

KILNINFORD NEWS

Issue 6

April 2000

Instead of starting off with the usual editorial we have decided that the importance of the coming Village Hall AGM warrants front page coverage; we have rushed through this publication so that your newsletter will be with you, hopefully, before the meeting; only just, but at least you will have little time to forget about it!

KILMELFORD AND KILNINVER

VILLAGE HALL AGM

THURSDAY 20th APRIL AT 7.30 p.m.

IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Important issues about the future running of the hall will be discussed; the Hall Committee would very much appreciate a good turn out and plenty of positive input on issues such as the caretaking and cleaning of the hall, maintenance, booking arrangements etc.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, 22nd April – Blessing of the Boats in Ardfern followed by the Spring Fayre from 11.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Ardfern Village Hall in aid of parish funds.

Wednesday, 26th April – Beach Clean. Working parties should meet at Kilmelford Village Hall at 7 p.m.

Sunday, 30th April – Beach Clean. Working parties should meet at Kilmelford Village Hall at 2 p.m.

Funds raised will go towards the purchase of sports equipment for the village hall.

Contact: Neil Manchester (Tel: 01852 200272)

Friday 26th, May – Coffee morning from 10.30 a.m. till noon in the Village Hall in aid of parish funds and the Village Hall.

Organisers are Melissa Oatts (Tel: 01852 200314) and Mike Erskine (Tel: 01852 200373).

June – the Kilmelford Fire Station is nearing completion and is due to be opened some time in June, date to be announced. To report a fire, dial 999.

Friday, 28th July - Coffee morning from 10.30 a.m. till noon in the Village Hall in aid of parish funds and the Village Hall.

Organisers are Melissa Oatts (Tel: 01852 200314) and Mike Erskine (Tel: 01852 200373).

Sunday 20th August - Kilmelford Festival

After much discussion and deliberation, including as many people as possible involved in the running of the Summer Festival, it has been decided to ring the changes this year.

Many alternatives to the usual format have been debated and in particular how the potential of the hall can be used (in place of our ailing marquee) in conjunction with the Glenmore fields. However, because of the risk to children having to cross the main road and in order to give the two Colins a

break from the hard work involved in setting up the field, it has been decided not to hold any field events this year.

The entries to the produce and craft classes have increased in the last few years and the judges have been very complimentary about the standard and the variety of the entries. This part of the festival, along with the ever popular teas, competitions, stalls, raffle and bar etc., will take place as usual but, for this year at any rate, they will be held in the comfort of our Village Hall.

As far as the future of the Summer Festival is concerned, it's very much hoped that this community day won't be allowed to fall by the wayside completely. Once the new fire station has been completed the amount of remaining parking space will be known and the building itself will apparently be available for community use. It was therefore felt that these factors, along with the importance of making use of our hall and consideration for the workload which is undertaken by a few stalwart individuals, should all be discussed again before next summer. It would be sad to see the end of events such as the dog show and the stock judging, which bring variety and fun to the festival, and it may be that these can be resurrected at a future festival.

New ideas and new blood are needed and it's very much hoped that these will be forthcoming.

Colin Clark, Colin Gladstone, Janet Thom and Georgina Dalton

HIRE OF SUMMER FESTIVAL EQUIPMENT

The sound system and the portacabin loos are available for hire.

The marquee is no longer available for hire but can be borrowed, for use only within the Kilmelford and Kilninver parish.

Contact: Colin Gladstone (Tel: 01852 200232)

KILMELFORD AND KILNINVER SUMMER FESTIVAL
SUNDAY 20th AUGUST 2000
SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

SECTION A - FLOWERS

FOR THE DALTON TROPHY - Most points Section A and B

To be grown by competitor

- | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Class 1 | Single rose |
| Class 2 | Single bloom - any variety |
| Class 3 | Vase of garden flowers - mixed |
| Class 4 | Vase of garden flowers - one variety |

SECTION B - PLANTS

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Class 5 | Foliage pot plant |
| Class 6 | Flowering pot plant |
| Class 7 | Selection of three or more pot plants in one container |
| Class 8 | Single cactus or succulent |

SECTION C - FLORAL ART

FOR THE BP TROPHY

Not necessarily grown by competitor

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Class 9 | Arrangement using flower(s) and any other materials depicting a film |
| Class 10 | Arrangement using driftwood and grasses |
| Class 11 | Floating candles and flowers in any container |
| Class 12 | Formal floral centrepiece for a dining room table |

