

Loch'n'Glen News



Issue No. 9
Autumn 2011

May we take this opportunity to introduce ourselves as the new compilers of the Newsletter and thank Ron and all previous contributors for their hard work. We hope you will continue to enjoy reading the publication and will be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to contribute, either on a regular basis or a one-off article. If you know of anyone who has news, views, memories or just idle trivia that may be of interest to other people, we shall be delighted to afford them space if available.

For future reference, our next copy dates will be approximately 11th December, 11th March & 11th June, with a view to the newsletters being available at beginning of January, April, July & October 2012. This might help you to plan ahead.

If you wish any information please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes

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Where there are any errors in the content of the newsletter please let us know.

Sponsored by Benmore & Kilmun Community Development Trust & donors who wish to remain anonymous.

The compilers welcome letters up to 300 words in length for publication. The compilers also reserve the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and addresses must be supplied, or emails to indicate good faith. For an online version, visit:

www.blairmoregallery.co.uk or <http://www.benmorekilmun.org/index.asp?pageid=244928>
and follow links.

Acknowledgement: Frontispiece – autumn by Nuala & Cliona McCheyne from Strone Primary School

A FEW WORDS FROM THE MINISTER

As I sit at my desk typing this, I can look out of my study window at the back garden of the manse. Through the wind and rain, I can see that some of the foliage on the trees is beginning to turn – a reminder that we are slowly but surely moving from summer into autumn. I like the autumn: the gloriously variegated colours, the slight chill in the air, the harvest thanksgiving services soon to take place reminding us of God’s generous provision in the ripened crops of wheat and fruit and vegetables. One of the first poems I remember learning by heart is John Keats’ *Ode to autumn* – “Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness.” Yes, I like the autumn.

Mind you, I like the winter, spring and summer as well. Each season has its own distinctive beauty and attractiveness. I should hate to live in a climate where there is little seasonal change. I don’t even mind the times when we seem to have a bit of all four seasons in the space of a single day!

Life has its seasons too. A wise Old Testament writer observed in the opening verse of the third chapter of Ecclesiastes: ‘To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven’ and he went on to list the varied and contrasting times and seasons, some of joy, some of sorrow, some busy, some quiet, some difficult, some refreshing. So it is with human experience, and the progressive stages of human life. The wisdom lies in recognizing that no time or season lasts for ever; that we should make the most of each moment and each stage when it comes; that we should live life in the present, rather than dwelling on the past or worrying about the future.

Whatever the ‘season’ is for you at the present time – be it hard or easy, happy or sad, or (perhaps more often) a bit of a mixture – may you gain from it what it has to offer, and then be content to move on to the next season with its opportunities and challenges. There’s an ancient Sanskrit proverb you may have heard before:

Look to this day
for it is life
the very life of life.
In its brief course lie all
the realities and verities of existence,
the bliss of growth,
the splendour of action,
the glory of power -
For yesterday is but a dream,
and tomorrow is only a vision,
but today, well-lived,
makes every yesterday a dream of happiness
and every tomorrow a vision of hope.
Look well, therefore, to this day.

May God bless you.

David Mill, Minister, The Shore Churches

ARDENTINNY CARPET BOWLING CLUB

The new season will soon be here – it starts on Thursday 6 November at 2.30pm in Ardentenny Village Hall. We have vacancies for new members, if you wish to learn to play please phone Gordon on 01369 810218. We look forward to the first friendly visitors game – Blairmore – v– Ardentenny on Thursday 17 November.

BLAIRMORE CARPET BOWLING CLUB

The new season starts with our Annual General Meeting in Blairmore Hall at 2.00pm on Tuesday 4th October (There will be a short committee meeting before that at 1.30pm) Play commences on Wednesday 5th October at 2.00pm for the afternoon section and at 7.30pm for the evening section. There are vacancies in both sections of our club and new members would be most welcome. Just bring yourself and a pair of flat shoes or slippers – all other equipment is supplied. Contact the Secretary or any other committee member.

Olive Cragg (secy) 01369840288

KILMUN CARPET BOWLING CLUB

The 2011/12 season will commence on Thursday 6th October at 7.30pm in The Younger Hall, Kilmun. We look forward to welcoming back our previous members and there is always room for new members who would like to have a go at playing this traditional Scottish game. The game is played on a table with unbiased bowls, bowling through a hoop to rings as in curling. Why not come and join us and have an evening of good fun in good company? We'll see you on 6th October. Membership subscription will remain the same at £10 plus £1 for each night played.

Bob Balfour

CARPET BOWLS AT UIG

New season begins on Thursday 13th October – two weeks earlier than the traditional start, which was to do with the clocks going back - but perhaps some of us need all the practice we can get. Last year we averaged about 8 bowlers – plus a few of us who turn up for the social side, so please do come and join us. New blood would be most welcome. Every Wednesday at 8.00pm. £1.00 donation to hall funds per evening – plus refreshments. Absolutely no previous experience needed, just patience, skill and a sense of humour.

Dinah McDonald

SCRABBLE CLUB

Scrabble will continue to be played on alternate Mondays to the Munnonday club. The Munnonday club commences its winter season on Monday 26th September, therefore the Scrabble club plays on 3rd October and every two weeks thereafter. Why not come and join in – we play for fun, not to win every time - even if you want to learn you will be most welcome at 2.15pm in the Younger Hall, Kilmun. For further information contact Bob Balfour 840793



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Email: aray.fish@virgin.net

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art together with children's gifts & pocket money toys.**

THE SHORE CHURCHES
(KILMUN LINKED WITH STRONE AND ARDENTINNY)

Harvest Thanksgiving services on Sunday 2nd October, 10.30am in Strone Church, 12noon in Kilmun Church and 2.30pm in Ardentenny Church. Remembrance Day Services on Sunday 13th November - joint Service for Kilmun and Strone in Kilmun, St Munn's at 10.45am following the wreath laying ceremony at the War Memorial there at 10.30am. The Service in Ardentenny at 2.30pm will be followed by a wreath laying ceremony at the village War Memorial.

BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH

A short course of classes is about to begin for those who would like to explore what is involved in becoming a member of the church – without any pressure to join at the end of it. Please feel free to contact Rev David Mill on 840313 (email: revandevmill@aol.com) if you are interested.

KILMUN ST MUNS CHURCH GUILD

Kilmun Guild meets every second Tuesday in the Church hall, beginning Tuesday 4th October. We warmly welcome members old & new, or visitors, to share in a friendly, happy afternoon with interesting speakers and a cup of tea.
Rose Balfour

STRONE & ARDENTINNY GUILD

The 2011/12 session will commence with the Dedication Service at St Columba's Church, Strone on Sunday 25th September at 10.30am. Over the last two years we have been looking at Micah 6:8 "*What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.*" This session we will be concentrating on "*to walk humbly with your God.*" Guild members work hard to raise funds for local and worldwide charities and during Guild Week you will have the opportunity to support our work by attending our fund raising events. So do come along to our Christmas Coffee Morning at Blairmore Hall on Saturday 26th November from 10 - 11.30am. There will be stalls to buy Christmas items and presents as well as good company and refreshments.

We have a varied and exciting programme for the new session. Members meet at 2.15pm on the last Monday of each month in Strone Church Hall. Our first meeting will be on Monday 26th September when we will welcome representatives from Cowal Locality Public Partnership Forum. We extend a very warm welcome to anyone who would like to join the Guild or attend any of our meetings. Just come along, make new friends and enjoy a delicious tea.
Madeleine Hacking, Convenor

ARDENTINNY SWRI

Our new season starts on 27th September at 7.30pm and our demonstrator is Mary Dayton who will give us ideas on weaving and we welcome old and new members. Our October meeting is on the 11th and we are having In The Pink from Dunoon.

Mary Menzies – secretary

STRONE WRI

Strone WRI recommences on Wednesday 14th Oct 7.15pm in Strone Church hall

CRAFTY AFTERNOON IN KILMUN HALL

If you wish to learn a new craft or hobby, need encouragement to continue with one you have started but need help with, or just want a chat and a cuppa, come to Kilmun hall on Thursdays starting 6th October at 2pm.

Rose Balfour 840793

MUNNONDAY CLUB

The Club will be starting back in Younger Hall, Kilmun on Monday 26th September with our full programme of soup and sandwiches, tea and biscuits and twelve hands of whist. Cost for the afternoon is £2.50 which includes the raffle. We start at 12.30pm and finish around 3pm. These times work well with the local bus which stops at the pier nearby. We would welcome new members – don't worry if you cannot play as we will teach you. This is a fun afternoon and a good way to meet people.

For further information contact Betty McKinven (840475) or Rose Balfour (840793)

SHORE ART CLUB

The Shore Art Club meets on Wednesday mornings from 10 – 12noon in Blairmore hall. We began the new session on September 7th and are looking forward to painting, trying new techniques and having help and advice from various artists once a month, beginning with Martin Conway in September, followed by Ken Ashfield in October, Andy McLintock in November and leading to our mini show or crit of our work in December.

Rose Balfour

BLAIRMORE COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

The club begins the new session on Tuesday September 20th at 7.30pm in Blairmore Village Hall. Meetings thereafter are the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Our teacher Madalene Lee plans each evening with a wide range of dances to suit all abilities. We all look forward to the music, the fun and the friendship. It would be great for the club if we had more members so if you think that this is something you would like to try, please come along and join us. You will be made most welcome.

Jean Laird

BLAIRMORE & STRONE GOLF CLUB

We are having the Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 30th September between 10.00am and 2.00pm, at the clubhouse. Please come along for a cuppa and a chat and help to raise funds for a worthy cause.

WEEKLY JAM SESSIONS

A weekly jam session takes place in Strone Church Hall on Fridays from 7pm for youngsters aged up to 18. Bring your instruments and/or your voice or offer technical support. Telephone Douglas Stevely on 07729796936 for further details.

RNLI - KILMUN & DISTRICT BRANCH

The Branch would like to thank all those who helped collect and those who donated so generously, to our various collections made this summer. The total in the collections amounted to £1,850.48

Please note the following dates for your diary!

Saturday, 22nd October

Souvenir Coffee Morning - Blairmore Hall - 10.30 am – 12.00 noon. Entry £1.50
RNLI Christmas cards, calendars, diaries etc. home baking, raffle

Friday, 18th November

Basket Whist - Blairmore Hall - 7.00pm

If you would like to book a table for 4, or join a table, please contact Margaret Hall on 01369 840329

Friday, 10th February 2012

Basket Whist - Blairmore Hall - 7.00pm (as above)

May 2012

Antiques Valuation Day with Auctioneers from McTears

We are planning to hold another Valuation Day in May of next year, the exact date yet to be confirmed, but we will keep you informed!

THE GLORY HOLE

The Church Charity shop continues to tick over. Our thanks to all those of you who donated so many goodies over the last few weeks. We are always glad to see any of you in the shop – we're open 6 days a week. Do drop in; you may find a replacement for those broken items of china or glassware. And we have a large selection of books, games, small items of furniture and pictures.

Jenny Cornish

QUILT EXHIBITION

An exhibition of work by the Filanderers will be held in Strone Church on Saturday 22nd October from 10am until 4pm. The Filanderers are a group of friends who love to fiddle with fils or threads, hence the name. We have been called Fiddlers in the past and the group answers to that name as well. The group meets monthly to discuss the finer points of needle work and, incidentally, to enjoy a working lunch. We have exhibited annually at the Loch Lomond Quilt Show for the past four years as well as having individual entries in the competition categories before that. We are delighted to have the opportunity of exhibiting our work on the shore for the first time.

