

ARDGAY & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



Ardgay and District Community Council Population 598 Area 624.8 Sq Kilometres Density 1.04 per Sqkm
Back issues available at our website <ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk> **No 14 – Winter Edition 2011**

Special thanks to: our local branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland, Parade Commander Colin Gilmour, The Reverend Anthony Jones, The Police, Highland Council, The Boys Brigade, Ardgay, Bonar Bridge & Rosehall Primary Schools and all members of the communities who came to Remember and pay tribute to those who died that we might live. Over 200 people were there. Most went on to worship in Ardgay Church and to enjoy a super lunch in Ardgay Village Hall & the art displays from the 3 schools.



Well Remembered Kyle of Sutherland

From the Chair

Welcome to the 14th edition of our Newsletter

With this edition we are pleased to introduce your 'official' newly formed Community Council for Ardgay & District.

In alphabetical order:

- **Peter Armstrong**
- **David Hannah**
- **David Laver**
- **Alan Lawrence**
- **Phil Olson**
- **Bob Sendall**
- **Marion Turner**
- **Betty Wright**

We would also like to give grateful thanks to our retiring members – Liz Cormack, Derek Matheson and William MacLaren for their long and helpful service to the community – Best wishes for your retirement.

David Hannah

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ARDGAY & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING—MONDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2011—ARDGAY HALL

Present - David Hannah (Chair), Doreen Gibbs (Vice-Chair), Marion Turner, Alan Lawrence (Treasurer), Phil Olson, David Laver, Peter Armstrong (Secretary), Liz Cormack, Cllr Linda Munro.

1. Welcome The Chair opened the meeting with a welcome to those present.

2. Apologies - None received.

3. Minutes of the last meeting held on 10 Oct 2011 were approved with amendments.

4. Matters Arising from the minutes

Lady Ross The secretary had written to KPMG to raise concerns about the condition of the property which KPMG were now holding in sequestration, highlighting the recent removal of slates from the roof of the barn building. KPMG had written back with an assurance that any legally required actions would be taken. Following an approach from Ardgay Hall Committee, the exposed roofing of the barn had been temporarily covered with plastic sheeting. Members felt it was important that the missing slates be restored to the building as a matter of urgency to prevent deterioration of the building and possible danger to the public. Cllr Munro said she would raise the issue with the local police, who had apparently witnessed and intervened to stop the removal of the slates.

Local postbox relocation The secretary had written to Royal Mail requesting a site meeting to discuss alternative sites for the local postbox. It was hoped that this would take place within the following week.

Standing water Highland Council had again been unable to promise any imminent action on this problem. Doreen Gibbs suggested writing to Scotrail about the water at Culrain Station affecting access to trains. Chair suggested that SEPA be contacted as this was obviously contaminated water and poses a serious Health & Safety risk to those having to go through it.

Ardgay Hill-Oakwood Footpath A response is still awaited from Highland Council giving a Right of Way access over their land at Oakwood Place. Cllr Munro was liaising with Marion to seek a resolution of the obstacles to this project.

5. Correspondence

A letter had been received from Rhonwen Copley in her capacity as a director of Gearrhoille Community Wood (see 7)

A letter had been received from Jeannie Sparling raising three issues

(i) the existing flower tubs in the village needed replacement with 8 new half-barrels. The community council had already agreed to purchase these. Marion Turner would look into a source.

(ii) a concern that lorries transporting fish through the village had been emptying water in the Lady Ross car park. It was agreed to ask Jeannie to take company and registration details of any drivers seen doing this so that an official complaint could be made.

(iii) Lastly, Jeannie had expressed her surprise to see Council workers weeding pavements in the village. She felt this was work that could be done by people on community service orders or those looking for work. It was felt, however, that either of these options would be complicated by the requirement for supervision.

An email had been received from Irene MacLeod inviting the participation of local groups in the proposed Homecoming 2014 events.

Sustainable Schools Review Highland Council had invited the CC to participate in a consultation about the future of local schools. Briefing documents had been received on the 29 Oct with an invitation to attend a meeting on the 2 Nov. No member had been able to attend the meeting. Disappointment was expressed about the short notice given and a lack of clarity in the information provided. It was also unclear why the consultation was being carried out at this time and with such apparent haste. It was agreed that the secretary should write to Highland Council to express the community council's disappointment with a lack of cooperation on this and other issues.

6. Treasurer's Update - A donation of £10 from a Culrain resident towards the costs of the CC Newsletter had been received last month but omitted from the accounts. A further £2.00 donation had been received by one of the distribution team,

Treasurer's account the current cleared balance stood at £2144.08.

Projects account the current cleared balance stood at £4052.70.

Toilets account the current cleared balance stood at £826.65, (cheque outstanding for £159.00)

7. Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm Benefit applications

There had been one new application for support from the fund. The Friends of Migdale had submitted an application for £500 from each of the three local community councils as part-funding for their garden project at the new Migdale hospital. The group had already presented detailed plans for this project at our October meeting, and funding was now approved.

A decision on two further applications had been deferred at the last meeting. Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust had submitted an application to part-fund improvements to a property belonging to the owners of Ardgay Garage. This application was now approved on the grounds that the work would improve the appearance of the village. An undertaking had also been given by the applicants that the site would be made available for community events.

A decision on an application from Lairg Learning Centre seeking part-funding for a new management post had also been deferred pending assurances that the services offered by the Centre would be accessible to residents of Ardgay. It was noted that the Centre was to hold an information session at Bonar Bridge Hall on 19 November, and members were urged to attend this event with a view to informing a decision on this application.

A letter had been received from a director of Gearrhoille Woodland Community Association objecting to a request for evidence of how a grant made through the Beinn Tharsuinn scheme had been spent.

The request had been made to all previous recipients of the grants in a letter sent by Community Councillor Phil Olson in his role as a director of Beinn Tharsuinn, in response to concerns that there was currently an inadequate audit trail for grants made. Phil Olson hoped to have an early opportunity to attend a meeting of the GCWA to discuss the issue and clear up any misunderstandings.

8. Windfarms Update

Glenmorie The planning application for a 43 turbine development at Glenmorie had just been submitted to the Scottish Government. The community council had received copies of the summary Environmental Statement. It was noted that the proposal included provision of aviation lights owing to its location on a route used by low-flying military aircraft. Marion Turner would draft a response to the proposal on our behalf, and would liaise with Cllrs Linda Munro and Deirdre MacKay (East Sutherland and Edderton ward).

Rosehall The next meeting of the Rosehall Liaison Group was due to take place on 16 November. Doreen Gibbs would attend the meeting on our behalf.

Achany David Hannah and Marion Turner had attended a review meeting of the local advisory panel for Achany Windfarm, which had been well attended. Both felt that the constructive and consensual approach adopted in this development under the auspices of the Scottish Communities Foundation was a useful model for future community liaison on projects.

Sallachy A planned meeting between the developers and CC representatives had not taken place.

Wind farm mapping Marion Turner showed members maps obtained following a request to Highland Council's planning department showing the location of all existing and proposed wind farm developments. The maps were felt to be a useful resource to inform our response to future development proposals, though they did not give any impression of the physical extent and boundaries of the wind farm sites.

9. KOSDT update Lynsey Burns had prepared a digest of her activities up to October. These included work on a variety of project ideas, promotion of local jobs through an apprenticeship scheme, the development of a logo and branding strategy for the Kyle of Sutherland, and the creation of a new website for the Trust.

10. Ward Forum The next ward forum was now scheduled for January 29 at 11.00 in Lairg. As previously noted, this will be focused on housing issues – how existing resources are managed, the basis of the allocation points system, grants and benefits available, etc, and will have input from Council staff, who will also be on hand for private enquiries. Cllr Munro suggested that specific requests for information on housing issues could be passed to the ward Manager (and copied to herself) in advance of the meeting so that Council staff came with the relevant facts to hand.

11. AOCB

Community Care The secretary said he had read Cllr Munro's recent article about the future of care in the community with interest, and asked if she could briefly summarise the issues involved. It appeared that the major problem was a lack of flexibility in providing services at local level. Cllr Munro felt that a community managed service would be best placed to meet the needs of local people.

Christmas trees Liz Cormack reported that this year's Christmas trees for Ardgay and Culrain had been ordered.

Community Newsletter David Hannah asked the Treasurer if he could prepare a statement of the finances of the newsletter to date. Marion Turner would submit an article on timber lorries for the forthcoming issue.

Remembrance Day David Hannah said the events planned for Remembrance Sunday had been very successful. The police and RBLS marshall had effectively controlled traffic to allow the service at the war memorial, which was followed by a service at the local church and an exhibition by schoolchildren at Ardgay Hall, where refreshments were served. He wanted to thank Liz Cormack and Harry Brown for laying the wreath on behalf of the Community. It was agreed that a donation of £50 would be made from funds to cover the cost of the wreath and a contribution to the British Legion.

Phone Boxes BT had confirmed the transfer of two phone booths to the community through the Adopt a Kiosk scheme. The booths were located in the centre of the village outside *Byeways* and beside the Old Schoolhouse at Achnahanat.

Carbisdale Castle It had been reported in the Northern Times that the castle would now be reopening for business in July 2012. The Chairman noted that despite being a member of the SYHA Council he himself had received no communication about the new re-opening date.

12. Chairman's Report As this was the last meeting of the present Community Council, David Hannah thanked members for their support. He suggested that in future the role of Minute Secretary be put out to tender to allow the Secretary more time for other responsibilities.

13. Meeting to establish new Community Council - Ward Manager Andy Mackay had agreed that the inaugural meeting of the new Community Council would take place at the usual time for meetings on the 12 December 2011. Highland Council staff and at least one Elected Member would attend to Moderate the proceedings. All Members of the new Community Council would be notified in writing of these arrangements.

The meeting ended at 9.15pm. First meeting of the new Community Council will be at 7pm on Monday 12 December.

