

ARDGAY & DISTRICT

Community Council *newsletter*

£1.00 [suggested donation]

Issue No. 25 • AUTUMN 2014 •

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH HELEN HOUSTON, KOSDT DEVELOPMENT MANAGER:

“The new Falls of Shin Visitor Centre must be sustainable”

“On the day the Visitor Centre went on fire we contacted all the statutory agencies. We knew there were 19 jobs gone”, she said, “The Trust has been there right from the beginning”.

WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS still going on, Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust Manager, Helen Houston, has kindly agreed to share some details of the Falls of Shin Visitor Centre project.

A&DCC Newsletter: How long has the Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust been involved in this project?

Helen Houston: On the day of the fire The Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust contacted the Highland Council and Highlands and Islands Enterprise to start talking about what we were going to do because we knew there were 19 jobs gone.

(Continue reading on page 4)



The Visitor Centre attracted to the area 160,000 tourists each year. / SM

CREICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL SENT A LETTER TO SYHA TRYING TO DISCUSS ALTERNATIVES TO THE SALE

Carbisdale Castle finally on the market for £1.2 million

SYHA affirms that it was not generating enough income to allow for re-investment (page 5)

Sharing our roads:
how to make
using the roads
safe and enjoyable
for all

Page 7



Invercharron
Highland Games,
the last and most
exciting games
of the year

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*Obituary, Events in the
area, Children's pages,
Gardening, Telephone
guide, Bus timetable,
Crosswords...*

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Bonar Bridge Sutherland, IV24 3EB



Telford in the Kyle of Sutherland

*More courses and events exploring Thomas
Telford's roads, bridges and churches in the
Kyle of Sutherland*

Researching Telford's Works in the Area.

Tuesdays, 2nd Sept for 4 weeks ;Bonar Bridge Hall, 7-9:30

Pulling it all Together: creating a display

Thursdays, 2nd Oct for 5 weeks; Bonar Bridge Hall, 7-9:30

Pulling it all Together: creating a leaflet

Thursdays, 6th November for 4 weeks

Surveying Telford's Bridges

Saturday & Sunday 27th & 28th September. See article for details.

Field trip to visit Telford Bridges in the Area

Sunday 28th Sept., 2-4pm. See article for details.

For further information contact

info@archhighland.org.uk or 07511 609952, or see
article in the newsletter.



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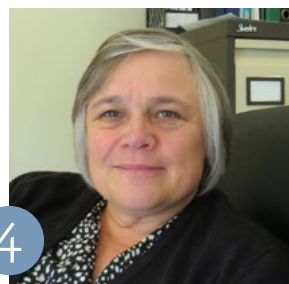
Business Gateway, Bonar Bridge, IV24 3EB

01863 766128

David.Knight@highland-opportunity.com

Marianne.Ross@highland-opportunity.com

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Ardgay & District photographs



Autumnal colours by Louise Mackay

This photo was taken last November near Bonar Bridge, making the most of Autumn colours.

Louise Mackay is an enthusiastic photographer from Brora. Some of her photos have been on display at the Ferrycroft Centre last summer.

EDITOR'S LETTER

Decisive date

Thank you for your comments, encouragement, support, articles and donations. I am pleased to announce that in this issue we have an exclusive interview with Helen Houston about the Falls of Shin Visitor Centre rebuilding project, which is good news for the area. And I would like to wish all the best for Invercharron Highland Games. Along comes Autumn and the awaited decisive date of the Scottish Independence Referendum. What will we say in a few years' time when somebody asks us about how we lived that day? ■

Silvia Muras *Editor*



Ardgay & District News

EXCLUSIVE: HELEN HOUSTON ABOUT THE FALLS OF SHIN VISITOR CENTRE PROJECT

“Shin Falls attracted 160,000 visitors annually”

“There won’t be as many jobs as there were before because the whole venture has to be sustainable, but until we have the building on the ground, we don’t know”.

(Starts on front page)

First off we arranged for Highland Council’s Income Maximisation Advice team to hold a clinic in Invershin Hall. We then jointly convened the first meeting with all parties which had a stake in the Falls of Shin site. Balnagown Estate wasn’t involved in this first meeting, because obviously they were busy dealing with staffing, insurance etc.

The Trust has had representation at every single meeting since the day of the fire. At the beginning, we tried to make sure that the staff were going to be supported. Highland Council then arranged for Skills Development Scotland to meet with individual members of staff to offer support and where appropriate signpost skills development opportunities.

A&DCCN: -How was the first meeting with Balnagown Estate?

HH: -The Highland Council told Balnagown Estate that the community wished to be involved. So all the parties were called to a meeting: the Estate, Highland Council, HIE, KoSDT, and representatives from Lairg. The Estate talked about the different possibilities: the site could be sold off, they did nothing or they went forward as joint venture with the community. They needed to know if somebody from the community would be interested in taking the project forward and we said “yes”. Our Chairman, Pete



Helen Houston received A&DCCN editor at her office / SM

“At the beginning, we tried to make sure that the staff were going to be supported”

“We would hope that there will be a building on the site next year”

Campbell, Vice-chairman, Marion Turner, and myself have been the representatives who have attended the meetings. After several meetings the Lairg representatives said that at present there was no community group which could be a partner in the redevelopment of the Centre.

A&DCCN: -So is the Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust the only local body involved?

HH: -Yes, and the reason why we are the only local body involved is

because Lairg was unable to identify a community group to take on this project.

A&DCCN: -Could you give us a few details about the community consultation on the development of the site?

HH: -Balnagown Estate decided to consult with the public on the various options for the site. There must have been around 100 people who turned up for the public meeting in Invershin Hall. There were questionnaires issued on the evening and available in outlets

throughout the Kyle. After the closing date for responses there was a majority in favour of community involvement. Once there was this endorsement from the community the Trust confirmed its willingness to help develop a vision for the site.

A&DCCN: -Is the Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust going to take on the management of the Falls of Shin Visitor Centre in the future?

HH: -It is just not decided yet. We will if called upon to do so -and that’s all I can say at the moment.

A&DCCN: -How many jobs do you estimate that will be created at the new visitor centre?

HH: -There won’t be as many jobs as there were before. The whole venture has to be sustainable and it cannot make a loss. So there will be less jobs, maybe 5 or 6. But until we have

Ardgay & District News



the visitor centre on the ground and operating we just don't know.

A&DCCN: -How do you think the loss of the Falls of Shin Visitor Centre has affected the area in 2014?

HH: -It is hard to tell, I could not give you facts and figures. We certainly know that the number of visitors is dramatically reduced, Shin Falls previously attracted 160,000 annually. So we can safely assume that this will be having an effect on local businesses as they will not be benefiting from through visitor traffic or from providing goods and services to the Centre. We now get no traffic from the cruise ships, we certainly know that if something goes back on the site it will give us between 5 and 6 buses for every day that the cruise ships are in Invergordon. There were 57 cruise ships in this year. So we are talking of a significant amount. Shearings has also said that they would come back.

A&DCCN: -Could you describe in three words the future new building?

HH: -So difficult. We can describe the new building as sustainable. Sustainable in the sense that it is financially sustainable and that it can shrink down to provide a smaller offering in the winter.

A&DCCN: -When is the Falls of Shin Visitor Centre planned to be reopened?

HH: We would hope that there will be something, a building on the site, next year.

A&DCCN: -How do you describe the collaboration with Balnagown Estate?

HH: Amicable, they are very committed to see this project happen.

■ **Silvia Muras Sanmartin**

AFTER FOUR YEARS CLOSED AND IN NEED OF REPAIR

Carbisdale Castle is finally for sale

Now on the market with Savills Perth for £1.2 million

A VERY DIFFERENT OUTCOME for Carbisdale Castle, which lies just 3 miles away from the Falls of Shin Visitor Centre and it has been closed since a catastrophic flooding in 2010. The castle operated as a Youth Hostel for 65 years.

Creich Community Council sent a letter to Scottish Youth Hostel Association Trustees and Directors last June expressing concerns about the future of the building. In the letter they said that in four years they only had "two inconclusive meetings" with Scottish Youth Hostel Association CEO Keith Legge.

