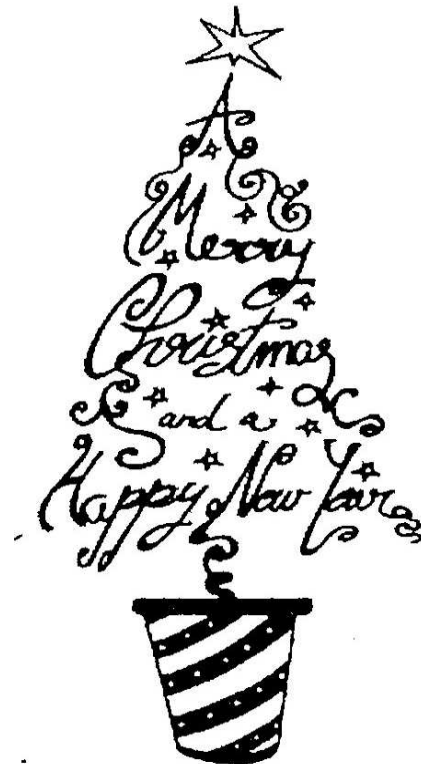


KILNINFORD NEWS

Issue 35

December, 2009

*WISHING ALL OUR READERS
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
PEACE AND HAPPINESS
IN 2010*



WHAT'S ON IN AND AROUND KILMELFORD AND KILNINVER

COMPETITION

Entries for the best decorated willow wreath competition will be judged at the Hogmanay Ceilidh in Kilmelford Village Hall. Willow wreaths, ready for decorating, and details are available from Lucy Files
Tel: 01852 200722

Saturday, 12th December – Decorating Kilmelford Hall for the Festive Season at 11 a.m. All welcome.

Saturday, 12th December – Music by “Shenanigans” at the Lord of the Isles, Craobh Haven.

Friday, 18th December – Community Carol Singing evening at 7 p.m. in Kilmelford Church.

Friday, 18th December – Music Night at Loch Melfort Hotel. The hotel will be closed from the 4th till the 18th of January. Phone the hotel to check dates of future music nights.
Tel: 01852 200233

Saturday, 19th December – March in support of keeping the Mid Argyll Community Swimming Pool open starting from the swimming pool at 11 a.m., ending at the Green. All ages welcome. Without support, the Lochgilphead Community Swimming Pool is in real danger of closure. Please visit www.midargyllcommunitypool.org and www.macpool.org.uk for full information about the proposed closure and the efforts that are being made to keep it open and please add your support to this campaign.

Sunday, 20th December – a Christmas Celebration for all ages and Gift Sunday at 12 noon in Kilmelford Village Hall led by James McLellan. 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. The service will be followed by soup and sandwiches.

Sunday, 20th December – Carols by Candlelight at 6.30 p.m. in Craignish Parish Church.

Sunday, 27th December – Children’s Christmas Party from 3 – 5 p.m. in Kilmelford Village Hall. Parents please bring a plate of savoury and a plate of sweet party food and presents (value £5) for Santa’s sack, wrapped and named.
Contact: Christine Roberts Tel: 01852 200542

Monday, 28th December – Festive Coffee Morning from 10.30 a.m. till 12 noon at the Shower of Herring in aid of The Cherish Fund (Oban). Donations of raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated.
Contact: Jean Bowman Tel: 01852 200380

Tuesday, 29th December – Family Ceilidh run by Craignish Community Company’s Scottish Country Dancing Group at 7.30 p.m. in Craignish Village Hall. Dancing to Archie John McVicar Trio. Bring a dish to share and your own drink. Tickets £15, children £7.50 from Ardfern Village Store.
Contact: Dawn Stewart Tel: 01852 500291

Wednesday, 30th December – Bumper Barbreck Farm Christmas Quiz at 8 p.m. at the Galley of Lorne. Maximum 6 people per team. Great prizes (though vegetarians may be disappointed!!!) £2 per head. All proceeds to Help for Heroes.
Contacts: 01852 500271 and 01852 500685

Thursday, 31st December – Hogmanay Ceilidh from 9 p.m. in Kilmelford Village Hall. Music, dancing and games. Please bring your own alcoholic beverages and nibbles for your table. All ages welcome. Tickets at the door: Adults £4, Children (under 12) £2.
Contact: Diane Scaife Tel: 01852 200208

Monday, 4th January - Festive Coffee Morning from 10.30 a.m. till 12 noon at the Shower of Herring in aid of The Cherish Fund (Oban). Donations of raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated.
Contact: Jean Bowman Tel: 01852 200380

Friday, 8th January – 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 monthly coffee mornings!

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

Contact: Melissa Oatts Tel: 01852 200314

Tuesday, 12th January – Kilmelford and Kilniver Community Association AGM at 8.00 p.m. in the Village Hall. All welcome.

Contact: Diane Scaife Tel: 01852 200208

Saturday, 16th January - Kilniford Association AGM at 6.30 p.m. at Traighuaine Ard.

Contact: Fiona Wyllie Tel: 01852 200227

Friday, 22nd January – Burns' Supper at 7 for 7.30 p.m. at Kilmelford Village Hall in aid of Kilniver and Kilmelford Churches. 3 course dinner and a nip, licensed bar, piping, speeches and entertainment provided by locals. Tickets £15 from Jane Rentoul.

Contact: Jane Rentoul Tel: 01852 200331, j.rentoul@btinternet.com

Friday, 22nd January – Quiz Night and Mexican menu at the Lord of the Isles, Craobh Haven.