PA 20/11/11

Ardgay & District Community Council Meeting 2012 dates all Mondays at 7.00pm in Ardgay Village Hall

09 January	13 February	12 March	09 April
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All meetings are open to the public and we would welcome your support by attending some of them to let us know how well you think we are doing in managing your community affairs.

Highland Council Apology to Ardgay & District Community Council

Sirs - Please accept my apologies for missing you out of the original circulation to Community Councils in respect of the Sustainable Schools Estates Review.

I attach above the initial invitation to the meetings which took place last week, (*available on request to the Editor*) and explains the purpose and process of the review.

In addition I attach the next set of papers, (*available on request to the Editor*) which sets out a number of ideas or possible options for the ASG and seeks views. We appreciate that timescales are tight, and as you are playing catch up will be even tighter, but it is not critical for you to respond by the deadline. I would be happy to receive views from your Community Council when you are able to submit them.

I believe the attached documents to be self explanatory, but please free to contact myself if you seek clarification on any aspect of the documents. **Graham Nichols, Area ECS Manager - Caithness, Sutherland & Easter Ross, 01408 635338**

Kincardine Parish Church - Contact Details - Minister- Rev. Anthony M. Jones The Manse, Manse Road, Ardgay, Sutherland IV24 3BG email: <revanthonymjones@amserve.com> Tel: 01863 766285

Session Clerk/Roll Keeper – Mrs Rosalie Sutherland Tel 01862 821 320

Clerk to the Congregational Board – Mrs Babs Gemmill Tel 01863 766 495,

Treasurer Hilary Gardner Tel 01863 766107



Greetings From The Manse - May you experience the Joy and Peace of Christ in your hearts and homes this Christmas and carry that Peace with you into the New Year.

Dear Friends - I frequently am presented with a little further reading in the form of parish magazines from parishioners holiday venues e.g. English seaside resorts, remote Scottish and Welsh villages, cathedral cities and, occasionally some exotic Church of Scotland outpost on the continent. Each parish magazine reflects church life in the locality and, as such is a macrocosm of Christian community life. It can also be a marvellous channel for outreach and communication. The question then arises - are we catering for a Christian ghetto or the wider community in which we are called to be "salt" (cp Matt 5.13)

Looking at some parish magazines, I see that some churches are good at organising bazaars and jumble sales, others seem to specialise in musical events, chamber and pop. Still others major on more outdoor events - Sunday lunches, Parish holidays, Rambling Clubs - while many seem absorbed in swapping stained-glass windows or, the perennial problem of keeping the rain out! Some see their financial salvation in running a raffle at the drop of a hat or, put a more serious trust in the manifold mercies of the National Lottery. As Christmas time once again approaches and, given the current economic climate, perhaps it is fitting to ask ourselves again: What is the Church's role today? Are we mainly a money making organisation? Is the Church's role today largely social? Are we best at running whist drives, amateur dramatics, badminton matches or Saturday afternoon rambles? I am absolutely convinced that there is indeed a place for some healthy social activity within our Church life today. But, surely, if that were all, then Church life is not different from any other social club - where no doubt, they can do things far more efficiently! Does the Church serve any distinct purpose today? What is unique about its message? What gives the Church its cutting edge? In Scotland the Church's ministers have been especially set apart 'by lawful calling' [The Form of Presbyterial Government, 1645] and, the rite of ordination to the office of parish ministry for this explicit purpose. Although this is a sacred privilege entrusted to all Parish Ministers, the task of spreading the gospel is for the whole 'people of God', Elders, office-bearers and congregation. Through Christ's life-changing Gospel we receive the forgiveness of sins, a Spirit-filled and Spirit-controlled life here and now. And at the end, Eternal Life in the glories of Heaven. This is the timeless Message which gives our church and every church its unique role and, it is our duty and privilege graciously to proclaim it. As we celebrate the birth of Christ our Saviour once again it is good to remind ourselves that our church and, every church is the sole instrument of the New Covenant and, has been entrusted with the Word of God. As New Year does indeed fall on a Sunday this year, we are having a Joint Covenant service at Kincardine Church on Sunday 1st January at 10.30am. Each person that attends will also receive a free calendar for 2012. The Church does have a uniquely inspired message (Luke 24.27; II Timothy 3.14); it focuses upon the Living Word, Jesus Christ, "The Wisdom of God" (1 Cor 1.30). May experience the joy and peace of Christ in your hearts and homes this Christmas and, that you will carry that peace into the New Year. 'May the God of Peace fill you with all Joy and Hope in Believing' **Anthony**

Sunday (usual) Services - Edderton @ 10.30am, Ardgay @ 12.15pm – If you would like information about the Church of Scotland contact Mrs Rosalie Sutherland, Session Clerk on 01862 821 320

Christmas Services

Saturday 24th December at 7.00pm in Kincardine Church - Christmas Eve Service -Preparing for Christmas

Sunday 25th December at 10.00am in Creich Church - Christmas Family Service (no service in Rosehall 25 December)

Sunday 1st January at 10.30am - Joint New Year's Day Service



Children's Christmas Services at Local Churches

As well as the usual choice of Christmas services throughout the church linkage during this year's season, there are a number of special children's services to which we extend a warm welcome:

Sunday 18th December at 10.30am - Children's Christmas Nativity at Creich Parish Church also

Sunday 18th December at 12 noon Rosehall Primary School and Sunday School Christmas Nativity at Rosehall Parish Church

Monday 19th December at 2.30pm - Gledfield Primary School, Ardgay,

Wednesday 21st December at 12 noon - Edderton Primary School Christmas Service of Carols at Edderton Parish Church

Thursday 22nd December at 1.00pm - Bonar Bridge Primary School Christmas Service at Creich Parish Church

Sunday 25th December at 10.30am - Children's Toy Service at Creich Parish Church

2012 Dates - Sunday 1st January 2012 - Joint Covenant Service at Ardgay at 10.30am

Sunday 29th January - Family Christingle Service at Creich Church at 10.30am

Advance Notice: February 2012 - Stewardship Month in all the Churches of the Linkage: (commencing with the 'Talents Service' - on Sunday 6th February in each church)

Sunday 4th March - 'The Sowing and Reaping' Service in each church

Sunday 11th March - Service of Thanksgiving for the DFG at Rosehall Church at 6pm (followed by the AGM of the DFG)

The Bridge Project - (Dornoch Firth Group – Scottish Charity Number SC034932). The Dornoch Firth Group was established in 2007 by the six Church of Scotland Parishes around the Dornoch Firth, (Kincardine, Creich, Edderton, Rosehall, Croick & Dornoch).

“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. It is a service to reassure you that someone will check on you every day, with a telephone call from one of our trained team. If your “Good Morning Sutherland” call is not answered, we will call again in a few minutes. If there is still no answer after a third call, we will contact your agreed contact person. (There is no charge for the service). Referrals can also be made from various services such as Medical Services, District Nurses, Doctors' Surgeries or local Churches, of any denomination.

Volunteers wanted – If you would like to give time to supporting and assisting with this service, or give a donation to cover administration costs. **Contact** – John McMurray, Community Outreach Worker, Wilalimar, Rowan Avenue, Dornoch, IV25 3QW, Tel 07801496609, e-mail johnmcmurray@yahoo.com

Kincardine, Croick & Edderton Guild (Charity No SC016877) – We at the Guild invite you to come along to our sessions – usually the 2nd Tuesday of each month except December & January at 7.30pm in Ardgay Church Hall. We have speakers, demonstrations and slide shows, and always a cup of tea and a chat - Contact for details – Mrs Isobel Adlard Tel 01863 766 469.

Food for Thought - After the item - I do not know what Charles Wesley - as you will be aware - a prolific hymn writer, would make of 'modern' hymns with regard No. 2 The Methodist Church have just released a new hymn book entitled "Singing the Faith" which is hardly in line with Wesley's expressed sentiments! Why must everything change?! Submitted by a traditional Methodist.

RULES FOR SINGING

From John Wesley's Select Hymns, 1761

1. Learn these tunes before you learn any others; afterwards learn as many as you please.
2. Sing them exactly as they are printed here, without altering or mending them at all; and if you have learned to sing them otherwise, unlearn it as soon as you can.
3. Sing all. See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can. Let not a single degree of weakness or weariness hinder you. If it is a cross to you, take it up, and you will find it a blessing.
4. Sing lustily and with good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sung the songs of Satan.

5. Sing modestly. Do not bawl, so as to be heard above or distinct from the rest of the congregation, that you may not destroy the harmony; but strive to unite your voices together, so as to make one clear melodious sound.

6. Sing in time. Whatever time is sung be sure to keep with it. Do not run before nor stay behind it; but attend close to the leading voices, and move therewith as exactly as you can; and take care not to sing too slow. This drawling way naturally steals on all who are lazy; and it is high time to drive it out from us, and sing all our tunes just as quick as we did at first.

7. Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing him more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to do this attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually; so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve here, and reward you when he cometh in the clouds of heaven.







Carbisdale Castle Youth Hostel – probably won't open until July 2012!



SWRI (Scottish Women's Rural Institute) SWRI – Ardgay 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of every month September to March in Ardgay Village Hall. All ages welcome - Contact for details – Mrs Jean Jack Tel 01863 766 646.



Culrain and Invershin in the Culrain Hall the last Thursday of the month at 7.30pm.

 <p><u>What is WRI?</u></p> <p>What is WRI? I hear you say Is it not for old folks with hair all grey? No it's not if truth be told It's for ALL women, young and old</p>	<p>We learn new skills and have a laugh There's competitions for baking and crafts We raise some funds to help the needy With coffee mornings, yip indeedy</p> 	 <p>It helps us pass the cold dark nights We're all quite friendly, no-one bites! You'll always get a welcome greeting First we have our business meeting</p>
 <p>Then our speaker gives a talk Sometimes with slides, sometimes not</p>	<p>Sometimes a demo to show what to do Sometimes we even have a go too!</p> 	<p>At the end we have some tea It's all quite normal, can't you see? There's nothing to be worried by So come along and give it a try!</p> 

Ardgay Badminton Club – Currently a very healthy 60 members. Aim to starting on Thursdays in October and ending before the lambing season in early April. Players will be moved to suitable groups depending more on ability than age after the first couple of nights. Used to play badminton? Come along on a Monday, we're a friendly club and our members come along for a bit of social fun rather than serious match play. Below shows how it worked out last season but may change depending on numbers. It should work out at £1.00 per hour for all. Rackets available. Children are allowed to start if they are in primary 4 upwards at the start of the season. Contact details for George Ross: Tel 01863 755 329, e-mail <ochayeman@hotmail.co.uk>.



