

# Woodland Work

Over the next few months there will be some work taking place within the Dunnikier Woods and the Dens.

Dunnikier and the Dens in Kirkcaldy have been identified as a priority following a survey of all Fife Council owned woodlands.

The works are being undertaken in partnership between Fife Council, Fife Golf Trust and Fife Coast and Countryside with the work mainly being funded by Forestry Commission Scotland under their Woodland in Around Towns (WIAT) programme.

Initially the project will undertake some woodland thinning – removal of some trees- to allow space for others to grow; make them secure against high winds and to help develop a more biodiverse ground flora by allowing light on the woodland floor. In addition, the majority of the dense and invasive *Rhododendron ponticum* will be removed but leaving some stands of special plants of high horticultural value.

This work will appear to be quite invasive and may involve some very heavy specialist forestry machinery and the temporary diversion of some access routes. This may stimulate some concerns but this will be a temporary, but essential, stage of the improvements. Wildlife needs and public safety have been taken into account when planning the works.

All trees will be surveyed and any identified dangerous trees will be removed or made safe.

Following on from these preparation works the next phase is to up-grade footpaths and improve drainage to allow better access to all users. New signing, information and interpretation boards will also be erected.

Once the works are complete the woodlands will be a better condition to provide a great place for both people and nature for many years to come.

For more information, contact Richard Smith at [Richard.smith@fife.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.smith@fife.gov.uk).



FIFE COAST &  
COUNTRYSIDE TRUST



Fife Golf Trust