

# Loch'n'Glen News



Issue No. 11  
Spring 2012

Spring is in the air at last and we can all hopefully enjoy the longer, lighter evenings. Spring and summer calendars of events are also being compiled and there seem to be many interesting events to look forward to. As usual we are very grateful to our advertisers and sponsors who help financially to publish the newsletter, but are always glad to receive donations from anyone who has enjoyed the publication, as printing costs continue to rise. If you would like to contribute financially, please send a cheque or contact us for further details. 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 11 June, 11 September, 11 December & 11 March 2013, with a view to the newsletters being available at beginning of July & October 2012, and January & April 2013. 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 articles 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](http://www.blairmoregallery.co.uk) or <http://www.benmorekilmun.org/index.asp?pageid=244928> and follow links.

Acknowledgement: Frontispiece – spring by Iona Ingle from Strone Primary School

## A FEW WORDS FROM THE MINISTER

The image of a stone being thrown in a pond and then the ripples moving outwards in ever-widening circles is one that is familiar to all of us. And it's an image which has come to my mind quite frequently over the past few days – in relation, of all things, to church membership.

I attended a Presbytery conference recently where the question of church membership came up in discussion, and one of the representatives from The Shore Churches made an important point which resonated with many of those present – and it's something of which I have become increasingly aware since coming here two years ago, after over thirty years ministering in an urban parish in Greenock. There is, as I've commented before, a far greater sense of community in the string of villages along the shore than there tends to be in a town or city, with neighbours looking out for neighbours, and folk lending a helping hand in a whole variety of ways.

And I believe the Church is viewed differently in a rural and village setting – very much as part of the community, whether one is formally a member of one of the congregations or has a looser association, such as through weddings and baptisms and funerals, and perhaps the high points of the Christian year (particularly Christmas and Easter) and the communal acts of Remembrance each November. Perhaps you're one of those who seldom enter a church but enjoy 'Songs of Praise' on TV each Sunday (in which case, look for the details of this year's series of monthly 'The Shore Sings Praise' services running from April to August which you'll find in this issue).

Maybe it should be like the ripples on the pond: the committed core of faithful members who attend worship most Sundays and are very much involved in the life of the congregations; and others, in varying degrees right out to the widest circle at the edge of the pond – all rightly viewing the local church as *their* church, especially in times of need.

And it's not all about the church serving the wider community. Often the church is on the receiving end of the goodwill and practical support of those whose names don't appear on the congregational roll, whether it's donating Christmas trees or offering skills of one sort or another. Sometimes it's in partnership with church folk, for example by helping in 'The Glory Hole' or by involvement in the project to open the Argyll Mausoleum to the public.

I hope that, wherever you reckon you find yourself on the surface of the pond, you are able to look upon the church along the shore as *your* church. Ours is an open-doors policy. Worship is public worship. Holy Communion is open to all who are baptized, regardless of formal church membership. I am always available to anyone in the combined parish if I can be of help. And we value your association with us, however tenuous, just as we are grateful for the support you give us. You will always be welcome at our services (normally 10.30am at Strone, 12 noon at Kilmun, and 2.30pm at Ardentinny) and at all of our church events. Also, details of Holy Week and Easter services are to be found elsewhere in this issue and are open to all.

May God bless you all, whichever ripple you are!

*David Mill, Minister, the Shore Churches (Kilmun linked with Strone and Ardentinny)*

## **ARDENTINNY CARPET BOWLING CLUB**

Ardentinny travelled to Blairmore on Thursday 16 February for the second round of the 'Shore Trophy' Blairmore fought hard to make up for the narrow defeat in November, while Ardentinny held on to a small number of points and also shots to secure a win. Ardentinny end their season on 29 March, with the finals ties. If you wish to play bowls in or out of doors, telephone Gordon on 01369 810218.

## **BLAIRMORE CARPET BOWLING CLUB**

Although recently ill health has temporarily reduced our numbers, our enthusiastic members have maintained attendances and there is no reduction in the friendly fun of our Wednesday meetings.

On aggregate, we lost our matches against Ardentinny Carpet Bowling Club, so the Trophy has moved round the shore, hopefully for one year only – time will tell!  
March will be a busy month for us. We have fixtures for the two friendly matches with Kyles of Bute Carpet Bowling Club and we are concentrating on playing off the remaining ties in our own club competitions.

Finals day is in Blairmore Hall on Saturday 31 March and we will complete the season with our annual dinner and presentation of prizes in the Pier Hotel on Friday 13 April – 7 for 7.30...

There are a few vacancies in our club and we would welcome any prospective members  
Olive Cragg [secy] 01369 840288

## **KILMUN CARPET BOWLING CLUB**

The winter session concludes on Thursday 29 March. This has been another successful and enjoyable session and we look forward to re-starting on Thursday 4 October for 2012-2013. The annual dinner and prize giving will take place in April and we will keep members informed in due course.  
Bob Balfour

## **CARPET BOWLS AT UIG**

Every Thursday at 8.00pm, finishing up for the season, at Easter, £1.00 donation to hall funds per evening – plus refreshments. Absolutely no previous experience needed, just patience, skill and a sense of humour.