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Mondays			Thursdays			Saturdays			
Beginners	1830 – 1930	£1.00,	Teens	1830 – 2000	£1.50,	Competition Squad	Boys	1900 – 2030	£1.50,
Advanced	1930 – 2030	£1.00,	Adults	2000 – 2230	£2.00		Girls	2030 – 2200	£1.50
Adult "Beginners"	2030 – 2200	£1.50							

Creich Surgery - Bonar Bridge, Creich Surgery, Cherry Grove, Bonar Bridge IV24 3EP, Tel: 01863 766379 Fax: 01863 766768



Consulting Times for appointments

Day	Morning Appointments	Afternoon Appointments
Monday	0900 – 1130	1530 – 1700
Tuesday	0900 – 1130	1530 – 1700
Wednesday	0900 – 1130	1530 – 1700
Thursday	0900 – 1130	1530 – 1700
Friday	0900 – 1130	1530 – 1700 & 1800 – 1830 for working patients

Out of hours GP services - are available between 6.00pm and 8am on weekdays, at the weekend, and on public holidays. These services provide help when your GP surgery is closed and your condition is too serious to wait until the next day. If you phone your surgery when it is closed you will get a message explaining how to contact your local out of hours service.

NHS24 - Contact for health care advice on 08454 24 24 24 (Textphone 18001 08454 24 24 24).

NHS Inform – You no longer need to look in lots of different places for Health Information you can trust.

Call 0800 22 44 88 (8am to 10pm) or visit www.nhsinform.co.uk.

Dental Helpline - Should you experience difficulties in registering or accessing emergency care for NHS Dental treatment, please contact the NHS Dental Helpline on 08456 442271 (Evenings & Weekends NHS 24 on 08454 242424) or email nhshighland.dentalhelpline@nhs.net If you are not registered with a dentist and are disabled it may be that you can qualify for a fast track registration provided that you fit the dental criteria. If you get a letter from your doctor which explains your condition and disability and forward the information to the following address you may get registered sooner: The Centre for Health Science, Inverness Dental Centre, Old Perth Road, Inverness, IV2 3JH, Tel 08456 442271.



Dornoch/Tain High Schools – Dornoch information: DORNOCH ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL - Website:

<http://www.spanglefish.com/DAPC/> . Contact details for Tain Royal Academy parent council: CHAIRMAN Mr Paul Hoggarth, Redstone Gables Edderton (01862 821214). 'The latest newsletter from Tain Royal Academy can be viewed at www.tainroyalacademy.org.uk Articles include the schools link with Malawi, school trip to CERN & all the sports news.'

(Why does no one from these schools contribute anything to this newsletter??)

Gledfield Primary School - Gledfield Primary Parent Council: email gledfield@scottishparents.com

Office bearers: Chair: Vacant, Vice-chair: Vacant, Secretary: Rhys Llewellyn, Treasurer: Jacqueline Sutherland. Teacher Member & Headteacher - Kirsten McGruer,

Education provision in Ross-shire is currently being reviewed, and the recent PC meeting was mainly concerned with replying to the proposals which affected Gledfield Primary School and pupils who live in the Tain Royal Academy catchment area, namely: A new age 3-18 years campus incorporating Tain Royal Academy, Knockbreck Primary, Craighill Primary, St Duthus and nursery provision. A new Tain Royal Academy and a new separate Primary, and a new St Duthus. A combined primary school, sited at Gledfield, for pupils from Bonar Bridge, Gledfield and Edderton. The proposals which have the potential to affect future facilities for secondary education provision, received mixed feedback from parents, and led to many more questions than answers. As far as primary provision is concerned, since the Sutherland review has not yet started, and this affects Bonar Bridge Primary, it was difficult to comment. Also, there is an ongoing review of Rural Primary schools which is not complete until August 2012. This means that no changes to primary provision in the area can take place until after that report has been received.

Community Contact numbers - Thank you to the Bradbury Centre Local Telephone Directory for this information:

Police	Dornoch Road	Bonar Bridge	766222	Migdale Hospital	Cherry Grove	Bonar Br.	766211
Doctors	Creich Surgery	Bonar Bridge	766379	Primary Schools	Bonar Br.	Bonar Br.	766219
Nurses	Creich Surgery	Bonar Bridge	766237	"	Gledfield	Ardgay	766580
Electricity	24Hr Emergency	0800	300999	"	Rosehall	01549	441348
"	Enquiries	0800	300000	Post Office	Alness	01349	884487
"	Customer Help	0800	300111	"	Bonar Br.	Bonar Br.	766219
H. Council	Drummuie	Golspie 01408	635370	"	Rosehall	01549	441338
"	Service Point	Bonar Bridge	766838	Bradbury Centre	Bonar Br.	Bonar Br.	766772
"	Service Point	Dornoch 01862	810491	Scot. Water	24 Hr Emergency	08456	008855
				"	Customer Help	08456	018855
Community Development Service – Lynsey Burns			Tel 07961046715		e-mail <lynseymailer@gmail.com>		

Scottish Country Dancing - on Tuesdays from 7.30pm in Ardgay Hall please contact Doreen Bruce – Tel 01863 766852 for information.



THANK YOU - Jack.

Think of Scottish Country Dancing in this area, and you think of Jack Campbell. But something we thought would never happen has happened – Jack has decided to retire. Jack is one of the best known figures in Scottish Country Dancing in the north. He been involved in dancing since the fifties – he was asked along to a class by some friends and has never looked back – and he has been teaching the Ardgay class since 1966. In all this time he has rarely missed a class, and has attended country dancing rallies from Brora to Inverness as often as he could. Dancing was second nature to him, and the pleasure he found in his dancing and teaching was infectious. We miss his unfailing patience, especially with new members, and his sense of humour. Classes were always fun, although we learned the dances at the same time. His knowledge of the many hundreds of dances was amazing. The annual Rally at Ardgay in early March was always very popular with dances coming from far and near to his unique calling of the dances and to join in with his huge enjoyment of the evening's programme, often into the early hours as he was loth to bring the evening to an end. Fortunately, one of his pupils has been able to carry on the class, so that Scottish Country Dancing will still flourish in Ardgay.

Kyle of Sutherland Whist Club – Bonar Bridge Hall – Wednesdays at 7.30pm

	2011 Whist Drives - Participation £1.50 including refreshments. (Lessons can be arranged if you would like to learn how to play and participate in fundraising for community groups)	December 14 th	Fire And Rescue Service
		December 21 st	Royal British Legion, Creich & Kincardine Branch
		January 4 th	Whist Club
		January 11 th	

For information about the Whist Club or any of the Host Groups please contact Mrs Rosemary Logan 01549 421 282

Kyle of Sutherland Heritage Society, Kincardine Old Church, Ardgay - (Reg Scottish Charity No. (SC0145547) - HERITAGE CENTRE DIARY - Steve Copley, Kyle of Sutherland Heritage Society, Lest We Forget' Project Co-ordinator.

Rosehall Community Arts – Contact Dave Goulder number 01549 441283 info/bookings

Winter Ceilidh, Achness Hotel, Dec 17th at 8pm. Fiddle & Accordion Club with supporting/local artists. £8/£6.

Duncan Chisholm and Union Hill, Dec 21st at 8pm Achness Hotel. £10/£8.

Tich Frier's One Man Burns Show, Jan 13th, Achness Hotel. £10 (includes haggis supper)

Simon Thacker, classical guitarist, Feb 3rd, venue tbc, £10/£8 & Andy Irvine, April 24th, Rosehall Village Hall, £10/£8.

Mobile Library dates and times Ardgay

2011: Wednesday 14th December. 2012: Wednesdays 4th and 25th January, 15th February, 7th and 28th March.
Oakwood, Ardgay 1.45 p.m. – 2 p.m. Lady Ross, Ardgay 2 p.m. – 3.20 p.m.



Mobile Library dates and times Culrain, Gledfield, Strathoykel, Strathcarron

2011: Thursday 15th December. 2012: Thursdays 5th and 26th January, 16th February, 8th and 29th March.
Culrain village 2.10 p.m. – 2.45 p.m. Other stops in Strathoykel and Strathcarron as per timetable.
Phone 077 333 00761 for more information.

During term-time the Mobile Library visits Gledfield Primary School. During holidays pupils are welcome to use the Mobile Library at other stops, provided they have their Library tickets. Contact 07733300761 or 01862 766709 for information on other stops and times.

Bonar Bridge Library/Service Point opening times	Monday 10.00am – 12.30pm and 2.30pm – 5.00pm
Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday 10.00am – 12.30pm	Thursday 10.00am – 12.30pm and 5.30pm – 8.00pm
Contact – Angi Banks, Service Point Officer/Library Assistant, Bonar Bridge Library & Service Point, Carnegie Buildings, Lairg Road, Bonar Bridge, IV24 3EA. Tel/Fax 01863 766838, Email: bonarbridge.library@highland.gov.uk	

Bonar Bridge Recycling Centre (Civic Amenity Site): Opening Times

Mon - 1.00 to 4.00pm	Tues - 1.00 to 4.00pm	Thu – 8.00 to 12 noon	Fri - 8.00 to 12 noon	Sat – 9.00 to 12 noon
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Will take: Cans, car batteries, engine oil, fridges, garden waste, gas cylinders, glass, paper – for advice on other items call 01349 868439.

