

# KILNINFORD NEWS

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Issue 26

December, 2006

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***WISHING ALL OUR READERS***

***A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS***

***AND***

***PEACE AND HAPPINESS***

***IN 2007***

This December issue is, as usual, a shorter newsletter than the April and September issues.  
Please refer to previous issues for recurring events and information.

## WHAT'S ON IN AND AROUND KILMELFORD AND KILNINVER

**Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> December – Grand Christmas Market** in Craignish Village Hall from 10 a.m. Lots of local produce and crafts, and soup, teas and coffees available.

Contact: Lix Armstrong (Tel: 01852 500240).

**Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December – Carol Singing** around Kilmelford meeting at the Melfort Club at 6.30 p.m.

**Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> December – “Life in the Faslane” Ball** in Kilmelford Village Hall from 7 p.m. Dancing to Archie McVicar’s band. Dress: Long Range and Ballistic. Please bring picnic rations for your own protesters. Tickets: £16 per Junior Officer (under 23s) and £20 per Skipper.

Contact: Richard Murray (Tel: 01546 605284).

**Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> December – Hogmanay Party** from 9 p.m. until late in Kilmelford Village Hall. Games, fun and Scottish Country Dancing. Please bring your own alcoholic beverages and a contribution of food for the buffet. Everyone welcome. Tickets at the door: adults £4, children under 12 £2.

Contact: Diane Scaife (Tel: 01852 200208).

**Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> December – Torchlight Procession** leaving from the Galley of Lorn at 10 – 10.30 p.m. (this is weather dependent!) followed by Scottish Dancing and then a disco in Craignish Village Hall until 1 a.m. Bar.

Contacts: George Bevan and Laura Gibson.

**Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> January – Kilmelford and Kilninver Community Association AGM** and Social Evening including light refreshments. Everyone welcome.

**Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> January – Coffee Morning** from 10.30 a.m. till 12 noon in Kilmelford Village Hall in aid of the P6 and P7 football team (see below).

Offers of baking, help or donations would be much appreciated – please contact Melissa.

Organiser: Melissa Oatts (Tel: 01852 200314).

**Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> January – “Green Whale”** performed by Lickety Split in Craignish Village Hall at 4.30 p.m. A new show for everyone over 3.

Details from Jan Brown (Tel: 01852 500689).

**Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> and Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> January – Iascene Players Panto** in Craignish Village Hall.

Contact: Chris Fox (Tel: 01852 500685).

**Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> January – Kilninford Association AGM** at 6.30 p.m. at Achnacille.

**Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> January – “Cabiri”** in Craignish Village Hall. This is a feature film starring members of the Sumburu people from N Kenya. Not suitable for children under 15.

Contact: Susanne McCardel (Tel: 01852 500361).

**Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> January – Burns Supper** at Kilmelford Village Hall in aid of school funds. Look out for posters.

Details from Kilninver Primary School (Tel: 01852 316236) or Sally Inglis (Tel: 01852 316271).

**Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February – Coffee Morning** from 10.30 a.m. till 12 noon in Kilmelford Village Hall in aid of parish funds and the village hall.

Offers of help and donations of baking would be much appreciated.

If you know anyone who does not have transport and who would appreciate a sociable morning, please bring them to the coffee morning!

If anyone would like to help with a coffee morning and donate funds to a worthy cause, please call Melissa.

Organiser: Melissa Oatts (Tel: 01852 200314).

**Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> February – Race Evening** with licensed bar in Kilmelford Village Hall. Doors open 19.30, first race 2000. Sorry, no children under 16. Please bring a contribution of food for the buffet. Details from Toni Mitchell (01852 316151).

**Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Coffee Morning** from 10.30 a.m. till 12 noon in Kilmelford Village Hall in aid of parish funds and the village hall.

Offers of help and donations of baking would be much appreciated.

If you know anyone who does not have transport and who would appreciate a sociable morning, please bring them to the coffee morning!

If anyone would like to help with a coffee morning and donate funds to a worthy cause, please call Melissa.

Organiser: Melissa Oatts (Tel: 01852 200314).

**Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> March – Cairnbaan Ball** in aid of Glasgow Childrens' Holiday Scheme.

Contacts: Dawn Stewart (E-mail: [dawnstewart44@yahoo.com](mailto:dawnstewart44@yahoo.com)) and Melissa Oatts (Tel: 01852 200314).

**Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> April – Coffee Morning** from 10.30 a.m. till 12 noon in Kilmelford Village Hall in aid of parish funds and the village hall.

Offers of help and donations of baking would be much appreciated.

If you know anyone who does not have transport and who would appreciate a sociable morning, please bring them to the coffee morning!

If anyone would like to help with a coffee morning and donate funds to a worthy cause, please call Melissa.

Organiser: Diane Scaife (Tel: 01852 200208).

**Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> April – “Sleeping Beauty”** (but not as you know it!) presented by Waggish Radish Puppet Theatre in Craignish Village Hall. For ages 4 – 11.

N.B. All events in and around Ardfern, not only those in the village hall, can now be found on their website [www.craignishvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.craignishvillagehall.org.uk)

## **ART GROUP**

The group meets **weekly on Thursdays** from 2 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. in the small hall in Kilmelford. All welcome.

Contacts: Clare Howard (Tel: 01852 200375) and Agnes McColl (01852 200365).

## **COUNTRY DANCING**

Thank you Mike for leading us through another season of dancing on Thursday evenings. Mike has a great talent for combining fun with his instruction and the sessions this autumn have been very well attended by an enthusiastic bunch of mixed ability dancers. Nobody wanted to miss out on three evenings of dancing when Mike was away on holiday, and, thanks to Dawn Stewart, we continued to get together and practised the more well known dances.

Everybody welcome.

Organiser: Melissa Oatts Tel: 01852 200314.

N.B. The 14<sup>th</sup> of December will not be the final session of the year. Mike is happy to fit in another evening and we will be getting together on the 21<sup>st</sup> of December for our Christmas party.

### Dates for next session

Every **Thursday** evening (except 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February) in Kilmelford Village Hall at 8 p.m. from 11<sup>th</sup> January until the end of session party on 5<sup>th</sup> April.

**EMBROIDERY WORKSHOPS** – workshops are held weekly on **Wednesday** mornings from 10 a.m. till 12 noon in Kilmelford Village Hall. Contact: Elizabeth Asbury (Tel: 01852 200377).

## **FOOTBALL**

There's a core group of very keen P6 and P7 footballers who want to form a football team and join the Oban League. In order to do this a football coach, who is willing to do sessions every week or fortnightly at Kilmelford Village Hall, is needed. There is funding available to pay the coach. Anybody who is interested, please contact Melissa Oatts (Tel: 01852 200314).

## **PROPOSED BOOK CLUB**

Ellen Coyle has kindly agreed to set up an initial meeting of people interested in participating in a Book Club. She will be contacting those who have already expressed an interest in the New Year. Please contact Ellen (Tel: 01852 200202) if you would like to be kept informed.

## **KILMELFORD AND KILNINVER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

Acting Chairman /Treasurer	Robin Grey
Secretary	Diane Scaife
Committee members	Dorothy Bark, Christine MacLachlan, Neil Manchester, Toni Mitchell
Caretaker	Chris Johnson

A committee meeting of the above association was held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2006. Points discussed included the following:

### **Hogmanay Party**

This is to be planned along the same lines as last year as it was so popular. Christine Roberts has offered to organise the children's games in the early part of the evening, and Robin Asbury has offered to be MC again for the dancing.

### **100 Club**

The Licence for the running of the forthcoming 100 Club monthly prize draw has been granted by Argyll & Bute Council. The first draw is to take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2007 and on the first Friday of every month from then on. The draws will be held during the Coffee Mornings if these coincide. Further details are included with this newsletter.

### **Race Evening**

Toni Mitchell is organising this event, to be held on Feb 9<sup>th</sup> and the arrangements were discussed. A drinks licence for the bar is to be applied for; children under 16 are to be excluded. Ladies are being sought as "jockeys" for the races and fancy hats for the spectators are to be encouraged.

### **AGM**

This is to be combined with a social evening including light refreshments. To be held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 07 at 2000. Everyone welcome.

## **CHURCH OF SCOTLAND SERVICES**

Services are held every Sunday at 12 noon **alternately** in Kilmelford Parish Church and Kilninver Parish Church. Services are held every Sunday in Craignish Parish Church in Ardfarn at 10.15 a.m.

## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

### **Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> December**

Gift Sunday – Kilninver Church at 12 noon. John Simpson, Lay Reader.

*Anybody wishing to bring a gift for distribution by the Social Work Department in Oban should please mark it for either a boy or a girl and the age for which the gift is suitable.*

"Carols by Candlelight" led by The Corran Singers from Lochgilphead at 6.30 p.m. in Craignish Church.

### 24<sup>th</sup> December

Watchnight Service at Craignish Church at 7.30 p.m.

Watchnight Service at Kilbrandon Church at 11 p.m.

Sunday Service at Kilmelford Church at 12 noon. Catriona Hood, Lay Reader.

### 25<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Day Service at Kilmelford Church at 11 a.m. Chris Thornhill, Ardfern, Reader in training.

### 31<sup>st</sup> December

Sunday Service at Kilninver Church at 12 noon.