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“appetite isn't what it used to be”.**

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

## **REPORT FROM STRONE & ARDENTINNY CHURCHES**

What a contrast this year during the Christmas Season when we had to contend with wind and rain instead of the icy conditions of 2011. Both the Watchnight Service at Strone and Christmas Morning combined service for all three churches at Ardentenny were well attended. During the month of December, to celebrate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary, all the readings used in our services came from the King James' Bible. The SSS (children's group from all three churches) performed their Nativity Play in both Strone and Kilmun, written and produced by Mrs Evelyn Mill. All parents, helpers and children are to be congratulated on the success of this performance.

We are now using the CH4 hymnbook and are adding some new hymns to our repertoire, some more successfully than others! We are delighted to have welcomed several new members to the congregation.

Like many buildings in the area we suffered damage to both churches during the New Year storm, but both buildings are watertight once more. Ann Paterson – Session Clerk

### **CHURCH DATES FOR YOUR DIARY** **Easter Services**

Thursday 5 April 2012 – Maundy Thursday – United Service of Holy Communion in Strone Church at 7pm

Friday 6 April 2012 – Good Friday – United Vigil in Kilmun Church from 12noon to 3pm (come and go as you please)

Sunday 8 April 2012 – Easter Sunday – United Service in Ardentenny Church at 10.15am and Kilmun Church at 12noon (with provision for children)

### **Shore Sings Praise**

Wednesday 11 April 2012 – Shore sings praise in Kilmun Church at 7.30pm

Wednesday 9 May 2012 – Shore sings praise in Strone Church at 7.30pm

Wednesday 13 June 2012 – Shore sings praise in Ardentenny Church at 7.30pm

### **COFFEE MORNING**

Strone & Ardentenny Churches will be holding a Coffee Morning and hoping for sunny weather, on Saturday 12 May in Blairmore Hall. A warm invitation is extended to everyone.

### **TOURS'N'TEAS**

At the end of 2011 the total number of visitors to Kilmun Church was 2904 – an excellent year. There were 2631 visitors by coach and 273 individual visitors. An exceptional outreach conducted by our guides. However we need more help this year from anyone wishing to take on the role of a guide or to assist in the provision of tea for the visiting public. If you would like to help please contact either Maureen Donald or Bob Balfour.

## **KILMUN ST MUNS CHURCH GUILD**

Kilmun Guild meets every second Tuesday in the Church hall. We have a good strong membership and we warmly welcome members old & new, or visitors, to share in a friendly, happy afternoon with interesting speakers and a cup of tea. Elsie McIlveen 840381

## **STRONE & ARDENTINNY GUILD**

The Guild meets in Strone Church Hall on the last Monday of the month at 2.15. 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 the fellowship and a delicious tea.

## **ARDENTINNY SWRI**

At our January meeting we had a fun night and our food was supplied by all of the members. We played games and had a quiz where we had to guess what was right and what was wrong. We finished the evening full and happy.

Our February meeting got us all involved in painting patterns on white tiles and our local potter Bill Williamson showed us various tips on how to use various mediums. Once the tiles were all completed Bill took them away to get fired and we look forward to the finished results.

Competition-Jack Frost Photograph - 1st Marian Norris, 2nd Margaret Hart & 3rd Mary Menzies  
Mary Menzies (sec)

## **STRONE WRI**

We meet on Wednesday evenings at 7.15pm in Strone Church Hall. All are welcome.

## **MUNNONDAY CLUB**

Munnonday Club resumed on 17th January 2012 after the Christmas break. Due to illness etc. our numbers have not been as high as before. We hope that next year we can encourage more people to attend. We are a group who meet in Kilmun Hall on alternate Mondays through the winter to enjoy a soup and sandwich lunch, a friendly chat and 12 hands of whist followed by tea and biscuits. We arrive at 12.30pm and are usually finished by 3pm. We have an excellent Christmas lunch and a high tea at the end of the season. We also run two Rainbow Whists through the winter. We have a Rainbow Whist on 30th March this year and will have another in the autumn. At the Munnonday Club we are happy to welcome people who just want to drop in for soup and sandwiches and a chat. If you do not play whist but would prefer Dominoes or a Board game we could arrange this if we had enough people interested. If anyone has ideas for other activities which could be run alongside the whist then we would be happy to hear them. Please contact Rose Balfour 840793 or Betty McKinven 840475.

## **SCRABBLE CLUB**

Scrabble will continue throughout the summer on alternate Mondays at 2.15pm from Monday 19 March and fortnightly thereafter in the Younger Hall, Kilmun. For further information contact Bob Balfour 840793

## **THURSDAY CRAFTY AFTERNOON IN KILMUN HALL**

All are welcome at Kilmun Hall 2.00 – 4.00pm to learn and share new hobbies, chat and enjoy a cup of tea. M.R. Balfour 840793

## **SHORE ART CLUB**

The Shore Art Club continues to flourish in Blairmore Hall on Wednesday mornings 10am till 12noon, where one Wednesday a month we welcome help from local artists. At this time of year we are all busy preparing pictures for our exhibition which takes place in the Younger Hall, Kilmun on Thursday to Sunday 20 – 23 June, 10am – 4pm, except Sunday when it is open 1-4pm. Come along and browse, buy or just enjoy our years work. Tea/coffee and home baking will be available provided by the Hall committee in aid of hall funds.

