

PAIRC NEWSLETTER

PAIRCTRUST.CO.UK



January 2025



The Pairc Estate – January 2025

Welcome to the first Pairc newsletter of 2025. We hope you had an excellent festive break and would like to wish you a Happy New Year!

We're getting right back into things with a packed schedule of events in Pairc. We are pleased to announce the launch event of the 'Made in Pairc' project on Tuesday 11th February, and we'll also be hosting an event with the Woodland Trust on Thursday 30th January.

Read on for further details, and for a collection of community news and events.

Top News

**Croft Woodlands event –
Thursday 30th January**

**Crofting for the Future,
with the Scottish Crofting
Federation**

**Made in Pairc launch
meeting – Tuesday 11th
February**

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

01/11

Croft Woodlands Event

Join Laura McEwan from the Woodland Trust at the **Resource Centre** on **Thursday 30th January at 7pm** for a presentation on the Western Isles Croft Woodlands Project.

The project started in 2016 as a partnership between the Point & Sandwick Trust and Woodland Trust Scotland to support croft woodland creation. This year, the project hit a milestone of 211,000 native trees planted across the Western Isles.

The Woodland Trust's Croft Woodlands team can help by:

- offering free advice to crofters, smallholders and common grazings committees
- helping to overcome financial barriers
- providing training and educational resources
- raising awareness among funders and policymakers

For further information, come along to the event and/or contact Laura via email at:

LauraMcewan@woodlandtrust.org.uk



Crofting for the Future

The Scottish Crofting Federation is running a two-day training course at the **Carloway Community Centre** on **Friday 21st/Saturday 22nd February**.

The course is aimed at both new entrant and experienced crofters and will contain items on: land management; animal management; horticulture/silviculture; economic sustainability.

The course will be co-designed with participants, and when booking you will be sent a questionnaire asking which modules you would like to see included in the course.

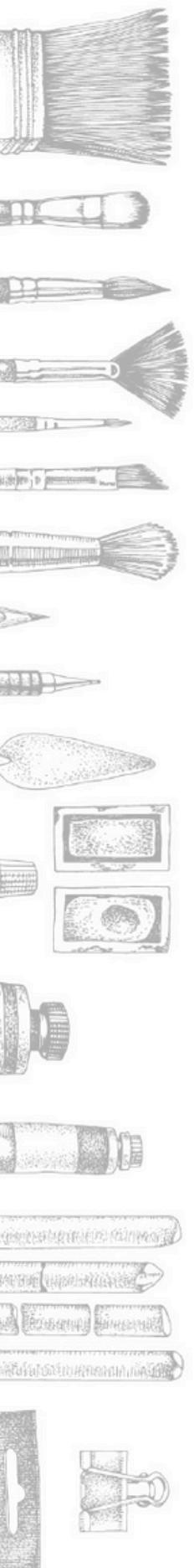
Tickets cost £50 for members, £80 for non-members. Book via: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/scottishcroftingfederation/1457122?>



Save the date!

Do you produce any kind of product in Pairc, for sale or for fun? Perhaps you provide a service? Or would you like to? Then **Made in Pairc** is for you!

We'd be delighted if you'd join us for the launch of our Made in Pairc local food, arts, crafts, trades and skills initiative at the **Kershader Resource Centre at 19:00 on Tuesday 11 February 2025**. Food will be served.



Community Highlights

Join the **What's On In Pairc** WhatsApp community to keep up to date with events, social occasions, items for sale/freecycling, and much more!



- Join **John Randall & the Kinloch Historical Society** at the Kinloch Community Hub, Balallan, on Tuesday 18th February at 7pm for an illustrated talk on the **Historic Shielings of Pairc**. John will discuss his interest in the vanished shieling culture of Pairc. All are welcome and entry is by donation. John's book is available from IBT at: https://islandsbooktrust.org/products/historic-shielings-of-pairc?_pos=1&_sid=498f53817&_ss=r
- A new **Forget Me Not cafe** is taking place on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the **Kinloch Community Hub, Balallan**. The cafe is open to anyone experiencing difficulties with their memory or living with dementia, and carers, friends and families are welcome too. There will be refreshments along with some live music. For further information contact: amacleod@alzscot.org or call 07584607581.
- **Pairc Free Church** are running a 'Stand in the Gap' quiz night on **Friday 31st January** at **Gravir Church Hall**. Doors open at 7pm and if you need transport to/from Gravir, please contact 07979663694.
- The **Lochs Youth Cafe** runs every Saturday from 7:30pm-9:30pm at the **North Lochs Hall, Leurbost**. Ages S1-S6 welcome for sports, games, refreshments, and a short Christian talk.
- The **Pairc Social Walks** group is next meeting on **Saturday 1st February** at 11am for a walk through **Aline Community Woodland** to Loch Seaforth. Meeting point is in the woodland carpark and all are welcome!

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 5th February at 1pm.

05/11

New year availability...

Kershader Resource Centre
South Lochs
Tuesdays



07418 613767



hebrideanosteopathy@gmail.com

HEBRIDEAN
OSTEOPATHY



WHAT IS OSTEOPATHY?

Osteopathy is a system of diagnosis and treatment for a wide range of medical conditions.

Osteopathy uses touch, articulation, stretching and massage to **increase the mobility of joints**, to **relieve muscle tension**, to enhance the **blood** and **nerve supply to tissues**, and to help your body's own **healing** mechanisms.

