

KILNINFORD NEWS

Issue 59

Christmas 2017

Merry Christmas



Ruth Morley Photographs of Scotland

"Young Kilninford stag" photo kindly provided by Ruth Morley

& a Happy New Year

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WISHING YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY 2018

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS NEWSLETTER!

The Kilninford News exists thanks to your entries, the support of advertisers, the kind donations we receive and the help of the lovely people who deliver the Newsletters 3 times a year to households in Kilninner, Kilmelford, Arduaine and surrounding areas. Thank you!

A special THANK YOU must go to Georgina Dalton, for all the time and effort she puts into our community. Without her input a lot of the activities, groups and events that locals enjoy, would never have got off the ground.

A huge thank you to **Alex Tweedly** for hosting the Kilninford News online extension, the kilmelford.com website. Your help and knowledge is much appreciated.

Kilninford News by email

To those who have asked for the **Kilninford News** to be posted out to them, there is now the option to receive the **digital form by email**. If you prefer to receive this digital form over the paper form, please send an email to one of the Kilninford News team members.

Obviously the newsletters are also available on www.kilmelford.com and we plan to upload the missing older issues to this website over Winter, so the set will be complete.

Local Telephone Directory (September 2017)

The Local Directory has been updated and is for sale at £1 a copy at Kilmelford Village Shop or by contacting Georgina Dalton. Next directory will be out in September 2018. Please contact Iain Bark, Georgina Dalton or Gill Philpotts with any changes for the next edition.

Iain barkee@live.com | Georgina 01866 844212 | Gill 01852 316018

A huge **THANK YOU** to **Melfort Village**, for being so generous to let us print the 2017 local telephone directories and this edition of the Kilninford News again. Your kind help is much appreciated!

The Kilninford News team

WHAT IS ON IN AND AROUND KILMELFORD AND KILNINVER

24th November: St. Andrew's Tartan Hop, ceilidh dance, Village Hall

16th December: Fire Fighter's Charity Christmas Quiz at Cuilfail Hotel 7:30pm

31st December: Hogmanay Party at Kilmelford Village Hall

3rd February: Kilmelford Got Talent at Kilmelford Village Hall (more details nearer the time)

17th February: The Blue Moon Travellers at Kilmelford Village Hall

6th May: Craft Fair at Kilmelford Village hall

Music Night: Mondays from 8.45 pm at The Shower of Herring

All welcome to come and join in, free entry. Musicians – bring along your instruments.
Food served till 10.30 pm.

Yoga Class: Tuesdays 6.30 – 7.45 pm at Kilmelford Village Hall

Open class, all welcome. Please bring a yoga mat if you have one and a warm blanket.
Drop-in £8 or 6 classes £45 Karen offers private 1:2:1

Contact Karen: 07793653080 or isleyoga@gmail.com www.isleyoga.net

'Crafts and Things': Wednesdays 10 am – 12 noon

For anyone interested in embroidery, tapestry, sewing, knitting, crochet and other similar crafts, meetings are in the Kilmelford Village Hall. £2.00 per person for each session.

Contact: Toni Mitchell 01852 316151 or Olga Salmond 01852 200787

Mothers and toddlers Playgroup: Wednesdays 1.30 -3 pm at Kilmelford Village Hall

All preschool, babies and bumps welcome. We get to have a chat and a cuppa while the kids play or do crafts. It would be great to see more parents / grandparents and their little ones.
Holidaymakers are also more than welcome, it's a great way to spend a rainy Wednesday afternoon. We look forward to seeing you there. **Contact: Ann af_robbs@hotmail.co.uk or Georgina 01866 844212**

Gin & Whisky Tasting: Wednesdays 6.30 – 7.30 pm at The Shower of Herring

Come along and try gins in a completely different way, or try whiskies with a professional.
Olwen and Fergus will tell you about the history and methods. £14 per person.

Please book through Melfort Village: 01852 200257

Melfort Ukuleles: Wednesday evenings at Craignish Village Hall

Beginners/Slow Session 6.50 – 7.25pm. Children welcome (free) when accompanied by paying adult (3 children max per adult). **Main Session: 7.30-9.00pm** Followed by refreshments.

Spare ukuleles available to borrow. £5/person

Contact: Sarah Whittle 01852 500790 or email sarah@musicforlife.info

The Healthy Villages Project: 3rd Thursday each month in Kilmelford Village Hall, from **10.30am – 12.00 noon.** For more information please **contact Mairi Fleck: 01631 564422**

Art Group: Thursdays

The group meets **weekly on Thursdays** from 2 pm – 4.30 pm in the Kilmelford Village Hall (small hall). All welcome. £2 per session. Contact: **Agnes McColl: 01852 200365**

Country Dancing: Thursday 8 pm – 10 pm at the Kilmelford Village Hall.

All welcome. You can come and join us at any time.

Contact: Bob Fleck Tel.: 01852 200258 E-mail: rfleck@btinternet.com

Bagpipe Sessions: Thursday from 8pm at The Cuilfail Hotel

Come and play – or just listen!

Music Nights: Friday

All welcome to come and join in. Musicians, bring along your instruments.

Every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month, from 9.30 pm at Loch Melfort Hotel Tel.: 01852 200233

Coffee Mornings:

Everybody invited to come and enjoy the delicious home baking.

Proceeds in aid of Kilmelford Village Hall and Church.

Bring & buy bookstall, local jam & garden produce, 100 Club draw. Helpers and offers of baking are very welcome, please contact **Melissa Oatts** on **01852 200314**.

Coffee mornings are held at the **Kilmelford Village Hall, 10.30 am – noon**

First Thursday of the month, excluding January (2nd Thursday) and October

on: **Thursday; 7th December, 11th January, 1st February, 1st March, 5th April**

Local Telephone Directory UPDATE

ATKINSON	Mark and Sarah	Finlayson's, Kilchoan, Kilmelford PA34 4XD	Mark 07977 182108
KILCHOAN ESTATE OFFICE	Mark Atkinson	Kilchoan, Kilmelford PA34 4XD	200761

UPCOMING EVENTS AT KILMELFORD VILLAGE HALL

Hogmanay Party

There will be a Hogmanay Party at the village hall in Kilmelford from 9.00 pm till late.

This will be a family event, with dancing and music. More details nearer the time.

Kilmelford's Got Talent 2018

After the success and absolute tummy aching laughs of our previous Kilmelford's Got Talent, we are having another show on Saturday 3rd of February 2018, so get your thinking caps on and take a turn. It was such fun and made a cold February night very memorable, the Golden shorts is something we will never forget!!!! (Abba were obviously wonderful...)

For more information get in touch with Sarah or Ruth at the Kilmelford Village Shop [01852 200271](tel:01852200271)

* * * * *

The village hall is trying to raise funds for replacing the front doors and glass panels in the porch and we would very much like to get more energy efficient lights inside...and the list goes on and on. It is great to see so many locals using the hall for activities and also supporting us by coming to events and donating time, baking, raffle prizes etc. We could not manage without your support, thank you!

The Village Hall Committee

CRAIGNISH VILLAGE HALL

Events from end-November until the end of the year:

Craignish Boat Club Social, 17th November, 6pm

Author Event with Anne Donovan and Billy Letford, 18th November 7-11pm. Licensed event

Whist, 1st December, 7-10pm

Midwinter Market from 5-9pm on 8th December

A solo art exhibition by local artist, Kat Robertson from 11-17th December

Hogmanay party from 10pm, 31st December. Licensed Event

Coffee Morning, 14th December

Yoga classes on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout most of November & December

Stretch & Tone classes every Monday morning, 10am

Tai Chi every Wednesday, 6pm – Performance Indoor Cycling every Monday, 6.15pm

Parent and Toddler Group every Thursday from 12 – 3pm

Ukulele class, every Wednesday, 7.15pm

Please check the Craignish Village Hall website for more information and events

www.craignish.org.uk

THE QUIZ AND CURRY NIGHT

The famous Quiz and Curry Night on the 7th October attracted many quiz teams, all trying their hardest to answer all questions correctly. Congratulations to “Found by the Sound” who won after a double tie break. In second place, “The Lunch Box”. Matthew Anderson made the amazing curries which were greatly enjoyed at the interval. Thanks are due to Jean who set some devilish questions and to Diane and her bell for keeping us all in order. Thanks also to Matthew and all who helped out on the evening and of course thank you to those who came and enjoyed the night!

