

PAIRC NEWSLETTER

PAIRCTRUST.CO.UK



March 2025



The Pairc Estate – March 2025

Despite the cold the extra sunlight is making things feel like Spring!

We were pleased to see a good turnout at the Trust's AGM last month, and we'd like to thank Agnes Rennie from Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn for attending as our guest speaker. We're looking forward to continuing our work over the rest of the year.

Read on for information on upcoming events, items of interest, and other opportunities.

Top News

**Made in Pairc Market
Research Survey**

**MCWFT
Recruitment**

Manager

**Outer Hebrides Emigration
Conference – Book Now!**

Submit & Subscribe

If there is anything that you 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

01/19

Market Research

Further to the launch of the Made in Pairc initiative, a survey (in conjunction with the Ravenspoint Community Shop) has been released to gather information about what sort of products/services residents would like to see in Pairc. A digital version is available at:

<https://forms.microsoft.com/e/WR8eWJseAk>

Volunteers will be delivering physical copies to addresses across the Estate which can be returned to Ravenspoint. If you're interested in helping out with volunteering, please email luke.thomson@pairctrust.co.uk



Garyvard Cemetery Funding

The Pairc Trust were pleased to award £1,000 to Garyvard Cemetery Committee from our Community Benefit Fund, in conjunction with MOWI Scotland.

The committee will put the funding towards a new mower and shed to help maintain the upkeep of Garyvard Cemetery.



L-R: Daniel & Lyndsay Montgomery;
Angus Nicolson; Emma Mackenzie

Crofting Corner

The Trust would like to remind crofters in the Estate to complete their 2024 Crofting Notice if they have not already done so.

There is a **Goose Management Scheme** in place across Lewis & Harris through to 5th May 2025 - if you are experiencing any issues with geese causing damage to crops and/or grass please contact us via: info@pairctrust.co.uk



Whaling Station Event

All are welcome to attend an evening of slides and discussion led by Donald Martin in conversation with Roddy Morrison at 7.30pm on Tuesday 18th March at Stornoway Library about the iconic former whaling station at Bunabhainneadar near Tarbert, Harris.

No advance booking required. £5 for IBT members/£10 for non-members. Refreshments provided. For further information, see www.islandsbooktrust.org or phone 01851 450104.

muaitheabhal
COMMUNITY WIND FARM TRUST

WE ARE HIRING

MANAGER

- New Permanent Role
- 3 days per week flexible
- £40-45k pa FTE
- Hybrid working
- Career Development

SEND YOUR CV

claire@orbit.agency Closing Date: 31 March 2025

Are you passionate about making a real difference in local communities? Muaitheabhal Community Wind Farm Trust is looking for a proactive and dedicated Manager to oversee funding, drive community engagement, and support strategic development.

Salary: £40,000 - £45,000 per annum (FTE)

Location: Office base in Balallan with hybrid/remote working options

Hours: 3 days per week (worked flexibly)

Contract: Permanent

This is a key leadership role managing funding applications, supporting community projects, and ensuring the Trust's long-term success. The ideal applicant will have:

- ✓ Strong organisational and administrative skills
- ✓ Excellent communication and stakeholder engagement experience
- ✓ Experience in funding, finance, or governance
- ✓ A commitment to supporting community-led initiatives
- ✨ Flexible working arrangements
- ✨ Professional development opportunities
- ✨ A role with real purpose and community impact
- Join us and help shape the future of community benefit funding!
- Find out more and apply via claire@orbit.agency / <https://calendly.com/orbit-agency/recruitment-confidential-call>



Aline Community Woodland 20 Year Update

A presentation on developments at Aline Donnie Morrison commented after the woodland over the last 20 years event " It was great to see so many attracted a great turnout with over 30 people with an interest in the woodland people attending. For many people it and particularly encouraging to have came as a surprise to hear of the amount several people come forward to of work undertaken over the years. This is volunteer their services. We are especially true for those who have moved particularly interested in having a into the area in recent years as its easy to succession plan and to find leaders to assume much of the current manage the forest and to bringing these infrastructure has been there for years. new ideas to fruition."

One of the topics that attracted a lot of attention was hearing about original plans to develop a mountain biking track. Several local enthusiasts will no doubt revisit this and other projects in the future.

Emigration Conference

Bookings are open for a three-day **Outer Hebridean Emigration Conference - Saoghal Mòr Farsaing** held from **30th September-2nd October**, which is being organised by the Museum & Tasglann nan Eilean. The conference will feature a worldwide range of academic speakers and field trips across the Isle of Lewis (including a trip to Pairc!).

Tickets can be booked online via Outer Hebrides Heritage's website:

<https://outerhebridesheritage.org.uk/discover/saoghal-mor-farsaing-emigration-conference/>

A 10% Early Bird discount is available on tickets purchased before 31st March. Tickets must be separately booked for each day of the conference.