Friday, 5th 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.

Contact: Melissa Oatts (Tel: 01852 200314)

Friday, 19th February – Quiz Night and Indian menu at the Lord of the Isles, Craobh Haven.

Sunday, 28th February – Strathclyde University Big Band at 3 p.m. in Craignish Village Hall. Tickets £7, concessions £5.

Friday, 5th 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.

Contact: Melissa Oatts (Tel: 01852 200314)

Sunday, 6th March – The Government Inspector performed by Communicado at 7.30 p.m. in Craignish Village Hall. Tickets £8, concessions £6.

Friday, 19th March – Quiz Night and Italian menu at the Lord of the Isles, Craobh Haven.

Saturday, 27th March – Annual Boat Jumble and Car Boot Sale from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. in Craignish Village Hall.

Contact to book a space: Jan Brown Tel: 01852 500689

Saturday, 27th March (date to be confirmed) – Mid Argyll Charity Ball

Details and tickets from: Dawn Stewart Tel: 01852 500291 and Melissa Oatts Tel: 01852 200314

Friday, 2nd 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.

Contact: Diane Scaife Tel: 01852 200208

ART GROUP

The group meets weekly on Thursdays from 2 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. in the small hall in Kilmelford. All welcome. £1.50 per session.

Contact: Agnes McColl Tel: 01852 200365

COUNTRY DANCING

As ever, many thanks to Mike and also to Robin, Ally and Georgina who have stood in during Mike's absences. Numbers have varied from week to week this session, usually being well attended - however, one week dancers were pushed to their limits, two people having to dance both as a male and then a female at the other end of the set in the same dance! – but, this was an exception! The evenings are always good fun and good exercise. Many thanks also to Toni for co-ordinating things and keeping us all informed by e-mail.

Christmas/ End of Session Party – Thursday, 10th December

Starts again – Thursday, 7th January, 2010

Organiser: Toni Mitchell Tel: 01852 316151

EMBROIDERY WORKSHOPS – workshops (sewing, knitting and any other handicrafts) are held weekly on Wednesday mornings from 10 a.m. till 12 noon in Kilmelford Village Hall.

Stops: Wednesday, 16th December

Starts: Wednesday, 6th January

Contact: Dorothy Carmichael Tel: 01852 200374 and Toni Mitchell Tel: 01852 316151

ARGYLL COLLEGE COURSES AT CRAIGNISH VILLAGE HALL

Art, Computing, Languages

It is hoped to run another session of computing and art courses at the Learning Centre in Craignish Village Hall, Ardfern, starting in January. If you would like to put your name down for either of these or if you have an interest in learning or brushing up on Spanish or Italian languages, please get in touch with Di Steele at Craignish Hall on 01852 500746 or e-mail di.steele@btconnect.com. If you are on a low income, Learning Credits may be available; apply now so that you are set up to start a course in the New Year.

THE CHERISH FUND (OBAN)

The Trustees of the Cherish Fund (Oban) would like to say "Thank you" to everyone who attends the Coffee Mornings each Monday at the Shower of Herring Inn. The Cherish Fund (Oban) will be having festive Coffee Mornings on Monday, 28th December and Monday, 4th January, 2010 from 10.30 a.m. till 12 noon; donations of raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated. There will be no coffee mornings on the 14th and 21st of December this year or the 11th of January, 2010 as the restaurant will be closed on these dates.

The fund now stands at £11,000. The Trustees are hoping to have some special fundraising events next year and will be looking for a fund-raising committee – please contact Jean Tel: 01852 200380 or Caroline Tel: 01852 200388 if you would like to help.

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 Ardfern at 10.15 a.m.

Locations of services for 2010 are still subject to confirmation but will be in Kilninver on Sunday, 27th December and Kilmelford on Sunday 3rd January.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Friday, 18th December – Community Carol Singing evening at 7 p.m. in Kilmelford Church.

How would the shepherds making their way to Bethlehem have coped with the torrential rain and strong winds we have in Argyll, I wonder? The difficulties the carol singing group has encountered in recent years have led us to try something different this year.

So, we are arranging a Community Carol Singing evening at Kilmelford Church on Friday, 18th December at 7 p.m. We hope everyone who can will come and join in singing the old familiar favourite carols that we know so well. Requests for favourites can be taken on the night. We are adding a few extra items to entertain us and give our throats a (short) rest!

Everyone is welcome and you are free to come in late or go out early if you so wish. There will be a collecting plate at the door in aid of a local charity, yet to be decided upon.

Margaret Cross Tel: 01852 200588

Sunday, 20th December – a Christmas Celebration for all ages and Gift Sunday at 12 noon in Kilmelford Village Hall led by James McLellan. 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. The service will be followed by soup and sandwiches.

Thursday, 24th December

Early Watchnight Service at Kilninver Church at 7.30 p.m.

Late Watchnight Service at Craignish Church at 11.15 p.m.

Friday, 25th December

Christmas Day Service at Kilmelford Church at 11 a.m. led by Walter Ritchie.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The World Day of Prayer will be on 5th March, 2010 at 7.30 p.m. in Kilmelford Church.

Contact: Jenny Moody Tel: 01852 200222

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 INTERIM MODERATOR

The minister was no great handyman, but he was enthusiastic and wanted everyone to be reminded of the coming of Jesus. He cut out some huge letters, spelling out the words, "GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST" and attached them to the wall of the church above the front door. He was well pleased with his handiwork and hoped that everyone would notice them as they arrived for the Christmas watch night service.