BIRTH

Hearty congratulations to:

Gemma and Allan Strang.

A daughter born on the 3rd October 2017, weighing 8lb 4oz.

Freya Mary Ruth Strang, a wee sister for Ryan.



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Kilmelford Healthy Village Group. Autumn 2017 Update.



Our Kilmelford Healthy Village Group has been meeting on the third Thursday of the month, from 10.30am – 12.00 noon, for some time now, and we have had some great mornings.

The group is jointly run by Mairi Fleck from North Argyll Carers Centre, and Maggie Dougal & Toots Mackinnon from Oban TSI. We're always open to suggestions for our meetings so please drop us a line with your ideas.

Our Strawberry Tea in July was really well attended, and everyone enjoyed a feast of strawberries with everything. Are strawberries dipped in chocolate one of your five a day? 😊

In August we had a brilliant Zumba Gold taster session with the lovely Magdalena, from Oban, and in September we got crafty with bits of Harris Tweed, and made some lovely brooches.

Ian Milarvie from the Healthy Options Team in Oban joined us in October, for some gentle exercises, focusing on improving balance & falls prevention. Ian has offered to run a weekly class in Oban after the New Year, so if you'd like to come along please contact Mairi.

There will be no group meeting in December, but we will resume on Thursday 18th January in the Kilmelford Village Hall at 10.30am. What would you like to do? Come along & meet old friends, and make new friends. We always have lots of cakes!!

Contact Mairi: mairi@northargyllcarers.org.uk 07795434499

Friends in High Places – Langtang, Nepal Project update.

Thanks to everyone's amazing generosity, our group have managed to raise an incredible sum of close to £16,000, to build a new home for the yak farmers in Langtang, Nepal.

Chris Reade visited the family in October and discussed the building project, and the first payment will be winging its way over soon to pay for the concrete for the foundations. Very exciting!

Bob & I will be with the family in November, so watch out for updates on Facebook. I will no doubt return with thousands more photos from our trip, so will be able to run another wee film show early next year.

Our pop-up curry night at Room at the Top in Kilmelford was a brilliant success, and Sarah has asked us to do another one in January 2018, so watch out for posters and Facebook posts.

Something to warm up the Winter months 😊

Namaste, Mairi.



MAOLACHY'S GARDEN

Returning from a walk along the forestry road behind the house Jess and I cut down a narrow path to come home via the wild garden.

It was another grey, miserable day and rain began to fall more heavily. I made a mental note to come back and rake up leaves off the path, on a hoped for dry day, when I looked up to be amazed at the beautiful variety of golds, soft yellows, bronzes and still greens of the leaves of one of the lower beech trees. It was a cascade of an artist's autumnal pallet creating an unforgettable contrast to the dreichness of the day (so not all has been doom and gloom!).

In late August an Eucryphia on the far bank above the burn decided after 25 years to burst into flower in a tumble of pure white petals lit up against the dark green foliage. What a welcome and glorious sight it was.

A taste bonus during this over wet summer was to stand in the greenhouse and listen to the rain beating down on the glass roof, water trickling along the gutters and reach up and pick, the size of your thumb nail, Sungold tomatoes and pop them straight into the mouth. The sweet, juicy flavour released could transport one to anywhere in the world that was dry and sunny. On to my Christmas list goes a set of waterproofs that do not leak!

The clearing tasks in the wild garden will have to wait for a couple of days free of rain and in the meanwhile will keep spirits up by picturing the first snowdrops of 2018 followed by the Lent Lillies then the host of multi-coloured daffodils.

Maolachy's Garden will be open by arrangement and for snowdrops plus Tea & Cakes – January 28th to 12th March 2018. Admissions – Adults £4.00 Children free (donations for tea) and the weekend of 19th/20th May 2018 1 pm to 6 pm with a Scavenging Hunt for entertainment. **Georgina Dalton.**



Merry Christmas and all the best throughout the New Year
From Simon & Yvonne at the
Cuilfail Hotel

Great food, great atmosphere, great choice
Food available most days 12 – 2.30, 5.30 – 8.30

Please book to avoid disappointment

Closed Christmas Day
No food 24th 25th 26th December & New Years Day

**Private Functions & Dining available,
contact us with your requirements**

01852 200274





CHRISTMAS JOURNEY

We have entered the time of year when we all look forward to Christmas. Why? Well, we need something to cheer us up during the darkest days of the winter! And for many of us, Christmas provides a focus for precious family memories and remains a focal point of family and community life.

There is also a story at the heart of Christmas that, at one level or another, has gripped our imagination. It is such an intensely human story that it is accessible to all of us. The much-loved nativity plays, where there is a part for every child, carry a message for adults too.

When we enter more deeply into Christmas we come to the mystery of the “incarnation”- God becoming human – something that has stretched the greatest minds. “Lo within a manger lies he who built the starry skies.” The deeper we go the greater the wonder.

But the first wonder is that God comes to meet us where we are – with a story in which we can imagine ourselves having a part. The pregnant young woman, the rough shepherds out on the hill, the wise men from a distant land – these are the kind of folk we can recognise and we sense that this story might be our story.

In fact, it seems that a deliberate effort is made to include outsiders so that no one would ever feel excluded. The shepherds’ work took them outside the realm of respectability. The wise men came from outside a nation with an exclusive outlook. Whatever there might be that would make us feel that we are outsiders, this is a story that tells us that there is a place for us. We too, each one of us, can come to bring our tribute to the new-born King.

May that journey be yours and mine this Christmas.

Kenneth Ross
Parish Minister

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Thank you to all who had a table at the Craft Fair in the village hall on the 5th November! It was great to see so many different crafters together with all their lovely made items, what a talent we have in our area! Also great to see the steady stream of people interested in all the crafts available and buying bits and pieces. The lovely baking and sandwiches were enjoyed by all, thank you to all who donated so generously and of course we could not have done without the helpers in the kitchen, THANK YOU!



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Winter Message from Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

By the time you will be reading this Halloween and Bonfire Night will be a distant memory, just like summer, but the darker, colder nights bring their own risks so here are a few pointers that can help to keep you and yours a little safer through the Christmas period and the winter in general.

WINTER SAFETY TIPS

Get ready for winter. Make sure you have working smoke alarms. Consider fitting a heat alarm in your kitchen to give you early warning of a fire in the home. If you wish to have a Home Fire Safety Visit Call 0800 0731 999 Text 'FIRE' to 80800, talk to your local Firefighters or me.

If you're tired or have been drinking you will be less alert to the signs of fire, more likely to fall asleep and less likely to wake up if a fire does start, particularly if you don't have working smoke or heat alarms in your home. Cooking or smoking and alcohol can be a recipe for disaster with smoking being one of the main contributory factors to causing deaths or serious injury from fire.

