

KILNINFORD NEWS

Issue 15

April 2003

www.kilmelford.com

We now have a local website and thanks to Alex Tweedly, who very kindly volunteered his expert services, there's already a wealth of information to be found there.

We are keen to keep the website as up-to-date and as accurate as we can. This is a time consuming exercise so please bear with us if past events etc. haven't always been deleted immediately. Announcements need no longer wait until the next Kilninford News. Please check out the website and let us have a note of:-

Forthcoming Events

Information that would be of general interest

Offers of transport/requests for transport (see below)

Classified Advertisements

Errors, omissions and any suggestions

Constructive comments

We can be contacted by the usual methods (phone, post or box in the Post Office), and by e-mailing us at:- editor@kilmelford.com

The main pages on the website are:-

Business Directory – we plan to include the name and full contact details of every business within the Kilninford Newsletter distribution area, free of charge. We have included an application form with the newsletters that go to businesses – please let us know if you didn't get one.

Visitor Information – this includes pages on Accommodation, Places to Eat and Drink, Activities and Places of Interest. A gallery of local photographs will be added soon.

Community Information – this includes information on Mobile Banking, Mobile Library, Blood Transfusion Service, Police, School, Churches, Community Council, Village Hall, Classified Advertisements and other useful information. Payment for classified advertisements is currently done on an honesty basis and left up to the advertiser to make a small contribution to the running costs of the website as they feel appropriate.

Calendar – this includes Forthcoming Events, Regular Events, Cinema Programme and things going on in the locality.

Transport – this includes local transport information and a Transport Share Scheme. The latter is intended for local residents only. Anyone wishing either to offer or request a lift, either locally on a regular basis or a one-off further afield, should visit the Transport page on the website.

Newsletter – the plan is to publish the Kilninford News on the website and in time you will be able to look up previous copies.

The website is not intended to take the place of the Kilninford News – we will continue to deliver the newsletter to every household regardless of whether you have internet access or not – but it does give us a more instantaneous communication tool for those who use the internet.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, 26th April – Blessing of the Boats at 11 a.m. at Ardfern Yacht Centre followed by the **Spring Fair** from 12 noon – 2 p.m. in Craignish Village Hall.

Thursday, 1st May – Sunday, 4th May – the 20th Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival, Oban.

Saturday, 3rd May – Mexican Night and Auction in Craignish Village Hall. £4 per adult, £2 under 12's, £10 a family – pay at the door. **Bring up**

to 3 (good) items for auction, each with a reserve price on it – the donor gets the reserve and anything over goes to Craignish Village Hall.

Sunday, 4th May – Grand Fete at Ardmaddy Castle in aid of the “Four Walls and a Ceiling” campaign to provide a new community hall for Seil Island.

Sunday, 4th May – Melfort Beach Clean. Meet at 1 p.m. at Kilmelford Village Hall (see below)

From mid May throughout the summer – Sunday Markets

The Sunday Markets selling local produce will again operate weekly from mid May outside the Galley of Lorn between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Once a month larger markets will be held with the addition of arts and crafts.

Friday, 23rd May - Coffee Morning from 10.30 a.m. till noon in Kilmelford Village Hall in aid of parish funds and the Village Hall. Contributions of baking would be much appreciated.
Organiser Diane Scaife (Tel: 01852 200208)

Sunday, 1st June – Kilmelford Fire Station Open Day and Duck Race. All proceeds to the National Fire Services Benevolent Fund and the Village Bonfire Night.

Saturday, 21st June – Midsummer Barbecue and a walk up to Learigoligan to watch the sunset. Watch the Ardfarn noticeboards for time etc.

Sunday, 22nd June – Lunch and Silent Auction from 12 noon till 3 p.m. in Kilmelford Village Hall in aid of Village Hall funds. Donations for the auction would be appreciated.
Details from Diane Scaife (Tel: 01852 200208)

Friday, 18th July – Saturday, 2nd August – Elemental Arts Festival based in and around the Craignish Peninsula (see below).

Friday, 25th July - Coffee Morning from 10.30 a.m. till noon in Kilmelford Village Hall in aid of parish funds and the Village Hall.

Contributions of baking would be much appreciated.
Organiser Diane Scaife (Tel: 01852 200208)

Sunday, 24th August – Summer Festival at 1 p.m. in Kilmelford Village Hall.
(See Schedule below)

Friday, 5th September - Coffee Morning from 10.30 a.m. till noon in Kilmelford Village Hall in aid of parish funds and the Village Hall.
Contributions of baking would be much appreciated.
Organiser Diane Scaife (Tel: 01852 200208)

LOCH MELFORT ANNUAL BEACH CLEAN

Sunday, 4th May – meet at 1 p.m. at Kilmelford Village Hall

Around £700 is available for clearing up the 15 miles of shoreline around Loch Melfort, which will go towards local children's charities and organisations. All volunteers welcome on the day; your support is vital not only in raising money for children's activities, but also to preserve the natural beauty of Loch Melfort. Refreshments available afterwards.

