

SEILEACHAN

Seil & Easdale Community Council Newsletter

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www.seil.oban.wa

April 2017

Jim Cunningham, past editor of the Seileachan, died in March. Our sincere condolences to his family.

Copy for the next issue should be sent to the new editor, Sue Fenton, by **31 May**: scwfenton@gmail.com Please let her know if you would prefer to receive a copy of this newsletter by email. An electronic version is also available on the web: <http://seil.oban.wa>

SECC MEETING 28 March, draft minutes

Councillors Elaine Robertson and Kieron Green, plus 13 members of the public, attended the Seil & Easdale Community Council (SECC) meeting held on 28th March in Seil Island Hall.

At the start of the meeting George Hannah was presented with a handcrafted table with a slate inlay map of Seil, as thanks for his many years of support to the communities of Seil, Easdale, Luing, Kilninver and Kilmelford.

Scottish Water: The local stakeholders have been working hard to achieve the community objective – a fit for purpose treatment plant that does not damage the amenity of the island or its people, or pollute the marine environment. Following discussions and walks to view sites, the local group reached a consensus in favour of Option 1A, agreeing it met with the objective. Option 1A proposes to replace the existing Waste Water Treatment Works with a Septic Tank/Submerged Aerated Filter/UV, located in the centre of the island – hidden, secluded and well away from houses. Most of the plant at the current Waste Water Treatment Works at Balvicar will be removed, though an underground storage tank will be located there and the outfall pipe in the bay will remain in use. Scottish Water assure us that the Balvicar Bay site will have less visual impact than at present and the effluent will easily meet required standards. A stand alone septic tank would be installed for the eight houses at Seaview. This was discussed at a two day Technical Session attended by the local group, the independent expert, local councillors and Scottish Water representatives with well prepared information by Scottish Water. **For** further information please contact a local stakeholder or gordonjdm@hotmail.com. The next full Stakeholder meeting is planned for Monday 24th April.

Roads: The advert regarding the proposed Traffic Regulation Order and Prohibition of Waiting at North Cuan Ferry was in the Oban Times and passed by SECC and Luing CC with no objections. A net loss of 1.5 parking bays enables a better turning circle for the service bus.

Health: The next Planning for the Future Group Meeting regarding OLI Hospitals is being planned for next week and more public meetings are being scheduled for the future. Minutes from the January 13th public meeting will be shared when these become available.

Defibrillators outside Seil Island Hall and on Easdale Island are being registered with the Scottish Ambulance Service.

Police Report: PC Moore was pleased to announce that there was nothing of significance to report. Two speeding checks on two separate occasions have resulted in two warnings. He said he had also been approached regarding speeding traffic at the bus stop in Balvicar and at the school. He confirmed that the public should report vehicles to him which appeared to drive recklessly whilst the children were awaiting embarkation or disembarking from the bus and he would have a word with the driver. PC Moore has signed Seil and Easdale island up for Rural Watch, a new Neighbourhood Watch scheme, which he recommends people sign up to.

Planning: Proposed crowning/lopping of 1 ash tree and 1 Sitka spruce tree, 1 Caolas, Ellenabeich Isle Of Seil Oban Argyll & Bute PA34 4RQ/Received: Tue 21 Feb 2017/ Validated: Thu 16 Mar 2017/ Status: Awaiting decision.

Bus Shelter: The Victorian bus shelter design offered by A & B Council has been requested. However, unless additional funding can be found, this project may be delayed.

Parking in Oban: Councillor Green confirmed that a Traffic Regulation Order was being prepared regarding Oban parking and once completed will go out to consultation with the public.

Forward Planning: The next open meeting to progress the forward planning projects is 7.30^{pm} Tuesday 25th April 2017 in Seil Hall. At the last meeting two top projects were discussed 1. Paths and 2. Sea/shore access. This forward planning initiative has already prompted a positive response and support from one of the local landowners, who is keen to facilitate and work with us on plans for paths and seashore access. Any support from other landowners will be welcome. The whole community is encouraged to engage in progressing the two starter projects. Interest, ideas, support and new recruits welcome.

Bins: A letter signed by all the residents of North Cuan had been received by the SECC asking for help with their request to remove all bins and recycling at North Cuan, which are not being managed properly. Concern was raised about where visitors might leave their rubbish and fly tipping.

Easdale Island has recently been awarded Island Partnership funding to address recycling on the island. It will be receiving a glass imploder, a small generator, plus consultation from a project officer about how to recycle waste better on the island.

Protection of old gravestones in Balvicar: Charles Struthers is to confirm with Argyll & Bute Council that our

local expert, Helen Glennie, and volunteers might be able to proceed with cleaning up pre-18th century gravestones.

