



# muaitheabhal

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## Pairc and Kinloch

### Island Youngsters Collect Awards at The House of Lords

Mairi MacLennan, P7 Sgoil nan Loch and Hamish Scott, S1 Sir E Scott School attended an awards ceremony at the House of Lords on Monday the 16th of May.

They had taken part in a poetry and art competition commemorating the First World War organised by the charity Never Such Innocence.

Mairi won first prize for art in her section and was awarded with a certificate and a £500 prize fund, half for herself and half for her school.



Hamish, who wrote a poem about Scapa Flow and the First World War, received a certificate and a special commendation and he will attend the Royal Navy Battle of Jutland Commemorations in Edinburgh at the end of this month.

Both received a commemorative booklet with the art work and poems of all the winners and runners up from the 2015 -2016 competition from across Britain and the Commonwealth.

Comhairle Convener, Norman A MacDonald, said: "I would like to congratulate Mairi and Hamish on their recent success in the poetry and art competition commemorating the First World War. It is good to see our young people taking part in these competitions; the First World War is a constant reminder to us all as islanders of the sacrifices made by so many."

Mairi and Hamish received a contribution towards their travel costs from Comunn na Gàidhlig and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar.



**Issue 8**  
**June/ July**  
**2016**

Welcome to issue 8 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 21 July.

**Contact Us:**  
Kershader Resource Centre,  
Kershader,  
Isle of Lewis.  
HS2 9QA

Tel: 01851 880296

email:  
news@muaitheabhal.org.uk

### the Café with a View!

Speciality coffees  
Light lunches  
Fresh baking

Open Monday - Saturday  
11.30am-4pm



### JOB VACANCY Support Officer

Salary: £8.25 an hour for a fixed term of 80 hours (working hours to be agreed with the Development Manager)

Pairc Trust are seeking to recruit an individual to assist with the administration of a Housing Needs Analysis of the Pairc Estate. The postholder will be based in the Kershader Resource Centre, and full training will be given.

The closing date for applications is 5pm on:  
**Friday 3rd June 2016.**

For an application pack please contact us by email or telephone:  
[info@pairctrust.co.uk](mailto:info@pairctrust.co.uk) 01851 880 728

This project is part funded by Muaitheabhal Wind Farm Trust

## Pesticide use and Sheep Shearing Training Opportunities

The Muaitheabhal Trust would like to gauge interest in a Safe Use of Pesticide course (PA1) and associated supporting courses in using Hand Held Applicator (PA2) and Ground Crop Sprayer (PA6), and a Sheep Shearing course.

The cost for the Pesticides courses per participant will be:  
PA1- £100 (MCWFT will contribute £100 towards the costs of this course, per participant living in the Muaitheabhal Trust area).

PA2 - £195 (MCWFT will contribute £150 towards the costs of this course, per participant living in the Muaitheabhal Trust area).

PA6 - £190 (MCWFT will contribute £100 towards the cost of this course, per participant living in the Muaitheabhal Trust area).

Grandfather Rights - £195 (MCWFT will contribute £150 towards this course, per participant – living in the Muaitheabhal Trust area).

The proposed dates for this training are week beginning 15th August: Monday - PA1, Tues - PA6, Wed - PA2.

Each day requires a day of assessment at a later date, to be confirmed. Please contact us for further details on each course.

The cost for the Shearing Course per participant will be:

Sheep Shearing beginners - £80 (MCWFT will contribute £100 towards the costs of this course, per participant living in the Muaitheabhal Trust area).

Refresher Course - £25 (MCWFT will contribute £20 towards the costs of this course, per participant living in the Muaitheabhal Trust area).

The proposed dates for this training are 16th & 17th June. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis, so please respond as soon as you can if you are interested.

Muaitheabhal Trust will be paying for the travel and accommodation of the trainers for the training days and the assessment days.

If you are interested in any of these courses, or have any questions, please let Helen Sandison know as soon as possible.

**Email:** Helen@muaitheabhal.org.uk

**Telephone:** 01851 880296



## Pairc Trust Celebration

On Saturday 18th June, everyone is invited to celebrate our ownership of the Pairc estate on behalf of the community, and to thank everyone who has helped us achieve this.

