

ARDGAY & DISTRICT

Community Council *newsletter*

Price: £1.00

ISSN 2514-8400 • Issue No. 39 • SPRING 2018 •



First Prize P2 to P4, Brodie Munro "House of Wonder" (P4) Bonar Bridge Primary.

Winners of the 2nd Ardgay & District CC Newsletter Children's Art Competition

THE CHILDREN FROM Gledfield and Bonar Bridge Primary Schools are very talented! We received a total of 100 entries from 87 pupils of the two local schools. A big thank you to the teachers who helped children present their artworks, to all participants, and to our judge Doreen

Bruce. An exhibition of all the entries and a prize-giving ceremony will be held in Ardgay Public Hall on Wednesday 28th March, from 1 pm to 3 pm. This is a free event organised by Ardgay & District Community Council and all are welcome. (Pages 22 to 25)

The Highland Council has agreed a budget for 2018

The package of savings will reduce the Council's expenditure by £5.1M

COUNCILLORS approved a Council Tax increase of 3%. This will mean an increase of £35.93 per annum for a Band D property going from £1,197.89 to £1,233.82. Across the Highlands there will be cuts to Care & Learning services, Ward Discretionary Grant, Community Council Grants, and community services such as the management of public toilets. (Pages 4 & 5)

1968-2018: Ardgay Public Hall's 50th Anniversary *Page 8*

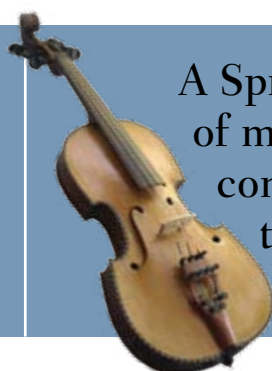
Bradbury Centre will celebrate its 20th Anniversary *Page 13*

New wedding venue in the Highlands: Falls of Shin Visitor Attraction *(Page 10)*



Interesting facts about the European rabbit

Page 26



A Spring full of music: eight concerts in the area

Page 19



32 pages featuring
What's on in the area,
Opening times,
Telephone guide,
Bus & Train timetable,
Sudoku & Crosswords



Anna Patfield
Dog Behaviourist & Trainer

Pawsability®

www.PawsAbility.co.uk

Dog Behaviour Help Dog Training Puppy Training & Early Learning

Prevent puppy problems arising with puppy early learning and puppy socialisation & training. Sort out lead pulling and jumping with your dog. Or resolve more complex behaviour problems from aggression to separation issues or barking.

Pet Shop

On line pet shop with toys, leads, collars, chews etc – Please look at the shop and call to arrange pick up.

Group Workshops

Various workshops helping you to understand more about how dogs and puppies think, and therefore how to help with their behaviour and training issues.

Details at www.pawsability.co.uk/workshop

For more information please see
www.PawsAbility.co.uk
or call Anna on 07906 173993

PLUS

Free On-Line Help & Advice pages.



Photocopying Prices

May 2017

Black and White

A4 single sided	15p	A4 double sided	20p
A3 single sided	20p	A3 double sided	25p

Colour Copies

A4 single sided	25p	A4 double sided	35p
A3 single sided	35p	A3 double sided	45p

Laminating

A4	60p
A3	£1

Price on request for bulk copying.



www.facebook.com/kyleofsutherland.Development.Trust Telephone: 01863766190

Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust is a company Limited by Guarantee
Registered in Scotland: SC401019 and a registered Scottish charity: SC043587. Registered office: The Trust Offices, Dornoch Road, Bonar Bridge, Sutherland, IV24 3EB



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

April 13th Gnos, Invershin Hotel. 8pm

May 17th The Poozies, Fountain Road church hall
Golspie, 7.30pm

June 1st. Dàimh, Ardgay hall. 7.30pm

THE GREAT BIG EASTER WEEKEND PRESENTS

March 31st. Saltfishforty, Brora Golf Club. 8.30pm

April 1st. Old Blind Dogs, Lairg hall. 7.30pm. Licenced.

April 2nd. Mairearad and Anna, Dornoch Social Club. 7.30pm

Plus Workshops, Festival Club, Sessions and more.

Individual gig and weekend tickets

available now at eventbrite.co.uk



sutherland sessions



@SuthSessions

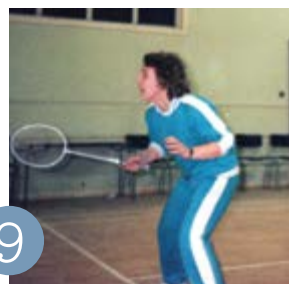
www.sutherlandsessions.com

Local mini digger hire

Most ground work catered for,
ditching, trenching,
foundations material handling,
rock breaker for
stubborn boulders,
concrete etc, 3 tonne
rubber track machine
ideal for sites
with restricted access.

**Phone Dave
07860675194**

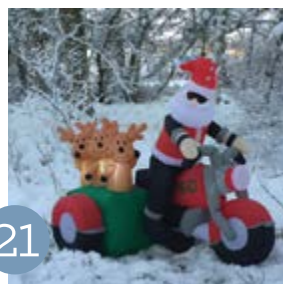
Contents



9



13



21



28

ARDGAY NEWS

- The Highland Council Budget.....4
- Consultation on the new Core Paths Plan.....5
- Ardgay Village Christmas lights6
- How to contact your CC..... 6
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Community Asset Register.....7
- News from Ardgay Public Hall..... 8
- Ardgay Badminton Club memories..... 9
- Falls of Shin Visitor Attraction.....10
- Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust AGM report.....11
- Heart of Sutherland Tourism 12

- Heritage Society programme 12
- News from the Bradbury Centre...13
- Citizens Advice Bureau 148 Mile Challenge Fundraise14
- Balance bike sessions.....15
- How to apply for Windfarm Community Benefit 16

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR17

WHAT'S ON IN THE AREA

- Events near you 18
- A Spring full of music..... 19

ADULT CLUBS & SOCIETIES 20

GEARRCHOILLE WOOD..... 21

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

- Winners of the 2nd A&DCCN Children's Art Competition..... 22
- Gledfield Primary School.....26
- Wildlife: Rabbits26
- Hamish, the Tartan Dragon..... 27

CHURCHES

- Choosing a new minister.....28

LOCAL SERVICES A-Z.....29

PUZZLES31

Ardgay & District photographs



Clach Eiteag and cherry blossom by Brigitte Geddes

This large quartzite boulder was built into the north wall of the Balnagown Arms Hotel until 1958. It is believed to have marked the annual fair, the Feill Eiteachan.

EDITOR'S LETTER

Become a volunteer

Thank you all as always for your contributions and your support. A special big thanks and all the best to Alan Lawrence, who may be delivering this edition of the newsletter for the last time before moving away. Would you be able to spare one hour or so every three months to take on his route? If so, please get in touch. Delivering the newsletter can be very rewarding. I hope you'll like the winning artworks from our 2nd Children's Art Competition. The entries were very good overall, as you will be able to see at the exhibition on the 28th March at Ardgay Hall. I am looking forward to meeting you there. ■

Silvia Muras *Editor*



Ardgay & District News

THE COUNCIL AGREED A PACKAGE OF SAVINGS THAT WILL REDUCE EXPENDITURE BY £5.1M

Highland Council Budget 2018-2019

ON THE 15TH FEBRUARY, The Highland Council agreed a budget for 2018-19. Members agreed a council tax increase of 3% which will mean an increase of £35.93 per annum on a Band D property. Overall, the budget gap of £1.146 million has been met by a package of savings which includes increasing Council Tax income by £3.448 million, increasing income by £3.059 million, setting a target of £2.250 million to be saved through Redesign and reducing expenditure by £5.1 million.

Leader of the Council, Margaret Davidson said: "This is a fair budget which protects jobs, education, roads and winter maintenance and communities across the Highlands. We have thankfully not had to cut as deeply as



The Council Tax will increase 3%, and there will be cuts to Care & Learning services, Ward Discretionary Grant, and Community Council Grants

we had originally feared this year, but there has still been a significant challenge in making savings which had the least impact on services.

Budget Leader, Councillor Alister Mackinnon said: "This budget is a positive response to our current financial circumstances. Over the past few months, we have had to consider a wide range of options to make very significant cuts to services which we didn't want to do, but thought may be unavoidable and I recognise the negative effect this uncertainty has caused for staff and communities.

"We will continue to lobby the Scottish Government for multi-year grant settlements to enable long term financial planning for councils."

The budget papers can be viewed here: https://www.highland.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/3934/highland_council. ■

How the cuts will affect us

by Betty Wright, Chairperson Ardgay & District CC

SOME CUTS directly affect your local community:

CUTTING OF FUNDING FOR PUBLIC TOILETS.

At present the operation of the public toilets in Ardgay is organised by the Community Council. We do not yet know if we will be allocated any funds to continue this through the coming year. Last year the toilets remained open for 7 months (April-Oct) for which we were allocated £1,400.

CUT TO COMMUNITY COUNCIL ADMIN GRANT.

The Council have decided to halve the money allocated to the running of CCs. This would appear to be in direct conflict with Community Empower-

ment as envisioned by the Scottish government who state on their website: "We are committed to supporting our communities to do things for themselves, and to make their voices heard in the planning and delivery of services." "Community councils are the most local tier of statutory representation in Scotland. They bridge the gap between local authorities and communities, and help to make public bodies aware of the opinions and needs of the communities they represent."

