

# Cairngorms Youth Action Team

**From the EUROPARC Youth Manifesto to the  
Cairngorms Youth LAG**

2018-2019  
Creating and  
Launching  
the  
Manifesto  
with young  
people from  
across  
Europe







Promoting the Manifesto at the LINC Conference, Estonia, and EUROPARC Conference, Latvia



# Learning from Finnish Youth LAGs



- We met up in February 2020 and discussed what we wanted to achieve as a group
- Covid limited travel and in person meetings
- We had several online meetings and did some projects on the side such as the Heritage Horizons Projects Advisory Board
- We attended EUROPARC 2020 online and took part in various workshops, including one on young people in rural areas
- We submitted some clips which were used in a CNPA climate change film on the pandemic in October 2020 and later created our own film to try to recruit new members



# Minecraft

- We worked with the Planning Manager on a scale map of the Cairngorms which he had created on Minecraft
- The aim was to create a community or neighbourhood that met the aims of the national park
- This task was designed to encourage young people to interact with the national park and think about how they would protect and enhance the natural environment and make use of resources



# The Cairngorms Youth LAG



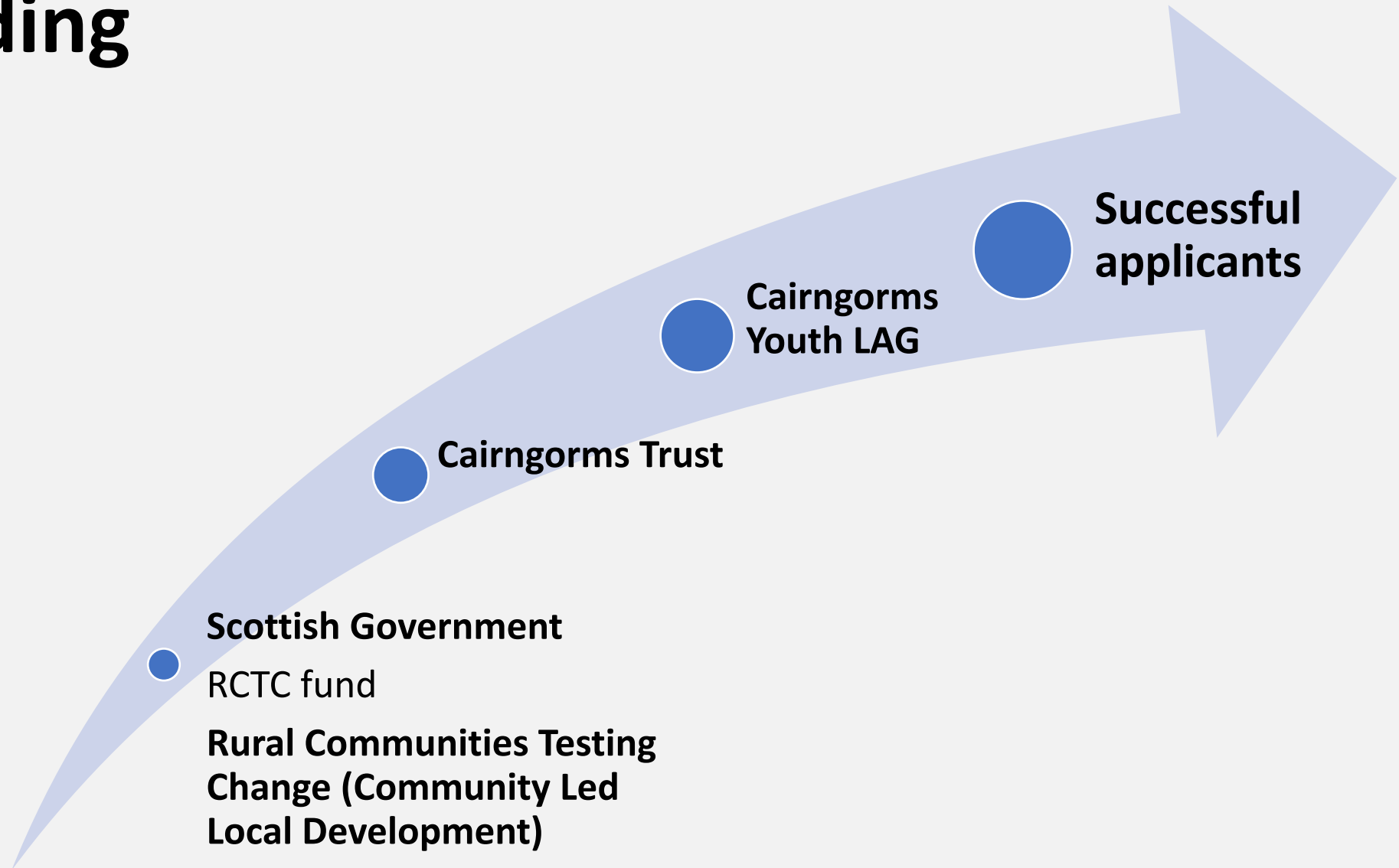
- In November 2021 CYAT met to plan the fund
- They drafted an overview, application form, FQAs, scoring matrix and evaluation form
- The documents were reviewed and the Youth LAG fund was launched



