

PAIRC NEWSLETTER

PAIRCTRUST.CO.UK



November 2024



Credit: Pairc Historical Society

The Pairc Estate – November 2024

The first snow has fallen – perfect for the upcoming Ravenspoint Christmas Craft Fair! There's only a week to go and it's ideal for picking up some Christmas presents.

We were pleased to see that the Remembrance Service in Kershader was well attended (a recording is available: (<https://fb.watch/vX4D5cOvtA/>)) and we also have news regarding new projects from the Trust, appearances at the SCF annual Gathering, and news and goods available from local groups within!

Top News

**Climate Hebrides Funding for
Made in Pairc project**

**Scottish Crofing Federation
Annual Gathering – Friday
22nd – Saturday 23rd
November**

**Ravenspoint Christmas Craft
Fair – Friday 29th– Saturday
30th November**

Submit & Subscribe

If there is anything that you would would like to submit to the newsletter, or if you would like to receive a copy digitally via email, please contact info@pairctrust.co.uk

01/11



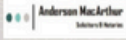
Gathering:

CROFTING - A TRADITION FOR THE FUTURE



23.11.2024

Main Gathering | 9.30am to 5.30pm
Evening Entertainment | from 7.00pm
Cabarfeidh Hotel, Stornoway



Our Annual Gathering will weave together the traditional and the modern, the inspirational and the practical - much as crofting does itself - to define a resilient model of modern crofting and to set out what is needed to sustain this into the future.

Morning: Keynote speaker, Jim Fairlie MSP, followed by panel discussion with Padruig Moireasdan, Megan MacInnes, Andy Wightman and Sally Reynolds.

Actively sustaining community: yesterday, today and tomorrow!

Afternoon: Brilliant workshops to choose from, including:

Agricultural Reform Route Map

Common Grazing

Animal Management

Peatland Restoration

Biodiversity Audits

Croft Woodland Project

Crofting Bill

or a visit to Sweeny's croft in Ness.

Crofting Corner

The **Scottish Crofting Federation** are holding their annual gathering titled “**Crofting: A Tradition for the Future**” at the **Cabarfeidh Hotel, Stornoway** on **Saturday 23rd November**. They are also holding a “**Crofting and Community Land Ownership**” event on **Friday 22nd** at the same venue.

Tickets are available from: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/scottishcroftingfederation/1434091>

Monthly Highlights

- The Pairc Trust are pleased to announce that **Angus McDowall**, our Chairperson, has been invited to speak at the SCF’s “Crofting & Community Land Ownership: Past, Present & Future” event on **Friday 22nd November**, alongside other representatives from community landowners giving their stories of community land ownership in the Western Isles.
- The Pairc Trust have been successful with a £,1000 grant from **Climate Hebrides**, beginning the initial stages of an exciting new ‘**Made in Pairc**’ project. More news to come next month!

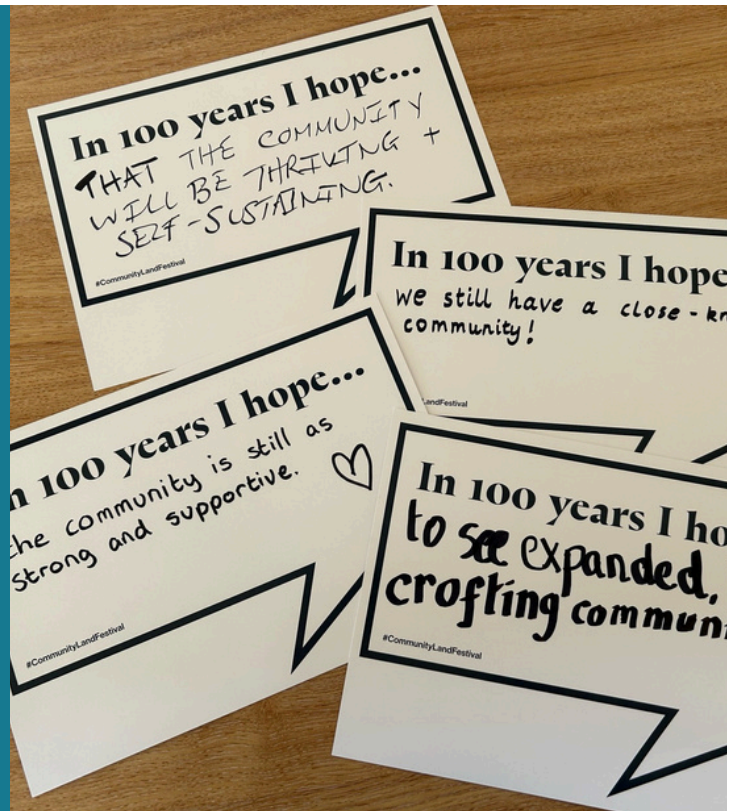


L-R: Stewart Wilson & Dan Morrison (Muirneag Consulting), Chris Coles (Pairc Trust)

The Trust is working towards improving its environmental impact and recently undertook a greenhouse gas audit with the assistance of **Muirneag Consulting**. We have now received the completed reports which are being circulated to our Directors to identify areas where we can improve our operations at the Resource Centre.