Everyone did notice!

As I said, he was enthusiastic, but no skilled handyman, and shortly before the service the last "e" fell off, which is why everyone coming into the church that night saw the words above the door that now read "GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGH ST". A few laughed when they saw what had happened, but others began to realise that this really is the Christmas message. We rejoice in the God who has come to be with us in the High Street as well as in our homes and in our Church. God has come to be among us. He wants us to discover His presence and support in our ordinary daily lives.

At Christmas we rejoice again as we remember that God came into this world as an ordinary baby so that He could share our ordinary lives and in time die an utterly extraordinary death for each one of us. The great gift of Christmas is that God has come to offer new and eternal life to everyone who is prepared to accept the Baby of Bethlehem as the Lord of their life. Don't miss out on this, the greatest offer of all time. Eternal friendship with the Eternal God.

It has been a great blessing to me to be allowed to share in the ministry of the Church during these past months. My work has been made so much easier by all the support and encouragement that you have given me.

May God's blessing be with you all this Christmas and in the coming year.

Walter M. Ritchie, Interim Moderator
Hazel Cottage, Kilmartin, Argyll

PARISH LUNCH AND PRODUCE SALE, HELD ON 7th OCTOBER

Many thanks to everyone who helped in the kitchen and at tables at the Parish Lunch and who looked after stalls. Also thanks to all those who came and enjoyed this annual event, a happy and sociable occasion which successfully raised £1,185 for the General Fund of Kilninver and Kilmelford Parish Churches. The Kirk Session greatly appreciates the support from locals and visitors.

Georgina Dalton

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

The soft but unmistakable scent of autumn filled Kilmelford Church on the Sunday morning of the Harvest Thanksgiving Day.

Bundles of grasses were tied to the pew ends, sheaves of grain hung down from the balcony and baskets of late summer flowers, sedum and buddleia, twigs, apples, lichens, larch cones and mosses decorated the window sills.

The wee loaves of bread on the Communion table put the finishing touches to earth's harvest gleaning while on the front steps were materials belonging to the sea; floats, netting, seaweed and creels.

All the artistic arrangements were the work of a great team of 14 children (aged 4 – 15), 5 mums, 2 babies and a granny who gathered with us to decorate the church on the Saturday afternoon.

Everyone listened to the story of Ruth whilst enjoying a drink of juice and iced fairy cakes. A very generous selection of dried goods to donate to the Blythswood organisation, and to be taken to Bosnia, were gifted and displayed below the Communion table.

Thank you to Walter and Heather Ritchie for taking a thought provoking service reaching out to all ages and to everyone who came to join in. Last, but not least, many thanks to the older children who are learning how to ring the bell.

Georgina Dalton

THANK YOU TO ALISON BARDGETT who gave the audience a lovely mix of traditional Scottish songs on the 18th of November in Kilmelford Church. Alison had kindly offered to give a recital in aid of church restoration funds and generous donations raised the sum of £118.50. Thank you, Alison, for a most enjoyable evening.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mat and Elaine Mitchell on the birth of Millie Louise, a baby sister for Joshua, on the 17th of July.

CONGRATULATIONS to Kimbra Lesley Johnson and Roger Edward Barrett who got married on Kimbra's birthday, 2nd October, at Craignish Parish Church.

It was a wonderful service taken by Liz Gibson, the minister from Dalmally. She gave a most moving address. We were very grateful to her for coming such a long way to marry us as the resident minister was away on holiday.

The Gaelic choir sang so beautifully, as did Rachel Walker. The church looked so beautiful all due to the hard work of Rona Thompson who made the most beautiful arrangements and gave me and my friend Elisabeth help and advice on making a floral archway over the church door and decorating the ends of the pews. Her husband, Sandy, played the organ and the piper from Skippinish did the honours. Angus and Alan MacFadyen very kindly ushered the congregation into church.

We moved from Malvern in Worcestershire just over a year ago and have made a temporary home at Tigh na Ghlinne in Glen Euchar where we are renting at present. Living in Scammadale has been like coming home and we would like to say a big thank you to highland hospitality. If anyone feels like popping in for what is left of the wedding cake and coffee, you will find a warm welcome.

Kimbra and Roger

THE RAVEN TRUST WANTED FOR MALAWI

Although Kilbrandon and Kilchattan Mission Partners have left Malawi, the work there still goes on, and John Challis of the Raven Trust still visits and sends out containers of items to use in the school, orphanage, hospital and workshop. Current needs are children's clothes (specially for 11 to 12 year olds), towels, sheets and pillow cases (B&Bs getting new for next year please note), tools for the workshop, bars of soap and marigold gloves for the hospital, paper, pencils, biros etc for the schools, and even your old computer (yes, even old scot exec ones!) . AND if you don't have any of those, it costs £10,000 to send out a container (one went a week ago, and John is now in Malawi), so contributions to costs are always welcome. So please let Phil Moss, who is Clerk to Kilbrandon and Kilchattan Congregational Board, (Tel: 01852 300383 or phil.moss@dsl.pipex.com) know if there is anything you can spare.

KILMELFORD AND KILNINVER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Chair	Toni Mitchell
Treasurer	Fergus Gillanders
Secretary	Diane Scaife
Committee member	Matthew Anderson
“	Ellen Coyle
“	Lucy Files
“	Christine Roberts
Bookings	Anne Saunders
Caretaker	Colin Gibson

Committee meetings of the above association were held on 15th Sept & 10th November 2009. The full minutes of the meetings can be found on www.kilmelford.com

a) HEATING AND INSULATION OF THE VILLAGE HALL

It is generally agreed that the heating in the main hall is more effective now that the wall heaters have been lowered to their new positions. The electricity consumption and costs have been monitored over the last few months and a decision arrived at to price the heating cards at £1.50 each. These are available from Kilmelford Stores and the Melfort Club reception.