M.R. Balfour 840793

## **BLAIRMORE COUNTRY DANCE CLUB**

We meet 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays each month at 7.30pm.

Jean Laird

## **THE GLORY HOLE**

From Monday 2 April 2012, the hours of opening of the Church charity shop – The Glory Hole – will be:

**Monday – Saturday 10am – 4pm**

We're quite well stocked at the moment so we look forward to receiving as many visitors as possible so that we can empty our shelves and re-stock them.

Jenny Cornish

## **RNLI**

Kilmun and District Branch RNLI AGM is in Blairmore Hall on Thursday 19 April with tea/coffee from 10.45am with the AGM following at 11am. Looking forward to a good turnout.

Hilary Barr Hon President

## **FRIENDS OF BLAIRMORE PIER TRUST**

The AGM was held on 3 March and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees gave the following report:

'Firstly I have to announce the resignation of Agnes Harvey from the Board. As many will know, Agnes is the owner of the Pier and the initiator of the Trust and the entire restoration project. It is a most admirable task that she took on and drove forward with courage and vision. Agnes, on behalf of the Board and the Friends I would like to thank you sincerely for your contribution and wish you success in the new ventures with which you are involved.

2011 saw another successful season with regular visits from Lochs and Glens and associated berthings from the Clyde Cruiser and Clyde Clipper. Our most celebrate visitor PS Waverly completed her usual timetable over the season with 199 passengers embarking at Blairmore. Thanks to a generous charitable donation the Waverley will again call at Blairmore in 2012, with the first visit in the third week in June.

Two fundraising events were held in 2011. The Pier Day took place in June in less than ideal weather, which led to a much-reduced turnout and reduced revenue. In November, Pam Horton organised talks by Iain Quinn on the piers of Cowal and the three lochs tour. Iain's vast knowledge of his subject and boundless enthusiasm provided informative entertainment and a profitable outcome. It is the opinion of the Board that the Pier Day has run its course for the time being. We hope to replace it this year with a ceilidh to be held in May – further details available soon! Items continue to be on sale at Lochs and Glens visits and in the bothy on Waverley days.

Action has begun on the condition survey compiled last year, which generally gave the Pier a good bill of health. Two essential items have been completed. The H&S report demanded that damage to the ladder on the North hammerhead be rectified. This has been done. The most essential work was to secure the threshold of the Pier where the deck joins the block paving. The lack of a drainage channel has allowed water ingress causing rot in the deck supports. To secure the structure a heavy steel angle bracket has been installed under the supports and coach bolted onto the concrete plinth. John Tyre & Sons, Dunoon, carried out the work. The installation of a drainage channel is under review.

The regular spring clean will take place again this year with general pressure washing and painting. Some minor deck repairs are also necessary. The work party is small and if anyone could spare some time to weald a paint roller, the assistance would be appreciated. If you can help please leave your contact details with a member of the Board.

Can I thank the volunteers who assist with teas for Lochs & Glens, the rope catchers and Peter Staley the bothy man?

Ian Gardiner

## **STRONE PRIMARY SCHOOL SPRING UPDATE**

### **Trout Project**

Dr Burrows is coming in to Strone Primary once a week to help the children with this year's fish project. Last year we hatched and released pout and this year it's trout. The pupils in P4/5/6/7 are learning about natural habitats in Argyll's sea lochs and taking care of the tiny fish which have hatched and will soon be ready to be released back into the wild.

### **Chinese New Year**

All the boys and girls in the school entered the Draw a Chinese Dragon Competition organised by Mrs M Norris in order to raise funds for CLIC sergeant. Ben Stone, Adam Smith, Millie McMaster, Romily McGeachy, Taylor Forbes, Kameron Smith and Lucy Wilson all won prizes for their pictures.

### **Mary's Meals**

For every meal purchased at school during the week of 26 – 30 March, Argyll and Bute Catering Services will contribute the cost of feeding two children at their school to Mary's Meals. Mary's Meals is a global charity which provides one daily meal in a place of education in order to attract chronically poor children into a classroom where they can gain an education that can, in the future, be their ladder out of poverty.

### **Bridges topic**

This term's topic for P4/5/6/7 will culminate in the Institute of Civil Engineers bringing a bridge to Strone Primary on 28 March. The bridge which is 12 metres long will be built by the teams of children with some adult helpers and then all will be invited to walk across it.

### **New Head Teacher**

Interviews for the post of head Teacher at Strone Primary took place on 6 March and Mrs Helen Brown is the successful candidate. Mrs Brown is looking forward to taking up her post shortly.

### **Burns Supper**

Back in January P6/7 in association with Strone Parent Council ran a very entertaining Burns Supper in Younger Hall, Kilmun. The children recited poems, sang songs, made speeches and danced and the Parent Council cooked the food. They prepared for this event by studying some of Burns' poetry, writing Tam O Shanter story in prose and linking with a live broadcast by Liz Lochhead our national Makar.