FESTIVE SAFETY TIPS

- *Check your smoke and heat alarms are working. Replace batteries if necessary.*
- *If you have an open fire make sure your chimney is swept before winter. Always use a fire guard, secured in position, to protect against flying sparks from hot embers.*
- *Never place Christmas cards or decorations around the mantelpiece.*
- *Check your fairy light plugs are fitted with the correct fuse, don't overload extension leads and ensure all electrical devices are BEAB approved. Always unplug them before going to bed or leave your home.*
As with all electrical appliances, always switch Christmas lights off and unplug them before you go to bed.
- *Decorations can burn easily – don't place them near lights or heaters.*
- *Never leave cooking unattended, especially when using hot oil.*
- *Take time to check on elderly relatives and neighbours this Christmas as they are at greater risk from fire, particularly if they suffer from ill health or disability.*
- *If you're using candles, always place them on a heat resistant surface, away from Christmas trees, cards, ribbons and other decorations. Never move a lit candle and always extinguish candles before going to bed or leaving your home.*

GET YOUR FREE SMOKE ALARMS

A short visit from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will help make sure your home is as safe as it can be. We can even install smoke alarms, free, if you need them. It only takes about 20 minutes, and their advice and help could save your life.

To request a free Home Fire Safety Visit call **0800 0731 999** Text **'FIRE'** to **80800**

FIRE FIGHTER'S CHARITY CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Don't forget the Pub Quiz taking place in Cuilfail Hotel on Sat 16th December at 7:30pm. A great night of fun and head scratching with Christmas related questions and chocolate Santa's to win for each round. Teams of up to 6 still at the unbelievable low cost of only £2:50 per head. Keep the date in your diary and look out those thinking heads.

Have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Dave Millward

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

FROG RACING

The Frog Racing at the Village Hall on the 25th August was a great evening out for adults and young people and it was good to see so many families taking part. Several races took place during the evening and the wonderfully made frogs will be very happy to race again at the next Frog Racing.

A big thank you to all who came and placed bets, encouraged the racers and participated in making the evening a huge success. Special thanks to Diane for organising the Tote so efficiently and of course a huge thank you also to Mr. Bruce for making the frog templates, to Jean for making the frogs jump out, to all those who so generously donated the amazing raffle prizes and to all helpers on the floor. The evening was moved along in inimitable style by Fergus Gillanders, our very able and jovial Master of Ceremonies, whose patter at times was hilarious! There will be another evening of Frog Racing soon, a great event for the whole family.



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“GLENMORE HILL”

I spent all my working life as shepherd on this hill and I love it still.

The views of Ben Nevis and Goat Fell and Mull and down to the Sound of Jura.

The many different orchids including the tiny Twayblade which is one and a half inches high and like a fairy orchid.

The bog bean in the peaty pools, winter green among the heather, cascades of golden saxifraga in the Barbeith glen, the pink stone crops and yellow lichens on the rocks and the long grey lichen that has a brilliant scarlet cushion at its tip and the curly grey feusag-liath which makes the lovely crotal dye.

And the water lilies and lobelias in the lochs. Best of all the waves of fragrant blooming heather. Will no one climb to the Still Loch and catch those fat Tweedy trout? Will the red grouse vanish when the heather gets too rank? And no one to hear their insistent “Go Back Go back...” or see the birch leaves turn to gold and find mushrooms and chanterelles in the Autumn? The way you can sit in a certain place to watch the tufted duck and the ducklings on the loch and a family of Canada geese and the diving dab chicks and see amongst the implies the otter aside a human baby with a button nose and double chin, a huge fat tummy and two plump knees flopped apart relaxed sleeping. On another steep after the profile of an old man with hooked nose and lowering eyebrows and a mouth that only lacks a pipe dangling.

Once in a thick mist and lingering snow patches I glimpsed a rock face etched with clinging snow and knew there was no such feature anywhere near – when I got closer it was a tiny willow bush which had wet snow outlining all its tiny branches and I reached the march fence quite a considerable distance away from where I expected to be – but NO I wasn’t really lost!

The view of the 1960’s Loch na Cille stirred a memory too – when the only boat on the water was Angus MacPhail’s and a pair of swans nested close to the shore every year – but not close enough because every high tide flooded the eggs but still she sat - they never did hatch any cygnets!

Shian MacLean

KILMELFORD KIOSK



The telephone kiosk on the main road in Kilmelford opposite the shop is model K6 which was designed by architect Sir Giles Gilbert Scott to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of King George V in 1935. It went into production in 1936.

During renovation we hope to be able to establish where ours was manufactured. It could be the Lion Foundry, Kirkintilloch or Carron Ironworks, Falkirk among other candidates.

The crown above the door was originally painted the same red as the rest of the kiosk but since the early 1990s BT has picked out the crowns in gold or silver. Since ours is a dull red we can assume the kiosk has not been painted for decades.

Now that we have completed the adoption of the kiosk it is the community's responsibility to improve on its present rather neglected and sad look.

The general feeling is that it should be used for information purposes, such as advertising local tourist information, Bed and Breakfasts, events in the Cuilfail, Hall, Church etc., emergency information such as location of defibrillators in the area and so on.

Piet Hammick has very kindly offered to do the necessary work of restoring the kiosk to its former glory. He hopes to complete it by next Spring/Summer, as winter weather is not conducive to outside painting and allied work.

The community is very grateful to Piet for taking on the task and we look forward to seeing the result of his labours, so that we may once again be proud of our iconic phone box.

Jane Rentoul

KILNINVER TELEPHONE KIOSK AND POST OFFICE

At Kilninver, just across the bridge over the Euchar, beside the old Post Office and Post House stands the former Telephone Kiosk which, like Kilmelford's, is a K6. On the outside its crown is picked out in silver and inside we read that it was manufactured at the Lion Foundry, Kirkintilloch and that it is now maintained by Kilninver Estate.

A fascinating piece of local history, written by Martin Petrie, is posted inside:

Kilninver Post Office

Kilninver has had some form of postal service since the early 19th century when post runners brought in the mails from the surrounding district including the expanding slate quarries of Easdale. It was in 1825 an application was requested for a Penny post between Easdale and Oban. In 1870 it was sanctioned that to help the service, horses were introduced to give sufficient time at Kilninver to reply to letters before the postmen returned to Oban and Easdale.

The adjacent low white building was the original Post Office. Around 1903 the larger Post House and shop were erected by Mr. Clarke, an Oban merchant, whose travelling van often stopped at Kilninver. Jessie Clarke, the last Postmistress, retired in 1974 after a postal career spanning 56 years and ending her family's connection of almost 100 years.

Knipoch Hotel By Oban, Argyll



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CHURCH OF SCOTLAND



We hold services every alternate Sunday in Kilmelford and Kilninver Parish Churches to which all are welcome. Services are held at 12 noon.

Kilmelford Church is in the middle of the village and the car park is behind the church.

Kilninver Church is half a mile off the A816 road to Oban. Take the turning to Easdale.

You can park along the roadside.

CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 3 Dec Kilmelford Church 12 noon

Tuesday 5 Dec Kilninver Church Communion 6 pm

Sunday 10 Dec Kilninver Church 12 noon

Friday 15 Dec Kilmelford Church Community Carols 6.30pm

Sunday 17 Dec Kilmelford Church Gift Sunday 12 noon

*(Gifts to be wrapped and marked with age and if for boy or girl
and will be delivered to Social Dept for Christmas)*

Sunday 17 Dec Kilmelford Church Xplorers Christingle Making 4-5.30pm

Sunday 17 Dec Craignish Church, Ardfern Carols by Candlelight 6pm

Sunday 24 Dec Kilninver Church 12 noon

Watchnight Service Sunday 24th Dec Kilmelford Church 11.30 pm

Christmas Day Monday 25th Dec Kilmelford Church 11am

Sunday 31st Dec Kilmelford Church 12 noon

2018

Sunday 7 Jan Kilninver Church 12 noon

Sunday 14 Jan Kilmelford Church 12 noon

Sunday 21 Jan Kilninver Church 12 noon

XPLORERS

The next get together will be Sunday 17th December at 4pm in the Kilmelford church and this will be our Christingle service. We will have a few snacks which will be followed by our prayz time. Parents will be welcome to come along too, but under 5's must have a parent present. There will be posters around the village to advertise this nearer the time.

