

FOGG planting notes – from emails March 2023

It was interesting to see so many **small mammal holes** in the bank alongside Glen Road. If the overwhelming laurel and bay is cut back or even removed and replaced with a multispecies hedgerow, the bank has great potential as a home for small scale biodiversity.

I did plant a lot of **daffodils** two or three years ago, around the edge of the lawn, on behalf of the Daffodil Society. I am not all precious about them, so don't worry. I'm happy to go along with any plan. I think the lawn is quite important as it is the only such area within Glen Goyle.

Re **ivy**: The working group needs to decide what their priorities are in every individual case. Ivy is not trouble free.

Hope **information boards** make the list and are located at both ends of the Goyle. The amount and type of detail that is at the Byes is good, Blackmore Gardens is a bit sparse). Suggest some history, picture of old map showing the original house. A moderate list of birds, insects, plants and trees would be nice and info about what volunteers are doing and why.

In time my garden will be awash with **blue geraniums**; could easily off-load some at a later date at the site!

Regarding the **Manor Road entrance**, I think our new recruit suggested a continuation of the big rockery stones, used further along that pathway, might be used - maybe on both sides of that access with Spring bulbs to cover the adjacent ground.

Shade tolerant perennials could also be introduced for interest later in the year (foxgloves and astilbe already mentioned by someone last Thursday, can give a nice display) - however I am not keen on the idea of prickly shrubs. They can be very harsh to the unsuspecting admirer. I want visitors to enjoy their visit, not be repelled. What about dogwood (cornus) instead of prickly shrubs?

Katie though and Paul I think were discussing **Chinese Lanterns**. Good idea there so perhaps they could be planted at each of the two main entrances and elsewhere through Glen Goyle and be a particular feature, in keeping with our logo?!

[Richard Eley planted the Chilean Lantern Tree back in the spring of 2021!]

I didn't hear Paul suggest the use of **railway sleepers**. If I had I would have questioned him further as they used to use creosote on sleepers and that is very bad for wildlife, especially hedgehogs.

Notes compiled 6 March 2023

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