The rationale behind this decision would appear to be the level of funds apparently held by some Community Councils

in the region, including Ardgay & District. But on closer inspection, for Ardgay & District there is no surplus. The funds are restricted funds, as reported by the Treasurer at each of our meetings –comprising Community Benefit funds, grant monies received for the newsletter and funding from THC for the toilets. We already spend all the admin money on running the Community Council. Do our councillors think we should use your community benefit money to run what should be an essential part of local government? These funds are playing a vital part of attracting money into our

area as seed funding for a variety of projects and supporting many local groups as detailed previously in these pages. As we are small in number, it has long been thought essential to employ a minutes secretary, as losing one of our number to those duties would very much narrow discussions. All CC members are volunteers. Should we reduce the number of meetings to try to keep within budget? Should we spend Community Benefit funds to maintain the number of meetings? These are questions we will need to address at our next meetings and would like to hear your opinion. ■



Ardgay & District News

Source: www.highland.gov.uk

Service	2018-2019 Spending reductions £m
Care & Learning	1.243
Chief Executive's Office	0.489
Corporate Resources	1.675
Community Services	0.834
Development & Infrastructure	0.888
Total:	5.129

Council budget community services and grants cuts

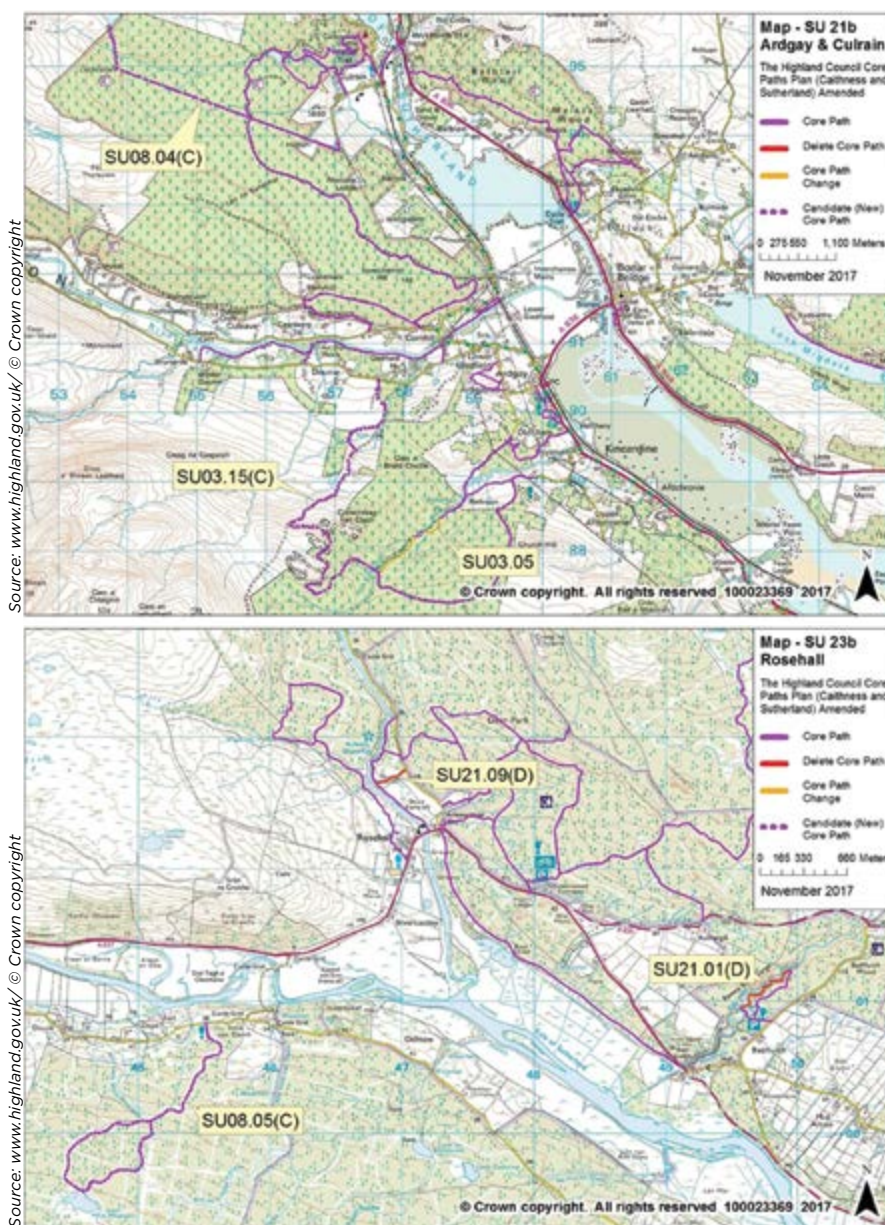
MEASURE: Operational Management Areas (Ward Management) to reduce the ward discretionary grant budget by almost half (£0.331m or 49.6%) to £0.336m. This means that each Ward would have £16,000 to invest in local community projects and services.

MEASURE: Reduce Community Council Grants to remove £100,000 from the overall budget which supports Community Council administration. This would result in just over a 50% reduction in the administration grant provided for all Community Councils in Highland. The new grant formula from April 2018 would be a core award of £400 for rural CCs and £350 for all others, plus 13p an elector in the CC area. The reduction would vary between 48% and 58%, with larger CCs experiencing the greater reductions. ■

How to contact The Highland Council

WHETHER to report a light or traffic signal fault, dog fouling, missed bin collection, pothole, animal welfare concern... or to compliment the Council, you can do it directly online on <https://www.highland.gov.uk/report> ■

Changes to the Core Paths plan in Ardgay & Culrain



Source: www.highland.gov.uk/ © Crown copyright

Source: www.highland.gov.uk/ © Crown copyright

Consultation on new Core Paths Plan

CORE PATHS AIM to satisfy the basic needs of local people and visitors for general access and recreation and will provide links to the wider path network throughout the Highland region. The Highland Council has launched a public consultation on the amendments of the Core Paths Plan for Caithness and Sutherland that will be open to comments until Friday 30th March. The changes affecting Ar-

dgay and Culrain are: **SU03.05** Badvoon Forest, Allt Eiteachan Path: Change of existing core path. **SU03.15(C)** Gledfield-Cona Creag: New section of core path. **SU08.04(C)** Loch a'Choire: New section of core path. **SU08.05(C)** Loch Mhic Mharsail: New section of core path. To review and submit your comments visit <http://consult.highland.gov.uk/portal/env/corepaths> ■



Ardgay & District News

Christmas lights past and future

THE CHRISTMAS lamppost lights didn't go up this year because there was not enough people or kit to make this possible. But the lights are in working order and still available. So we can decide to put them up for Christmas 2018. But this will require a team. A small group of people (4 say) prepared to arrange the necessary kit and help put these dozen lighting frames onto the holders on the lampposts. The frames are not too heavy but fairly awkward to handle; a cherry picker or similar needs arranged. Such a group might decide not to put



up all the lights or to use them in some alternative arrangement. We will have a meeting in the Autumn and can decide if we want to progress this. The Christmas tree did go up, on the green; looking lovely. A thank you to Marion, Phil, Andy

and Betty for arranging this. And a thank you to Paul Whittock who has managed the lights in previous years. And of course the wonderful lighting of the Gearrhoille which we thank Hayley Bangs and the team, which had input from KoSDT as well as Gearrhoille volunteers. It may be a consideration to work together on the Christmas lighting and events in future years. If a Christmas lighting team can be formed the options can be examined and we can see how best to get the happiest outcome from what is possible. ■ **Andy Wright**

ARDGAY & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL: **BETTY WRIGHT**, Chairperson, **SILVIA MURAS**, Vice Chair, **MARION TURNER**, Treasurer & Secretary, **ROB POPE**, **ANDY WRIGHT**, **DR BUSTER CRABB** (Co-opted member), **LESLIE POPE** (Associate member), **MARY GOULDER**, Minute Secretary

HOW TO CONTACT

ARDGAY & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL



By phone

01863 766 100 (Marion Turner, Secretary)



By mail

Marion Turner, Secretary A&DCC
Oldtown, Ardgay IV24 3DH



Email

secretary@ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk



Website

www.ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk



Facebook

Ardgay & District Community Council



Drop-in Sessions

We will be holding clinics from 1 to 4 pm at the Ardgay Stores on the following dates:

14 APRIL & 12 MAY

Please stop by for a cup of tea/coffee and chat.



In person

Just contact any member you know or come along to our meetings at Ardgay Public Hall, at 7 pm. Next meetings:

14 MAY & 11 JUNE (AGM)

COUNCILLORS NORTH, WEST & CENTRAL SUTHERLAND

Linda Munro 8, Munro Place, Bettyhill KW14 1TD
Tel 01641 521 366 linda.munro.cllr@highland.gov.uk

Kirsteen Currie Rowanwood, Lamington, Kildary, Invergordon
IV18 0PE Tel 07787 221 572 kirsteen.currie.cllr@highland.gov.uk

Hugh Morrison Orcadia, Lerin, Durness IV27 4QB
Tel 07557 566 543 hugh.morrison.cllr@highland.gov.uk

MSPS CAITHNESS, SUTHERLAND & ROSS

Gail Ross M5.13 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Tel 0131 348 5927 Gail.Ross.msp@parliament.scot

Donald Cameron M2.18 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Tel 0131 348 6989 Donald.Cameron.msp@parliament.scot

John Finnie MG.16 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Tel 0131 348 6898 John.Finnie.msp@parliament.scot

Rhoda Grant MG.06 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Tel 0131 348 5766 Rhoda.Grant.msp@parliament.scot

Edward Mountain M3.18 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Tel 0131 348 6143 Edward.Mountain.msp@parliament.scot

Douglas Ross M2.08 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Tel 0131 348 6140 Douglas.Ross.msp@parliament.scot

David Stewart MG.05 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Tel 0131 348 5766 David.Stewart.msp@parliament.scot

Maree Todd M4.05 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Tel 0131 348 5784 Maree.Todd.msp@parliament.scot

MP CAITHNESS, SUTHERLAND & EASTER ROSS

Jamie Stone House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA
Tel 01862 892 726 jamie.stone.mp@parliament.uk



Ardgay & District News



FOR VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE WILLING TO SUPPORT EMERGENCY SERVICES

Community Asset Register

BACK IN OCTOBER 2017 the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service launched the Community Asset Register (CAR). Essentially this is a register of volunteers who have a particular asset or skill which they feel could be used to support emergency services and responders at an incident.

Examples include someone with a boat who could be called in times of flooding to assist evacuate people from houses to a place of safety. Similarly someone with a 4x4 may be used in times of severe snow to transport vulnerable people to a community hall. Further information about the CAR can be found on the link below: <http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/news-campaigns/news/2017/10/sfrs-launches-community-as->

[set-register-\(1\).aspx](#) Unfortunately, it is impossible to gauge how often a volunteer will be requested. Mobilisations can be determined by severe weather, a specific type of asset/skill required for the incident, the emergency services availability and resources in the area and the location of the volunteer. It must be stressed that even when someone has registered, they are under no obligation to mobilise when they are called by the Operations Control centre. For anyone to register an interest and request a form they would be required to email: SFRS.CommunityAssetRegister@firescotland.gov.uk and a registration form will be sent to be completed along with guidelines on how to complete the registration process. ■

Closure of the Tain branch of the RBS

THE CLOSURE OF THE Royal Bank of Scotland Tain branch is planned for the 20th of June 2018. Public concern has prompted Gail Ross MSP to raise the matter with the Scottish Government. In order to demonstrate the impact that the closure would have on Tain's economy, Gail is currently undertaking a survey and asks that as many people as possible complete the survey, that can be accessed on: <http://eepurl.com/dc9Sdv>

Jamie Stone MP, who is been meeting with RBS representatives to voice the community concerns, organised a public rally on the 23rd February. He said, "Our local economy remains reliant on cash transactions, and the loss of another high street bank will make it increasingly difficult for businesses and organisations to deposit and withdraw the cash they need. The loss of over-the-counter banking is a serious threat to rural and ageing populations who do not have access to suitable broadband for digital banking."

(Full contact details for Gail Ross MSP and Jamie Stone MP on page 6) ■

Let's keep the flower tubs!

THE PLANTERS in the village have been looked after by a small group of volunteers which has dwindled in number; maintenance and watering has now become a big task for the last two volunteers. We need to work together to save the flowers.