Charities – The known charities, with recycling shops in the area & which all need volunteers are:

Dornoch – St Finbar's Scottish Episcopal Church, just off Cathedral Square. (clothes, books, bric a brac etc.)

Golspie – 2nd Best (Alzheimer Scotland Society), Main Street, Tel 01408 633008. (clothes, books, bric a brac etc.)

Tain – Blythswood Christian Care, 25 Lamington Street, Tel 01862 893408. (foodbank, shoeboxes appeal, clothes, books, bric a brac etc.) For larger items e.g furniture, white goods, sports equipment, fixtures and fittings, carpets etc. call the Highland Deephaven Depot, Alness 01349 830777

Tain - Highland Hospice, 11 King Street, Tel. 01862 894216. (clothes, books, bric a brac etc.)

(let me know if there are any others – editor)

Thinking of Volunteering? – There are many opportunities in our area and these are only a few: Voluntary Groups East Sutherland can give you details.

VG-ES (Voluntary Groups East Sutherland) - for information on Third Sector groups and organisations. Helping to keep you in touch with the wider world. Tel 01408 633001 FAX 05601 146813 or e-mail christine@vges.org.uk - liz@vges.org.uk - Manager - Christine Ross. There are over 200 community groups and organisations linked through VG-ES who provide a great deal of practical and help and support in maintaining their operational work.

CAB (Citizens Advice Bureau) – As well as the satisfaction from seeing the difference you make. CAB volunteering will equip you with new skills that stay with you no matter what you do next. You don't need special skills or knowledge to be an adviser, as your bureau will give you all the training you need. Being a volunteer can seem a little daunting, but don't worry! From your very first day you'll get all the help you need. We'll pay expenses and volunteering needn't affect your benefits. Contact Richard Gale, Manager East Sutherland CAB, Station Road, Golspie, KW10 6SN, Tel 01408 633000, e-mail advice@esvas.org.uk

The Citizens Advice Bureau free drop-in session every Thursday morning in Bonar Bridge Library, 10.15-12.15.

CAB are offering FREE – MONEY ADVICE - 'Don't hide it under the bed' Book a free, confidential appointment with a Money Adviser – call 0808800 0118 or East Sutherland Citizens Advice Bureau on 01408 633 000.



Our trained Money Adviser can help you manage your money day to day, plan for monthly outgoings and explain money matters in an easy to understand way. We won't recommend any products or try to sell you anything. It's about clear, unbiased money advice you can trust and that can make a real difference to your life. (Examples – budgeting to saving, credit and borrowing, mortgages, insurance, pensions and retirement planning). Website <moneyadvice.service.org.uk>.

10 Tips to Avoid a Christmas Debt Hangover – 1] Plan early 2] Don't forget the everyday bills 3] Don't bank on an overdraft 4] Keep things simple 5] Shop around 6] Buy safe and be safe 7] Read the small print 8] Do your own credit checks 9] Be organised 10] Start planning and saving for next Christmas.

Being Young...Being Heard - Age 16 – 25 - Citizens Advice Scotland want to hear from you on your biggest issue right now. You can visit our Facebook page and search under groups to say more, to keep us up to date on your issue, to hear from other people, and to find out more about our research.

Are you 16 or over? Ready to move on in your life? Do you need help with – travel, childminding, job applications/searching, cv writing? What happens? A project worker will meet with you regularly and help you decide which direction you wish to go. What you are looking for and what interests you. What you are good at and what you want to be. What you want to do and how to get there. **New Futures Sutherland** – is voluntary, does not affect your benefits, is not a training course, is flexible, is friendly, is a positive step towards your new future. Tel 01863 766183, E-mail <info@newfutures.freeserve.co.uk, Make an appointment to come in to The Library Building, Lairg Road, Bonar Bridge, Sutherland, IV24 3EA

Bradbury Centre Bus – Timetable and Routes – From Tuesday 04 May 2010

Mondays & Fridays – Bonar Bridge to Lairg/Rosehall Dial-a-bus 0900, 1100, 1400, 1600 (all journeys must be pre-booked) **To Book journeys Telephone The Bradbury Centre – 01863 776 772**

Tuesday – Bonar Bridge to Alness

Depart		Return	
Bonar Bridge (Cherry Grove)	1030	Alness (on B817 outside Morrison's)	1300
Bonar Bridge (Opposite Police Station)	1032	Ardross (Crossroads on B9176)	1317
Ardgay (Station Bus Stop)	1334	Mid Fearn	1333
Mid Fearn	1042	Ardgay	1340
Ardross (Crossroads on B9176)	1058	Bonar Bridge (Police Station)	1345
Alness (on B817 outside Morrison's)	1115	Bonar Bridge (Cherry Grove)	1347

Wednesday – Bonar Bridge circular via Spinningdale, Tain and Edderton

Depart		Return	
Bonar Bridge (Cherry Grove)	1030	Bonar Bridge (Cherry Grove)	1330
Spinningdale (lay-by at post box)	1039	Ardgay	1333
Clashmore (Carnegie Hall)	1053	Edderton	1353
Tain (Bus Stop at big Co-op)	1102	Tain (Lamington Street)	1406
Tain (Lamington Street)	1104	Tain (Bus Stop at big Co-op)	1408
Edderton	1117	Clashmore (Carnegie Hall)	1419
Ardgay	1139	Spinningdale (lay-by at post box)	1431
Bonar Bridge (Cherry Grove)	1142	Bonar Bridge (Cherry Grove)	1440


The Minibus has a wheelchair lift which will be available as part of the service. Additional time has been added to the timetable to accommodate this but, as it takes up to 10 minutes for the lift to load or unload a passenger there may be subsequent delays of up to 10 minutes along the route. The services will divert on request to pick up pre-booked passengers up to a mile from the route. These journeys must be booked by 1400 on the previous working day. i.e. **1400 on Friday for Monday**, 1400 on Monday for Tuesday, 1400 on Tuesday for Wednesday, **1400 on Wednesday for Friday**.

The services will operate every week apart from Christmas and New Year.

Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust – New Kyle of Sutherland Website - Would you like to feature your holiday let, B&B, hotel or tourist activity on the new Kyle of Sutherland website? We are also creating local business, producer and service provider directories for the site and welcome all entries and information. It's free and easy do. For submissions and further information please contact Lynsey Burns Tel. 01863 766908 / 07961 046715. Email. development@kyleofsutherland.co.uk.

Send details of forthcoming events for the monthly diary Lynsey produces for this area, and distributes widely.

Sutherland Walkers Group (SWG) – Programme - More information - Fiona MacDonald, Secretary – 01862 810275

	22 January - Achvaich to Loch Buidhe OS21 712944 6 mile circular. Leader Jimmy Melville Tel 01862811476. Start Achvaich Farm House for 10.00am
	26 February – Oykel Bridge to Duag Bridge OS16 385009 & OS20 8 miles linear, longer option to Corriemulzie Lodge 12 miles linear. Leader Annette Parrott Tel 01549 402095. Meet at Oykel Bridge Hotel Car park for 10.00am
	25 March – Achnaluachrach to the River Brora, via Craighton OS16 679099 7 miles linear. Leader Jimmy Melville Tel 01862811476. Meet to car share at Rogart Hall Car Park for 10.00am

Wednesday 9 March 19.30 Golspie Community Centre – SWG AGM

Creich & Kincardine Art Group – Meets Wednesdays from 10.00 to 3.00pm in Bonar Bridge Hall. Contact Joan Mulligan – 01549 421321 e-mail joanmulligan@yahoo.co.uk for more information.



WINDFARMS

Beinn Tharsuinn – See A&DCC Draft Minute

Braemore – From: The Kyle of Sutherland against Braemore (KoSAB) Steering Group. We heard yesterday (25th October) that the Planning hearing on 1st November, at which the proposed Braemore wind farm was to be heard by the Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross Planning Applications Committee, *is now postponed for several weeks*. Because we did not know the actual details of the reasons for the postponement, it was decided to delay informing everyone until we knew the facts. Andy Simpson, our Chairman, has talked to the planners at Highland Council today and the facts are basically as follows; 1. Because the developer, Wind Prospect [WP], decided to reduce the number of turbines by 3 without providing new photomontages and all the other details etc etc, WP must now submit a detailed addendum to their existing EIA (pretty much a new EIA) which it is estimated will be done in around 6 – 8 weeks time (mid December). The public will then have a further period of 28 days to comment on the revised proposal. In effect we're back to "square 1".



2. In some respects it's a small victory, on the flip side of the coin it gives WP another crack at getting something nearer the mark.
3. Notice of the revised planning application will be publicised in the Northern Times, as was the original in December last year. Everyone will then have the opportunity to in effect re-object (or object for the first time if they haven't already done so). The three local councils will also have to consider the addendum to the EIA.

4. Notwithstanding, all the work, studies and reports (noise, landscape/visual and policy) that KoSAB has done / had commissioned to date, will still be valid and indeed remain invaluable. We are most grateful to everyone for their support and especially those that have donated funds so generously. Some more work will inevitably be required once the addendum to the EIA is published.

5. So that is where we are; we will continue to remain in touch /communicate with you all, though it will go quiet now until the addendum to the EIA is issued. Then please be ready to object once again!! **Colin Gilmour** Secretary KoSAB

Proposals for a 27 x turbine windfarm at Braemore Wood 6Kkm southwest of Lairg. Contact for details Heather Houghton, Wind Prospect, 13 Rutland Street, Edinburgh, EH1 2ae Tel 01312258545,

Web www.braemorewindfarm.co.uk E-mail braemore@windprospect.co.uk.

Achany – Scottish Hydro Achany Community Fund - Recent awards have gone to:

Feis a Chaolais (£5980) to contribute towards the cost of expanding their programme in the Kyle of Sutherland over the next year. *For information contact Fiona Macleod on 01863 766386.*

Lairg Community Association (£10,000) to contribute towards the cost of staffing, rent and developing a business plan for the Lairg Indoor Play Centre. *Contact Michelle Grover-Smith on 01549 410000.*

Lairg & District Community Initiative (*contact Moira Matheson 01549 402843*) and the newly established

Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust (*contact Lynsey Burns 01863 766908*) have also received individual awards of £10,000.

