



FRIENDS OF FULLARTON

ANNUAL REPORT 2024 – 2025

Chairperson: Miranda McLean
Treasurer: Marilyn Penman
Secretary: Anne Stobbs
Committee Members: Alison Gemmill, Ros Glen.

Chairperson's Report.

It has been another busy year for the Friends of Fullarton Committee, with 8 committee meetings and 7 Sunday volunteer sessions. Our volunteers helped maintain the wildlife hedge and Championship Garden and deal with the Himalayan Balsam, sycamore saplings and rhododendron regrowth. We have propagated native wildflowers in our allotment plot for transplanting into the Woods, which will help our native pollinators.

We also welcomed teams from Scottish Wildlife Trust volunteers who joined up with the South Ayrshire Ranger Service to clear up after the January storm. The Wildlife Trust also came to help transplant our extra tree saplings, which were donated to other local woodland groups. A further joint session with the Rangers in July dealt with the remaining Himalayan Balsam.

In April, we held our popular Spring Into Nature guided walk. Alison also added information about the historical features of the Woods, which was very well received.

We joined the Ranger Service in September for a Bat & Moth walk, which was well attended. This was followed up with two sessions on moths with pupils from Marr College.

During the year, we have been approached by Australian and American visitors regarding the history of Crosbie Castle. Alison has done a great job of meeting them and providing historical information.

We are still trying to seek a meeting with South Ayrshire Council regarding a number of issues such as Japanese Knotweed removal, new tree planting, the poor state of historical structures and the Fairy Trail mural on the toilet block, which is confusing visitors. As yet, we have had no response and are taking the matter up with the local Councillors.

Sadly, two members of our Committee have resigned. It was decided that we postpone our volunteer sessions until the end of February. In the meantime, we will continue to promote the interests of Fullarton Woods and look forward to an active 2026.

Miranda McLean
Chair, Friends of Fullarton