



CALLANDER COMMUNITY FRIENDSHIP GARDEN



Opened 29th September 2013

A Callander Community Development Trust Project

www.callandercdt.org.uk

Callander Friendship Garden: Why and how it all happened.

The existence of the Auchenlaich cairn, a long megalithic burial mound to the east of the town, bears witness to human activity in Callander stretching back more than 6,000 years. During that time the year-round inhabitants of this small tourist town (now the largest settlement in the National Park) have become used to welcoming visitors, be they Roman soldiers, Rob Roy and the clans summoned by the Fiery Cross, Sir Walter Scott and readers enthused by his poem *The Lady of the Lake*, or the twentieth century tourists attracted in their hordes by BBC TV's original version of *Dr Finlay's Casebook*. Many visitors still decide to settle here.

It is this tradition of meeting and sharing which *Greener Callander* (part of the Callander Community Development Trust) has drawn upon in creating the new Callander Friendship Garden in South Church Street. Its location, on a site formerly occupied by a block of public conveniences, closed since 2009 and demolished by Stirling Council in late 2011 (against the wishes of the town as expressed by the Community Council), is a very central one between Callander Kirk and the Library. It lies on the safe walking route to the two schools and links the Main Street to the River, drawing the visitor away from the busy trunk road to an attractive green space, already partly occupied by the existing Frerichs memorial garden with its antique sundial and undulating dry stone wall.

The new garden has as its backbone a similar dry stone wall, built over a very hot weekend in July 2013 by a team of local volunteers trained and led by members of the West of Scotland Dry Stone Walling Association. There are also pudding stone boulders prolonging the line of the wall, a miniature Auchenlaich Cairn topped with turf, violets, wild strawberries and thyme, a labyrinth of granite setts enclosing a pile of round white pebbles representing the tradition of fishing for pearls in the River Teith which gave neighbouring Pearl Street its name, and a succession of logs leading to a hexagonal bed of bog myrtle and blaeberrys. The plants used in the garden are predominantly native species, including some which would have been around at the time of the Ice Age which created the Callander Moraine. The wooden seats which fit into two curves of the wall were made for us by local joiners Crawford and Mathieson and the separate benches are from Shotts prison. Stuart Harper and Metal Creations crafted the low iron railings which protect the two main beds. Perhaps the most important feature of the Friendship Garden, and the one which justifies its name, are the three dozen stepping stones of Caithness stone into which have been etched the logos of the voluntary clubs and organisation of the town who have sponsored them.

The idea of a garden which would be part play area, part meeting space was born back in February 2012, with a rough sketch on the back of an envelope by one of the *Greener Callander* volunteers. Having obtained permission to lease the site from Stirling Council, we were fortunate to find our garden designer – Jayne Whitehead of Ivy Maud Design in Doune – who came up with an exciting layout and who throughout the project has been sensitive and receptive to the wishes and needs of the group. The main contractor was Murray Parsons of Greenlands Gardens in Thornhill.

We then needed to raise funds to turn the plan into a reality. A major source of funding was Awards For All Scotland (Big Lottery), but early on we were extremely grateful to be awarded £1,000 by Friends of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs through their "Our Park" scheme. We have also received generous funding from Airtricity, Stirling Council Community Pride scheme and CSV ActionEarth, together with many donations from individuals and groups in the town. *Greener Callander* has raised a healthy sum through its own plant sales, with contributions and help from many sources.

By mid August 2013 the hard landscaping and most of the planting had been completed, with only the community stepping stones still to arrive, and it was thrilling to watch people's reactions as the parking cones and tape were finally removed, giving "permission" to the public to venture on to the site.

The official Grand Opening of the Friendship Garden, scheduled for the afternoon of Sunday 29 September, will be the culmination of our efforts over the last eighteen months and the formal hand-over of this exciting new public space to the town.

Hilary Gunkel on behalf of *Greener Callander*

WHO'S ON THE STONES ?

The stepping stones , purchased by their own organisations, represent the many voluntary groups in Callander. Find out a little more about each one below. Some are very new and others are over a 100 years old.