Anyone interested in getting involved, especially with suggestions for suitable good causes that may benefit from the money available, should contact Neil Manchester (Tel: 01852 200272) as soon as possible.

ELEMENTAL ARTS FESTIVAL

Friday, 18th July – Sunday, 3rd August

This will be the third festival run by local artists and businesses to support each other and publicise the area. The Wavyline Gallery will again be presenting an eclectic mix of paintings, prints and crafts and if Kilmelford Art Class, or any individuals, wish to exhibit, they should contact Lizzie Rose. As in previous years, there will be a full and varied programme. Two **definites** are:-
Thursday, 31st July Lucian Lindsay-MacDougall's theatre group, **Gogolia**, and
Saturday, 2nd August the final gig with dancing to **Salsaceltica**. For further information keep an eye on their new website www.elementalarts.org.uk

For any enquiries or if you wish to exhibit or to be put on the mailing list E-mail: The Secretary, Lizzie Rose at secretary@elementalarts.free-online.co.uk or phone her on (Tel: 01852 500285).

KILMELFORD AND KILNINVER SUMMER FESTIVAL

Unfortunately we are about to lose our festival co-ordinator after only a year as Steve and Fay Ewing are moving to Corby to be closer to their grandchildren. However, Isobel Smith has kindly agreed to take on this role (Tel: 01852 200537).

Steve and Fay would like to thank all the people in the village for their friendship and support over the past 12 years and say that they'll miss everyone. However, they'll be back again for holidays. Thanks also to Isobel for agreeing to take on the role of festival co-ordinator.

YOUR FESTIVAL NEEDS YOU

Volunteers are needed to help out with teas, door entries, raffle ticket selling etc and anyone willing to contribute either by helping on the day or having an interesting display, game or competition that **they** can run on behalf of the community, please contact any of the following (sooner rather than later):-

Isobel Smith	01852 200537
Georgina Dalton	01866 844212
Diane Galt	01852 200215
Fiona Wyllie	01852 200227
Clare Howard	01852 200375

SUMMER FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Sunday, 24th August at 1 p.m. in the Village Hall

One entry only per person per class.

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

To be grown by competitor

- Class 5 Foliage pot plant
- Class 6 Flowering pot plant
- Class 7 Selection of three or more pot plants in one container
- Class 8 Named plant growing from pip, stone or cutting

SECTION C - FLORAL ART

FOR THE BP TROPHY

Not necessarily grown by competitor

- Class 9 Arrangement using flower(s) and other materials depicting the title of a play
- Class 10 A table centrepiece using flowers (fresh or dried) and other natural materials
- Class 11 An arrangement using fresh flowers in any one colour and greens
- Class 12 A corsage using dried or artificial flowers for an evening out

SECTION D - PRODUCE

FOR THE MELFORT FARM TROPHY

To be grown by competitor

- Class 13 A home-grown parsley plant
- Class 14 A selection of legumes
- Class 15 4 potatoes
- Class 16 The longest carrot

SECTION E - GARDEN PRODUCE

FOR THE CULFAIL HOTEL TROPHY

- Class 17 Selection of fruit and vegetables from the same garden grown by competitor

SECTION F - HANDICRAFTS

FOR THE ARDUAINE CRAFT TROPHY

- Class 18 A stuffed toy
- Class 19 A hand made hat
- Class 20 A painted waterscape in any medium
- Class 21 An article using cross stitch
- Class 22 Four photographs with an animal theme
- Class 23 A hand made article using any medium

SECTION G - HOME PRODUCE

FOR THE FISH FARM TROPHY

- Class 24 Guacamole
- Class 25 Three stuffed mushrooms
- Class 26 Two savoury crêpes with a vegetarian filling
- Class 27 A home made white loaf (bread machine allowed)
- Class 28 A lemon cheesecake
- Class 29 A gingerbread loaf
- Class 30 Three florentines
- Class 31 A decorated cake with a sports theme (decoration only)
- Class 32 Chutney

CHILDREN'S SECTION

UP TO AND INCLUDING 11 YEARS OLD

LOCH MELFORT HOTEL TROPHY

- Class 33 A funny face on toast
- Class 34 Four chocolate crispy cakes
- Class 35 A painted stone
- Class 36 A finger puppet

TWELVE TO SIXTEEN YEARS

FOR THE MELFORT PIER TROPHY

Class 37	A decorated T-shirt
Class 38	A birthday card for a friend
Class 39	A chocolate mousse
Class 40	A savoury open sandwich

HIRE OF SUMMER FESTIVAL EQUIPMENT

The sound system is 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)

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 May and Sunday 11th May – Arduaine Gardens (National Trust for Scotland) Entrance fees on these two days are donated to Scotland's Gardens Scheme.