Funding for a more efficient system of insulation is being looked into but without much success so far. An energy audit was carried out at the Village Hall by Community Energy Scotland to assess future energy saving strategies, but no financial assistance has been forthcoming. An estimate for improved insulation is being sought from various firms.

b) MAINTENANCE

The caretaker has had no major problems to report. The damaged door to the Gents' cloakroom has been replaced and the faulty kitchen tap repaired.

c) FUNDRAISING

A very successful PiperActive Shindig was held on 30th October, with £200.00 being donated to Hall funds. Thanks go to Matthew and Yvonne Anderson for all their hard work on this.

The committee organised a popular Quiz Night and buffet on 21st November. Some sponsorship is anticipated from the Diageo Company. Final figure is awaited.

The 100 Club is running smoothly and has 86 members at present, but this varies slightly from month to month. We still want new members, so if you would like a chance to win a share of the prize money, please contact Diane Scaife 01852 200208. This is an important source of income for the Village Hall.

NEW VILLAGE HALL CHARGES

Valid from 1st October 2009

ALL BOOKINGS TO BE MADE AT KILMELFORD VILLAGE STORES Tel: 01852 200271

SPORTS

Squash: 16 years and over £4.00 per hour
Under 16 years, OAPs, students and unemployed £2.00 per hour

Badminton: £3.00 per hour all categories

Junior Football: £3.00 per hour

Indoor Tennis: £3.00 per hour

HIRE CHARGES

	LESSER HALL	MAIN HALL
Charity Fund Raisers	£1.50 per hour	£3 per hour
Social use other than charities	£3 per hour	£6 per hour
Commercial use	£6 per hour	£12 per hour

Above charges include kitchen power and use of equipment for light refreshments and drink preparation only
Additional use of kitchen cooking facilities for preparation of hot food is £10.00 per event

EVENING DANCES & FUNCTIONS	5 p.m until 11 p.m (1 a.m for dances)
Charity	£65.00 per session Deposit £20.00
Private	£65.00 per session Deposit £20.00
Commercial	£90.00 per session Deposit £50.00

Above charges include kitchen power and use of equipment for food and refreshment preparation

After use the Hall must be left clean and tidy. Failure to do this will lead to a further charge of £50.00

HIRE OF EQUIPMENT

Residents of Kilmelford, Kilninver and Arduaine may hire equipment, and by special arrangement for those resident outside the area.

Tables £2.00 per day. Chairs £1.00 per day. Prices of cutlery and crockery on request.

A full list of rates and availability can be obtained from the Hall Caretaker.

Hire is subject to a minimum charge of £10.00

HEATING CARDS FOR MAIN & LESSER HALLS - £1.50 each

Hall Caretaker, Colin Gibson Tel: 07825 987 696

QUIZ NIGHT HELD ON 21st November

Thanks to Fergus Gillanders and the generosity of DIAGEO particularly, and the K and K community Association members, a successful Quiz Night and Pot Luck Supper was thoroughly enjoyed on the 21st of November by a number of teams. We managed to raise a much needed £435 for hall funds. This will go towards paying for the cost of re-siting the heaters in the main hall. I think all those who have experienced the heating in the hall recently will agree as to what a difference this has made to the comfort and enjoyment of this large and previously very cold area.

Toni Mitchell

USED STAMPS

A quick reminder that every used stamp from your Christmas cards, and all letters throughout the year, can be converted into funds to support The Church of Scotland World Mission Council's project of the year. So, don't chuck your stamps in the bin! Please leave them at the shop or give them to Dorothy Carmichael or Georgina Dalton.

THE SCOTTISH POPPY APPEAL NOVEMBER 2009 AND REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The area total this year was a very impressive £658.06. Thank you to all those who helped with the collections for the Earl Haig Poppy Appeal and to all the businesses who kindly displayed the collecting tins.

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT COFFEE MORNING

The organisers would like to thank all those who contributed in any way to the fantastic total of £814 which was raised at this successful event.

KILNINVER AND KILMELFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

OUTGOING COMMITTEE

Robin Asbury, Chairman 01852 200377
Robin Grey, Treasurer 01852 200225
Alasdair Oatts, Planning Officer 01852 200314
Lindsay Davies, Secretary 01852 316154
Nigel Mitchell, 01852 316151

COUNCILLORS

Cllr Donald MacDonald
Cllr Duncan MacIntyre
Cllr Neil MacKay
Cllr Elaine Robertson

Copies of approved minutes of all Community Council meetings and all relevant notices are displayed on the Community Council noticeboards in Kilniver (by the bus shelter) and in Kilmelford (by the Post Office). Minutes can also be accessed at www.kilmelford.com

DRAFT MINUTES

The meeting of the above Council was held on Tuesday 13th October at 8pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Robin Asbury (RA) Chairman, Lindsay Davies (LD), Nigel Mitchell (NM).

Also in attendance were Cllr Duncan MacIntyre, Cllr Elaine Robertson and 22 members of the public.

