

Lochside News

December 2016



The SLACC AGM was well attended and included a review of the years activities and election of Directors, followed by a talk by Community Broadband Scotland on the recent technical analysis of our situation and the options available as the way forward. As ever with an AGM, a few months have passed since the official "end of year" so some updated information ...

Defibrillators - thanks to the efforts of Andrew and Catherine Hill, the defibrillator at Eredine is now in operation. Volunteers are sought to progress defibrillators at Ardbrecknish and Cladich.

Ardchonnell School & Barr Mor Wood - interest in the purchase of Ardchonnell School and the small wood close by has stopped .. there being no clear and sustainable use that could be found to warrant purchase.

SLACC Directors - Anne Rae and Elspeth Glendinning came up for re-election under rotation ... both agreed to stand again and both were re-elected. Indeed, Elspeth has since agreed to be this years Chair (a position that rotates on an annual basis).

Broadband - progress is slow and the CBS view on the consequences and options presented in the technical assessment for the SLACC area were that the option to develop a SLACC-only solution would be marginal due to operationing costs unless the communities on the other side of the loch were included. Unfortunately, they do not see the same need as us for such a project. However, talks are continuing with Community Broadband Scotland, especially as their funding picture for the next few years becomes clearer.

Creative Writing group to be formed...

Christine Hawe, a childrens' author living in Lochawe village and Louisa McClennan, a journalist from Dalmally, are looking to form a new creative writers group and would like to hear from you if you are interested in joining them. The group would cover any sort of writing including emails and blogging, to composing letters, short story writing and novels. Christine and Louisa say everyone would be welcome from 14 to 104, with group emphasis being 'friendly and informal'. The date of the inaugural meeting has yet to be decided...it really depends on the level of interest and what would best suit everyone. If you think the group is for you, then please do get in touch with Christine for a chat on 01838 200917 or email christinehawe1943@hotmail.co.uk You can also get in touch through their Facebook page Loch Awe District Writers

Taynuilt Medical Practice News

We are delighted to welcome Dr Catherine McElroy to our team. Dr McElroy started with us at the beginning of October, she previously worked at the Lorne Medical Centre. Presently, she is working between Taynuilt and Connel surgeries.

The Taynuilt Medical Practice partnership is now Dr Fiona McPhee, Dr Fiona Shaw, Dr Dave Harden and Dr Catherine McElroy. Dalmally patients may have had a consultation with our new nurse, Sarah Wellburn. Sarah is doing some locum work with us, while we train our permanent nurse appointee Lindsay Dodman, who will start in December 2016.

Our next patient group meeting is on 7th December 2016, Connel surgery at 2.30pm. We have a representative from Ali-energy attending and she will be speaking on the subject of fuel poverty. All are welcome to attend.

Also remember...if you have not had your flu jag there is still time! Contact your surgery to make an appointment to have this done as soon as possible.

Do you recognise either of these people ? Local history group DHA have an absolute treasure trove of local information including a great number of photographs that unfortunately have never been identified.

So if anything about these pictures looks familiar they would love to hear from you..or if you would like more information about the DHA then email dalmally.historical@gmail.com or visit www.loch-awe.com



Quiz Night

Friday 2nd December 7.30pm

Portsonachan Village Hall

Entry £10 for team of 4

R.O.A.R B.Y.O.B

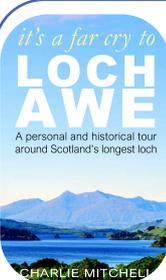
Refreshments Raffle

Hello again from Bobby Darren...this month I am happy to bring you details about the proposed Rural Watch Scheme and information about the expansion of my coverage area.