As each community council area is represented by two community councillors (along with two non-community councillors) it is likely that the November CC elections may change the current membership; but at present panel members are:

Ardgay & District: Hilda Buchanan, Betty Wright, David Hannah, Marion Turner

Creich: Rosie Baxter, Claire Bruce, Pete Campbell, Christine Gordon

Lairg: David King, Barbara Watson. (David Walker and David Naman recently resigned since neither stood for re-election for Lairg Community Council).

If you wish to be considered for vacancies that may arise please contact the Panel Secretariat, Audrey Campbell, on 01863 766536. The Panel will operate three rounds in 2012 for grants of between £2000 and £10,000.

The deadlines are **12th March, 25 June and 15 October**.

Groups and organisations working in the community council areas of Ardgay & District, Creich and Lairg* may continue to apply. For Large Grants of over £10,000 please contact Rachel at the Scottish Community Foundation first to discuss your proposal on:

0141 341 4961 or email rachel@scottishcf.org **Projects must benefit people living in these Community Council areas*

Grant application forms are available from the service points in Lairg and Bonar Bridge, or from the Key Commercial Services office in Bonar Bridge.

The Achany Apprenticeship Scheme continues to be available. Please contact the Kyle of Sutherland Trust's Development Officer, Lynsey Burns to find out more.

For further information about the Fund please contact any of the Panel members locally or make contact with Rachel Searle-Mbullu at the Scottish Community Foundation (0141 341 4961 or rachel@scottishcf.org) who supports the Fund's management and administration through the Scottish Community Foundation.

The next deadlines for applications are 10 October. Application forms are available from the Bonar Bridge Service Point or from www.scottishcf.org/achany. – Meanwhile if you'd like to find out more about the Fund please contact either David Hannah or Marion Turner (Community Council Members)

Rosehall - Notes From Meeting Of The Rosehall Windfarm Liaison Group - Wednesday 16th November 2011 - Matters arising since last meeting - Ongoing monitoring of noise issues mostly affecting residents in Durcha – the problem mainly occurs when the wind is in a certain direction. The monitoring will continue but has so far produced little result due to lack of sufficient wind. The monitoring is being carried out by SSE but EON is taking a close interest. Skeleton crews will be on site over the winter months. Verges are being re-instated.

The route of SSE connection to the grid will be from the Windfarm to Invershin across Forestry (Braemore) land. Not via the A837. At the moment EON are waiting to finalise Way leave issues with landowner(s). At the windfarm site entrance, overhead cables will eventually be buried. The control building at the site has been completed and is ready for use (constructed by Morrisons). Sika Trails and Public Access Closed until December 2011, but it is felt that this should continue because of the closeness of the trails to the construction site, and the danger to the Public. (Health and Safety etc). This has to be resolved by negotiation with the Highland Council and the legal issues of closure to a Core Path. If approved the closure will remain until end of construction. Other notes The next newsletter will be available early December. EON will publicise when the Turbines will be delivered. (According to the schedule will be from March 2012 (but allow for adverse weather conditions). It was pointed out that the EON Turbines are smaller than other windfarms. (So they will not need red warning lights for aircraft)!! The next round of small grants to the community will be available from early December. Applications to Eon Liz Fraser for further info. NB It was mentioned that Siemens are also keen to add to this pot so there could be larger amounts available. Date of next meeting Tuesday 6th March 2012.

Contact –, Liz Fraser 0800 0569 090 or e-mail rosehall@eon-uk.com. Updates are available at <eon-uk.com/rosehall>

Sallachy – Wind farm proposal – Location Sallachy & Duchally Estates, Loch Shin, 22 Turbines up to 125 metres high to tip of blade. Public exhibition given in Lairg Community Hall on 12 & 13 August 2011. Intention is to link in with the Achany Panel for Community Benefit and negotiations will be starting subject to planning consents, Contact - Meg Deasley, Senior Consultant, Docherty Consulting Limited, Centre Cottage, Bush House, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0BB, Tel: 0131 445 7580, Mob: 07917 725 150 Fax: 0131 445 7594, e-mail: meg@dochertyconsulting.com, Web: www.dochertyconsulting.com

Glen Morie – Environmental Impact Assessment released for consultation in November 2011. Copies in Bonar Bridge Library.

Contact - Glenmorie Wind Farm LLP, 37-39 Kew Foot Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 2SS, Tel + 44 (0) 208 334 4743

Fax + 44 (0) 208 332 9078, info@glenmorie.com. 17 November News - The Section 36 application for the proposed Glenmorie Wind Farm will be submitted to the Scottish Government on Friday. The submission includes the following documents: Planning Statement in support of the application a pre-application consultation report An Environmental Statement a Non-Technical Summary.

Natasha Rai, Project Manager for Glenmorie Wind Farm said: "We have carried out a thorough environmental assessment of the Glenmorie site and listened to people's feedback on our proposals. So far, we have received quite a positive response to our plans from the local community. At our last public exhibitions in May, three quarters of respondents said they supported the proposal or had 'no view'. "We have reduced the scale of our original project and carefully designed the wind farm to limit any visual impact as this was a key concern. The topography of the site means that most of the wind farm will be hidden from view from the surrounding villages, while still maintaining a suitable position for the turbines where there is good wind resource for producing electricity.

"If it is approved, this wind farm would provide enough electricity to power approximately 90,000 households. More information is available on our website at www.glenmorie.com."

Glen Cassley – (5 kilometres south east of Lairg) Are now proceeding to a Scoping Opinion Request, Section 36 Application, for more information contact Lorraine Brown, The Scottish Government, Energy and Climate Change Directorate, Energy Division, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU. Tel 0300 244 1241, e-mail <Lorraine.brown2@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Dalnessie (at the Lairg end of Loch Shin) – Scoping exercise in progress. Contact SSE Liaison Manager, Ruth Liddicoat, Inveralmond House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 3AQ, E-mail ruth.liddicoat@sse.com, Tel 01738455120, Mob 07767852826.

Coire na Cloich (close to Beinn Tharsuinn and Glen Morie) Developer Rock-by-Sea – Ardgay, Ardross and Edderton Community Councils meeting to discuss proposals.

Highland Handyperson Service – Are you aged 65 or living with a disability? Do you need a Handyperson to help with minor repairs at home? Each Handyperson is fully equipped with tools and will be ready to undertake your repair. You will only be charged for materials used to complete the agreed work. There is no charge for the Handyperson's time or travel expenses.

Contact – Sutherland Handyperson Service, ILM (Highland), Unit 1G, Lairg Industrial Estate, Churchill Road, Lairg, Sutherland, IV27 4BL, Tel 01549 402798, e-mail suthcare@ilmhighland.co.uk.

Need assistance with Adaptations to your HOME? Contact the Handyperson/Care & Repair Agent at the above address, or Highland Council Technical Officer – Tel 01408 635325 e-mail <env.health@highland.gov.uk>



The Business Gateway is a national programme to support enterprise throughout Scotland. In our area it is managed by Highland Opportunity Limited, which is an Enterprise Trust owned by Highland Council. If you wish to start or develop your own business contact David Knight – based at Key Commercial Services, Dornoch Road, Bonar Bridge, IV24 3EB, Mobile Number 07730419692 or E-mail david.knight@highland-opportunity.com.

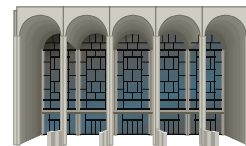
Bonar Bridge Local History Society SCO 325 38 - Contact Marion Fraser. Secretary 01863 766235 - During discussion in the Westminster parliament last week on the subject of immigration, boundaries became the hot topic. Some years ago at the time of re-organisation of local government the old Parish Council disappeared and subsequently replaced by Community Councils. Administrative and electoral Boundaries may change but the Parish with its ecclesiastical origins remains constant. When Ardgay was in the County of Ross & Cromarty residents fought to retain Kincardine (parish) community council with a separate budget. The boundary separating Creich and Kincardine parishes is the Kyle of Sutherland and when the first ever bridge to span the waterway opened to traffic in 1812. The Thomas Telford Bridge at Bonar brought about the development of the village making it the hub of all the new roads also engineered by Telford. The Bonar Bridge Local History Society mounted an exhibition telling the full story in the Highland Year of Culture in 2007 at the launch of their first publication. It is now hoped that their next booklet title - Netting Bonar - will be available for the Christmas market. In the new book, suitable for scholars of all ages, tells how lands held by a landowner resident in Creich, came in to the Ownership of Balnagowan (old spelling) Estate in the thirteenth century. As the 200th anniversary of the building of Bonar Bridge approaches it is anticipated that the Telford Bridge phenomenon will be on view in the Bonar Community Hall.

Ardgay Meeting/Function Venues

Contact for Booking Ardgay Hall – Mrs Jennifer Burnett 01863 766658

Contact for Booking Kincardine Heritage Centre – Mrs Mary Stobo 01863 766868

Contact for Booking Ardgay Church Hall – Minister The Reverend Anthony Jones – 01863 766285



This is the list of groups and organisations in Ardgay & District, which I know about:

Achany Windfarm Trust	Ardgay & District Community Council	Ardgay & District Xmas Party
Ardgay Hall Committee	Art Club	Ardgay Badminton Club
Bradbury Centre	Bonar Bridge Football Club	Bonar Bridge/Ardgay Golf Club
Boys' Brigade	Bonar Bridge Local History Society	Church of Scotland
Crofters Group	Camera Club	Dornoch Academy Parent Council
Gardening Club	Gearchoille Community Wood Association	Highland Councillors
Invercharron Highland Games	Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries Trust	Gledfield School PTA
Kyle of Sutherland Youth Development Group	Kyle of Sutherland Gala Committee	Kyle of Sutherland Whist Club
Kyle of Sutherland Initiative (KOSI)	The Ladybird Club	Kyle of Sutherland Heritage Society
Other Worship Groups	Royal British Legion, Scotland	Mums & Toddlers/Playgroup
Scottish Country Dancers	Scottish Esperanto Association	SWRI
Sutherland Walkers Group	The Bridge Project	Tain Royal Academy
The Guild	Ward Forum	Community Development Service
Tain & District Rotary Club	Rosehall Community Arts	Citizens Advice Bureau

If you are a member of one of these, or know of any others and want to contribute regularly to the newsletter please contact the Editor (David Hannah on 01863 766061 or at <david@tnchome.co.uk>).

