

Community Newsletter – June 2014

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Hidden Heritage Finale!

The Community Development Trust's Hidden Heritage Project celebrated its achievements with a weekend of talks, displays, walks and activities on May 10th and 11th. The project involved volunteers in investigating the heritage of the landscape between Arrochar and Tarbet using a range of archaeological techniques, under the professional supervision of Northlight Heritage.

The project hosted a 1-day conference on Saturday May 10th, attended by about 70 people, including many of the volunteers who had participated in different aspects of the project. A brilliant selection of talks during the day included summaries of the project's findings by archaeologists from Northlight Heritage, a discussion about the importance of community archaeology by Noel Fojut (currently Head of Policy and Legislation at Historic Scotland), revelations about a rare Viking cemetery at Arden by Dr. Colleen Batey (Glasgow University), an introduction to the fascinating field of flint-tool research by Dr. Dene Wright (Glasgow University), thoughts on the importance of engaging schools in heritage projects (Brian Wilkinson), and different perspectives on the role of heritage in sustaining communities by Sir Malcolm Colquhoun (Luss Estates) and Gordon Watson (National Park). However, highlights of the day included talks by two of the project's volunteers - Biff Carmichael, who together with three other volunteers, researched and produced a booklet on 'The Gaelic Place Names of Arrochar Parish', and Katherine Price, who enjoyed the archaeology so much that she has since registered to do an Archaeology degree at Glasgow University! Last, and by no means least, P6/7



Some of the 'treasure trove' of old coins and jewellery on display during the Conference



Just like the old days! Modern Vikings show how a traditional-ly-made boat could be dragged across land from Loch to Loch.

pupils Charlie, Coral and Crystal, backed up by P1 teacher Kerry Boyd, fittingly stole the show by introducing an interactive power point presentation that they had helped to create, allowing people to explore some of the local heritage sites. On Sunday, volunteers led guided walks from the Three Villages Hall to Tarbet along part of the new heritage trail to explain the history behind some of the features in the landscape – from ancient trees, to vestiges of the curling pond, to the remains of settlements. The walks ended up at Tarbet where volunteers provided demonstrations of dry stone walling (The West of Scotland Dry Stone Walling Association), flint knapping, heating water with stones, Iron-age style (!), dying cloth with woad, and excitingly, dragging a traditionally-made boat across land, to see how the Vikings might have managed!

If anyone would like any more information on the Hidden Heritage Project, visit the website at

: <http://www.hiddenheritage.org.uk/> or email: info@hiddenheritage.org.uk. The project has produced leaflets to accompany the heritage trail and a guide to Viking sites around the Clyde, as well as a photography book to celebrate the landscape and the community's involvement in the project, a book on 'The Gaelic Place Names of Arrochar Parish', a tea towel and posters, which are all freely available. If you'd like copies of any of these, just let us know at the above email address. The project was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Argyll and the Islands LEADER, and supported by Luss Estates.

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What's Up at the Three Villages Hall

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** Summer Community Ceilidh - June 27th **

Yet another brilliant ceilidh night in store to celebrate the approach of midsummer!

Come and dance the night away at this family event with the **Heron Valley Ceilidh Band**. Entry to the ceilidh will be *free* — donations will however be welcome and will help with the upkeep of the Hall. Thanks go to both the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park and Thistle Dubh Enterprises for helping fund the event.



Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30 start.

Full bar facilities will be available as well as light refreshments.

ENTRY WILL BE BY TICKET ONLY ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS. **Tickets can be collected from the Hall Reception during the day from Monday to Friday. Tickets will be available from 16th June and as room is limited get your tickets early !**

The Three Villages Hall is also delighted to be able to welcome visiting members of the Clan MacFarlane to the ceilidh.

The **Sewing and Hobbies** group of ladies from the villages who have been meeting *on Wednesdays* will be having a summer recess from Wed 11th June and will re start in September — watch the Hall notice boards for dates.

Carers' Café

Are you an unpaid carer? If you look after a sick, frail or disabled adult or child then the answer is 'Yes'.

Come along to the Three Villages Cafe on the first **Wednesday** of every month between **10.30am and 12.30pm** to enjoy a cuppa, share your experiences and learn what support might be available to you.

The Budapest Cafe Orchestra June 13 - 8pm, Doors Open 7.30pm

Comprising four fabulous players we are very pleased to confirm that the band are back again by popular demand! The Budapest Cafe Orchestra play powerful and driving folk-based music from Eastern Europe inspired by the music of European gypsies. They've been described as a '*music-driven phenomenon, a specialist performance-entertainment outfit, certified to enthral audiences everywhere. The infectious energy of the BCO will sweep you off your feet and stay in your heart forever.*'

Tickets; £12.50; Under 16's £9.50. Available from admin@threevillageshall and Arrochar Post Office. Licensed Bar and free Nibbles! They're a brilliantly talented and entertaining bunch and we're extremely fortunate to attract them to our village. Please do come and enjoy their music - then they may come back next year!! Get your ticket ASAP...

The June Camera Club meeting will be an exhibition and social evening, with wine and nibbles. The club has tried to fit around people's holidays and other Hall bookings, so it will be held on **TUESDAY JUNE 24TH (7.30 pm)**

Members are requested to please let Sue have any photos you'd like included in the exhibition in plenty of time for them to be them printed. All welcome, so bring along family/friends.



And also remember to come along with your friends for a blether and a refreshing tea or coffee and a sticky bun at the regular **Saturday Coffee Mornings - 10 to 12 am**

Here's a Date for your Diary - We are delighted to announce that **Skerryvore** will be back to play the Three Villages Hall on **Friday October 3rd**. Doors open 7pm. Tickets £15, under-14s £12. Watch this space for details!

For details of all the Hall activities just check at the Hall, phone 01301 702 669, or email Stephen McKenzie at admin@threevillages.org.uk . OR CHECK 3V HALL NOTICEBOARD FOR INFORMATION