The Community proposed "re-classifying this building in order that cheaper materials could be used to repair the damaged interior". Other attempts to avoid the sale involved the community contacting the Director of Heritage Management at Historic Scotland who said that in 2012 the possibility of an historic buildings repair grant was dis-



A recent photo of the Castle / SM

cussed but they did not receive an application from SYHA.

Keith Legge stated that "the Castle -although very popular- was not generating enough surplus income to allow for re-investment" and "the ongoing running costs already incurred, coupled with the extensive funds necessary to complete the refurbishment, makes it financially unsustainable to operate as a youth hostel in the long term". ■

Ardgay, Best Kept War Memorial 2014

THE JUDGING OF THE Best Kept War Memorial competition of Legion Scotland in the Highlands and Islands has chosen **Ardgay** (Creich and Kincardine Branch) as the winner of the

category *Small Community Memorials without gardens*. Along winners of the rest of categories, Ardgay Memorial has also been entered into the National Finals Competition. ■

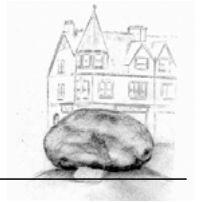
Approved minutes of Ardgay & District Community Council meetings

Are available online from

www.ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk

and in your local library. **NEXT MEETING: 13TH OCTOBER 2014**

ARDGAY PUBLIC HALL 7 PM



Ardgay & District News

Obituary

IAIN SHAND (1946 - 2014)

Iain Shand, formerly in the last Community Council, died peacefully at Raigmores Hospital whilst undergoing treatment for the reoccurrence of lymphoma. This text was written by his partner, Michael Keates, and read at the funeral on 21st June.

Iain's Life

IAIN was born and brought up in Edinburgh. Many of his family worked in the printing trade, so when he left school he did an apprenticeship at the printers Morrison & Gibbs. Fairly soon after he completed his apprenticeship, he realised that the printing trade was not for him. So he left and trained as a social worker for the blind. As it turned out his career change was astute because the skills he had learnt as a print worker rapidly became obsolete.

After completing his social work training, Iain worked in Edinburgh for a number of years. At the same time he became involved with scouting and in particular helped with scouts at the Blind School in Edinburgh. He went with blind and handicapped scouts to Norway and Sweden where he cooked for large numbers. In the hot summer of 1976 he was camped with scouts in Epping Forest when they were threatened with fire that had broken out in the Forest, but everyone got away safely.

In the late 70s he switched from work with the blind to working in a children's home. This proved very demanding and stressful. One day the children smashed the TV set and when the home manager immediately bought another

one, the staff resigned en masse including Iain.

In 1974, Iain married Elspeth Brown but, by 1981, they realised their marriage wasn't working and they divorced.

In August of 1983, Iain went on a Gay Outdoor Club (GOC) walking weekend at Kielder in the Scottish Borders which is how he and Michael met each other. By the end of the year they were living together in Inverness. Iain loved

his father until he died. After that he worked for a year or two at the Institute for the Blind in Inverness where, I am told, he was a breath of fresh air.

Iain and Michael had been visiting Strathkyle intermittently since a week after they first met. So, when Michael retired from full-time work, they moved up to Strathkyle just before Christmas 1997. Iain threw himself enthusiastically into the Community and

“Iain threw himself enthusiastically into the Community and became treasurer of the Culrain & District Hall Committee. He also served the Community Council as its Secretary”

doing things about the house and generally looked after Michael. He also became editor of the monthly GOC Newsletter and did this for over 25 years. At last some of what he had learnt in the printing trade, particularly his proof-reading skills, came into use again.

Iain also became a Samaritan which again involved caring for people.

Michael's mother lived five minutes walk away and when she started developing senile dementia, Iain was also caring for her. When she moved into a Nursing home, Iain's father came to live with them and Iain looked after

became treasurer of the Culrain & District Hall Committee. He also served the Community Council as its secretary.

Iain also worked in David's shop in Bonar and in the Rosehall Craft Shop just half a mile from here.

In 2006, Iain celebrated his sixtieth birthday with family and friends in Edinburgh and, almost as an afterthought, Iain and Michael entered a Civil Partnership.

Five years ago he developed cancer but after a brave struggle lasting nearly a year he recovered from it. Sadly this Easter it returned and this time there was no reprieve. ■

Ardgay & District News



This is the first of a series of occasional articles about road users and how to make using the roads safe and enjoyable for all. In this edition we look at sharing our roads with those on foot - walkers and runners.

Sharing Our Roads

TIPS FOR THOSE ON FOOT:

1 If possible walk facing on-coming traffic.



2 Wear some item of high visibility clothing especially at dusk and in the dark.



3 A headtorch is a great way of seeing and being seen in the dark.



4 Avoid running with earphones/music in as this makes it difficult to hear vehicles approaching from behind.



5 Keep dogs under control when there is traffic around.



6 If walking in a group you should all go to one side of the road to let a vehicle pass.



7 If you are walking off the public roads remember that



there can still be traffic – forestry, estate or farm vehicles.

8 On single track roads, if there isn't much space for a vehicle to pass then step off into the verge or if there is a layby on your side of the road, use that. Make sure the verge is safe to step into, stand still and look towards the approaching vehicle. This helps you to know that the driver has seen you and also means you can see if it there is more than one vehicle. Step back onto the road when safe to do so.



TIPS FOR THOSE DRIVING:

1 Be aware of those on foot – especially in poor light or visibility and on blind bends.



2 Because of wind and weather conditions be aware that those on foot may not hear you coming.



3 On country roads, give pedestrians time to get themselves



safely off the road. Verges can be slippery, have brambles or nettles so it may take time for pedestrians to get clear of the road.

4 Take age and ability into account.



5 At night, dip your lights when you ap-



proach a pedestrian. This avoids dazzling them and lets them know that you have seen them.

6 And finally... it costs nothing to be courteous - a small wave of acknowledgement from both pedestrian and driver will leave everyone feeling good. ■



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Community Council Members and Contact Details

David Hannah
Chair

Marion Turner
Vice-Chair

Alan Lawrence
Treasurer

Phil Olson

Betty Wright

Bob Sendall

Teresa Langley
Secretary

secretary@ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk

Councillors Representing the Highland Council North, West and Central Sutherland Ward 1

George Farlow

Hugh Morrison

Linda Munro

How to apply for Community Benefit money

The Beinn na Oighrean Windfarm Awards
Small projects under £250

1. Go to Ardgay & District CC website: **www.ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk/funding** where you can find full details.
2. Or send a letter to **Teresa Langley** (see right column)

The Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm
Community Benefit Fund
Projects under £2,000

1. Go to Ardgay & District CC website: **www.ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk/funding** where you can find full details.
2. Send an email to **beinntharsuinn.awards@ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk**
3. Or send a letter to **Teresa Langley** (see right column)

SSE Achany Community Fund
Between £2,000 and £10,000 +

1. Visit **sse.com/beingresponsible/responsiblecommunitymember/localcommunityfunds/achany** for more info and to download the application form.
2. Complete and return to **fiona.morrison@sse.com** or by Royal Mail to: **Fiona Morrison**, Corporate Affairs, SSE, 10 Henderson Road, Inverness, IV1 1SN
3. Next deadline: **31st October 2014** and the Panel meets at the end of December.

NEXT DEADLINE: 31st October

E.ON Rosehall Community Fund

Between £2,000 and £25,000 +

1. **Foundation Scotland** administers E.ON Rosehall Community Fund. Visit **www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/eon-rosehall.aspx** for full details
2. 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.
3. Next deadline: **31st October 2014** and the Panel meets at the end of December.

NEXT DEADLINE: 31st October

Ardgay & District News



In July, we met at the Mound near Golspie.



In September, We will survey the bridge over Allt na Fearn Mor.

The Telford in the Kyle of Sutherland Project

This project is exploring the 18th century roads, bridges, churches and other remains associated with Thomas Telford, an engineer who changed the face of the Highlands.

