

PAIRC NEWSLETTER

PAIRCTRUST.CO.UK



February 2025



The Pairc Estate – February 2025

2025 continues with some excellent weather – we hope you have been enjoying the sun!

We are pleased to announce the Trust's next AGM taking place at the Resource Centre on Tuesday 25th February, and also to bring you details on the highly successful launch of the 'Made in Pairc' initiative.

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

Top News

CnES Housing Community Consultation – Wednesday 19th February at 7pm

Pairc Trust AGM – Tuesday 25th February at 7:30pm

Aline Woodland call for ideas – Thursday 6th March at 7pm

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



Annual General Meeting

**TUESDAY 25TH
FEBRUARY**

7:30PM

**THE RESOURCE
CENTRE, KERSHADER,
HS2 9QA**

*The Pairc Trust would like to invite you to join us for our Annual General Meeting which will be held at **The Resource Centre, Kershader**, as well as via online video call link, on **Tuesday 25th February at 7:30pm.***

Membership

All members of the Pairc Trust are encouraged to attend. If you are not a member but would like to join, a membership form can be collected from our office at the Resource Centre.

We look forward to having your attendance at this year's AGM!

✉ info@pairctrust.co.uk

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Guest Speaker

In addition to AGM business, our guest speaker this year will be **Agnes Rennie**, Chairperson at **Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn**.

Online Attendance

If you would like to attend the AGM via Microsoft Teams, please contact the Trust via email at info@pairctrust.co.uk by **Monday 17th February** for further details.

Director Nomination

We would encourage members with particular skills that would be useful to the Trust's aims to consider putting themselves forward for nomination to work on the board of our community owned estate. If you are interested in becoming a director please get in touch. A director nomination form can be collected from our office.

☎ 01851 800 728

 www.pairctrust.co.uk

Made in Pairc Launch Event

Tuesday 11th February saw the launch of the '**Made in Pairc**' initiative. Around 45 crafters, makers, growers, and skilled folk gather for a delicious meal at Ravenspoint followed by a presentation on what the initiative could offer local producers and providers of services.

One key idea from the event was the establishment of a local producer's co-op, similar to REKO rings which are popular in Scandinavia, which would help build a 'Made in Pairc' brand and presence, and provide a way to market local produce within the area (and further!). This was received positively by the participants, and there was an air of excitement and opportunity during the Q&A and wider discussion.

A critical part of moving things forward will involve conducting a survey of the Pairc Estate to find what sort of goods and services are on offer here and, perhaps more importantly, what local appetites exist for the things Pairc has to offer. Several of whom stepped forward as volunteers to survey their townships, but any additional help would be welcomed.

If you're a local producer Pairc, or are interested in purchasing local goods



and services, please fill out our questionnaire below:
<https://forms.microsoft.com/e/2xZiqwgY6u>

We would like to thank the volunteers at **Ravenspoint Centre** for helping prepare and serve food, those who kindly donated local produce for the dinner and also providing desserts, and **Climate Hebrides** for funding the event!



JOIN US FOR A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

The Comhairle is preparing
the Local Housing Strategy for 2025 - 30
and we would like to hear
your views and priorities for
HOUSING IN THE LOCHS AREA



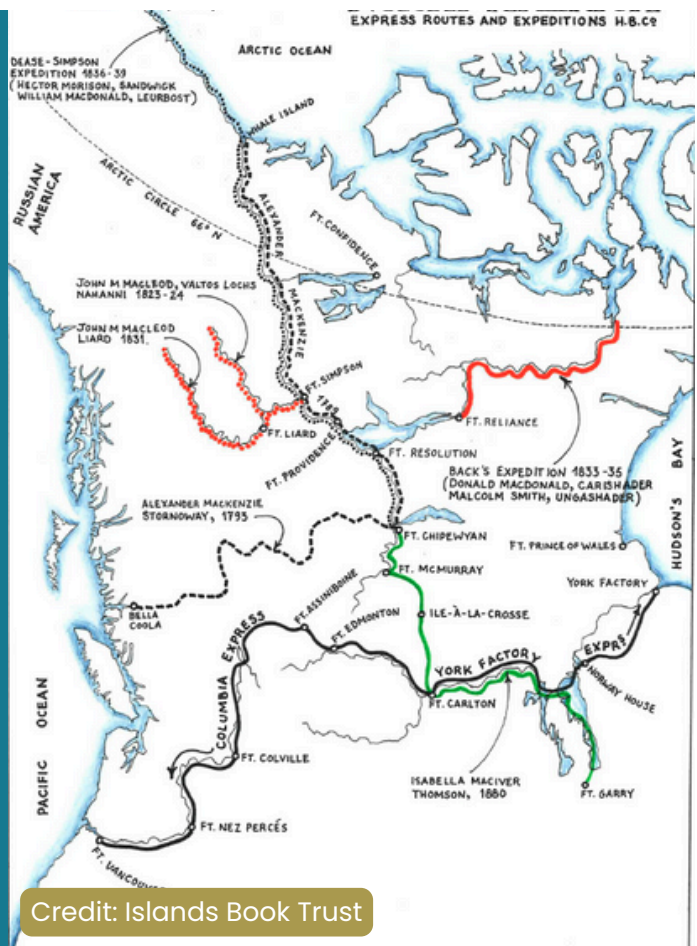
**Wednesday, 19 February 2025
at 7pm
The Resource Centre, Kershader**