Tramways collapsing on Easdale: SECC to approach Historic Scotland for further guidance.

The **2017 Telephone Directory** is now on sale at Balvicar Stores.

Easdale Ferry needs upgrading as it is no longer fit for purpose. Councillor Green is aware.

TABLED PAPERS

Local Development Plan 2

See: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/ldp2 Open until 21 April

Health Improvement Day, Wednesday 10th May

See: www.facebook.com/healthyargyllandbute

Community Councillors' information literacy survey:

See: <https://community-knect.net>

Policing 2026 Strategy

See: <http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/policing-2026>

Rural Watch

<https://www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk>

<https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/council-and-government/community-councils>

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 23rd May 2017, 6.30^{pm}, Seil Island Hall

SEIL ISLAND HALL

March Lottery

£50 Alastair Robertson

£10 Maggie Thorpe, Ewan Warnock & Kim Rowswell

April Lottery

£50 Donnie Reynolds

£10 William Munro, Brien Dickey & Molly Greswell

From April, the first prize each month is £50. New members are always welcome. The lottery runs from April to March but you can join anytime – deduct £1 for each month you have missed. To join, contact Janet Scott (483) or jes.janetescott@btinternet.com

Feel like a change from your own garden? Why not join the monthly session at the hall Beechgrove Garden and grounds. Look out for dates on notice boards at hall and Balvicar Stores, and on facebook – @seilhall.

COASTAL ROWING

The community's skiff, *Selkie*, has been in dry dock (well, Allan's garage!) for 'fettling.' Thanks to all those who turned up to help.

There are regular outings on Wednesdays and Sundays at 1400, and Fridays at 1800, now that the clocks have changed. Other times by negotiation. Come and give coastal rowing a go! New rowers (and coxes) very welcome. As well as routine outings, we are planning expedition rows to Loch Sunart (in aid of the RNLI), a flotilla row up the Clyde as part of the Clydebuilt Festival and a social row up the Tay with the Broughty skiffies.

There will be an oar workshop after Easter, making a new (longer) set of oars for beta trials over the coming season on behalf of the Scottish Coastal Rowing Association. All budding/experienced woodworkers are invited.

Contact Sue on 545, leave a message on facebook – @seilskiff – or book a session on: www.seilskiff.org.uk

EASDALE SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL



EASTER EGG HUNT

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt between 1^{pm} & 3^{pm} on Easter Saturday, 15th April, in conjunction with the Saturday Club at Seil Island Hall. There will be tea and cakes. Contributions of eggs and baking welcome – please hand them in at the shop.

SEIL WALKING GROUP

An informal walking group has been formed, which meets every Thursday at 10^{am}. A local walk of between one and two hour duration is completed; dogs welcome.

For information, please phone Tricia (445), Julie (090) or Fiona (231). The group is mixed ability and doesn't attempt anything too strenuous; we would love you to join us!

KILBRANDON CHURCH OFFICE – VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

A community-minded volunteer is needed to run the Kilbrandon Church Office on the Isle of Seil. The work of the Office is vital to the Church's links with the wider community, as the Office prints the Isle of Seil Telephone Directory, does work for other groups/businesses in the community, and prints calendars and merchandise which are available at the back of the church. Printing can be done in the office or at home, at a time which suits the volunteer. Other volunteers from the congregation are available to assist. For more information, please contact Fiona Morrison (300249 or fiona@barraigh.u-net.com) or Martin Waddell (300011 or waddell715@btinternet.com).

AN EVENING WITH KENNETH STEVEN

This event, which was scheduled for Saturday 22nd April, has been postponed until the Kilbrandon Church heating system has been replaced. A new date will be publicised in due course.

NORTH ARGYLL VOLUNTEER CAR SCHEME

We would like to advise our registered passengers that, as from 1st April 2017, we are raising the suggested passenger donation as this has not been increased since 2011. Passengers will be informed of the new suggested donation when they make a booking request with the coordinator, Caroline Gillanders, 01852 200760.

HISTORIES FROM SEIL & EASDALE

A new exhibition, sponsored by the The Scottish Slate Islands Heritage Trust, highlights *People, Pastimes, Livelihoods and the Last Quarry*.

The exhibition will be held in Seil Island Hall, from Friday 21st April to Monday 24th April inclusive, from 1030^{am} to 5^{pm} daily. Free entrance.

SEIL DRAMA GROUP

The Drama Group took part in the Lorn Drama Festival at the Corran Halls at the end of March. Eight different plays were produced by local groups. Seil's *All By Myself* received the Stage Management Award.

If you missed out on seeing the play in Oban, there is another chance to see this award-winning production on 27th April, in Seil Hall, in conjunction with a performance by Seil Sound. Watch out for posters!