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

Tel: 01852 200366.

Monday, 26th May special open day at An Cala, Isle of Seil from 2 p.m. – 6 p.m. in aid of Cancer Research. Entrance fee £2. Teas, plant stall and cake stall.

Tel: 01852 300237

An Cala is also open from 1st April – 31st October from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday, 14th June and Sunday, 15th June – Achnacille, Kilmelford from 2 p.m. – 6 p.m. Teas and plant stall. Admission £2, children free.

40% of proceeds to ARMS (Oban) and 60% to SGS Gardens.

REGULAR EVENTS IN KILMELFORD VILLAGE HALL AND LOCALLY

Mothers and Toddlers (0 - 5 year olds) meet **every Wednesday from 10 a.m. till 12 noon (N.B change of time)**. £1.50 per child per session.

Starts: 23rd April

Stops: 25th June

Co-ordinator: Mandy Carmichael (Tel: 01852 200362)

The Kilfern Football Club – **every Sunday at 6 p.m.** at The Glebe, Kilmelford. The next match is on Sunday, 4th May at 3 p.m. in Kilmelford against Kilmartin. Anyone wanting to arrange a match should contact: Alan Manson (Tel: 01852 200315)

Junior Football – it's hoped to start up the regular **Thursday** evening football sessions again in Kilmelford for P4 – S1 that Mike Erskine used to referee but arrangements haven't as yet been finalised.

Contact: Alan Manson (Tel: 01852 200315)

Country Dancing – these popular Thursday evening sessions have now finished for the summer. Once again, very many thanks to Mike Murray who makes the classes both instructive and fun. We hope that Mike will agree to resume classes in the autumn; details will be notified in the September newsletter.

Art Classes – classes are held **weekly on Thursdays** from 2 – 4.30 p.m. in the small hall. Fiona Blakey will take a break from teaching over the summer and will resume classes again in the autumn but the class continues to meet through the summer.

All are welcome, beginners and more experienced alike.

Classes with Fiona are £5 per person per session.

Teacher – Fiona Blakey (Tel: 01852 300579)

Embroidery Workshops – the Wednesday morning workshops will resume in October.

Contact: Elizabeth Asbury (Tel: 01852 200377)

BADMINTON AND SQUASH

Badminton: £2 per hour

Squash: 16 years and over £3/hr

Under 16 years, OAP's, students and unemployed £1.50/hr

CARETAKING AND BOOKINGS FOR THE HALL

Caretaker:- Deirdre Campbell Gibson (Tel: 01852 200224). A big thank you, Deirdre, for all that you do for the community in this role.

Bookings should be made during business hours at the Post Office (Tel: 01852 200271) and at Melfort Club (Tel: 01852 200257), both of whose support is much appreciated.

KILMELFORD AND KILNINVER VILLAGE HALL HIRE CHARGES

Lesser and Main Halls	Lesser Hall	Main Hall
Charity Fund Raisers	£1.20/hr	£2.50/hr
Non profit making uses other than Charities	£2.20/hr £2.50/hr after 5 p.m.	£4.20/hr £5/hr after 5 p.m.
Profit making events	£5.20/hr	£10.50/hr

*Above charges **include** kitchen power and use of equipment for light refreshment and drink preparation only.*

Additional use of kitchen cooking facilities for food preparation can be made at the following rates: £10 per event.

Evening Dances/Functions	5 p.m. – 11 p.m. (1 a.m. for dances)
Charity	£50/session Deposit: £20
Private	£50/session Deposit: £20
Commercial	£75/session Deposit: £50

N.B. Charges include kitchen power and use of equipment for food and refreshment preparation.

Hire of Equipment

1. Crockery, tables and chairs etc may be hired from the Caretaker who has a full list of the rates.
Charges will be reduced by 50% for non profitmaking local members e.g.
Tables (12) = £1 per table (50p each for non profitmaking events by local members)
Chairs (120) = 50p per chair (25p each for non profitmaking events by local members).
2. Hire is subject to a minimum charge of £10.

Membership and Lost Keys

£10 each

After each use the Hall must be left clean and tidy. Failure to do this will lead to a further charge of £50.

KILMELFORD AND KILNINVER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The last committee meeting and AGM was held on the 11th of March. The current members of the Kilmelford and Kilninver Community Association (aka Village Hall Committee) are:-

Neil Manchester (Chairman)
Robin Grey (Treasurer)
Diane Scaife (Secretary)
Ann Saunders (Bookings)
Dorothy Bark (Committee Member)
Diane Galt (Committee Member)
Anne Grey (Committee Member)

A huge debt of thanks is due to Eric Saunders for installing the new hot water system in the Village Hall and carrying out repairs to the existing system in his free time.