### **Lochgoilhead trip**

P6/7 have organised a residential trip to Lochgoilhead Outdoor Centre 19 – 21 March. The pupils have done all the work themselves: they researched places suitable for a trip, telephoned to make the booking and to invite a representative along to the school to talk about activities available at the centre. The children fundraised to pay for transport to and from Lochgoilhead Centre by making and selling Christmas cards. All 17 pupils are participating in this exciting trip.

### **School Grounds Group**

A group of interested parents got together on Tuesday 28 March to discuss plans for our school garden. *The group is interested to hear from anyone who may have garden equipment, expertise or materials which could help to make the garden an attractive and stimulating environment. If you think you may be able to help the school in any way then you could phone the school 840242.*

## **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

## **FIDDLE GROUP**

I belong to a wee fiddle group with my friends Amy, Holly, Iona, our tutor Gordon and two accompanists Brian on guitar and Ian on the flute. We have played in lots of Cowal Fiddle Workshops concerts and at a couple of other things. For the last two months, on the first Fridays, we have been going to a jamming session up at Whistle Field Inn. Each time we've been there we have enjoyed not only playing music for every one else but listening to other people play their instruments for us.

Chloë Whitton

## **CHOWE VILLAGE PROJECT**

Lucy Clough who lives in Kilmun went to Malawi with her daughter Cathy to visit her son David. The village near where he lives is very remote and has about 3000 inhabitants. The clinic has got no running water and babies are born by candlelight. There is every hope that electricity will be supplied by the government before too long but the problem of no running water remains. Lucy and her daughter are planning to raise funds for this project which will involve finding a spring, sinking a tank and running a gravity feed system to pipe the water into the clinic. There will be a sale in Blairmore village hall on 1st April from 2 - 4 pm. There will be teas, produce stalls, Easter egg painting plants for sale a raffle and tombola. Visit the web site at [www.namizimu.com](http://www.namizimu.com) for more information on the area around the village.

## **SCOTTISH WILDLIFE TRUST IN COWAL**

A very interesting talk was given in the Camera Club, Dunoon, on 13 March, by Simon Jones, Project Manager for the Scottish Beaver Trial. The talk was entitled The Beavers of Knapdale, and outlined the 5 year trial on beaver reintroduction back into Scotland, about which many of you will have read in the newspapers.

SWT are organising a wildlife ramble on Sunday 3 June through Ardkinglas House policies starting at 11am. This will be followed by an afternoon of deer trekking with stalkers from Winston Churchill Venison meeting at Butterbridge at 2pm - into the hills by Landrover, then a not too arduous trek. If you are interested in either or both of these events, please contact Patricia on [chair@swt.org](mailto:chair@swt.org), tel 0141 7753850.

They are also trying to set up Watch Groups in the Cowal area [junior branch of SWT], so if you might be interested in getting involved please contact Patricia. She would be delighted to hear from you.

The next meeting will be 17 April at 7.30pm in the Camera Club - Red Squirrel Projects

## 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
	Estate Agent	Waterside Property Scott Campbell	701755
	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
	Handyman	Mr John Kloumann	860240
	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 Ardentinny	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
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TOURISM	Benmore Home Farm Holiday Let	Mr N McVicar	706264
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	B&B Duncreggan House	Mr & Mrs M Rice	07973129490
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	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
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	Quadmania Blairmore	Mr D Marshall	810289
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	Stratheck International		840472
	Strone Inn	Mr & Mrs Perry	840227
	Whistlefield Inn	Bryan Pearce	860440
	Whistlefield Lodges		
A&B COUNCIL		Mr B Marshall	840346
		Mr R Simon	078792283903
		Mr A McNaughton	01700841269
CHURCHES	Minister	Rev David Mill	840313
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	Session Clerk Strone&Ardentinny	Mrs A Paterson	840685
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	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 Ardentiny	Mr G Smith	810218
	Carpet Bowling Blairmore	Mrs O Cragg	840288
	Carpet Bowling Kilmun	Mr R Balfour	840793
	Curling Club	Ms K Brown	
	Munnonday 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
	Benmore & Kilmun	Mr D Mckenzie, Secretary	840025

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	Forestry Services	Mr D Guy	706230
FIRE STATION	Dunoon		704670
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	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 - Bookings	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	07990773169
	A&B Headquarters		708664
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
POLICE	Dunoon		763000
	Cowal Community Policing Team		763037
	Local Shore Officer	Donald MacKay	donald.mackay2@s trathclyde.pnn.polic e.uk

RETAILERS	Cot House Services	Mr A Murray	840710
	Glory Hole Blairmore	Mr & Mrs Cornish	810201
	Shop & Post Office Strone	Yasmin & Scott	840662
RNLI	Kilmun and Shore }	Mrs Janice Hampson	840099
	“ “ “ } }	Ms Hilary Barr	840330
SCHOOL	Strone Primary	Mrs Webb, secretary	840202
SWRI	Strone	Mrs R Ferguson	840464
	Ardentinny	Mrs M Menzies	810307
TOURS'N'TEAS	Kilmun Church	Mrs M Donald	703760
VET	Dunoon		702532
VILLAGE TRUST	Blairmore	Jenny Waine	840853