Rural Watch - I am currently exploring the set up requirements for a rural watch scheme within the area. I have received extremely positive feedback regarding this so far and hope everyone gets behind this as it really is only as good as the numbers signing up. I have contacted Rural Watch who are going to attempt to super impose the map outline of the Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council area onto the system. This will allow me to set up the watch to cover the areas in line with my Police "beat". Once I have registered the scheme residents will be able to go online, input their postcode and request to join the scheme in their area. I will then receive a notification that a person wishes to join and I can accept them into the scheme or decline the application. The Rural Watch scheme allows me to share information instantly to all members in the form of an email regarding potentially suspicious behaviour, crime trends in the area or even requesting information from the members to feedback to me. It can also be used as a means of communication to myself in order to report non urgent or non-criminal matters. I have been assured by the Community Council that this scheme will be supported and funding will be sought in order to place signs in strategically selected areas. I will publicise the scheme more when it is up and running however please seriously consider signing up when it is implemented as with this there is definitely strength in numbers.

Taynuilt Office Closure - PC Allison Simpson has now left her post as Taynuilt District Police Officer and the post will not be filled. As this is the case I have taken on the additional duties carried out by Allison for the Taynuilt, Kilchrenan and Avich areas. This will undoubtedly mean a larger workload for myself however I have been assured that I will be afforded more time away from Oban in order to fulfil these duties. This hopefully will lead to more coverage by myself in the areas I am responsible for. I understand people have concerns over Police Office closures due to a recent media article revealing a review into Police buildings. Firstly I can assure you that there is no suggestion of removing a Police presence from Oban, the review is considering a change of location as opposed to a removal. Secondly I have also been informed that Dalmally is not under review for closure and will continue to operate.

Regards PC Darren Miller L099
Dalmally Community Constable
T: 01838 200658
E: darren.miller@scotland.pnn.police.uk



'It's a Far Cry to Loch Awe' by Charlie Mitchell is available in all local shops in Dalmally and Lochawe as well as Kilmartin Museum and Waterstones, Oban. Charlie lived here all his life and his book takes us on a journey around Loch Awe to hear stories of the people and history of the area. 'It's a Far Cry to Loch Awe', published recently by DHA, has been very well received and would make the perfect christmas present!

Christmas Quiz

Friday 16th December

Portsonachan Village Hall

Entry £10 for team of 4

Refreshments

Raffle



Advance bookings to Graham Boyles 01838 200301

Ardbrecknish House

Bar Open 6pm every evening except Christmas Day

Free New Years Eve Ceilidh 8pm til 1am featuring Jake, Jane and Agnes

Lochside Neighbours Musical evening...

There will be a musical evening with Jake and Jane MacKay and Agnes Liddell in Portsonachan Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 8 December.- this is very special after the great success of Jake's CD with his 'moothie'! Mince pies and other refreshments will be served. Cost £2.



The Book Club has gone from strength to strength and even has some new shelves now thanks to the Community Council. The club meets the 1st Tuesday of every month, 10 until 12 in Portsonachan Village Hall. It costs just £1 for tea or coffee and a selection of lovely books to browse, borrow and swap

St. James' Church, Ardbrecknish Church Services

For the first time there will be no Christmas service at St James' Church, Ardbrecknish. However, there will be a family service with communion on Sunday 18 December at 3pm with the Provost of St. John's Cathedral, Nicki McNelly officiating. The next service will be at 3pm on Sunday 15th January 2017.

Turkey Doubles Bowls

7.00 pm Saturday 17th December

Portsonachan Village Hall

For more information contact Tracey on
01838 200301

Janet and Ann finally received the Scratch trophy that they won back in September when they represented Argyll SWI in the National Golf finals which was played at Fortrose and Rosemarkie Golf Club. Janet says that "our truly memorable day was finished on an even greater high when we were able to watch a pod of dolphins, only feet away from us, feeding on the incoming tide at Rosemarkie point". Congratulations to both ladies on their win.



South Loch Awe-side Community Company

Email:southlochawecc@gmail.com

Please do get in touch if there is anything of interest that you would like to see in the next issue of Lochside News.
Email: lochsidenews@gmail.com