We would like people, either individually or as a family to adopt a tub. We can arrange compost

and plants for the tubs and even fix a date for planting. Then all that needs done is for the tubs to be watered through the summer.

To get things going, please come along for a chat and cup of tea in Ardgay hall on Tues 27th March at 5pm. If you would like to

join in but can't make that meeting, you can contact me by email betty.wright555@gmail.com or phone 01863755316.

I hope you agree that this is worth doing to improve the attractiveness of the village. ■ **Betty Wright**





Ardgay & District News

1968-2018: Ardgay Public Hall 50th Anniversary

The new Ardgay Public Hall building was officially opened in December 1968. The committee would be grateful to receive photos and hear family stories from that time.

AT THE START OF every New Year don't we all, at some point, pause to reflect on the past and start planning for the future? Well, that's certainly what happened at the January meeting of the hall committee; a meeting which would not have been taking place but for another which was held in the Balnagown Hall on the 9th of February 1966; where "despite the inclement weather a good attendance of the public was present." but at which the secretary had to declare that the committee "could not accept any liability for any accidents which might occur during the meeting." As the insurance company had refused cover due to the plaster on the roof having been condemned.

Finally, however, it was agreed "that the committee should immediately tackle the problems of raising money, making the existing hall safe and carrying on with the plans for the new hall."

And, didn't they do well? 34 months later, in December 1968 the official opening of the present hall took place. And without the hall would there be a Badminton Club, Ladybird Club, Country Dancing Club, etc, etc, today? Makes you think doesn't it?

It's hoped to mark this Golden Milestone later in the year, but in the meantime today's committee would

love to hear from you if you have any memories of the building project. Has anyone got photos of the work in progress? It's known it got off to a slow start in January '68 "due to bad weather and the breakdown of the bulldozer." and what about that first concert? Were you there? Do you



The new hall was built in land adjacent to the Balnagown Hall (stone building in the right).

have any family stories to share of the official opening? Please, get in touch with any of the committee if you do.

Strange as life is, the 2018 committee also have an insurance issue to deal with. For several years Highland Council have handled the hall insurance but as of April this year that will cease. So, following professional advice, the necessity of an up-to-date and independent insurance valuation was agreed. The prediction is that this will result in an unavoidable increase in the annual insurance premium, to something well over the £1,000 currently budgeted for, plus the cost of the valuation, which was an unforeseen call on hall funds. So if you have any fund-raising ideas for the future, the committee would be delighted to hear from you.

Or, next time you shop online with Amazon, you could consider using AmazonSmile. This is said to be a simple and automatic way for you to support Ardgay Public Hall every time you shop, at no cost to you. Amazon will donate a portion of the net purchase price to the hall.

You use the same account on amazon.co.uk and AmazonSmile. But

when you first visit smile.amazon.co.uk - and before you begin shopping - you need to select Ardgay Public Hall as your charity. Amazon will remember your selection, and then for every eligible purchase you make on AmazonSmile, they will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price to the hall. As we all know 'many a mickle makes a muckle' so, please, spread the word to your friends and family.

You could also tell them that although hall funds are tight, it's been decided to keep the current hall charges as they are for the next year - unless any unforeseen circumstance dictates otherwise; with the hope that this will help all the user groups themselves to remain viable.

And with the financial situation being as it is the committee were extremely grateful to hear that their application for grant aid to repaint the hall's exterior woodwork has recently been approved by the E.ON Rosehall Community Fund supported by Foundation Scotland. This very necessary work will now take place as soon as is practicable. ■ **Rhonwen Copley**, Secretary

amazonsmile

New way to fundraise: Amazon will donate 0.5% of your net purchase price to the hall.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

 Ardgay Public Hall



Ardgay & District News



*Ardgay
Badminton Club
in the 70s, 80s
and 90s. Do
you recognise
someone?*

© PHOTOS COURTESY
OF GREGOR LAING

Badminton was great but what about Dracula

I AM DELIGHTED TO hear that Ardgay Badminton Club is alive and well. It reminds me of our Junior Badminton Club which was run in Ardgay during the 1950s by Bunty Cameron (later Gordon) and often assisted by Pansy Ross. Weekly badminton – and the collection of my “School Friend” magazine from Mary’s bookstall, on the station platform on Tuesdays – were the highlights of my life! We met once a week after school in the old Balnagown Hall, which always smelt of cigarette smoke and other post-dance odours which we children knew very little about! Usually the kindly Alec Aird, coughing and smoking at the same time, was there to let us in but if not, we collected the huge key from his house across the road. The wide door

in the gable end of the hall was always stiff and difficult to open. Alec would switch on the wall-mounted one-bar electric heaters which didn’t seem to make much difference to the temperature! Bunty was very strict about behaviour but we enjoyed learning to play and to umpire properly. When we played for the Junior Cup we had to turn up dressed smartly in white blouses or shirts (did we have shorts then? I don’t think so!) and there had to be complete silence during games. It was all so exciting!

I used to find it difficult to concentrate at school in those days, as my mind was on the match and whether I would have a chance of winning. We played singles and doubles. If I remember rightly, Heckie Jack and I won the junior cup a few times. As our junior bad-

minton was ending, the teenagers and grown-ups turned up and occasionally they would let us stay for a wee while to watch them play. We would then leave to “do devilment” (yes, that’s what we called it!) around the station, the post office and Fergie’s bar. The station was a busy place in those days with a stationmaster and porters. The arrival of the evening (steam) train was quite an exciting event. The waiting room always had a blazing fire inside where we could warm ourselves on frosty nights. Mary the bookstall, of course, kept an eye on us so that we didn’t get up to too much mischief as we knew she would tell our parents!

We loved playing in the dark and liked to frighten ourselves with ghost stories and tales of graves opening

up and revealing the dead. I think Ian Dunbar was the chief story teller. How was I to get home on my own, in the dark? By that time, there were street lights but only in the village. I lived up at the Old School in Church Street, and had to say goodbye to my friends at the Poplars Farm and then I was plunged into darkness. How I wished that we lived in the lovely new council houses in Manse Road, with their colourful brightly-lit windows. Dracula was hiding behind every bush, waiting to spring out on me! So it wasn’t just badminton, it was all the fun that went with it, that made our lives so enjoyable and it’s all thanks to wonderful people like Bunty and Pansy who gave so much of their time to us when we were children. ■ Lily Byron



Ardgay & District News

Falls of Shin shortlisted for a Scottish RICS Award 2018

THE FALLS OF SHIN Visitor Attraction has been shortlisted for a Scottish RICS Award 2018 in the following three categories: Community Benefit, Design Through Innovation, and Tourism and Leisure.

The 27 shortlisted properties are the most innovative and collaborative projects delivered in Scotland this year. The category winners will then go forth for the acclaimed Project of the Year title. All category winners will go on to compete against other regional winners at the national RICS Awards Grand Final in November 2018, for the chance to be crowned the overall UK winner in their respective category. ■

RICS Awards
2018
Shortlisted

The Visitor Attraction, shortlisted for a Scottish Rural Award 2018

FALLS OF SHIN has been shortlisted for a Scottish Rural Award in the Rural Tourism category. The shortlist spans 11 categories which celebrate all aspects of rural life, from food and tourism, education, conservation and agriculture.

A winner, runner-up and highly commended in each category will be unveiled at the Scottish Rural Awards & Gala Dinner, on 22nd March 2018. Browse the full list of Scottish Rural Awards finalists at www.scottishruralawards.org. ■ **Kirstin Langlois**
✉ kirstin@kyleofsutherland.co.uk



Falls of Shin Visitor Attraction: new wedding venue in the Highlands

Situated just off the famous North Coast 500 Route, Falls of Shin makes an ideal base for a Highland wedding with a twist

DESPITE ITS SETTING in an ancient woodland, the Falls of Shin venue has cutting edge architecture. After the original building was destroyed in a fire in 2013; the Falls of Shin Visitor Attraction reopened in May 2017 to much acclaim. Built by local charity the Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust and designed by Catriona Hill of CH Architecture; the building is based on the concept of a leaping salmon.

The cafe that can comfortably seat 60 people has been recognised for its stunning design. The couple can choose to hold their ceremony inside the venue or outside with the falls as an impressive backdrop. Both the building with its trellis walkway framed by a beautiful handcrafted

metallic sculpture of a salmon's tail, and the grass plaza; as well as the surrounding woodland offer a range of fantastic photo opportunities.

Dale Pryde-MacDonald, Falls of Shin Experience Officer from the KOSDT said, "Our aim is to provide couples with a memory to last a lifetime. There are so many options available: from having the ceremony on the viewing platform, to having wedding photos taken in the woodlands, it truly is a beautiful backdrop. Marquees can also be brought on site for larger wedding parties." ■ **Dale Pryde-MacDonald**, Falls of Shin Experience officer

✉ Dale@kyleofsutherland.co.uk

☎ 01863 766 190

☎ 07387 630 904

Parking at Falls of Shin

Responding to an article published in the media on 14/02/18, regarding new parking charges proposed in towns and tourist hot spots by the Highland Council, Helen Houston, Development Manager at The Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust, commented: "The Falls of Shin Visitor Attraction car park is the property of Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust and we will not be introducing parking charges at Falls of Shin." ■

HELD IN ARDGAY HALL ON THE 25TH JANUARY 2018

Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust AGM

CHAIRMAN PETE CAMPBELL gave the Trust Annual Report. The fabulous new facility **Falls of Shin Visitor Attraction** opened in May 2017. An Experience officer has been appointed to organise events which will bring more visitors. From June 2017 to January 2018: 90,000 visitors to date, 13 employment opportunities. **Ardgay Regeneration Project.** The aim was to refurbish the historical barn to provide high quality, accessible, affordable and flexible serviced office space for business start-ups, entrepreneurs and for the KoSDT, and to create a new village square with public parking and area interpretation panels. The project is now complete and all the units have been allocated 26 people in total work in the Barn. Albyn Housing Association will commence construction in the spring on the terraces of four houses. **Keep Active Together.** The KAT activities are provided in the community halls across the area it makes the activities accessible and also provides halls with income. **Community Café.** Funding for this project has been provided by the Scottish Government's Fair Food Transformation Fund. The café started on November 2016 operating in Bonar Bridge Community Hall. The aver-

age number attending per session is 60. **Cosy Homes East Sutherland.** Funding for this project ended in March 2017. It delivered energy efficiency measures to 217 households in East Sutherland. **ESEAS.** With funding from the Climate Challenge Fund an energy advice service was established in April 2017 to cover East Sutherland. **Community Engagement team** working with Sutherland Community Partnership to develop locality plans. **Project Inspire:** marketing and contract manager developing projects and promoting activities. **Income generation** through providing project management to other communities i.e. Embo Trust.