SUMMER CEILIDHS

It's been suggested that it might be a good idea to hold informal ceilidhs in the Village Hall, perhaps once a month on a Thursday, throughout the summer. The plan would be to have taped music so that costs could be kept to a minimum and ticket prices low. The ceilidhs would be publicised in all the local self catering businesses providing entertainment for visitors and locals alike and, if successful, could be held more frequently. Ann Wilson (Tel: 01852 200244) has offered to organise these if someone would volunteer to help her. Look out for details on the noticeboards.

KILNINVER AND KILMELFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A meeting of the Kilmelford and Kilninver Community Council was held on Tuesday 11th February 2003; the main items of discussion were:

Various roads issues were discussed, including: the agreement that as an added safety measure the flashing lights at Kilninver School should be retained after the 30mph speed limit had been imposed; that white lines would be painted along the full length of the A816 by the end of March; and that the road works at Blaran road end would also be completed, however there was an ongoing dispute between the Council and British Telecom over the telegraph poles at the roadside, with both parties denying responsibility for moving them to a safer location.

It was noted that the community council had ordered a notice board to post agendas, minutes and key community council notices.

Under planning, a request was made that Angus Gilmour be invited to give a presentation on the planning procedure, as this was a particularly sensitive issue and everyone felt that clarification was required. There were a number of planning applications considered with no objections raised. However, it was unanimously agreed that the community council should object to an application by Melfort Pier for a new laundry and store.

The proposed wind farm at Inverliever was discussed, but the issue remained unresolved. It was agreed that all members of the community should consider their feelings towards the proposal, and a decision would

be taken at the next meeting as to whether the community council should object.

Councillor MacIntyre then highlighted that suggestions for any community improvement schemes should be submitted, as an environmental task force had been set up for twelve months, with a budget of around £100,000 (labour and materials). Suggestions were invited for the meeting.

It was noted that Argyll and Bute Council intended to improve and relocate the bus shelter within the car park in Kilmelford.

Various other business was discussed, including: a footpath had been discovered in a state of disrepair at Arduaine, this may be covered under the Core Paths Network project currently running; the Kilninford Newsletter team were seeking funds for a printer; central heating installation grants were available to all house occupiers; and a request for a paper bank to be located at the village hall would be submitted to Argyll and Bute Council.

Neil Manchester

A meeting of the Kilmelford and Kilninver Community Council was held on Tuesday 8th April 2003. The meeting was attended by the full community council, Argyll and Bute Councillors Alan Macaskill and Duncan MacIntyre, Constable Kevin Moffat and 28 members of the public.

The main items of discussion were:

Councillor Macaskill felt that he had been misrepresented in the last newsletter, and requested that an apology be given. The newsletter editor would review this.

The chairman started the meeting by voicing concern at the actions of Melfort Pier following the community council's objection to a previous planning application. The chairman read out five letters written from Melfort Pier to the secretary, Angus Gilmour, the chairman and copied to various parties, in which a number of accusations, insults and threats were levelled at the secretary of the community council (as with all community council correspondence, these letters are available for public inspection). It was unanimously agreed that due process

had been followed at all stages during consideration of the application, and in the subsequent actions by the community council, and that to target a member of the community council in this manner was unacceptable. Both Argyll and Bute Councillors expressed concern and outrage that the operation of a community council should be threatened in this manner. It was unanimously agreed that a written letter of apology, from Melfort Pier to the secretary of the community council, be requested.

Various roads issues were discussed, including: it was noted that the long awaited 30 mph speed limit at Kilninver School was now in place; the relocation of the telegraph poles at Blaran road end had still not been resolved; works on reducing the level of the main road at Blaran road end would be completed this year, when major works on the Oude hill would be carried out.

The proposed wind farm at Inverliever was discussed again, and a motion put forward that the community council object to the application. Due to the sensitive nature of this issue, a secret ballot was held to determine the course of action. After a majority vote against the motion, it was agreed that the community council should take no further action regarding the wind farm.

It was noted that Angus Gilmour had declined an invitation to attend any community council meeting to discuss planning issues. However, all community councils will be invited to a Development Control User Forum at which there will be a presentation on planning service delivery arrangements. Date to be announced.

Suggestions for the Environmental Task Force project included the improvement of passing places along Scammadale road, tidying of roadside lay-bys at Arduaine and Loch Feochan, and the improvement of access to the historic site at Kilninver.

It was agreed that support be given to projects by the Argyll and Bute Core Path Network, such as a proposed footpath at Loch Avich.

There was concern raised regarding the access to the mussel farm at Arduaine, and the likely hazards when lorries would be turning in and out. It was pointed out that the roads department had offered no objections to the planning application, as it was considered that the sightlines were satisfactory.

It was agreed that a member of the Argyll and Bute Biodiversity Project be invited to speak at the next meeting, to outline the community based projects where funding was available.