04/14

Pemmican & Portages

The Islands Book Trust are launching 'Pemmican and Portages', by Angus Macdonald, at 7pm on **Thursday 6th March** in the Stornoway Town Hall. The book uncovers the untold Story of Lewismen in the exploration of North America and the European settlement of Canada. Entry is free & refreshments will be provided.



Credit: Islands Book Trust

- Congratulations to **Mia** from **Sgoil na Pairc**, who won the Primary 1 category of NHS Western Isles poster competition on the theme of 'Keeping Families Fit, Healthy and Happy'. Mia's entry will be framed and displayed in the hospital, so keep your eyes peeled!
- The **Kinloch Historical Society** are running a **Spinning Wheel Workshop** with Iain Martainn from Seaforth Harris Tweed on Saturday 8th March at 2pm. Bring your own spinning wheel! Tickets cost £15 and include refreshments and a tour of the museum. Contact gemma.kinlochhistorical@outlook.com / 01851 830 778 to book.
- A **Forget Me Not cafe** is running on Wednesday 19th February 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.
- The **Pairc Social Walks** group is next meeting on **Saturday 1st March** at 11am for a walk from **Garyvard** to **Caversta**. Meeting point is at [///grabs.spearhead.internet](http://grabs.spearhead.internet) (What3Words) and all are welcome!



Credit: Aline Community Woodland

Aline Community Woodland Defibrillator Donation

Aline Community Woodland are delighted to have been donated a defibrillator which is now located in the cabin at the main carpark. The defibrillator was handed over recently by Heather MacRae from Eishken who was accompanied by her young nephew Tommy.

Sadly the momentum to donate these defibrillators came about through the sad and sudden death of Heather's partner John Devine. John passed away on 5th March 2024 from a heart attack due to an undiagnosed heart condition at the age of 37 and

while employed as a gamekeeper at Eishken.

The walking tracks and playpark at Aline Community Woodland are widely used by the public and while you hope never to have to use a defibrillator, having one available at the right time can be a lifesaver.



LOCHS SHOW 2025

The Lochs Show Committee are starting to prep for this year's Show. We are appealing for new helpers to volunteer on the committee and help us pull the Show together. If you are interested in finding out more about what the committee does, how you could help and how to join, please speak to one of the committee members or message the page.





Aline Community Woodland

It's 20 years since we purchased Aline Community Woodland.

It's time to review progress and invite new ideas for further development

Come and bring your ideas to an open event at

The Resource Centre, Kershader, HS2 9QA

6th March at 7.00pm





Crofters & Horticultural Events & Courses 2025

Supported by FAS & LHHP

Free entry. To show your interest please contact John Hamilton (Food Coordinator) at: foodcolhhp@gmail.com

Refreshments provided at all events & courses

**Location: Third Sector Hebrides, 30 Francis Street,
Stornoway HS1 2ND**

Growers Gathering/ February 1st Saturday/ Time: 14.00 -16.00

Open to all Crofters and Horticulturalists who grows or wants to grow vegetables on the Western Isles. Come along to our social event.

February 15th Saturday Course 1/ Time: 14.00-16.00

Soil ecology & health

Composting

March 1st Saturday Course 2/Time: 14.00-16.00

Outdoor growing

Crop planning & rotation

March 15th Saturday Course 3/Time: 14.00-16.00

Seed sowing & propagation

Indoor growing

March 22nd Saturday Course 4/Time: 14.00-16.00

Site planning

Growing to scale

Marketing & packaging

Business support

No booking needed. We look forward to seeing you on the day.

