



muaitheabhal

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Pairc and Kinloch

John Swinney to deliver Angus Macleod Memorial Lecture

**Issue 10
October/
November
2016**

The annual Angus Macleod Memorial Lecture will be given this year by the Deputy First Minister of the Scottish Government, John Swinney MSP.

The lecture will take place on Wednesday 19th October at 3.30pm in the CnES Council Chamber, Sandwick Road, Stornoway, during Royal National Mòd week. The organisers decided to move the venue from Lochs to Stornoway this year because of the Mòd, following the successful precedent set in 2011.



Appropriately, the topic of the lecture will be 'The Place of Gaelic in a Modern Scotland'. In addition to his other responsibilities, Mr Swinney has Cabinet responsibility for Gaelic policy, and the lecture will be an opportunity to hear how the Deputy First Minister sees the future of the language and Gaelic-speaking communities amidst the many challenges they face. There will also be an opportunity to put questions to the Minister.

conjunction with Angus Macleod's family.

Admission is free and refreshments will be available from 3.00pm. All are most welcome to come along. Please put the date in your diary.

So do please come along on the afternoon of 19th October. The prestigious annual lecture commemorates the life and work of the late Angus 'Ease' Macleod MBE of South Lochs, and is organised by the Islands Book Trust and Comunn Eachdraidh na Pairc in

For further information, please contact John Randall at john.lemreway@talktalk.net or phone 01851 880365, or Elizabeth McGowan on liz17263@yahoo.co.uk or 01851 700239.

Welcome to issue 10 of the newsletter for Pairc and Kinloch, produced by MCWFT, and full of the latest news and events in the area.

December/ January issue out:
25 November

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Islands Book Trust

Events

AGM

27th September, 6.30pm
Museum nan Eilean

Followed at 7.30pm by a talk with Malcolm Archibald entitled 'Whaling in Scotland'. £8, or £5 for IBT members.

Book Signing

20th October, 5.30pm
Stornoway Library

Author Liz Macrae Shaw from Skye will read from her novel Love and Music Will Endure, based on the life of Màiri Mhòr nan Òran, followed by an opportunity for discussion and book signing.

Book Launch

2nd November, 7.00pm
An Lanntair

No Shame in Fear
Alex C. Maclean

A searingly honest, rare first-hand account of the dangers and horrors of the wartime Atlantic convoys, and the author's attempts to come to terms with his own history back on the island of Tiree.

Community Engagement Events and Working Groups

The Trust would like to thank everyone who contributed to our Community Engagement Events over the Summer. A summary of the community feedback can be found on our website. We would love to hear more of your views and suggestions and you can complete our Pairc Estate Residents Survey by downloading it from our website, or by requesting a copy from our office. Please do take the time to complete the survey as we value your opinions.

Following on from our Community Engagement Events we are going to set up working groups for tourism, renewable energy, crofting and housing. We welcome members of the community to join these groups. If you are interested, please get in touch.

Tesco Bags of Help Funding

We have been successful in our application to the Tesco Bags of Help scheme for funding to improve the Orinsay to Stremreway walkway. It is in need of repair and we will use this funding to make it more accessible.

Bags of Help offers community groups and projects in each of Tesco's regions across the UK a share of revenue generated from the 5p charge levied on single-use carrier bags.

You can vote in store between 31st October and 13th November to decide which groups should receive the £12,000, £10,000 and £8,000 awards. Please do use your vote for this important project. More information can be found at: www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp

The Calbost Classic

The Calbost Classic 7 mile road race was held on Saturday 27th September 2016.

An amazing 34 runners were bused out from the registration office in Ravenspoint to the start line at the Old Mission House in Calbost. Calbost was a busy place that day!



It was a glorious day; the sun shone on us, and for many of the runners it was their first time in South Lochs, far less Calbost! However, the feedback was that despite the hills (and to be fair there are a few between Calbost and Ravenspoint) the run was considered to be one of the most scenic on the Island.

Keep in Touch

Website: www.pairctrust.co.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/pairctrust
Telephone: 01851 880 728
email: info@pairctrust.co.uk
Visit: Kershader Resource Centre, HS2 9QA

Lewis Wind Power buys Uisenis Wind Farm

Lewis Wind Power (LWP), a joint venture between Amec Foster Wheeler and EDF Energy Renewables, has bought the Uisenis Wind Farm project on the Eishken estate in Pairc.

The wind farm has planning consent for the development of 45 turbines with a maximum capacity of 162 MW. This would be enough to power 124,000 homes and would be the biggest renewable energy development on the Western Isles.

LWP also owns the Stornoway Wind Farm project, located around 20km to the north of Uisenis, which has planning consent to develop 36 turbines to a maximum capacity of 180 MW. The joint capacity of up to 342MW is a crucial part of building the case for an interconnector to the Scottish mainland, which is estimated to require over 350MW of committed project power to be viable.



The local community will benefit in three different ways from the wind farm once operational. This will be through Comhairle nan Eilean Siar having an option to partner with LWP to buy a share in the Uisenis wind farm, through a community benefit fund which will receive a proportion of the revenue, and through the employment and economic benefits.

Kinloch Historical Society AGM 2016

Despite the adverse weather, we were gratified with the attendance at this year's AGM, and were particularly delighted to welcome new (younger!) members to our Committee.

Our Chairman's report highlighted our many achievements throughout the year, including the acquisition of our acclaimed Military Collection, the ongoing success of the Charity Shop, and the opening of, the now very busy, Laundrette, dubbed by several as a 'lifesaver'!