- The **Pairc Social Walks** group is next meeting on **Saturday 22nd March** at 11am for a walk from the **Eishken bridge** to **Bruinagil**. Meeting point is at [///roadblock.pictured.maps](http://roadblock.pictured.maps) (What3Words) and all are welcome!



- **'Leaving Songs'** by Donald S Murray will be launched by the Islands Book Trust at **Taigh Dhonnchaidh, Habost, Ness**, at **7.30pm** on **Wednesday 19th March**. The book contains a collection of poems, songs, and prose inspired by the stories surrounding the emigrant ships 'Metagama' and 'Marloch'. Signed copies will be available, and a ceilidh will be held later.
- Ravenspoint has welcomed two new part-time centre assistants. Please do pop in and say hello to Vicky who lives in Lemreway and Helen who lives in Balallan! We are excited to have their wealth of experience on the team.



FREE SUSTAINABILITY TRAINING

Learn how to make a difference.

MONDAY 24TH MARCH



BOOK NOW

10AM -4PM



sarah@climatehebrides.com

07/19



**Paire School
Soup & Pudding
Lunch**



**12.30-2pm
Wednesday 19th March**

Donations to School Fund

08/19

WOULD YOU LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH PROJECT ON COMMUNITY LANDOWNERSHIP?

We are two social scientists working on a project exploring the effects of community landownership in Scotland. The project is led by the James Hutton Institute in collaboration with Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) and is funded by the Scottish Government.

WHAT IS THE PROJECT ABOUT?

Our project aims to understand more about the effects of community landownership over time. We are carrying out the research with four different communities across Scotland, including Pairc. The research will take place over the next 1.5 years and will involve 2-3 visits to the four different places

More about the project.



WHO DO WE WISH TO SPEAK TO?

We wish to speak to people who live within or near to Pairc Estate, have an interest in the Trust's work, or who are staff members or directors of the Trust. We are interested in a wide range of experiences.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

The interviews will take place face-to-face (where possible) in a location that is convenient for you, or online. Each interview will last about an hour and will be recorded. You will be asked to fill in and sign a consent form before the interview.

WHO TO CONTACT?

Annabel
(annabel.pinker@hutton.ac.uk)
or Carey
(carey.doyle@sruc.ac.uk)

Lochs FC

Lochs FC had two U-8 and two U-10 teams playing in the last weekend of February at Back Football & recreation Club. All the teams did a fantastic job, and thanks to BFRC for hosting them!



Credit: Lochs FC

Arnish Moor Man Exhibition



MARCH 2025 - MARCH 2026

**MON - SAT, 10AM - 4PM
KINLOCH COMMUNITY HUB
ENTRY £3**

In 1964 the body of a young man was found on Arnish Moor. Evidence tells us that he was murdered sometime in the early 1700s. The objects found in his possession are now part of an exhibition at the Kinloch Historical Society.

This exhibition will be on display from March 2025 - March 2026
Kinloch Historical Society: SC006858
Pictures courtesy of National Museums Scotland



**National
Museums
Scotland**



LOCHS FC FUNDRAISER MARATHON



SAT 22nd MARCH

Eishal
Marvig
Garyvard
Habost
Balallan
Calbost
Gravir
Kershader
Sheildinish
Leurbost
Crossbost

27 MILE RELAY

Connecting the
villages from South
to North Lochs



Crossbost

Eishal

Donations: <https://gofund.me/68f346e2>



National Sheep Association
www.sheepworrying.org.uk

Livestock worrying is a criminal offence.

Any dog has the ability to worry livestock, no matter how well trained.

As the owner you may be liable to prosecution and subject to a fine.

Under the Animals Act, a dog may be shot if caught in the act of worrying livestock by a landowner.

Sheep are frequently killed by dogs. Chasing can cause extreme stress, miscarriage, mismothering of lambs, and horrific injuries resulting in euthanasia.



KEEP YOUR DOG ON A LEAD

Let go of the lead if chased by cattle

Stop & Think

Each year large numbers of sheep are attacked and killed by loose dogs

#LeadOn

VOLUNTEER BAKERS NEEDED!



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!
WE NEED YOUR HELP!



Ravenspoint are looking for new volunteer bakers to join our team ahead of the coming season.

If you have a passion for baking or would like to learn a new skill whilst making a meaningful difference in helping to keep your community hub open year round, we want to hear from you!

Contact us today to learn more about this exciting volunteer opportunity.

**FOOD HYGEINE
TRAINING INCLUDED
AND FLEXIBLE HOURS**

info@ravenspoint.net
Call Denise on 01851 880313
Or pop in at the shop!