1. Apologies: Alasdair Oatts (AO), Robin Grey (RG), Cllr Donald MacDonald and Cllr Neil MacKay.

2. Minutes of previous meeting: Amended 3a) Stuart Turner not Miller, 3f) Jolyon not Julyon and 10 4. residents not resident. Those amendments made the minutes were taken as being a true and accurate representation of that meeting. Proposed NM. Seconded LD.

3. Matters Arising from previous meeting:

Arduaine Garden Action Group has had a subsequent meeting on 09.09.09. The Arduaine Garden Support Group will now be constituted and carry on the work.

- a) Speed limit in Kilmelford – RG wrote to Stuart Turner. Response received to the effect that there is currently a review ongoing of speed limits. Both the requested reduction from 40-30mph and the increase in coverage area will be considered as part of this review process. The Community Council will be informed of the outcome of this review.
- b) Bus Shelter in Kilmelford – On going. Roof to be repaired by end of the year.
- c) War Memorial- this has now been repaired and all supports/scaffolding removed.
- d) Core Paths- To be carried over for next Community Council to decide if they wish Jolyon Britton to attend.
- e) Blocked pathway in Raera Forest – now cleared.
- f) Roads Issues – Oude bridge realignment main road issue outstanding. This has gone out to tender for 2010.
- g) West Highland Housing Association – Exhibition in the hall 13.08.09. There are still properties available. WHHA welcome anyone interested to contact them.

4. Land Around the Village Hall : This has now been referred back to the PPLS committee with agreement in writing re developer of the site to hand over sports pitch completed to Argyll and Bute Council standard with cash support plan for 5 years to assist with maintenance. Unclear at this stage when this will actually be presented at the PPLS after which it would then go to the Scottish Executive.

- 5. Proposed Wind Farm, Raera Forest:** Formal application being prepared by nPower, when complete plans will be available in the Post Office for examination. KKCC will also be in receipt of a copy. Query that jetty may be built at Kilmelford Yacht Haven for loading/unloading. Also query that poles to carry electricity cables proposed for Scammadale, unclear whether would be existing poles or new. Both of these issues would be detailed in the planning application. Claudia Albrecht raised point of planning application going in with respect to new Community Council, potential gap in continuity and next proposed meeting as relevant to planning application. RA suggested we deal with this further in next item. NM added that as a Community Council we can express an interest and this would provide a hold on dates till discussed at proposed meeting.
- 6. Community Council Elections:** KKCC have 10 Community Councillor spaces and in the recent nomination process 7 applications were made. These 7 nominees will be declared validly elected at 11am on 29.10.09. The new Community Councillors will be Matthew Anderson of Melfort House, Kilmelford. Colin Clark of Cuilfail Cottages, Kilmelford. Lindsay Davies of Lagganmore House, Kilniver. Sarah-Jane Edwards of The Gate House, Kilmelford Yacht have, Kilmelford. John MacLean of Morleen, Kilniver. Antoinette Mitchell of Barochreal, Kilniver and Nigel Mitchell also of Barochreal, Kilniver. The CC must now inform Jane Gillies of Committee Services of the time, date and place of the next meeting. RA suggested we keep 08.12.09, the next routine date as the next planned meeting. Claudia Albrecht raised the issue of the proposed wind farm and asked if we can wait until December. A lengthy discussion ensued around the development, benefits to the community and road issues. Cllr MacIntyre suggested that the hiatus in Community Councils is recognised within the Council and that the planning process is the starting point for the negotiations. Planning Applications requires to be validated and that then begins a 2 month discussion period for general planning applications. He added that the recent change in planning allows our Local Councillors to support and represent Community opinion. Objections/support can be accepted up to 1 hour before planning meetings. Final decision to keep original plan of next CC meeting 8pm, 08.12.09. LD to inform Jane Gillies.

7. Planning Applications: none.

8. Correspondence: All correspondence on view.

Highlighted notice for Association of Scottish Community Councillors Annual Conference 14.11.09 - to be carried over to next meeting for new Community Councillors.

Email communication from Cllr Donald MacDonald re Council Service points - single point of contact access to Council Services- LD to keep as reference.

RA has named LD as the point of contact for Association of Argyll and Bute Community Councillors.

LD to hold KKCC bank statement

Email from John Tilly thanking the outgoing Community Council for all their work up to this point regarding the Land around the Village Hall.

Any Other Competent Business:

Jane Rentoul asked about the position regarding our Community policemen. LD stated we do not have an allocated Community Policeman but can access the Community Policing Team in Oban tel. no 01631 510500 and ask for Community Policing.

NM proposed a vote of thanks to RA for all his hard work as Chairman.

RA – as a final item to my time as a Councillor and latterly, Chairman, I would like to give thanks to our Councillors Elaine Robertson, Neil MacKay, Duncan MacIntyre and Donald MacDonald particularly the latter two for all their help and counsel over the last few years and the time they have devoted to supporting us over the land issues beside the Village Hall. In addition my thanks to my fellow Community Councillors, Robin Grey as Treasurer and Alasdair Oatts over planning issued in past years. Here again particularly Nigel Mitchell on current planning issues, Village Hall and Wind farm and Community Engagement Meetings. Also to Lindsay Davies who undertakes a huge amount of work as

secretary, not just joining with Nigel at Community Engagement Meetings but also preparation of Agendas, completing the Minutes, keeping notice boards up to date, linking with our Councillors as well as a host of other items; correspondence, mailing and circulations, a very big thank you indeed. So I am truly delighted that she and Nigel will give continuity to the next Community Council. Thank you to all the community who attend and contribute to these meetings. And to the last item on the agenda, we stop here and another CC take over on the 29th of October.