McLeod's Coaches Dial a Bus - Timetable - Ardgay, Bonar Bridge - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

09.30 - 12.30 13.30 - 15.00 16.00 - 17.30. Area of operation - 6 mile radius of Ardgay Station, plus Strathcarron road as far as Croick. To and from Dornoch and Lawson Hospital, Golspie* *Please pre book your journey by 18.00 hrs on the previous day or 24 hrs in advance for destinations marked**. These services are operated under contract to the Highland Council. **Links to Macleod's Coaches** - 01408 641354 www.macleodcoaches.co.uk A new timetable came into force on Monday 16 August 2010.

ARDGAY to Tain	06.53	09.13	11.18	14.18	17.08	17.53
EDDERTON	07.05	09.25	11.30	14.30	17.20	18.05
TAIN(LAMINGTON ST)	07.15C	09.35C	11.40C	14.40C	17.30C	18.15
TAIN(LAMINGTON ST) to Ardgay		07.30	10.11A	13.11G	15.11G	18.48
EDDERTON		07.36	10.17	13.17	15.17	18.54
ARDGAY		07.50	10.30	13.30	15.30	19.07

A - Will wait up to 5 minutes when necessary, for arrival of Stagecoach Service 25x bus from Inverness.

C - Stagecoach bus to Inverness departs 07.20 : 09.50 : 11.50

G - Will wait up to 10 minutes when necessary, for arrival of Stagecoach Service 25X bus from Inverness

Public Transport Access to TRACC Swimming Pool from Ardgay

After 9th October either - see Ardgay village notice board; contact TRACC, Hartfield Road, Tain, 01862 893767 or contact Macleod's Coaches 01408-641345

Edderton and District Gardening Club. - New Year meeting dates: 23rd January (annual dinner), 6th February, 5th March, 2nd April and 21st May. Edderton and District Gardening Club meets on the first Monday of each month from September through to June. At the winter meetings talks from guest speakers are followed by refreshments and informal discussions. There is usually a plant swap stall. Meetings are held in Edderton Community Centre, starting at 7.30 p.m. (except for the AGM which starts at 7p.m.) Garden visits and social events take place during the summer. Members come from the Kyle of Sutherland through to Tain and new members are always welcome - telephone 01863 766061 for more information.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBERS AND CONTACT DETAILS (16 November 2011)

Members	Addresses	Contact Details
David Hannah (acting Chair)	Tigh na Cnoc, Ardgay Hill, IV24 3DH	Tel 01863 766061 E-mail < david@tnchome.co.uk >
Peter Armstrong (acting Secretary)	Station House, Ardgay, IV24 3DH	Tel 01863 766196 E-mail < peterbrownarmstrong@gmail.com >
Alan Lawrence (acting Treasurer)	Badarach Cottage, Ardgay, IV24 3DP	Tel 01549 421340 E-mail < badarach1@btinternet.com >
Phil Olson	Oldtown, Ardgay, IV24 3DH	Tel 01863 766100 E-mail < pfo@oldtownardgay.info >
Marion Turner	Oldtown, Ardgay, IV24 3DH	Tel 01863 766100 E-mail < mct@oldtownardgay.info >
David Laver	Loco Cottage, Station Yard. Ardgay. IV24 3DH	Tel 01863 760182 E-mail
Betty Wright	Balchrach, Strathcarron, Ardgay, IV24 3BP	Tel 01863 755316 E-mail < betty.wright@btinternet.com >
Bob Sendall	Carn MHolloch, Strath Oykel, Ardgay, IV24 3DP	Tel 01549 441227 E-mail < bob.sendall@btconnect.com >
Councillors	Representing the Highland Council North, West and Central Sutherland ward	
George Farlow	7 Seaforth Road, Ullapool, IV26 2UY	Tel 01854 612780 Mob 07765 921741 E-mail < george.farlow.cllr@highland.gov.uk >
Robbie Rowantree	Keeper's House, Gordonbush, Brora, Sutherland, KW9 6LX	Tel 01408 621345 Mob 07866 266488 E-mail < robbie.rowantree.cllr@highland.gov.uk >
Linda Munro	3 Achnabourin, Strathnaver, Kinbrace, Sutherland, KW11 6UA	Tel 01641 521424 Mob 07925 142251 E-mail < linda.munro.cllr@highland.gov.uk >
Community Police - Bonar Bridge Police Station Dornoch Road, Bonar Bridge, IV24 3EB		Tel : 01863 766222 E-mail

East Sutherland Producers/Dornoch Farmers Market - If you are interested in taking a stall, contact Russell Smith on 01863 766144

CROFTERS AND SMALL LANDHOLDERS SKILLS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY **Practical Training Courses - CAITHNESS AND SUTHERLAND**

A wide range of further courses is available and being arranged in topics such as horticulture, vet skills, equipment maintenance. For more information please contact: Su Cooper, Scottish Crofting Federation, Tel: 01463 796836 / 01599 530005 e-mail: training@crofting.org, www.crofting.org

Registered in Scotland as a Limited Company No: SC218658 Recognised as a Scottish Charity No. SC 031919 Funded by – The Scottish Government & Highlands and Islands Enterprise



Crofting Resource Programme - The Scottish Crofting Federation is running a programme to help develop crofting in the Highlands & Islands. This could take the form of advice to individuals, training on different aspects of crofting, help for new starters, or looking at development opportunities for individual crofts or for townships. If you want to discuss anything, contact Russell Smith on 01863 766144.

Now that WINTER has come, it is time to start thinking about Winter tips for Homes and Cars.

Homes – get extra stocks of salt and grit for your paths, make sure you have extra food/water in case you can't get out.

Cars – in case you haven't done it yet check over your tyres and fit Winter ones if you are driving in snow and icy conditions, top up anti-freeze and put your emergency kit back in the car (blankets, snow shovel, bag of grit, welly boots and waterproofs, snow chains if you have them). **Safer driving.**

Timber Lorries - They are likely to be hauling timber from our area for some time yet so stay watchful for hauliers who break the agreement they have with The Highland Council. The hauliers have agreed that loaded timber lorries will not travel "in convoy" but will have a 20 minute gap between them. The reason for this is that closely travelling loaded lorries cause significantly more damage to our roads. If we want to protect our roads it is in our own interest to report those lorries who break the agreement. We have had some success with complaints. **What you have to do is:** Get as many details of the lorries as possible. E.g. registration, name of haulier. I know this is difficult when they travel so close but I have had some success by using a digital camera. Note the date, time, place and direction of travel. Email the information to Simon.young@highland.gov.uk or contact using this information: Simon Young, PI Officer, TEC Services, Highland Council, Drummuie House, Golspie, KW10 6TA, Tel: 01408 635314, Fax: 01408 634041. If you think that the lorries are infringing the law then you should contact the police with details of the incident.



As next year, 2012, marks the 200th anniversary of the building of the very first Bonar Bridge – and therefore the establishing of the village of Bonar-Bridge - the Kyle of Sutherland Heritage Society are eager to hear from anyone who has any information, paintings or photographs of Bonar in days gone by, as it is hoped the Society's 2012 Exhibition will be entirely devoted to charting the two centuries since the Bridge at Bonar was built and illustrating what it has meant not just for Bonar but for the entire area once reliable road – and later rail - communications with the outside world were established. Please let the Society know what photos or other information you may have.

Crannag
Bistro
Book on 01863 766111 eat@crannag.com
Dornoch Road, Bonar Bridge, Sutherland



Local foods served in comfortable surroundings.
Small, freshly cooked menu featuring reasonably priced dishes.
Fully licensed with a delicious range of whiskies and real ales from the far north.
We look forward to seeing you soon!

Open Tues to Sat from 6.00 pm

Special events catered for.

For information on Theme Nights

throughout the year, please email eat@crannag.com

Highlands & Islands Restaurant of the Year 2010



KYLE OF SUTHERLAND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT GROUP (KSYDG) – The KSYDG is continuing to expand its project based on the South Bonar Industrial Estate please telephone Hayley on 01863766310.

Outreach Post Office Service for Ardgay - The service operates from the Ardgay Community Hall twice a week (**Monday 1330hrs to 1630hrs and Friday 1000hrs to 1300hrs**). As the post office is a mobile operation there is only limited scope for the introduction of retail products such as stationery. Once the demand is understood then it is hoped that the Ardgay Outreach service will be able to stock a basic range of envelopes, mailing bags and posting boxes. Ardgay Outreach Post Office is operated from Alness Post Office and so the products and services on offer include:

Full range of Royal Mail postal services	Pre-order foreign currency	
Full range of parcelforce UK and international services	Stamps, stamp books	
Post Office Card Account services (pensions and benefits)	Motor Vehicle Licence discs	
Council tax payments (with a payment card)	Postal orders	
Bill payments (electricity, gas, telephone, transcash)	International phone cards	
Processing NSI savings products, including premium bonds	Christmas savings card	Budget card (to replace savings stamps)
Highland Council and housing association rent payments (with a payment card)		

Please do not hesitate to pop in and ask about the services available from your community Post Office, I'll do my best to answer your questions. **Sarah Burton, Sub postmistress – Tel 01349 884487**

ARDGAY COMMUNITY HALL - The AGM of the hall committee took place on Tuesday 1st November where some new members, Rhonwen Copley and Jeannie Sparling, were welcomed and a number of the present committee retired. Sincere thanks are expressed to Allyson Macrae, Jennifer Burnett, Rhona Macfarlane, Donnie Bain and Andrew Hill for all their hard work and commitment to the hall for over 30 years. Andrew had previously served as chairman for over 25 years. Particular thanks to Jennifer and Rhona for their dedication in their duties of secretary and treasurer for the past 25 years and to longest serving member Donnie Bain. Gregor Laing remains on the committee along with Caroline Sale, Fiona Mackenzie, Carol Shaw, Jocky Hewitt and David Laver. Rhonwen Copley was nominated as secretary and as there were no nominations for treasurer she agreed to take on the post with Jennifer Burnett remaining as booking secretary for the short term. David Laver took over from Donald Brown as chairman. A formal Constitution is being drawn up to meet legal requirements and to allow applications for grant funding to be made. **Committee** – Chairman David Laver, Caroline Sales Vice Chair/Press Secretary, Secretary/Treasurer Rhonwen Copley, Fiona MacKenzie, Gregor Laing, Jocky Hewitt, Carol Shaw, Jane Ripley, Andrew Hill, Jeannie Sparling

BOYS BRIGADE - The Boys Brigade continues through the autumn months with a large attendance and a few weeks ago they welcomed two new recruits; Finn Westacott and James Shepherd into their midst. The company meets in Ardgay hall every Friday evening at 7pm and any new members who are in primary seven or older who wish to join will be made very welcome.