## **COVER FOR PASTORAL CARE**

During Alastair's absence on sick leave (he hopes to be fit and well by the 12<sup>th</sup> of January), the first cover for pastoral care will be provided by the elders listed below:-

Georgina Dalton	01866 844 212
Dorothy Carmichael	01852 200374
Robin Asbury	01852 200377
Mary Sandilands	01852 300313
Angus macFadyen	01852 200380

The elders can, in turn, contact Stanley Hood (retired minister) from Kilmichael Glassary who will come if needed. He will be away from 21<sup>st</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> December.

## **SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH SERVICES - St John's Cathedral, George Street, Oban.**

Sunday	8 a.m. Holy Communion
	10.15 a.m. Sung Eucharist (Fourth Sunday – Choral Matins)
Wednesday	11 a.m. Holy Communion

## **CATHOLIC CHURCH SERVICES - St Columba's Cathedral, Oban.**

Saturday	7 p.m. Vigil Mass
Sunday	10.30 a.m. Sunday Mass

## **LETTER FROM OUR MINISTER**

It was over in a moment. Christine had asked me to take out the bin, something she usually did as she was going down to the village store. She was running late. A slip and I had a broken ankle. So simple - over in a moment. But I was left having to rely on other people for everything that I needed - a lift into Accident and Emergency, all the care there, an Ambulance journey to Paisley, the skill and courage of doctors, surgeons, nurses, physios, family, so many concerned inquiries, a host of good wishes. Then, when complications set in another set of willing helpers, more concerned inquiries, more and more good wishes. For someone who has taken for granted his health, mobility, and abilities to do things for other people this has been a massively humbling experience.

I know Christine wants to express her feelings of gratitude, but I will get mine in first. I have been profoundly grateful for the care and willing help I have received. We have a National Health Service which I consider the most valuable asset we have in our society. The standard of care I have received is beyond praise through the Easdale Medical Practice, Lorne and the Islands District General Hospital, The Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley and the Ambulance Service. A whole host of people who have rallied round with real help and practical support, and the members and office-bearers of my congregations who have accepted the fact that I will be off work till mid-January at least and have got on with all the organisation of services and cover for that time. All I have to do is just sit back and accept it,

get my strength back, and then return to my ministry. It is so hard when I have always been able to do things for other people. My thanks to you all.

For the first time in my adult life I will be doing nothing at Christmas time, it will all happen without me. I suppose there is a lesson here somewhere. Jesus Christ is a gift we receive. We don't need to make it look like we deserve it, have everything ready to receive the gift, have every conceivable detail right for its coming. We only need to recognise Jesus as the gift and accept him. Once we have accepted God's gift at Christmas, we have every reason to be glad and to celebrate, but the main thing we have to do is recognise the gift and accept it. I hope you all have a very happy Christmas this year. God bless you all.

Alastair McLachlan

Christine adds:

I am very conscious that while Alastair was really ill I was supported by the many prayers offered for us both, and the practical help offered by way of transport to visit him and help with shopping. My sincere thanks to everyone who has offered help in whatever shape or form. When I needed a neighbour, you were there.

Christine

### **PARISH PARTNER IN ISRAEL**

Jennefer Zielinski is a Church of Scotland Mission Partner in Israel. A native of Dunoon, and former school teacher, Jennefer is one of six Church of Scotland staff working in Israel.

She is based at the Scots Hotel in Tiberias on Lake Tiberias (Sea of Galilee). She is Programme Director at St Andrew's, Tiberias, and her work is with complex groups of Arab, Israeli, Palestinian and visiting Christians, and local people.

During the recent war with Lebanon, an explosion 50 metres from Jennefer's apartment sent her to Jerusalem for safety, which gave her an opportunity to get to know new colleagues who had recently arrived there.

She has been in Israel for just over a year, and her ebullient enthusiasm has not diminished, though she has been saddened by many difficult situations caused by conflicting ideals.

This parish supports Jennefer by correspondence, thoughts and prayers.

Mary Sandilands

### **NEW ARRIVAL**

To Sarah Edwards and David McColl, a son, Jamie, born at home on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> October, a brother to Caroline, Emily, Adam and Amy.

### **DEATHS**

Rosemary Wilson on 7<sup>th</sup> October at Lorn and Islands District General Hospital.

Friends both near and far will very much miss Rosemary. She so enjoyed living in Kilmelford and taking part in social events and supporting the coffee mornings.

In the last months she knew people were thinking of her but, due to her disability, she was unable to communicate her appreciation of the love and care shown to her.

The church was almost full at the memorial service in Kilmelford Kirk on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> October. Most of the congregation gathered at our house for "refreshments" afterwards. The ceilidh continued until after

10 p.m. with accordion and guitar music and I'm sure that Rosemary would have been happy with her boisterous send off.

Willy

Barbara Kerr on 18<sup>th</sup> October at Barnacary.

Barbara Kerr died peacefully at home at Barnacary in her 97<sup>th</sup> year. She and her late husband, Ronnie, moved with the family from Colonsay in 1952.