OVER THE SUMMER there were several well-attended walks and fieldtrips. A small group investigated mile-stones on Telford roads, some at the position on the maps, others clearly moved. All are concrete, so not built by Telford. More research on these is needed.

A joint day with North of Scotland Archaeological Society explored Newton Point near Clashmore, the focus of a very short-lived flax mill at the time Telford was planning his roads in the area.

In July a large group met at the Mound near Golspie where Bruce Field provided background and

fascinating insights into the repairs and workings of these innovative sluice gates which Telford built. The following week, we explored Croick Church and manse, one of Telford's parliamentary churches in the Highlands and Islands.

The project will now begin to research Telford's remains in earnest, working towards preparing a display and leaflet. There are lots of opportunities to get involved. All events are free and open to all, whether you have attended previous sessions or not.

ARCH will have a stand at the Invercharron Games, where in-

formation about the Telford in the Kyle of Sutherland Project will be available. For further information contact Susan (details below) or www.archhighland.org.uk.

All events are part of ARCH's Telford in the Kyle of Sutherland project funded from the E.ON Rosehall Community Fund managed by Foundation Scotland, and by the Robertson Trust. ■ **Susan Kruse** ARCH Project Officer

ARCH - www.archhighland.org.uk

✉ info@archhighland.org.uk

☎ 07511609952

NEXT EVENTS:

► Creating a Display

Thursdays 2nd October for 5 weeks (Bonar Bridge Community Hall)
Final research and then we'll create a display describing Telford's impact in the area.

► Creating a Leaflet describing Telford's impact in the area

Thursdays 6th November

for 4 weeks (Bonar Bridge Community Hall)
Pulling together all the work from the year, we'll create a leaflet showcasing Telford's work in the area.

► Stand at Invercharron Games

Saturday 20th September

► Surveying Telford's Bridges

Saturday & Sunday 27th &

28th September, 10-4
After the tail end of Hurricane Bertha washed out our first attempt to survey an unrecorded Telford bridge, we will hope for better weather! Join Janet Hooper and learn how to record standing building remains. The Saturday and Sunday morning will involve observing, sketching, photographing, and detailed accurate record-

ing. On Sunday afternoon we'll take a tour of Telford and contemporary bridges. No previous experience needed. This is an opportunity to learn how to record standing buildings of all sorts.

Free, but booking essential to info@archhighland.org.uk. If you need transport, let me know and we will arrange car share.



Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust

Rhionna Mackay enters the final selection for the prestigious Fred Edwards Trust Fellowship

RHIONNA MACKAY, Project Assistant of Greening Kyle, has been shortlisted from a very competitive field to receive a Fred Edwards Trust Fellowship. The Fellowship –The Power of One: Inspiring People to become inspiring people. The Fellowship gives unique learning opportunities and support for emerging citizen leaders in Scotland. Should Rhionna be one of the two people selected for the Fellowship she will spend two weeks in Tennessee,

USA in 2015, taking part in The Highlander Research and Education Center annual week of activities for community organisers followed by a week of her own local study visits.

The final selection will take place after a two day workshop in Perth on 27, 28 August 2014. Pam McMichael and Elandria Williams from Highlander will run the Skilled Citizen masterclasses event for active citizens, third sector organisations and public bodies in Scotland. ■



Leanne (a visitor from Aberdeen), Audrey, and Hugh putting a fish in a bucket at the Salmon's Tale event in July.

A SALMON'S TALE

Electro fishing

THE SECOND PART of the four part Salmon's Tales was held in July. This time the participants had the opportunity to discover and take part in electro fishing. Hugh and Keith from the Fisheries Trust explained the reasons for this activity as a monitoring tool for Atlantic Salmon in the catchment area. The ten participants all enjoyed their trip and it was especially pleasing to welcome a young couple from Aberdeen to the event. ■



New t-shirts for KoS joggers

KoSDT provided a grant to jogging group to help with cost of the new t-shirts.

Renewables

Forestry Commission has granted the Trust leave to apply for the two sites on which it had submitted a Notice of Interest. Community Energy Scotland will support the Trust through the application process. ■

Community Consultation

The results of the community consultation carried out last year are now available on the Trust website: www.kyleofsutherland.co.uk

Using the outcome from the consultation the Trust is currently looking to priorities projects to advance. To this end the Trust is working with Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) to agree a growth plan which HIE will give some financial support.



Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust

Climate Challenge Fund

THE GREENING KYLE staff have now created a series of events which will be commencing shortly. As the colder weather starts to bite we are sure that more energy efficiency visits will be booked. The team now has a thermal imaging camera and this will be an extremely useful tool to visually demonstrate where a house is losing heat. Should anyone require thermal imaging services for other purposes then the Trust can also provide a service at a competitive rate. ■



Minister congratulates Highland community group for taking the first Climate Change Pledge for Communities

Bonar Bridge Post Office

REFURBISHMENT WORK is well underway and should be completed on schedule in October. We are currently working on the creation of a tenant information pack and an "Open House" event. The event will give the community an opportunity to see round the house before it is let. With support from Highland Small communities Housing Trust we are advancing our plan to development a housing offering behind the post office. The housing survey which many people completed has helped to shape the plan for the type of houses which shall be built. By the time we have the "Open House" event we might have some outline plans available for everyone to view. ■



Big lunch at Bonar Bridge Hall

THE BIG LUNCH WAS A HUGE success with over 90 people attending. On the menu was soup, venison casserole with crusty bread, chilli with baked potatoes, burgers or baked potatoes with beans and cheese for the vegetarians. We hope that we may be able to have another Big Lunch at the beginning of next year so watch out for details. Special thanks to our volunteers Doris Calder and Irene Chisholm who served everyone with a smile. ■



Highland Council meets KoSDT directors

COUNCILLOR LINDA MUNRO asked to meet with some Directors and the Development Manager. Attending the meeting was also: Councillor George Farlow; Helen Ross –Senior Ward Manager; Carron McDairmid –Head of Policy & Reform. There was a good discussion on many subjects and the outcome was an agreement to work more closely together thus ensuring that the Council can provide appropriate support when it can for the Trust. ■

Membership

Why not join the Trust and keep up to date with the work of the Trust. Membership is free and an application form can be accessed from the Trust website or from the Trust office on Dornoch Road, Bonar Bridge.

Bradbury Centre

THE DEVELOPMENT MANAGER has completed an Investing in Ideas application to allow the Centre to commission consultants to develop a business case for the extension of the lounge and also to get design plans to planning permission stage. Thinking is to have everything ready for a Leader application in Jan – Feb 2015. ■

KoSDT

The Trust Offices, Dornoch Road, Bonar Bridge IV24 3EB

☎ 01863 766 190

✉ development@kyleofsutherland.co.uk

🐦 @KOSutherland

📘 Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust



Greening Kyle

HELPING YOU SAVING ENERGY AND MONEY

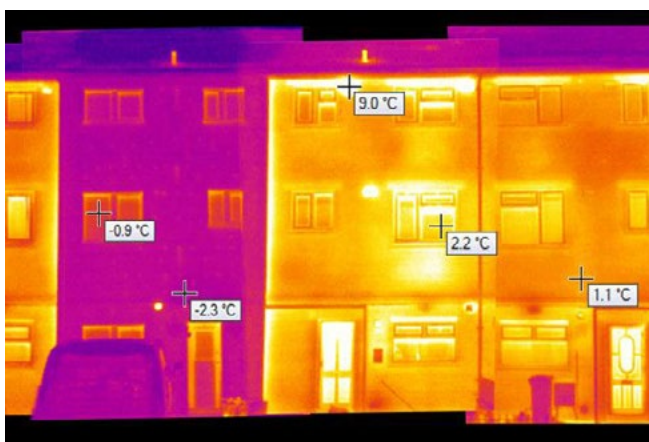
Greening Kyle invests in infrared camera to show you where your home is losing heat

Our Energy Advisors can help you with heating and hot water systems, heating and electricity bills, draughts, damp and condensation, insulation, and government schemes

THE DARK NIGHTS ARE drawing in and soon the weather will turn chillier. With winter energy bills estimated to reach up to £530 per quarter there has never been a better time to book a free Home Energy Visit with Greening Kyle.

