the Village Hall. It is on the front of the wooden small hall, just to the right of the notice board. The move, from outside the Aire-dale, has been registered with the ambulance service, so they know it's new location. It is there for anyone to use in an emergency when there has been some sort of cardiac arrest. Remove the orange bag from the storage box and take it to where it is needed. The defibrillator really is very simple to use; just switch it on and it will tell you what to do.



Many thanks to Hamish Farquhar and tenants of the pub, for hosting the defibrillator up until this year. Thanks also to Richard Baikie for doing the electrical work.

In order to ensure the defibrillator is ready to use, there are on-going costs. The pads are replaced after use or every 2 years; the battery is replaced every 4-5 years. If you would like to make a contribution towards the upkeep, cheques can be made payable to "Logie Coldstone Pad" or contact Rachel or Paul Mather for account details for a bank transfer.

Solar Panels and Batteries are up and running

Towards the end of February, we finally managed to get the long-awaited solar panels and battery storage system installed at the hall. The installation went well, taking four days to complete. The quality of the work was high with a great deal of care taken to do a good job. So, we now have a 16kW solar panel system on the roof and 40kWh of battery storage. One issue which did come up in the installation however was that because we are on a three-phase system, we can only run one phase from a battery in the event of a power cut. In practical terms this means that we can only run the kitchen in a power cut; but this could still be helpful at times.

The panels have already been generating a lot of electricity and the batteries are enabling us to make full use of it. Despite some very gloomy weeks recently we have still managed to generate 63% of our energy use and as we head into the summer this should steadily increase.

We still have some funds available for a phase two, where we could install some more south facing solar panels. So, organising this will keep us busy over the next few months. A huge thanks to everyone who has helped to enable this project; and in particular the funders – Vattenfall 'unlock our Futures', SSEN 'resilient communities', CARES 'lets do net zero' and the Marr Area 'large Grant fund' without whom we couldn't have managed this at all.



Sound Baths

Bluebell Sounds is having regular Sound Baths in Logie Coldstone Hall. What is a Sound Bath? It doesn't involve any water or physical exercise, which may be a relief to know!!! Instead, you get cosy and lie on the floor in a circle to follow some guided meditations and listen to the sounds made on various instruments but primarily Tibetan Singing Bowls. The vibrations travel through your body and together with the meditations promote a deep sense of relaxation and wellbeing. Please check on the website www.bluebell-sounds.co.uk for information and to book on a sound Bath.



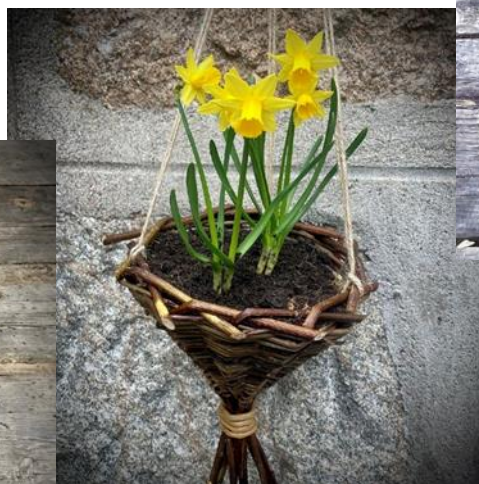
Willow Workshops

Deeside Willow has sustainability at its core and offers a range of willow products and services to local businesses, community groups and individuals.

Deeside Willow hold regular willow weaving workshops in Logie Coldstone Hall.

Upcoming willow workshops will include plant supports, swallows, willow vases, flying beasties, and mini hanging baskets. To check for future workshops please go to:

www.deesidewillow.com



NatureScot

Muir of Dinnet National Nature Reserve

It's all go here at Muir of Dinnet National Nature Reserve! We are gearing up for busier and (hopefully) sunnier months, its technically spring but you wouldn't know that with the current temperatures! Much of our summer visitors have arrived now; Willow Warbler, Blackcap, Osprey, Common Sandpiper and Tree Pipit have all arrived from Africa in recent weeks. The fresh green leaves of the birch trees are appearing, the Adders are basking and our wildflowers have been popping up from their winter dormancy. Many bird species are starting to breed, and some females from our nationally important Goldeneye population have started to incubate eggs. We shall expect the first young Goldeneye ducklings on Loch Kinord and Loch Davan in the coming weeks!

We will be publishing our new management plan for Muir of Dinnet National Nature Reserve 2024 – 2034 in the coming months. This plan will be going to public consultation, so please look out for that on our facebook page and have your say on our new management plan.

As ever, we will be running a host of events throughout the year, keep your eyes peeled and book on any that take your fancy. They can be found advertised on our facebook page 'Muir of Dinnet National Nature Reserve' or by emailing Muir_Dinnet@nature.scot

I am always keen to chat to local folk, so if you are ever passing the Burn O' Vat Visitor Centre, feel free to pop-by for a chat! Hopefully I shall catch up with some of you in the coming months.

All the best!

Simon Ritchie
NatureScot Nature Reserve Manager – Muir of Dinnet National Nature Reserve
Simon.Ritchie@nature.scot



Adder, Osprey and Kentish Glory Moth

Ballater Walking Festival (including some walks in the Logie Coldstone area)

Fancy a good walk? Please join us at Ballater Walking Festival 18-24 MAY 2024.

Ballater Walking Festival is an annual event for walkers of all abilities. The festival gives walkers the opportunity to explore the Cairngorm National Park with knowledgeable guides, catch a glimpse of wildlife, hear folklore and meet like-minded people. The walk choice is extensive and ranges from climbing Munros to much easier walks. All walks are described on the website, and give stats relating to distance, walking time and ascent so you can work out if it's the walk for you. Booked in advance, walkers can choose from an easy, moderate, strong or special interest walk. And it's not just all about walking, socialising is an important part of the festival too, this year walkers are invited to a Welcome Reception at the Halls, a quiz at The Golf Club, a dinner at The Barrel, and a farewell Ceilidh at The Halls.

Booking is essential via www.walkballater.com

Any questions? Ask us via, info@walkballater.com

Hope to see you there!

Helen Leighton
Ballater Walking Festival.





Membership Application Form for Logie Coldstone Trust

Aims of Logie Coldstone Trust

Logie Coldstone Trust is a registered charity which aims to foster active citizenship, social activities, community spirit, community wellbeing and development. The Trust owns and manages Logie Coldstone Hall and is run entirely by volunteers. Full details can be found at www.logiecoldstone.org

Become a member of Logie Coldstone Trust

Logie Coldstone Trust is a membership based organisation. Membership is open to anyone who is aged 18 years or over, resident in the polling district of Logie Coldstone and supports the aims of the Trust. By becoming a member you can:

- Affirm your support of the Trust's aims
- Help shape the future of the community
- Enjoy discounted member rates for hall hire

Please complete and return the application form below to:

- The hall postbox (at small hall door)
- By scanning/photographing the completed form and emailing to lctrust2012@gmail.com

First Name:	
Last Name:	
Address:	
Postcode:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

I wish to become a member of the above named company and confirm that I am 18 years or over, am resident in the polling district of Logie Coldstone and support the aims of the Trust.

I understand that, as a member of Logie Coldstone Trust, **my liability will be limited to £1 (one pound).**

Signature:

Date:

All data collected from these forms is for the use of the Logie Coldstone Trust only and will not be divulged to any other party unless it is a statutory requirement.