Thank you to the families who answered our survey. We have tried to plan dates, times and venues to suit the responses and are willing to be flexible.

Everyone is welcome to come and join in. Children under 5 years old must be accompanied by an adult.

Playz Time

Sunday 17th December 4 – 5.30 pm – Christingle making activities, refreshments and a short playztime – Kilmelford Church.

Flyers will be given out by hand or in School Bags for next dates and venues.

PARISH LUNCH AND PRODUCE SALE 2017

The annual Parish Lunch in aid of funds for Kilninver and Kilmelford Parish Churches took place on 4th October in Kilmelford Village Hall.

It was busier than ever, with all tables occupied and everyone enjoying the home made soups, rolls, wraps, biscuits, teas, coffees and of course chat. There was a real buzz around the familiar stalls of Baking, Plants, Produce, Handicraft, Raffle and Guess the Weight of Ann's wonderful Cake along with an interesting selection of items on the White Elephant stall – new for this year. The grand sum of £1536 was raised - a terrific amount considering out of that came the cost of excellent new roadside signs, designed to last for many years to come. The Kirk Session is very grateful to all who organise and contribute in any way to making this yearly event such a success

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION AUTUMN / HARVEST.

A cheerful mixture of music and songs contributed to a lively programme for the autumn/harvest celebration held on October the 8th. Fiona delivered a thoughtful reflection to remind us all of people in situations of need. Many others contributed with enjoyable music, lively singing and reciting poetry. Everyone had the opportunity to join in the choruses of a number of songs, including a Gaelic lullaby.

A big thank you to Sandy Johnstone for leading and introducing the event, and also many thanks to everyone who took part. Our next Community Celebration will be the carol service on Friday 15th December at 6:30pm – please come and join in the fun!

For further information, please contact Georgina on 01866 844212

Cuilfail Hotel

Take Away Menu

Available until 8.30pm

Mains

Prices & contents valid at time of printing

Haddock & Chips	£7.50
Lasagne & Chips	£7.50
Beef Burger & Chips	£8.00
With Cheese	£1 extra
With Bacon	£1 extra
Steak & Ale Pie & Chips	£8.50
Chicken Curry, Rice	£7.50
Macaroni Cheese & Chips	£6.50
Scampi & Chips	£7.50
Chicken Goujons & Chips	£7.50

Pizza 12"

Cheese & Tomato	£6.50
Toppings:	
Ham, Salami, Tuna, Haggis	£1.70
Mushroom, Peppers, onion & Pineapple	£1.30
12" Garlic Pizza, tomato & Garlic	£5.50

Sides

Garlic Bread	£2.30	Garlic Bread with Cheese	£3.20
Onion Rings	£3.00	Mushy Peas	£1.50
Chips	£2.50	Cheesy Chips	£3.40
Side Salad	£2.50	Rice	£2.50

Soft Drinks & Alcoholic Drinks
Please ask for availability at the bar

01852 200274

Due to our alcohol licence

Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult



01852200274

NORTH ARGYLL VOLUNTEER CAR SCHEME - (NAVCS) Registered Charity No SCO37509

Many thanks to the local community for their ongoing support by filling our 'Wee Red Car' donation box in the Kilmelford Village Store.

These contributions help to keep the show on the road!

The NAVCS provides transport for residents of designated areas of North Argyll who are unable to use, or have difficulty with access to public transport, and do not have suitable access to a private car. We organise volunteers to provide transport in their own cars to passengers who are registered with the scheme.

The scheme is not intended to replace buses, taxis or emergency services for those who would normally use them.

We only undertake journeys within North Argyll and passengers are asked to make a small contribution to driver costs.

If you would like further information about the scheme please do get in contact.

Caroline Gillanders – Co-ordinator 01852 200760 carolinenavcs@gmail.com

POEM “A HILL SHEPHERD”

I was a hill shepherd all of my life
and lambing in spring was a time of strife.
Newborns froze to the ground can't get up.
Ewes frantically licking – why won't they suck.
Or tramping home with a big dead lamb.
and a wiggling twin in the other hand.
Dogs making sure the mother follows.
No time to look up to see the swallows.
Four year old Jane doesn't say Ah to the twin.
But points to the corpse “Can I watch you peel him?”
She's a practical girl we don't realise it yet.
That one of these days she'll grow into a vet.
Milk fever and staggers take their toll.
Ewes hungry for bramble-buds caught by their wool.
Hoodies and gulls are quick to attack.
A ewe heavy with twins and wool coped on her back.

But gangs of lambs playing games bring a smile.
And make all the weeks of toil seen worth while.

Shian MacLean

MELFORT GUNPOWDER WORKS

In 1853 the sleepy hamlet of Melfort was transformed into an industrial complex supporting hundreds of people. A little over two decades later the works were shut, the people gone, and Melfort returned to slumber for the next century. But why?

In 1838 the Cumbrian iron founders & shipowners, Harrison Ainslie, bought Melfort Estate, then heavily afforested. They also owned Bonawe Iron Furnace, which needed large amounts of charcoal, and only in 1853 did Harrison Ainslie turn to making gunpowder.

Blasting for railways, quarries & roads at home and in the Colonies had all increased demand for gunpowder during the massive industrialisation of the 19th century. The large guns of the Royal Navy used vast amounts, and one of the largest used an incredible 960 pounds of powder for each shot! But the Crimean War provided the catalyst for production at Melfort, possibly with government encouragement.

Gunpowder or 'black powder' is a mixture of saltpetre, charcoal, and sulphur, whose proportions varied, but military powder was 15% charcoal, 10% sulphur, and 75% saltpetre. Charcoal was made on site, but sulphur (largely from Europe) and saltpetre (from India) arrived in the company's ships. Saltpetre was the rarest component, a problem since it was the largest proportion of the mix for gunpowder.

So, the Melfort Gunpowder Company was formed, with an abundance of wood to make charcoal. The River Oude & a tributary were dammed and a lade cut to run the various mills. With a safe and deep harbourage for ships to bring in ingredients and transport out gunpowder, Melfort Pier was built. A tramway connected it to the works half a mile away, and you can still see part of it, on the left of the Melfort Farm bridge. The horses drawing the trams were shod with copper shoes to avoid sparks.

The site in 1871 had a succession of processes needed, each in a separate building to reduce risk, with a Watch House and Fire Engine House for safety. Also for safety, the men wore shoes with no metal fittings, and leather clothing with no pockets to prevent the carrying of tobacco or matches.

The saltpetre and sulphur arrived via the tramway, where the saltpetre was boiled & crystalized in the REFINERY HOUSE. Both saltpetre & sulphur were separately crushed & standardised in the water-driven mills.

Charcoal was made from local oak in the CHARCOAL CYLINDER, and pulverised in the BLACK POT. All ingredients were then sieved and loosely mixed in the lower mill to produce the 'green charge' - from this stage things became dangerous! For safety, several CHARGE HOUSES were scattered around the works to store small quantities of the mixture.

At the three INCORPORATING MILLS the 'green charge' was crushed under massive rollers and mixed into 'mill cake', being kept damp throughout. The process lasted from two hours for rough blasting powder to eight hours for fine sporting grades of gunpowder. For safety only about 40 lbs [18 Kilos] was allowed to be milled at one time and each mill had its own CHARGE HOUSE.

In the PRESSING HOUSE the 'mill cake' was compacted hydraulically into thin, slate-like slabs - 'press cake' - to bind the grains together further and to increase its specific gravity.