Callander Youth Project Trust

Callander Youth Project Trust is an independent voluntary youth organisation; serving the surrounding 400 square miles of rural Stirling covering the south central Highlands of Scotland. Despite this being an outwardly prosperous region, it can all too often provide few social or economic opportunities for particular groups of young people. The Trust plays a central role within the community, helping to nurture and encourage its young members to recognise and make the best use of abilities, gifts and talents. With over 100 registered young people, the organisation provides a hub encouraging a positive environment within which they can grow and develop at their own pace, and become members of an inclusive community, able to make informed decisions concerning their future.



Callander Bowling Club

In the spring of 1862 a number of local men gathered in the Dreadnought Hotel to discuss the formation of a properly organised bowling club. In August of the same year they met again to elect a committee. Duncan Graham Robertson Esq. of East Mains was elected as the club's first president. The bowling green was the property of the Dreadnought Hotel and was situated opposite the main entrance. On Saturday the 31st of August 1912 the club moved to its present position on Ancaster Road. May 17th of the following year saw the opening of a new clubhouse where it still remains with a few modifications.

Members and visitors to the town enjoy the sport and new members are always welcome.



Callander Poetry Weekend

Callander Poetry Weekend each September brings together poets from all over Scotland and further afield. We always have a contingent from Chester Poets, and others come regularly from Newcastle, Devon, and Leicester, while Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and other parts of Scotland are also represented. It is a unique free festival hosted by Kings Bookshop Callander, including garden readings, talks and discussions, and a full Saturday programme in the Kirk Hall including lots and lots of original poetry.

Everyone is welcome



Callander Churches

Undoubtedly the oldest organisation represented here! For at least 1500 years, Churches of Callander have been sharing the Good News of God's life-changing love shown in Jesus Christ. Today there are five congregations meeting in the town. Though diverse in size and style, we are united in worship, mission and service. 'Living Stones' is what Peter calls the Christians in his letter, being 'built up as a spiritual house.' The churches of Callander offer a spiritual home to one and all.



McLaren Community Leisure Center

McLaren Community Leisure Center (MCLC) was built in 2008, to replace the school pool and also to provide local community needs for Sports and Leisure facilities. MCLC is a charity, with a voluntary Board of Directors who live locally. It provides valuable support to the town, surrounding areas, and to visitors for existing and future activities. MCLC houses a 20 metre pool, Spa Bath, Steam Room, Sauna. Multi use Games Hall, Meeting Rooms, Events Arena, Tots Soft Play, Various Fitness Classes, Dance Studio, Fitness Suite, Climbing Wall, Birthday Parties, Kids Camps, changing Facilities and Snack Bar Cafe. For more info please call: Tel: 01877 330000 Email: trish@mclarenleisure.co.uk



RNLI Trossachs Branch

RNLI Trossachs Branch was founded in 1984. Based in Callander we cover a wide area from Stirling in the east to Killin in the north-west. Although some distance from the nearest Lifeboat Stations at Queensferry and Helensburgh, thanks to the generosity of the community and visitors we currently raise about £10,000 each year from various fundraising events, donations and collections. For more information please contact: Dudley Robertson Hon. Secretary Tel: 01877 331429 Email: dudleyrobertson@btinternet.com



Callander and District Pipe Band

Callander and District Pipe Band has been performing for and entertaining locals and visitors alike since it was first formed, as a home guard band, in 1941. Currently under the guidance of Pipe Major Tom Dingwall, the band play at various Games, Fetes and functions in the surrounding area and can also be heard playing in Ancaster Square through the summer months. One of the most important functions of the band is to teach new members how to play and for more experienced members to pass on the skills and knowledge which, with practice, are necessary to improve playing through time. Practices are weekly in the Masonic Hall, Craigard Road on Monday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.30pm and interested learners of all ages and abilities are welcome.