The event will be at Ravenspoint, starting at 4pm with speeches, after which food will be served, and there will be live music and a dance in the evening. There will also be entertainment for children between 4pm and 7pm.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

## Housing Needs Analysis

We will be carrying out a Housing Needs Analysis of Pairc Estate in the near future. All households will receive a survey and all completed and returned surveys will be entered into a prize draw.

Please take the time to complete the survey so we can determine if there is a demand for additional affordable housing in the area. We will recruit a Support Officer to help us conduct the survey (see page 1).

## Community Consultation Events

We are carrying out a number of Community Engagement Events throughout July, and all members of the community are welcome. Tea, coffee and baking will be available at the events and we would love to see you there.

We are holding informal drop in sessions on:

- Sat 2nd July from 1pm-4pm in Gravir Church Hall
- Wed 6th July from 1pm – 4pm in Kershader Resource Centre
- Fri 8th July from 1pm – 4pm in Orinsay Hall

Please feel free to drop in for a chat and to give us your views and feedback any time between 1pm and 4pm.

We are also holding more structured workshops on:

- Sat 2nd July at 5pm, Gravir Church Hall
- Wed 6th July at 7pm, Kershader Resource Centre
- Fri 8th July at 6pm, Orinsay Hall

We will invite representatives from community groups to attend. If you would like to attend any of the workshops, please let us know.

## Keep in Touch

**Website:** [www.pairctrust.co.uk](http://www.pairctrust.co.uk)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/pairctrust](http://www.facebook.com/pairctrust)

**Telephone:** 01851 880 728

**email:** [info@pairctrust.co.uk](mailto:info@pairctrust.co.uk)

**Visit:** Kershader Resource Centre, HS2 9QA



## Work starts at Gravir Playpark thanks to Tesco's Bags of Help campaign

Pairc Community Council has started work on its Playpark project in Gravir following its successful receipt of £10,000 from Tesco's Bags of Help campaign.

The supermarket teamed up with Groundwork to launch its Bags of Help initiative, which saw grants of £12,000, £10,000 and £8,000 – all raised from the 5p bag levy – being awarded to environmental and greenspace projects. Eight million shoppers voted in stores up and down the country.

The project involves removal of the old mini roundabout; this will be replaced with a new much larger roundabout. The roundabout upgrade includes wheelchair access. We will also be installing a 1.85m freestanding slide.



Pairc Community Chair Paul Bailey would like to take this opportunity to thank Tesco for this fabulous award; "the money will enable us to make a great difference to peoples enjoyment of the playpark. Previously we could not afford to buy the equipment; now, over £9,000 of the award is going directly towards cost of equipment."

Caroline Silke, Head of Community at Tesco, said: "Bags of Help has been a fantastic success. "We have been overwhelmed by the response of our customers and the feedback has been brilliant.

"This is the really exciting part of the project – seeing the projects coming to life thanks to the funding and we can't wait to follow the projects right through to the end."

Pairc Community Council would also like to thank Muaitheabhal Community Windfarm Trust for their support, by providing a bridging loan to cover the period between the equipment being purchased and the payment of the grant.

## Community Skips in Pairc

Following on from the recent dumping of large amounts of prohibited material in the Community Skips in Pairc, they are to be removed from the area with immediate effect.

Pairc Community Council were reluctant to take this action, however, there was no other option. The present management system for the skips is not working properly to stop this prohibited material getting into the skips.

Hopefully this will be a temporary measure. In order to get the skips returned, we will need a more robust management system for the skips in place.

Before the skips return, we will need to prove to the Comhairle we have proper procedures in place; for example, having the skip in a chain link compound, only opening the skips at certain times under full supervision or setting up a new management team, responsible for all matters skip related, to name but a few ideas.

Pairc Community Council would appreciate any input or suggestions you may have with regard to the best way forward.

## Dementia Cafés in Lochs area go from strength to strength!

Marion MacInnes Service Manager of Alzheimer Scotland says "We are delighted that the Muaitheabhal Trust has awarded us a grant of £2323 for 2016/17 to continue and develop the Dementia Café/Carer Drop-in Sessions in North and South Lochs."

