

PAIRC NEWSLETTER

PAIRCTRUST.CO.UK



June 2026



The Pairc Estate – June 2026

Read on for information on upcoming events, items of interest, and other opportunities across the Pairc community.

The Pairc Trust are pleased to bring you news of a new photography & art exhibition opening at Ravenspoint, thanks from Sgoil na Pairc for the support shown for the school's Gala Day, an upcoming book launch from the Islands Book Trust, and more news and events from across South Lochs & Kinloch.

Top News

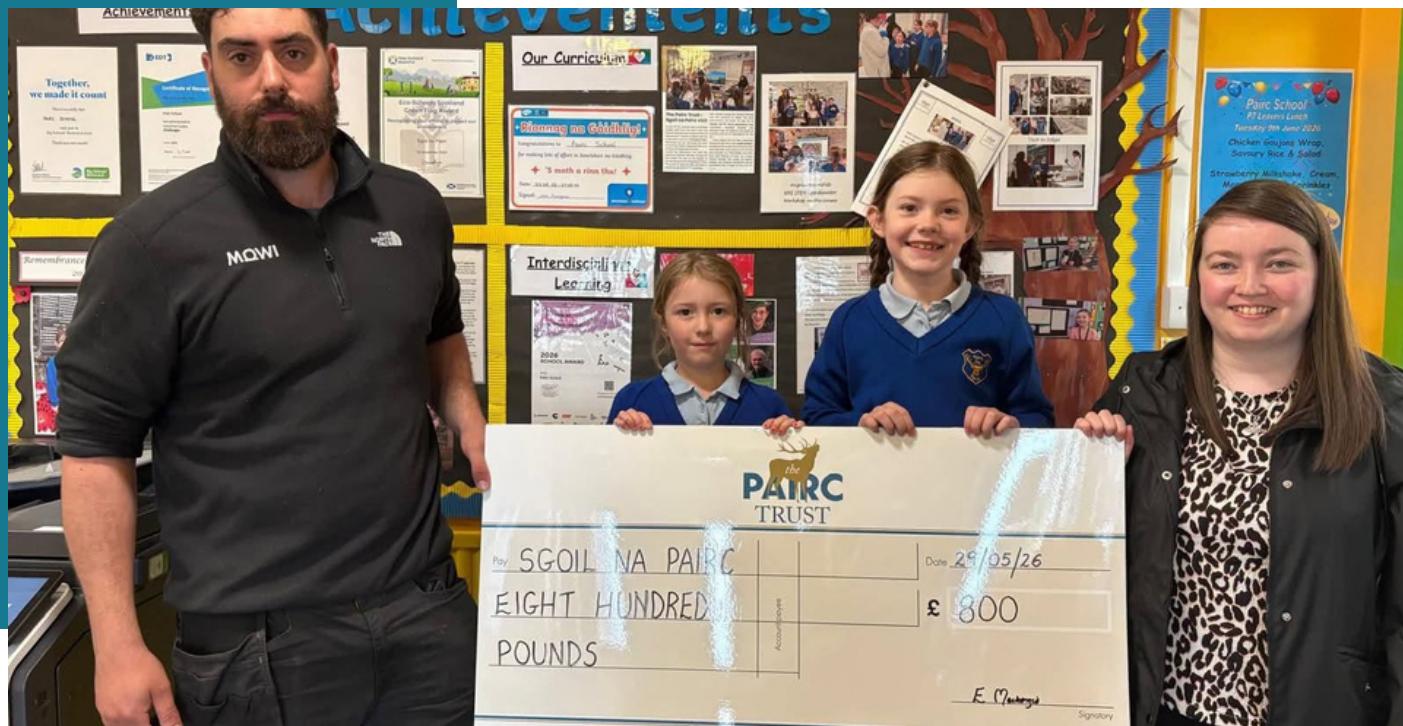
**Pairc Landscapes
Exhibition**

**Sgoil na Pairc
Community Benefit
Funding**

**Islands Book Trust
Launch Event: 'Our New
Crofting Life'**

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



Pairc Trust Community Benefit Funding

The Pairc Trust is delighted to celebrate the outstanding success of pupils from Sgoil na Pairc, who have achieved national recognition in the prestigious “If You Were an Engineer, What Would You Do?” competition. This UK-wide initiative invites pupils aged 3–19 to interview engineers and design their own innovative engineering solutions. Last year, more than 70,000 pupils took part across 25 regions, with only a small number selected as Winners or Highly Commended awardees.