Cath Manchester then added a vote of thanks to the CC in particular for the work involved regarding the surroundings of village hall.

Date of next meeting:

The next meeting of Kilninver and Kilmelford Community Council will be held in the Kilmelford Village Hall on Tuesday 8th of December 2009 at 8pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm.

KILNINVER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Health & Wellbeing

Our school nurse Frances Parkinson has been a regular visitor this term. She has helped us to reinforce the message that basic hygiene is very important. The children enjoyed using the ultraviolet light box to check how well they had washed their hands. Everyone is trying hard to deal sensibly with sniffles, coughs & sneezes and we are all well equipped with hankies.

Mr Mason's retirement

On Saturday 26th October we joined with all the other schools in the area to bid a fond farewell to our instrumental instructor Mr Dave Mason. The Kilninver children opened the evening's entertainment at the Argyllshire Gathering Halls with a medley of our favourite songs – it was a treat to hear the whole hall joining in with a rousing chorus of 'Ye canny shove yer' granny'. Our grateful thanks goes both to Mr Mason who taught many local girls & boys to play wind instruments to a very high standard over the years, and also to the Mums & Dads who gave up their Saturday night to bring the children along to participate.

McMillan Coffee Morning

The children were chuffed to bits to be invited along to take part in the McMillan Coffee morning . We had a lovely time and it was a special occasion for our P1 children as this was their first public performance. They made the most of the opportunity to wave enthusiastically at their family and friends in the audience.

Tesco tokens

Thank you very much for donating your Tesco Tokens to our collection. In addition to the items we selected from the catalogue we were invited to go into the store to collect an additional box of goodies. As you may have seen in the Oban Times, 2 of our P6 pupils went along to collect it on our behalf.

Cycling Proficiency

Well done to the children who sat and passed their cycling proficiency at the beginning of October. With 100% pass rate, thanks must go to Mrs Currie and Mrs Scott who prepared them well for the assessment.....in all weathers.

Scripture Union

A group of children enjoyed a visit from Martin Boyd who led an interesting session based on taking care of our world. This linked well with our Forest Schools studies.

Swimming Gala

Congratulations to our swimming team who participated in the 6th Annual Interschools Gala. A special congratulations to Bronwen who won a bronze medal for backstroke.

Forest School

As this project draws to a close you will be able to see all the activities we undertook and read the children's thoughts about their learning on our Forest blog.

This is a very comprehensive account of our days in the woods and is entertaining reading. You can read our blog at <http://kilniverprimary.edublogs.org>

Additional materials, articles and photos are also stored on our website at www.kilniverprimary.com/forestschools.asp. There is a facility to leave your comments – please feel free to do so as we welcome your opinion.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2 December	Parent Council Meeting
3 December	Whole school to Luig Primary School for Glasgow Science Centre Outreach Visit
13 December	Rotary Club Annual Christmas Concert at Corran Halls at 3p.m.
18 December	School Christmas Lunch
21 December	School Xmas Party
22 December	Nativity Play, 10 a.m. at the School, all welcome
22 December	School Closes
6 December	School re-opens
27 January	Tartan Tea, Kilmelford Village Hall from 4 – 6 p.m., all welcome
11 & 12 February	In-Service, School closed
18 February	Oban Primary Inter-Schools Athletics Competition
23 March	Scottish Opera 'Fever'
1 April	School Closed
19 April	School re-opens

NEW START OBAN

By now most of you will be familiar with NSO, either through the articles in the Kilniford News and/or my talks in the local churches. We have recently been asked to provide a number of starter packs. Many of you have been very, very generous with the items you have donated, and for those a BIG THANK YOU. However, we are very short of things like basic kitchen utensils and cleaning materials, e.g. washing up liquid and bowls, utilities like dustpan and brush, mops, dusters, loo cleaning brushes, toilet rolls, tea towels, pots and pans etc. All the things you and I take for granted. If you saw the double page spread in the REVIEW magazine you will have noticed it suggested that people buy an item and donate it instead of an unwanted present for the family. Georgina and I have come up with the idea that if a box was left in the church vestries, perhaps the congregations could bring a gift and leave it in there. At the moment a committee member of the NSO is providing these goods out of their own pocket rather than refuse families in need. So please if you can hunt out all those spare mugs, bowls, plates etc you don't need and we'll find a new and welcome home for them.

Toni Mitchell

ARDAINE GARDEN SUPPORT GROUP

November Newsletter

Welcome to the first newsletter for the Arduaine Garden Support Group, and can I thank you all for your support in joining the Group. I want to initially tell you where we are as a Group with this campaign, secondly invite you to the first Membership meeting, and thirdly to invite you to take part in a competition that will have a large impact for the Garden – more below!

Campaign Status

The National Trust for Scotland continues to identify and follow up potential contributors to build up the Garden's endowment, and has currently firm pledges of over £500,000, albeit some will be paid in stages over a period of time. The NTS will formally launch its fundraising activities very shortly, and is quietly confident that the above figure will be added to over the next few months – I'll keep you informed of this in subsequent newsletters.

One major change, that is hoped to generate extra revenue, is the use of the Loch Melfort Hotel as a ticket office during the off season period, when the Garden's normal reception is unmanned. This has only just started, and we await with interest any difference this will make.

The Group has been very active in raising the Garden's profile – its own area of responsibility. Calum Ross and myself from the Steering Committee were invited by Oban FM (103.3) to explain the campaign, and have also secured commitment by the station to broadcast regular updates. This also applies to the Oban Times, so look out for articles on both the campaign and the Garden itself.