Accounts. This year due to the amount of funds going through the accounts the Trust had a full audit. Incoming resources for the year totalled £1,815,510 of which £1,747,879 arose from restricted funding. At 30 June 2017 the unrestricted fund had a balance of £35,397.

Election of Office Bearers. Standing down as directors were Graeme Askew and Marion Turner. There was a special mention of the contribution that founder member Marion Turner has made to the organisation during the past six years. ■

**KoSDT**

The Barn, Drovers Square, Ardgay IV24 3DH

☎ 01863 766 190

✉ development@kyleofsutherland.co.uk



@KOSutherland



Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust

Bonar Bridge Post Office

POST OFFICE

SERVICES AVAILABLE:

- Cash deposits and withdrawals via chip and pin
- Postal services
- Post Office® card account
- Postal orders
- Moneygram
- Electronic bill payments
- E top-ups
- Pre-order travel money
- Car tax
- Euro and US dollar currency



Ardgay Stores & Highland Café

OPENING TIMES:

Monday 7am-8pm

Tuesday 7am-8pm

Wednesday 7am-8pm

Thursday 7am-9pm

Friday 7am-8pm

Saturday 8am-8pm

Sunday 8:30-7pm

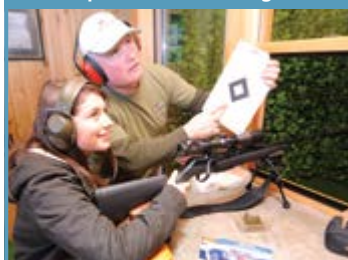


Local venison, beef, pork, shellfish, beers and whiskies.

Convivial dining in the Kyle of Sutherland

Tuesday to Saturday from 6.30 pm

Open all year - booking always recommended

Bonar Bridge, Sutherland
IV24 3EB01863 766 111
www.crannag.comTraditional Sporting Activities
for experienced and beginners

HIGHLAND SHOOTING CENTRE

Air Rifle, Air Pistol, Airsoft, Archery, Clay Shooting, Full Bore Rifle Shooting, Indoor Underground Rifle Range, Laser Shooting Simulator, Photography Safaris, Shotgun Shooting and Wildlife Expedition Safaris.

Check out our website and Facebook page

BURNSIDE, ALTASS, LAIRG IV27 4EU • Tel. 01549 409 129
info@highlandshootingcentre.com

Your advert could be HERE



400

PAPER COPIES
DISTRIBUTED **FOR FREE**
TO ALL HOUSEHOLDS
IN THE ARDGAY
& DISTRICT AREA

400

DIGITAL COPIES
DISTRIBUTED
BY **EMAIL**
(AND
GROWING)

500+

TIMES EACH
EDITION IS
DOWNLOADED
FROM OUR
WEBSITE

Contact us at ardgaynewsletter@gmail.com



Ardgay & District News



Sarah Orell (Treasurer) Ashley & Tracey Smith (Chairman and Secretary of HOST).

First year success for HOST

Heart of Sutherland Tourism (HOST) is celebrating its first year of operation after its launch at the end of 2016.

THE GROUP WAS SET UP to help local businesses attract more customers, encourage more visitors to central Sutherland and establish the region's identity.

Operating within the Lairg, Altnaharra, Oykel and Ardgay region, HOST has attracted over 50 local business members covering accommodation providers, restaurants, food & crafts producers, visitor attractions and non tourism related companies.

HOST, which is staffed by volunteers raised start-up funding from SSE Achany Windfarm Fund, which has been used to set up a website and carry out promotional activities through social media.

With increasing visitor numbers to the region due to the success of the NC500, HOST has attracted encouragement from the North Coast 500 organisation with the purpose of including the heart of Sutherland region to visitors' itin-

eraries and enhance their visit to the Northern Highlands.

Ashley Smith, HOST chairman and local B & B owner stated "We have been so pleased with how successful our first year has been, welcoming many new members and culminating with the launch of our website. We hope that this and an active social media campaign promoting this wonderful area and the businesses found here will help launch an economic boost from tourism for the area. We are also working hard to provide additional benefits for our membership such as training opportunities, and early in 2018 we will be hosting some digital boost workshops in conjunction with Business Gateway."

Membership, which is currently free, is open to all businesses in the heart of Sutherland who wish to benefit from its promotional activities to attract more visitors. Their website is now ready for the 2018 season and HOST would be happy to welcome new members. ■

Tracey Smith, HOST Secretary

☎ 01549 441 783

www.heartofsutherland.co.uk

✉ secretary@heartofsutherland.co.uk

KYLE OF SUTHERLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BONAR BRIDGE HISTORY GROUP

Your local Heritage Society programme for 2018

THANK YOU TO those members and friends who came to the Bradbury Centre on Tuesday 13th February. More of this type of gathering will be arranged for next year. The arranged programme for 2018 is:

- March 13th **Brochs**
- April 10th **Raptors** (Ashley Smith)
- May 8th **Plight of Bees**
- June 12th **Restoration of Kirk Michael**
- July 10th **Edderton Preaching Ark**
- August 11th **Kilimanjaro** (Cameron Munro)
- September 11th **AGM** and some music
- October: **21st Anniversary Party** (hopefully if we can get funding and help)

All these above are Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm at the Heritage Centre (Kincardine Old Church) beside the cemetery in Ardgay. Regretfully we have to postpone the usual Art Show held over Easter. The committee will hope to reconvene the event later in the year. All offers of assistance gratefully received.

For the remainder of 2018, all enquiries regarding the Heritage Society or Kincardine Old Church, events, access, etc should be addressed to Valerie Mackenzie-Harris using the contact details below. Sorry no Internet or email connection. ■ **Valerie Mackenzie-Harris**
Elmbank, Lairg Road Bonar Bridge IV24 3EA.

☎ 01863 766 700



Ardgay & District News



Michael came to the Centre to entertain us with his accordion at our Burns lunch.



Bradbury Centre's 20th Anniversary

The Wellbeing Centre is a great place to make new friends and catch up with old ones, now covering a large area including Dornoch and Tain.

THIS YEAR WE CELEBRATE our 20th Anniversary, in that time the centre has changed from a Day Care centre for 12 people twice a week with lunch club on four days to a Wellbeing centre for up to 24 people a day. The centre focuses on supporting the health and wellbeing of our clients with activities that help maintain physical and mental health. As we now cover a large area which includes Tain and Dornoch, the centre is a great place to make new friends and catch up with old ones that you perhaps have lost touch with. In this 20th year we hope to celebrate with an event at the centre but as yet no date has been set.

In the last few months we have had lots of entertainers at the centre including Jon Jessop (Dornoch) who got us all up dancing and singing with his great guitar playing, also Michael (ex bus Driver) came along to entertain us with his accordion at our Burns lunch. Just before Christmas we had Vida Laurinaviciene playing

her violin accompanied by John Brozovsky on piano. This was all possible due to the Friends of the Bradbury who received funding from the three local Community Councils (Creich, Ardgay & Lairg). We also had Highland Reflexology coming in fortnightly through this funding. Julia McGee Music & Movement also comes along every 2 weeks to keep us active.

We now have Tracy Campbell from Community Care Forum attending the centre to treat the clients to hand massage, nail filing and soon nail clipping. This is a great service that everyone is enjoying and benefiting from.

Our Christmas party was held on the 20th December with entertainment by Monica & Trish and a lovely lunch. This year the staff, board, & volunteers contributed towards six hampers which were then given to clients by a free raffle. We would like to thank R J Macleod, Ardgay Game, Tain Fine Cheese, Bookers,

Morrison's (Alness), & Stockans Orkney for their kind donations towards our party.

This Christmas we made wreaths which we then sold, the money going towards our craft funds, so next year if you need a wreath please keep us in mind.

We are in the process of completing funding applications for our extension so watch this space!

We look forward to a busy, fun year ahead with lots of new activities to come. If you would like to attend the Bradbury centre or volunteer please contact Lorraine on 01863766772. Please follow us on Facebook and take a look at our new webpage www.bradburycentre.co.uk. ■ **Lorraine Askew**



The Bradbury Centre

☎ **01863 766 772**

www.bradburycentre.co.uk

✉ bradburydaycare@btconnect.com



Ardgay & District News

IN AID OF EAST & CENTRAL SUTHERLAND CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Get Fit & Fundraise 148 Mile Challenge

EAST & CENTRAL Sutherland Citizens Advice Bureau are challenging local residents to 'Get Fit & Fundraise' for their 148 Mile Challenge. Participants are encouraged to walk, run, swim and cycle 148 miles over the month of March to highlight the size of the geographical area that the organisation covers; 148 miles is roughly the distance that it takes to drive around all of the

villages in their catchment area.

Manager, Rhionna Mackay, says, "Following the recent 10% cut to our core funding and a number of our other income streams coming to an end we are facing a difficult time. Many people don't realise that all CABs are independent and that East & Central Sutherland CAB are a local charity. We rely on grants and fundraising

to fund parts of our service and in order to continue meeting our increasing demand we need to secure further sources of income. Last year we helped over 1000 people with nearly 9000 different issues to secure financial gains of over £1.1million through benefit applications, debt write offs and much more. This year we have already surpassed this and are on target to hit £1.5million by the end of March which means that for every £1 of core funding we receive we have helped to generate over £15. A new fundraising strategy has been developed and local fundraising and community engagement are more important than ever for us."

To celebrate the end of the 148 Mile Challenge

a Coffee Morning is being held on Friday 30th March between 10am and 12pm in the office on Station Road, Golspie. Anyone who wishes to donate to the fundraiser can do so through Just Giving, search for East and Central Sutherland Citizens Advice Bureau. To request a fundraising pack call 01408 633000 or email advice@esvas.casonline.org.uk. You can follow the progress of the challenge on social media by searching for #148milechallenge.

Being free to access is one of the main principles of the Citizens Advice Bureau and no one would ever be expected to donate in order to receive advice or support from the service. ■

Rihonna Mackay, Manager

East & Central Sutherland Citizens Advice Bureau



☎ 01408 633 000

✉ advice@esvas.casonline.org.uk

The Embo Village Lifeline Project






THE KYLE OF SUTHERLAND Development Trust is delighted to be contracted by the Embo Trust to carry out project management of the Embo Village Lifeline Project. This will involve working with Morrison Construction and Blueprint Architecture to transform the old school into a lively hub with a community shop, cafe and village hall to create a focal point for village life. Works have already started on site. The Project is also funded by: Big Lottery, The Highland Council, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, SSE Beatrice Fund, Leader, SSE Sustainable Fund, Robertson Trust, The John Gordon Legacy and Carbon Clever. ■

ARDGAY & DISTRICT Community Council newsletter

Advertising Tariff

- ✓ Design available Contact us to get a quote
- ✓ Get help with sizes & files
- ✓ Reach 100% of your target
- ✓ Boost your business for less

Great discounts if you book for the whole year!