Sgoil na Pairc pupils excelled at every stage of the competition. All pupils from the school were shortlisted, with two young entrants, Pheobe Morrison and Tianna Hodgson, both aged seven, going

on to receive top honours: Pheobe was awarded Winner and Tianna was Highly Commended. Their work was showcased at the Scotland North Exhibition and Awards Ceremony in Aberdeen on Tuesday 19th May, where pupils viewed their work on public display, met with the engineers involved in the judging process and received their awards.

Speaking about the achievement, Mrs Finnegan, class teacher at Sgoil na Pairc, said: *“This is a fantastic achievement for our pupils, especially at such a young age. They worked incredibly hard throughout the project—listening to engineers, identifying real life problems, and designing thoughtful solutions. Attending the awards ceremony was an inspiring experience for them and their families, and we are very proud of everything they have accomplished!”*

Pheobe commented *“I was nervous to go on the stage because there were so*



many people, but when they called me up, I was happy because I won.’ Tianna said, ‘I was worried when I went on the stage, but when I got my prize, I was very happy.’

The Pairc Trust has supported Sgoil na Pairc through their Community Benefit Fund to cover travel and accommodation costs, ensuring the pupils and their families could attend the ceremony without financial barriers.

Emma Mackenzie, Estate Manager for The Pairc Trust, added: *“We are incredibly proud of the pupils of Sgoil na Pairc and delighted to support their journey to the awards in Aberdeen. Their success highlights the creativity and talent within our community, and it is important that financial barriers do not prevent young people from accessing opportunities like this. The Pairc Trust is committed to supporting local achievement and celebrating the innovation of our young*

people, and we would like to offer our biggest congratulations to the pupils at Sgoil na Pairc!”

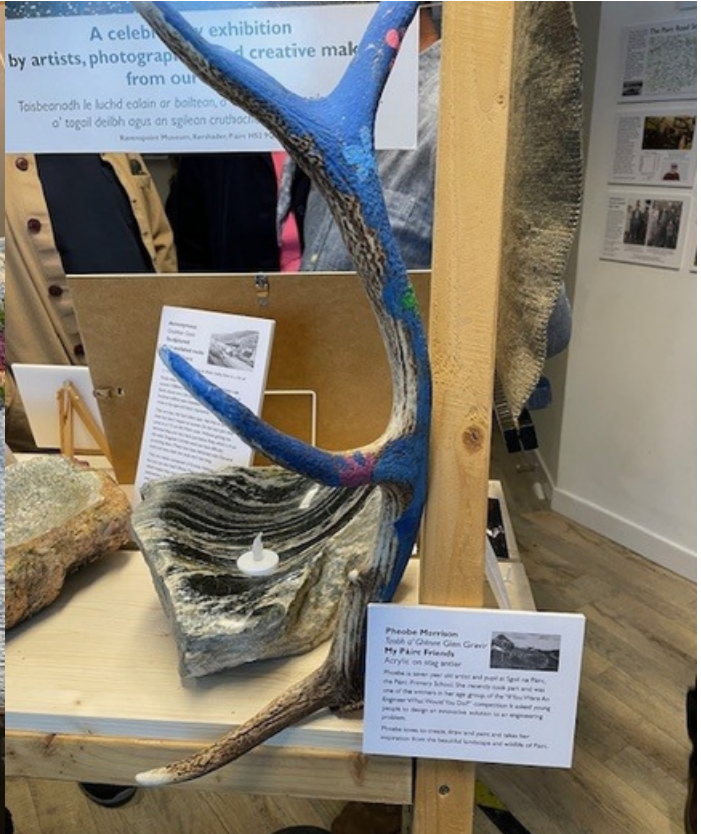
If you would like to find out further information about the Community Benefit Fund, please email info@pairctrust.co.uk or alternatively visit our website at: <https://www.pairctrust.co.uk/community-benefit-fund/>

Gunnera Management

Efforts to continue invasive gunnera control within the Estate continue over the summer.