HEBRIDEAN
OSTEOPATHY



06/11

Let's Cele-Bake

15th
anniversary
celebrations



Join us and our celebrity host
The Hebridean Baker
for our cake decorating competition,
with afternoon tea, baking hints & tips
from Coinneach, and much more....



...because life is 4 living!

*Making a difference in the lives of
young people with Cystic Fibrosis.*

STORNOWAY TOWN HALL
SATURDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2025
1:00pm til 4:00pm

Tickets: Adults £15 Children (U16s) £10

FIND OUT WHO WILL BE CROWNED HEBRIDEAN
All Star Cake Maker



*Working in partnership with Stag Bakeries who have kindly
sponsored elements of our anniversary event.*

Mrs Maclennan's Tea Party

Grace, P7

On Wednesday 8th January it was Mrs Maclennan's last day. She had been working in the school for almost 20 years! As a thank you we gave her a tea party. Normally in the afternoon we would be doing work, however, we had a tea party this afternoon.

We set up a table, put a cloth over it, we put cakes, teacups, plates, milk and tea on the table. Our headteacher went to get her from the office while we waited to surprise her. We wanted to make it perfect for her since it was her last day.

When she saw the surprise, a big smile spread across her face. We told her to sit at the top of the table and five of us went into the kitchen to get gifts for Mrs Maclennan. The gifts we gave her were two bouquets of flowers, a box of chocolates and a huge card with a photo of all of the pupils on it. Inside the card there were pictures we all drew and writing in a heart.

Although she worked hard to help us with our work even if it was difficult, she kept her patience and made sure we understood what we had to do. She was excellent at art. Fortunately, she had a fun last day and so did all of us!

Despite it being her last day it was one of the best days ever! I will really miss her, and I hope she is doing well.

Skye, P4

On Wednesday we had a tea party because it was Mrs Maclennan's last day at school. She was shocked when she opened the door. When she opened the door we all said 'Surprise!' Then we clapped. Mrs Maclennan was a staff member. She used to play ball with me. She is brilliant at art. When we were stuck she helped us.

We gave her two bunches of flowers and a box of chocolates, she was delighted. When the teacher said Mrs Maclennan was leaving I was so sad.





Engineering Visit

Olivia, P6

On 9th January 2025, a lady called Angela came over to teach us all about building and engineering! When we saw her in class we got so excited about what was happening. First, she showed us a bunch of pictures of different engineering jobs and since we didn't know all of them we needed to guess the name of each and match the pictures.

Next, we played with some Kapla blocks. For the first challenge we needed to try and build the biggest and most stable tower. After that, we tried to build a

staircase with at least 10 steps. Finally, we built a bridge, however, for the older ones it had to have a span of at least 20cm and for the younger pupils it had to be 10cm and all of them had to be big enough for a car to go through it

When we were finished, we said goodbye and we all said thank you to her for teaching us. Although we were finished the tasks and it was the end, we still had a lot of fun with her. When she was about to leave we tidied up all of the blocks.



Callie, P6

On the 9th of January a lady called Angela from UHI STEM came to do Kapla engineering with us. At first she put pictures all over the floor and then she gave us three pictures each and we were asked to stand up and tell everyone what type of engineer it was. However, when we were finished she said we were going to do Kapla. Kapla are blocks that you can build with. While Angela gave out the Kapla bags we were getting ready to do the challenges. The first challenge was to see who could make the tallest tower, although it had to be stable.

We had five minutes to do the challenge and once the time was over Angela went around to see how everyone did. Pheobe's tower was very tall but not so stable. Skye's was the most stable but not so tall. Part of being an engineer is that the things are stable. The second task was to build a staircase with 10 steps, Skye and Tianna managed this.

We had just one more task to do since it was nearly home time. The third task was to build a bridge with a span of twenty centimetres for the P5-7 pupils and ten centimetres for the P1-4 pupils, so that a car could pass through. This time we had 10 minutes to build it. For the older ones, we had to make sure that it was twenty centimeters wide, as well as the little ones who had to make sure that it was ten centimeters wide. Then Angela went around and put the car through all of the bridges. First, she started off with Mia. Mia's was ten centimetres wide and was very secure. Then it was Phoebe's, it was ten centimeters and was very good too. And the same for Tiana and Skye. Then for the older ones it was a bit more difficult because they had to make it twenty centimeters wide. However, they got through it, and they did very well as well. Then it was time to tidy up because it was home time, and we said goodbye to Angela. We all enjoyed the challenges.



Young Leaders

Leya, P6

On Tuesday the 14th of January, Jenna from 'Active schools' came to our school to tell us about 'Young Leaders' for P6 to 7. She began by talking about different people and characters who are and aren't successful, and how they were good leaders. Although we were learning how to do Young Leaders it was still fun since we got to some games.

We learned about:

- S - Space
- T - Task
- E - Equipment
- P - People

Space means what space you have to play in, Task means what you are doing in the game, Equipment is for what stuff you are using to play the game, People means how you can change the number of people during the game. And it all stands for STEP which is how to organise the game you're playing.

We also got a booklet about it from Jenna. Finally, Jenna told us to do a sport with the younger children for 15 minutes once a week. Jenna also talked though each game so we could learn however we still got to have fun some too. We played Unihoc and a game called 'Queen of the Ring,' while she talked to our teacher. Then, after all of that we played 'Sleeping Lions' because we were exhausted.