To broaden the attraction of the Garden from the purely horticultural, the Group is working in conjunction with local Primary Schools to place red squirrel, bird, and bat, boxes in the Garden.

However our major activity at this time of year is to prepare and distribute a 'dedicated' Arduaine Garden leaflet – this will be printed by the thousands, and we expect to make it available in all tourist accommodation and other visitor attractions within an appropriate radius, and also distribute it more widely in Tourist Information Centres and other locations where it can reach a wider audience.

Future plans include further internet coverage, with possible web sites, social network pages (Facebook etc), and we are starting to plan a series of events in the Garden, both specifically for members (talks, walks etc), and also for the more general visitor. However we are always open to ideas, so please do contribute.

Membership Meeting

As promised at our open meeting in September, we have arranged a first Group Meeting, and this will take place in the Small Room in Kilmelford Village Hall on Monday 7 December starting at 7.30 pm.

The aim of this meeting is to involve you, the membership, in what is happening, and as such we will further update you on progress.

As was mentioned at the Open Meeting previously, the Steering Committee of the Group are acting Officers at present, and we will be asking for people to join this Committee, and help the initial band, either by taking over some of the activities, or by bringing new skills and experience. Please have a think if this could be you, and contact me at the details below if interested. It is likely that, if there are interested parties, a formal election of the Steering Committee will take place that evening, so please come along and have your say.

We are also looking for volunteers to act on a project by project basis; Maurice Wilkins, Head Gardener, has asked if there is anyone with carpentry and general handyman experience who could spare some time, and those who indicated some gardening skills will be contacted again in the near future. If there is someone with website or other internet skills, these would also be very useful.

To gain some idea of numbers, I would be grateful if you could reply to this email indicating whether you are likely to attend. We do appreciate that some of you, as far away as Kent and Omagh, may find it a little difficult – however please do contribute to any of the above by email or phone as below.

Competition

We would like to invite all of you who have good photographs of the garden to contribute these (electronically please to the email address below) – the new leaflet which I referred to above, and which is being planned at the moment, needs a really striking photograph on the front, and this could be yours! No prizes, but the satisfaction of knowing your photo will be seen by thousands, and we will acknowledge you on the leaflet. Time is pressing on this, so please send these by the end of the month (November) if possible.

I hope this has given you a taste of what the Group, and the Steering Committee specifically, are doing on behalf of the Garden. Everything is very positive – we still have a way to go, but we are definitely starting to see a conclusion – a wonderful Garden available to everyone for the future.

Rick Potter
Acting Secretary
01852 200 358

arduainegardensupportgroup@googlemail.com

N.B. If you haven't already become a member of the Arduaine Garden Support Group, please add your support by joining now – your £5 fee will be well spent. Unfortunately, the newsletter distribution date is too late for entries to the photographic competition but members will have had prior notice of the competition.

ARDUAINÉ GARDEN IN NOVEMBER

This is the first of what I intend to be a regular monthly e-letter to members of the Arduaine Garden Support Group.

First and foremost I must thank you all for springing to the support of the garden in its hour of need! Arduaine has long been a favourite of garden lovers from near and far and a recent survey has indicated that many visitors appreciate the tranquillity of the place, in combination with the superb location, the wonderful plant collection and the lack of what one visitor called 'Trustification'. I think I understand what she meant!

The other request that was revealed by the survey was that most visitors don't wish for change, yet change is something that is inevitable in a garden. Change may be forced on a garden in many ways, such as damage from storms, from pests and disease, or as a result of cold or wet weather. Change can also be a voluntary thing, led simply by the wish to expand the plant collection, or to replace a tired or over mature plant with something fresh, or to revitalise a tired area by re-aligning a path or replacing a bridge.

Visitors to Arduaine this winter will see changes being made for all of these reasons. As I write, we're modifying the line of a path beside the Heron Pond to allow more room for a seat and associated planting, we're dealing with a number of trees which have been seriously damaged in gales and we'll shortly be removing a huge old leyland hedge to reveal a fresh hemlock hedge which has been growing behind it, unseen by the public eye, for the last seven or eight years. This will result in the widening of the border beside it and the consequent need to prepare the soil and replant the border; one thing leads to another!

It would be unrealistic to talk about change without a comment on one of the latest trials to be laid before us. I'm talking about *Phytophthora ramorum*, or Sudden Oak Death as it's commonly known. This disease, which is spreading now through western Scotland, can infect a wide range of plants and not just oaks or even rhododendrons as it often thought. Current government legislation insists that we remove and burn infected plants, grubbing up the stumps and likewise incinerating the leaf litter round about the offender. It also means that we are not permitted to replant with anything listed as infectable, which is somewhat limiting. Forward planning becomes more difficult and I see my job as attempting to maintain the diversity of the plant collection in any way that I can, trying at the same time to keep the worst signs of the disease from the public gaze in spite of the legal requirement to inform visitors that we have this fight on our hands. I'm confident that we can sustain our reputation as a garden with a well-maintained air and an interesting plant collection. Watch this space!