Attendance is steadily increasing as people are becoming more aware of the monthly events through posters, advertising, health and social care colleagues and of course word of mouth. The dementia cafés offer an opportunity for people to have a meeting place and to remain connected to their local communities. There are also examples of people connecting with new friends and reconnecting with old friends and neighbours.



The next dementia café at Ravenspoint falls on Wednesday 1st June 2016; this is in the middle of National Dementia Awareness Week 30th May - 5th June 2016. Alzheimer Scotland have extended an open invitation to this event in June to the local community in Lochs.

If any other groups or businesses are interested in a Dementia Friends Session they can contact Ellen Donnelly at Alzheimer Scotland Dementia resource centre, call: 01851 702123, or email edonnelly@alzscot.org

# Naidheachdan na Sgìre... Around the area...

## Balallan Hall

Work is progressing on the Balallan Hall Improvements. The cavity wall insulation has been done and already we are noticing a difference in the warmth in the hall.

Workers are now stripping down the old roughcasting and are about ready to apply the new (dry days permitting!)

This has all been made possible with grant aid from Muaitheabhal Community Windfarm Trust, Awards for all and the public, by supporting all our fund raising events.

The hall is still functional as long as the outside work goes on.

## Habost Polytunnel

We are pleased to report that the strawberry plants are doing well and that we hope to have strawberries for sale in the near future. Locally grown strawberries have a special taste, don't they?

Some bedding plants are already available while others are making progress. Later in the season we will have lettuce, tomatoes, courgettes etc. for sale.



Please feel free to visit the tunnels whenever you see us working there. There is also usually produce available in the barrow at the roadside where there will be an honesty box for payment. You may also contact us at 880313 or 880767.

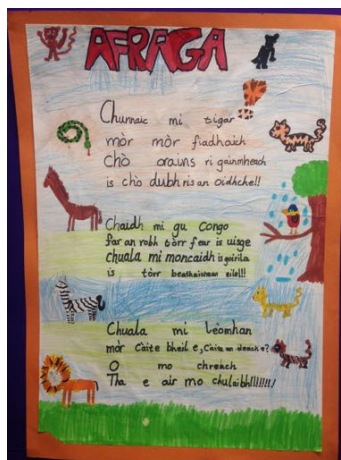
# Sgoil na Paire... Park Primary School...

## Gaelic Medium Unit

Gaelic medium primary 1-5 got the opportunity to learn about Africa and explore the culture and geography of the country. The class were able to showcase all their learning to pupils, teachers and parents in a pupil led assembly.

"Chòrd e rium a bhith ag ionnsachadh mu dheidhinn na beathaichean eadar-dhealaichte a lorgas sinn ann an Africa agus a bhith a' coimhead ri na pàtrain Afraganach."  
Ellie Chamshròin clas 4

"Chòrd e rium a' dèanamh suas an dannsa Afraganach againn fhèin às dèidh ionnsachadh mu dheidhinn ceòl agus dannsa ann an Afraga. Fhuair sinn an cothrom sealltainn an dannsa againn don sgoil agus òran Afraganach a sheinn cuideachd."  
Saorsa Nicleòid clas 5



## Eco Group News



The very smart dashing spectacular eco group have been very busy planting vegetables such as lettuce, potatoes and tomatoes.

We have been working on trying to get our green flag by not littering. It's been difficult but we're working on it by starting some litter picks in the playground, so if people do litter there will be people to pick it up. We have also had many other people help us with the planting and the veg in the polytunnel.

Thank you to Tracy the school cook and p1-7. That is all the news that has been happening Sgoil na Paire for now.

By Malin and Ewan

## Plant sale



Soup/ pudding  
lunch  
Raffle  
Baking

Saturday  
18 June

12.00 - 2.30

Balallan Hall

Proceeds in aid of  
Balallan Hall



We're  
Hiring!

We have a part-time vacancy in our community-owned centre at Ravenspoint.

The centre operates a shop, fuel service, café and Hostel, and the post would include customer service, stock control and cleaning duties.

For more information or to submit a C.V. please e-mail:

[info@ravenspoint.net](mailto:info@ravenspoint.net)

Closing date:  
Wednesday 1 June