In the CORNING HOUSE granulating machines with toothed rollers cut the 'press-cake' into pieces, then it was shaken through sieves to remove dust and produce even-sized granules or 'corns'.

Next, the grains went in barrels to the GLAZING HOUSE and were tumbled in gauze-covered revolving cylinders. This removed any remaining dust and sharp edges, and imparted a glaze to the grains by friction. From the GLAZING HOUSE a second tram road ran to the STOVE HOUSES.

The DUSTING HOUSE gave a final dusting to the powder before a further screening in the PACKING HOUSE into open containers for drying in the STOVE HOUSES. This was probably by steam in iron pipes, heated from the boiler house. The SUSPENSE MAGAZINE acted as a powder store in between these finishing processes.

The SAW MILL and COOPERAGES for making barrels to convey and store powder employed many men. Near the pier a MAGAZINE stored the gunpowder for smacks to take away – mostly the Melfort and Earl of Glasgow smacks, for at about 35 tons each this also lessened the risks of explosion from larger vessels.

Accidental explosions were far from uncommon at gunpowder works throughout Britain, and Melfort was no exception. An explosion in 1860 caused the death of two men, whose gravestones have been recorded recently in Kilmelford churchyard, as the Kilmelford Church booklet states:

'They are William McDonald, a native of Uist who died in the explosion of 10th September 1860, aged 22 years. The other is Donald Reid, a native of Fortrose, Ross-shire, who died in the same explosion, aged either 27 or 37 years (the inscription is unclear).'

The Oban Times, November 1866:

'A serious explosion occurred in the gunpowder works at this place on Monday at a little before 10 a.m. which unfortunately resulted in the death of a man and two boys.'

The man was James McFarlane and the two boys were James Sherwood (an orphan) and "Macfarlane", all of whom are buried in Kilmelford churchyard.

Barely four months later The Oban Times of 9th March 1867 ran a short paragraph on an inside page – clearly not headline news, and perhaps the report was so complacent as no lives were lost:

Melfort Great Explosion

This place was the scene of another sad explosion on Thursday, resulting in the total destruction of the Powder Works which were composed of three stone houses and one wooden house. ... The 4 houses were blown up in succession, being some distance apart from each other. The first to go was the drying-house, in which the fire originated - accounts say from a stove, or the overheating of a boiler ... The wind at the time was blowing in the direction of the other three houses,... each blowing up with a tremendous crash - first the glaziers house, next the pressing house, and lastly, the corning house. A bale of cloth was thrown from this last building a distance of about a mile. Many of the windows in the workpeople's houses were smashed in by the concussion of air. The destruction caused will take many months to repair.

Gunpowder making was indeed a risky business for the men & boys employed.

Rebuilding went on apace, and the works reopened in August the next year, the workmen having been kept on full pay. At its peak Melfort employed 130 men, but averaged 60, bringing prosperity to the area. However, the invention of 'high explosives' like dynamite & cordite meant 'low explosives' such as gunpowder were superseded. Seeing the end, Harrison Ainslie closed the works in 1874, and many of the skilled men moved to a similar works at Furnace. The machinery and some buildings – including the Refinery House – were dismantled & shipped away; any remaining buildings were burnt to remove any traces of powder.

The lands of Melfort were sold shortly afterwards to the owner of Kilninver Estate, thus closing a chapter. However, many buildings & houses remained, used by the estate until conversion in the 1970s to Timeshare.

Tony Dalton

Loch Melfort Hotel

COUNTRY HOUSE BY THE SEA

Christmas Day: 12:30- 3:30pm

Classic Three Course Christmas Lunch £35pp

Gourmet Five Course Christmas lunch £49pp

Boxing Day and New Year's Day:

7pm - 9pm

Loch Melfort Legendary Seafood Buffet £47pp

Booking essential

01852 200233

or reception@lochmelfort.co.uk

20th December - 3rd January except

Christmas Day and New Year's Day:

Soup and Sandwiches plus Teas, Coffees and

Home Baking are available in the Hotel

Lounge all day 10am-10pm



KILNINVER AND KILMELFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

2017 12 December

2018 13 February; 10 April; 12 June; 14 August; 9 October; 11 December

Meetings take place in Kilmelford Village Hall at 8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of alternate months throughout the year, lasting between an hour and an hour and a half, and all are welcome. Younger members of the community are particularly encouraged to come along and have their say – they will be most welcome.

Advance notice: *Election for eight Community Councillors will take place on 26 April 2018 and it is hoped that people who have not served in the past might consider putting themselves forward. It would be good to see some new faces round the table!*

Agenda and approved minutes of previous meeting are published on www.kilmelford.com Minutes are also available on noticeboards at Kilninver and at the Shop and Hall in Kilmelford and 2 printed copies are left at Kilmelford Village Shop.

Committee Members

Nigel Mitchell	Chairman	Nigel@themitchells.co.uk
Stuart Cannon	Vice Chairman Treasurer	stuartcannon@kames.co.uk
Toni Mitchell	Secretary	toni@themitchells.co.uk
Jane Rentoul	Minutes Secretary	j.rentoul@btinternet.com
Colin Clark		colinclark11@btinternet.com
Roanna Clark		roanna22@hotmail.com
Jamie McAndrew		jamiemcandrew@kames.co.uk
David Wilkie		ardrowan@yahoo.co.uk



CHRISTMAS COCKTAIL (serves 1):

2 dashes angostura bitters, 25ml cognac, 225ml champagne, 1 sugar cube

Drop the sugar cube into the champagne glass. Drop the 2 dashes of angostura onto the sugar cube. Add the cognac. Fill up the glass with champagne. Decorate with a cherry.

JACK FROST (serves 4):

crushed ice cubes, 235ml pineapple juice, 120ml blue Curaçao, 120ml white rum, 120ml coconut cream/milk. Fill the cocktail shaker with ice cubes. Add the other ingredients, making sure you add the coconut milk last. Shake really well then strain into martini glasses.

You can coat the rim of the martini glasses with desiccated coconut if you wish. To do this have two plates one with sugar syrup or honey and another with desiccated coconut, turn the martini glass upside down dip the rim into the honey/syrup and then into the desiccated coconut.

Elaine Mitchell



year of young people bliadhna na h-òigridh 2018

YEAR OF YOUNG PEOPLE 2018

As part of its themed years programme, the Scottish Government has made 2018 the Year of Young People.

YOPY 2018 will inspire Scotland through its young people aged 8 to 26, celebrating their achievements, valuing their contributions to communities and creating new opportunities for them to shine locally, nationally and globally.

In honour of Year of Young People 2018, Argyll and Bute intends to celebrate some of the reasons young people love living and growing up here. We have co-produced an innovative calendar of events, projects and experiences to celebrate the top ten, while working within the six key themes of the year; Culture, Health and Wellbeing, Equality and Discrimination, Enterprise and Regeneration, Participation and Education.

From January to December we will have events celebrating Safe, Outdoors, Communication, nature, Quiet and Peaceful, Beautiful, Freedom, Sport and Recreation and Opportunities; including a red carpet awards ceremony, an area wide dance in Campbeltown, Real time crash scenarios, photography and film making workshops and much much more.

Further information on what's happening, to apply to be an Ambassador or get involved can be found on the new website www.yoyp2018.scot or ABC Youth Services Facebook page.

Roanna Clark

Youth Participation Officer

Community Services: Education

Lochgilphead Community Centre, Manse Brae, Lochgilphead, PA31 8QX

Tel: 01546 604752

Mobile: [07786855733](tel:07786855733)



Youth Work Changes Lives!

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Making Argyll & Bute a place people choose to live, learn, work and do business.



KILMELFORD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

The preferred pattern for obtaining grant funding for Community projects is now through a Community Company and is often the easiest access route to Government, Lottery and Charity funding.