### YOUR DATES TO REMEMBER

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN
Munnonday Club	Kilmun Younger Hall	<b>Monday</b> 12:30pm
Strone & Ardentinnny Guild	Strone Church Hall	Last <b>Monday</b> monthly 2:15pm
Scrabble Club	Kilmun Younger Hall	<b>Monday</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct & every 2 weeks thereafter 2:15pm
Bridge	Ardentinny Village Hall	<b>Monday</b> 7:00pm
Kilmun St Muns Church Guild	Kilmun Church Hall	<b>Tuesday</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct & every 2 weeks thereafter
Badminton	Ardentinny Village Hall	<b>Tuesday</b> 10:00am
Art Club	Ardentinny Village Hall	<b>Tuesday</b> 2:00pm
Strone Toddler Group	Strone Primary School	<b>Tuesday &amp; Thursdays</b> 2:00pm
Blairmore Country Dance Club	Blairmore Village Hall	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> <b>Tuesday</b> each month 7:30pm
Ardentinny SWRI	Ardentinny Village Hall	2 <sup>nd</sup> <b>Tuesday</b> each month 7:30pm
Shore Art Club	Blairmore Village Hall	<b>Wednesday</b> 10:00am
Carpet Bowls	Blairmore Hall	<b>Wednesday</b> 2:00pm & 7:30pm
Hobbies	Ardentinny Village Hall	<b>Wednesday</b> 7:00pm
Badminton	Highgate Hall	<b>Wednesday</b> 7:30pm
Strone SWRI	Strone Church Hall	<b>Wednesday</b> 7:15pm
Thursday Crafty Afternoon	Kilmun Younger Hall	<b>Thursday</b> 2:00pm
Carpet Bowls	Ardentinny Village Hall	<b>Thursday</b> 2:15pm
Carpet Bowls	Kilmun Younger Hall	<b>Thursday</b> 7:30pm
Carpet Bowls	Uig Hall	<b>Thursday</b> 8:00pm
Bridge	Blairmore Village Hall	<b>Thursday</b> evening
Soup'n'sandwich	Ardentinny Village Hall	<b>Friday</b> 11:00am
Church Service	Kilmun Church	<b>Sunday</b> 12noon
Church Service	Strone Church	<b>Sunday</b> 10:30am
Church Service	Ardentinny Church	<b>Sunday</b> 2:30pm

## **YOUNGER MEMORIAL HALL**

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.

## **ARDENTINNY VILLAGE HALL**

It has been a busy few weeks for the hall with the clubs managing to take place each week without having to be cancelled due to bad weather. The only club which didn't actually start over the winter was the badminton. Although there are a few people in the village keen to take part, there was just not enough to make it worth their while, However if there is anyone out there who would like to play and enable this popular pursuit to continue in the hall please get in touch.

The other clubs of Bridge, Art, Hobbies and Carpet Bowls have continued. The Carpet Bowls group is coming to the end of the winter season and will soon be preparing for the start of the bowling at Ardentenny Bowling Club. All of the clubs are not just for people of Ardentenny and everyone is welcome to come along.

The committee is busy preparing for an Easter Bazaar to be held on Saturday 31 March between 1 and 4pm. Entrance is £2 which includes tea and coffee. There is no entrance charge for children. There will be a variety of sales tables and this year we are going to have a decorated Easter Brolly competition.

Our weekly Community Open Time held every Friday, where home-made soup and sandwich and home baking are served, continues to be a popular feature of the week. We have quite a band of regular visitors to this and it is great to see everyone chatting and enjoying themselves. We usually have sales tables at this with bric-a-brac or second hand books. All money raised goes toward hall funds. A regular sales table run by Marian Norris in aid of the Children's Cancer Charity Clic Sargent. Marian not only sells bric-a-brac but also beautiful hand crafted bird boxes and other items. In September Marian is taking part in the Great Wall of China Walk to raise further funds for the charity. She is self -funding her trip and, although it may be a trip of a lifetime, will also be hard work and we wish her every success with this endeavour.

In May the Village Hall Association will hold their AGM. The usual business will be followed by cheese and wine and will give everyone a chance to chat and catch up.

## **UIG HALL**

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](mailto:dinah.mcdonald@btinternet.com) or 706591.

## **BLAIRMORE VILLAGE TRUST**

Our Santa event was a huge success – the children received an extra present this year thanks to a generous donation from Dunoon Rotary Club who helped to fund a book for each child to celebrate the Year of Literacy. Due to the appalling weather it was not possible for the primary school children to come down to the village to light the tree and sing carols – we will be compensating them for that.

We would also like to involve the school in our Blairmore in Bloom day (1 July) and to this end we are supplying the school with wild flower garden seeds and planters for the children to grow their own little wild flower collection.

We hope in the next few months to repaint the telephone box – let us know if you have any unique ideas on how we should use it! We are also planning to have a large flower planter next to the bus shelter this year.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at the village hall on 20 May 2012.

Also make a note in your diary for Thursday 6 December 2012 - Christmas tree lighting and Friday, Saturday & Sunday 7, 8 & 9 December 2012 – Santa Event.