The boys still had enough energy left to give the thumbs-up after climbing the 1300ft Ben Bhraggie on a sunny Saturday afternoon a few weeks ago. (from left to right) : Cameron Munro, Ruairaidh Squire, Kevin Maclean, Ryan Sutherland, Lee Mackenzie, Simon Fenn, leaders Donald Simmonds and Daniel Thomson, Liam Munro, Sam Jones, Ewan Maclennan, Steven Mackenzie and Sam Herbert.

New members in primary seven and older will be most welcome. Leaders & Helpers required. Please contact Donald Simmonds (766796) or Donald Brown (766166)



Gazebo/Small Marquee - The Community Council have a small gazebo/marquee available for hire for community activities. Contact Marion Turner or Phil Olson.

Pylons - Since first being built in the late 1960's the Dounreay to Beaully high voltage pylons have carried only three of their possible six wires. This made the pylons easily identifiable, but as planned Pentland Firth generation could reach 700MW (Jim Mather, 28 Jan 2010) the three missing wires are now being installed.

One of the first areas to see the new wires is in the hills behind Ardgay, the wires being pulled from the Mid-Fearn Estate toward the Badvoon Road. The three wires each carry one phase of a single 3-phase circuit running at 275kV for 153km strung on 474 pylons.

A big job, and the weather has not always been good making some ground conditions awkward. The contractors have assured the Community Council that reinstatement where necessary will be done.



FOR SALE – Migdale Hospital – Former Poorhouse is rich in potential.

This 'B' Listed building in Bonar Bridge, Sutherland was designed by architect Andrew Maitland and built between 1863 & 1865 and was originally used as the Sutherland Combination Poorhouse. In 1927 the name was changed to the Swordale Institution and in 1948 was handed over to Northern Region Hospital Board as part of the new NHS. It was renamed Migdale Hospital in 1958 it was replaced by a New Migdale Hospital this year. Set in 1.85 acres of land including manicured gardens the main building is 'H' shaped with central clock tower and still features the original hospital layout comprising wards, offices and private rooms. Ideal Rest & Care Home potential for ever growing 'aged' population of Sutherland.

Bell Ingram are seeking offers over £350,000 for the property. Details- www.bellingram.co.uk Tel 01631 566122.

Homecoming 2014 – The 2009 year was so successful that Scotland is planning another Year of Homecoming in 2014. Voluntary Groups East Sutherland (VGES) propose to identify a selection of events and with a co-ordinated approach produce a calendar of occasions which can be programmed, and identify the logistics and costs to allow this to become part of the event. As a result of the extensive community consultation work undertaken in Sutherland recently under the banner of the Sutherland Summit, a Sutherland Development and Action Plan has been produced as a strategic planning document for the county. (SD&AP Theme 3 Tourism Development long term aspirations fitting in to the Actions already underway). VGES have commissioned me to provoke ideas from community groups that can be included into a programme of activities to be carried out 2014. This will identify any current plans and ascertain if there is scope to enhance these with a co-operative inter-community approach. A final report will include a proposed programme with the planning and implementation suggestions with linking to costs and funding where possible. This can also dovetail with a similar report for North & West Sutherland so that the whole county of Sutherland can gain maximum benefit from Homecoming 2014. VGES wish to include groups and individuals in any sector from several different approaches, by looking at themes, interests and activities.

Are you aware of it? Is it something your group could be involved in? In what way or to what extent could you become involved? Have you any concrete ideas you could offer or would like to develop? What support/help would you need to bring them to fruition? (funding/marketing etc.) Could you be involved on a parish/district/county basis to plan a joint approach? Contact Irene MacLeod, Tubeg, Skerray, Sutherland, KW14 7TJ, E-mail tubeg259@btinternet.com Tel 01641 521219.

WARD FORUM – The Ward Forum for West & Central Sutherland takes place in Lairg on 29 January at 11.00 If you are unable to attend but would like anything raised at the Ward Forum please contact one of your Elected Councillors, Community Councillors or Andy Mackay Ward Manager – details in this Newsletter



We are delighted to announce that three of our six bids to the Innovation and Investment fund have been approved by the Scottish Government. In addition to this, HSCHT is selling land in Gairloch to Highland Council to enable their successful innovation bid for the building of 8 new council houses. HSCHT applications approved by the Innovation Fund are for the following projects:

Helmsdale Community Housing Project - 4 units for social rent. HSCHT are acting as the lead co-ordinator in this exciting community led project. Working together with Helmsdale Development Community Group, Highland Council and Albyn Housing Association, the project will provide community owned rented homes for local people.

Self Build Partnering Project - to provide 15 units for shared equity (over 5 years). This funding will provide a rolling short term finance option for self-builders to enable the provision of Low Cost Home Ownership (LCHO) through a Shared Equity Scheme. By attaching the Rural Housing Burden to the plots, the houses will be secured as affordable housing in perpetuity.

Lochaline - 2 Units. Ardtonish Estate and HSCHT are working in partnership to provide a new type of affordable rent option to the area. The mid-market rent scheme will provide high quality housing that is low cost to run for the tenants. Best practice guidance will be drawn from the experiences gained on this project to assist other rural communities and estates in the future.

www.hscht.co.uk

The Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust Annual General Meeting was held on 23 September 2011 at 10.30am in Highland Council Headquarters, Inverness. David Hannah has been elected as a Community Elected Board Member.

The Kyle of Sutherland Cycling Club – No planned rides during the winter months - For more information on the club please contact Chris at info@koscc.co.uk or check out their website at www.koscc.co.uk You can also find the club on Facebook - search for Kyle of Sutherland Cycling Club.

Forestry Commission Scotland have announced their repositioning (=selling forests and buying or leasing existing woods or bare land for planting) programme of plantation sales for the financial year 2012/3. A map and a list of the woodlands has been posted on the FCS website at: <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/website/forestry.nsf/byunique/infid-6e2kdy> Marketing of some of these woods has already begun - CWA is on the list of bodies which receives notification on individual sales, and we try and forward these to local community woodland groups as they come in.

The National Forest Land Scheme gives community groups the opportunity to apply to buy these woodlands before they are put on the open market - if you'd like advice, information or more details of what this involves please get in touch.

Jon Hollingdale, Chief Executive Officer, Community Woodlands Association, Steading Cottage, Craigfield Farm, Kintessack, Forres, Moray IV36 2SP, Web: www.communitywoods.org | Tel: 01309 674004 | Mob: 07792 028675



Tree Planting in Sutherland & Caithness Free advice SRDP applications

North Highland Forest Trust

www.nhft.org.uk Steve Robertson 01408 633 986 07840 260 834 steve@nhft.org.uk



Walk/Cycle for Wellbeing - Cornhill Circular - This route makes a pleasant outing as it is neither too steep nor too long with a good surface most of the way. On the first very short section (5 minutes) be aware that you may meet timber lorries which use this route to bring timber out from Strathoykel. It takes about 1 hour 15 minutes to walk or about 30 minutes to cycle.

From the village war memorial go to the Carron Bridge and after the bridge fork left. The route starts on the right opposite the first house. Parking is available in the entrance to the forestry. You will be following a track for about 3km before it meets this road again. Make your way uphill steeply and leaving the tarmac take the first left along a forest track. Continue uphill and downhill enjoying the views over Gledfield, Dounie and Strathcarron.

At a wooden gate and T junction turn left downhill. Take the first left through a metal gate and continue straight ahead till you meet the Strathcarron road. Turn left to return to the start.

Follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code:

- Take responsibility for your own actions.
- Respect people's privacy and peace of mind
- Help farmers, landowners and others to work safely and effectively.
- Care for the environment.
- Keep your dog under proper control.



If you have a walk you would like to feature in the Newsletter please email: info@ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk

ARDGAY VILLAGE CENTRE - With the continued closure of the Lady Ross we are in danger of losing the "centre" of our village. If you have a good idea about how the centre of the village could be improved please share it with us. Contact any member of the Community Council. You can find a list of Community Council members in this edition.

Gearrhoille Community Woodland Association – STOP PRESS - Gearrhoille Community Wood Ardgay Wins Scotland's Top Environmental Prize for Community Woodlands - On 12th and 13th November 2011, the Community Woodlands Association (established in 2003) held its annual conference at Boat of Garten. The Association currently has a membership of well over 200 community woodlands distributed all over Scotland. On this auspicious occasion, the Association gave its first ever award for the 'Best Environmental Project' to the Gearrhoille Community Wood Ardgay for their success in converting the overgrown former curling pond into a thriving wildlife pond - as you will know if you attended the Pond Dipping and Minibeast Madness events held earlier this year. The award is something to be really proud of - not just for the GCWA Board of Directors, but also for the wider membership who have given their support to the pond project, either through their membership fees or some other form of support. This proves what can be achieved by proper community spirit. Let us hope that this tremendous achievement will inspire the people of Ardgay (and beyond) to get even more closely involved with GCWA activities. Three cheers for the community spirit!