Callander Film Society

Callander Film Society has been screening movies in the Callander Community since 1977. Our committee of dedicated volunteers work to screen 18 movies between October and March of each year. We have a Contemporary Programme at The Callander Youth Project on Sunday evenings and a Classic Programme at The Waverley Hotel on Friday evenings. We also provide support and equipment for various charities and organisations wishing to show films in the Callander area. We are online at www.incallander.co.uk/cfs and can be contacted directly through Eammon O'Boyle at 01877-339323 or Email: poboyle1@btinternet.com



Callander Community Council

Community Councils are the most local tier of statutory representation in Scotland. They bridge the gap between local authorities and communities, and help to make public bodies aware of the opinions and needs of the communities they represent. Their primary purpose is to ascertain and express the views of the community to the local authority and other public bodies.



Skidaddle

Skidaddle was set up in 2011 to promote sport and adventure opportunities with social and economic benefits for rural communities. We run a series of sport and adventure events throughout the year providing opportunities in a range of sports including walking, running, canicross, mountain biking and triathlon.

Events include, the Callander 10k and 5k race, Ben Ledi hill race, Aberfoyle Trail Race, the Santa Skidaddle and Glen Finglas mountain bike race.

Initially under the umbrella of the Callander Community Development Trust, it now operates as an independent company, registering with Company's House in Jan 2013.

Skidaddale is currently run by Maz Frater (MD), with the support of more than 30 volunteers. Skidaddle is growing fast with new events each year and is hoping to attract funding to appoint permanent staff in the near future.



Callander Chimes

Established in 2007 within Forth Valley University of the Third Age (FVU3A) this group of hand bell ringers enjoys learning new skills and playing a wide range of music, with the demands of teamwork keeping mind and body active. They are often invited to perform for other interested groups in the area and also take part in national and international ringing events. Callander Chimes are members of the Hand bell Ringers of Great Britain.



Callander Community Development Trust

CCDT has developed from its origins celebrating the year 2000 to become a major community membership organisation. Managed by volunteers the purpose of the organisation is to promote and undertake innovative practical projects for the benefit of all who live, work or visit Callander. In the last few years the CCDT has managed the construction of the new Bracklin Bridge, the new Community Garden, the Callander and Climate Change Initiative, the annual litter pick, floral displays in the town, the Christmas Lights and is developing Hydro energy which will be producing electricity from Callander's abundant water supplies in 2014. Further information is available on the web site: www.callander.cdt.org.uk



Callander Target Sports Club

Callander Target Sports Club was founded in 1909, when Field Marshal Lord Roberts found that the Boers were better shots than the British Army during the Boer war!

The club today has two multi-function ranges, with wheelchair access. One primarily a 25 yard .22 discipline range and the other a 10 metre air discipline range. We also have access to an outdoor 50 metre and 100 yard range as well.

If you would like details regarding coaching or any club activity, please contact Raymond Reid on 01877-330854.



Callander and Perthshire U3A

Callander & West Perthshire U3A was founded in 2012 and is the 41st group to be formed in Scotland, part of the University of the Third Age (U3A) a nationwide movement of self-help, self-managed co-operatives for older people no longer in full time work, providing opportunities for their members to share learning experiences in a wide range of interest groups.

Our website can be accessed in Google Search by typing in 'Callander and West Perthshire U3A' for the latest news, a list of over 30 study groups, together with timetables, and the contact details for committee members.

Contact by phone: 01360 850722



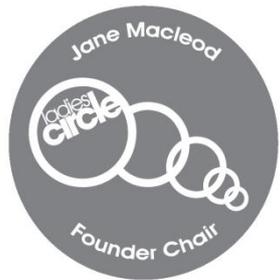
Callander Rambling Club

Callander Ramblers was founded 30 years ago as an independent rambling club centred on Callander but with members from far and wide. We offer a wide range of walks to cover all levels of interest and ability: strolls, rambles, hills, and each year a different long distance path divided into 10 mile stages. Contact: paul.prescott@tesco.net or 01877 330032 Website: www.incallander.co.uk/ramblers.htm



Callander Enterprise

If you have a business and an interest in taking Callander forward as a great place to live, work in and visit, please join us. Callander Enterprise is a non-profit making organization operated by business people to benefit the entire community. Callander Enterprise business group meet on the first Tuesday of the month in the Burgh Chambers at 7.30pm. For further information on joining e-mail cal-ent@incallander.co.uk Callander Enterprise own and operate our local website www.incallander.co.uk You can place a business advert for an annual fee.