ARCHAEOLOGY

A course of 4 illustrated lectures, presented by Lionel Masters MA FSAScot, on the PYRAMIDS OF THE NEW WORLD will be held on Wednesdays 21st & 28th September, 5th & 12 October 2011 from 2 – 4pm. in the Cowal Camera Club, Castle Street, Dunoon. The course will compliment the earlier course on the PYRAMIDS AND ZIGGURATS OF EGYPT that Lionel presented last year. Everyone has heard of those pyramids, but there are equally striking pyramids in Central and South America. We will examine the sites in Mexico, including Teotihuacan, Monte Alban and the Mayan sites of Uxmal, Palenque and Chichan Itza. In Peru we will look at the early site of Caral and at the Moche sites of Sipan, El Brujo and the Huaca de la Luna (Trujillo), where ongoing excavations are revealing ever more magnificent finds.

The course fee is £25. If you would like to attend please phone Derek Cornish on 01369 810201 or come along on the 21st September to enroll.

NEW BUSINESS IN BLAIRMORE

George & Emily Woods, formally proprietors of the retail outlet 'White Water the Canoe Centre' in London south east, have re-formed their interest in paddling, and set up their new kayaking and Canoeing business. With 25 years of experience and a wealth of knowledge in canoeing and kayaking, you can either hire (on site or take away) or buy with confidence that you are being helped by professionals. Whatever your requirement, from hiring sit on tops for the novice, kayaks or canoes to tour the local lochs, paddling the many local white water rapids or true sea kayaking for the avid enthusiast...we can cater for everybody. Alternatively, if you need instruction or just some good advice for all your paddling needs, we are ready to help!

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FRIENDS OF BLAIRMORE PIER TRUST

This year has again seen the Waverley calling at Blairmore Pier. The new Tuesday afternoon sailings have produced some good figures. Total number boarding 199 (average of 25) and 172 disembarked (average of 22). Compared to last year, almost the same number boarded but amazingly there has been more than double the number landing at Blairmore. It must be those homemade cheese scones at Gallimaufry. Tuesday 21st June's Midsummer cruise only saw 39 embark and for those who remember, the weather wasn't too pleasant, although the Largs Gaelic Choir entertained us most fittingly on the leg back from Loch Goil to Blairmore.

Last sailing by Waverley - Saturday 15th October 2011

Blairmore pier was in the spotlight on the Saturday 13th August edition of the "Herald". The 'photo of the day' was of Waverley approaching Blairmore pier on her return journey from Loch Goil. Thanks to photographer William Neilson.

I'm sure we all wish to thank our volunteer rope catchers for their sterling work. They gave up their Tuesday afternoons throughout the summer months to help with berthing. They may be unpaid volunteers, but they perform to a professional standard and are always friendly and helpful - Pier Master Pam Horton, Ian Gardiner, and new kid on the block, Frank Glover. Also thanks to Chris Horton, our standby rope catcher.

Recent Pier Structure Survey - The Pier recently had a survey completed and it was given a good bill of health for its overall condition. The only immediate problem was the state of the north ladder and the more observant will have noticed that it has now been straightened. Where the pier connects to the shore some work is required, with the end of some supporting beams showing early signs of rot. It has been decided to sort this now as we have the funds and to prevent any further deterioration. In the long term, the south end of the pier needs to have a large beam replaced and a quote has been given. As a result, some serious fund raising needs to take place so that this work can be carried out. To this end, there will be two fund raising events in Blairmore Hall, both on Saturday 12th November:

1.00pm. Soup, Sandwiches, tea/coffee followed by a talk on Cowal Piers by Iain Quinn £6.50

7.00pm. Talk 'Three Lochs Tour' followed by cold buffet, tea & coffee - £7.50

If interested, please e-mail blairmorepier@hotmail.co.uk or contact Pam Horton, Thornbank, Blairmore. PA23 8TJ

Pirate Day (Pier Day) - This year's Pier Day was once again very popular despite the poor weather. Quite a few children dressed up in their pirate costumes and over 30 took part in the organised Treasure Hunt which resulted in a bag of treasure for their efforts. The home baking was also very popular and much needed after the treasure hunt. Bill Williamson was again a crowd puller with his pottery demonstration and allowing anyone to have a go. The RNLI put on a 'man overboard' display which was received by a loud applause when the rescue was complete. Many thanks to the many volunteers that helped to make it a worth while day.

Return of a Ferry Connection? - Several meetings between the Pier Trust, SPT, the National Park and Argyll & Bute Council have been taking place to try and re-instate the passenger ferry link from Blairmore. The tendering process by SPT for the current Kilcreggan/Gourock route is underway and the inclusion of Blairmore as a possible weekend route is being explored as a part of that process. Watch this space.....

FAMILY GALA DAY AT GRAHAMS POINT KILMUN ARGYLL – 23 JULY 2011 – IN AID OF HELP FOR HEROES AND ERSKINE HOSPITAL

The Gala Day went off with no hitches amid excellent weather (how did that happen?) and managed to raise £1400 in total that was shared equally with both charities. The event had traditional raffles, tombola and many other fund raising stalls ranging from guess the name of the bear to predicting the amount of balloons squeezed into my car. The prizes for all of these events were kindly donated by local residents and businesses, and supported by the community radio and Dunoon Observer, Red Cross and 102 (Clyde) Field Squadron from Paisley. The police community support vehicle attended for the day and we were treated to an appearance from the Argyll Knights dressed in medieval costume, and everyone was sustained throughout by the Ice Cream man and the Pier Hotels mobile catering facility. Andy Maclachlan kindly demonstrated his skill with a chainsaw and produced an excellent model of an Owl which was donated as a raffle prize and won by a local family. The day culminated in a helium filled balloon release to see which one reached the furthest distance in a set time of two weeks, the time (and an extended period of a few more weeks) has now expired, so as no winners have been declared, the prizes will now be returned to the donators. A massive thanks to all who worked hard on the day, also to those who donated prizes and their time in the planning stages and especially those who came along and spent so freely. The gratitude from both charities has been unanimous in their praise of the effort by all and stresses that the whole cash amount will contribute to the care and rehabilitation of injured service personnel. A great day out was had by all who attended with the surprise addition of perfect weather.