Ravenspoint Warm Space Wednesdays

If you're feeling the chill, don't forget to head down to **Ravenspoint** on **Wednesday lunchtimes** to take advantage of the Warm Space! The volunteers prepare soup, rolls, and fresh baking with hot drinks available too on a 'pay as you can' basis.

Every second Wednesday also hosts a social lunch club in the cafe - all are welcome, and the next lunch is on Wednesday 26th March at 1pm.

Community Soup Delivery Proposal

Ravenspoint received funding from the Government last year, to host a 'Warm Space' initiative. The funding was used to provide a warm place for anyone to attend, every Wednesday during the winter months. Soup and hot drinks were provided in the Ravenspoint Café, with the ability for anyone attending to make a small cash donation if they so wished. However, we realised that there are some members of the community, who couldn't attend but perhaps would have benefited from it.

We have received further funding this year and would like to expand the opportunity to those members of the community who aren't able to attend in person. If there is sufficient interest, the local volunteers would be willing to provide fresh homemade soup and perhaps a cake, which would be delivered to your door.

The final details of delivery, commencement and frequency of the service have yet to be decided, and this will be subject to the demand from the community. It is anticipated that there would be sufficient soup, to last at least two days.

Sample Soup Menu:

Scotch Broth

Lentil

Chicken & Rice

Leek & Potato

Parsnip/Carrot & Coriander

If you would to be a recipient or would like further information (or know of someone who would perhaps benefit from this service), please get in contact by popping into Ravenspoint Shop or phone one of the numbers below.

Ravenspoint Shop: 01851 880236

Denise Wilson: 01851 880313



World Book Day

Callie, P6

On Wednesday 5th March, an author came to Pairc School. Her name was Louisa MacDougall. Mrs. MacDougall was so lovely and very kind. Mrs. MacDougall had written three books, 'Rory and the Snack Dragon,' 'The Highland Cow' and 'The Great AUK'S Great Escape.'

On the day of Mrs. MacDougall's coming everyone in Pairc dressed up for World Book Day. Tiana was Sophia the Princess, Sky was a koala, Grace was the 'Cloak man' from 'The Boy the Wicked and the Queen of Scots,' that the Pairc School pupils had been reading. Mia was Puff the

magic dragon. Phoebe was a fox; Callie was a nurse lady from Dogmen and Olivia was a pig from Charlotte's Web. Even though some people couldn't dress up, we still had a brilliant day. First, with MacDougall we all shared what our costumes were. After we had told Mrs. MacDougall what costumes we were, she read us some of 'Rory and the Snack dragon.'

Rory the Snackdragon is a book based on the dragon called Rory who lives in a cave with his siblings and his uncle. Every night, Roy would bring all

the thin, bony bones to his uncle, who was keen on recycling. Rory was the smallest dragon out of them all, but he also had something that none of the other Dragons knew about. He had different taste buds to the others. Rory liked eating bikes. One day when Rory decides to go out, when the other Dragons were asleep during the day, to eat a bike. He accidentally takes a Princess and her bike with him. Then the princess and Rory the Dragon made a bet. If the Princess won the bet to find Rory something else that was yummiier than bikes, then he would never eat bikes again. But if Rory won the bet, Rory would get to eat the princess's bike. And that's how Rory and the princess's story began.

After the story Mrs. MacDougall told us that we could make our own magic spell. Once the whole school had given the ideas to MacDougall then the author made a spell. After we had done the spell Mrs. MacDougall told us that she had something planned for us to do. She got Tiana and Mia to put on dragon costumes and pretend to be Rory and Rory's uncle. Not long after that the author said that we were going to do some art. None of us really knew what we were going to be doing, since all that we knew was that it was going to be something to do with Dragons. Then she took out a paper dragon. We were going to make an aeroplane and turn it into a dragon.

Then we got to put accessories on it, like sticker eyeballs and even patterns. Not long after that, the author said that we could buy some of her books. Another excellent thing was that the Author said that she would sign the books that we bought, after everyone had bought a book. At the end, before we had to say goodbye, she also let us ask her some questions. Not long after we had to say goodbye, we thanked Mrs. MacDougall for coming to Pairc School and sharing her books with us.

Skye, P4

Louisa MacDougall, an author from Harris, came to the school on Wednesday 5th March when we celebrated World Book Day. Louisa shared her book 'Rory and the Snack Dragon' with us. It was about a Dragon that eats bikes, it was brilliant I loved it. As it was World book day, we dressed up. I was a koala bear, my sister Mia was 'Puff the Magic Dragon', Olivia was a pig, Grace was Snape from Harry Potter, Phoebe was a fox and last but not least Tianna was Sofia. Louisa let us do a magic trick with a spell and she nearly disappeared! She was selling her books and I bought all three. It was really fun.