Callander Ladies Circle

Callander Ladies Circle is a social group for ladies aged between 18 and 45. We are part of a larger national and international association which reaches 36 different countries in the world. We meet twice a month with a focus on fun, friendship and fundraising! We enjoy ourselves whilst raising money for local groups and charities. Our stone is dedicated to our inspirational founder chairman Jane Macleod who was sadly taken from us far too young on August 14th 2012. You can contact us at callanderladiescircle@gmail.com for more information.



McLaren Badminton Club

McLaren Badminton Club is around 10 years old now. It is a friendly club of mixed ability and a wide range of ages, and new members, aged 16+, all are very welcome to join on Tuesday evenings, 7.30 pm at McLaren Leisure Centre. Club competitions are held annually over 2 or 3 weeks - participation is optional, there is no pressure to compete, and the club has occasional social nights out to which all members are invited. We have fun, we have exercise, we make friends and meet new people. Most of all, we enjoy playing badminton and trying to improve our game! If you would like to find out more please contact Jean Cowie on jeandyc@btinternet.com



Callander Round Table

Round Table is a social networking and charitable organisation for men aged between 18 and 45. Membership of Table provides a selection of social and community service related opportunities for its members, who come from all parts of the community. From the beginning, Round Table was a non-religious, non-political, and non-sectarian club, an ethos that still underpins the movement today. Round Table has thousands of members who meet up every couple of weeks around the UK to have fun and get involved in their local communities. Most local clubs get together to do anything from paint-balling and off-roading to a simple game of football or a night out at a comedy club. Each local Round Table organises its own community events. We get involved in our local communities; we put something back and make a real difference.

Anyone interested in joining Callander and District Round Table should contact Peter Paterson via Email: peterp66@live.co.uk



Inner Wheel

Inner Wheel is an International Organisation for women which was founded almost 90 years ago in Manchester by Mrs Margarette Golding. In those days ladies were invited to join if they had a male relative who was a member of Rotary; **NOW WE ARE OPEN TO ALL WOMEN WHO WISH TO JOIN.** Our aims and objectives are: To promote true friendship; to encourage ideals of personal service; to foster international understanding. The Inner Wheel Club of Stirling is an extremely active and enthusiastic club who enjoy many social activities as well as fundraising for both local and national charities. If you are interested and would like more information please contact Secretary: Susan Trzebiatowski - 01877 376212 email: susantrzeb@btinternet.com.



Scottish Wildlife Trust, Callander Members' Centre

The Scottish Wildlife Trust has been a champion of Scotland's wildlife since 1964.

Its vision is for a network of healthy, resilient ecosystems that support native species across large areas of Scotland. This involves the protection and promotion of wildlife-rich landscapes along with restoration and enhancement of degraded habitats. Members' Centres are the local groups that help to champion wildlife at a local level by educating and engaging people in wildlife and its conservation.

While Callander may be one of the smaller MCs, we have a spectacular landscape of mountains, lochs and glens with a wide diversity of wildlife and habitats on our doorstep.



Callander Kids Parent and Toddler Group

Callander Kids Parent and Toddler Group is run by a committee of volunteers who are parents of the children who attend the sessions. We cater for children between 0 and 3 years and we have a good selection of equipment to cater for the full age range. This includes mats and activity centres for the babies to soft play blocks, ride-on toys, dressing up and craft activities for the older children. During the sessions we try to strike a balance between free play and more structured activities. We run on Wednesday and Friday mornings between 9:30am and 11:30am in the Kirk Hall. For more information please feel free to pop into a session or find us on www.callanderkids.co.uk or look out for us on Facebook.



The Ben Ledi View Community Newspaper

First published in May 1987, currently re-organised as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation, after nine editors, starting with Ken Dunn, we still maintain the relevance of what he wrote twenty six years ago: 'Success or failure depends on your involvement...' If you want us to cover something that you think would be of interest to others in the town, get in touch; and if you feel the paper ignores your section of the community, again, let us know. We are all part of Callander - and this is the community's newspaper.

