



Issue 14
June/ July
2017

Community Hub for Kinloch receives funding



The school is open each day, Monday to Friday, between 9.00am and 4.30pm, for people to visit the museum and military collection, or browse through the vast array of photos and genealogy which are held in the Society's archives.

The society recently had the pleasure of assisting visitors from Australia and Brighton. They were looking for information on their paternal genealogy of Macmillan, 13 Gravir and 7 Laxay.

Kinloch Historical Society has announced that they have received £350,000 from the Scottish Government towards the redevelopment of the Balallan school building.

This ambitious project will see the focal meeting point being restored in Kinloch and create a vibrant, dynamic and sustainable community hub, which will act as a foundation for present and future development.

In order to realise the potential of the redevelopment, which is expected to cost in the region of £1,000,000, the committee has been applying to other funding bodies to secure the shortfall, and they should hear the outcome of these applications in the summer.

The various funders require the Society to raise funds from their own reserves and evidence community support for the project.

The Society are therefore encouraging the Kinloch residents and diaspora to pledge their support, send donations or become members for just £10.00 per annum. Requests for membership forms can be obtained by emailing:

kinlochhistorical@hotmail.co.uk



Pictured above are Donnie Macleod, Natalie Stevenson-Dake, (Brighton), Andrew Matheson (Australia), Murdo Mackenzie (Laxay) and Ken Roddy Mackay.

Welcome to issue 14 of the newsletter for Pairc and Kinloch, produced by MCWFT, and full of the latest news and events in the area.

August/ September issue out: 28 July

Contact Us:

Kershader Resource Centre,
Kershader,
Isle of Lewis.
HS2 9QA

Tel: 01851 880296

email:
news@muaitheabhal.org.uk

Balallan Charity Shop



Opening Hours
Wed - Fri 1-3pm
Sat 11am-3pm

The Old School, Balallan

Balallan Launderette



Open
Mon - Sat
7.30am - 7.30pm

The Old School, Balallan

Muinteabhal Grants

It has been a busy start to 2017, with many organisations benefiting from funding support through the Muinteabhal funding programme. There is £200,000 available over 2017, so please get in touch if you have a project in mind.

The **Islands Book Trust** received £24,464 towards 2 years' running costs for staff.

Co-Chomunn na Pairc received £28,823 towards 2016 & 2017 running costs and for their hostel improvements.

The **Lewis & Harris Alzheimers** group received £2,000 towards running the Dementia Cafés in Ravenspoint and Balallan.

Sgoil nan Loch in partnership with Pairc School received £4,122 towards a 'Growing project' using hydroponics, which is also enabling pupils to gain a Callanish Award for volunteering.

The **LHYCA Scaladale Centre** received £8,577 towards improvements in the centre, including the drainage of the front lawn, a new turning circle in the car park and maintenance inside the centre.

The **Orinsay Village Association** have received £2,500 towards the purchase of an All Ability Bike, which is hoped will be available for young people with mobility issues to enable them to enjoy getting out on a bike.

Isles fm received £1,000 towards their appeal to get the station back on air.

The **Marvig Pier Users Group** have been given £13,000 towards the costs of repairing the pier, making it safe and ensuring future access.

and finally, **Keose Community Association** were awarded £18,000 towards the costs of installing a new Playpark and to help with preparing the ground and drainage of the area.

The three **Community Councils** in the Muinteabhal area have also been receiving their annual £5,000 grant allocation for small projects. If you have a small project you think may be eligible for funding then please contact your Community Council.

Pairc Trust

GP Surgery

We would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete the GP Surgery Survey, and everyone who took the time to speak to us.

Following our open meeting to discuss the possible relocation of the surgery we distributed the survey, and the results clearly show that the majority of those who responded want the surgery to remain where it is, with the vast majority wanting the current premises to be upgraded.

GP Surgery Questionnaire responses:

Out of all the options above, which do you support the most?				
Leave things as they are	Improve the current facilities	Relocate somewhere else in Gravir	Relocate elsewhere in South Lochs	Build New Premises
49	86	10	12	3

It is our intention to attend the next Community Council meeting with copies of the survey and we will discuss how to proceed. Please be assured that Pairc Trust will not proceed with any proposal that does not have the backing of the community.

Care Unit

We received funding from the Scottish Land Fund to purchase this property, with the intention of using it for affordable housing.

Our initial proposal was to provide a single level four-bedroom property for rent. However, we now intend to split the property and provide two family homes for rent.

We are waiting for the Council to transfer the title to Pairc Trust and we are applying to the Scottish Government Rural Housing Fund for the renovation costs.

Walkways

We are delighted to receive funding from the Scottish Community Landfill Fund for two information boards. One will be for the Cromore walkway, and one will be for the Orinsay – Steimreway walkway. The improvements to the Steimreway walkway will begin over the Summer.

New Director

We are delighted to welcome Kenny Mackay onto the Pairc Trust board of directors. Kenny has past experience of running his own businesses and currently works for the coastguard. He lives in Lemreway and is Watch Manager for the local Fire & Rescue service.