This year the Trust are being supported by staff from the Stornoway Trust, building on the assistance we received last year from the North Harris Trust in spraying and controlling Gunnera on the Estate.

In order to target these efforts as effectively as possible, we ask residents on the Estate to please send us the location of Gunnera plants that they are aware of via info@pairctrust.co.uk, with a what3words reference pinpointing the location if possible. The team will be checking locations previously registered for new/re-emerging plants - please contact us if you would like advance notice of their attendance, i.e. if you have stock you would like to move away from plants to be treated.



Pàirc Landscapes: A Summer Exhibition Celebrating Local Creativity

On Friday 12th June, Pàirc Landscapes – an initiative conceived by David Simpson – brought together the work of 19 local artists, photographers and makers from across the area, with each of the twelve village settlements in Pàirc represented. The result is a rich and varied celebration of the landscape that surrounds and defines this corner of Lewis, told through the eyes of the people who know it best.

From paintings and photography to carved stone, needlecraft, tweed,

sculpture, woollen artefacts and video, the exhibition reflects the remarkable breadth of talent across all ages and backgrounds in the community. Particularly heartwarming is the inclusion of work from pupils at Sgoil na Pàirc Primary, displayed alongside pieces from amateur and professional artists alike. Each work is accompanied by a note from the artist describing how and why they created it – a personal dimension that brings the whole exhibition to life.

The opening evening was a wonderful success, with singing from Pebbles Sawyer and her family adding a warm and joyful atmosphere to what was a truly multi-sensory occasion. Guests were captivated by the craftsmanship and dedication on show throughout.

The exhibition is now open to visitors for the duration of the summer. While you're



there, don't miss the recently completed interactive Pàirc Tapestry at the Pàirc Trust Resource Centre, right next door to Ravenspoint – a stunning piece of detailed embroidery created by the local craft club using tweed from the area. Also well worth a visit is the Pàirc Landscape Project Exhibition, featuring then-and-now photography of locations across Pàirc, alongside artwork by local artists working with tjanting and mixed media techniques inspired by the landscape.

The exhibition runs throughout most of the summer, with opening hours of 11am to 4pm. Entrance is free, and the museum's self-service café – with its lovely views over Loch Erisort – is open for refreshments, cakes and homemade soup.

Ravenspoint Museum, Kershader, Pàirc, HS2 9QA. All are welcome.





'Our New Crofting Life' – Book Launch

IBT will be launching this brilliant new book at 11:00am on Saturday 27th June at the Resource Centre, Kershader, South Lochs, Lewis – to be followed by a guided tour of the authors' croft in Lemreway.

Based on extracts from their diaries, this is a lavishly illustrated account of the initial experiences of new croft entrants aiming to establish a sustainable enterprise on a small croft in rural Lewis. David and Izzy approach the inevitable challenges with determination and ambition, demonstrating a pioneering spirit while at the same time being conscious of the township's long heritage and traditions from which they wish to learn.

The immediacy of the diary entries recording day-to-day experiences looking after rare breeds of sheep and diversifying into environmental

education, art, and adventure tourism is combined with reflective pieces which give an honest assessment of the potential financial viability of crofting and its contribution to wider issues such as rural development, biodiversity, local food production, and combatting climate change.

David and Izzy and their livestock (which includes Soay sheep and Highland cattle) have already starred in several TV programmes about modern crofting practices and opportunities for diversification. Their new book will be of absorbing interest to both established crofters and all those interested in using the land in innovative and environmentally friendly ways.

The book will be available from: www.islandsbooktrust.org.

