



Tighnabruaich District Development Trust Community Newsletter Winter 2023



Development Trust AGM

celebrates tennis court refurb

Backing from the Awards for All Lottery Fund and donations from the local community allowed the Tighnabruaich District Development Trust and Kyles Athletic to move forward with the upgrade of the community tennis court. With markings for football, tennis and shinty the facility will help play its part in keeping the community active and bringing on the shinty stars of the future.



The £27,600 project was completed in time to see the retirement of George Watson as chair of the Development Trust at this year's AGM. George was a long-time advocate for improving the tennis court - volunteering many hours on maintenance as well as fundraising. The new surface is a fitting tribute to George's six years as chair of TDDT in which the Trust also maintained the jetty at the Lifeboat Station; improved the local path network; introduced the VETS Emergency Telephone System and defibrillators situated throughout the parish; funded the new bus and car park improvements for Kyles Athletic; supplied new iPads for pupils at the Primary School; provided homework support for the kids in Dunoon Grammar Hostel and many other projects. TDDT are grateful for George's efforts over the years and for the work of the Treasurer, Graeme Hogg, and Andy Trull who also stepped down as trustees.

Wreath workshop tops off a busy year for Kyles Horticultural Society



Kyles Horticultural Society aims to spread good horticultural practice and enjoyment of gardening among its members in south west Cowal. The Society organises talks and discussions, visits to gardens and sites of interest, and holds the Summer Show in August, with exhibits of flowers, vegetables, baking, preserves, floral arrangement, crafts, photography and kids classes.

Other activities this year included the Snowdrop Walk and house tour at Ardkinglas, a guided rhododendron tour at Benmore Botanical Gardens, and a popular Floral Art workshop given by Sandra McCuin. Attendees at the Christmas Wreath workshop enjoyed expert tuition from Phoebe Keene and a lovely lunch from the team at the Oystercatcher.

The AGM will take place in Kyles Church Hall at 2pm on Monday 12 February. New members and volunteers are very welcome. See us on Facebook or contact Chris on kobhs@mail.com or 07747655223 to join.

The King's Court
Free!
Christmas Dinner

Join us for free Christmas food and fun as we give thanks for another year of support from the local community.

6pm Thursday
21st December
Kames Hall

01700 811 137 kingscourt@maxierichards.org.uk

Christmas Message from RNLI

Janet Lange



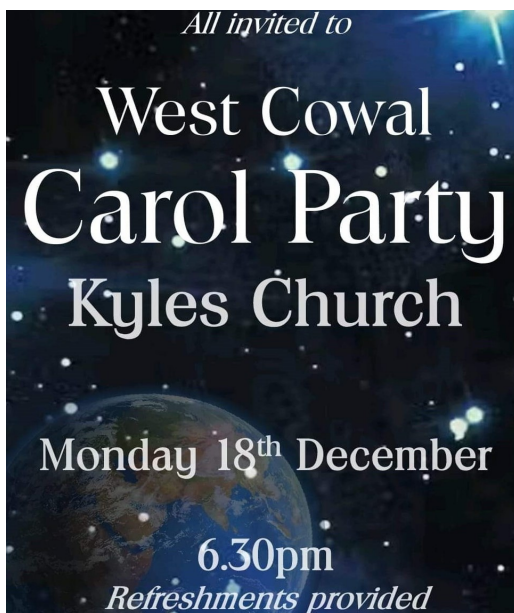
A big thank you is extended to the Cowal community for helping make 2023 an excellent year for raising funds for the RNLI.

A variety of events, including quiz nights; a boat jumble; May Day at the Oystercatcher and the Open Garden May Day at Tighnabruaich House; Lifeboat Day and the annual RNLI Raffle all tempted you to part with hard earned cash. And you didn't disappoint, to date more than £14,500 has been added to the coffers. In addition, the RNLI shop has done a steady trade in small gifts, RNLI branded clothing and, of course, cards and calendars.

Whilst the fundraising team are to be congratulated for their initiative and involvement in making all the activities possible, many thanks also go to the RNLI crew and the army of volunteers and supporters who willingly provide time and help during events; to all who donate cash and raffle prizes, populate our stalls with home-made goods and delicious produce, and provide music and entertainment at the event.

Don't forget, if you're stuck for last minute Christmas cards and gifts the RNLI shop might just throw you a lifeline. Open 11am-1pm on Fridays and Saturdays until 23rd December, we would love to help rescue you!

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



8th & 9th December

Kames Hall

Tighnabruaich Players

proudly present

**CINDERELLA
SUPERSTAR**



A pantomime by Brian Luff

Adults £7
Children £3

Tickets at Kames & Kyles Stores
and On the Door

Other news...

- Thanks to those of you who took time to fill in the community survey. The results will be put into a user-friendly format and shared with the community in the new year. There were over 80 responses, representing more than 11% of the population of the district. Thanks also for the 120 folk who signed our sheets in support of the community buy-out of the Heritage Centre and shop unit in Tighnabruaich. We hope to have the sale completed in the next month.
- Welcome to the new Chair of TDDT, Alastair Barge. Alastair takes over from George Watson and brings a wealth of skills to the post.
- Best wishes from all of us at TDDT to the Rev David Mitchell and family on the occasion of his retirement. He has been a great servant to the whole community and we look forward to his input on our future projects. "There is a time for everything"
- Speaking of the church, there will be Christmas Eve services at Kyles Church at 11am and Kilmodan at 6.30pm. Christmas Day service will take place at Kilfinan at 11am.
- Kilfinan Community Forest are making the generous offer of free Christmas trees for people in the local area. Help yourself from the taped-off area behind the new tree nursery. The volunteer group have been working hard installing new picnic benches. Next volunteer activity will meet at the forest car park 9.45am on Wednesday 13th December. Dress for the weather and rough terrain!
- The Senior's Lunch Club takes place every Wednesday at 12.30pm in the Kames Church Hall. Come along for a two-course meal and a blether. £3.