# Aims of the Youth LAG

- Deliver funding to young peoples' projects in the National Park
  - Individuals £500 / groups £2500; under 30s; Cairngorms connection
- Contribute to delivering the aims of the EUROPARC Youth Manifesto
  - Officially adopted by the CNPA
- Meet the charitable aims and objectives of the Cairngorms Trust

# Funding





# The application process

## 1. The fund opens

- ✓ Application details are circulated to young people in the community

## 2. The fund closes

- ✓ Applications summarised – members begin to read applications

## 3. Decision meeting

- ✓ Members of the Youth LAG score applications and allocate funding

## 4. Offers put out

## 5. Projects complete

- ✓ Projects must complete within a given date

## 6. Celebration event & invites to CYAT

### CT constitution charitable aims (paraphrased)

Supporting the advancement of citizenship and / or community development

Supporting the advancement of heritage and culture

Supporting improvement in physical and mental health, supporting the enjoyment of areas and facilitating more sustainable communities

Promoting equality and diversity within communities

Advancing environmental improvement and / or protection

Encouraging and supporting community led local development initiatives



### Youth LAG Assessment criteria

**Impact**

**Sustainability, biodiversity and addressing the climate emergency**

**Skills development**

**Inter-generational projects**

**Art, creativity and culture**

**Nature connection**

**Building community, networks and interactions between people**

**Inclusion and under-represented groups**

**Fun**



# Funding cycle 1: 2021-22

- £15,000 available
- Over 20 applications received for a total of roughly £22,000
  - Applications closed in December, projects fully delivered by the end of March
- £18,000 was allocated to 22 applications
  - Video















# Changes made after round 1

- Decision to focus on promoting the fund
- Fun □ Fun, health, happiness & wellbeing
- Scoring criteria changes
  - Age weighting removed but monitored manually
- Scoring system changes
  - 1-3 □ 0-5
  - Wildcard 5pts added
  - 'Impact' /10
  - Geographical connection □ 0-6
    - 6pt – live in CNP
    - 4pt – Regular work/recreation /grew up in CNP
    - 2pt - Infrequent
- Previous applicants' clause:
  - “If you have already successfully applied to the fund the Youth LAG are happy for you to apply again for a different project or activity. We are interested in seeing projects that are a progression on your previous project. This might be building further skills, sharing knowledge gained through your last project and/or reaching more people.”





## Cairngorms Youth LAG Fund

### Application form

#### Background and eligibility

The Cairngorms Youth Local Action Group (Youth LAG) is responsible for a fund of £15,000 to empower the youth in their living, learning and working within the Cairngorms National Park. The fund will promote young people's connection to nature and community and inspire environmental awareness to create positive change and take action to address biodiversity loss and climate change. We want to protect and conserve our environment and develop a deep nature connection that has positive impacts on health and well-being.

#### The fund is for:

- People under the age of 30
- People who live within the Cairngorms National Park or to support activity with young people that will be delivered within the National Park
- People and organisations that work directly with young people
- Activity that works with local providers
- People that promote inclusive activity with under-represented groups

The fund will support projects or activities that includes some or all of the following fund priorities:

- Sustainability, biodiversity and addressing the climate emergency
- Skills development
- Inter-generational projects
- Art, creativity and culture
- Nature connection
- Fun
- Building community, networks and interactions between people
- Inclusion and under-represented groups

Examples of what the fund will support include:

- Money for skills training e.g. Winter Skills, Mountain Leader, Art classes, Wild-life ID, Outdoor First Aid
- Money for equipment and kit, such as outdoor activities (e.g. tents, guidebooks, waterproofs, binoculars etc), creative materials (e.g. art materials and photography equipment etc), gardening and outdoor tools (e.g. moth traps, pond dipping, plants and trees, etc)
- Events and activities that bring people together

Individuals can apply for up to £500.

Groups and organisations can apply for a maximum of £2500.

See **FAQs** for additional information.

All projects must be complete by the **31<sup>st</sup> March 2022**.