Plants are of course the backbone of Arduaine, and while the springtime is inevitably a time of great richness and flamboyance, the general aim is to ensure that a succession of flowers keeps the interest going throughout the year. I'll stick my neck out and challenge all comers to fail to find a plant in flower at any time of the year! It may not be spectacular but it will be there! Wanderers along the garden's Gully Path this month will notice two clumps of spiky plants growing on the bank to the north. These bromeliads, or pineapple relatives, are from Chile and rejoice in the names of *Fascicularia bicolor* subsp. *bicolor* and *Fascicularia bicolor* subsp. *canaliculata*. The former, with wider leaves, is what is known as saxicolous, meaning 'growing on or among rocks', and the latter, with narrow foliage, is epiphytic, growing high in the trees. When it flowers, as ours is at the moment, the leaves towards the centre of the rosette turn a bright red, leading the way to the hub of pale blue flowers in the centre! Worth a look but not a touch – they're extremely sharp! I've seen huge clumps of it fallen to the ground in Chile, clumps up to 10ft across! Ours will never grow to that size, but we do have a clump growing in the fork of a large willow and looking very natural!

Fuchsias too are still flowering well. We grow many forms and hybrids of the Chilean *Fuchsia magellanica*, a common plant both in its southern Chile home and along the western seaboard of Britain, especially Scotland and Ireland. The pale pink hybrid 'Flashlight', is still looking good in the middle of November as we've had no frost so far. Many fuchsia cultivars are hardy and it's well worth experimenting with those – we grow 'Mrs Popple', 'Margaret', 'Corallina' (raised in Exeter in 1844) and several others, both named and forgotten.

And finally, or, perish the thought, I shall be accused of prolixity, I must mention *Leycesteria crocothyrso*, the far less commonly known sibling of the common and weedy 'pheasant berry'. This lovely shrub, growing along the 'Road to the Sea', has produced a rather out of season flower spike, a cluster of bright yellow tubular flowers very welcome at this time of year! So there you have it – those of you who live along this coast will be able to grow a much wider range of plants than maybe you realise. Why live along the west coast and grow only *Berberis darwinii*! To our supporters elsewhere, my commiserations! Our thanks of course again to everyone for wanting to help us out. If you visit Arduaine in the coming year, which I hope you will, please make yourself known to one of us here – either to myself, Robert or Cary in the garden or to Sheila in reception.

That's all for now – in the meantime, my Inbox is always open at: mwilkins@nts.org.uk and I'll be in touch with another update next month!

Maurice Wilkins
Head Gardener

MAOLACHY GARDEN

Georgina is planning to open Maolachy Garden to the public again this year, welcoming people to come and have a look round the garden through the changing seasons. Keep an eye open for dates of opening, which will be posted locally.

Contact: Georgina Dalton Tel: 01866 844212

USEFUL INFORMATION

EASDALE MEDICAL PRACTICE

Normal working hours for phone calls 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:-

Friday, 25th December

Monday, 28th December

Friday, 1st January, 2010

Monday, 4th January, 2010

MELFORT CLUB FACILITIES – CLOSURES IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY

The pool will be closed on the 13th, 14th and 15th of December and will re-open on Wednesday, 16th December at 5 p.m.

The Melfort Club facilities will be closed for annual maintenance from Wednesday, 6th January, 2010 at 12.30 p.m. until Saturday, 17th January, 2010 when the Swimming Pool will re-open at 8.30 a.m. and Reception at 9 a.m.

Please phone the office for information on Reception and Swimming Pool opening times over the Festive period (Tel: 01852 200257).

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE BLOOD DONATION SESSIONS 2010

Corran Hall, Oban

Wednesday, 10 th February, 12 th May	16.00 – 19.30
Thursday, 11 th February, 13 th May	13.30 – 15.45 and 17.15 – 19.30

Community Centre, Manse Brae, Lochgilphead

Wednesday, 17 th February, 19 th May	14.30 – 15.45 and 17.15 – 19.30
------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------

LETTERS

RESEARCH INTO THE LIFE OF DUNCAN KENNEDY

I am researching the life of Duncan Kennedy who was schoolmaster in Kilmelford about 1784. One report says his father was a gardener to Mr McLachlan of Kilanahanach, Parish of Glassary. By 1890 Kennedy moved to Glasgow.

Can anyone throw any light on Kennedys living in the area?

Best regards

James Brown

www.baltersan.com

E-mail: baltersan.castle@btinternet.com

LOCAL WEBSITE www.kilmelford.com

A big thank you to Alex Tweedly who administers our local website and keeps the site up to date.

Please e-mail editor@kilmelford.com if you have any articles, news etc. for the website and these will be posted on the website (subject to the suitability of the content) and forwarded to the Kilninford News team for inclusion in the next issue of the newsletter.

LOCAL DIRECTORY UP-DATE

Colin Gibson (Hall Caretaker) Tel: 07825 987 696

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

We are very sorry that, after more than 10 years of handling all the advertising for the Kilninford News, not to mention the Local Directory, Cath has decided that it is time for her to relinquish this role. She has kindly agreed to help to keep the Local Directory and distribution list up to date in the meantime. We are very grateful to her for all her hard work and hope that she will enjoy the parting gift that the team presented to her at her final meeting with us.

We are most grateful to Fiona Potter who very willingly agreed to step into Cath's shoes. Welcome Fiona – we look forwards to having you on our small team.

Elizabeth Asbury	(Treasurer)	Tel: 01852 200377	
Georgina Dalton	(Distribution)	Tel: 01866 844212	
Fiona Potter	(Advertising)	Tel: 01852 200358	E-mail: fiona.potter2@googlemail.com
Fiona Wyllie	(Editor)	Tel: 01852 200227	E-mail: mail@fionaw.co.uk

Local website: www.kilmelford.com
E-mail: 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 Elizabeth 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