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**

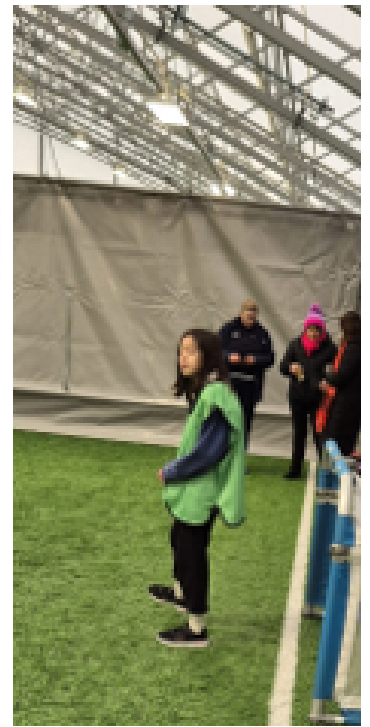
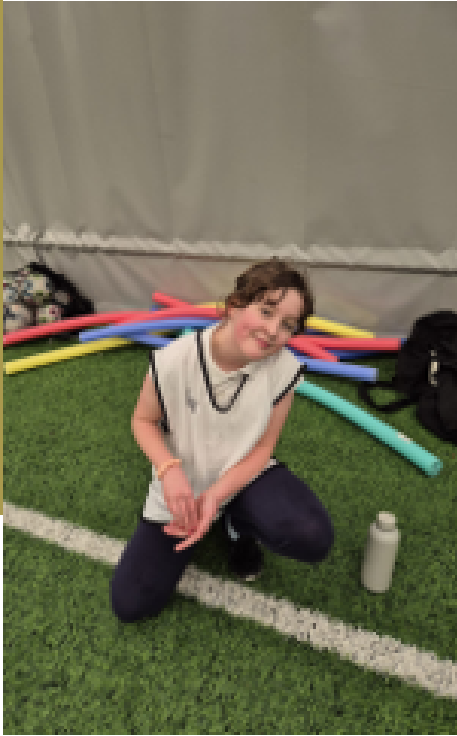
info@ravenspoint.net
Call Denise on 01851 880313
Or pop in at the shop!

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 February at 1pm.

09/14



Girl's Football Festival

Olivia, P6

On Tuesday 4th February Callie, Grace and Olivia all went to the Back Football & Recreation Club for Girls Football.

Arriving at the club we first had a warm up with all the teachers. Every teacher from all the schools got a pool noodle and we played a game where we had to run to different corners of the room without getting whacked with the noodles. However, there were two sides that had a different amount of people and the sides we were on we could not go to the other side. After a while, the

teachers let some of the kids have a go with the noodles as well.

After that, we got to go in different teams of at least three or five and the different teams were in different colours since it would be easier to find our teams after the break.

As soon as we got set up in our teams we had some time to pick out where about were going to go and what are role is going to be.

Although, we all wanted to be in the same teams we had to work with who

we were set up with.

Next, we had a quick break to eat our snacks then we went back to playing Football. After a while, we had another quick break, just in case we didn't have enough time to eat, but a lot of people were eating their lunch. After the second break we went straight back to playing but we played for a bit longer.

Finally, we all got together and took a big picture for all the schools to remember the day and we all packed up. Callie, Grace, and Olivia went to Sgoil Nan Loch to have lunch in the P7 room.

After our lunch, in Mr Gray's class we got to learn a little bit about elections and voting. We didn't get to be there for the whole lesson since we didn't have the time but we still had fun.

On the way back, we got to listen to a bunch of our favourite songs with Hannah.

Grace, P7

On Tuesday 4th February P6-7 girls went to Back football and recreation club to do football.

Inside it was full of people from different schools all there to do football. However only two of the P6 pupils came and only one P7 came from our school since some people were sick. We went with Sgoil nan Loch although we weren't from Sgoil nan Loch.

First, we did a warm up. For the warm up there was an orange team and a white team. In the four corners of each side there were red cones that were curved to make safe places. The teachers were given pool noodles and there were four teachers on each side. We had to try get to different corners without getting hit and if we did make it without getting hit we would get diamonds but they weren't real. If we did get hit the diamonds would get taken away from us. At the end we had to see how many diamonds we each got. After the teachers finished with the pool noodles some of the children were allowed to get a pool noodle and try hit the other children.

When the warmup was finished we lined up on a white line and the guy in charge split us into teams of three or four. There was about twenty minutes of each round. While we were all inside it was raining outside. At the end of the football we each did one big match. Since there were different colour teams the teams with the same colours were combined and went up against other teams. The football started at 10:30 and ended at 12:30 and overall it lasted for 2 hours. When it was almost time to go we all gathered together and took a picture.

I hope we have more fun like that in future.

Pupil Led Open Afternoon

Callie, P6

On Wednesday the 12th of February, Pairc School had a pupil led opening afternoon for their parents. This was a day where pupils, parents would come into school and see what they have been doing this time. Since Pairc School was having a pupil led opening afternoon for parents. At first we had to Prepare and get everything ready to show our parents. We all showed their parents sphero indi. We showed them our jotters and the work that the we had done on Mary Queen of Scots. The little one showed their parents the things that they had made and the things that they had done for the most magnificent thing. Unfortunately some parents couldn't make it.