SECTION D - PRODUCE

FOR THE MELFORT FARM TROPHY

To be grown by competitor

- | | |
|----------|-------------------------|
| Class 13 | Bunch of fresh herbs |
| Class 14 | Four tomatoes |
| Class 15 | Four potatoes |
| Class 16 | Selection of leaf salad |

SECTION E - GARDEN PRODUCE

FOR THE CULFAIL HOTEL TROPHY

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Class 17 | Selection of fruit and vegetables from the same garden grown by competitor |
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SECTION F - HANDICRAFTS

FOR THE ARDUAINE CRAFT TROPHY

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|----------|--|
| Class 18 | Knitted outfit for a child's toy |
| Class 19 | Christmas tree decoration (any material) |
| Class 20 | Pencil or charcoal drawing |
| Class 21 | Tapestry article |
| Class 22 | Local photograph with caption |
| Class 23 | Hand made article using any material |

SECTION G - HOME PRODUCE

FOR THE FISH FARM TROPHY

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Class 24 | Pate |
| Class 25 | Four filled meringues |
| Class 26 | Four stuffed tomatoes (no meat) |
| Class 27 | Loaf of bread (brown) |
| Class 28 | Four pieces of millionaire's shortbread |
| Class 29 | Madeira cake |
| Class 30 | Four squares of coconut ice |
| Class 31 | Novelty cake (maritime theme) - decoration only |
| Class 32 | Marmalade |

CHILDREN'S SECTION

UP TO 11 YEARS OLD

SPECIAL PRIZE - For most points in these four classes

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Class 33 | Decorated ear muffs (Joanna Gladstone may be able to provide muffs) |
| Class 34 | Gingerbread man |
| Class 35 | Four butterfly cakes |
| Class 36 | Picture using shells |

TWELVE TO SIXTEEN YEARS

FOR THE MELFORT PIER TROPHY

- | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|
| Class 37 | Photograph of a pet (mounted) |
| Class 38 | Bowl of cole slaw |
| Class 39 | Papier mache carnival mask |
| Class 40 | Chocolate brownies |

LOCAL GARDENS OPEN UNDER THE SCOTLAND'S GARDENS SCHEME

Under this scheme 30% of funds raised go to the Queen's Nurses Scotland, 30% to the National Trust Gardens and 40% to a charity of the choice of the owner of the garden.

Saturday, 10th June and Sunday, 11th June – Hilary Hill's annual garden opening from 2.30 – 6 p.m. at Coire Daraidh, Kilmelford. Her choice of charity is the North Argyll Eventide Home.

The garden is suitable for wheelchairs providing there's an energetic pusher.

Entrance - £1.50 Senior Citizens - £1 Accompanied children free of charge.

Teas - £1.50. Plants for sale.

Tel: 01852 200285

Hugh Campbell-Gibson, Tigh na More, Kilmelford – by appointment.
Tel: 01852 200224

Sheila Downie, An Cala, Isle of Seil – 1st April – 15th October 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Monday, 29th May – special open day at An Cala from 2 – 6 p.m. in aid of Marie Curie Nurses. Teas and plants for sale.

Tel: 01852 300237

Minette Struthers, Ardmaddy Castle. Ardmaddy – open all year dawn to dusk.

Tel: 01852 300353

Saturday, 13th May and Sunday 14th May – Arduaine Gardens (National Trust for Scotland)

Entrance fees on these two days are donated to the Scotland's Gardens Scheme.

Saturday, 27th May – a special day will be held in the gardens with performances by Kilninver and Craignish Primary Schools and musical entertainment.

Arduaine Gardens are open all year round from 9.30 a.m. till sunset.

Tel: 01852 200366

REGULAR EVENTS IN THE VILLAGE HALL AND LOCALLY

Mothers and Toddlers (0 - 5 year olds) meet **every Wednesday from 10 a.m. till 12 noon.** £1 per child per session.

Starts again: 10th May

Stops: 28th June

Starts again: 23rd August

Co-ordinator - Melissa Oatts (Tel: 01852 200314)

Outdoor Football – these sessions will be held **every Wednesday from 7p.m. – 9p.m.** on the Kilmelford Glebe pitch starting on the 3rd of May. It's very much hoped that the change of location from Ardfarn, due only to the lack of availability of a pitch, won't deter the footballers in Ardfarn

from attending.

Organiser: Mike Erskine (Tel: 01852 200373)

The Kilfern Football Club

The club takes part in friendly and challenge matches and anyone wanting to play or any team wishing to challenge Kilfern Club to a match should contact Alan Manson (Tel: 01852 200315). Matches are played on the Kilmelford Glebe pitch and are confined to players over the age of 16. Training sessions are held in conjunction with the regular Wednesday evening outdoor football sessions (details above) organised by Mike Erskine.