## **STRONE POST OFFICE AND CONVENIENCE STORE**

It is great to see Yasmin and Scott doing their utmost to keep our last shop on the ‘Shore’ a going concern. Since taking over from Derek, they have made substantial improvements in many ways and residents can even take away or sit down and enjoy a chat and soup, tea, coffee or hot chocolate. Now that Yasmin and Scott have taken ownership they can carry out work that is badly needed on the building with the shop getting a complete make over and disabled access being installed, they point out that Strone Post Office and shop are being run for the benefit of the community. A survey was conducted on the ‘Shore’ two years ago and there was an overwhelming wish for the retention of a local shop so it is important that we use it in case we lose it. No one is under any illusion that small village shops can compete price or selection wise with the big supermarkets but if we were to lose this facility, we would all be the losers.

Councillor Bruce Marshall

## **COWALFEST 2012**

**Friday 5 October – Sunday 14 October**

Plans are well underway for a bumper Cowalfest2012 programme to celebrate our tenth anniversary. There will be all the usual outdoor activities and cultural events and as an extra interest this year there is an overlap with the Royal National Mod which also takes place in Dunoon from 12 to 20 October, making our second weekends events take on a distinctly Celtic flavour. Make a note in your diaries and watch this space for further information next edition. In the meantime you can log on to the web site [www.cowalfest.org](http://www.cowalfest.org) and keep up to date with events

## WORKING TOGETHER FOR A STRONGER COWAL

Festivals, coffee mornings, music, craft fairs, community events, sports competitions and much more .... Do you realise how many things there are on in Cowal in a year? How do you know if there is something else on when you want to put an event on? Could you work with other organisations that are holding events around the same time to take advantage of cross marketing?

The more things that are on, the more people will come to Cowal, so more money will be spent keeping shops and other businesses going.

Coming out of a public meeting, it was agreed that what was needed is:

- events diary for Cowal that can be accessed by events organisers and tourism businesses.
- a resource list of what one organisation has that might be of help to others – stalls, tables, chairs etc.
- joint marketing for the summer, autumn, winter and spring seasons
- expansion of your visitor numbers by marketing your event at earlier venues

A working group comprising Michaela Goan and Jean Maskell, amongst others, has been set up to take forward the Events Diary in respect of how the system might operate, with support from Cowal Marketing Group. If you need events listed, please contact either Sue Minns at [s.minns@btconnect.com](mailto:s.minns@btconnect.com) or Jean Maskell at [jmargyll@gmail.com](mailto:jmargyll@gmail.com)

## KILMUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Recent issues handled by Kilmun Community Council include the revised planning application for the old Finnartmore Nursing Home, which is to be renamed 'Napier's Point'. This application has now been approved by the National Park, with conditions which were requested by the community.

The proposed footpath between the Cot House and Kilmun Church is currently under discussion. Funding is short, but efforts are being made to push on with immediate measures, such as rumble strips where they can safely be utilised. Further funding is required for a walkway/pavement.

We are also pleased to be involved in the development of the new 5 year community plan with Benmore & Kilmun Development Trust, and which also involves many other groups in the community.

**Queens Jubilee/Gala Day** – we are working on holding an event again this year, but details, including date and theme, have yet to be finalised. We will let you know via the web site ([www.kilmuncc.co.uk](http://www.kilmuncc.co.uk)) when we have further information.

Meeting dates for Kilmun Community Council are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of alternate months. The next meeting, following this edition of 'Loch'n'Glen', will be on 8 May at 7.30pm in Kilmun Younger Hall. Thereafter - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in July, September and November 2012 – alternating between Blairmore Hall and Kilmun Younger Hall.

## **ARGYLL MAUSOLEUM LTD**

### **An Update**

The formal application for second round funding for this exciting project will this month be submitted to Heritage Lottery Fund with a decision expected in June 2012.

Meanwhile, a group of local enthusiasts met at the Pier Hotel in Kilmun on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March to offer their help in taking the project forward. There were offers to record graves, to take part in collecting oral history and to research various aspects of local history, and with cataloguing all the historical information gathered. There are other more practical areas where help is still needed such as fund raising and events organising. Although the team is around 30 strong, there is still plenty of opportunity to become involved. There is something for everybody and young people are especially encouraged to participate...

Our series of talks has been well received; the latest on 25<sup>th</sup> March *The Boatbuilders of Sandbank* attracted some 70 people. Unfortunately due to ill health Alastair Campbell of Airds has postponed his talk *The Early Campbells* planned for 24<sup>th</sup> March until later in the year – anyone who has already bought a ticket will be refunded at Bookpoint. We wish Alastair a speedy recovery. Paul Murton will entertain with *The Making of Grand Tours* at the Burgh Hall on 31<sup>st</sup> March, and the final talk of this season, *The Kilmun Graveyard* presented by Jean Maskell, will take place at Kilmun Church on 14<sup>th</sup> May.

This is a worthwhile and fun project – despite the apparently morbid name of the charity – and it is hoped that more members of our community will join in to bring their history to life.