She will be sorely missed by her many friends in the parish and those she worked with in several music and art associations. Her encouragement to others and sharing of her own gifts was very much appreciated.

The fact that so many people attended her funeral was a wonderful reflection of the impact that she made.

With grateful thanks from her daughters Patricia and Jill and her Argyll grandchildren Tom and Janet.

### **USED STAMPS**

Georgina has received a letter from The Church of Scotland World Mission Council asking that their grateful thanks be passed on to all those who collected used stamps on their behalf. The total "rubbish" collected for the last project was converted into £2,005.71 to purchase insecticide-treated mosquito nets for Chogoria Hospital in Kenya. This year money raised from used stamps will go to the Church of Bangladesh's Golden Jubilee Project which provides somewhere for abandoned elderly people to meet, eat, receive medical care, learn new skills and pray. To provide them with a meal costs just the price of a first class stamp.

Don't chuck your stamps in the bin! Please leave them with Christine MacLachlan at the shop or give them to Dorothy Carmichael or Georgina Dalton.

### **PARISH LUNCH AND PRODUCE SALE, HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**

Many thanks to everyone for their kind donations and help in making the parish lunch and sale such a successful day. A total of £1,162 was raised.

The Kirk Session very much appreciate all the hard work that went into setting up the hall, running the kitchen and stalls and clearing up afterwards.

The cheerful atmosphere in the hall and the opportunity to meet up with friends and welcome visitors all made for an excellent day.

With many thanks from the Kirk Session.

Georgina Dalton

### **MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING**

A big thank you to everyone who supported the coffee morning at Laggan Mor House, Scammadale as part of MacMillan's World's Biggest Coffee Morning on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> September.

Everyone who attended was very generous with donations of baking, help in making fresh pots of coffee and washing up.

Most importantly the donations collected amounted to £135. So thank you to all who donated to this worthwhile cause.

Lindsay Davies

## THE SCOTTISH POPPY APPEAL

Thank you once again to all who contributed and helped in the annual Earl Haig Poppy Fund Appeal. The amount raised in this local area was £485.35. Last year's total was £559.03.

This area covers not only Kilmelford but also Kilninver and Craobh Haven. The hard work of the four house to ouse collectors boosts the total considerably. The ill health of two of them accounts for most of the shortfall this year. If anyone is interested and willing to join this select band, please let me know; you would be most welcome!

Commercial establishments kind enough to find room for and display collecting boxes were Kilmelford Post Office and Store, Cuilfail Hotel, Shower of Herring, Melfort Club, Loch Melfort Hotel, Lord of the Isles and Craobh Haven Stores. The Church of Scotland's contribution is also gratefully received.

Thank you all once again, on behalf of the Scottish Poppy Appeal.

Clare Howard, Local Convener

## KILNINVER AND KILMELFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Copies of approved minutes of all Community Council meetings are available on the Kilmelford website [www.kilmelford.com](http://www.kilmelford.com). In addition, a copy of approved minutes and all relevant Community Council notices are displayed on the notice board near Kilmelford Post Office.

### COMMITTEE

Kilmelford sub-area: Neil Manchester - Chairman  
Diarmid Campbell - Secretary  
Robin Asbury - Vice Chairman  
Alastair Oatts

Kilninver sub-area Jayne Brown  
Robin Grey - Treasurer

### COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Alan Macaskill Tel: 01631 710133  
Cllr. Duncan McIntyre Tel: 01631 770218

### DRAFT MINUTES

A meeting of the above Council was held on Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> of October 2006 at Kilmelford Village Hall.

**Present:** Community Councillors: Neil Manchester (chairman), Robin Asbury, Diarmid Campbell and A&B Councillor Alan Macaskill. Also in attendance were 17 members of the public.

**Apologies:** Robin Grey, Alasdair Oatts, Jane Brown, Ian Tegner.

**1. Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August were approved and signed. Approval proposed by The Chairman and seconded by Robin Asbury.

**2. Matters Arising from the last Meeting:**



Kilmelford Bus Stop Car Parking: Diarmid Campbell to provide additional estimate of 'sleeper' edging for next meeting as Colin Clark had not yet got that, being an additional item to the plan.

Blaran Road End - Modification to Main Road Alignment: The issue was raised again by Mr. Menzies, Brae Lorn. Councillor Macaskill stated that it was not a priority since the Council was overwhelmed with the costs incurred by fulfilling existing regulations and maintenance such as the Carnassarie road re-routing (over 1 million pounds) and weight issues on Mull roads (over 15 million). The budget shortfall left nothing for re-alignment. Councillor Macaskill suggested that it might be worth applying for trunk road status, which would make the improvements the responsibility of the Scottish Executive.