It was advised that anyone wishing access to Broadband should sign up on the Argyll and Bute Website.

It was noted that a strange structure had appeared at the roadside between the Oude dam and Glengallan, but no-one was aware as to the exact purpose. Peter Menzies agreed to investigate.

The next meeting of Kilninver and Kilmelford Community Council will be held in Kilmelford Village Hall on Tuesday 10th June 2003 at 8.00pm.

Neil Manchester

Remaining Community Council Meeting Dates for 2003:

Tuesday 10th June 2003 (including the AGM)

Tuesday 12th August 2003

Tuesday 7th October 2003

Tuesday 9th December 2003

COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr Angus MacFadyen (Chairman)	Tel: 01852 316220
Mr Colin Clark (Vice Chairman)	Tel: 01852 200259
Mr Neil Manchester (Secretary)	Tel: 01852 200272
Mrs Jayne Brown (Treasurer)	Tel: 01852 316229
Mrs Dorothy Carmichael (Planning)	Tel: 01852 200374
Mr Stuart Cannon	Tel: 01852 200205
Mr James Mellor	Tel: 01852 316297

COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Alan Macaskill	Tel: 01852 300221
Cllr. Duncan McIntyre	Tel: 01631 770218

KILNINVER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Blast Off club has now stopped for the summer and will resume after the October break.

Saturday, 17th May – Summer Fayre from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the school.

TERM DATES

Summer Term

Holidays during the Summer Term: Thursday, 1st May (closed for voting) and Monday, 5th May

Ends: Friday, 27th June, 2003

Autumn Term

Commences: Wednesday, 20th August, 2003

October break

Closes: Friday, 10th October, 2003

Re-opens: Monday, 27th October, 2003

Holidays during the Autumn Term: Thursday, 20th and Friday, 21 November

Ends: Friday, 19th December, 2003

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND SERVICES

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

	Kilmelford	Kilninver
April	13 th (DL), 27 th (MS)	20 th (Easter Sunday) (BH)
May	11 th (MS), 25 th (BH)	4 th (RH), 18 th (SH)
June	8 th (Communion) (DC), 22 nd (BH)	1 st (DC), 15 th (SH), 29 th (DL)
July	6 th (MS), 20 th	13 th (BH), 27 th
August	3 rd (RH), 17 th , 31 st	10 th , 24 th
September	14 th , 28 th	7 th , 21 st
October	12 th , 26 th	5 th , 19 th

DL = David Logue
BH = Bobby Holden
MS = Margaret Sinclair
RH = Roy Hart
DC = Rev David Carruthers
SH = Rev Stanley Hood

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.

PARISH NEWS

The Church Vacancy Committee has produced an attractive parish profile illustrated with some beautiful photographs of the area. Advertisements have been placed in church magazines and already interest in the position has been shown.

Meanwhile cleaning and repair work is on going in the Manse but the Kirk Session would very much appreciate some help in the up-keep of the garden. If anyone with a mower or strimmer feels that they could help occasionally, please could you get in touch with Willie Wilson (Tel: 01852 200237).

Oban Police has sent me a notice warning about thefts from church premises. I would be grateful if everyone would keep an eye on the Manse and the two churches especially during the summer months when these crimes are most common.

Rev David Carruthers, our Interim Moderator, has arranged the rota of lay preachers and ministers to take the services up to the end of August. He will take the communion service on 8th June in Kilmelford at 12 noon.

We have enjoyed interesting and stimulating addresses from our different preachers during the vacancy and look forward to welcoming anyone wishing to attend our services.

Georgina Dalton

CONDOLENCES

The community were saddened to learn of the death of Diarmid Campbell of Melfort House on the 7th of April at Ross Hall Hospital in Glasgow. Diarmid loved Melfort and was always happy to chat to friends and strangers alike about the area and his beloved herd of highland cattle. His zest for life and enjoyment of a good yarn will be greatly missed by many. Our thoughts are with Norma at this sad time and she has asked me to pass on her sincere thanks for all the support she has received by way of visits, letters and cards.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Mandy and Colin Carmichael on the birth of their son Cameron Duncan, a brother for Emma, on the 8th of April, 2003.

BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS

The Highlands and Islands Enterprise has an initiative to provide broadband internet access to 95% of houses and businesses in Scotland within 18 months. However, the chances are that they will work from the larger towns outwards leaving areas such as ours to the last. In order to focus their attention on isolated communities, and if you would like to see broadband access here sooner rather than later, register your interest with HIE at <http://www.hie.co.uk> and with BT either by phone on 0800 800 060 or at <http://www.bt.com/btbroadband/register>.