While the little ones were showing the parents their work, the older ones were doing a portrait of Mary, Queen of Scots from the book that we had read, 'The Boy, the Witch and the Queen of Scots'. Although we hadn't finished the display for Mary, Queen of Scots, we still should have parents what we had done. And what we would try, what we were going to do next. All of our parents were very proud of what we had achieved and what we are planning to do next. A lot of the parents said that we put a lot of good effort into our schoolwork and that to keep her up.

I enjoyed the people led opening afternoon because we had the chance to show our parents what we had done and what we had achieved so far. We also told them the other things that we were planning to do the next time and that we told them that we had a competition coming up. This competition was called 'If we were an engineer.' We had a lot of successful work. However, we didn't get to finish all of our work to show our parents, but we showed our parents what we had done and what we were we were proud of.

"I can't wait to see what Pairc school does next!"

Skye, P4

Our parents came to school on Wednesday and Mummy and my Nanny came to see me. When my Nanny and my Mummy came I was so happy.

I showed my Nanny my books. Next, I showed my carousel that I made out of Lego and I can make it move.

We are doing an engineer project. My nanny brought a can opener to school and we looked at its design.

After we went in to the hall and played with Sphero indi. I enjoyed spending time with mummy and nanny.



Engineer Visit

Olivia, P6

On Wednesday 29th January, an engineer came to school since we were learning about engineering! His name was Mr Neal Ingram and he was a civil engineer. As we walked in we felt nervous although we were also excited.

While he was here, we all asked a lot of questions about engineering and what he does, he gave an answer that we'd never even guess. He told us that it was all about teamwork and infrastructure.

First, we watched a video that his work friends made all about civil engineering. Next, he gave us a paper with a picture of the world on it and we had to circle the things that we think they created or designed like buildings, bridges, fences and sheds!

Finally, we made a tower out of paper and tape although we had to plan it first. After we all planned it we got straight to building however, we had to write a limit on how much paper we use and there was a timer of 10 minutes but it also had to be very tall and also had to look good.

After we finished it was time to say goodbye. Before he left we got to take a photo with him and we said thank you and goodbye.

Leisha, P5

In P5/7 The book we are reading is called 'The Boy the Witch and the Queen of Scots.' It's About a boy named Alexander who was supposed to spy on the Queen, or he will die! Then he somehow went to the Queen's palace after two weeks where there was a hooded man who came to threaten Alexander. It is my favourite book so far, I love it so much.

P1/4 are reading a book called 'The Most Magnificent Thing.' It is about a girl who keeps trying to make something for her dog to ride on her scooter however, it doesn't work because it keeps breaking. While she is working on it people are getting angry because she is doing it in the walk way. Since she can't do it she gives up and then tries again. But when she made it he loved it because he could just chill she was happy.

Pairc & Kinloch Calendar

Tuesday 18th February

- Craft Club, Resource Centre (1-3pm)
- Historic Shielings of Pairc, Kinloch Hub (7pm)

Wednesday 19th February

- **Organic waste** & **mixed recycling collection**
- Ravenspoint Warm Space (11am-4pm)
- Forget Me Not Cafe, Kinloch Hub (2-4pm)
- CnES Housing Consultation, Resource Centre (7pm)

Friday 21st February

- Kinloch Cafe Warm Hub (12-2pm)

Tuesday 25th February

- Craft Club, Resource Centre (1-3pm)
- Pairc Trust AGM, Resource Centre (7:30pm)

Wednesday 26th February

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

Friday 28th February

- Kinloch Cafe Warm Hub (12-2pm)

Saturday 1st March

- Pairc Social Walk, Garyvard (11am)

Tuesday 4th March

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

Wednesday 5th March

- **Non-recyclable waste collection**
- Ravenspoint Warm Space (11am-4pm)

Thursday 6th March

- Islands Book Trust book launch, Stornoway Town Hall (7pm)
- Aline Community Woodland meeting, Resource Centre (7pm)

What's on in Pairc?



Friday 7th March

- Kinloch Cafe Warm Hub (12-2pm)

Saturday 8th March

- Spinning Wheel Workshop, Kinloch Hub (2pm)

Tuesday 11th March

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

Wednesday 12th March

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

Friday 14th March

- Kinloch Cafe Warm Hub (12-2pm)

Saturday 15th March

- Pairc Social Walk, location TBC (11am)
- Lewis & Harris Horticultural Producers workshop, Stornoway (2-4pm)