The season kicked off with two matches on Sunday the 16th of April. The youngsters of Kilmelford and Kilninver took on the youngsters of Craignish in what proved to be an exciting game with Craignish the victors with a score of 5 – 0. The adults of Kilmelford and Kilninver then played the adults of Craignish with Kilmelford and Kilninver snatching victory with a score of 5 – 4. The teams were well supported by plenty of spectators.

On Thursday, 20th April at 6.30 p.m. Kilfern Club will take on Seil, the current Village League champions!

Kilfern Football Club members can now be seen sporting smart black and red strips which were purchased, along with other equipment, with a grant from Argyll and Bute Council.

Badminton Club – the regular Tuesday night sessions have now stopped for the summer after a very successful season with a good number of younger generation players attending regularly. On your toes veterans!

Country Dancing – these sessions have also stopped for the summer. Many thanks to Melissa for organising things and to Mike for his talented teaching – Mike somehow manages to get even those with two left feet to get through the most complicated of dances whilst still allowing everyone to have a laugh. The end of session party was a memorable evening with Mike's talents put to the test by an influx of eight Dutch novices.

BADMINTON AND SQUASH

Hopefully the badminton and squash courts will continue to be well used throughout the summer even though the regular badminton sessions have stopped until the autumn.

Badminton £2 per hour
Squash £3 per session

BOOKINGS

The Hall is again without a Caretaker/Cleaner. Bookings can now be made during business hours at the Post Office thanks to Anne's support.

Tables, chairs and crockery etc. can be hired from the Hall.

KILNINVER PRIMARY SCHOOL - UP-DATE

Well done to Laura Erskine and her helpers who organised a coffee morning in Kilmelford Village Hall which raised £117.70 in aid of Mozambique flood victims.

Primary 4 – 7 pupils contributed an excellent performance to the Scottish Opera's "The Jacobites" at Easdale Primary School.

The Quiz night was a great success with an excellent attendance. £200 was raised which will be put towards the school's contribution to the sports equipment for Kilmelford Village Hall which will be used by the school during PE lessons. The school is very grateful to the Quiz Master, Angus MacFadyen, to David Birrell for providing facilities and preparing soup and sandwiches and to all who took part or donated towards the fund.

The "Egg-hibition" was also a great success with some very imaginative entries.

KILNINVER PRIMARY SCHOOL – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 5th and Saturday 6th May – Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival at the Corran Halls, Oban.

Friday – Choir and Action Song

Saturday – Solos and Instrumentalists

A strong contingent will be representing the school this year and the support of parents and friends will be most welcome.

Thursday evening, 25th May – pupils participating in BBC Live Samba procession in Oban.

Saturday, 27th May – P4 – P7 pupils participating in musical/drama presentations at Arduaine Gardens.

Saturday, 3rd June – Summer Fayre at the school from 2p.m. to 4 p.m. Teas, coffee, sports, games, competitions, baking, bottle stall etc. All welcome.

Monday, 5th June – P6 and P7 going to Clydebank College to make a picnic bench and garden seat for the playground.

Saturday, 10th June – Sponsored Cycle Ride through Scammadale Glen. This is being organised by the pupils to raise funds for the Mod in Dunoon in October, Environmental Studies visits and continuing PE lessons in Kilmelford Village Hall. Time and place for meeting will be announced later. All are welcome and a shorter ride will be planned for younger (or older) participants.

Wednesday, 14th June – School Sports Day from 1.30 p.m. to 3.15 p.m. All welcome.

Thursday, 29th June – End of session Assembly and Musical Evening at Kilmelford Hall at 7 p.m. All welcome. Tea and coffee will be served afterwards.

BLAST-OFF

This has proved to be a popular after school club with an excellent level of attendance.

Elizabeth Asbury

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND SERVICES

Services are held every Sunday at 12 noon **alternately** in Kilmelford Parish Church and Kilninver Parish Church.

23rd April (Easter Sunday) - Kilninver

30th April - Kilmelford etc.

Communion will be celebrated on the 4th of June in Kilninver Parish Church.

Between March and October there is an Evening Service on the last Sunday of each month in Kilmelford Church at 6.30 p.m.

Services are held every Sunday in Craignish Parish Church in Ardfern at 10.15 a.m.

Episcopalian Church – morning service is held every Sunday at 10.15 a.m. in St John's Cathedral, Oban.