	Full Page size A4 £40	Book for the whole year (4 issues) and get £10 discount! £160 £150
	Half Page size A5 - landscape £20	Book for the whole year (4 issues) and get £5 discount! £80 £75
	1/3 Page size A5 - portrait £20	Book for the whole year (4 issues) and get £3 discount! £80 £75
	1/4 Page size A6 - portrait £10	Book for the whole year (4 issues) and get £2 discount! £40 £38
	Module Smallest size £5	Size 100 mm x 55 mm The whole year will cost you ONLY £20!

Next
edition:
15th
June

BOOKING & ENQUIRIES:
Silvia Muras
01863 766 690

ardgaynewsletter@gmail.com



Ardgay & District News



The pictures show the children going around the circuit and using the different obstacles to improve their riding and steering.

Balance bike sessions in Invershin

A six-week block of balance bike sessions was organised from October to December in Invershin Hall, following a successful session in the Kyle of Sutherland Gala week.

THE INVERSHIN HALL committee applied to Creich and Ardgay & District Community Councils, and are very grateful for their financial support to pay for the coach and equipment. Also thanks go to the Keep Active Together Project for the use of their balance bikes for children who didn't have their own. Amanda Wagstaffe, who is a coach at East Sutherland Wheelers Cycling Club, led the sessions. Balance bikes are a great way for young children to learn to steer

and balance on a bike before a pedal bike is introduced, but there should be no need for stabilisers!

A total of 18 children took part in the sessions; children came from Invershin, Lairg, Ardgay, Bonar Bridge, Edderton and Golspie! All children showed an improvement over the weeks, had a fun time and enjoyed making new friends. The children, aged 2-5 years old, learned to go over ramps, through a tunnel, over a see-saw,

riding over different surfaces and in and out of cones. They were also challenged to go around the circuit as fast as they could and then try and beat their time on a second attempt.

There are plans in place to run another 6 week block in 2018. The parents have also been contacted to gain feedback on the sessions. One commented: "My son had never gone on a bike before and now has developed great balance for transition to a proper bike". ■ **Elissa Steven**

Ardgay in the 1920s

The photograph -taken in the early 1920s- shows the village looking East with the new War Memorial. Standing outside the grocer's shop is the owner David Mackay, his wife Helen and their family and a few friends. After the enormous effort of the First World War, which took the lives of 114 men from the Kyle of Sutherland, in the inter-war years most of the lodges in the area still employed full-time housekeepers, domestic staff, gardeners, ghillies and game keepers. They also provided seasonal and part-time employment as did the farms. Other big employers in the area were the Railway, the Post Office, and the Chraggandhu, Ardchronie, and Inveran quarries. ■

© PHOTO COURTESY OF DONALD BROWN





Ardgay & District News

How to apply for Community Awards

SMALL PROJECTS UNDER £250

The Beinn nan Oighrean Windfarm Awards

- Go to Ardgay & District CC website: **www.ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk/funding** where you can find full details and download the application form.
- Send your completed application form to **secretary@ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk**

PROJECTS UNDER £2,000

The Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm Community Benefit Fund

- Go to **<http://ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk/funding/windfarmcommunitybenefit/>** to download the guidelines and application form.
- Send your completed application form to **secretary@ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk** and to **alex.macmanus@highland.gov.uk**

BETWEEN £2,000 AND £10,000+

SSE Achany Community Fund

- Visit the fund's page **sse.com/beingresponsible/responsiblecommunitymember/localcommunity-funds/achany** for more info and to download the application form. Please note that there are two different forms: £2,000-£10,000 and £10,000+.
- Complete and return to **fiona.morrison@sse.com** or by Royal Mail to: **Fiona Morrison**, Corporate Affairs, SSE, 10 Henderson Road, Inverness, IV1 1SN
- Next deadline: **30 April 2018**

BETWEEN £2,000 AND £25,000+

E.ON Rosehall Community Fund

- **Foundation Scotland** administers E.ON Rosehall Community Fund. Visit **www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/eon-rosehall.aspx** for details. You can apply online or download the application forms (£2,000-£25,000 and £25,000+).
- Alternatively, you can contact **Carol Elliot** by email **carol@foundationscotland.org.uk** or call **07500 779 227** if you require any further information or advice.
- Next deadline: **30 April 2018**

EAST & CENTRAL SUTHERLAND CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU SUPPORTED BY E.ON ROSEHALL COMMUNITY FUND

New funding for part time advice worker in Central Sutherland

EAST & CENTRAL Sutherland CAB has secured £30,000 through the E.ON Rosehall Community Fund to fund a part time advice worker for Ardgay & District, Creich and Lairg Community Council areas. The Bureau demonstrated the need for the project showing that in just the three areas during last financial year it had helped almost 200 local people who in total benefitted by over a quarter of a million pounds.

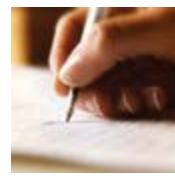
Rhionna Mackay, Manager of the CAB said they are able to offer help and advice to people in many ways not all of which can be measured. "We can help cli-

ents to claim benefits that they are entitled to such as Personal Independence Payment, Universal Credit, Attendance Allowance and Council Tax Reduction. We can offer advice and support with employment related payments such as redundancies and wage/holiday underpayments; consumer refunds; claiming grants; reducing and sorting out utility bills; helping clients to switch their utility suppliers and writing off debts, as well as a wide range of other topics" she said.

"This award will cover the salary of a part time adviser for two days

per week for three years to deliver 2 outreach advice clinics per week, up to 4 home visits per week and quarterly outreach sessions at the Bradbury Centre." she added.

The dates and venues for outreach clinics is being finalised and when the project launches this information will be well publicised through posters and flyers, email newsletters, local press and through local organisations. For further information about the project please contact Rhionna Mackay, Manager by emailing **advice@esvas.casonline.org.uk** or calling 01408 633 000. ■



Letters to the editor

Do you have a strong feeling about something you read? Do you want to share your opinion or point of view? Send your letters to ardgaynewsletter@gmail.com.

Mobile banking in Ardgay and Bonar

MAY I, THROUGH your letters page, ask any resident of Ardgay and district who would like to see some measure of local banking service provided to Ardgay, to write to The Mangers of the following branches, both of which currently operate a Mobile Banking Service to Bonar Bridge.

Bank of Scotland, Tower Street, Tain IV19 1DY
Royal Bank of Scotland, 11, Olrig Street, Thurso KW14 7BL

Whilst I will not deny the distance from Ardgay to Bonar is comparatively small, it still pose a large obstacle to accessing face-to-face banking facilities for those who do not have private transport or have mobility problems that inhibits journeys by public transport. Not everyone, especially the elderly, is comfortable with, or even has private access to, the internet.

With the creation of new public car parking in the centre of the village there would seem no physical barrier to establishing a mobile banking service; a service which would restore a measure of 'local' banking facilities for both extant and potential businesses; helping to support this economically fragile area and positive-

ly enabling easier access to services for those who currently experience difficulties. ■

Rhonwen Copley, *Ardgay*

Kincardine Hill road surface

I AM WRITING regarding the new road surface on Kincardine Hill, Ardgay, which was resurfaced in preparation for the timber harvesting at Garvary Forest. There are concerns as to the road surface in the cold weather conditions. The new surface is extremely slippery. Some members of the community have discussed this and it was advised to contact the CC and that residents would contact the Highland Council individually.

Following the resurfacing of the road on Kincardine Hill the surface is too smooth which has led to very slippery conditions in freezing conditions. It has been the cause of six accidents recently and three near misses. There has been one car leave the road and crash through a gate, a car and a van crash into a home owners fence, a council gritter crash into land near the main road junction, a car leaving the road on the bend near Kincardine House, and two further accidents at the main road junction. The near misses have been where three local residents have overshot the

junction to the main road, due to the angle of the descent and no traction being possible due to ice. If vehicles had been on the main road at the time this could have led to serious incidents. The Council gritter does not arrive on the road until after 8:30 am which is after the majority of the community have left for work. Local residents have had to grit the road every morning when the temperature falls to freezing. Pre-

viously before the road surface was changed, this was not common practice and accidents were significantly less and only due to excess speed. The community are requesting an urgent review of the tarmac surface. This is also an issue for pedestrians as there is no separate footpath. It is like an ice rink in the bad weather and the elderly can not walk on it causing people to be unable to leave their homes. ■

Alison Moore, *Ardgay*

Bonar Bridge Gaelic Playgroup *Croileagan a' Chaolais*

CAR BOOT SALE
SATURDAY 24th MARCH

BONAR BRIDGE HALL
10 am - 12 noon
Free entry. £5 per table
Teas and home baking served

For more info:
Lucy 07917 202 383
lucywilliams22@outlook.com



Playgroup Fridays
Bonar Bridge Hall
12.30 to 2.30
Suggested donation 50 p.

What's on in the area



7
MAY

DORNOCH, 3-5 PM

Beltane Fire Festival

Gather at 3 pm in The Square. Celebrating the life of Hector Gunn, the dragon slayer of Dornoch, there will be dancing, well dressing, lantern parade, a street performance and fire! Bucket Collection. www.visitdornoch.com



28
MARCH

ARDGAY PUBLIC HALL, 1-3 PM

Children's Art Exhibition

Exhibition of all the entries of Ardgay & District Community Council Newsletter 2nd Children's Art Competition. Prize giving ceremony at 1:30 pm. Free and all welcome.

UNTIL

SUTHERLAND WIDE YOYP

25
MAY

Photo Challenge 2018

Open to all people living in Sutherland who attend P7 or High School. Prizes will be given to Originality, Landscape, Nature, People, and the photo taken furthest away from Timespan. The photos will feature in an exhibition in Timespan in July. For more info and to submit your entries: helen.cairns2@highlifehighland.com



FROM

AMAT, ROAD FROM ARDGAY TO CROICK

9
JUNE

Charity Garden Opening Day: Amat

Riverside garden surrounded by the old Caledonian Amat Forest. Saturday 9th / Sunday 10th June, 2 pm - 5 pm. Admission £5, children free.



24

MARCH

BONAR BRIDGE HALL 10 AM- 12 NOON

Car Boot Sale

In aid of Croileagan a' Chaolais, Gaelic Play-group Bonar Bridge. All kinds of items. Free entry. Tea & home baking. £5/table. For more info: Lucy Williams 07917 202 383. lucywilliams22@outlook.com.

19

MAY

DORNOCH TO JOHN O' GROATS

Classic Car Tour

4th annual East Sutherland Classic Car tour. The circular route takes in the majestic scenery of the north east Highland coast. Cars gather in Dornoch Square from 8:30am ready for a 9:30 start, allowing



locals and visitors to inspect the cars before waving them on their way.