If you are able to help or require any further information, please contact Ann Galliard 01369 701202 [anngalliard@btinternet.com](mailto:anngalliard@btinternet.com) or Jean Maskell 01369704955 [jmargyll@gmail.com](mailto:jmargyll@gmail.com)

Please also visit the web-site at [www.argyllmausoleum.org](http://www.argyllmausoleum.org)

### **THE GARDENERS OF THE SHORE VILLAGES**

On the weekend of the 23 – 24 June between 1 and 5 pm, seven very different gardens along the Shore will be opening under Scotland's Gardens raising money for SG beneficiaries – Maggie's Cancer Caring Centres, The Queen's Nursing Institute Scotland, The Gardens Fund of the National Trust for Scotland and Perennial. Enjoy gardening for wildlife, colour combinations and for low maintenance, with terracing, sculpture, wildflowers meadows and ponds, herbaceous borders and trees from seed.

So put the date in your diary and come along and support your local gardeners in raising money for charity.

## **MOBILE POLICE STATION**

### **Open letter from Chief Inspector Mosley**

I would like to seek your views and offer the opportunity of something a wee bit different to better serve the needs of the rural communities of Cowal in 2012.

You may be aware that on closing Kilmun and Innellan police posts I presented a business case to the Police Board requesting that some of the monies raised from these sales (Innellan has still to be sold) be reinvested in the communities of Cowal. The Police Board agreed to this and allowed me to use the money to purchase a mobile Police Station. This has been in place for about 9 months now. I have been disappointed (mainly in myself) that we have not used it more for the purpose it was purchased. One of the main reasons for this is the need for the driver to have a C1 classification on their licence, almost all of my younger officers do not have this qualification as it now involves a test and medical rather than being automatically placed on the licence (as most of us will have).

I am however working hard to overcome this obstacle at this moment in time. My view is that the office could be diarised to be in your communities on certain days/dates/times as a walk up and engage with the Local Community Office/Area Commander and could be used for joint surgeries with elected representatives (subject to their availability) I plan to be in the vehicle on a regular basis as will Inspector Armstrong.

Can I ask you:

- Is this a service you and your community would use?
- Are there times/days that would be best fitting the needs of your community?
- Are there other uses that you would wish this resource for?

I am keen to move this forward as we have a rise in the fear of crime in Cowal that I can't see a justification for, I am keen to get the facts and myself as Area Commander out amongst the people (who pay my wages) and confirm that we are dealing with the issues that cause them the most concern.

I would much appreciate your response if you have any thoughts or opinion on this, so please e-mail me at [Andrew.Mosley@strathclyde.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Andrew.Mosley@strathclyde.pnn.police.uk) or write to me c/o Dunoon Police Station.

Thanks

Andrew Mosley, Chief Inspector, Area Commander Bute & Cowal

**MESSAGE FROM PATRICK STEWART  
THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF ARGYLL AND BUTE**

First, may I say how incredibly grateful I am to the agencies which have agreed to circulate this message on my behalf.

2012 is the year of Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Celebrations are being planned both nationally and locally. One such event is The Big Jubilee Lunch on Sunday 3 June 2012. The aim is to get as many of the 61 million UK residents as possible to share a meal together on that day.

It is hoped that as many people as possible will be able to lunch together with friends, family or neighbours in their communities across Argyll and Bute. This can take place in your homes, local halls or outdoors if the weather permits. It is your choice to hold the lunch where it is most suitable. The main aim of the day is sharing a meal together.

Would you agree to organise, or share in the organisation of a lunch? The event can either be self-funded or used for charitable fundraising.

For further information visit: [www.thebiglunch.com](http://www.thebiglunch.com) or, if the answer is not to be found there, please telephone Mrs Morag Smith DL on 01369 704435

We do hope you will decide to take part in this event to commemorate such an important occasion and to have fun.

With every best wish

PATRICK STEWART

As the Lieutenancy of Dunbartonshire includes part of the Local Government Area of Argyll and Bute, it is inevitable that this e-mail will be delivered to organizations or individuals in Lomond. I have made the Lord-Lieutenant of Dunbartonshire, Rear Admiral Mike Gregory OBE aware of this. As he will be promoting The Big Lunch in his Lieutenancy, he is, I believe, prepared to forgive me on this occasion.

**BLAIRMORE GALLERY**

Our best wishes go to Steven and Sylvia and we look forward to the re-opening of the Gallery when Steven has fully recuperated.

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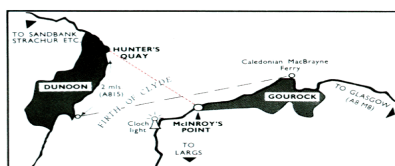
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## ENERGY SAVING TRUST

The Energy Saving Scotland advice centre Highlands and Islands is funded by the Scottish Government and provides free, impartial advice and support in Argyll and Bute on all matters relating to energy efficiency as part of a range of services delivered across Scotland by a network of centres working for the Energy Saving Trust.

We work with Argyll and Bute Council and a diverse mix of community organisations to promote these services in order to alleviate fuel poverty, help people save money and reduce their carbon footprint.

We provide a free phone number, 0800 512 012, that allows householders to easily access advice on energy efficiency, eligibility for grants, access to schemes offering free insulation and advice on renewables. Similar services are available for businesses and private sector landlords via the same free phone number.