Catholic Church – Saturday evening Vigil Mass is held at 7 p.m. and Sunday Mass at 10.30 a.m. in St Columba's Cathedral, Oban.

THE BIG BREAKFAST

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Big Breakfast in February. The sum of £145 was raised for the village hall.

Ann Smith and Janet Thom

KILMELFORD AND KILNINVER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A meeting of the Community Council was held on the 8th of February, 2000. There were six members of the Community Council and eighteen members of the public present.

Firstly, the Millennium celebrations were discussed. It was reported that the ceilidh held for the Auld New Year raised £62, which has been donated towards the fund for sports equipment for the hall. Colin and Mary Clark were thanked for their efforts in organising this event. A vote of thanks was also extended to Mike Erskine for organising the Hogmanay party.

Road issues were next on the agenda. It was noted that warning bollards have been placed at Blaran road end, and that plans were afoot to improve the sightline if council funds become available. The proposed speed limit at Kilninver School was discussed; while not having the approval from Strathclyde Police because of potential difficulties in enforcement, there is support from both Councillors, and the matter will be discussed in detail at the next Area Committee meeting.

It was noted that MacLeods had agreed to upgrade the road in the Glebe development, and install street lighting. There has been no move on the landscaping of the area and the Community Council will continue to press for action from MacLeods on this.

There was discussion regarding the requirement for a Community Council notice board within Kilmelford and Kilninver. There is no ideal place for the location of such a notice board, so it was agreed that minutes of the meetings and other related notices be displayed a) on the village hall notice board, b) on the village shop notice board for a short duration and c) in the Kilninford News.

The future of the Kilmelford Summer Festival was discussed at length. The perennial problem of a shortage of helpers to organise the event, combined with the field work necessary makes the festival hard work and costly. Since the marquee and toilet block are getting old, it was felt that a

more hall based event would be sensible, despite the limited car parking space. It was agreed to place this item on the agenda for the next meeting.

The annual Loch Melfort beach clean was mentioned, with the date to be announced. The funds raised this year will be added to the money already raised, which is intended for sports equipment for the village hall, and a large purchase from the previous two years funds is imminent. It was pointed out that while volunteers could remove litter and small items of debris, there were several large items of industrial waste that needed specialist equipment to remove. Stuart Cannon kindly offered the services of the fish farm workboats to assist in this.

Various planning applications were discussed, but no objections were raised.

Various items of correspondence were read out. Items of note were: a) a draft document from the Health Board on improving health services in Argyll. This led to discussions about the proposed closure of Oban hospital. It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting to see what further developments would take place: b) notice of the Nationwide Awards for Voluntary Endeavour. This is a scheme where nominations were invited for anyone within the community who had made an extra effort to help the community in any way. Further details and an application form are available from the secretary.

Under any other business, it was pointed out that recent work on the mains water in Kilmelford had left the water unfit for consumption for nearly four days. In the light of recent increases in water rates it was felt necessary for the Community Council to complain to the Water Board. There was comment on the ineffectiveness of the speed limit in Kilmelford, although others present felt that it had made a great difference to traffic speeds through the village generally. The secretary felt that any complaints to the police on this issue may affect the application for a speed limit at Kilniver.

Stuart Cannon announced that he was looking for volunteers to assist in tree planting around the village hall later in early March. It was agreed that this would be a great improvement to the village hall.

KILNINVER AND KILMELFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on
Tuesday 23rd May, 2000
at 8 p.m.
in Kilmelford Village Hall

Ordinary General Meeting
and
Annual General Meeting

Neil Manchester
Secretary
Tel: 01852 200272
Fax: 01880 770730

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

MOBILE BANKING SERVICE

The mobile bank visits the area every Friday as follows:-

Craobh Haven, Kilmelford and Cuilfail Hotel between 11.15 and 12 noon.

Ardfern between 10.30 and 11 a.m.

Clachan Seil and Balvicar between 12.40 and 1 p.m.

MOBILE LIBRARY

This service is provided on a Wednesday every four weeks, the next visit being Wednesday 17th May. Anyone wanting the driver, Neil McIntyre, to stop at or close to their house should contact him via the library in Oban (Tel: 01631 567921). All times in the following timetable are approximate:-

9.30 a.m.	Tullich Farm
10 a.m.	Loch Melfort Hotel
10.30 a.m.	Tuckers' house
10.45 – 11 a.m.	Craobh Village Shop
11.15 – 11.30 a.m.	Kilmelford Village Hall
11.40 a.m.	Melfort Club
12 noon	MacLeod Homes, Kilmelford
12.30 p.m.	Council houses, Kilmelford
12.45 p.m.	Kilmelford Post Office
1 p.m.	Cuilfail Hotel
1.15 p.m.	Council houses by Kilninver Primary School

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

Blood donation sessions will be held as follows:-

Corran Hall, Oban 1.30 – 8 p.m.