Community Highlights

We were delighted to see an excellent turnout at the **Community Land Festival** held on Saturday 26th October, with local residents joining us for a walk through Calbost followed by food, childrens activities, and a book signing & Q&A with the Hebridean Baker at Ravenspoint and the Resource Centre. Thanks to Flora Brown from **Community Land Scotland** for joining us, and to all who attended!



- The Islands Book Trust have published five new books this year, all of which will be available to purchase at the Ravenspoint Christmas Fair:
 - **'The Second Surge of the Sea'** - a gripping new novel of unexpected rapport and hidden memories by Skye writer Liz MacRae Shaw, launched in Portree at the beginning of November.
 - **'Circles of Light'** - a wistful and evocative account of his childhood memories of Islay by award-winning poet James Knox Whittet.
 - **'The Great Auk's Great Escape'** - a beautifully illustrated story for children by Louisa MacDougall and Joceline Hildrey based on authentic events off St Kilda and other islands in 1821.
 - **'Thirty Years of Adventures'** in the Outer Hebrides - an incredible compendium of Marc Calhoun's expeditions to now uninhabited parts of the Western Isles with over 150 spectacular full colour photos.
 - **'Contemplating Calanais'** - a fascinating new guide to the Standing Stones by archaeologist Ian McHardy.

- **Kinloch Historical Society's AGM** is set for **Tuesday 26th November @ 7pm**. All are welcome.

- **Pairc Historical Society's 2025 calendars** are available to order. Email sales@cepairc.com or contact them via Facebook DM to arrange.



Credit: Calanis Standing Stones & Visitor Centre

Calbost Walk

The Calanis Standing Stones and Visitor Centre hosted their final autumn walk on Saturday 9th November, taking a guided tour of Calbost and learning about its history, with **Doro Rieder** from the **Western Isles Tour Guide Association**. The walk was well-attended, and we hope to see more of them exploring Pairc's history in future!

- The Angus MacLeod Memorial Lecture held on 1st November saw an excellent turnout. A recorded livestream of the event can be viewed on YouTube via: <https://www.youtube.com/live/Z9RbZ5kpMT8>



Credit: Chris Coles

- Prizes for the Ravenspoint Christmas Craft Fair raffle and tombola are greatly appreciated - if you can contribute, please drop items off in the shop!
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- Lochs FC held their end-of-season awards ceremony on Friday 25th October, with Ewen Montgomery being awarded the Domhnall Martin Memorial Trophy, Joe Ross being recognised as Top Goal Scorer of the season, and Ruaridh Graham taking Goal of the Season. A full list of awards can be seen at: <https://www.facebook.com/lochsfootballclub/posts/1093982469246292> Well done to all who played and contributed to the team's success!

Ravenspoint

Christmas Craft Fair

Unique Arts & Crafts

Made in Pairc

Ravenspoint &
Kershader Resource Centre,
South Lochs HS2 9QA

w3w: **finest.mastering.stir**

29 - 30

November

11am - 4pm



05/11

What's on in Pairc?

Join our **WhatsApp community group** to keep up to date with local events, news, freecycling, and other highlights. Scan the QR code to join and contribute!

We would also like to make the community aware of the **South Lochs Freecycle** Facebook page which is all about reusing and keeping items out of landfills:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1394913374770883>



Monthly Highlights

- **Kinloch Historical Society** have put out a call for volunteers at the Kinloch hub. If you're interested in helping out contact **Gemma** via email/phone at: gemma.kinlochhistorical@outlook.com / 01851 830 778

- The **Pairc Area Forum** is next meeting on **Tuesday 26th November** at **7:30pm** via Teams. The PAF is an umbrella group for all Pairc-based organisations and bodies to attend and discuss local matters. If you are interested in attending, please email David Skene for a Teams invite via: david_skene@hotmail.co.uk

- The **Ravenspoint Warm Space** is back for the winter! Running weekly on **Wednesdays** from **11am - 4pm**. Come along for soup, cake, sandwiches & hot drinks. The **Kinloch Café** also run a **Warm Hub** on **Fridays** from **12pm - 2pm**.

- Free-range eggs from **Gravir Hens'** organically fed hens are now available via **delivery round** and/or an **honesty box in Habost**. For more information contact Kayleigh Jacques via: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61567806846800>

Halloween Party & Farewell to Miss Menmuir

Callie, P6

On the day of the Halloween party after lunch, we were setting up the hall. We were going to get our costumes on, Olivia was Percy pig, Miss Manuel was a cowgirl, Lisha was a vampire, Tiana was Elsa, Callie was Day of the Dead, Grace was Kuromi, Phoebe was a witch, Skye was a prom queen, and Mia was a witch and Leya was a clown. For the Halloween party we played musical statues and musical chairs.