Greening Kyle Energy Advisors are City & Guilds trained to offer impartial home energy and energy reduction advice. A Home Energy Visit will take around 1 hour during which the Energy Advisors will cover all aspects of home energy including your heating and hot water systems, heating bills, electricity bills, draughts, damp and condensation, insulation, current government schemes and will answer your questions. Home Energy Visits will be scheduled at a time suitable for you in the morning, afternoon or evening.

Using a state of the art Flir E6 Infrared Camera we will now be able to SHOW you where the main areas of heat loss are in your home and advise you on measures to take to reduce this heat loss. No one wants to pay for their heating bills knowing that most of it is escaping through a poorly insulated roof or draughty windows! By im-



A thermal image from an infrared camera showing areas of high heat loss in yellow and orange, little or no heat loss in purple and dark purple.

plementing the measures recommended by our Energy Advisor you will save energy and money in your home.

Greening Kyle also have energy monitors available to lend to residents in the Ardgay and Creich Community Council area. These are simple to set up and use and if required one of our Energy Advisors can come to your home and set up the energy monitor. An energy monitor will enable you to see how much energy is being used and the cost of this in real time.

Simple and free measures that you can take to reduce your energy bills include closing your curtains at dusk, cooking with lids on pans, only boiling as much water as required, switching off lights

and electrical equipment when not in use and turning the thermostat down by 1 degree. Low cost measures include installing draught excluders to the bottom of doors and rubber seals to windows, using energy efficient light bulbs and filling in gaps between skirting boards and floors.

If you are struggling with your fuel bills, struggling to heat your home, want to make your house

more energy efficient or want to save money on your energy bills then Greening Kyle can help you. To book a free Home Energy Visit or to request an energy monitor please contact Rhionna by calling 01863 766554, emailing gkassistant@kyleofsutherland.co.uk or visiting our office in the Trust Offices, Dornoch Road, Bonar Bridge, IV24 3EB (opposite the Bank of Scotland).

Greening Kyle is a carbon reduction project funded by the Climate Challenge Fund and run through the Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust. ■ **Rhionna Mackay**

Project Assistant

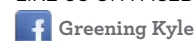
*Trust Offices, Dornoch Road,
Bonar Bridge IV24 3EB*

☎ **01863 766 554**

✉ gkassistant@kyleofsutherland.co.uk



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!





Gearrchoille Community Wood



Ranger event. Around 15 people took it in turns to sweep nets through the edge of the pond and empty the catch into white trays filled with water.

CHI GUNG, PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP AND POND DIPPING

A fun packed summer

Our volunteer afternoons will continue through the winter on first Thursday of each month meeting at 2pm in the Gearrchoille car park. Come along for a chat and help with some woodland management tasks.

WE HAVE HAD A VARIED PROGRAM of events throughout the summer, starting with a very leisurely session of Chi Gung – the numbers attending being low enough that we all fitted comfortably on the platform by the pond. This was followed by a very enjoyable photography workshop led by another of our directors, Alex Collett. Alex was encouraging us to ‘see’ better – different angles, paying more attention to the composition of the shot to move away from ‘holiday snap’ type photos to something altogether more interesting. During Gala week we hosted two events – our regular volunteer afternoon and also a Highland Council ranger event with Ian Paterson doing pond dipping. Our regular volunteer

numbers were swelled by visitors from Idaho who were keen to lend a hand in our lovely wood. It was also great to have extra local volunteers to help with cutting some of the grass alongside the pond for the pond dippers and helping to keep the paths clear. The afternoon was



nicely rounded off with a cup of tea expertly brewed by Andrew Murray with his storm kettle, fuelled by wood collected and sorted by Margaret Ross and her young helpers. The weather was kind to us again for the pond dipping event. About 15 of us took it in turns to sweep nets through the edge of the pond and empty our catch into white trays filled with water so we could watch the captives at our leisure. We had several trays so the smaller creatures could be kept separate from those that would like to eat them! We saw midge larvae, water boatmen, dragonfly larvae, froglets and lots of young newts. (All later returned to the pond) There were dozens of damselflies on the vegetation in the pond and we caught a dragonfly!

For those of you who attended our AGM you will know that 3 of our directors stood down. We would like to thank them all for their hard work over the last few years, particularly Rhonwen Copley who had been both our secretary and treasurer and without whose tireless effort the wood would not be as welcoming as it is today.

Although we have a healthy number of members (more are always welcome of course – especially those of you who regularly enjoy walking through this lovely wood with your dogs), we would welcome new directors to bring fresh ideas and enthusiasm to the community woodland over the next while. Our volunteer afternoons will continue through the winter on first Thursday of each month meeting at 2pm in the Gearrchoille car park. Come along for a chat and help with some woodland management tasks. Please email any ideas or suggestions. ■

✉ gcwardgay@btinternet.com



What's on in the area

20
SEP.

THE LAST GAMES OF THE YEAR

Invercharron Highland Games

Traditionally the final games of the year, many of the Scottish Games Association league results are decided at Invercharron, making it the most exciting of the season. Heavy events, piping competitions, Highland dancing, track, hill and children's races, tug o' war and cycling all feature in this fun-packed day, with a variety of stalls and amusements to tempt young and old. This year the games are expecting TV coverage from Swiss Television and possibly the BBC.

A circular bus service will be available from 10:00 am during the day of the games. For more information about the bus, please call 07745 601 092.



Congratulations to our
Junior Chieftain 2014

MILES JONES

Miles is 12 years of age and was born in Wishaw, North Lanarkshire. He has two brothers and a sister, and he lives with his family in Ardgay. He recently moved from Gledfield Primary school to Dornoch Academy where he is an S1 pupil. At Gledfield Primary, Miles won the caber toss at the small schools Highland Games at Golspie in May. He was awarded the trophy for 'Good Citizenship' by Gledfield School. He is a keen footballer and was Captain of the school team. He is a friendly, fun loving boy, and his hobbies include travel, drawing, films, and he is a "lego" fanatic!



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!
Invercharron Highland Games 



14
OCT.

OLD CHURCH OF KINCARDINE, ARDGAY

Great War Remembrance Heritage

A Kyle of Sutherland Heritage Society event on Tuesday 14th October from 7 pm to 9 pm. Illustrated Talk by Doris Calder and Irene Chisholme following their recent visit to the battlefields.



19
SEP

THEATRE FOR ALL THE FAMILY

The Perfect Spot

The story of one man's camping expedition as he tries to find the perfect camping spot. It is presented in Cartoon Theatre's very popular and unique combination of live performance and interactive animation. Ardross Hall, 7 pm. Booking line: 01349 880 591.

25
OCT.

UNTIL 25TH OCTOBER - INVERNESS

Hunting for Lost Crafts Exhibition

A brand new exhibition about hunting, shooting and fishing at Inverness Museum and Art Gallery. The exhibition showcases crafts connected with the pursuits of hunting, shooting and fishing in the Highlands illustrating how historic techniques and materials have been transformed by contemporary makers, including fly-tying, taxidermy and trophy fish carving.

More info at www.lostcraft.hIGHLIFEhighland.com



13
SEP.

LEDMORE & MIGDALE

Art in the woods

10 am- 12:30 pm or 2pm - 4:30pm

Join Sarah Robinson, artist and teacher for an art and nature ramble through the beautiful Migdale woods, culminating in an opportunity to have a go at techniques such as mono-printing and charcoal and bread rub-out drawings. Free and booking essential All materials supplied. Over age 16s only. Contact Juliet on 07810 027556





What's on in the area

1 WEDNESDAY AT 7:30 PM OCT. **Ardgay Public Hall** *Annual General Meeting*

On Wednesday 1st October, Ardgay Public Hall Committee will hold their Annual General Meeting in Ardgay Hall, at 7:30 pm. This is a free, public meeting and every local resident interested in the future of the hall, and every hall user, is invited to attend. The hall exists for the benefit of the whole community, but that also means the whole community is responsible for running it too. Please attend, you will be made welcome.