Waste Water Works – Kilmelford: The Chairman advised that Scottish Water had agreed to remove the sign until works recommenced, and confirmed that SEPA had rejected two resubmissions for discharge consent. Scottish Water had stated they had no funds for remedial improvements. The Chairman had been contacted by Campbeltown CC asking for support in a campaign to highlight Scottish Water's failures throughout Scotland. Cllr Mackaskill made the point that Water Treatment Works did not require planning permission and therefore were outwith planning control. Robin Asbury clarified that SEPA had given provisional permission for the design of the Kilmelford works, but Scottish Water had then changed the design.

Kilninver School Parking: Mrs. (Beth) Nicholson, Kilninver Estate noted that the parking area is split between that built by Argyll and Bute Council for the council houses and that built for the school that is on land that had originally been offered by David Kilpatrick, former owner of Kilninver Estate, on the understanding that he would convey the School part of the Parking to the School. Mrs Inglis had contacted Argyll and Bute Council legal department, who had confirmed that this had not taken place, and was therefore in the ownership of Mr and Mrs Nicholson. Mrs Nicholson advised that the Roads Dept. had agreed to liaise with the Education Dept. and would stripe the School Parking free of charge, as well as consider a request for signs.

Robin Asbury clarified which area of the parking was which, and Mrs. Inglis stated that a sign should be placed stating that the School Parking was for the use of the School only. Councillor Mackaskill stated that the Council would not put up any signs if they didn't own the ground, and the resident's parking area will be conveyed to the Argyll Housing Association.

The Chairman stated that the School should erect the necessary signs for their designated parking area.

Proposed Coastal Marine Park: The Chairman reported that Mark Carter had spoken on this subject at the last meeting, and that feelings clearly ran high. Robin Asbury noted that he had felt the talk was positive until discussions moved on to eco-tourism. Ken Scaiffe said the proposal was for a 15 year program taking over all planning in the area, and that care should be taken before committing to this type of project. The Chairman advised that the Community Council would not take any action until further information was available.

Loch Avich Passing Places: Georgina Dalton discussed the inadequacy of passing places on the Loch Avich-side road and also the issue of A&B Roads Dept. dumping winter gravel in a way that limited the use of passing places. D. Campbell said that while the recent work on the Degnish road had been well done from the engineering point of view, it had also carefully created raised areas of edging in areas where it reduced passing potential for larger lorries. The Chairman agreed to write to Neil Brown.

Melfort Farm Planning Application: The chairman advised that he had received no response as yet to the Community Council request for a roads survey, and that the planning application was still under consideration.

Land Reform Act and Community Land Purchase: The Chairman referred back to the Minutes of the last Meeting and advised that this project would be a major exercise, necessitating the setting up of a company to register interest in land on which they would be given first refusal if land came up for sale. The Chairman suggested some ideas in the Kilmelford, namely the sports field in the Glebe land, the land about the Village Hall, and the overspill park by the Fire Station.

The Chairman advised that he had obtained a model for setting up an Association, to be separate from the Community Council. The Chairman requested other ideas for suitable ground, and asked whether there would be general support for this type of project. In response, no opinions were expressed against the proposal to set up an Association or against the proposed three sites, and there were eight people indicating that they would be interested in assisting. Robin Asbury asked whether agricultural land was exempt. The Chairman replied that all land was eligible, but that a strong justification had to be presented in each case. Robin Asbury advised that he had a contact of someone in Edinburgh who has set up this type of association. The Chairman felt this was a useful contact, and agreed to investigate the matter further.

#### Dog Fouling in Kilmelford

The Chairman advised that Robin Asbury mows the grass around the Village Hall, and that dog fouling makes this a nasty task. The Chairman agreed to contact the dog warden to ask for an increase in the number of bins, and that dog bags should be offered to every dog owner in the village. Cath Manchester suggested that visitors to the area should also be made aware of the issue.

### **3. Planning Applications**

Alasdair Oatts was not present, but the Chairman reported the following applications:

- a) J. Robin Dixon for client. John Stannard advised that he had met with Colin McNair, and that there were no issues with this application.
- b) Mussel farm between Kames and Arduaine proposing a new pontoon walkway. No length submitted in the plans, but no objections.
- c) Melfort Pier application for change for restaurant to enable them to have liquor license and serve drinks. Councillor Macaskill advised that this was not a planning issue, but one for the Licensing Department only. The Chairman noted that the change of use would not make a big difference. Robin Asbury commented that this application makes the suggested road traffic study more relevant.

### **4. Correspondence**

Diarmid Campbell mentioned that he had received from A&BC a book concerning Access to the Countryside. Ken Scaiffe asked if it could be placed at the CC noticeboard in the Village Hall. Diarmid Campbell agreed to do this.