Pete Shields

STRONE PRIMARY SCHOOL

The new term has begun and everyone seems to be settling in nicely. Our Head teacher, Cathy McKirdy left at the end of the summer term to move to 'pastures new' and Moira Witherow has stepped into the role of 'Acting Head' The school is thriving with a role of 44 pupils at the moment. The whole school is currently working on Scotland & Shapes as their topics. With the summer gradually fading away, the children are looking forward to Halloween, Bonfire Night and all the other exciting activities which this time of year brings. Our next fundraiser will be a Parent Council Beetle Drive with the date still to be confirmed, followed by our 'Soup and Sandwich' event on Saturday 26 November – look out for posters with details nearer the event - please come along to support us at these community events.

STRONE TODDLER GROUP

We meet in room 1 at Strone Primary School between 2 and 3.30pm on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, during term time. The cost is £1 per session per child. So if you are a parent/carer of a baby, toddler or pre-school child, please bring them along and join us for a relaxed and friendly time – all welcome.

For more information please contact Michele on 840383 or 07513371150

QUICK REFERENCE OF LOCAL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

TRADES	Architect	Mr A Kirk	840554
SERVICES	Builder/Joiner	Mr A Crowe	704261
	Cleaning Services	Ms Shona McKinven	840715 07765073111
	DJ	Mr A Cameron	706380
	Dunoon Observer	Mr Colin Cameron	703218
	Electrician	Mr S Grant	840747
	Electrical Contractor	Mr J B Stevenson	840420
	Events organiser	Mr D Dewar	840404
	Farrier	Mr J Witham	810300
	Forestry Services	Dave Petro	705564
	General Contractor	Mr D Rankine	840121
	General Contractor	Mr E Whitton	840690
	General Contractor	Mr S McSweeney	840216
	Holy Loch Marina	Mr M Downes	701800
	Industrial Relations Consultants	Kerr-Smith Associates	840100
	Insight Graphic Systems		840088
	Joinery work	Mr A Cameron	706380
	Neighbourhood Watch Ardentenny	Mr M Bartley	810324
	N/bourhood Watch Midge Lane	Mr R Cruickshank	840447
	Paint stripping	Mr C Kelly	840732
	Painter/Decorator	Mr A Pryde	840688
	Plumber/Oil Heating Engineer	Mr P Shields	840478
	Professional Services Ltd	Mr D McKenzie	840077
	Property Maintenance/Builders	Mr M Logan	840429
	Property Maintenance Chimneysweep	Mr W Bremner	840589
	Roads & Lighting		703959
	Shearwater Chandlers	Mrs J Brannan	706666
	Tourist Information Centre		703785
	Western Ferries	Hunter's Quay	704452
	Window Cleaner	Mr J (Goldie) Campbell	840398 07830389895
HOTELS	Benmore Lodges		706591
LEISURE	Benmore Café & Shop	Ms N Potts	840509
TOURISM	B&B St Munn's Manse	Mr & Mrs Burke	840311
	B&B Duncreggan House	Mr & Mrs M Rice	07973129490
	Chase the Wild Goose Lodges	Ms L Fairclough	840672
	Cot House Caravan Park		840351
	Cottage Lets	Mrs A Barnes	840206
	Coylet Inn	Mr S Copson	840426
	Gairletter Caravan Park	Mr N Stirrat	840257
	Holiday Village Hunter's Quay	Mr D Dain	707772
	Holy Loch Inn	Mr Alan Roxburgh	705864
	Inverreck Caravan Park	Mrs J Haddon	705544
	Loch Eck Caravan Park	Mr & Mrs Ineson	840086
	Loch Eck Lodges	Mr D Bertram	840775
	Pier Hotel/Bistro Kilmun	Mr I Murray	840334
	Quadmania Blairmore	Mr D Marshall	810289

	Shiela's Diner		840333
	Stratheck International		840472
	Strone Inn	Mr & Mrs Perry	840227
	Whistlefield Inn	Kate & Alan	860440
	Whistlefield Lodges		860745
A&B COUNCIL		Mr B Marshall	840346
		Mr R Simon	078792283903
		Mr A McNaughton	01700841269
CHURCHES	Minister	Rev David Mill	840313
	Session Clerk Kilmun	Mr R Balfour	840793
	Session Clerk Strone&Ardentinny	Mrs A Paterson	840685
CLUBS	Ardentinny Bowling Club	Mr J Robinson	810240
	Badminton Club Highgate Hall	Mrs V Watson	840469
	Blairmore Country Dancing	Ms J Laird	810215
	Blairmore Golf Club	Mrs L Daw	840231
	Bridge Club Kilmun	Mr A Hodson	840386
	Carpet Bowling Ardentinny	Mr G Smith	810218
	Carpet Bowling Blairmore	Mrs O Cragg	840288
	Carpet Bowling Kilmun	Mr R Balfour	840793
	Curling Club	Ms K Brown	
	Munnoday Club	Mrs B McKinven	840475
	Salsa Dancing	Sue	870040
	Scrabble Club	Mr Bob Balfour	840793
	Shore Art Club	Mrs R Balfour	840793
	Upper Cowal Bowling Club		706458
COASTGUARD	Dunoon		703603
COMMUNITY COUNCIL	Kilmun	Ms S Minns, Chair	07919286214
		Mr Robert Aldam, Secretary	840350
CRAFTS/ARTS	Artistic works	Mr & Mrs A McClintock	840517
	Artist	Mr Colm Docherty	706719
	Chain-Saw carvings	Mr A Maclachlan	703124
	Garden Furniture	Mr R Young	840663
	Gallimaufry Art Gallery	Mr & Mrs Boyce	840253
DEVELOPMNT TRUST	Benmore & Kilmun	Mrs D McDonald, Chair	706591
	“ “	Mr D Mckenzie, Secretary	840025
DIAL-A-BUS		Argyll & Bute Council	01546602869
DOCTOR	Riverbank Surgery	Dr Hamilton	840279
		District Nurse	705232