19

MAY

ARDGAY PUBLIC HALL, 7:30

Scottish Country Dancing Annual Rally

Ardgay Scottish Country Dancing Club's Rally will take place on Saturday 19th May, from 7:30 to midnight. Come and dance with a live band. Contact: David Hannah: 01863 766 061



10

APRIL

KINCARDINE OLD CHURCH, ARDGAY

Raptors

Talk by Ashley Smith organised by the Kyle of Sutherland Heritage Society with the Bonar Bridge History Group. 7:30 pm. Heritage Centre, Kincardine Old Church, beside the cemetery in Ardgay.



A Spring full of music



SUPPORT FROM RUAIRIDH GOLLAN & CALUM MCILROY

30 **Mike Vass & Mairearad Green with Seán Gray**

MARCH

The Touring Network presents Mike Vass & Mairearad Green with Seán Gray. Support from Ruairidh Gollan & Calum McIlroy. Friday 30th March, 7:30 pm, Edderton Village Hall. Raffle & Tea/Coffee. Tickets: £10 / £8 available online at eventbrite or on the door. For more information: www.thetouringnetwork.com



27 **Simon Thacker, Songs of Roma**

APRIL

Thacker draws on and extends European, Indian and Balkan folk forms, and of course flamenco, on a mystic road to new soundworlds in music. Tickets: £10 / £8. Hall booking line: 01349 880591 or: www.ardrosscommunityhall.ticketsource.co.uk

13 **Gnoss**

APRIL

Presented by Sutherland Sessions. Gnoss are a four-piece of fiddle, flute, guitar and percussion, that tackle energetic tune sets and folk song. Invershin Hotel at 8 pm. Tickets £10 / £7, under 12s free, available from www.gnoss.eventbrite.co.uk



SUTHERLAND SESSIONS GREAT BIG EASTER EVENT

31

MARCH

BRORA GOLF CLUB, 8:30 PM

Saltfishforty

Traditional and original music from Orkney.

Tickets: £12 / £10, under 12s free, available from www.saltfishforty.eventbrite.co.uk



1

APRIL

LAIRG HALL, 7:30 PM

Old blind dogs

Traditional Scottish folk music and Celtic music. Licenced. Tickets £13 / £11, under 12s free, available from www.oldblinddogs.eventbrite.co.uk



2

APRIL

DORNOCH SOCIAL CLUB, 7:30PM

Mairearad and Anna

Mairearad Green (accordion and bagpipes) and Anna Massie (guitar, banjo, fiddle). Tickets £12 / £9, under 12s free, available from www.mairearadandanna.eventbrite.co.uk



Sutherland Sessions Great Big Easter Weekend.
March 31st / April 1st and 2nd. Tickets available from www.greatbigeaster.eventbrite.co.uk

17

MAY

SUTHERLAND SESSIONS

The Poozies

The Poozies revolutionised traditional Scottish and Gaelic music in the 1990s. Fountain Road Church Hall, Golspie. 7:30 pm. Tickets available soon.

1

JUNE

ARDGAY PUBLIC HALL 7:30 PM

Dàimh

Presented by Sutherland Sessions. Dàim is a Folk band performing in Gaelic based around West Lochaber and the Isle of Skye. Tickets available soon.

Adult Clubs & Societies



Creich & Kincardine Art Group

Meets in Bonar Bridge Hall tearoom on Wednesdays from 10 am to 3 pm. All welcome. Contact: **Doreen Bruce**
 ☎ 01863 766 852

Pilates

Bonar Bridge Hall, Mondays 10-11 am. Contact: **Maira Chisholm**
 ☎ 01862 810 786

Ardgay Scottish Country Dancing Club

Ardgay Public Hall at 7:30 pm. Classes until 24th April. It will re-start on Tuesday 2nd October. Contact: **David Hannah**
 ☎ 01863 766 061

Ardgay Badminton Club

ADULTS: Monday and Thursday evenings at Ardgay Hall, 8 - 10 pm £2 per night. Until Thursday 26th April Contact **Gregor Laing**
 ☎ 01863 766 223
JUNIORS (P4 +): Thursday evenings at Ardgay Hall, 7 - 8 pm. £1. Until the 22nd March. Contact **Patricia Hannah**
 ☎ 01863 766 061
 Alternative sessions organised by KAT, Wednesdays 10 am - 12 pm.
 ☎ 01863 766 702

Sutherland Walkers Club

We meet the 4th Sunday of the month, all year round.
SUNDAY 25 MARCH
 North Kessock - Kilmuir - Taindore - Ord Hill. OS 26 658 479 Approx. 10 miles, circular. Woodland and forestry paths, coast and fields, Kilmuir village and short walk on road, all low level. Leader: Patricia Hannah: 01863 766 061
Contact the Walk Leader the day before the walk to confirm that it is taking place. Summer programme available soon. Contact: **David Hannah**
 ☎ 01863 766 061

Edderton & District Gardening Club

Meetings start at 7:30 pm in Edderton Community Hall. Sarah Whealing from Corrycroft Nursery will pay a welcome return visit for the April meeting. Because of the Easter bank holiday the April meeting will be on Monday 9th. New members and visitors are always welcome. **Patricia** ☎ 01863 766 061 **pahannah@hotmail.com**
Esther ☎ 01862 811 381 **esther@bumblebeecottage.me.uk**



Tai Chi

Ardgay Public Hall. Monday 2:30 pm £2 Contact: **Angela**
 ☎ 01549 421 336



Kyle of Sutherland Growing Group

Meetings last Monday of the month at Invershin Hall from 7-9 pm. All aspects of growing fruit, vegetables and flowers, including gardening for wildlife.
26 MARCH: Taking Different types of Cuttings.
30 APRIL: Planning for Vegetable Growing.
28 MAY: Common Pests and Diseases.
Beginning gardeners are especially welcome.
 Contact: **Jean**
 ☎ 01863 760 190

Bonar Bridge Ardgay Golf Club

Market Stance, Migdale Road, Bonar Bridge.
 ☎ 01863 766 199

Ardgay & Culrain SWI

All ages welcome. Ardgay Public Hall 7:30 pm. Meets on the 3rd Tuesday each month until the end of May. Contact: **Mrs Gillian Glennie**
 ☎ 01863 766 674

Kyle of Sutherland Joggers

Facebook page: **Kyle of Sutherland Joggers**
 Contact:
Elissa ☎ 07743 228 661
Naomi ☎ 07818 482 341
Catriona ☎ 07929 886 105

Kyle of Sutherland Heritage Society

With Bonar Bridge History Group. Tuesdays 7:30 pm at the Heritage Centre, Ardgay.
10 APRIL: Raptors.
8 MAY: Plight of bees.
12 JUNE: Restoration of Kirk Michael. Contact: **Valerie Mackenzie-Harris**
 ☎ 01863 766 700
 Facebook: **Kyle of Sutherland Heritage Society**

Sutherland Radio Control Club

By Ardgay Garage.
 Facebook: **Sutherland Radio Control Club**
 ☎ 07703 196 005

Kyle of Sutherland Whist Club

Whist Drives Wednesdays at 7:30 pm, Bonar Bridge Hall. Admission £2 including tea.
21 MARCH: KoS Gala Week,
28 MARCH: Bonar Bridge Film Club
4 APRIL: Bonar Bridge Indoor Bowling Club.
11 APRIL: CDL Syndrome Foundation.
18 APRIL: KoS Joggers.
25 APRIL: KoS Whist Club. Contact: **Rosemary Logan**
 ☎ 01549 421 282

Kyle of Sutherland Cinema Club

2nd and 4th Friday of each month until end of April. Bonar Bridge Hall at 7:30 pm. Free entry. £2 Refreshments. Contact: **Silvia Muras**
 Facebook: **Kyle of Sutherland Cinema Club**
 ☎ 01863 766 690



Gearrchoille Community Wood



Locals and visitors were able to take a wander through the Christmas Magical Woods again this year.

MAGICAL DISPLAY OF FAIRY LIGHTS AND CHRISTMAS TREE MESSAGES, AND SANTA'S GROTTO

Winter in the Gearrchoille

SANTA ONCE AGAIN visited his grotto in the oakwood. Children from all the local primary schools were led by a piper from Ardgay Public Hall where craft activities and refreshments had been organised by Kyle of Sutherland development Trust. Beth's seasonal goodies were truly scrumptious! As darkness fell, the lying snow added to the wonderful glow from the fairy lights lining the path through the wood. The lights were left throughout the festive season; also the wood

slices which had been decorated by the children – there are still a number of these waiting to be collected! Thanks to Hayley from the Hub and other volunteers from the Gearrchoille, Gala committee and the Ardgay and Bonar Christmas party groups for help with decorating, clearing up and storage of the lights.

We have continued birch thinning on our volunteer afternoons (2-4 pm, 1st Thurs of each month) – but with signs of spring ap-

proaching soon, we will be moving onto other tasks including maintaining paths, signs and seats.

We have a number of 1yr seedling oak trees available (barerooted) grown from acorns collected in the Gearrchoille. If you would like one or more of these, please contact by email. ■ **Betty Wright**

gearrchoillecommunitywoodardgay.org.uk

✉ gearrchoille@gmail.com

☎ 01863755316

📘 Gearrchoille Community Wood

Children & Young people

Winners of the 2nd Ardgay & District Community

P5 TO P7



FIRST PRIZE: *Friends*, Chloe Sawyer (P5) Bonar Bridge Primary School.



SECOND PRIZE: *Friends*, Elysia Claridge-King (P6) Gledfield Primary School



THIRD PRIZE: *Friends*, Holly Manson (P6) Bonar Bridge Primary School



Council Newsletter Children's Art Competition

P2 TO P4



SECOND PRIZE: *Trees*, Arabella Wells (P3) Gledfield Primary School.



FIRST PRIZE: *"House of Wonder" (Home)*, Brodie Munro (P4) Bonar Bridge Primary School.



THIRD PRIZE: *"Friendship" (Friends)*, Marie Munro (P4) Bonar Bridge Primary School.

Children & Young people

Winners of the 2nd Ardgay & District Community

NURSERY TO P1



FIRST PRIZE:

Friends,
Amelie Wojtunik (P1)
Gledfield
Primary School



SECOND PRIZE: *Trees,* George
Griffith (P1) Bonar Bridge PS



THIRD PRIZE: *Trees,*
Murray Mackay (P1)
Bonar Bridge
Primary School



Council Newsletter Children's Art Competition

HIGHLY COMMENDED



Trees, Andie Ross (P4) Bonar Bridge PS



Trees, Holly Holden (P1) Bonar Bridge



Trees, Rhea Vettters (P5) Bonar Bridge PS

EXHIBITION & PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY

A very warm thank you to Kirsten MacNeil and Lisa Mackenzie from Gledfield and Bonar Bridge Primary Schools who have made possible this competition, and a big thanks to Doreen Bruce from Creich & Kincardine Art Group who kindly judged the entries and will be assisting with the Prize giving ceremony. A total of 100 entries from 87 pupils of the two Primary Schools have taken part in this 2nd Ardgay & District Community Council Newsletter Children's Art Competition. An exhibition of all the artworks submitted to the competition will be held at **Ardgay Public Hall**, on **Wednesday 28th March** from 1 pm to 3 pm, with the prize giving ceremony at 1:30 pm. Children will be able to collect their artwork at the exhibition. The event is free and all welcome! ■

Children & Young people



GLEDFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL



■ **Anne Wemyss**, Clerical Assistant, Gledfield Primary School



NURSERY NEW STARTS

Our Nursery had three new starts in January: Ava Whittock, Brodie Campbell and Seraphina Wells.