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

The mobile library service is provided on a Wednesday every four weeks. Anyone wanting the driver, Neil McIntyre, to stop at or close to their house should contact him via the library in Oban Tel: 01631 571444. All times in the following timetable are approximate:-

9.30 a.m.	Tulich Farm
10 a.m.	Loch Melfort Hotel
10.30 a.m.	Tuckers' house
10.45 – 11 a.m.	Craobh Village Shop
11.15 – 11.25 a.m.	Kilmelford Village Hall
11.30 a.m.	Melfort Pier
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, 13th May, 2003

Tuesday, 12th August, 2003

Tuesday, 11th November, 2003

Manse Brae Community Centre, Lochgilphead 2.30 – 8 p.m.

Wednesday, 14th May, 2003

Wednesday, 13th August, 2003

Wednesday, 12th November, 2003

MOBILE POLICE OFFICE

Strathclyde Police has launched a Mobile Police Office, which will visit our area on the dates and times listed below. The vehicle has most of the facilities of a modern police office, where you can report incidents, and hand in found property etc. The officers will also be available to offer crime prevention advice.

There may be occasions when the Mobile Police Office is unable to attend due to other operational commitments. However, such occasions will be notified in advance.

Ardfern	11.10 – 12.10
Craobh Haven	12.30 – 12.45
Arduaine	13.55 – 14.10
Kilniver	14.35 – 15.35
Kilmelford	15.50 – 16.30

May – Friday, 2nd and 16th

June – Friday, 13th and 27th

July – Friday, 11th and 25th

August – Friday, 8th and 22nd

September – Friday, 5th and 19th

LORN COUNSELLING SERVICE

Telephone Counselling Service for the islands and more remote areas of Lorn.

Tel: 01631 566666 for details and appointments.

RECYCLING FOR CHARITY

INKJET CARTRIDGES

Your inkjet cartridges can be recycled. Not only will you help raise funds for charity but the re-manufacturing of cartridges saves energy and stops them being thrown into overburdened landfill sites where they remain in the ground for years and years.

Environmental Business Products runs a re-manufacturing scheme which benefits your choice of charity from Tommy's, WWF, Help the Aged and Save the Children.

Freepost envelopes can be collected from Melfort Club, by phoning 0800 435 576 or from www.inkagain.co.uk

MOBILE PHONES, ACCESSORIES, BATTERIES AND ALL TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

Contact XS Tronix, Freepost LON15652, P O Box 32790, London, SE1 8YX or www.xstronix.com for further details and freepost envelopes.

STAMPS

For several years World Mission have saved used stamps which are sold to collectors around the world. All money raised is put toward the Kirk's HIV/Aids project. For more information call World Mission on 0131 225 5722 or simply leave your used stamps with Dorothy Carmichael or Georgina Dalton.

INSULATION AND CENTRAL HEATING GRANTS

The Scottish Executive is running a Central Heating Programme for over 60's. If you or your partner is over 60 and your home, owned or rented from a private landlord, doesn't have a central heating system or has central heating that is broken and cannot be repaired, you may be entitled to free central heating. The programme also provides, amongst other things, free insulation: cavity-wall insulation, loft, tank and pipe insulation and draughtproofing.

For further information Tel: 0800 316 1653.

Argyll and Bute Council also runs grant schemes for heating and insulation. For a free grant check and to arrange a surveyor's visit Tel: 0800 316 1200 or contact the Council for further information Tel: 01546 602127.

ALIENERGY (Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Energy Agency) is an excellent source of information and also provides free insulation jackets for hot water tanks and a trial sample of low energy light bulbs to encourage people to convert to their use.

Tel: 01631 562125

E-mail: enquiries@alienergy.org.uk

Web: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/alienergy/

BULK RUBBISH COLLECTIONS

Subject to funding, it's hoped that these collections will continue, approximately every 6 months with the next collection due about October. For further information contact John Downie at Argyll and Bute Council. Tel: 01546 604393

THE MANGO TREE ORPHAN SUPPORT PROGRAMME

This small project in southern Tanzania was brought to my attention recently by close friends of mine who, in September, 2002, set up The Mango Tree Orphan Support Programme to help orphans who have lost parents to Aids.

Gail and Willie Fulton have been actively involved with projects overseas and in this country since their VSO days in the early 1970's. Through this and Willie's extensive travels as a businessman they have accumulated a considerable amount of first hand knowledge and an extensive network of foreign friends. Their home has always been a haven for foreign students studying in Liverpool. They are a couple who don't just talk about things, they act and I know that they will already have invested a huge amount of their own time and resources in this project.

The programme is driven by three central principles; Focus on Needs, Long-term Development, **not just relief**, and Cost Efficiency.

To this end, the needs of the children have been very thoroughly researched and several visits to projects in Africa and Asia have been made with a view to copying the best.

A long standing Tanzanian friend and ex colleague of the Fultons, who has an intimate knowledge of the area, has been appointed Project Director with one of his main aims being to ensure that the local communities are closely involved in every stage of the project. 11 villages on the border with Malawi have been identified as being in particular need. Strong relationships have been built with local leaders and schools and, vitally, there are two volunteers in each village helping to direct resources to those in greatest need.