There is a variety of options and a small group of residents is looking at these to find the most suitable model.

A Community Company can own land, buildings and businesses as well as undertaking projects (the village of Strontian is building a new primary school!!).

Several national organisations are offering support and these include Community Land Scotland, Scottish Land Fund, Community Right to Buy, HIE, Development Trust Association Scotland, Argyll & Bute Council and Forest Enterprise.

The group hopes to soon be in a position to have a specific proposal to present to the Community.

Please do not hesitate to contact David Wilkie, Jane Rentoul, Roanna Clark or Stuart Cannon if you are interested in the project. *Contact details on p 23*



LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2

Members of public are urged to submit comments during the consultation period ending 11th December. This is of particular interest to Kilmelford as there is the possibility for the community – through the establishment of a community company or trust – to acquire land around the village, for the benefit of all. The following is an extract from Argyll and Bute Council website:

We adopted the current Argyll and Bute [Local Development Plan](#) in March 2015.

<http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/ldpi>

We are now preparing a new Local Development Plan (LDP2), which will set out planning and development proposals for the next 10 years from 2020 and a vision for 20 years. The plan will cover all of the Argyll and Bute Council area, apart from the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Area (LLTNP), where a separate Local Development Plan is prepared by the National Park Authority.

Local Development Plan 2 is due for adoption in 2020.

[Main Issues Report - *Consultation now open*](#)

<https://argyll-bute.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=7c26bde191654035ada62129ae60c9c7>

The first stage of the LDP2 process is a public consultation called the Main Issues Report. This report sets out, through a series of questions, how the proposed new Local Development Plan 2 might differ from the existing Local Development Plan and asks people's views on those proposals.

You can view the Main Issues Report and also respond to the consultation questions by using our new [online storymap](#) <https://arcg.is/0SrTj5> (recommended)

You can download a [PDF version of Main Issues Report](#) (pdf 20mb)

https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/sites/default/files/ldp_2_main_issues_report_draft_august_2017_formatted_on_121017_20mb_0.pdf

You can answer the consultations questions directly through [our online form](#)

<https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/forms/main-issues-report-appendix-1>

The documents can also be viewed at all public libraries and the council offices at 1a Manse Brae, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RD

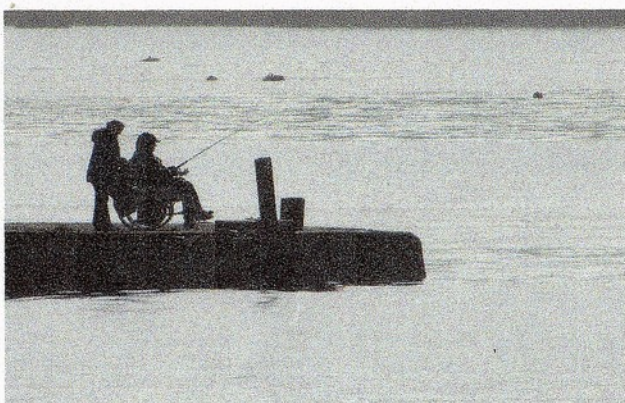
The consultation will run for 8 weeks until 11th December 2017.

Our Nan is now wheelchair bound .

**Loves to visit, but there is no
bedroom on the ground.**

For us there is no problem here.

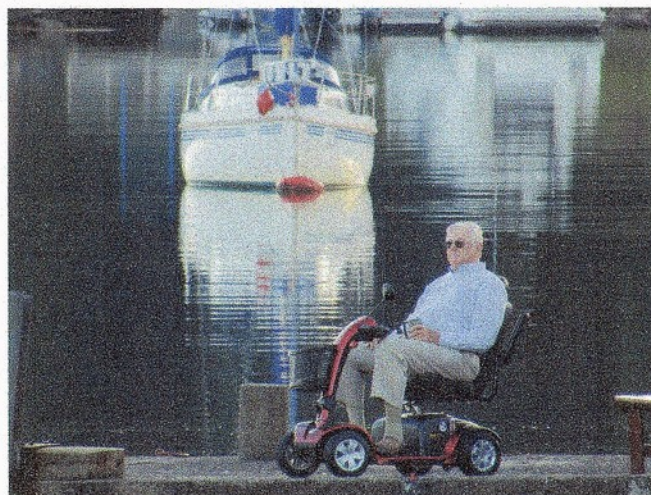
We book a house at Melfort Pier !



Uncle Bill, from Stirling gets his wish.

He and aunty catch a lot of fish !

**Scooter or wheelchair,
we have the house for
you here,
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Kilmelford (by Oban)
Argyll , PA34 4XD**



THE SHORES OF LOCH MELFORT

We came to the shores of Loch Melfort two years ago now in the hope of seeing, experiencing and learning more of the diverse and varied wildlife of the West Coast.

Over the seasons some of the “cast of characters” that can be seen changes, such as the arrival of the Gannets and Terns during the summer and then the return of the autumn/winter birds such as Redwings and Fieldfares but all the while there remains the ever present residents from the smallest such as the Wrens and Chaffinches, up through to the occasional Red Squirrel and Roe Deer passing by, casting covetous glances at the garden, to the wonderful eagles.

However there is always one local resident the sighting of which unfailingly brings us a smile and a dash for the binoculars and that is the Otter.

Perhaps it is the memory of spending whole days, many years ago, fruitlessly sitting in the hide at Kylerhea on Skye hoping to see even a fleeting glimpse of an otter but getting ever colder by the hour with nothing to see other than the ubiquitous shags that makes us appreciate even more the sighting of an otter fishing in the bay. Possibly it is being able to wonder at their agility in the water and consummate skill at fishing, with a fish or crab caught – if not every dive, fairly frequently. Maybe it’s the way they occasionally seem to almost “explode” back to the surface from a deep dive, emerging like a cork from a bottle. Guessing where that re-emergence will occur from a dive is an art we have still to master as they always surface somewhere other than anticipated, although it helps if we can cheat by following a line of bubbles if the water is particularly calm.

But then again there is nothing more fascinating than watching their other hunting techniques as they seek out smaller prey by rooting through the seaweed when the tide is at a low ebb, disappearing under great clumps of shiny weed and being able to only follow where they are by watching the seaweed “wave” moving along the beach until a head emerges invariably with a small fish or crab. When they are in the weed it is impossible not to appreciate the wonderful camouflage their chocolate coloured fur affords them in that environment when they are wet.

If we are particularly lucky they will come ashore and spend time grooming and drying themselves on a favourite rock in the sun and their coat will then turn a wonderful rich russet until the next fish needs to be caught and they slip back into the water with barely a disturbance of the surface.

It is truly a privilege to be able to have a glimpse into the lives of such an iconic animal and one that we never tire of seeing.

Otter Spotters





Kilmartin Museum

Winter Opening Hours

Wednesday 1st November to Saturday 23 December 2017

The Museum and Café will be open from 11.00 to 4pm during November and December, closing on 23rd December, reopening on Thursday 1st March 2018.

Redevelopment

For twenty years, Kilmartin Museum has been collecting, conserving and revealing the stories of Kilmartin Glen and the artefacts found here. Our collection now includes treasures from all corners of Argyll, unfortunately many more than can be displayed in the current Museum Gallery. We need your support to help us raise the last £1.5million of our exciting Redevelopment Project, and invite you to be part of this adventure. Find out more at www.kilmartin.org/redevelopment, or contact us at the Museum.

Knapdale's Rainforest: an evening talk with Pete Creech & Oly Hemmings from HOWA: Tuesday 12th December 2017, 7-8.30pm in the Living Stones Christian Centre.

A virtual and physical exploration of Knapdale's wildlife with both a presentation and natural history artefacts. Everyone can get involved!