Wildlife

Rabbit

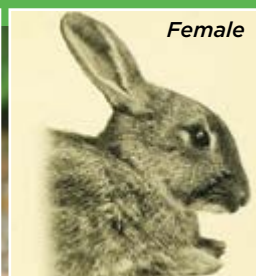
ORYCTOLAGUS CUNICULUS

■ Rabbits originate from the western Mediterranean. It is believed that they were introduced to Britain by the **NORMANS** in the 12th

century to provide meat and fur. ■ Rabbits don't often live more than **THREE YEARS** ■ They create a random network of tunnels, dens and bolt holes known as a **WARREN** ■ They are normally **NOCTURNAL** but will come out in daylight if undisturbed, especially during the long days of summer. ■ **SOCIAL** groups vary from a single pair to

up to 30 rabbits using the same warren. ■ The **BREEDING SEASON** is mainly from January to August, producing one litter of 3-7 young per month. ■ The **EASTER BUNNY** originated among German Lutherans, the *Easter Hare* who came as a judge, hiding decorated eggs for well-behaved children. More info: www.mammal.org.uk

Rabbits are important prey for birds of prey and mammals such as the wildcat.



Rabbits are born blind, deaf and almost hairless. Their eyes open at 10 days, they begin to appear at the burrow entrance at 18 days and are weaned at 21-25 days.



Children & Young people



GLEDFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL



BURNS LUNCH

All pupils in Primary school and Nursery enjoyed celebrating Robbie Burns birthday on the 25th January 2018, with a school lunch of Haggis, Neeps & Tatties.



LOCH EIL HERE WE COME!

All the P7 pupils from Gledfield and Edderton primaries ready for their residential trip to Loch Eil.

by Andymack & Sil



One Spring Day Morag and Hamish were walking on the hillside when they found a fawn crying. "I've lost my mummy!" explained the baby deer, "and I am so afraid." Eventually after a while



searching Hamish and Morag found the little fawn's mother and they were reunited. The baby roe deer was so happy and promised her mum she would not wander off on her own again.

MEET HAMISH THE TARTAN DRAGON

A shy veggie
dragon
who lives
on Carn Bren

Churches



Choosing the new Minister

Kincardine, Croick and Edderton Church of Scotland, linked with Creich, linked with Rosehall

IT'S JUST A FEW WEEKS since the Rev Anthony Jones left us for pastures new. This means that the charge which includes Creich (Bonar Bridge) and Rosehall is now what is known as "Vacant". Church Sunday services and other activities will go as usual under the guidance of the Interim Moderator who is Rev Stewart Goudie, Minister at Tongue and Melness.

The congregations are in the process of getting everything in place to call a new Minister. One of things we have to do is to make up an "Electoral Register" which includes people who are members of the congregations and those who attend worship or wish to have a connection with the church and are not members of another congregation. Just to make sure no-one is missed there is a form for everyone who is not a member of the church to fill in. This will ensure folk who wish to be formally connected to each of the congregations will be entitled to vote when it comes to choosing the new Minister. It can be had from the any of the Session Clerks, Elders, or at the churches. I'll be happy to give these to anyone wishing to be included and pass them on to the correct congregation.

Residents of any of the parish-



We would be glad of help to form work parties to help redecorate The manse at Ardgay.

es which includes Ardgay, Bonar Bridge, Culrain, Croick, Edderton or Rosehall who is connected with any of the churches in these places is entitled to ask for a form. We intend the register to be ready for 12th March when the Kirk Sessions will be meeting but if you read this after this date please still get in touch.

The manse for the new minister will continue to be in Ardgay. We would like to have much of it redecorated and would be glad of help to form work parties to help with this and to keep the garden in good

shape. So, if you are good with a paintbrush or fancy some weeding (or making a cup of tea for others who are!) please get in touch.

We hope everyone will continue to support the churches at this time of change and we look forward positively to the future involvement for our churches in the communities. Let us know if there is anything you feel we could be doing. New ideas welcome! ■

Mary Stobo, Session Clerk for Kincardine, Croick and Edderton

☎ 01863 766 868

✉ MStobo@churchofscotland.org.uk

PART OF THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Auld Kirk of East Sutherland and Tain

St. Curretân's Mission, Ardgay: a prayerful gathering. House services at Hollybank Ardgay every 2nd Tuesday of the month, at 10:30 am. Services at The Hub, South Bonar, every 4th Tuesday at 5:30 pm.

The Crask Inn Mission: gathering from around the diocese to share worship and hospitality. Holy Eucha-

rist at Noon on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

Sunday Services (Holy Eucharist) at St. Finnbarr's, Dornoch (11 am); St. Andrew's, Tain (11 am); St Maelrubha's, Lairg (8:15 am) on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday. <http://theauldkirk.org>. <http://episcopaldornochtain.wordpress.com>. Father James Curral: 01862 881 737



Guide to local services



Village Halls & Venues for hire

Ardgay Public Hall

Fiona Venters / 01863 766 602
fcm11@hotmail.com

The Hub

Adele Newlands / 01863 769 170
info@kyleofsutherland.com

Kincardine Heritage Centre

Valerie Mackenzie-Harris /
01863 766 700

Ardgay Church Hall

Mary Stobo / 01863 766 868

Croick Church

enquiries@croickchurch.com

Bonar Bridge Community Hall

Sally Thompson / 01863 766 883

Bradbury Centre

Lorraine Askew / 01863 766 772

Invershin Hall

Elissa Steven / 01549 421 369

Rosehall Hall

Ann Malone / 01549 441 345

Mobile Library

GLEDFIELD, CULRAIN CARBISDALE

22 March 2018
12 April 2018 / 3 May 2018
24 May 2018 / 14 June 2018



Gledfield School	9:30	10:40
Gruinards	10:55	11:10
The Craigs	11:30	11:50
Corvost	11:55	12:10
Braelangwell	13:15	13:30
Cornhill	13:40	13:55
Culrain	14:10	14:45
Mr & Mrs Charge	14:55	15:10
Wester Badarach	15:20	15:40
Housebound service	16:00	16:30

EDDERTON - ARDGAY

21 March 2018 / 11 April 2018
2 May 2018 / 23 May 2018
13 June 2018

Ardvannie	13:00	13:25
Oakwood	13:40	14:00
Ardgay Hall	14:10	15:10
Housebound	15:15	15:35
Arabella	16:30	16:50

Bonar Bridge Recycling Centre



MONDAY: 1 pm - 4:30 pm
TUESDAY: 1 pm - 4:30 pm
WEDNESDAY: Closed
THURSDAY: 8 am - 12 pm
FRIDAY: 8 am - 12 pm
SATURDAY: 9 am - 1 pm
SUNDAY: Closed

Post Office Ardgay

Ardgay Public Hall
MONDAY: 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm
FRIDAY: 10 am - 1 pm

Post Office Bonar Bridge

MONDAY: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
TUESDAY: 8:30 am - 5:30 pm
WEDNESDAY: 8:30 am - 1 pm
THURSDAY: 8:30 am - 5:30 pm
FRIDAY: 9 am - 12:30 pm
SATURDAY: 9 am - 12:30 pm

Train times



From 10/12/2017 to 19/05/2018

INVERNESS → ARDGAY

Monday to Saturday:

07:00 (08:33) Catering serv. available
10:41 (12:05) Catering serv. available
14:00 (15:29) Catering serv. available
17:12 (18:39)
18:30 (20:01) Catering serv. available

Sunday:

17:54 (19:23) Catering serv. available

ARDGAY → INVERNESS

Monday to Saturday:

06:14 (07:43)
06:43 (08:12)
09:07 (10:35) Catering serv. available
10:54 (12:26) Catering serv. available
15:30 (17:02) Catering serv. available
18:52 (20:10) Catering serv. available
19:28 (20:57)

Sunday:

14:49 (16:16) Catering serv. available



Thistle welding & fabrication

All light welding and fabrication projects undertaken.

Auto restoration and repair performed to high standards.

Hours: 0830 - 1630 (Mon - Fri)
0900 - 1300 (Sat)

Contact us on Facebook
at Thistle Welding and Fabrication

07496 908 143

01863 766 231

ARDGAY GARAGE

MOTs on cars and bikes, welding, tyres, servicing, diagnostics and much more...

Main dealer warranted servicing



HOURS OF BUSINESS: Monday to Thursday 8:30 - 5:30
Friday 8:30 - 4:30 Saturdays by appointment only



Contact us on Facebook: Ardgay Garage





Guide to local services

B

Bradbury Centre

01863 766 772

BUSES

Bradbury Centre Bus

01863 766 772

Stagecoach Highlands

01463 233 371

C

CAB Golspie

01408 633 000

CHURCHES

Church of Scotland

01863 766 868

Scottish Episcopal Church

01862 881 737

D

DVLA Inverness

0300 790 6801

E

ELECTRICITY

Power Cuts

105

SSE Customer Help

0345 026 2658

F

Fire Brigade Dornoch

01862 810 297

Fisheries Trust (KoS)

01863 766 702

Forestry Commission

01309 674 004

G

Bonar Bridge-Ardgay Golf Club

01863 766 199

H

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Customer service

01349 886606

Drummuie Golspie

01408 635 370

Service Point Dornoch

01862 810 594

Tain Registration Office

01349 886 644

HIGH SCHOOLS

Tain Royal Academy

01862 892 121

Dornoch Academy

01862 810 246

The Hub

01863 769 170

K

KoS Development Trust

01863 766 190

L

LIBRARIES

Bonar Bridge Library

01863 760 083

Mobile Libraries

01349 852 698

N

NHS

Doctors Creich Surgery

01863 766 379

Nurses Creich Surgery

01863 766 237

Migdale Hospital

01863 766 211

P

PHARMACY

Mitchells Chemist Bonar

01863 760 011

POLICE

Non Emergency: 101

Emergency: 999

POST OFFICE

Post Office Bonar Bridge

01863 766 219

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Gledfield

01863 766 580

Bonar Bridge

01863 766 221

Rosehall

01549 441 348

Edderton

01862 821260

R

Recycling Centre Bonar

01349 868 439

S

Scottish Water 24Hr

Emergency

0845 600 8855

Customer Help

0845 601 8855

T

Ronnie's Taxis Ardgay

01863 766 422

TRAINS

National Rail Enquiries

0845 748 4950

V

VETS

Rogart Vets

01408 641 352

Easter Ross Vets Tain

01862 893 142

Johnston & Farrell Tain

01862 894 223

Stagecoach

67 - MON TO SAT

TAIRN → LAIRG

Tain Lamington St 06:45¹ 07:00² 08:32² 11:48
08:00 10:11 09:27 14:42*
13:11* 15:45 17:27¹ 17:42
16:30³ 18:45 17:57³ 20:12