The problems of orphans as a result of AIDS is an ever increasing one in Africa and it's hoped to extend the programme to more and more villages as the project progresses. Inevitably, such a project needs funds and, because of my knowledge of the people behind this programme, I have no hesitation in recommending it as a project worthy of your support.

Anyone interested in learning more about the project, and how they can contribute, should visit the website at www.themangotree.org, telephone the Fultons on 0151 336 7393, write to them at The White House, Puddington, South Wirral, Cheshire, CH64 5SR or phone me for a copy of the information that I have.

Fiona Wyllie

AUTUMN TINTS

What an odd subject for the April issue of the Kilninford News. Well, perhaps it is odd. Read if you will and decide for yourself just how odd, or how sensible it is!

Friday, 1st November, 2002 was a miserable day. It rained steadily hour after hour. By early afternoon it was obvious that my small dog had to get out, a walk, not just a run in the garden. So on with my oilskins and on with her lead and off we went walking along the Degnish road towards Melfort. While my dog investigated the road verges I peered into the

gardens to see if any trees or shrubs still had leaves with autumn colour. And they did.

First at Ceol-na-Mara, the MacGregor's garden was a magnificent maple (one of the Acer family) 10 – 12 feet high with brilliant glowing crimson foliage which was splendidly set off by neighbouring evergreen shrubs.

Close by the entrance to Achnacille was flanked by two tall rowans (*Sorbus serotina*) whose leaves were a mixture of clear yellows and orange. A joyous sight as my rowans had long since shed their leaves. The Asburys told me that that pair of rowans were noted for the excellence and lateness of their autumn display. It was quite new to me.

Finally, outside the Campbell-Gibson's house, Tigh-na-Mara, on the seaward verge was a large shrub with large pendant leaves, common in the USA but seen less often here – the Stag's Horn Sumach (*Rhus typhina*), so called because its young branches are covered in spring with very soft velvety hairs like a stag's antlers. Famous for its yellow and scarlet autumn colouring coupled with its decorative fruits which are covered by reddish hairs and persist all winter it was a cheering sight on such a dreich day.

So by now you will have guessed why I have written about autumn colour now. If you would like to see these plants in their spring, summer and autumn dresses then take a walk down the Degnish road. If you want to add autumn colour to your garden prowl round garden centres and see what is on offer, or scour "The Plantsman" to find which nursery grows and sells a specific plant.

If you do buy a pot-grown shrubby plant then it can be planted at any time - but I favour either spring or autumn when the soil is almost always pleasantly moist and warm enough to tempt the roots of your new plant to explore their new surroundings.

I cosset such plants, first by keeping the pot in a sheltered place to give the plant a chance to get used to the vagaries of Kilmelford weather and secondly always give each plant a personal windbreak for the first winter. The windbreak can be anything that breaks the force of the wind, a bit of fine netting, a few evergreen prunings, just something to lessen the wind

speed. Maples are notoriously “miffy” about settling into a new site so I give them a thick windbreak the first winter, a thinner one the second and a token one in the third. Then they are on their own. That regime works for me.

So, good gardening to you and I hope that you too will enjoy the same autumn colours that the MacGregors, the Asburys and the Campbell-Gibsons provided me with such pleasure in 2002.

Hilary Hill

Many thanks to Hilary for another informative article and a reminder that, although Hilary is no longer opening her garden to the public for two days in June, as she has done for many years, her beautiful garden is still open to visitors providing they book in advance.

STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF SCOTLAND, PARISH OF KILNINVER AND KILMELFORT 1793 by the Reverend Mr Patrick Campbell (continued from the first instalment which we published in the September issue).

Ecclesiastical State, Poor etc.

The Duke of Argyll is patron at Kilmelfort; and the Earl of Breadalbane is patron and principal heritor of Kilninver, and indeed proprietor of more than one half of this pastoral charge. There are in whole 8 heritors, two of whom only reside in these parishes.

The stipend ... is 661 13s 4d, with 51 for communion elements. There is no manse, but the present minister rents the small farm at Kilninver from Lord Breadalbane, and has built a good farmhouse upon it with some assistance from his Lordship. A neat little church has last year been built at Kilninver. The church at Kilmelfort has been rebuilt during the present incumbency.

The number of poor ... this year is 29. These are supported through Sunday collections, and fines for delinquencies, amounting yearly to 101 and by begging from house to house throughout the parish. There are 3 schools; a

parochial school, and two schools erected by the SPCK, at which above 100 boys and girls are taught.

(Education in general appears to have been appalling, with the one school and one teacher normally provided under the parochial system unable to meet the needs of a large parish. The teacher's whole emoluments, salary and fees, might well come to less than 10 per year, and it was only by additional earnings that a teacher could live at all.