For further information contact the editor at editor@benlediview.co.uk



Lodge Ben Ledi

Lodge Ben Ledi was founded in 1878 and it practices Freemasonry under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays between October and April each year. The Lodge owns its own premises in Craigard Rd, Callander and is a licensed venue available for private functions and community use. Lodge Ben Ledi is proud to support many local and national charities each year.



Callander and District Arthritis Club

The aim of the club is to provide friendship, interesting talks and social events. It is important that the syllabus is planned to include relevant information on beneficial treatments for Arthritis. Our recently formed club meets for ten months of the year and currently has fifty members - mainly ladies, but we do welcome gentlemen. The main fund raiser for the year is a Quiz Night supported by many organisations in the town and district, and from the proceeds we are able to support young people with Arthritis.



Greener Callander

Greener Callander is part of Callander Community Development Trust and since 2007 has been seeking to improve the look of the town with flowers and plants, ranging from hanging baskets and tubs to wildflower borders, the beds in front of St Kessogs and now the Community Friendship Garden. A small group of energetic volunteers has been fund-raising, planning, implementing and maintaining all these projects. We also aim to continue the work of *Callander and Climate Change* by supporting the Community Orchard.

If you would like to join us, please contact mail@hilarygunkel.co.uk



Callander Heritage Society

The Callander and District Heritage Society was founded in 1992 to gather and encourage interest in Callander's past - building on the sterling pioneering work of our Honorary President, Ken Dunn OBE. Each month we meet to hear more with a speaker, and a number of members have done valuable research into relevant subjects. An archive of many photographs and documents relating to life in Callander from early days has been collected, indexed and filed. Enquiries with regard to this and to the Society are always welcome. Visit our website which is being renewed at www.callanderheritage.co.uk



9th Callander Scouts

Scouting has been part of Callander life for many years. Although there are no official records, this must be true from all the tales of scouting activities from the parents, and grandparents of the current children that attend Callander Scouts. Scouting ceased in Callander in 2003, because no leaders could be found. A Cub Pack restarted in 2009, followed by a Beaver Colony in 2011. We are currently full with a waiting list, and need new leaders for more children to access Beavers and Cubs, and to re- start a Scout Pack.

For further information contact Liz: liz.kliskey@homecall.co.uk



The Scottish Women's Institute

SWRI - The Scottish Women's Institute, was inaugurated in Callander in 1930, and has had a continuous presence in the town since then. President Grizel Baillie Hamilton welcomed 100 new members to the first meeting in the Territorial Hall, which stood on the site of this Friendship Garden. The Syllabus today is similar to that which was offered 83 years ago and included Fundraising, Outings, Handcrafts, Baking, Whist Drives, and Entertainment. Meetings were held on a Tuesday as they still are, closing each meeting singing, Auld Lang Syne.



Women in the Trossachs

Women in the Trossachs, WITT, began as a way for women working or living in the area to meet and network for their mutual benefit – both socially and to help promote individual businesses. WITT meet on the 3rd Wednesday evening of the month with a varied programme put together by members. Members' suggestions and their practical help in organizing an evening are always appreciated. Hence, our diverse range of interests have allowed us to try car maintenance, Heartstart Training, water colour flower painting, Tai Chi for beginners, and summer solstice walks, along with many other craft skills. WITT members also support many community and charity events throughout the year. If you would like to come along to a meeting and get to know more about WITT please contact: Sarah Hatton Chairperson 01877 376343 or Julie Carmichael at The Deli Ecosse in Callander 01877 331220. We look forward to meeting you.



Trossachs Tigers Hockey Club

The club was founded seven years ago by a group of Callander parents in response to a need expressed by children in the town who wished to play hockey.

The players are coached by Iain Lang a former Scottish international player, assisted by Jim Frail and Murray Parsons. The club committee is made up of willing parents.

From a starting number of 12 players the club now has 30 players on the books and competes in three age groups both locally and in the West District area. Several players have successfully completed the Hockey Young Leaders course as well as going on to successfully play for senior clubs.