Tchoukball

Grace, P7

On Wednesday 19th February Jenna Macleod, our Active Schools co-ordinator, came to our school to teach us Tchoukball.

Tchoukball uses a mixture of handball and volleyball. To play the game a player scores a point when she/he bounces the ball onto the trampoline frame and touches the ground outside the semi-circle also known as the 'D'. However, if the ball is caught by the other team it doesn't count as a point and the team continues play. Another thing is that three is the magic number, players can take three steps before passing, but cannot bounce the ball, you only have three seconds with the ball, as well as that, the attacking team cannot make more than three passes before shooting.

In the 1960s a guy called Swiss biologist Hermann Brandt, became concerned due to the number of injuries in sports at the time and began researching ways to create a 'safer' sport. As part of an educational study he invented 'Tchoukball.'

We learnt about tchoukball because P6-7 are taking part in a tchoukball festival.

Leisha, P5

On Wednesday 19th February, Jenna

Jenna Macleod, our active school co-ordinator, came and taught us about how to play tchoukball. At first when she was explaining it to us we didn't understand but when we started to play a bit we started to get better.

To play the game you have to get two nets however not normal nets special tchoukball nets and then you need a ball. You can only use your hands but not your feet. There are two teams, red and blue. You can only pass to 3 people and walk 3 steps and shoot, but if you miss then it goes to the other team. Next you get to use any goal net and you have to hit the red target and your team can't catch it or you don't get a point and if the other team catches it the game continues. There are cones around the goal and you are not allowed to pass them but sometimes you are. We are learning to play tchoukball because P6/7 are going to a Tchoukball festival. Jenna is coming back on Monday the 17th March to see if they are ready for the festival and to coach us again so they don't lose.



Seachdain na Gàidhlig

Olivia, P6

On 24th February 2025 it was SEACHDAIN NA GAIDHLIG known as World Gaelic Week, were we celebrate our Scottish language. We were celebrating Gaelic with some people in a P5 to P7 and a P1 to P4 zoom calls for all the schools around Scotland, to learn and understand more Gaelic.

The lady who presented the Gaelic program was called Joy Dunlop she is a famous Scottish singer and who is also on the TV and the Radio. During the call we got to watch lots of videos of other pupils around Scotland telling us who they are and what they like, in Gaelic.

While we where on the call, Joy taught us a Gaelic song that she called 'Mouth music,' since your mouth moves around a lot while you are singing it, although she split it up into different parts to make it easier to learn.

On Friday, a few days after we finished all of the calls, Mrs Macleod, our teacher, showed us a special event for SAECHDAIN NA GAIDLIG where we got to chose either playdough or LEGO and build a structure based on its popularity. For example, we built, Katie Morag's house, the Lewis Castle in Stornoway and the Callanish stones! When we were finished we all got a certificate for our work.

Pairc & Kinloch Calendar

Tuesday 18th March

- Craft Club, Resource Centre (1-3pm)
- Bunabhainneadar Whaling Station talk, Stornoway Library (7:30pm)

Wednesday 19th March

- **Organic waste** & **mixed recycling collection**
- Ravenspoint Warm Space (11am-4pm)
- Sgoil na Pairc Soup & Pudding lunch (12:30-2pm)
- Forget Me Not Cafe, Kinloch Hub (2-4pm)
- 'Leaving Songs' book launch, Taigh Dhonnchaidh, Habost, Ness, (7:30pm)

Friday 21st March

- Kinloch Cafe Warm Hub (12-2pm)

Saturday 22nd March

- Pairc Social Walk, Eishken (11am)
- Lochs FC Marathon, Eishal-Crossbost

Monday 24th March

- Climate Hebrides Sustainability Training, Resource Centre (10am-4pm)

Tuesday 25th March

- Craft Club, Resource Centre (1-3pm)

Wednesday 26th March

- **Glass & non-recyclable waste collection**
- Ravenspoint Warm Space (11am-4pm)
- Pairc Social Club lunch, Ravenspoint (1pm)

Friday 28th March

- Kinloch Cafe Warm Hub (12-2pm)

What's on in Pairc?



Tuesday 1st April

- Craft Club, Resource Centre (1-3pm)

Wednesday 2nd April

- **Organic waste** & **mixed recycling collection**
- Ravenspoint Warm Space (11am-4pm)

Saturday 5th April

- Pairc Social Walk, Location TBC (11am)

Tuesday 8th April

- Craft Club, Resource Centre (1-3pm)

Wednesday 9th April

- Ravenspoint Warm Space (11am-4pm)
- Pairc Social Club lunch, Ravenspoint (1pm)

Friday 11th April

- Kinloch Cafe Warm Hub (12-2pm)