Edderton ↓ Edderton ↑
06:55¹ 07:10² 08:22² 11:38
08:10 10:20 09:17 14:32*
13:20* 15:55 17:17¹ 17:32
16:40³ 18:55 17:47³ 20:02

Ardgay Hall ↓ Ardgay Hall ↑
07:07¹ 07:22² 08:10² 11:26
08:22 10:33 09:05 14:20*
13:32¹ 16:07 17:05¹ 17:20
16:52³ 19:07 17:35³ 19:50

Bonar Bridge ↓ Bonar Bridge ↑
07:10¹ 07:25² 08:07² 11:23
08:25 10:36 09:02 14:17*
13:36¹ 16:10 17:02¹ 17:17
16:55³ 19:10 17:32³ 19:47

Invershin ↓ Invershin ↑
07:15¹ 07:30² 08:02² 11:18
08:30 10:41 08:57 14:12*
13:41* 16:15 16:57¹ 17:12
17:00³ 19:15 17:27³ 19:42

Lairg Post Office ↓ Lairg Post Office ↑
07:27¹ 07:42² 07:50² 11:00
08:42 10:55 08:45 14:00*
13:57* 16:29 16:45¹ 17:00
17:12³ 19:29 17:15³ 19:30

00:00¹ Mon-Fri when Academy is open. 00:00² Mon-Fri when Academy is Closed. 00:00 Mon-Sat 00:00³ Mon-Fri 00:00 Does not operate on Fridays when Academy is open. 00:00 Saturday only.

Stagecoach

167 - MON TO FRI

LAIRG → DORNOCH

Lairg Football Ground 07:31 16:42
Invershin o/s Hotel 07:39 16:34
Bonar Bridge Post Office 07:46 16:29 ↑
Ardgay opp Ardgay Hall 07:49 16:26
Ardgay o/s Ardgay Hall 07:59 16:16 ↑
Bonar Bridge o/s Police Station 08:02 16:13
Spinningdale o/s Post Office 08:10 16:05 ↑
Clashmore Telephone Kiosk 08:19 15:56
Dornoch Cathedral Square 08:27 15:40

Bradbury Centre Bus

920 - TUESDAY

Bonar Bridge to Dornoch via Spinningdale

Bonar Bridge ↓ Bonar Bridge ↑
Cherry Grove 09:40 10:20
13:30 14:20

Spinningdale ↓ Spinningdale ↑
Layby at Post Box 09:48 10:12
13:38 14:11

Clashmore ↓ Clashmore ↑
Carnegie Hall 09:54 10:06
13:44 14:05

Dornoch Sq ↓ Dornoch Sq ↑
10:00 10:05
13:50 14:00

920 - WEDNESDAY

Bonar Bridge circular to Dornoch via Spinningdale, Tain & Edderton

Bonar Bridge ↓ Bonar Bridge ↑
Cherry Grove 09:30 14:40

Spinningdale ↓ Spinningdale ↑
Layby at Post Box 09:38 14:31

Clashmore ↓ Clashmore ↑
Carnegie Hall 09:54 14:19

Tain ↓ Tain ↑
Bus stop at Co-Op 10:02 14:08

Tain ↓ Tain ↑
Lamington Street 10:04 14:06

Edderton ↓ Edderton ↑
10:17 13:53

Ardgay ↓ Ardgay ↑
10:39 13:33

Bonar Bridge ↓ Bonar Bridge ↑
Cherry Grove 10:42 13:30

Operates every Tuesday and Wednesday apart from Christmas and New Year weeks.

The minibus has a wheelchair lift which will be available as part of the service.

Bookings: 01863 766 772

Mobile Banking

Royal Bank of Scotland



TUESDAY

Bonar Bridge War Memorial
Arrive 12:05 Depart 12:20

Bank of Scotland



TUESDAY

Bonar Bridge War Memorial
Arrive 10:00 Depart 12:00

Puzzles



Sudoku

Easy

Grid n°14680 easy

		4	1	6				
				3				
6			7	5	9		4	3
3		2				7		1
4					1		9	
1	6		2					
			4		3			
		3	9					
	5			7				

Medium

Grid n°20893 medium

		9		2				
8				9	3			
	5	1		8				
					2	7	6	
	6					9		
				3	5		1	
		3			7	5	2	
		7		8				
		2		9		8		

Hard

Grid n°2147466534 hard

		5						
	1		6					2
		6	5	1	3	4		
1	3	4		9				
9				2		7		
		7						1
				3				
						6		
		3		4		1	9	

A number may not appear twice in the same row or in the same column or in any of the nine 3x3 subregions.

Crosswords

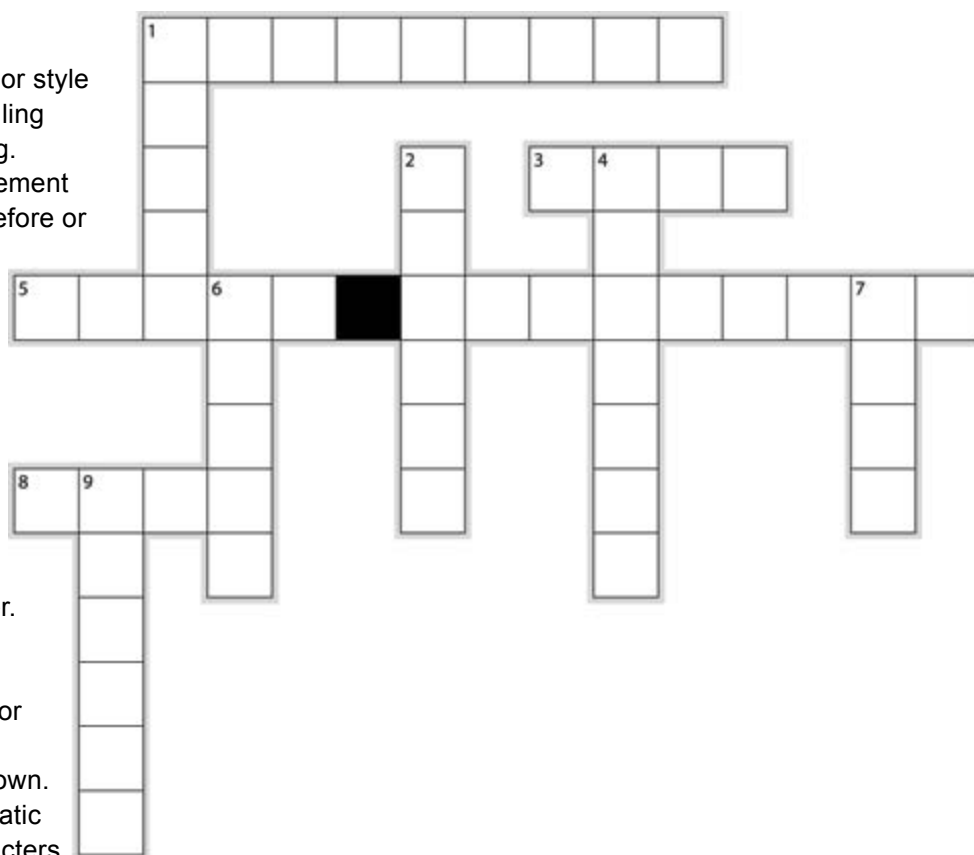
Across

1. Relating to tailoring, clothes, or style of dress. **3.** Hesitate or be unwilling to accept an idea or undertaking.

Badminton: Any deceptive movement that disconcerts an opponent before or during the service. **5.** In the 19th century and early 20th century, annual cattle fair held in Ardgay on the last week of November. **8.** Satisfy (a desire or an appetite) to the full.

Down

1. (In Japan) A sliding outer or inner door made of a latticed screen covered with white paper. **2.** Make a sudden flinching movement out of fear or pain. **4.** A desirable or useful feature or facility of a building or place. **6.** Heavily loaded or weighed down. **7.** Conflict; especially: the dramatic conflict between the chief characters in a literary work. **9.** Any of a large genus of bulbous herbs of the lily family.



A&DCCN / ECLIPSE CROSSWORDS.COM

HOW BUSINESS GATEWAY CAN HELP you be your own boss

Starting up your own business could be the best career move you ever make. If you want to make your business dream a reality, but don't quite know where to start, we can help.

Business Gateway Highland offers the information, advice, workshops and online tools you need to help you set up your business with confidence. Whatever stage you're at, we can help. All of our services are provided FREE of charge.

So if you're thinking about starting a business, make us your first call.

“Business Gateway's advice and assistance was crucial to my business success”

Lorna Campbell, Capaldi's of Brora

We can help with:

Free Business Plan Template

Free Business Plan Checklist

Start Up Business Advice

Routes to Finance

Be your own boss. Visit bgateway.com/highland
or call 01863 778095



ARDGAY & DISTRICT Community Council *newsletter*

Editor: **Silvia Muras Sanmartin**

Design & Layout: **Silvia Muras Graphic Design**
ardgaynewsletter@gmail.com

Contributors to this issue: **Andymack, Lorraine Askew, Donald Brown, Lily Byron, Rhonwen Copley, Brigitte Geddes, David Hannah, Patricia Hannah, Helen Houston, Gregor Laing, Kirstin Langlois, Juliette Lowe, Dale Pryde-MacDonald, Rihonna Mackay, Valerie Mackenzie-Harris, Fiona MacLeod, Jean Richardson, Tracey Smith, Elissa Steven, Mary Stobo, Anne Wemyss, Andy Wright, Betty Wright.**

Distribution: **Rhonwen Copley, Brigitte Geddes, David Hannah, David Knight, Teresa Langley, Alan Lawrence, Silvia Muras, Davy Ross, Bob Sendall, Jeannie Sparling, Anna Sutherland, Marion Turner, Vicky Whittock, Iain Worthy, Betty Wright.**

ARDGAY & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL:

Betty Wright (Chairperson), **Silvia Muras** (Vice Chair), **Marion Turner** (Treasurer / Secretary), **Rob Pope, Andy Wright, Dr Buster Crabb, Leslie Pope.**

COUNCILLORS: **Linda Munro, Hugh Morrison, Kirsteen Currie** (*More details on page 6*)

NEXT EDITION: 15TH JUNE

COPY DATE: THIRD WEEK OF MAY

www.ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk

ADVERTISING, LETTERS & CONTRIBUTIONS:

01863 766 690

ardgaynewsletter@gmail.com

 **Facebook: Ardgay & District Community Council**

Published with support from the E.ON Rosehall Community Fund and The Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm Community Limited.