In that heritage is at the heart of our Society, we get particular satisfaction from being able to reunite visitors, both in person and through the Internet, who are looking for their long lost relatives, and this year was no exception, as one can read in our latest issue of Dioghluim, now available.

Fundraising, be it through local endeavours, or by way of applications to National bodies, remains our biggest challenge, so we are particularly grateful to all our supporters who help in various ways.

We were privileged to have as our speaker for the evening, Lord Lieutenant Sandy Matheson, who never fails to enthral his audience!



Taking as his topic, '50 years of change for the better', he took us on a most interesting historical timeline, highlighting what he considered to be the most significant milestones to have impacted the Islands.

We hope to publish the full transcript of his talk in our next issue of Dioghluim, due out at the end of the year, so be sure to get your copy! As a Society, we meet on the last Tuesday of the month, at 7 pm in the old school Balallan, and all are welcome...

Pairc Social Club

For a few years now, Pairc Social Club has been seen as being something that is only for people of a certain age. It is in fact open to anyone living in Pairc, and over the next year the Club is planning to hold a range of activities which will, hopefully, offer something for everyone.

We already organise fortnightly lunches during the Autumn, Winter and Spring months. The up and coming dates for these are 5th and 19th October, and 2nd and 16th November (any changes will be notified on the village notice boards or on the new Pairc Social Club Facebook page)

The lunches are held at Ravenspoint, and often include a very informative short talk. We currently also arrange day trips throughout the year as well as our 'infamous' annual week long mainland trip. We hope that you will come along and join us.

The committee of the Social Club are working on delivering a wider range of activities that will be introduced over the coming months. A current proposal is for a regular Community Cinema, and other ideas so far include BBQ's, Easter bonnet and egg hunts, art and craft shows, themed meal nights, games afternoons and bingo.

Throughout the year the Club is actively raising funds to support and encourage the elderly, the housebound and the disabled living in Pairc to participate in Social Club activity. To achieve this we will also do regular fund-raising events, ranging from our renowned baking and jam stall at Lochs Show, to bag packing in town. We always need volunteers for these events, so please help us if you can.

The Social Club will have regular updates in the MCWFT newsletter, and if you want any more information then please get in touch:

Contact the Chair, Elisabeth Drew, 880764, Leave a message on the Pairc Social Club Facebook page. Pop along to one of the regular lunches at Ravenspoint, where you will be very welcome.

Balallan Charity Shop



Opening Hours
Wed - Fri 1-3pm
Sat 11am-3pm
The Old School, Balallan



If you would like to see evening classes in the area, please let us know what topics you would be interested in!

email:
helen@muaitheabhal.org.uk

Pairc and Kinloch Telephone Directory



The new edition is being compiled soon.

Please look out for the form we will leave if you are out when we call.

Balallan Laundrette



Open
Mon - Sat
7.30am - 7.30pm
The Old School, Balallan

Balallan Hall

Balallan Hall renovations have now been completed. There is nice new roughcasting, very efficient insulation, plus a new roof on the Committee Room. Grateful thanks to Muaitheabhal Trust, Awards for All and you, the public, for all your help and support in our fund raising events over the past couple of years.

Last Saturday saw the first of our fund raisers for this winter. A lunch of salt herring, salt mackerel and salt salmon with tatties proved to be very popular. We had a good turnout and we hope to clear over £200. Thank you all so much for supporting us.

The hall was very cosy with no heating on. Some ladies were stripped down to their blouses! A big change for Balallan hall which had earned a reputation for being always cold!

The next fund raiser is Bag Packing in the Co-op on Saturday 8th October. Volunteers are urgently required. If you feel you can help us out by packing for a couple of hours or even one hour please call Marion on 07760348748.

We hope to have a Ceilidh on Tuesday 18th October at 7.30pm (Mòd Week).

Sgoil na Pairc News

This year we welcome a couple of new people to the school. We have the one and only P1 student, Donald Montgomery, and a new P2-4 class teacher, Mrs Soutar, who is from Poland. We hope they will both enjoy their time with us!

This term P2-4 and GMU are learning about space, and P5-7 are learning about South America and what it is like to live in the slums.

On Thursday 29th September, 10am until 12.00pm, we are hosting a special coffee morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer research. We will be asking everyone to come in their jeans as we will also be raising money for Jeans for Genes. There will be some other fundraising activities on the day, so save up your loose change now. Look out for the posters!

Sheepdog Trials

The 3rd Annual Lochs Hill Sheep Dog Trials were held in July at the Lochs Showground in Laxay, once again providing a fantastic location in this well-established circuit.

There was great competition with entrants from all over the world competing this year. The weather stayed fair and competitors and visitors enjoyed the excellent layout of the facility as well as the great home baking and food available.

This year the Open and Local trophy went to Murdo Murray from Back and his dog Gael. Congratulations to the winning pair.

Thanks go to all the volunteers on the day who helped with the teas and food and to the visitors who came to watch. See you all next year!



Murdo and Gael presented with Open and Local trophy from organiser Callum McDowall.

Eco

We are in the middle of a poly tunnel clean up. If anyone in the community would like to help us please contact the school on 01851 822883. Look out for us in the next couple of weeks as we will be out tidying up all the rubbish that is scattered around Gravir!

Stephanie



Dè tha dol... What's on...

Friday 30 September
Island Bake Club
Macmillan Big Coffe Morning
11am-2pm
Cabarfeidh Hotel Stornoway

Friday 30 September
Kinloch Historical Society
Quiz Night
7.00pm
Balallan Old School

Monday 3 October
Lochs Agricultural Society
AGM
7.30 pm
Lochs Showground Laxay

