

Save Gillies Hill

Anyone still doubting the commitment of those fighting to preserve the historic and environmentally vital Gillies Hill should speak to Peggy Edwards (photo attached.)

Peggy flew into Scotland this week to physically join the campaign that she has long supported from her Californian home. For the next few weeks, her holiday from college-teaching in the U.S., botanist Peggy and fellow-volunteers from Edinburgh University Peder Aspen, Dr. Elizabeth Kungu and Dr. David Long, will comb the hill, conducting a detailed and very professional botanical survey – part of *Save Gillies Hill*'s preparation for the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) anticipated after Stirling Council's admission that one should have been carried out in 2002.

The fifth-generation Californian, of Scots descent, said: "Environmental stewardship, although important to practise locally, is no longer limited to our personal ecological regions, but has become a global endeavour, and although I'm involved in several environmental projects in Northern California, I'm spending more and more time in Scotland, and feel that the least I can do for this beautiful country and its hospitable people is to help however I can."

Besides teaching, Peggy has been employed by the U.S. Forestry Service to conduct plant surveys and botanical inventories.

Regular walkers on the Gillies Hill are already aware of its magnificent big trees. Perhaps Peggy and her team will reveal some smaller, but equally important, botanical gems.

Supporters and sympathizers can keep up to date on the campaign's progress at our website: savegillieshill.org.uk