We are grateful to Pairc Area Forum for support towards the production costs of this book.

Sgoil nan Loch Mod Success

Congratulations to the Sgoil nan Loch football team, who finished as runners-up in the Cuach na Cloinne 2026 final held in Inverness. The team showed great determination and sportsmanship, and represented the school brilliantly. Particular congratulations go to Alfie George, who won the Gaelic Cup - a well-deserved recognition of his hard work.

Sgoil nan Loch acting teams also took part in competitions at the Lewis Mod



and, although they didn't take home a prize, they showed great confidence and talent. Two choirs entered into the competition and both won first place - a great achievement! - with individual successes in the melodeon competition as well.

Lochs FC

Lochs FC met with defeat in the first rounds of the MAL Civils Cup and EaF Cup, losing 2-0 to lochdar Saints in the former, and 7-1 to Harris FC in the latter.

The U18s fared better, beating Ness FC 4-1, and U14/U16 player Callan Macleod contributed to The Nicolson Institute's victory in this year's Secondary Schools Cup competition, with the team triumphing over Glasgow Gaelic High School on penalties.





Lochs Show 2026

The 2026 Lochs Show will be taking place on Saturday 25th July. The Lochs Agricultural Society have issued a final call for booking stalls and tables and are appealing for volunteers to help set up over the preceding week and manage the event on the day, even an hour would be appreciated. If you can assist, please contact them via their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/LochsShow>.

FilmG Awards Success

Kinloch Historical Society & Sgoil nan Loch celebrated a huge achievement last week, as 'Salmaidh' (a short documentary on Gaelic psalm singing) won Best Heritage Film in the -12 category at the FilmG awards in Glasgow.

Congratulations to all the pupils involved in the project, and we are excited to see what further work emerges from collaborations between our schools and heritage organisations.

Herring Stories of the Minch

The new film Herring Stories of the Minch, made with local people and communities in collaboration with Pawas Bisht (Keele University) and Lydia Martens (University of Edinburgh) will be screened at the Resource Centre on Tuesday 23rd June, starting at 19:00. The film is one hour in duration, and the screening will be followed with a conversation. Herring have historically shaped communities and culture around the Minch but disappeared from these waters in the late 1970s. The film tells the stories of herring,



fishing, and eating and asks what was lost when herring disappeared from the Minch and what their return might mean for culture, livelihoods and wildlife.

This event is free of charge and no booking is required, just come along. We look forward to seeing you there.

Lemreway Defibrillator

Mowi Scotland has now taken on responsibility for hosting and maintaining Lemreway's Automated External Defibrillator.

The life-saving device was previously located on the exterior of the Old Post Office and has now been relocated to Mowi's building at the pier. The company has paid to renew the pads and battery, costing around £500 in total, and will keep

the device maintained for future use.

Stewart Davidson, Manager of the Lemreway fish farm, said: *"It used to be sited at what in the past was the old Post Office, Stewart says, "but sadly the man who lived there passed away and although the defibrillator stayed on that building, there was nobody in it. Donald from the Pairc Trust came and asked us if we would put it on our building as we were at the centre of the village. And of course we said fine, no problem.*

"I nominated ourselves for the upkeep. When it came, it needed replacement pads and unfortunately it was used once as well so needed more pads and then the battery, which lasts 10 years, so all in all it cost a bit over £500."

The defibrillator costs were previously covered by the local community, and we appreciate Mowi's assistance in maintaining this important asset.



We wish to sincerely thank everyone who came to support our Gala Day, which raised a fantastic £350!

Pairc School Gala Day

Pheobe, P3

We had the Gala on the 4th of June.

First, we made baking on Wednesday because it was the Gala Day and we made amazing Fifteens and Malteser squares to sell.

There was the lucky dip stall, hook the duck stall, face paint stall and a bouncy castle. Outside the school there were plants to sell.

Thank you to all the people who bought raffle tickets to win the hamper and help to raise money for the school.