The system was only remotely adequate because of the additional schools provided by the SPCK, and from the private enterprise that was at work, i.e. tacksmen who kept private teachers for their families, or, as in Strachur, groups of farmers would share a teacher. He was given board and lodging in their houses 'and such wages as they can agree for'.

In general, only the basic subjects of reading, writing, and religious instruction would be taught. And the county as a whole was lacking in the leaven of an academy or a parochial school which extended its instruction into the modern subjects for more varied and advanced teaching, such as was to be found in many even of the small towns of Scotland at this time.)

Miscellaneous Observations

Within these few years, some improvements have been made in the mode and implements of husbandry. The English plough with two horses and without a driver is generally used. Most farmers keep a cart. Of late some of the low arable farms have been divided into three or four small farms, which promises to turn out to the advantage of both landlord and tenant.

It was a prevailing error of old, still not quite worn out, in the management of pasture land, to put in too many cattle, and in agriculture to plough much without manuring properly.

The great and chief cause of the frequent and numerous emigrations from the Highlands to America is the natural sterility of the soil, which does not furnish the means of subsistence proportioned to the increasing population and number of inhabitants; and therefore when they cannot find

employment in their native country, they are of necessity obliged to search for it in distant and more fertile climes.

The disadvantages are numerous. A rainy stormy climate; autumn floods and equinoctial storms, which often frustrate the labours of the industrious farmer; and what is a greater discouragement, he who raises the best and most luxuriant crop, is sure to suffer most from the climate. Only early and green crops can be cultivated to any advantage in such a climate. It is no unwarrantable assertion that the best and richest land upon the west coast will yield a better return in grass and pasturage, than in raising corn or grain.

Another disadvantage to the inhabitants on the west coast is their great distance from proper markets to sell their cattle, and supply themselves with meal, grain, and other necessaries of life, more particularly fuel. Their ordinary fuel, peats, for the most part in the high muirs and inaccessible ground, troublesome in the making and carting, require much time and many hands, and after all the drying and securing of them, uncertain and precarious in a climate subject to such great rains.

This is the principal personal service required by the landlord from his tenant in these parishes, and not likely to be discontinued. The wise and judicious removal of the coal duty, particularly if it shall be joined with the introduction of manufactures, will tend more to the comfort and improvement of the highlands, than any other thing that has been devised.

(Mr Campbell did not break down the census numbers to the same degree as other ministers, but the parish of Kilchrenan and Dalavich, incidentally the only Argyll parish without any seaboard, has a comparable number and makes interesting reading).

Number of souls in 1792	1124
Under 10	255
Between 10 and 20	220
Between 20 and 30	198
Between 30 and 40	126
Between 40 and 50	118
Between 50 and 60	76

Between 60 and 70	64
Between 70 and 80	45
Between 80 and 90	20
Between 90 and 100	2
Males	530
Females	594
Families	280

Residing proprietors, possessing 1 farm each	6
Tacksmen, possessing 4 farms each	2
Tacksmen, possessing 2 farms each	2
Tacksmen, possessing 1 farm each	5
Small tenants (usually with an income under 501	90
Minister	1
Schoolmaster	1
Shopkeeper	1
Innkeepers	2
Dram-sellers	5
Smiths	2
House-carpenters	2
Weavers	22
Shoemakers	6
Taylors	6
Millers	4
Packmen	3
Carrier	1
Waulk millers and dyers	2
Widows	40
Wood cutters and dyke builders	40
Ferry-men	2
Coupers	2
Married herds	18
Married workmen	16
Total of the above	280
Their children and families	844
Students of divinity	2
Schoolmasters, not householders	3
Average of births	30

Average of marriages	10
Deaths in one year	23
Whereof:	
Under 6 months old, inflammation of the bowels	7
Under 6 months old, lockjaw	5
Under 6 months old, smallpox	2
Between 3 – 4 years, of smallpox	1
Between 20 and 30, of a fever	1
Between 30 and 40, of a fever	1
Between 70 and 80, of consumption	2
Between 80 and 90, of consumption	1
Suddenly, between 80 and 90	2

Renewed thanks to Tony Dalton for sending this fascinating article.

LOCAL TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

The up-to-date-Directory is on sale at £1 a copy at Kilmelford Post Office. Alternatively, send your request to Cath Manchester at Eas a' mhuilinn, Kilmelford, Oban PA34 4XA **enclosing an s.a.e. and your £1 payment.**

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The Kilninford News post box is on the floor in the corner under the window in the post office. Please put your adverts, letters, articles etc. in the box, or send them to the Editor, in plenty of time for the next issue in September. It would also be helpful if people advertising in the Kilninford News would make their payments when they submit their copy or make

sure that they put the money in the post box or give it to Cath so that she doesn't have to spend time chasing payments.

The team is very grateful to all those who kindly help with the distribution of the newsletter.

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