26 EVANTON COMMUNITY WOOD SEP. **Embrace by Vision Mechanics** *Theatrical performance*

Six shows over 2 nights: Fri 26 and Sat 27 September. The shows are at 7:30 pm, 8 pm and 8:30 pm; they last one hour and numbers are limited to 30 per show. Vision Mechanics use aerial work in the trees, shadow theatre, installation with sound and film to create this exciting show. Tickets are available at The Cornerstone Cafe, Evanton and from www.eden-court.co.uk. More info: 01349 830517

10 PART THREE OF FOUR: SPAWNING NOV. **A Salmon's Tale**



Meet at Picnic Area, Bonar Bridge, 10:30 am. Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries staff will transport us to a wild location on the River Oykel to view this extraordinary natural wonder. Booking essential. For more information call 01863 766 190 or email bizservices@kyleofsutherland.co.uk

THE SCOTTISH INDEPENDENCE REFERENDUM

THURSDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER PLEASE VOTE

ARDGAY & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Please send us your feedback, comments, letters, suggestions or contributions. Visit www.ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk or email ardgaynewsletter@gmail.com

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS

to help with the distribution of the newsletter. Please contact the editor or any of the A&DCC members

**Next issue:
10th
December**



ADVERTISING TARIFF

FULL PAGE: £40 (A4)
HALF PAGE: £20 (A5)
1/4 PAGE £10 (A6)
SMALL SIZES FROM £4
CLASSIFIEDS: FREE

Book for the whole year and get a discount!
Booking & enquiries:
ardgaynewsletter@gmail.com
01863 766 690

CONTACT DETAILS OF COMMUNITY HALLS IN THE AREA

Bonar Bridge Community Hall
www.bonarbridgecommunityhall.org.uk
✉ info@bonarbridgecommunityhall.org.uk
☎ 01863 766 883 / 07842 076274

Ardgay Public Hall
Facebook: Ardgay Public Hall
☎ 01863 766 602

Rosehall Village Hall
✉ bevmor10@btinternet.com
☎ 01549 441 371

Invershin Village Hall
✉ balchraggan@msn.com
☎ 001549 421 336

Culrain Village Hall
✉ suec726@aol.com
☎ 01549 421 337



Adult Clubs & Societies

Autumn does not just mean colder weather and shorter days, it also means that local groups' activities which stopped during the summer are starting again!



Pilates

Sessions at Bonar Bridge Community Hall, Mondays from 10 to 11 am. Open to all but please call in advance.

Contact: **Moira Chisholm**

☎ 01863 810 786

Kyle of Sutherland Whist Club

Bonar Bridge Community Hall. Starts on Wednesday 17th September 7:30 pm and every Wednesday after.

Contact **Mrs. Rosemary Logan**

☎ 01549 421 282



Ardgay Badminton Club

Thursday / Monday evenings at Ardgay Public Hall.

Dates to be confirmed

Contact **George Ross**

☎ 01863 755 329

Sutherland Walkers Club

Sutherland Walkers Club meet the 4th Sunday of the month. Contact:

David Hannah

☎ 01863 766 601

Sutherland Radio Control Club

By Ardgay Garage. Racing every Thursday at 7 pm

Facebook: **Sutherland Radio Control Club**

☎ 07703 196 005



Edderton & District Gardening Club

AUTUMN PROGRAMME:

September 1st - AGM and informal members evening
October 6th - Tain Taskforce will share the secrets of their hanging baskets and other floral displays in Tain.

November 3rd - Fay Wilkinson will give an illustrated talk about famous gardens visited during the summer.

December 1st - Phil Gurr will speak about greenhouse pests and predators.

All meetings are held in Edderton Community Hall, starting at 7:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. Contact:

☎ 01863 766 061

☎ 01862 811 381

Bonar Bridge Local History Society

Organising events and history walks.

Contact: **Marion Fraser**

☎ 01863 766 235

Creich & Kincardine Art Group

Meets in Bonar Bridge Hall tearoom on Wednesdays from 10 am to 3 pm. All are welcome. Contact: **Joan Mulligan**

☎ 01549 421 321

Kyle of Sutherland Heritage Society

KoSHS events include art exhibitions, concerts, lectures, art workshops and taking part in the Highland Archaeological Festival
Website **www.kyle-of-sutherland-heritage.org.uk**

Contact: **Steve Copley**

☎ 01863 766 174



Bonar Bridge Ardgay Golf Club

Gents Seniors Open: Tuesday 16th September. Entry £10 /

Ladies Open: Saturday 27th September. Entry £12.

☎ 01863 766 199

Scottish Women Rural Institute

All ages welcome. Ardgay Public Hall 7:30 pm 3rd Tuesday each month / Culrain Hall 7:30 pm 4th Thursday of the month.

Contact: **Mrs. Jean Jack**

☎ 01863 766 646



Ardgay Scottish Country Dancing Club

Starting again on Tuesday 14th October in Ardgay Public Hall 7:30 to 9:30 pm.

Contact: **Doreen Bruce**

☎ 01863 766 852

Kyle of Sutherland Joggers

Leaders trained by Jog Scotland. All levels of fitness are welcome. Facebook: **Kyle of Sutherland Joggers**

Contact:

Eliza / Caroline / Gemma

☎ 07743 228 661

☎ 07799 391 281

☎ 07545 929 768



Kyle of Sutherland Cycling Club

Club ride: Wednesday 7pm from Heaven bikes by the train station Ardgay.

Ladies gentle ride: casual ride, all welcome: Tuesday 7 pm from Heaven bikes.

Website: **www.koscc.co.uk**

Facebook: **Kyle of Sutherland CC**

Contact: **Chris**

☎ 07543 466 699

Gardening



Mulches

THE USE OF mulches around your garden can save a lot of time and work. A mulch is something that covers the soil for a variety of reasons – to suppress weeds, conserve moisture, protect a crop. Many will be used to seeing strawberry fruits protected from the soil (and hopefully from the slugs!) by a layer of straw. The straw is put down fresh when the fruit starts developing and removed to the compost heap, along with the old leaves and unwanted runners after fruiting has finished.

ORGANIC MULCHES

Mulches can be either organic or non-organic. Organic mulches decompose over time to add humus to the soil – some of these are suitable for use around annual crops in the vegetable garden. Leaf mould, grass cuttings, shredded soft plant material such as comfrey leaves or bracken can all be used between rows of onion sets or around widely spaced plants such as brassicas or courgettes. At the end of the season, remaining mulch can either be removed for compost or dug into the ground. These mulches usually work really well in reducing the number of weeds growing, but this year in our polytunnel have proved rather too popular with blackbirds scratching the mulch onto the paths – but hopefully eating slugs too! More woody plant material such as wood chips or cocoa shells should only be used around perennial plants as if incorporated in the topsoil can reduce fertility by locking up soil bacteria. Mulches should be laid on ground which is weed free and not too dry, as the



Mulch around cabbages



Chipped wood round strawberry plants.



Shredded bracken mulch round comfrey plants.

mulch will stop some rain getting to the soil, you don't want it to be too dry to begin with. It will also prevent the soil drying out in drought conditions, thus reducing the need for watering. To prevent new weeds coming through the layer of mulch needs to be 4-6 ins deep. However 2-3 ins will stop a lot of the annual weeds.

NON-ORGANIC MULCHES

Non-organic mulches – such as black polythene or Phormisol, a woven ground cover material – which has the advantage of letting water through to the ground beneath – can provide a barrier between the soil and certain pests –

such as cabbage root fly, and also are more impenetrable to weeds, as well as warming the soil in the spring before early planting of such things as onion sets. When using a sheet mulch it is a good idea to make sure it is well held down. Young cabbages can be damaged by too much movement of black polythene which needs to be kept in place with stones or lengths of timber – the latter helping to curtail the movement of mice or voles which otherwise can take to living under the mulch! A sheet mulch is often used in a shrub border where it can be covered by shredded bark or stone chips to keep it in place..