### Application form

Name	
Email	
Phone Number	
Address	

Project Name	
Group Name (if applicable)	

Individual / Group (please circle/delete as appropriate)
How old are you? / What is the age range of your group?
If you are under 18, please ask your parent or carer to provide a statement here, confirming they have discussed the project with you and they give their permission for you to go ahead:

What is the money for?
Who is the money for?
Where in the Cairngorms National Park will your activity take place?

Tell us how your project fits with our fund priorities:  
(You can do this through photos, images, or video if you would prefer. Please put a link to the file/s in this box)

How much money are you applying for?

Individuals (up to £500)

Groups (up to £2,500)

Please give us an itemised outline of what you will spend the money on.  
If applying for capital items (i.e. you are buying kit or equipment) you must provide a quote, screenshot or link to demonstrate the price of the item. The amount you're applying for can include postage (you don't have to evidence the postage cost here).

#### Commitment

*I confirm that the information on this form is correct; that if I am given a grant I will spend the money as described; and that I will submit evidence and paperwork to Cairngorms YLAG by 31 March 2022.*

Signed (type name if submitting by email):

Thank you!

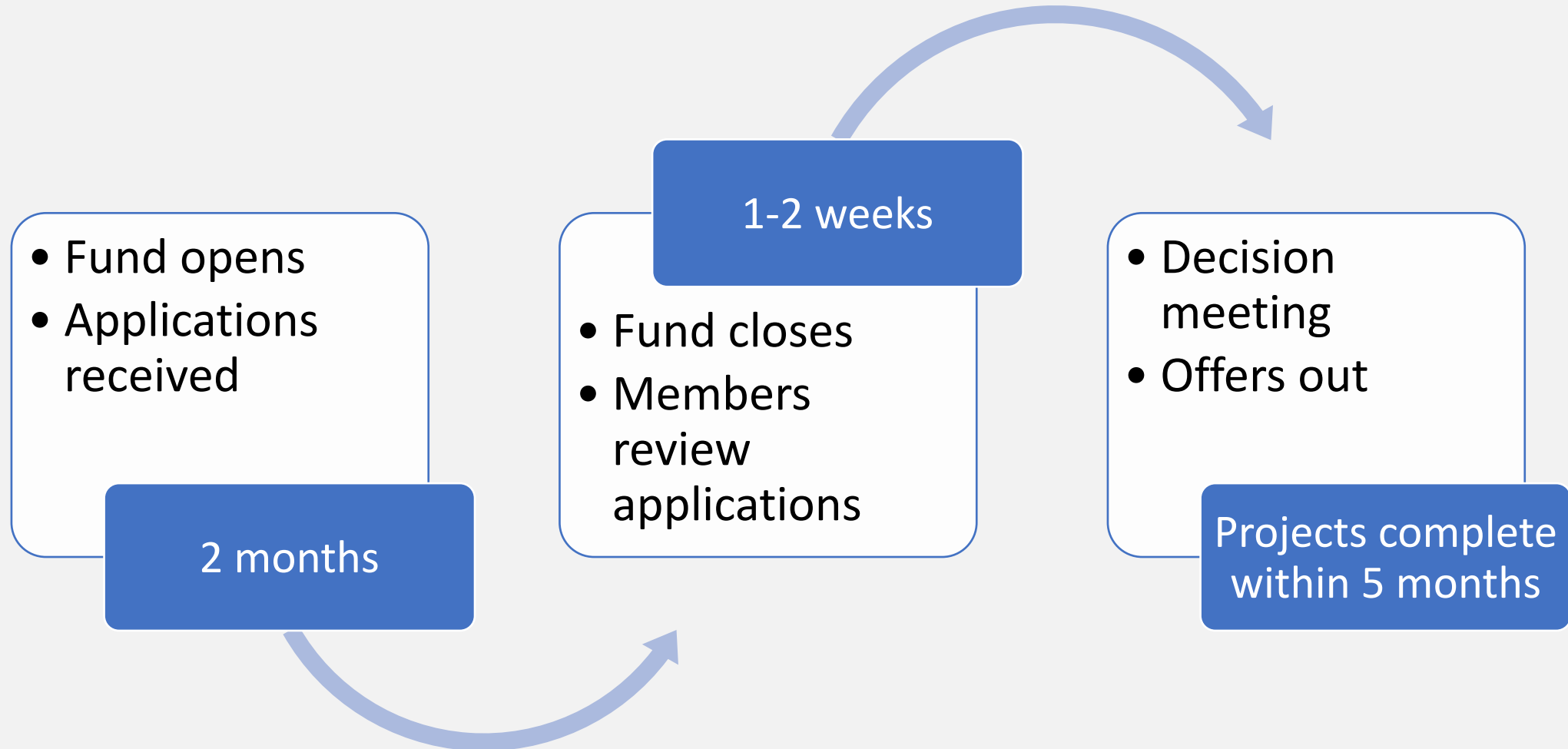
Please send completed applications to [alansmith@cairngorms.co.uk](mailto:alansmith@cairngorms.co.uk)