Tuesday, 9th May

Tuesday, 8th August

Manse Brae Community Centre, Lochgilphead 2.20 – 8 p.m.

Wednesday, 10th May

Wednesday, 9th August

THE WHITE LADY OF CRAIGNISH

Glen Domhain (the Black Glen) is a narrow cleft from Lagallochan to Barbreck Glen. Down it runs the Barbreck River, and not so long ago there was much traffic between the various farms and houses, now all abandoned. It is famous for the roebuck Stone, but there is an equally infamous story, told by Marion Campbell in her excellent book "Argyll, the Enduring Heartland". The tale runs as follows:-

"Aunt Christian sounds respectable, does she not? You wait. She flourished in the mid-fourteenth century; as sole heiress of her father, her marriage was naturally an arranged one. She was wedded to a MacDougall of Lorn, proof enough that her family paid small regard to their own chiefs, for the Loch Awe Campbells had been at feud with the Dunollie Macdougalls since the wars of Robert the Bruce, a generation earlier. The White Lady was a MacDougall wife for twenty years, and bore her husband a son. But she was no sooner widowed than she married again to please herself.

Her choice fell on a cousin on her mother's side, a MacNaughton from Loch Awe side; her Campbell uncle thought the match unworthy of her. A year later the bridegroom died (the uncle's connection with this is not explicit) and Christian, riding down Glen Domhain in her widow's weeds encountered a young MacIver from Arduaine. Nearly opposite Grianaig is a small birchwood, later to be known as the Lady's Wood, *Coille na Bhain-tighearna*; that was where the widow seduced her new mate. (The wood survives to this day, as does its name.)

All her kinsmen were furious, so angry they even sought the help of their much-neglected overlord, Colin Campbell of Loch Awe, to bring the White Lady to heel. He indeed made her buy the right of re-marriage from him, but she merrily handed over the whole strath of Barbreck and a slice of her second husband's lands forbye; so that all the kinsmen achieved was the loss of a large chunk of territory that should have stayed in the family.

At last she died; but one could hardly expect that to be the end of her. Four families attended the funeral – Campbells, MacDougalls, MacNaughtons and MacIvers. The Campbells and MacIvers set off with the coffin for Kilmory (Craignish); the Macdougalls declared she should rest in their church of Kilbride at Lerags. The MacNaughtons hung back discreetly.

A halt was called for refreshments, set out ready in a convenient barn. It was pure accident, of course, that the MacDougalls should have become trapped inside by a jammed door; but by the time they had broken through the wall the other mourners had disappeared. The coffin was still quite near the barn, had they but known where to look; it had been tucked under the capstone of a Bronze Age grave nearby. But the MacDougalls wasted no time in playing find-the-lady; they whipped up as many Campbell cattle as a rapid search revealed, and drove them off up the Bealach Mor towards Kilmartin. This was the long way home, but the shorter route crossed MacIver land.

The rest of the funeral party pursued them hotfoot; except the patient MacNaughtons, who now emerged from hiding and bore the coffin away up Glen Domhain, past the roebuck-stone and home to Loch Awe.”

With grateful acknowledgement to Miss Marion Campbell of Kilberry. This version is taken from the 1977 edition by Turnstone Press Ltd, but “Argyll – The Enduring Heartland” was reprinted in 1995 by Colin Baxter, essential reading for any Argyll resident or visitor.

Tony Dalton

Ed. Thank you Tony for your regular contributions. Articles on our local history are proving to be popular and we would welcome any other contributions.

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Fiona Wyllie	(Editor)	Tel: 01852 200227

The Kilninford News provides an ideal platform for you to open a debate about local issues and to air your views.

If you have any letters or any gems of interest that you would like to share with our readers please let us have them in time for the next issue in September. Letters and articles can be left in the box in the Post Office or sent to the Editor.

ADVERTS

Advertising rates:-	Private ads	£1 each
	Commercial ads	£5 each per quarter page

Adverts in the newsletter are not only cheap but are also proving to be very effective. Let us have your adverts for the September issue in plenty of time either by placing them in the box in the Post Office or by contacting one of the editorial team.