Pairc Trust directors and staff were pleased to meet with the new Councillors in Ravenspoint. This was a very positive meeting and we look forward to working with them and others in the community as we develop the Pairc Estate.

Naidheachdan na Sgìre...

Around the area...



Friendship & dementia

A diagnosis of dementia can turn someone's world upside down. They (or the people closest to them) might have known something was wrong for a while. But hearing the words can change everything.

People with dementia risk becoming isolated very quickly. Find out more about dementia and how it's likely to affect their everyday life. This will help you to support your friend and make you more prepared for changes. Maybe you can help them to keep doing activities they enjoy. This is particularly important if your friend is no longer able to drive or use public transport unaided

Everyone's experience with dementia is different. Your friend may eventually need more support day-to-day. They might struggle to remember people's names or confuse them with others. As the condition progresses, they might need help to do simple tasks.

Keeping in touch can help maintain a person with dementia's sense of identity. Continue to include your friend in social activities - maybe use photos, music and other meaningful things to help your friend remember shared experiences. Make sure to talk directly to your friend, especially in social situations. Don't talk past them or assume they are not listening or do not understand.

As your friend's dementia becomes more advanced you may feel there is very little you can do. However, you can be a good friend by visiting someone following a move to a care home or hospital. This may help your friend to relax in what might be a stressful and frightening situation.

If your friend is being cared for, try to support the person who provides care too: it might be their spouse/partner, grown-up children or another relative. Spending time with your friend while their carer can go to the shops or meet their own friends can make a huge difference.

At Alzheimer Scotland, we believe nobody should face dementia alone. To find out more about being a good friend to someone with dementia or for any other enquiries please contact Marion MacInnes (Service Manager) at Alzheimer Scotland Lewis and Harris on 01851 702123 or email mmacinnnes@alzscot.org.

**Do you care for someone who has Dementia?
Are you living with Dementia?**

**Would you like the chance to meet others and get information and support? ...then why not drop in to a
Dementia Café in your area...**

North Lochs		
Balalain Community Hall	Wednesday: Third Wednesday of every month.	Between 2pm-3.30pm
South Lochs		
Ravenspoint Cafe	Wednesday: First Wednesday of every month.	Between 2pm-3.30pm

For further information or enquiries please contact
Marion MacInnes (Service Manager) 01851 702123 or email
mmacinnnes@alzscot.org

Keose and Glebe Community Association

Thanks to grants from Muaitheabhal Community Wind Farm Trust and the Scottish Landfill Fund, this play area will be transformed over the next year.

The funding has allowed the Community Association to start work on having the site drained and cleared of the old, unfit equipment to prepare it for new equipment and a grassed area for ball games and other community activities.

The 'goal' is to raise more funds to cover the shortfall needed for buying and installing a range of play equipment to allow the youngsters of the area and other visitors to enjoy the park and its surroundings as soon as possible. While other funders are being approached, any donations towards the shortfall will be gratefully accepted to enable us to complete the basic refurbishment before the end of the year.



Contact details: Scott Paterson, Chairman, Tabaigh, Keose, Isle of Lewis, HS2 9JT (scottie75@gmail.com); Freddy Macleod, Treasurer, 6a Keose, Isle of Lewis, HS2 9JT (freddym@cleod.co.uk); Jan Gold, 8 Keose, Isle of Lewis, HS2 9JT (jankeose@gmail.com)

Naidheachdan na Sgìre...

Around the area...

Ravenspoint

It's not just the weather that's been warming up - the summer visitor season is too. The hostel has been busy in April and May with people coming from a wide variety of places, including the UK, mainland Europe and even Canada. We're also noticing that guests are staying for longer periods; something which we're attributing in part to the availability of private rooms - one of the upgrades we've been able to make with the help of MCWFT.

It's always a pleasure to meet the folk who've chosen to come and visit South Lochs, and the other great benefit is that we're able to recruit more staff for the summer.

We're so pleased to be able to welcome back Alistair and Amy, who've been away on the mainland studying, and although we've had to say goodbye to Mairi Montgomery as she returned to her career in the care sector, we're pleased that another familiar face will be returning to Ravenspoint, as Sue Parker rejoins the team.



Alistair, Amy and Sue

Dè tha dol...

What's on...

 **£5** *Ceilidh*
Balallan Hall
Friday 26th May 7.30pm
Iain Begg Shonnie Beag Macmillan
Lochs Gaelic Choir Maggie Smith
John and Donald Macleod Jim Sawers
Lily and Jessica Macdowall

Lochs
Agricultural Society
Show
Laxay Showground
Saturday 22nd July

A great day out for all the family!

Pairc Playgroup 
Fundraiser
SATURDAY 17th JUNE
RAVENSPOINT
Full Breakfast Feast
8AM - 10AM
ONLY £5! 
&
Car Boot Sale
10AM - 12PM
£10 per table
(take home what you earn) 
TO BOOK A TABLE SPEAK TO HELEN - 880296
OR PLAYGROUP STAFF