ISLANDS BOOK TRUST



'OUR NEW CROFTING LIFE'

by ISABELLA DE SANTIS and DAVID BARTLES-SMITH

ATTENDANCE FREE

IBT will be launching this brilliant new book based on extracts from their diaries, this is a lavishly illustrated account of the initial experiences of new croft entrants aiming to establish a sustainable enterprise on a small croft in rural Lewis.

BOOK LAUNCH

11.00am

Saturday 27th June

**Resource Centre, Kershader,
South Lochs, Lewis**

**Followed by a guided tour of the
authors' croft in Lemreway.**

We are grateful to **Paìrc Area Forum** for support towards the costs of this book.

www.islandsbooktrust.org
info@islandsbooktrust.org
01851 450104



@ISLANDSBOOKTRUST

Lochs Agricultural Society



CAR PARK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

SHOW DAY 25 JULY 2026

We are looking for a team of volunteers to help us manage the three Car Parking sites on the Show Day.

Coordinating car parking and getting visitors safely into the Showground is essential in the effective running of the whole Show Day, so we need capable, confident individuals who can handle and manage the numerous vehicles arriving and situations as they may arise.

We are looking for a bank of around 12 volunteers to help with our core group of experienced volunteers, this should allow a rota system to enable access into the Show at some point during the day, where you will be provided with free entry and vouchers to use at food & drink outlets.

If you think you can help, please get in touch!



**Alzheimer
Scotland**
Action on Dementia

Lochs Forget Me Not Café

Led by Alzheimer Scotland staff and supported by volunteers, this monthly get together is a great way to stay connected with others, make new friends, and enjoy a sing-along with our fantastic group of musicians led by Chrisanne MacDonald.

Our group is open to anyone experiencing difficulties with their memory or living with dementia along with their carers, friends and families too. We also welcome the wider community to join!

Dementia Friendly and Inclusive!

Please bring along a companion if you cannot attend independently and need some support. Light refreshments provided.

When?

1st July 2026
2pm – 4pm

Where?

The Resource Centre,
Kershader

For More Information:

Please call Angela on 01851 702123
or email Amacleod@alzscot.org

Partly funded by Pairc Area Forum



**PAIRC AREA
FORUM**

Our community groups are there to be enjoyed by anyone living with dementia or experiencing difficulties with their memory, and their families and friends. All are welcome; people who can attend independently and/or for those unable to do so should come with a companion who can provide any support for them. We don't provide transport for these groups and therefore it is your responsibility to get to and from the community groups safely.

Alzheimer Scotland – Action on Dementia is a company limited by guarantee, registered in Scotland 149069. Recognised as a charity by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, no. SC022315 160 Dundee Street, Edinburgh, EH11 1DQ. 0131 243 1453. www.alzscot.org



OMF MINISTRY FOCUS

Muriel MacLeod – Missionary to Cambodia

*Muriel is from Stornoway and has spent many years
as a missionary in Cambodia.*

Come along to hear her life story & exploits in a foreign land.

Informal, all are warmly welcome – tea / home baking

Stand In the Gap

Friday 26 June | 7:30pm | Gravir Church Hall

Ravenspoint Cafe

Back open for the Summer!

Offering soup & roll, cheese & crackers,
fresh baking and hot & cold drinks.

'Ravenspoint Cafe is open all summer

With homebaking, lush soups, fresh rolls and butter,

So drop in for a bite and stay for a blether —

There's nowhere in Lewis that's better (probably)'

**Mon – Sat
11:00 – 16:00**



ravenspoint
rubha an fhithich





SOUP & PUDDING

= *Lunch!* =

♥ **HOMEMADE SOUPS & PUDDINGS** ♥

WARM SOUP, DELICIOUS PUDDING,
GOOD FOOD, GREAT COMPANY ♥



Everyone
Welcome!