### **5. Any Other Business**

Recycling: Robin Asbury reported that the company handling Recycling had gone into liquidation, and asked Councillor Mackaskill what was the future for recycling. Councillor Mackaskill advised that it was Cambeltown Wastewatchers who had gone into liquidation, and the Council were considering purchasing the recycling business rights. Councillor Mackaskill noted that Kilmelford is midway between Mid Argyll and Oban, so it was unclear exactly who was responsible, although someone is collecting the recycled material meanwhile.

Degnish Road Passing Places: Cath Manchester noted that poles are missing from the passing places on the Degnish road. The Chairman agreed to write to Neil Brown requesting that this be rectified immediately. Deirdre Campbell-Gibson noted that there is only a gateway as a passing place between the Melfort Bridge and the Pier. The Chairman agreed to take this up with Neil Brown.

Rural Access: Mrs. Beth Nicholson advised that she is local contact for access issues and will bring a pamphlet on the subject to the next meeting.

### **6. Date of Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Kilninver & Kilmelford Community Council will take place on Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2006 at the Kilmelford Village Hall at 8 p.m.

There being no further business, the chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 pm.

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A special meeting of the Community Council was held on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November to discuss the application for Detailed Consent for the erection of 32 detached and 10 terraced houses by M & K MacLeod on land south west of The Glebe, Kilmelford. The following letter from the Chairman to the Planning Department summarises the meeting.

**KILNINVER AND KILMELFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Eas a' mhuilinn, Kilmelford, By Oban, Argyll. PA34 4XA  
Tel. 01852 200272

30th November 2006

Robert Walker  
Planning Officer  
Development and Building Control  
Lorn House  
Albany Street  
Oban  
PA34 4AR

Cc: Angus Gilmour  
Cllr Alan Macaskill  
Dr C Swanson (Strathclyde Joint Archaeology Service)

Dear Mr Walker

Application Ref 06/02223/DET- Erection of 32 Detached and 10 Terraced Dwelling Houses on Land South West of The Glebe, Kilmelford

The above application was discussed at a Community Council meeting held in Kilmelford on 28th November 2006, at which 5 members of the Community Council and 21 members of the public were in attendance.

The principle of development on this site was unanimously accepted, and it was agreed that the following points should be submitted for your consideration:

- a) The area proposed for development, namely the Kilmelford Glebe South, contains at least two identified, possibly Bronze Age, burial mounds, and is reputed to contain even more. It is essential that a full archaeological survey be conducted on this area prior to any permissions being granted, or any development works taking place.
- b) The proposed new development will use the existing Glebe access onto the A816. This access has already been reported as offering inadequate visibility for traffic leaving the Glebe, and the introduction of cars servicing an additional 42 houses (plus the inevitable construction traffic) will increase the risks. Please can the Council consider both improvements to the existing Glebe access, and the option of an additional access route to the south of the development, via the Degnish road? This will help to alleviate any bottleneck effect at the current access point.
- c) Grave concerns have been raised regarding the timescale of such a development. The applicant took over seventeen years to develop the Glebe north to its current level, during which time the whole development resembled a building site. In addition, services such as road surfaces,

pathways and children's play areas were not completed until the development entered the closing stages. Given the scale of the current application, we feel that the Council should insist on a phased development programme, with strict stipulations on the condition of the whole site during construction. If the developer is unable to give legally binding assurances that the development will be completed within the timeframe stated on the application (ie 2-3 years), permission for the whole development should not be granted, and the applicant invited to re-apply in manageable stages.

- d) The developer should be required to ensure that the necessary infrastructure for this development be installed prior to construction. There are no sewerage facilities available for further development, and given the fiasco of Scottish Water's attempts to provide a sewage treatment plant for part of the village, it should be a condition that full details of a system adequate to accommodate at least the entire development, and preferably any other houses not currently programmed for connection to the Scottish water system, be submitted for scrutiny and approval prior to any planning permission being granted. In addition, it is imperative that the adequacy of existing water and power supplies for a development of this scale is independently assessed prior to permission being granted.
- e) The developer should be required to complete the existing Glebe north development prior to commencing any construction works on the Glebe south. There are at least three undeveloped plots on the Glebe north, and the whole area must be finished to an acceptable standard prior to further development.
- f) The submitted plans show the location of some houses to be very close to the public footpath alongside the A816. The developer must be required to ensure that there is no obstruction or restriction to this footpath at any time during the development.
- g) The developer must be required to install uniform fencing alongside the A816 (a grave oversight with the Glebe north development), and be required to install substantial screening/ planting to minimise the visual impact to traffic entering the village from the south.
- h) The submitted plans show at least seven houses to be of two-storey design. Since there have been a number of previous applications in the area rejected on the grounds of exceeding the normal one and a half storey design, this Community Council would be interested to know exactly what the Argyll and Bute Council's policy is.
- i) We have read the Flood Appraisal referred to in the application, and seek assurances that the proposed gabions and boulders will provide long term protection from erosion of the riverbanks. It is essential that any calculations take into account the increase in rainwater runoff as a result of this scale of development.
- j) A development of this scale provides an ideal opportunity for the inclusion of renewable energy systems. Might it be a good idea for the applicant to be required to install systems in the new builds that do not rely on fossil fuel energy sources? Furthermore, this developer could reasonably be asked to install systems that benefit the whole village as well as the new development. We feel this is an opportunity for Argyll and Bute Council to demonstrate a responsible attitude towards global warming issues.