■ **Betty Wright**

Learning



NORTH HIGHLAND COLLEGE

Graduates set to shine at Dornoch Award ceremony on 20th September

ALMOST 300 STUDENTS gained qualifications ranging from SVQ Level 3 to PhD this year and 120 of them are set to attend the event at Dornoch Cathedral on Saturday 20th September.

The yearly event marks a celebration of the successes and hard work put in by students who will graduate with their fellow classmates in a traditional graduation gown in front of their families and friends.

Following the annual ceremony, students and guests will be invited along to a champagne reception at the College's commercial training hotel in Dornoch - Burghfield House Hotel.

Donald MacBeath, the college's principal, commented: "We have 120

people graduating from our campuses this year. They have achieved a broad range of qualifications, including SVQ level 3, higher national certificates and diplomas, degrees and professional development awards, and we're sure they will inspire many others to study at their own local university in the years to come."

Widely-acknowledged as a major asset to the regional economy, producing the academic know-how and skills training to sustain and create businesses, support professional development, as well as championing local culture and the environment, North Highland College UHI is also conducting research across many disciplines, including environmental



Image of last year's Graduation ceremony at Dornoch.

sciences, sustainable development and renewable energy.

The North Highland College UHI offers programmes of study ranging from SCQF level 3 up to postgraduate (SCQF 11) in five key areas: Business and Rural Studies; Energy Technology and the Built Environment, Care and Creative Arts, Service Industries; Science and Environment.

The North Highland College is part of the University of the Highlands & Islands and it is

through this partnership that the delivery of Higher Education takes place. The College offers a wide variety of courses, including 9 SQA Highers, 50 FE programmes and over 40 degree programmes with excellent progression routes for learners.

For more information, see www.northhighland.uhi.ac.uk and www.uhi.ac.uk. ■

www.northhighland.uhi.ac.uk



LLC CELEBRATES ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY WITH A NEW LOGO

Upcoming Autumn courses at Lairg & District Learning Centre

LAIRG & DISTRICT Learning Centre celebrates its 10th Anniversary at the Learning Centre (Schoolhouse, Lairg) on Saturday 13th September, from 2 to 5 pm. Open house with craft taster sessions, teas, music, poetry. All welcome.



The programme of courses at Lairg includes: First Aid, IT for business, Patchwork, Sewing, Archaeology,

Cake decoration, French, Photography & Photoshop, Norse Legacy, Poetry café, Book club, IT for beginners, and Ipad and Kindle classes.

OTHER VENUES

Guitar course (8 weeks / £45). Starting 27th October 7pm-9pm. Bonar Bridge Community Hall. TBC

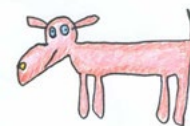
Fabric Dyeing Workshop. 25th October. £30 10am-4pm Rosehall Village Hall.

It is important to contact the Centre ASAP if you are interested in attending one of the classes. ■

☎ 01549 402 050

✉ admin@lairglearningcentre.org.uk
www.lairglearningcentre.org.uk

Children & Young people



GLEDFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL



ZOO LAB

ZooLab came to visit us in June. We got to see and touch some very interesting animals. There was a tarantula called Victoria, a crab called Sebastian and a snake called Milky Bar. We loved Paige the rat who was friendly and intelligent but Octavia could be a bit grumpy. We all got a shock when Rambo the toad leapt onto the floor! It was fascinating to hear what kind of event in the Commonwealth Games they would be good at.



RAG BAG

Just a reminder that we are always very willing to take all your old clothes, shoes and rags as part of our Rag Bag fundraising efforts. This is a very easy way for us to raise a bit of money for our school. You are welcome to drop off items to the school at any time. We will shortly be arranging for our items to be collected so it is not too late to have a quick clean out !!

■ **Kirsten Macneil** Cluster Headteacher Rosehall & Gledfield Primary Schools

SCHOOL TRIP

All pupils in P1-7 had a brilliant day out at the end of term. Pupils in P1-7 went to the Black Isle Wildlife Park, had a tour of Inverness Caley stadium followed by an afternoon of fun at Roller Bowl.

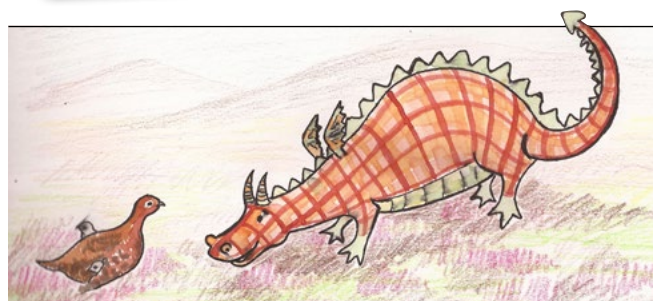


NEW P1 PUPILS

We are delighted to welcome our new pupils into P1 at Gledfield Primary School.



by Andymack & Sil



That evening, Hamish visited his friend Kitty the Grouse. "I have a new friend, Kitty! And it's a girl! Her name is Morag", said Hamish. "Please calm down and tell me everything about your new friend", responded Kitty. "A girl, a girl", tweeted Kitty's chicks. And Hamish talked and talked (and ate heather) until it was dark.



MEET HAMISH THE TARTAN DRAGON

A shy veggie dragon who lives on Carn Bren

He then curled up in his cave and had lots of nice dreams. (to be continued)

From the Manse...



"We Plough the Fields and Scatter"

WHAT ARE YOU DOING and where are you going? These two questions would seem simple to answer. Yet, on these two questions hang the thread of our lives. They can be applied to our lives in any given situation, on a practical level, every day or could be 'life challenging' questions. In our community, we could be asking ourselves how we wish to fill our time. We could be concerned with keeping appointments, prioritising our diaries, forward planning events. In our part of the world we are blessed with great opportunities to take advantage of the countryside that surrounds us.

The great harvest hymn 'We plough the fields and scatter' remind



Fourth annual 'Lambing Service' held at Migdale Country Store, Bonar Bridge, hosted by the Ross family.

us of the duty we have to share what we have been given. Right now, we might feel just too busy to enjoy the 'good gifts around us'. It may be that we are being called to share more quality time with the family (or to reconnect with those we have forgotten) Life is a great adventure and, from the moment of birth important decisions are made either

on our behalf or by us. We can make the most of our time or we can waste it. This time of year is a busy one for the farmer and, the crofter in our communities. We just like to celebrate Harvest and, traditionally the success of all our 'ploughing and reaping' depends on us. We have to keep our eyes fixed on the furrows of our chosen field or else ploughing goes

astray! We ought also to take time to take stock and give thanks for 'our life, our health our food'.

I hope you will make the most of the opportunities that come your way this season to bear fruit and be fruitful.

With my best wishes for a fruitful Autumn season. ■ **Rev. Anthony M. Jones**



Pet Blessing. A most unusual event took place at Rosehall Parish Church in June. Owners of dogs, rabbits, hamsters and, even a tortoise brought their pets along to church to be blessed by the Minister. Rev Jones said there were hymns celebrating animals, favourite pet songs for the children to 'join in' played by Victor Bruce and, yes!, there were even 'treats' for the well behaved dogs who sat quietly.

Mad Hatter's tea party & Family Fun Day. A total of £550 was raised for the schools and charities supported by the Rotary Club of Tain & District. The picture shows my presenting cheques to the Cluster Headteacher, Mrs Kirsten MacNeil with staff and children at Gledfield school. Beverley and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for their support in making this event such a success.



FORTHCOMING SPECIAL SEASONAL DATES TO CELEBRATE!

● **Sat. 27th September 11am-3pm**
Edderton Parish Church Gift Day
(in aid of Edderton Church)

● **Sun. 28th September**
Harvest Services:

10am Rosehall Parish Church
10.30am Creich Parish Church (including Baptism)
10.30am Edderton Parish Church
12.15pm Ardgay Parish Church

● **Sun. 5th October at 10.30am**
Edderton Parish Church. Joint Service of Holy Communion with Ardgay Parish Church.