Or via post: Cairngorms Youth LAG, Cairngorms National Park Authority, 14 the Square, Grantown-on-Spey, PH26 3HG



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# Current funding cycle timeline



# Funding cycle 2: 2022-23

- Round 1: July 2022 - March 2023
  - We received 40 applications, totalling £37,989
  - £20k in funding was offered across 21 successful applications, leaving £10K for round 2
  - 3 applications came from under 18s
  - KHS and GGS schools were not given funding this year to prioritise individual applications which tended to under-score on impact and legacy

No.	Project name	New score	Gp/Ind	New/Rpt	Amount applied for	Amount offered
1	KHS Bike shed		Gp		£2,500	£2,500
2	Lindisfarne		Gp	New	£1,850	£400*
21	LAG Young Artists Residency	43.8	YLAG	Rpt	£1,100	£1,100
27	Forest School Friday	42.7	Gp	New	£1,008	£1,008
39	Nature and Forest Therapy Immersion Course	42.4	Ind	Rpt	£350	£350
19	Scottish Canoe Association - Young Ambassadors	41.8	Gp	New	£2,500	
22	Music and Gaelic in the Park	41.4	Gp	New	£1,500	£1,500
25	Climbing Club Equipment	40.8	Gp	Rpt	£1,133	
24	Bees in the classroom	39.3	Gp	Rpt	£600	
32	Mountain Leader Training	39.3	Ind	New	£475	£475
17	Snowboard leadership program	38.9	Gp	New	£920	£920
16	Pedal Promotion	38.1	Ind	Rpt	£489	£489
10	Paddling with Pride	37.9	Gp	New	£2,390	£2,390
23	Climbing all over it!	37.8	Gp	Rpt	£1,597	
26	Scout Expedition Equipment	37.5	Gp	New	£1,658	£1,658
6	Strathspey Paddle Club	37.4	Ind	Rpt	£500	£500
4	IRL Education Transition Programme	36.4	Gp	New	£2,345	
29	Winter skills for helping youth	35.2	Ind	New	£500	£500
30	Canoe Qualifications Development	34.9	Ind	New	£500	£500
33	Videography for Outdoor Activities in CNP	34.7	Ind	New	£500	£500
8	Young People's Sensory Service (YPSS)	34.4	Gp	New	£2,235	£2,235
3	Rewilding RSPB forest in Abernethy	34.3	Ind	New	£500	
18	Summer Mountain Leader training	34.1	Ind	New	£500	£500
20	Winter Skills	33.9	Ind	New	£500	£500
12	Equipment	33.6	Ind	New	£500	£500
13	Bike packing & race tech	33.6	Ind	Rpt	£500	
36	Outdoor Education/Teaching CPD	33.2	Gp	New	£2,168	
9	Learning to mountain bike!	33.1	Ind	Rpt	£500	
14	Cactus Book Club	32.9	Gp	New	£800	£800
38	Bespoke Christmas Products	32.5	Ind	New	£500	£250
5	Living and adventuring in the Cairngorms without a car	32.1	Ind	New	£500	
28	Winter camping equipment	32.0	Ind	New	£487	
40	Dogsuit	31.9	Ind	New	£500	
37	BASI Level I	31.7	Ind	New	£459	
34	White water kayaking, leading and coaching	29.4	Ind	New	£500	
7	Mountain Bike	28.9	Ind	New	£489	
35	Wildlife surveying	28.2	Ind	Rpt	£476	
15	Equipment for Mountain Leader	27.6	Ind	New	£500	
11	Summer Mountain Leader Training	26.4	Ind	Rpt	£500	
31	Advanced Higher Art	25.7	Ind	New	£500	
TOTALS					£35,684	£19,575



# Youth Artist in Residence



- Some members of the Youth LAG applied to the fund for money to run an artist residency
- The artist would be commissioned to create a piece of art focusing on one or more of these themes
  - Sustainability, biodiversity and addressing the climate emergency
  - Skills Development
  - Inter-generational projects
  - Art, creativity and culture
  - Nature Connection
  - Fun
  - Building community, networks, and interactions between people
  - Inclusion and underrepresented groups