FARMS	Benmore Gardens	Mr P Baxter	706261
FISHERIES	“ “	Mrs Sybil Gray, Secretary	“
	Forestry Services	Mr D Guy	706230
FIRE STATION	Dunoon		704670
GUILDS	Kilmun Church	Mrs E McIlveen	
	Strone & Ardentinny	Mrs M Hacking	810242
HALLS	Ardentinny Hall	Ms Eileen Connell	810385
	Blairmore Hall	Counllr Bruce Marshall	840346
	Highgate Hall Strone	Mr Fraser Smith	840397
	Uig Hall Rashfield	Mr M McDonald	706591
	Younger Hall Kilmun	Mrs W Gillon	840570
HERITAGE TRUST	Blairmore Pier	Ian Gardiner Pam Horton	
HOMES	Inverreck Eventide Home	Unit Manager	706231
HOSPITALS	Cowal Community Hospital		704341
	Inverclyde Royal		01475633777
LIBRARIES	Dunoon		708682
	Mobile Library	Agnes Robinson	07990773139
	A&B Headquarters		703214
LIVESTOCK	Blairmore Farm	Mr J MacArthur	810289
	Earthmoving Equipment	Mr Ross MacArthur	840289
	Forest management		703749
	Forestry Services	Messrs Ross Petro	705564
	Gardening	Mrs D McCheyne	840614
	Glen Finart Deer Park	Mr N Kennedy	810331
	Land & Tree Management		705564
	Venison Game Dealer/Stalking	Mr W Churchill	705319
MISCELLANEOUS	Benmore Centre		706337
	Friends of Graham's Point	Janette Valentine	
	Scottish Natural Heritage	Mr J Downie	705377
NHS24			08454242424
NURSERIES	Benmore Home Farm	Mr N McVicar	706264
POLICE	Dunoon		763000
RETAILERS	Cot House Services	Mr A Murray	840710

The Younger Hall is available to any organization wishing to use its modernized facilities for meetings, functions, parties, wedding receptions, etc. Bookings can be made by phoning Mrs Wilna Gillon at 01369 840570. Village halls are expensive to run and it is important that the community either use them or lose them! The hall committee is proposing to hold an auction of goods and promises before the end of the year, in aid of hall funds – if anyone would like to provide anything towards this auction – please phone Bob Balfour at 01369 840793.

Also, please think of joining our 50/50 Club at only £12 per annum. You may not win the same as the National Lottery, but the odds are better!

ARDENTINNY VILLAGE HALL

Another busy few weeks for the hall and now that the Annual Flower Show is over we are beginning to prepare for the new season of clubs and activities. We have planned ahead as far as June. Every Friday we have Community Open Time between 11.00am and 1.30pm. Homemade Soup and Sandwich, Tea and Coffee, Home Baking, Bric-a Brac and Second Hand Books are all available. This has proved increasingly popular with not only the people of Ardentenny but people all along the Shore, Dunoon and outlying areas as well as holiday makers. We would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who has supported us with this over the past few months and we look forward to seeing you as often as you can manage. The money raised has helped us, not only with the general running of Ardentenny Village Hall but also with the constant repairs needed to keep the hall in good condition. One of the fundraising ideas we have had is an Ardentenny calendar. This has turned out to be very popular. To obtain the photographs we had a competition in the village when we asked residents to enter their photographs. The result is a beautiful calendar. If you want a copy please let us know. So what is happening in the hall?

Friday 30th September - We are having a Quiz Night. You can either bring your own team or just come along and join in with another team. Bring your own drink and refreshments so it is an inexpensive fun night.

Friday 28th October - Halloween Fancy Dress Night. You can make your outfit scary and spooky or fun and hilarious. It is entirely up to you. This is another Bring Your Own Bottle night so if you are up for fun then Ardentenny is the place.

November - We have decided to have our Christmas Bazaar early in the month but the date is still to be confirmed.

As from the 1st October the new sessions of clubs begin:

Monday	Bridge	7.00pm to 9.00pm
Tuesday	Badminton	10.00am to 12.00noon
Tuesday	Art Club	2.00pm to 4.00pm
Wednesday	Hobbies	7.00pm to 9.00pm
Thursday	Carpet Bowls	2.15pm to 4.15pm
Friday	Soup & Sandwich	11.00am to 1.30pm

If you want any other information about Ardentenny Village Hall please contact us.

Eileen Connell - 01369 810385

Sandra Davidson - 01369 810230

UIG HALL

Carpet Bowls every Thursday 8.00pm. Very relaxed, no skill required! Starting again 13th October - please phone 706591 for more information.

Saturday 15th October As part of Cowalfest we are delighted to host the annual Cowalfest Ceilidh Dance with Canned Haggis. Starting 8.00pm £7.00 Children under 12 £2.00. Licensed.

Hogmanay Party 10.00 pm 31st December. Buffet - Bring a dish. Licensed. Dance to Canned Haggis. A piper to bring in the New Year amongst friends. £8.00 Children under 12 £3.00 Booking essential.

The rest of our autumn programme will be arranged once we have had a meeting (Tuesday 13th September) probably resulting in the usual eclectic mix of themed evenings, a quiz or two and talks. Watch this space in the next edition of Lochs 'n Glens.

We are really pleased that the hall is being kept busy with parties, coffee mornings, meetings and other events. If you would like to use the hall for an event, but aren't too sure if it will be successful please do give us a call – we are happy to let the hall be used, and the rent can be discussed. Contact Dinah on dinah.mcdonald@btinternet.com or 706591.