Given the impact that a development of this scale will have on the Kilmelford community, I trust that the views of this Community Council be given full consideration before any decisions are taken regarding this application.

I would appreciate acknowledgement of this letter by return, along with the assurance that due recognition will be given to the fact that this Community Council is a statutory consultee on planning issues, and has arrived at these views by democratic means.

Obviously, this Community Council would be very pleased to discuss these details further with

MacLeods and Argyll and Bute Council at another specially convened meeting. If so desired, I can be contacted at the address at the top of this letter, or by day on 01880 770720.

Yours sincerely

Neil Manchester  
Chairman  
Kilninver and Kilmelford Community Council

There has been one response to the above letter as follows:-  
Response from West of Scotland Archaeological Services:

Dear Sir

Many thanks for your email enclosing the letter from the Community Council to Robert Walker. As this is my casework I can respond to your questions directly. I can confirm that the two possible cairns are recorded in the Sites and Monuments Record and that I have passed advice to Robert Walker concerning the proposed development. This advice requires the developer (M&K MacLeod) to undertake archaeological investigations across the site prior to any development commencing. It is these investigations, to be undertaken by a professional archaeological contractor, that will reveal the true nature of the possible cairns and whether any other archaeological resources survive on the site.

I hope that answers your questions.

Paul Robins

WOSAS

### **KILNINVER PRIMARY SCHOOL**

This year the school has produced a calendar for 2007 with a selection of photos of the children taken throughout the year. These are available at a cost of £4 and if anyone would like to order a copy, please contact the school.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year from all at Kilninver Primary School.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity followed by mince pies, tea and coffee at Kilninver Primary School at 1.30 p.m. All welcome.

Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas lunch.

Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December – Santa drops into school for the Christmas party.

Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December – school closes.

Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> January – school re-opens.

Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> January – Burns Supper.

Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – school closed for in-service days.

### **USEFUL INFORMATION**

#### **EASDALE MEDICAL PRACTICE**

Normal working hours are 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Monday to Friday. Tel: 01852 300223.

In case of emergency outside normal working hours, dial 999 for an ambulance. For health advice, phone NHS 24 Tel: 0845 24 24 24.

The Surgery will be closed as follows:-

Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> December

Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> December

Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2007

Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2007

### MELFORT CLUB FACILITIES – CLOSURES IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY

The Melfort Club facilities will be operating restricted hours for the week of 16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> December and over the festive season. The facilities will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day and from the 6<sup>th</sup> of January until the 20<sup>th</sup> of January, 2007. Please phone the office for information (Tel: 01852 200257).

### MOBILE BANKING SERVICE

Many apologies that the information in the September issue was wrong. My fault. Editor.

The mobile bank now visits the area every **Wednesday** as follows:-

Galley of Lorn, Ardfern 11.15 a.m. – 12.00

Craobh Haven Marina 12.15 p.m. – 12.45 p.m.

Cuilfail Hotel, Kilmelford 2 p.m. – 2.15 p.m.

Easdale Highland Arts 2.45 p.m. – 3.10 p.m.

Balvicar Village Shop 3.20 p.m. – 3.50 p.m.

### GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE BLOOD DONATION SESSIONS 2006

#### Corran Hall, Oban

Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> February 16.00 – 19.30

Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 13.30 – 15.45 and 17.15 – 19.30

#### Community Centre, Manse Brae, Lochgilphead

Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February 14.30 – 15.45 and 17.15 – 19.30

### **LETTERS FROM THE WILD GARDEN**

(Georgina inadvertently omitted to give me the last three paragraphs of her article for the September newsletter. The following is now her Letter printed in its entirety. Editor)

A grey low mist drizzly sort of day and no firm decisions about what to work at or where in the garden this afternoon, though a need to be outside. There are two *Ourisia* Lochewe that are asking to be planted out sitting in the courtyard in their pots. A few days before I had begun to clear some of the invasive creeping buttercups and wee seedling rushes for the path and its edges of the lower route to the bog garden. A home for the *Ourisia* had come to my mind.

In my vision for the wild garden paths there were to be no 'dead ends'. All the walks would lead somewhere either out to a longer walk beyond or circling back to the beginning.