The club is hoping to expand to run a senior development team. All are welcome to come along and give this exciting sport a try. Contact lauralang@talktalk.net in the first instance.



Craigard Club

The Craigard Club was founded in 1972 by local doctor David Malone, who felt that many of his older patients would benefit from regular meetings to meet others and enjoy a meal eaten together. His motto was "it's not the eating it's the meeting".

Nowadays we don't have as many members but we continue to have morning coffee/tea and lunches and we continue to play carpet bowls. We have started to play table games like Scrabble and of course we have lots of chat – putting the world to rights and passing on local information.

This is the Club that all pensioners are entitled to join, and they will be made very welcome by the members.



Callander Primary School Parent School

CPPC helps to advance the educational environment of Callander Primary School. It promotes partnership between the school, pupils and parents, represents the views of parents to the school, and engages in activities which support the education and welfare of the pupils. These include fundraising to purchase equipment, resources and experiences, as well as getting involved with such issues as safe routes to school, the curriculum and environmental concerns.



Callander's Countryside

The Callander's Countryside group was formed in May 2012 when the former Callander Woodland Link was reappraised. It is an Associated Organisation of Callander Community Development Trust (CCDT) and deals with aspects of access, landscape, geology and wildlife within the Callander Community Council area. The group is currently in discussion with Stirling Council, Forestry Commission Scotland and the National Park on a number of on-going projects and will seek financial assistance where a need is identified.



Young Explorers Scotland

Established in 2004, Young Explorers Scotland (YES) is a climbing and adventurous activity club for 10 to 18 year olds which operates from the Climbing Wall at the McLaren Leisure Centre, Callander.

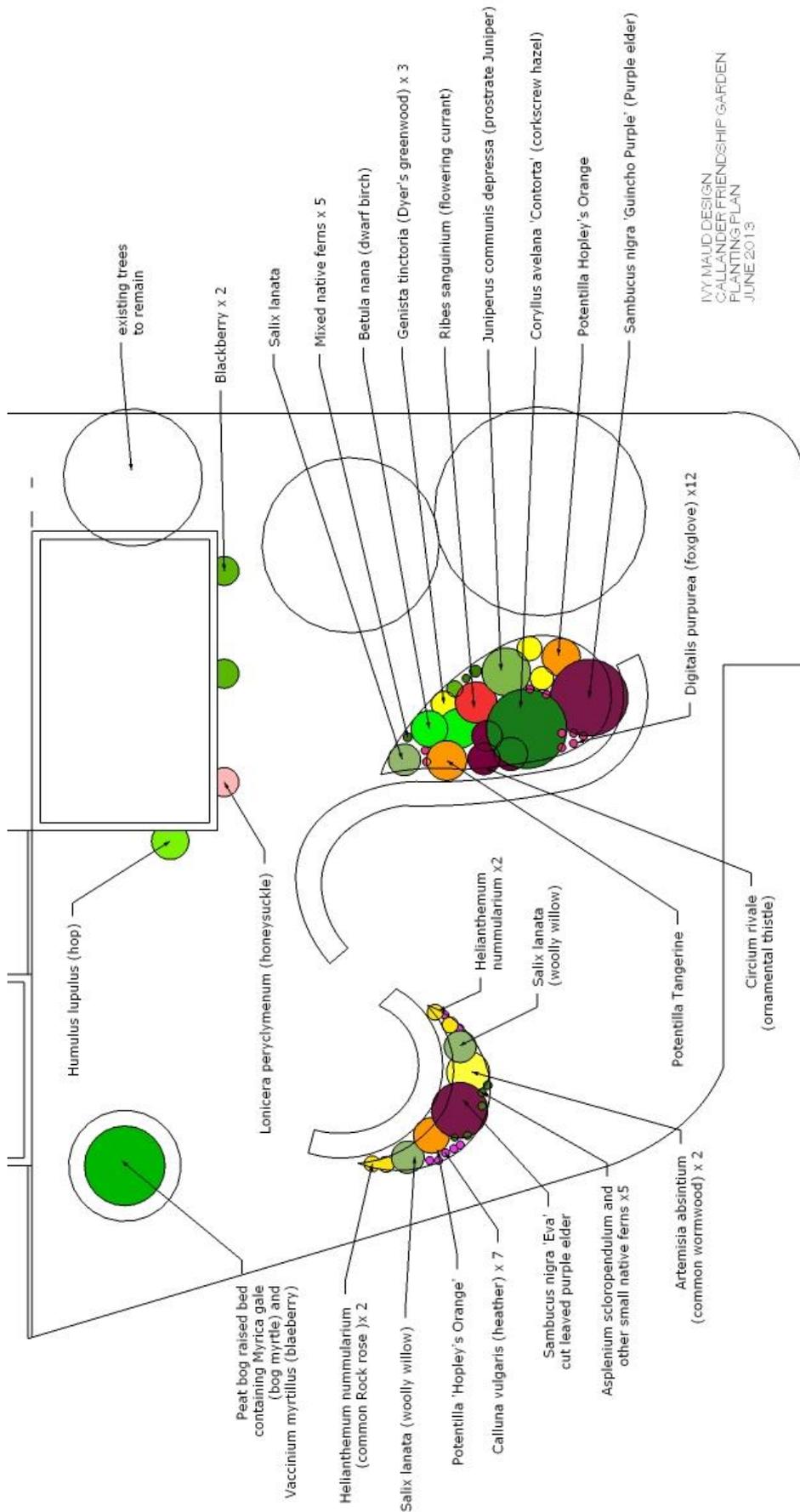
The club is run by parents and volunteers who offer their time and skills to assist at the sessions. We run 2 climbing wall sessions at McLaren Leisure Centre on Wednesday 6pm - 7:30pm and 7:30pm - 9pm.