We also have a web site - so please do check there for information. www.uighall.org

COWAL OPEN STUDIOS - 23 to 26 SEPTEMBER

Now that it is getting late in September, it is time for the Annual 'Cowal Open Studios' event. Cowal has a significant number of artists and crafts-people with studios within its boundaries. For the past three years they have got together to organise opening these studios to the public for four days from Friday 23 - Monday 26 September. The Benmore, Kilmun, Blairmore and Ardentenny area has a fairly high concentration of studios and this makes it easy for any interested local people to visit without having to travel too far. You don't need to feel that you have to buy work. Artists are only too happy to show you their work and to show you how it is made. So please come and visit us. Studios can also be visited at any time of year but out with the open weekend this needs to be arranged by telephone or email. Brochures are available around the area or visit our website at www.cowalopenstudios.co.uk

COWALFEST2011 - OCTOBER 7 - 16

Scotland's Largest Walking & Arts Festival is again upon us and there is plenty in it connected and of interest to us along The Shore:

Walk with an overview of Cowal's Christian Heritage from and to Kilmun Church with Brian Dineley; along the new path from Gairletter to Blairmore; Kilmun Heritage Walk with our own Andy McClintock; Ardentenny Discovery Trail and Ardentenny Walled Garden; Glen Finart Oak and Ardentenny to the Laird's Grave; Kilmun Church tour; and last but by no means least, Bike Ride – Steep in Strone & Kamikaze in Kilmun!!

There is something for every one of all ages, interests and abilities. So check out the website at www.cowalfest.org or pick up your free brochure at Dunoon Visitor Information Centre or from several other local outlets.

MORRISONS VOUCHERS

Strone Primary School is collecting Morrisons 'Lets Grow' vouchers and would like your help to collect as many vouchers as possible. The Morrisons voucher scheme "aims to help schools capture the imagination of the nation's children by showing them where food comes from and inspiring them to grow their own fruit and veg in the school grounds"

If you already shop at Morrisons and are willing / able to collect and donate your vouchers to the school we would be most grateful. Vouchers can be deposited at:-

- 1) The school
- 2) Strone Post Office (there is a collection box)
- 3) The Parent Council can collect them from you if you let us know (*stroneschool@btinternet.com*)

We'll keep you posted on the outcome of this year's scheme.

Many thanks

Strone Parent Council

FRIENDS OF INVERECK

We are a small group of ladies representing the various churches in the Cowal area who aim to bring a little extra to the lives of the residents of Invereck House. Once a fortnight two or three members, working on a rota system, serve tea to the residents on a Thursday afternoon and spend time chatting to the ladies (there are no male residents at present!) Sometimes we arrange for an entertainer to be present, we have several Dunoon people we can call upon who can play a musical instrument and sing some well-known songs for the residents' enjoyment. Each member of the group has two or three residents as a 'special friend' when we aim to visit them on their birthdays and arrange for flowers to be delivered as a birthday present. Some residents have relatives living a distance away from Invereck while others sadly have nobody, so a visit and birthday present means much to the recipient. We are happy to buy items of furniture, tableware etc as needed by the house for which we fund raise at our annual Christmas fair. There is also the ever-popular Strawberry Tea in June and the Christmas party when Santa makes an appearance. If anyone feels they would like to join us, then please contact the Chairperson: Marion Fyfe on 01369 705818 – thank you

NEWS FROM INVERECK

Our residents have had a happy summer around and about with outings to Braehead, Cardwell Garden Centre and Benmore Garden. They are also enjoying their own lovely new garden when weather has allowed. Our Administrative assistant for many years, Mat Currie, has retired and Kirsten McCall has taken up the post. **The Christmas Fair** this year will be on Saturday 29th October in the High Kirk Hall, Hanover Street at 2pm. We are looking for donations of bric a brac, baking etc. If you wish any more information, please contact Bernie or Sandra on 01369 706231.

RIVERBANK SURGERY

A big thank you to everyone who has supported and continues to support our fundraising. Our new fridge has been installed and is ready for the coming vaccination period. Speaking of which, we would like to invite you to book with reception for your seasonal flu vaccination and or pneumococcal vaccination if you fall into one of the following categories:

1. Over 65 years old
2. Clinically at risk groups which include patients with chronic respiratory disease and asthma, chronic heart disease, chronic liver disease, chronic neurological disease, diabetes and immunosuppression.
3. Patients in long stay residential care homes or other long stay facilities.
4. Unpaid carers
5. Healthcare workers employed by the NHS
6. Pregnant women

Booking can be made from the first week in October. Please ring reception for an appointment from 20 September 2011.

In addition to her usual clinics for weight reduction and blood pressure control, Fiona now conducts an extra clinic on a Monday afternoon for patients who wish to stop smoking.

Please contact the surgery for further details on 01369 840279

BENMORE & KILMUN CURLING CLUB SEASON 2011/2012

The new season is nearly upon us and we are facing a very different curling season from the one we are used to. Drimsynie ice rink is no longer open which unfortunately means the end of our long association with the rink and participation in the Tuesday night curling league. We thank the Campbell's for their long commitment to curling in this area and wish them well for their future endeavours. Due to the closure, we have been trying desperately to find a replacement league to enter that is still convenient for travel and have recently been fortunate enough to be invited to enter into a brand new small clubs league at Braehead ice rink, organised by David Horne, Curling Development officer. The league games will be once a month on a Friday so the club will be drawing on all its members to play throughout the season and everyone should get a game at least every second month. We will be playing against teams from around Glasgow as well as our long-standing local adversaries Upper Cowal. We are all looking forward to the new challenge ahead and no doubt the odd visit to the Vic in Gourock on the way home for a wee dram! The first game will be on October 7th. In addition to the Braehead league, the club will play the club pairs competition for the 'Wee Bobby' quaich, the McIntyre cup against Upper Cowal and hopefully participate in more Argyllshire Province games this year. Look out for more news in the next edition of Lochs n Glens. Good Luck Benmore & Kilmun Curling club for the 2011/12 season.
Kirsty Brown, Secretary, Benmore & Kilmun Curling Club

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Bio-Energy Healing works in a profound way, facilitating healing and personal growth by bringing body/mind/spirit back into balance. Healing isn't just about the removal of 'this' physical symptom or 'that' emotional problem - it is really the whole person who heals rather than any one condition. Treatments here are tailor-made (to include the observation of some of your medical history) and your present lifestyle. You can focus on general or specific behaviour of your body or mind that you would like treated.