The Kyle of Sutherland Churches'
Kincardine, Croick and Edderton
linked with Creich and Rosehall Parishes

Minister: Rev. Anthony M. Jones

The Manse, Manse Road,
Ardgay, Sutherland IV24 3BG

☎ **01863 766 285**

✉ **revanthonyjones@yahoo.com**

Charities & Volunteering



Bradbury Centre

Well-Being Centre for the Elderly of East Sutherland
Opening hours - Monday & Friday 9 am to 3 pm, Tuesday 9 am to 2 pm, Wednesday 9 am to 2:30 pm Some of the activities are: chair based exercises, games to stimulate the mind, table and carpet games, quiz and bingo. Lunches served all day. Volunteers needed.

Contact: **Lorraine**
or **Elizabeth**
☎ 01863 766 772

The Bridge Project Good Morning Sutherland

This service has been designed to reduce isolation, experienced by some of the over 50's, who live alone in

our communities.

Contact: **John McMurray**
☎ 07801 496 609

East Sutherland Community Care Forum

Up to date information and support on anything to do with health and community care.

Contact: **Carol Summers**
☎ 01463 718 817



Highland One Stop Shop run by Autism Initiatives

Service for Adults 16+ with an Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) living within the Highland region.

Contact: **Diane Roberts**
☎ 01463 717 880

Charities with recycling shops

■ **DORNOCH: St Finnbar's Scottish Episcopal Church**, just off Cathedral Square.

Clothes, books, bric a brac

■ **GOLSPIE: 2nd Best** (Alzheimer Scotland Society), Main Street, Tel. 01408 633008. Clothes, books, bric a brac

■ **TAIN Highland Hospice**, 11 King Street, Tel. 01862 894 216. Clothes, books, bric a brac

■ **TAIN: Blythwood Christian Care**, 25 Lamington Street, Tel. 01862 893 408. Highland Foodbank,

shoeboxes appeal, clothes, books, bric a brac, used stamps

■ **LAIRG: Blythwood Christian Care**, behind the Bank of Scotland, Main Street, Wed, Thu, Fri 10 am - 4 pm Tel. 01349 830 777

■ **EVANTON: Blythwood Christian Care** Highland Deephaven Depot, Evanton. For large items: furniture, white goods, sports equipment, fixtures and fittings, carpets. Also Highland Foodbank. Tel. 01349 830 777

Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations

Supporting, promoting and connecting organisations from across the third sector in Scotland

☎ 01314 748 000

The Spark

(The Relationship Helpline)
Confidential support for all your relationship difficulties.
www.thespark.org.uk
☎ 08088 022 088



Royal Society For The Protection Of Birds - Golspie

The RSPB is the country's largest nature conservation charity, we protect threatened birds and wildlife so our towns, coast and countryside will teem with life once again.

☎ 01408 634404



East Sutherland Citizens Advice Bureau



Confidential, impartial and independent advice, information, and assistance to anyone, on just about any subject.

Contact: **Jim McCourt**
☎ 01408 633 000



Tax Help for Older People

Offering free tax advice to older people on lower incomes. Helpline:

☎ 08456 013 321
☎ 01308 488 066

Voluntary Groups East Sutherland

VGES supports the voluntary sector in East Sutherland by representing and supporting voluntary groups and individuals interested in or actively volunteering and facilitating co-operation.

Contact:
☎ 01408 633 001



Highland Handyperson service

Do you need help with minor repairs at home?

☎ 01549 402 798



Scottish SCPA

Our animal rescue and rehoming centres are open daily from 10am to 4pm.

Contact (option 2):
☎ 03000 999 999

WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR CHARITY OR VOLUNTEER GROUP TO BE LISTED ON THIS PAGE?

*Please send an email to
ardgaynewsletter@gmail.com*



Guide to local services A-Z

BRADBURY CENTRE

Bradbury Centre Bonar Bridge
01863 766 772

BUSES

MacLeod's Coaches
01408 641 354
Bradbury Centre Bus
01863 766 772

CAB

Citizens Advice Bureau Golspie
01408 633 000

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kincardine Parish Church
Rev. Anthony M. Jones
01863 766 285

DVLA

DVLA Inverness
0300 790 6801

ELECTRICITY

24Hr Emergency
0800 300 999
Customer Help
0800 300 111

FIRE BRIGADE

Fire Station Dornoch
01862 810 297

FORESTRY COMMISSION

Forestry Commission Scotland
01309 674 004

GOLF CLUB

Bonar Bridge-Ardgay GC
01863 766 199

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Drummuie Golspie
01408 635 370
Service Point Bonar Bridge
01863 766 083
Service Point Dornoch
01862 810 491

HIGH SCHOOLS

Tain Royal Academy
01862 892 121
Dornoch Academy
01862 810 246

KYLE OF SUTHERLAND

KoS Development Trust
01863 766 536
KoS Fisheries Trust
01863 766 702
KoS Youth Development Group
01408 633 451

Royal Bank of Scotland
Mobile Timetable
TUESDAY
Bonar Bridge War Memorial
Arrive 13:35 Depart 13.50

MacLeod's Coaches Timetable

ARDGAY → TAIN

Ardgay	Ardgay
06:46 / 09:08	07:42 / 10:35
11:28 / 14:23	13:35 / 16:25
17:20 / 17:48	19:20
↓	↑
Edderton	Edderton
06:58 / 09:20	07:28 / 10:20
11:40 / 14:35	13:20 / 16:10
17:35 / 18:00	19:05
↓	↑
Tain Lamington St	Tain Lamington St
07:08 ¹ / 09:30 ¹	07:18 / 10:11
11:50 / 14:45 ¹	13:11 ¹ / 16:00 ¹
17:45 / 18:10 ¹	18:55 ¹
↓	↑
Tain ASDA	Tain ASDA
07:11 / 09:33	07:13 / 10:03
11:53 / 14:48	13:03 / 15:52
17:48 / 18:13	18:47

06:46 Monday to Friday
09:08 Monday to Saturday
14:23 Saturday only

¹ Connects with Stagecoach bus to/from Inverness

Mobile Library Ardgay

EVERY 3RD WEDNESDAY
Oakwood Place, Ardgay
Arrive 13:45 Depart 14:00
The Lady Ross, Ardgay
Arrive 14:00 Depart 15:10

LIBRARIES

Bonar Bridge Library
01863 760 083
Mobile Libraries Ardgay & Strathoykel, Strathcarron
0773 330 0761

NHS

Migdale Hospital
01863 766 211
Doctors Creich Surgery
01863 766 379
Nurses Creich Surgery
01863 766 237

POLICE

Local Police (Inverness)
0845 600 5703
National Emergency 101
Confidential Line:
01463 723 321
Textphone:
01463 723 325

POST OFFICE

Bonar Bridge
01863 766 219

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Gledfield
01863 766 580
Bonar Bridge
01863 766 219
Rosehall
01549 441 348

RECYCLING CENTRE

Bonar Bridge
01349 868 439

SCOTTISH WATER

24Hr Emergency
0845 600 8855
Customer Help
0845 601 8855

TAXIS

Ronnie's Taxis Ardgay
01863 766 422
A&B Taxis Ardgay-Bonar
07549 999 760

TRAINS

National Rail Enquiries
0845 748 4950

VETS

Rogart Vets (Farm Animals, Pets & Horses)
01408 641 352
Easter Ross Vets Tain
01862 893 142
Johnston & Farrell Tain
01862 894 223
Kessoks Equine Vets
01463 731 107

Bradbury Centre Bus

BONAR BRIDGE CIRCULAR (Via Spinningdale, Tain and Edderton)

920 - Wednesday

Bonar Bridge Cherry Grove 10:30	↓	Bonar Bridge Cherry Grove 14:40	↑
Spinningdale 10:39		Spinningdale 14:31	
Clashmore 10:53		Clashmore 14:19	
Tain old CO-OP 11:02		Tain old CO-OP 14:08	
Tain Lamington St 11:04		Tain Lamington St 14:06	
Edderton 11:17	↓	Edderton 13:53	↑
Ardgay 11:39		Ardgay 13:33	
Bonar Bridge Cherry Grove 11:42		Bonar Bridge Cherry Grove 13:30	