About five years ago I was putting off a decision about what to do with a becoming rather chunky beech tree that we had planted to the right of the main path beyond the first copper beech. It had grown with an attractive cone shape, a thick trunk and masses of small branches spreading out at the base and up. In August that year we had some unusually strong gusting winds, even so, I was surprised to find this solid friend had fallen over exposing a neat twisted root ball. The trunk had fallen down hill with a strong branch bedding into the earth to hold it fast. I thought this could stay and make itself useful as a shelter or support.

A plan began to form as to what to do with all the rest of the wood and many branches. The ground below this bank had a sharp steep fall in the most wonderful squidgy, water logged, peat bog. The curve of the ground lent itself for a path, which linked via some steps to make a second lower entrance to the wild garden.

Old Scottish drove roads were often built on rafts of heather and brashings to cross the moors so why not my bog walk using similar material. The beech's thicker branches were sawn to make an edging. The next sizes down, but too thick for the shredder, were cut to 4-foot lengths for the rafting and layered across the path's route. All the rest shredded and spread on top, the whole tree recycled, re-invested and very useful.

In the first early days of the wild garden we were given and planted below the 'cone' beech some roots of a tall broad leaf bamboo. Big mistake! It had grown a good 8 feet tall, spread, fallen over and matted into a horrible mess. Eventually a friend and I had hacked the whole lot down and burnt it all creating a very crackling, spitting fire with its bed in the bog. Any green shoots appearing later were cut off over the years and now its roots are rotting.

In the area relieved of this menace I close planted a mixture of Hostas and Astilbes which needed a home. A good friend and special Argyll gardener gave them to me. These covered the ground down the bank from the fallen trunk along with Herb Bennet, Geums and Aquilegia, which I hope will continue seeding themselves helping to stop the creeping buttercup from taking over. In the bare space above and around the fallen beech and between it and the main path above I planted a whole lot of home grown shrubs from cuttings, probably too close but it dulled the emptiness of losing such a character tree.

A friend from Connel encourages me to propagate and gives me bunches of 'twigs' from her garden with advice of "stick them in a corner to make more children". It's amazing how it works and my sheltered cuttings bed, out the back of the house, had produced smooth leafed Olearias, white flowering Hebes, Weigela and Hypericum. This summer the Olearias flowered in great profusion and almost glowed in the evening's late soft sunlight.

I did finish pulling up the joined creeping buttercup roots and as I cleared the path and gathered the weeds into a bucket I straightened a stick marking a Primula. Its label read 'Down the Burn Florindae'. This reminded me of a happy rescue, when I reclaimed a solid clump of Florindae roots which had attached itself to a rock in the middle of the burn below the bridge crossing the drive some 200 yards from the wild garden boundary. I had originally put the clump in the water to wash out the root but unfortunately forgot about it and a spate carried it off down stream. Weeks later I noticed it sitting on a solid rock in the burn and kept meaning to bring it back. It flowered there one summer and then survived a winter torrent and a spring drought. It became top of my jobs list and was installed, with I'm sure great relief, in the peaceful deep peat by the edge of the new path. It thanked me by producing two huge mop heads of blooms just wonderful to breathe in its sweet scent.

As it was getting dark I planted the Ourisia and then headed home to put on the kettle for tea. My hand found the pack of Camissia bulbs that I had slipped into my pocket before leaving the house. A task for another day.

Georgina Dalton

## MAOLACHY GARDEN

The garden will be open on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2007 (full details in the April Kilninford News). Visitors are also welcome at any time of year but **please phone Georgina beforehand** (Tel: 01866 844212).

Entrance fees, including tea, coffee, juice and home baking are £3 adults and £1 children under 18.

Proceeds will go to the Royal Scottish Agricultural Benevolent Institution and repairs to Kilniver and Kilmelford Parish Churches.

The RSABI provides practical and financial assistance, in confidence, to relieve hardship among people whose livelihoods or families have depended upon agriculture and other rural occupations.



## LOCAL DIRECTORY

The Directory was up-dated in October and 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.

## KILNINFORD NEWS EDITORIAL TEAM

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E-mail: [editor@kilmelford.com](mailto:editor@kilmelford.com)

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 April. 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.

## ADVERTS

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

### WANTED

Oddments of knitting wool, any ply

Please phone Georgina Dalton 01866 844212

### FOR SALE

Full size Thurston Snooker Table  
Dismantled in store at Thurstons, Liverpool

Table in good condition, 1¾ inch Welsh slate, steel backed cushions,  
Complete with all accessories

i.e. 6 cues, 2 cross rests, long cue and rest, marking board, iron, shade, cover and loose board table top

£1,000, carriage and assembly not included

Contact: [mike.morrison@triplexcm.com](mailto:mike.morrison@triplexcm.com) or Tel: 01852 200227