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Dr Victoria Stewart Lyons, founder of The Crescent Moon Therapy Room and GoA Organic Skincare, has over thirty years experience as a professional alternative healthcare specialist and has developed her own Bio-Energy technique using thoroughness and dedication, supported by many testimonials. She has now moved her Practice to Strone, after running a popular Organic Apothecary and Healing Clinic, in Dorset and Devon, and looks forward to meeting new clients and friends in the area. Victoria has given numerous lectures at venues such as Glastonbury Town Hall, on topics such as Personal Development and has been interviewed by Ross Hemsworth (TV programme 'Now That's Weird') and Glastonbury Radio, as well as appearing on TV in the West Country. She has studied worldwide, has been professionally taught Auyrveda, and gathered fragrant oils for her skincare range from India, Sri Lanka and Bali. This summer she was invited to Carrick Castle Fete where she gave popular Intuitive Readings for the afternoon and was very well received. Available for 'Taster' sessions for only £10 - if you book this month. For more on treatments and prices please contact:

Victoria Stewart Lyons Ph.D. MA. The Crescent Moon Therapy Room, Shore Road, Strone,
PA23 8TB

Tel - 07891 783502 or log on to www.goahealingclinic.org

PATHS & ACCESS GROUP

We have a suggested programme of led walks and work parties throughout the year - please join us.

We are planning two training sessions for those interested in maintaining paths in the area, or just interested in acquiring new skills - A two-day course in dry stone walling, and a day's introduction to eradicating invasive species. Our walks programme is mostly held on the second Sunday of the month.

In October Ben Mitchell is leading 4 of the Cowalfest Walks including – Gairletter to Blairmore on **7th October**, Riverside Loops from Benmore on **9th October**, and Caladh Estate Fungal Foray on **10th October** - all in the Cowalfest programme.

Sunday 13th November - The route from Fintry in Kilmun along forest trails to Westfield in Strone. Leaving cars at Strone and catching the 2pm bus to Kilmun to arrive in Kilmun 2.10pm

Sunday 11th December - Kilmun heritage walk with Andy McClintock

Other walks to include Glen Finart, The quiet side of Loch Eck, Cruach Mhor, Ardtaraig to Inverchaolain, Squirrels and bats and Up Strone Hill.

Find out more on our website www.walk-the-eck.co.uk. or contact Ben Mitchell 07926281023, or if you wish to be involved come along to our next meeting, Uig Hall Tuesday 20th September at 6.00pm

WHALES, DOLPHINS & PORPOISE. What's out there in the Firth of Clyde & our Sea Lochs?

In October 2006 a humpback whale was recorded in Loch Long. In 2009 two pilot whales were up at Arrochar for six weeks and had a 'whale' of a time. Risso, common and bottlenose dolphins have also been spotted. In the summer months Minke whales and basking sharks venture up into our waters from the open sea.

There are twenty eight different species of whales, dolphins and porpoise recorded in British coastal waters but we know surprisingly little about which of these are visiting or dwelling within the Firth of Clyde and our Sea Lochs or in what numbers.

Why is our knowledge limited?

Most of what we know about whales, dolphins and porpoise comes from the fact that we hunted them for hundreds and thousands of years as a means of extracting oil, baleen (used in corsets) and meat. Some were caught to use as specimens to satisfy our growing curiosity, or accidentally when we were fishing for something else. Latterly we have developed the technology to catch and keep animals in captivity, but this doesn't really help us understand how they behave in the wild.

Coming Up For Air is a project where Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park supports local people interested in recording whales, dolphins and porpoise.

In this year we have one Minke whale sighting and harbour porpoise have been counted 224 times, thanks to the efforts of people like Elizabeth Bruce, Roger Parramore, Kathy Harper and National Park staff and volunteers. This information is crucial if we are to increase understanding. Thanks to this ongoing work, we now know that we have a resident population of harbour porpoise. In turn the more information we gather and share the better we become at protecting our environment and the animals we share it with.

If you are interested in this project and live on or within a close travelling distance to the Firth of Clyde and our Sea Lochs, then please contact Rowan Fraser on 01389 722106, rowan.fraser@lochlomond-trossachs.org

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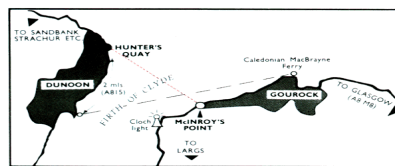
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Community Involvement

Western Ferries takes its place in the community very seriously and re-invests its financial resources by employing a local work force and through local purchasing. Funds are made available for the sponsorship of local groups, individuals and sports organizations and charities. Western Ferries sponsor local sporting events including the Cowal Highland Gathering and the annual Western Ferries Pro-Am golf tournament.

The company provides a 24-hour call-out service for the Scottish Ambulance Service for ambulances carrying emergency cases to Greenock, Paisley and Glasgow



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BENMORE & KILMUN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

A donation to the Maggie's Centres provided some excellent baking as an incentive to come to the Trust's AGM on 3rd September. The incentive must have worked as we are delighted to welcome two new Directors onto the Trust; Evelyn Boyd and Fraser Smith, with a third Director still to confirm. We are sad that Ron Cruickshank feels he must resign from the board, but he has promised to come along to the meetings whenever he can. Many thanks Ron for all your hard work and we hope to have you back as a director before long. Projects at the moment include reviewing the community action plan which was drawn up 4 years ago now with input from everyone in the area. This is the document which directs the work of the Trust. We need to review it in consultation with all the organisations in the area and members of the community over the coming year. We continue to have an active paths and access group and to be insuring Graham's Point. We are grateful to Bruce Marshall who continues to look after the tubs of flowers along the shore and to Janette Sloss in Clachaig and Dinah at Benmore for keeping an eye on their tubs. We still hold a library of meters for measuring your electricity usage and the cost – please do contact us if you would like to borrow one. We also have a web site where you can find more about the work of the Trust, www.benmorekilmun.org. If you would like to be involved or to know more about the work of the Trust please contact David McKenzie our secretary on 01369 840025.