BONAR BRIDGE - ALNESS 919 - Tuesday

Bonar Bridge Cherry Grove 10:30	↓	Bonar Bridge Cherry Grove 13:45	↑
Ardgay 10:34		Ardgay 13:40	
Easter Fearn 10:42		Easter Fearn 13:33	
Ardross 10:58		Ardross 13:17	
Alness 11:15	↓	Alness 13:00	↑

The minibus has a wheelchair lift which will be available as part of the service. The service will divert on request to pick up prebooked passengers up to a mile from the route. These journeys must be booked by 14:00 on the previous working day **01863 766 772**



Classified ads

VOLUNTEER ADVISERS WANTED

No special skills are needed –except for some basic computer knowledge- and full training is provided. Becoming a CAB adviser is an excellent way of making a contribution to, and becoming involved in, the local community. Citizens Advice Bureau 01408 633 000

TUTORS WANTED Are you a Tutor? Can you offer courses? We are always looking for skilled Tutors to help develop new learning opportunities. Lairg Learning Centre: 01549 402 050

OCCASIONAL ORGANIST REQUIRED

The Church of Scotland Ardgay and Ed-derton parish churches are currently seeking an organist to assist on occasional Sun-

days at their regular services of worship at 10.30 am and 12:15 pm For further details telephone: 01863 766 285

BOARD MEMBERS We are keen to recruit at least a couple more Board members. Anyone interested in helping with the management of the Bradbury Centre should contact Dr. Brian Martin 01863 766 147

REPRESENTATIVE FROM ARDGAY

to take a place on East Sutherland Community Care Forum board and to provide communication to and from the people. Please contact Carol Summers for more details. 01463 718 817 Mob: 07918 747 756

VOLUNTEERS for Gledfield Primary School. If you have any skills you would like to

share with our pupils or just fancy helping out in any way please get in touch. 01863 766 580

GAZEBO / Small Marquee The Community Council have a small gazebo / marquee available for hire for community activities. Contact Marion Turner or Phil Olson 01863 766 100.

BOOKING Ardgay Public Hall. Contact: Fiona Venters 01863 766 602

BOOKING Kincardine Heritage Centre, Old Church of Kincardine, Ardgay. Mrs. Mary Stobo 01863 766 868

BOOKING Ardgay Church Hall. The Reverend Anthony Jones – 01863 766 285



A.Y.E.

(Auld Yin Expeditions)

Contact me with your request for guided walk or ramble – anywhere in Scotland

Accommodation Choices

Hotel/B&B/Bunkhouse/Bothy/Tent

David Hannah, Tigh na Cnoc, Ardgay Hill, Ardgay,
Sutherland, IV24 3DH, Tel 01863 766 061
Mob 07880 776 909 E-mail dhanah559@hotmail.co.uk

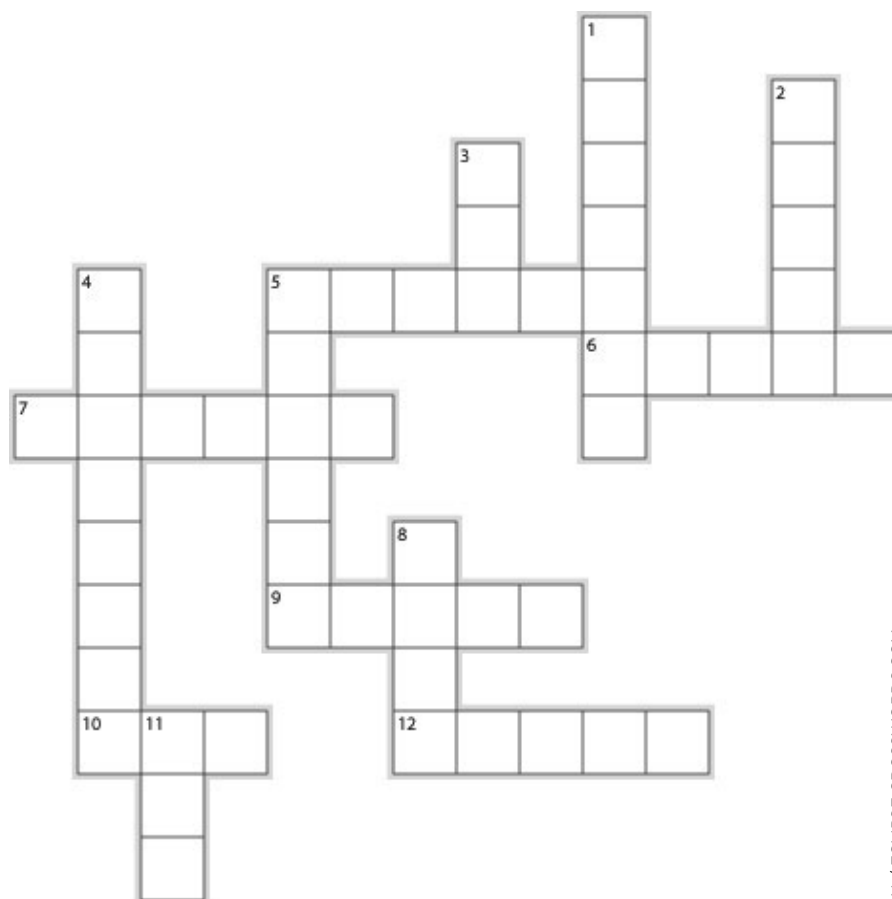
Crosswords

Across

5. Originally, a ball used for secret voting. 6. A mound of rough stones built as a memorial or landmark, typically on a hilltop or skyline.
7. Talk in a rapid, excited, and often incomprehensible way. 9. Carbisdale was once known as the Castle of
10. A herd of whales. 12. A poem of serious reflection, typically a lament for the dead.

Down

1. To use magic to make someone do, think, or say something.
2. The mouth of a river; an estuary.
3. A snake-like fish with a slender elongated body and poorly developed fins, proverbial for its slipperiness.
4. To produce or lay eggs in water.
5. Scottish term for trousers
8. A medium blue or blue-green pigment made from basic copper carbonate. 11. A chest, or coffer.



Around the 25th September, the solution will be published at:
www.ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk

Energy prices are rising but we can help



Do you live in the Creich or Ardgay community council areas?



We would like to help you with:

- Free home energy assessments
- Impartial home energy and energy reduction advice
- Home food growing help and advice
- Food waste reduction help and advice
- Reducing your household food and energy bills

www.facebook.com/greeningkyle T: 01863 766554 E: gkassistant@kyleofsutherland.co.uk

Greening Kyle is funded by the Scottish Government through the Climate Challenge Fund. It is a part of the Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust, which is a Company Limited by Guarantee Scottish Registration: SC401019 & Scottish Charity: SC043587

ARDGAY&DISTRICT Community Council *newsletter*

Editor: **Silvia Muras Sanmartin**

Design & Layout: **Silvia Muras Sanmartin**
01863 766 690 / silviaturassanmartin@gmail.com

Contributors to this issue: **Andymack, Michael Baird, Helen Houston, Rev. Anthony M. Jones, Michael Keates, Susan Kruse, Louise Mackay, Rhionna Mackay, Kirsten Macneil, Betty Wright.**

Distribution: **Rhonwen Copley, Brigitte Geddes, Gaye Hart, David Knight, Teresa Langley, David Laver, Alan Lawrence, Davy Ross, Bob Sendal, Jeannie Sparling, Anna Sutherland, Marion Turner, Vicky Whittock, Iain Worthy, Betty Wright.**

(Please contact us if you are not receiving the newsletter)

ARDGAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

(Full contact details in page 8)

David Hannah (Chair), **Marion Turner** (Vice-Chair),
Alan Lawrence (Treasurer), **Phil Olson, Betty Wright,**
Bob Sendall, Teresa Langley (Secretary)

COUNCILLORS:

(Full contact details in page 8)

George Farlow, Hugh Morrison, Linda Munro

ONLINE VERSION AVAILABLE FROM:

www.ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk

ADVERTISING, LETTERS & CONTRIBUTIONS:

01863 766 690

ardgaynewsletter@gmail.com

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