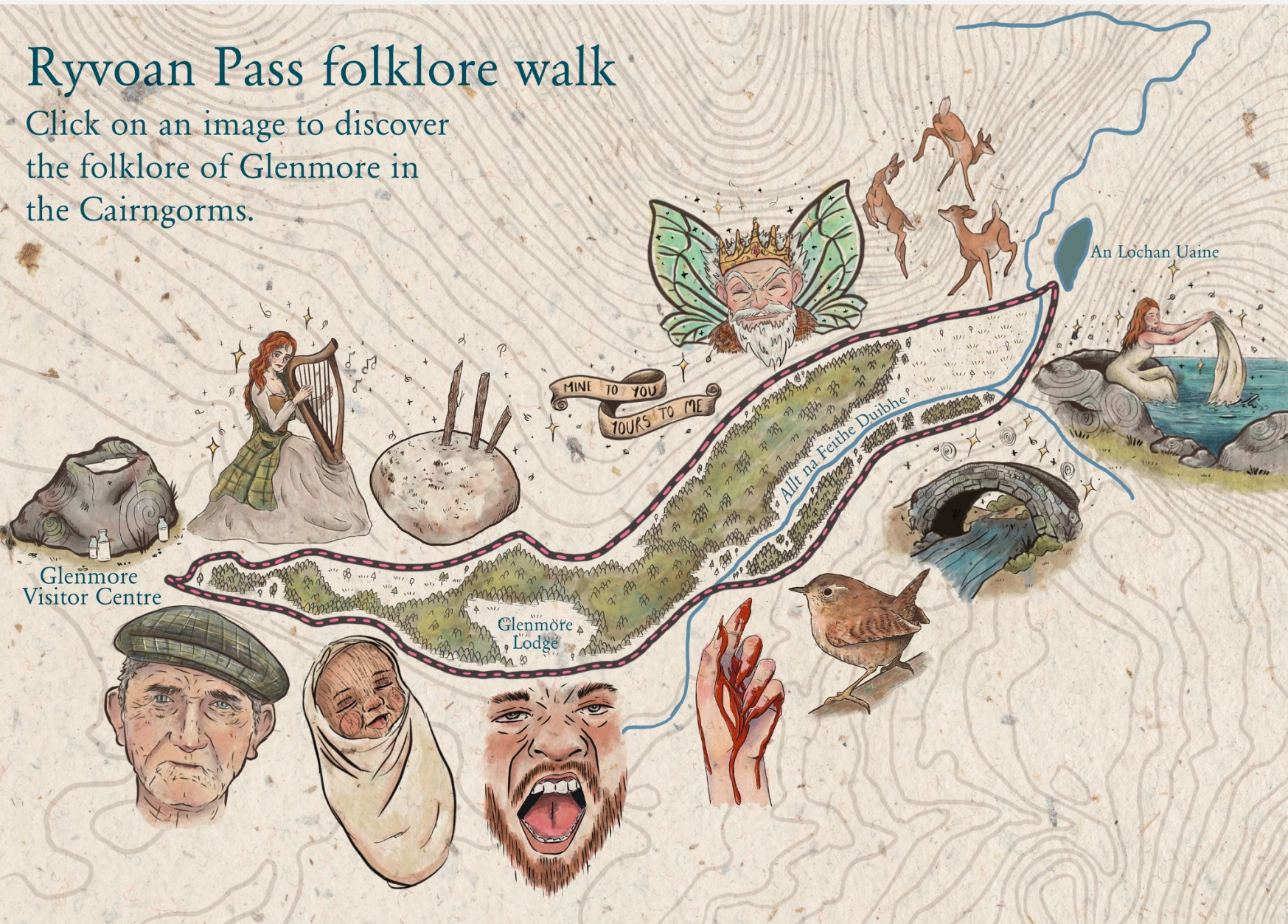
# First Youth Artist in Residence

- Rachael Horsburgh was chosen from the applicants
- Rachael stayed at Inshriach Bothy from 17th - 24th March
- She described it as "A week of wild tranquility, all thanks to the Cairngorms Youth Action Team, which inspired artistic, creative, and self-empowered growth that I would not have achieved without this opportunity"
- She then decided to join CYAT



# Ryvoan Pass folklore walk

Click on an image to discover  
the folklore of Glenmore in  
the Cairngorms.





# Second Youth Artist in Residence

- It was decided to run the residency again
- Applications opened in October
- Our youth artist was chosen in early November and the residency ran from 24th November - 1st December

# Future aims

- Work with similar groups from across Scotland
- Run a climate camp in August
- Recruit more members and raise awareness of CYAT
- Review the EUROPARC Youth Manifesto
- Set up volunteering sessions within the Cairngorms
- Continue the Youth LAG Fund