Curator Mr. Peter Baxter

Benmore Botanic Garden
Open Daily 1st March to 31st October from 10am

Saturday 1st October 2pm
James Duncan of Benmore: An Enlightened Victorian Talk and Tour
With Dr. Andrew Watson

Admission by ticket only, booking required, £7, £5 Members,
(price includes garden admission)

Talk at Benmore Courtyard Gallery 2-3pm

Walk from the Gallery 3.30-4pm

Tour places limited to 20

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To Book call 0131 248 2819 or contact pps@rbge.org.uk

For more information call 01369 706 261 or visit www.rbge.org.uk/benmore

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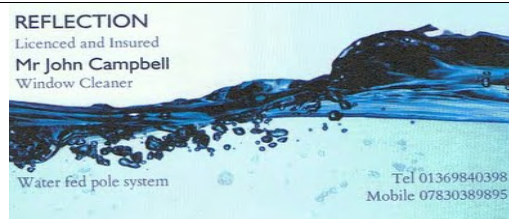
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SANTA'S VISIT

Remember and watch out for the bookings opening to visit Santa and Mrs Claus when they come to stay at Blairmore in December. Bookings open in mid October and the number to call will be advertised in the local paper – please book early for this fantastic experience and you will not be disappointed! Mr & Mrs Claus are expected to arrive at Blairmore on Thursday 8th December – how will they arrive this year? Come along and find out, as well as being entertained by the children from the school with their singing!

DID YOU KNOW?

The granite obelisk memorial at Graham's Point, Kilmun, is dedicated to James Duncan, former Laird of Benmore, born April 1834 in rural Springburn north east of Glasgow. On leaving school he moved west to Greenock and became involved in the sugar refining trade in which he made his fortune after moving to London. In 1870, he bought the 12,500 acre estate of Benmore from the Scots-American tycoon James Piers Patrick. Over the next 15 years he spent £100,000 in buildings, glasshouses, which by 1883 were reported to be the largest in Scotland, land improvements for agriculture and the planting of 6.5 million trees. It was he who built the fernery, the first of its type in Argyllshire, and which has been very recently restored. He entertained many of his London friends at Benmore, and one of the most celebrated guests was the Congregationalist preacher, Charles Hadden Spurgeon. In July 1877, he preached to a crowd of 7,000 in Dunoon, then on the evening of the same day, to 2,000 at Benmore – changed days!

Duncan also built a huge picture gallery at the side of Benmore House, assembled an impressive collection of art, and gained the reputation as one of Europe's most discerning connoisseurs. From 1883 onwards, his finances were declining and by 1889 much of his vast collection had been sold off. In October of that year, what was left of the Benmore estate was sold to Mr H.J. Younger of Edinburgh.

James Duncan died in 1905 at Spean Bridge, his remains removed by steamer on 16 August and interred in Kilmun cemetery the following day under a plain red granite gravestone.

Want to know more?

Then visit the exhibition 'James Duncan of Benmore – an Enlightened Victorian' that will run in The Gallery, Benmore Gardens through the month of October. There will be a lecture on 1st October at 2pm by Dr Andrew Watson who has written a book on which the exhibition is based.

BENMORE BOTANIC GARDEN 2011

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday, until the 30th October - 2pm

Benmore Guided Tours and The Benmore Explorer

Make sure you see the best of Benmore by joining a guided tour with one of our experts. The Benmore Explorer runs on a Wednesday and Thursday, to book the explorer call 01369 706 261 or enquire at the admissions desk. Priority is given to the less able.
Garden Admission Applies

Friday 23rd September – Monday 26th September - 10.30am – 5.30pm

Cowal Open Studio - Courtyard Gallery

An exhibition in association with Cowal Open Studios including Painting, Photography and Fine Metal Work with Sarah MacDonald, Norman Laird and James O'Neill. James shall be working in the Courtyard Gallery during the exhibition.
Garden Admission Applies

Saturday 1st October - 2pm

James Duncan of Benmore: An Enlightened Victorian Talk and Tour - Courtyard Gallery
See main advert

Saturday 1st October – Monday 31st October - 10.30am – 4.30pm

James Duncan of Benmore – An Enlightened Victorian - Courtyard Gallery
An exhibition exploring the life and legacy of James Duncan, Laird of Benmore 1870-1889
Garden Admission Applies

Thursday 20th October - 2pm

Oman Botanic Garden - Courtyard Gallery

Talk about the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh's involvement and the development of Oman Botanic Garden by Leigh Morris, Head of Education RBGE, followed by afternoon tea. £3, £2 for members. Call 0131 552 5339 to book. Garden Admission Applies

Saturday 19th November - 2pm

Gardens of the World - Courtyard Gallery

Join us for an illustrated talk about gardens of the world by Graeme Mitchell, followed by afternoon tea. £3, £2 for members

Saturday 3rd December - 7pm

Christmas in the Gallery – Courtyard Gallery

Enjoy a festive evening in the Courtyard Gallery of seasonal entertainment and a buffet supper. £12, £10 members. Call Mrs Elisabeth Aldam 01369 840 350 to book

Become a Member and help the Garden grow. Membership benefits include free entrance to Benmore, Dawyck, Logan & Edinburgh Glasshouse. Adult £29, Concession £23, Couple/Family £41 Concessions £33

For further information please call 01369 706261, Email benmore@rbge.org.uk,
www.rbge.org.uk/benmore, www.facebook.com/benmorebotanicgarden