For further information please contact [brian.barker@hi.energysavingscotland.org.uk](mailto:brian.barker@hi.energysavingscotland.org.uk) or log on to the Energy Trust web site at [www.energysavingtrust.org/scotland](http://www.energysavingtrust.org/scotland) or Kilmun Community Council web site at [www.kilmuncc.co.uk](http://www.kilmuncc.co.uk)



Curator Mr. Peter Baxter

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For further information please contact the Garden Office: 01369 706261  
Email; [benmore@rbge.org.uk](mailto:benmore@rbge.org.uk) Website: [www.rbge.org.uk](http://www.rbge.org.uk)

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## **FROM BENMORE TO BHAIRIB KUND**

In August of 2011, Benmore Senior Horticulturalist David Gray was part of a team from RBGE, in collaboration with Nepalese botanists, collecting living plant material and the preparation of herbarium vouchers organised by The Flora of Nepal Project. Their goal was the Bhairab Kund, a lake at a height of 4060m in the eastern end of the Nepal Himalayan Range, climbing from 1000m through four distinct ecosystem zones over a period of several days.

Up to 2000m was mostly a terraced cultivation zone interspersed with occasional Bombax and Mimosa trees. Mature *Abies spectabilis* forests with an understory of *Rhododendron arboreum* [the national flower of Nepal] and *Rhododendron barbatum* dominated the land between 2000 to 3000m and which reminded David very much of Benmore. Between 3000 and 3800m the vegetation changed again with *Juniperus* sp and *Rhododendron campanulatum* predominant. Beyond 3800m the vegetation was starting to thin but the alpine zone held their interest with *Bergenia* sp, *Rheum* sp, *Mecanopsis paniculata*, *Rhododendron anthopogon*, *Gentiana* sp and *Sibbaldia* sp to name but a few.

This expedition was only achievable by the assistance of 30 local sherpas who carried everything from tents to food to collected plant specimens as they had to be completely self sufficient. As well as having to endure the rigours of the monsoon, there was also the unwanted attention from the local leech population.

The herbarium vouchers gathered will be preserved in Herbaria throughout the world.

## **FRIENDS OF RBGE BENMORE**

Friends of Benmore held their annual winter walk on Thursday 16 February. In spite of the damp conditions, almost 50 hardy souls enjoyed a walk around the garden led by Curator Peter Baxter, along with Garden Supervisor Neil McCheyne. We were shown the extent of damage to the Garden mainly by the storm of early January, but also from the two storms of 2011. Extra resources of manpower and machines were allocated in order that the garden would be able to open on 1 March. Many old, irreplaceable trees were lost, but surprisingly not too much collateral damage. Developments at the Golden Gate and Bhutan areas of the garden were outlined that will hopefully start to take shape this year. After a delicious soup and sandwich lunch provided by the committee, we enjoyed a most interesting, informative and well presented talk by Benmore Senior Horticulturalist David Gray on his plant hunting trip to Nepal in August of last year.

## BENMORE BOTANIC GARDENS EVENTS 2012

### **In Search of the Blue Poppy**

**Thursday 1 March – Friday 29 June, 10.30am – 5.30pm, (4.30pm March) - Courtyard Gallery** - Photographs from a 2010 expedition sponsored by the Scottish Rock Garden Club that followed the footsteps of George Sherriff and Frank Ludlow into the mountains of Bhutan.

**Exhibition closed 14 April – 28 April**

Garden admission applies

### **Benmore Guided Tours & Explorer**

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday - 2pm.**

See the best of Benmore by joining a guided tour, the Benmore Explorer runs on a Wednesday and Thursday. To book the explorer call 01369 706 261 or enquire at the admissions desk.

Garden admission applies

### **AGM & Talk, the Story of the Living Collection**

**Wednesday 18 April 2012 - 2pm - Courtyard Gallery**

Following the AGM, we welcome Dr. David Rae, Director of Horticulture, RBGE who will talk about the Living Collection followed by afternoon tea. To book call 0131 552 5339

Garden admission applies

### **Benmore Botanic Garden Open Day**

**Sunday 10 June 2012 - 12noon - Free Entry to Garden all day**

Tours, activities for children, plant sale, craft fair, cake and candy. Fun for all the family

### **Benmore Serenade**

**Sunday 17 June 2.30pm - Courtyard Gallery**

“An Afternoon Serenade with the Grazioso String Quarter” with a varied and attractive choice of music in beautiful surroundings. What better combination than a String Quartet and Botanic Garden in summer!

Garden admission applies

### **Hard Rain – Whole Earth**

**Saturday 7 July – Wednesday 31 October - 10am – 6pm (5pm October) - Formal Garden**

This new, greatly expanded version of the original challenging photographic essay about the state of our planet, inspired by Dylan’s evocative lyric, now includes an additional section on the amazing solutions being pursued across the globe and here in Scotland.

Garden admission applies

**Become a member and help the garden grow. Membership benefits include; Free entrance to Benmore, Dawyck, Logan and the Edinburgh Glasshouse.**

**For more information about Benmore Botanic Garden please call 01369 706 261, email [benmore@rbge.org.uk](mailto:benmore@rbge.org.uk)**