'Health & Beauty': an evening talk with Dr Annette Anderton: Tuesday 9th January 2018, 7-8.30pm in the Living Stones Christian Centre.

An illustrative talk on the therapeutic and cosmetic use of geological materials in the ancient world with comments on their use in Scotland.

Blue Planet Scotland – Stories from Below the Waves with Dr Anuschka Miller from SAMS: Tuesday 13th February 2018, 7-8.30pm in the Living Stones Christian Centre.

This talk will give an overview of the history and work of SAMS followed by an introduction to their current research projects.

Access to Crofting Toolkit: Saturday & Sunday 17th & 18th February 2018: £70

An introduction to Scottish agriculture directly related to crofters and smallholders.

Scotland's Rock Art Project: an evening talk with Dr Tertina Barnett: Friday 16th March 2018, 7-8.30pm in the Living Stones Christian Centre.

A discussion of what we know about Scotland's rock art, and how this project aims to enhance our understanding and awareness.

Croft Woodland Workshop: Saturday 24th March 2018: £40, free to existing crofters and smallholders.

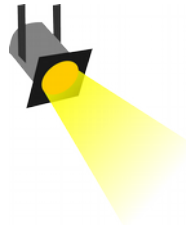
A one day course delivered by Woodland Manager, Gordon Gray-Stephens. This workshop will include a short indoor session followed by a visit to a local wood.

Kilmartin Museum Café and Shop

Our café has a delicious menu and a mouth-watering range of home baked cakes, whilst our shop is stocked with a great selection of books and a wide range of gift ideas, the perfect place to find something special.

Email: admin@kilmartin.org Telephone: 01546 510278

Website: www.kilmartin.org Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

When I moved with my family to Bragleenbeg Cottage in Scammadale nearly two years ago, we were pretty confident that it would be a brief stop-over, whilst we sold our house in the Western Isles. Two years later, none of us appear to be in a great hurry to leave the glen – least of all our tractor-mad three-year-old twins.

We were moving from the islands after I had accepted a job offer from HM Coastguard as one of the area's full-time Coastal Operations Officers. I already had a background within the emergency services, in particular the unique challenges of rural areas – I had served as a police officer with Northern Constabulary and was well-used to responding to emergencies in relatively remote areas.

However, the job offer was too tempting, and the family were looking forward to a return to 'mainland life'. My work involves supporting the volunteer Coastguard Rescue Teams in the area – from recruiting and equipping these teams, to providing technical training to their Coastguard Rescue Officers. Our operational area is vast. I am one of a team of 4 who, along with our area commander, are responsible for the coastline and teams from Campbeltown in the south, to Kilchoan in Ardnamurchan to the north. We extend as far east as Inveraray and out across the Inner Hebrides. It's a big patch - around 2500 miles of coastline with 23 inhabited islands.

Our teams provide a vital search and rescue service along the coast – we have 20 teams in our area, with around 200 volunteers ready to respond any time, day or night, whatever the weather. All of our team members are trained in land search, navigation, 4x4 driving, communications, water safety and rescue techniques and casualty care. In addition, some of our teams have additional equipment and training to carry out rope rescues. The Coastguard have responsibility for co-ordinating all search and rescue operations at sea and around the cliffs and coastline of the UK – whether by lifeboats, helicopters or on land. Our teams also respond to reports of abandoned pyrotechnics, such as flares, found on the shoreline, as well as ensuring the safety of the public when military ordnance is discovered.

Providing emergency services in often remote areas means we are frequently asked to assist other agencies, and vice versa – all services rely on each other at some point to assist with an incident. Our teams often assist police with land-based searches further inland, as many of the islands have only a handful of police officers (or none at all).

The best part of this job? Without doubt the people – it is an absolute privilege to work alongside our volunteers, who come to us from all different backgrounds to provide this amazing service to their communities. The worst part? Coming out of a deep sleep and trying to make sense of a call at 4am from the Control Room, during my 'on-call' week! However, all that (and the paperwork) are more than compensated when I'm out on Mull, training rope rescue techniques on the crags looking out to Iona, or teaching water rescue on a beach on Coll!

Adrian MacDonald

Hodge Fencing and Argyll Woodfuels

**Now located in Timberyard
at Lerags Road Junction**

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www.hodgefencing.co.uk
www.argyllwoodfuels.com**

**For Fencing materials, gates,
rails, electric fencing, briquettes,
wood pellets and logs.**

**Open 9am to 5pm through the week
and otherwise by arrangement,
please phone.**

Autumn Delights



I was feeding my birds the other day
I thought - mmm autumn is on its way
The trees were just starting to turn –
A hazy mist was tickling the burn
A pleasant but slight musty smell in the air
Nature starting to wind down – it's only fair!

I like the special seasonal treats like little spiders' webs on the heather
Or an autumn walk through the glen wrapped up against the weather
Your little friendly robin who helped you garden all year long
Now perches in a nearby tree and offers his autumn song.
Some folk feel a little sad at the thought of summer going
But I have always enjoyed the season with all its colours glowing.
Bracken on the hills goes from green to copper to maroon
The trees look like an artist's palette with all colours a bright festoon.
Of course we get the rain and often a heavy frost
But some late autumn sunshine and everything gets a gloss.
The lochs can do their reflection special and give us twice the view
All the nuts, berries, herbs and veg give us extras for our stew
Just like the birds and animals we all bring the harvest in
Busy filling our pantries getting ready to snuggle in
Kitchens are extra busy making jams and soups and bakes
We're tidying up the gardens snipping and giving the lawn a good rake
So you see autumn is just a crucial part of the wonderful natural story
No need to get gloomy – see it in all its glory

Gill Philpotts



the LORD OF THE ISLES

Stunning views overlooking Craobh Marina, the Corryvreckan Whirlpool and the surrounding islands with arguably the finest sunsets on the West coast.

Lord of the Isles bar, restaurant & stores is located in the beautiful little village of Craobh Haven just in-between Oban and Lochgilphead. We are open for lunch and dinner 7 days a week and have the enviable reputation for offering a scrumptious menu incorporating fresh shellfish, prime meats, extensive vegetarian options and gluten free desserts.

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CHILDREN'S MENU AVAILABLE

DOG FRIENDLY

LIVE MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT

LIVE FOOTBALL, RUGBY AND TENNIS WITH BTSPORTS

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KILMELFORD VILLAGE HALL
KILMELFORD & KILNINVER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Chair: Astrid van der Kraan | Vice Chair: Ruth MacCowan | Secretary: Diane Scaife | Treasurer: Carla Banham

Committee Members: Matthew Anderson | Maggie Morsley | Elaine Mitchell | Jean Bowman

School Representative: Sarah Edwards | Caretaker: Colin Gibson 01852 200204

Bookings + heating cards: Kilmelford Village Shop 01852 200271

The Kilmelford Village Hall is organized by the Kilmelford & Kilniver Community SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation). The minutes of the meetings of the Association, the constitution and the code of conduct as well as all other information regarding the Village Hall can be found on www.kilmelford.com For a copy of the (draft) AGM minutes or Chair Report please contact Diane Scaife: 01852 200208

The Kilmelford Village Hall holds a number of events and regular activities to which everybody is welcome (see “What is on in and around...” at beginning of this newsletter or check calendar page on the local website) There is a squash court, lesser hall, main hall with stage and balcony, suitable for indoor sports, dances, meetings etc. Well equipped kitchen, tables, chairs, sporting equipment, toilets / showers. Wheel chair friendly.