It is pleasing to report that 2011 has seen more people using the woodland, more frequently. The new pond has now had its first birthday, and its inaugural 'Pond Dipping Event', the results of which proved how much it is benefiting the local wildlife already. Back in May, at the Official Opening Event, you will remember the storyteller, 'Mr Book' who held us enthralled in his tales. Well, he found inspiration in the Gearrhoille woodland and was kind enough to share his thoughts with us, the GCWA directors. We would now like to share them with you whilst also wishing you all a very 'Happy Christmas & a Peaceful New Year'. We look forward to seeing you in the Gearrhoille soon.

SERENITUDE

Though not silent, the air is clear,
 No human pollution nor detritus here...
 Undisturbed by our hindrance, this rhythm of life
 Allows some escape from the world and his wife...
 The calming of unquiet thoughts away from our bustle
 With a swaying foliage and a breezy rustle ...
 Ancient gnarled oak and anarchic Scots pine
 And cotton-wool moss around branches entwine ...
 Dwarven stumps rise from carpeting loam
 Where once hardy drovers would wearily roam ...
 In sun-lit glades of birch silverine,

Such solitude and mindful peace we glean ...
 Arboreal beauty of rustic charm,
 Such is the essence of bucolic calm ...
 A myriad of birdsong that trills unseen,
 Unhurried, unharried and truly serene...
 Gentle gurgling, bubbling and babbling burns
 Amidst delicate frondescence of grasses and ferns ...
 Bedecked with verdure, bejewelled with bloom,
 A halcyon haven to lift one's gloom...
 A tranquil seclusion whose virtue we extol
 In the salving quietude of old Gearrhoille ...
 © Inspired Times, May 2011

Membership is open to everyone and all of the money raised is spent on the wood – application forms are available from: The Secretary – Mrs Rhonwen Copley, 16 Oakwood Place, Ardgay, Tel. 01863 766174

Gearrhoille Community Wood Ardgay - Registered Office: 28 Queensgate, Inverness IV1 1YN

Registered in Scotland No: 263887 Scottish Charity No: SC 036 181 email: gcwa@btinternet.com

. Full details available on posters locally, or contact Betty Wright, gcwa@btinternet.com Tel 01863 755316

www.gearrhoillecommunitywoodardgay.org.uk has masses of information about the woodland and notices of upcoming events.

It also offers you the opportunity to contact the GCWA directors and let them know what you would like to see happen in the wood in the future.

Lairg Learning Centre Open Day in Bonar Bridge Hall Saturday 19 November 2011

Jane Dixon, Development Officer said "95% of the attendees completed training needs analysis forms, which demonstrated the interest in learning. However we would like to reach more of you residents so, if possible could you pop this link into your newsletter (<http://www.sruveymonkey.com/s/7FK9MWN>) for anyone else who would like to complete a training needs analysis form."

Saturday 17 December workshop – Christmas Cake Decorating in Lairg Learning Centre – call for information.

New Year Workshops – Would you like to start the New Year learning something new?? We have a range of workshops that may interest you.

Wednesday 18 January & Saturday 21 January from 9.30 – 12.00 Rag Rugs

Wednesday 1 February & Saturday 4 February 9.30 – 12.00 Silk Painting

Wednesday 21 March & Saturday 24 March 9.30 – 12.00 Felt Making

All workshops are for adults and youths ages 14 +

Workshops cost £15.00 per person per workshop



Please contact us to book your place Tel 01549 402050 or e-mail <cara-lairglearningcentre@hotmail.com>

Nine Principals of Public Life

1. Public Service - You have a duty to act in the interests of the public body of which you are a member and in accordance with the core task of that body.
2. Selflessness – You have a duty to take decisions solely in terms of public interest. You must not act in order to gain financial or other material benefit for yourself, family or friends.
3. Integrity – You must not place yourself under any financial, or other obligation to any individual or organisation that might reasonably be thought to influence you in the performance of your duties.
4. Objectivity – You must make decisions solely on merit when carrying out public business.
5. Accountability and Stewardship – You are accountable for your decisions and actions to the public. You have a duty to consider issues on their merits, taking account of the view of others and must ensure that the public body uses its resources prudently and in accordance with the law.
6. Openness – You have a duty to be as open as possible about your decisions and actions, giving your reasons for your decisions and restricting information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.
7. Honest – You have a duty to act honestly. You must declare any private interests relating to your public duties and take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.
8. Leadership – You have a duty to promote and support these principles by leadership and example, to maintain and strengthen the public's trust and confidence in the integrity of the public body and its members in conducting public business.
9. Respect – You must respect fellow members of your public body and employees of the body and the role they play, treating them with courtesy at all times.

Managing Flood Risk in the Highlands www.highland.gov.uk/flooding Responsibilities (brief summary):

Owners – Under Common Law the responsibility for reducing flood risk lies with the owner of the property. Owners can be held liable if they cause flooding to their neighbours.

The Highland Council – The Council has a general duty, under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 to exercise its flood risk related functions with a view to reducing overall flood risk.

Scottish Water – Dealing with surface water from homes and properties drainage i.e. water from driveways, hard standings and roofs of buildings that is drained to their sewers etc. and dealing with the immediate impact of flooding from sewers and contamination resulting from sewage overflow.

SEPA - Is Scotland's flood warning authority and provides; Floodline Tel 0845 988 1188, a 24/7 public information service, For live flood updates visit: www.sepa.org.uk/floodupdates. SEPA is required by the above ACT to carry out a national assessment of flood risk by 2011, produce new flood risk and hazard maps by 2013 and put in place Scotland's first national flood risk management plan by 2015.

FOR Assistance during flooding contact The Highland Council TEC Services Office Hours 01349 886601 & Out of Hours Emergency Numbers TEC Services 01349 886690 and (life threatening) 999.

ARDGAY GARAGE



ARDGAY - Tel (01863) 766231

Now doing Main Dealer Warranted Servicing
Please ring for details

Please drop in at any time.

NOW DOING BIKE MOT'S

HOURS OF BUSINESS

Monday – Thursday :8.30 – 5.30

Friday : 08.30 – 4.30

Saturday : 9.00 – 12 noon

Ardgay Flower Pots - Fancy a colourful container



for your garden this summer? Jeannie & Douglas are planting containers with a variety of Summer flower to provide eye-catching displays and will be offering these at low costs. We also have a garden tidy service. Contact us for details.

Jeannie Sparling, Tel 01863 766609. Douglas Sparling, Tel 07513541569.

e-mail douglassparling@btinternet.com

THIS - (The Home Inspection Service)

House Maintenance & Repair
 Inspections. Advice.

(Comprehensive Reports on Works Required, help finding contractors, acting as Clerk of Works and inspection of work before settling accounts).



Now available for 'small handyman' jobs & Grass-cutting/Strimming

David Hannah, Ardgay Tel 01863 766061

Mobile 07880 776909.

e-mail david@tnchome.co.uk

Chilly Winter - Coming Soon – Check your home is the right temperature (Centigrade figures only given):

Under 9 & up to 12 degrees
TOO COLD
 Danger of Hypothermia

12 – 18 degrees
COOL (extra jumpers on) &
 Turn heating up

18 – 21 degrees
JUST RIGHT
 Do not adjust heating

Over 22 degrees
TOO HOT
 Turn heating down

This advice is provided by Scottish & Southern Energy who offer advice and energy saving tips – contact Careline on 0800 622 838

MERRY CHRISTMAS



&



HAPPY NEW YEAR

This Newsletter is also available on-line at: <ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk>

Let your friends and family away from home or outwith the area know about the website so they can see what is happening here too.

This is the **Fourteenth** edition of the newsletter. We hope to issue 4 x times a year: Spring, Summer, Autumn & Winter.

Copy for the Winter issue should be with the Editor by 17 February for issue in March.

This Newsletter costs £1.25 per copy to produce and is distributed free of charge. If you would like to help keep it going – with a financial contribution, donation or by advertising please contact the Treasurer or any of your Community Councillors. (To date we have received over £12 in donations from grateful members of your community who appreciated the hard work that goes into collating, producing, editing and delivering information to you all, and a lot of support from advertisers).

If we missed you out and you want to be included in future issues contact any Community Councillor or the Editor – interesting and unusual local photographs and articles are always welcome.



Ardgay's Grand Houses – 2) Gledfield House (photo Hilda Buchanan)

This is **YOUR** community newsletter produced and published by: Ardgay & District Community Council for:



(We need **YOU** to tell us how it was)



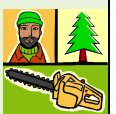
Delivery Problem - Strathcarron – Davy Ross, Derek Matheson and Warwick Harrison have kindly offered to distribute **your** newsletters in Strathcarron. Please help them by letting me know if you are able to take few for your neighbours to reduce their load, (Editor).

Second Advert for these as they are still valid

WANTED – Garden roller - Gearrhoille
Community Wood Ardgay are looking for one to use in the wood.
Contact David – 01863 766061



FOR SALE – Chainsaw – Challenge Extreme, Mains Electric 1800 Watt, 35cm Bar, 10metre cable. Brand New in Box £50.00 (£69.99 at Argos. Tel David – 01863 766061



We will be pleased to take commercial advertising at £40 for a full page. £20 for half, £10 for a quarter, £5.00 for all smaller sizes.

As the pace of change increases increasingly fast we need to try to keep up ... Here attached is a barcode to print in the Autumn newsletter – if there is one. When scanned by a smartphone this barcode will display the A&DCC Autumn Newsletter. Should this actually work (!?) then we need to get this sort of thing into many printed documents. The same principle will apply to anyone creating pamphlets or brochures for visitors, etc. ... Phil Olson.