The 6pm session is for new members/beginners and for those who want to just have a climb and play climbing related games. The 7:30pm session is more climbing focused where we look at developing climbing skills. We also run an advanced session at The Peak in Stirling on Monday 6 - 8pm. This is for members who already climb at a high standard and/or wish to compete in competitions such as the Youth Climbing Series, Scottish Schools Climbing Competition.

In the summer we aim to offer variety of outdoor activities to our members.

Enquiries to: youngexplorersscotland@gmail.com

Planting Plan



IVY MAUD DESIGN
 CALLANDER FRIENDSHIP GARDEN
 PLANTING PLAN
 JUNE 2013

Callander Friendship Garden

Leaving the footbridge over the river,
the Black Pool on your right
where mussels once congregated,
you will find a new garden in a village of gardens.
Flowing walls give balance
and mirror the older garden,
their lines looped and linked.

While busy you may pass over
flowering local plants from the crags,
their Scottish and Latin names melding,
bluebell *non-scriptus* of the electric woods,
violets, *viola odorata* from roadsides,
foxglove, digitalis, medicinal drug,
primroses, *sovereigns* in Gaelic.

White stones for the pearls the mussels gave,
a barrow for neolithic remains on the brae,
simple space beside big trees
with the river near, Main Street near,
library near, the last old boatsheds,
sun and rain changeable in the sweet air
among the birds and clouds of Callander.

Sally Evans





NOW STAY A WHILE AND BLETHER...A GARDEN FOR ALL





We are grateful for and acknowledge the support we have received from;

The Friends of Loch Lomond and Trossachs “OUR Park”, Awards for All Scotland, CSV Action Earth, Stirling Council Community Pride Fund, Callander Airtricity Fund, Ken Dunn, West of Scotland Dry Stone Walling Association Volunteers, Cambusmore Estate, Stephen MacDonald, Campbell’s Shortbread, Callander Round Table, Lodge Ben Ledi, Callander Enterprise, our helpful Parking Warden, all those individuals in the community who contributed to our fundraising events, and to all the community groups who have purchased a stepping stone in the garden.

Thanks also to our contractors and suppliers who have helped this project run smoothly: Ivy Maud Design, Greenlands Gardens, Stuart’s Metalworx, Crawford and Mathieson Joiners and Alister Peebles.

Ivy Maud Design
Creating Elegant Gardens



Community Pride Fund