KILMELFORD & KILNINVER VILLAGE HALL CHARGES

SPORTS

Squash and Badminton	£5.00 per hour all categories
Junior football and indoor tennis	£5.00 per hour

HIRE CHARGES

LESSER HALL

MAIN HALL

Charities and regular groups (non profit-making)	£2.00 per hour	£5.00 per hour
Social use, children's parties	£4.00 per hour	£7.00 per hour
Profit-making tuition	£6.00 per hour	£9.00 per hour
Commercial use	£10.00 per hour	£20.00 per hour
	£15.00 minimum charge	£25.00 minimum charge

Evening functions (non profit-making)	17.00- 01.00 use of both halls & kitchen	£95.00 (deposit £50.00)
Evening functions (profit-making enterprises)	17.00 -01.00 use of both halls & kitchen	£120.00 (deposit £50.00)
Wedding hire all day & evening	use of both halls & kitchen	£200.00 (deposit £50.00)

After use the Hall must be left clean & tidy. Failure to do so will lead to loss of deposit.

HEATING CARDS FOR MAIN & LESSER HALL - £1.50 each

COME AND ENJOY OUR AWARD WINNING CENTRE.

ENJOY THE SCOTTISH PRODUCE, LOCAL

SEAFOOD AND LIVING HOME BAKING.

A GREAT DAY FOR ALL

Atlantic
Islands Centre
ISLE OF Luing

April - October
Mon-Fri 10-5, Sat 10-late,
Sun 12-5

November - March
Mon-Fri 11-4, Sat 11-late,
Sun 12-4



Open Daily
All year round



5 Visitor Moorings
available at

56 14.900N 005 39.340W

There are two black & white posts for
guidance to line up and sail in.

Maximum length 24m. £10 mooring

Please pay at the Atlantic Islands Centre



Atlantic Islands Centre, Cullipool, Isle of Luing. PA34 4TX - www.atlanticislandscentre.com

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

Easdale Medical Practice: The Surgery, Clachan, Seil, **01852 300223**

www.easdalemedicalpractice.scot.nhs.uk

Consultations: Mondays & Wednesdays: 9.30 – 10.30 am & 4.00 – 5.00 pm

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 9.30 – 10.30 am | Fridays: 8.30 – 10.30 am & 3.30 – 4.30 pm

Late appointments possible on Monday and Wednesday at 6pm, please phone

The surgery is open from 9 am till 12.30 pm Monday – Friday and 2 pm till 5 pm (except Thursday) to receive phone calls and to dispense medicines.

Closed – Christmas: Mon 25th and Tues 26th Dec | New Year: Mon 1st and Tues 2nd Jan

Lorn Medical Centre Oban: Soroba Road, Oban, **01631 563175**

www.lornmedicalcentre.co.uk

Opening hours: Monday – Friday 8.00 am – 6.00 pm

Closed – Christmas: Mon 25th and Tues 26th Dec | New Year: Mon 1st and Tues 2nd Jan

Out-of-Hours Medical Service: call NHS 24 on **111**

Emergency: call **999** (Chest pains and / or shortness of breath constitute an emergency)

Vets Oban: 13 Tweeddale Street, Oban, **01631 562876**

Vets Lochgilphead: Manse Brae, Lochgilphead, **01546 602240**

Power Cut: call **105** to report or get information about a power cut in your area

LIONS MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

This is a voluntary scheme for anyone living at home who might be reassured to know that essential information would be readily available to the Emergency Services, should they suffer an accident or sudden illness. The scheme ensures that vital information is available not only to identify you, but to advise of relevant illnesses, allergies, medication and contact addresses.

When emergency services see medical information and personal details of a patient they can render safer and speedier First Aid by short cutting time-consuming fact-finding enquiries about the patient. A separate form should be filled in for each person concerned.

The information is held inside a small plastic bottle and kept in the fridge door. This is flagged up by strategically placed small labels inside front door and on fridge outer door which allows the emergency services to have speedy access to the helpful information.

Bottles are available from Kilmelford Shop



COMMUNITY WEBSITE

The community website (kilmelford.com) has recently been revised and upgraded – though most of the improvements are hidden, so it doesn't look much different.

The main visible changes are:

- responsive (it works better on mobiles and tablets than before)
- secure (uses a secure connection, so no-one can easily listen in on what you are looking at).

But the big changes were behind the scenes – the new site is better organized to allow multiple people to make changes.

Already the newsletter editorial team are putting articles directly onto the website without having to wait for me to do it.

We can provide access to other people to let them make changes to specific areas of the website – and indeed would welcome a volunteer to manage the calendar / events section to help ensure that all local events get onto the site as soon as possible.

If you'd be interested in doing this, please get in touch via the contact form on every page of the website.

The other area we are hoping to add more to the website is the Gallery of local photographs. Anyone will soon be able to add their own photos, and they will be added to the gallery. Until now the gallery has been all landscapes around the area – but if there is interest we will add photos of local people, events, historical photos, etc.

Please get in touch if you have any photos you'd like to contribute and you can either be set up to allow you to upload as many of your photos as you'd like, or simply pass them to me and I will add them.

For the banner photographs on the home page, we already have a good number taken in and around Kilmelford itself, so we'd particularly like panorama views of Arduaine or Kilninver (or Scammadale) to use.

And, finally, what else would you like to see on the website ?

- a local phone/address directory (with only local people allowed to see it, of course) ?
- a combined event calendar for all local communities (say everywhere within 20 miles ?)
- weekly sudoku puzzles ?
- personal email addresses (e.g. alex@kilmelford.com) ?
- a shared Google calendar so you can have events automatically appear in your personal calendar ?
- or anything else - just suggest, or preferably volunteer.

Alex Tweedly

The information, opinions and views presented in the 'Kilninford News' reflect the views of the authors and contributors of the articles and are not necessarily those of the Kilninford News (KN) team. Publication of articles, advertisements or product information does not constitute endorsement or approval by the Kilninford News (KN) team.

They cannot be held responsible for any errors or for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in the newsletter.

The Kilninford News is governed by the Constitution of the 'Kilninford Association 2015'.

Contact any member of the Kilninford News team for more information

Contributions to the Kilninford News

Contributions can be emailed or posted in our Kilninford Letterbox inside the Village Shop. Obviously we would like everybody to keep in mind that our newsletter is potentially read by all ages.

Deadline for contributions for the EASTER EDITION is 4th March 2018

Please send contributions and adverts to Astrid or Iain (editors)

or use our Kilninford News letter box INSIDE the Kilmelford Village Shop.

For comments / questions with regards to distribution, please contact Gill

Your local KN contacts are:

- Gill Philpotts gill@thephilpotts.me.uk
- Iain Bark barkee@live.com
- Jane Rentoul j.rentoul@btinternet.com
- Astrid van der Kraan astrid@glenbeg-it.co.uk
- Mark van der Kraan Glenbeg, Kilmelford

Current advertising rates:

full page	£25
½ page	£12.50
¼ page	£7
outside back cover	£30
B&B and self catering adverts	£2

Issue #	Edition	Deadline for contributions:	Estimated distribution:
60	Easter	04/03/18	end of March

Kilninford News online

The digital form of the Kilninford News gets uploaded to the local website for all to read. This digital edition might contain more pictures / photos compared to the paper copy, as some pictures don't print well in black on white. Alex Tweedly, Iain Bark and Astrid + Mark van der Kraan try to keep the local website updated with any information / event they are made aware of.

www.kilmelford.com

KILMELFORD VILLAGE STORE

OPENING HOURS:

MON TO SAT 9 AM UNTIL 5.30 PM

SUNDAY 10 AM UNTIL 1 PM

Post Office and ATM

Basic provisions as well as:

JB Home baked pies

Wild Argyll Venison

Mull Cheese

Local free range eggs

Seil Bakery Bread

Local Pork



FREE Wi-Fi

KILMELFORD VILLAGE STORE TEL: 01852 200271

Email: honeytummy@hotmail.co.uk