However, Phoebe very kindly brought in a Halloween cake. So, after musical statues, the practice rounds, and practice rounds of musical chairs we decided to eat. We loved Phoebe's cake; it was really nice. It was Miss Menmuir's last day and we were all going to miss her. Although it was her last day we were going to have a fun day. Miss Menmuir is going to teach in Italy.

After musical statues, we all played musical chairs. The winner was Olivia. A few minutes later, we decided to play musical statues Leya was the winner. After that we decided to have a little dance, while there was one more game coming up. We had to try and put the witch's hat onto Miss Menmuir's head blindfolded. The winner was Leisha.



Remembrance Day Service

Grace, P1

The Remembrance day service was on Saturday 9th November 2024. Remembrance Day was originally focused on commemorating the dead in the first World War. The first World War started 28th July 1914 and ended 11th November 1918 at 11am. 9-11 million soldiers died fighting for our freedom. While men were fighting in the war at the time women were not allowed to go to war, so they started doing the jobs that men did. However, in World War 2 women were nurses for the men when they got hurt. So ever since, then every November



11th at 11am people stand outside or inside and stay in silence for 2 minutes to pay respects to the people that died. If its on a school day then school children stand in silence at school and people lay poppy wreaths down at memorials.

The Remembrance Day service was not on Remembrance Day its was on the 8th of November. It was held at Ravenspoint in Kershader. The youngest and the oldest in the school put the Pairc school wreath next to the other wreaths. It lasted about 30 minutes or less. The youngest child is Mia she went with her older sister Skye, my younger sister Olivia came too. Since, Mia and I are the youngest and the oldest we laid the wreath down. I hope to go next year too.

Children in Need

Skye, P4

Pudsey Bear is yellow like the sun. He has a bandana, it has rainbow spots on it and white at the back. Pudsey is the Children in Need bear. Pudsey gives lots of hugs and love. The Children in Need day is Friday the 15th of November. Pudsey has a friend called 'Blush.' She is lovely. I am going to wear my Pudsey pyjamas to school and watch a movie.

Leisha, P5

Since 1980 the BBC has been putting on a show for Children in Need. Their show happens every year in November. While Children in Need is on TV, people are trying to help them by trying to give



them money.

Children in Need have a mascot, Pudsey bear, because it helps children and makes them smile if they have to into hospital. He also gives hugs.

When I think of Children in Need I think of the multi-coloured Pudsey Bear. However in 2022, it was just the letters in the logo, Pudsey wasn't there. It made me really sad.

BBC
CHILDREN
IN NEED





Visit from Liza Mulholland

Leya, P6

Liza came to our school because in mid spring we started reading her book. We did the 'Sunflower project.' It is when you grow a sunflower and give it to someone special. We watched over it every day and we put pictures in a diary. We took them home in summer because it was the holiday. However, in the holidays it was not very good weather so mine died.

When Liza came, we played her song as a band from P5 to P7. After we played her song, she asked if she could join us and play too. We played a bunch of songs and even Jingle bells, she had her accordion to play with us. We also made books with her, with paper, ribbons, and stickers and it looked like a little diary. Liza gave us bulbs to plant. She brought tulips, daffodils, and crocuses. We planted them in a plant pot and put some soil in and patted it

down.

Since it was the day after Halloween, she gave us sweets and we also gave her some lovely bright flowers and we looked at a Power Point.

Oliva, P6

Liza Mulholland is the author of a book called 'The Musicians Storyflower.' We first began reading Liza's book in the Spring. Primary 5, 6 and 7 were practising her song 'Flowers nodding on a summer breeze' in music lessons. We decided to do a 'Sunflower project,' we plant sunflowers, record it growing in our books and give it to a family member or friend.

We also learnt about Calbost, since her family lived there for a long time, and we got to go to Calbost and see the ruined houses and we saw pictures of what they looked like in the olden days. Next, we excitedly met Liza! We were so excited to finally meet her. However, we were so excited, but we were quite nervous to meet her too. On November



1st she came to Pairc School. She was very nice, friendly and kind. We did lots of things with her. We planted bulbs, we made fun and cool books/diaries, and we played her song 'Flowers nodding on a summer breeze' for her and while she was there she played with us on the grand piano in the hall. After that the whole school got to play a tune with her and she played on the accordion. We found out that she was in a band up in Inverness. Although she was in a band her friend Jane was in a band too called 'Face The West.'

Finally, we picked some flowers from the Polytunnel and gave her some since she loves flowers, and she gave us some sweets since she wasn't there for Halloween.