SATURDAY
4TH JULY
= **12 - 2PM** =



**PAIRC FREE
CHURCH HALL,
GRAVIR**



**RAISING FUNDS FOR
HEJCE**
English Bible Camp
IN HUNGARY 



**HOMEMADE
SOUPS**



**HOMEMADE
PUDDINGS**



**TEA, COFFEE
& JUICE
INCLUDED**



**DONATIONS
APPRECIATED**

Good food. Great fellowship. Making a difference. ♥

= **COME ALONG AND SUPPORT A GREAT CAUSE!** =



NEED A GROWING
SPACE?



QUESTIONS ABOUT
GROWING
FRUIT/VEG?



WANT SUPPORT FROM
PEOPLE WITH THE
KNOW-HOW?



EMAIL: INFO@PAIRCTRUST.CO.UK
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Community for Growing

**Are you interested in
community growing and
food resilience?**

Would you like to meet
up with like minded
folk?

**Do you want to
gain knowledge
from island
growers?**

Look out for upcoming
workshops in Kinloch

Raised beds,
container
gardening, heirloom
crops, field
medicine, herbal
walks and more.

Let's grow
together

Beginners and
accompanied
children welcome

If you would like to register your interest,
please email lochsnews@gmail.com
or call 07554665549



Staff required for Soval Lodge

An exciting opportunity has arisen to work in Soval Lodge in 2026,
from now until the end of October assisting the Housekeeper
Mairi Macleod, on a part-time basis, mornings and/ or evenings to suit.
Soval Lodge is situated near to Balallan in a stunning position overlooking Loch Erisort.

Rate paid at £14.50 an hour plus gratuities.

Please apply to

Mairi Macleod, mairigravir@gmail.com / 07947 354995

Marie Kershaw mariedkershaw@hotmail.com / 07870 675342

Youth Enablement Award

DRIVING LESSON SCHEME



The Pairc Trust are offering support towards the cost of driving lessons. The award is specifically designed to reduce the financial barriers that often prevent individuals from accessing driving instruction. By subsidising the cost of lessons, the initiative supports young people in Pairc in gaining the necessary licences and driving skills aligned with their career or personal development goals.

By enabling access across multiple licence categories (available for standard car lessons, motorbikes, HGV training, and more!) the scheme increases flexibility for applicants.

Up to 3 lessons fully funded!



Applications are now open!

For further information and to apply please visit:
www.pairctrust.co.uk/youth-enablement-award

01851 880728

pairctrust.co.uk

info@pairctrust.co.uk



DEER MARAUDING DRIVE WITH CARE

All drivers are urged to:

- Reduce speed in wooded and rural areas, especially near known deer crossings.
- Be alert for deer at the roadside—where one is seen, others are often nearby.
- Report any collisions or sightings of injured or deceased deer as soon as possible.
- If you are involved in a collision with a deer, please contact the local police station in Stornoway, who will then ensure the incident is passed on to the appropriate person responsible for dealing with the deer in that area.
- Your cooperation is appreciated in helping to ensure the safety of both road users and wildlife.

Pairc & Kinloch Calendar

Weekly Events

Mondays

- Dance Class, Resource Centre (7pm)

Saturdays

- Pairc Social Walk, see WhatsApp group for location (11am)

Fortnightly Events

Wednesdays (from 29th October)

- Pairc Social Lunch, Ravenspoint cafe (1pm)

Monthly Events

Every Second Wednesday

- Aline Woodland Development Group meeting, Resource Centre, Kershader (7pm)

Wednesday 17th June

- **Organic & mixed recycling collection**

Friday 26th June

- Stand In The Gap - OMF Missionary Focus, Pairc Free Church Hall. Gravir (7:30pm)

Saturday 27th June

- 'Our New Crofting Life' book launch, Resource Centre (11am)
- 'Herring Stories of the Minch' screening, Resource Centre (7pm)

Wednesday 1st July

- **Household waste collection**
- Forget Me Not Cafe, Resource Centre (2-4pm)

What's on in Pairc?



Thursday 2nd July

- **Glass recycling collection**

Saturday 4th July

- Soup & pudding lunch, Pairc Free Church Hall. Gravir (12-2pm)

Wednesday 8th July

- **Organic & mixed recycling collection**