

## Village Centre Update



The site continues to take shape despite the bad weather conditions. Kerbing to square and pathways have been installed and the drainage trench from Ice Factor boundary to storm drain at road junction has been completed.

The foundations have been laid for the three raised beds and curved commemorative wall followed by the construction of the beds and wall.

An opening ceremony for the village square will be planned for late April and if anyone would like to make any suggestions as to how we should mark this occasion please do so by contacting the Trust Office.

## Thank you letter

We have been asked to say a thank you via the newsletter to Patrick MacLellan from various local residents regarding clearing the short cut etc during the heavy and prolonged snow and icy spell a few weeks ago. This was very much appreciated by many local residents.

## Joint Community Open Day

Please join Lochaber College for the "South Lochaber Community Event" at The Leven Centre, Kinlochleven on Saturday 27 February from 10:00 - 1:00.

Lochaber College will be joining forces with The Leven Centre, Kinlochleven Library and the Kinlochleven Community Trust to name a few in an open day event. Please drop by with your family and join us for a chat and a cuppa. This is your opportunity to find out what is happening in your community and give all of us the benefit of your opinion and needs. Let us know what you would like to see in place at the college and in your community.

Tea/coffee and home baking will be available and KCT will be having a stall to raise funds for the Bike Park for the Youth. Hope to see you there.

## Aluminium Story Day

You are invited to come along to the  
Aluminium Story Building  
Open Day on  
Wednesday 3rd March 2010  
From 3pm - 6pm

Come and see the proposals, give  
your feedback and acquaint yourself  
with the facilities.

### **Financial position of the Trust**

Members may be aware how the Trust is funded, mainly by the income from the rental of various properties in the village. Our expenditure sometimes on a monthly basis exceeds our income and this imbalance combined with the expenditure on implementing our 5 year development plan puts a deficit in our balances.

The Directors have had to make very difficult discussions on trying to balance the books and have looked over every option on saving costs and eventually had to look at staffing levels. It was decided from the 2nd of February 2010 to issue Patrick MacLellan with his redundancy notice. Patrick has been employed for two years by the Trust as a Ground Maintenance Operative; his work and commitment has been of the highest quality and it was with great reluctance that the Board of the Trust made this decision.

The two office based staff have been asked to work a four day week for the foreseeable future and it has been decided to close the office on a Monday with immediate effect. Other cost cutting measures have also been put in place and in general cutting back on expenditure.

On a positive note the old nursery building is about to be leased by New Start Highland who recycle unwanted household items, provide practical assistance and is a training provider for people who are unemployed. We wish them all success in their operation and the projected income will be very welcomed by the Trust.

The Trust is actively pursuing alternative ways of long term funding for the Trust to be of a more sustainable nature and outline discussions have been held with Rio Tinto Alcan with a report/discussion paper to be presented to Rio Tinto Alcan on the subject of a renewable energy strategy. However, this matter is a long term project, first to get Rio Tinto Alcan on board and then to progress to feasibility studies and then to fruition of a project that would generate monthly income.

Regarding an update on the relocation of the Post Office. You are invited to come along to the Aluminium Story Building on Wednesday 3rd March from 3pm—6pm. This will allow members of the community to acquaint themselves with the facilities, see the proposals and give feedback as to the use of the different areas within the building.

A further idea to gain additional income for the Trust is for the Trust to promote a local lottery with profit going towards the 5 year development plan projects. The lottery would take the form of a hopefully "200 Club" where each member of the club will pay £1.00 weekly. A weekly prize of £50.00 would be offered along with a year end jackpot of a large cash prize at the end of the 40 week period of the draw. The proceeds would be split between prizes and the Trust on a 50-50 basis. Full details will be available at the Aluminium Story Open Day.

Quite a lot to take in, I would ask all members to support the Board in our endeavours to get the Trust's expenditure to a more manageable situation. Again I would like personally to thank Patrick for his hard work and wish him well. Any volunteers for any projects would be very welcome!

Catriona Spence has stepped down and has resigned her post as Finance Director of the Trust after over three years of service. The Board would like to thank her for her hard work and commitment over the years and would like to take this opportunity to wish her well for the future.

**Alan Woollacott Chairman**

### **Dog Owners**

We have been asked to include an article in the newsletter following several complaints that residents are allowing their dogs to urinate against the Royal Mail Post Boxes. This makes collections not very pleasant for the Royal Mail Staff and the Dog Warden will issue a fixed penalty fine if caught. Dog fouling and urinating is very anti-social and can cause serious illnesses.

### **Caledonian Challenge 2010**

We are looking for volunteers to assist with the Caledonian Challenge over the weekend of 12th and 13th June 2010. Any volunteers can raise £100 per eight hour shift which will be paid directly to KCT for a project in our community.

Last year our volunteers raised £1400 towards the Bike Park for the youth and we hope to beat that total this year. All marshals will receive hot drinks and food.

Interested—please contact Moira for further details on 01855 831 779 or email [moira@kinlochleven.co.uk](mailto:moira@kinlochleven.co.uk)

### **KCT 2011 Calendar Competition**

KCT will be launching their next calendar competition within the next couple of weeks. Once again the theme will be “Around South Lochaber”. All themes around South Lochaber will be accepted and the photographs can be of anything, lochs, sunsets, snowy mountains, highland cows etc.

Please contact [Jayne@kinlochleven.co.uk](mailto:Jayne@kinlochleven.co.uk) or telephone 01855 831 779 for an entry form and competition rules.

### **Kinlochleven Primary School Allotment Plans**

Kinlochleven Primary School have been given permission to turn the area of land behind the Church of Scotland into a small allotment area. The development would include the planting of crops, small fruit trees and flower beds. The children have already been growing some vegetables and flowers within the school and would now like to develop these further. An allotment based project will allow the children to learn new skills and will create a new improved community space.

All surrounding neighbours were consulted in January regarding the proposals and no objections were received. KCT will now issue a Right To Occupy to the school.

## CARERS' SUPPORT GROUP

Carers look after family members, partners or friends who are in need of help because they are ill, frail, have a disability, mental health problem or addiction. Caring is a vital but demanding role and Carers are sometimes uncertain about where they can turn to for help and support. A recent survey carried out by Highland Community Care Forum (HCCF) in Lochaber highlighted the need for more support for Carers in Nether Lochaber.

HCCF hopes to establish a regular support group in the Leven Centre, Kinlochleven. All Carers are warmly invited to join us at the next meeting which will be held on:

Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 2pm  
when we will be

*“Finding ways of dealing with stress”*

For more information please contact:  
Dorothy Wilkie, Local Development Worker, Lochaber  
Tel: 07733881834, e-mail: [dwillkie@hccf.org.uk](mailto:dwillkie@hccf.org.uk)  
Or visit our website: [www.hccf.org.uk](http://www.hccf.org.uk)



## The Salvation Army Music Club

Starting on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 4pm

Come and have some fun as you learn some basic knowledge of music,  
keyboard and guitar.

Bring along your instrument and have a go!  
All ages are welcome!!!

Other days or times can be arranged if there is enough interest in the club.

For more information contact:

Janet McIntyre  
01855 831 271

[Do you have any unused Musical Instruments in your house?](#)

Would you consider donating them to the Salvation Army in Kinlochleven who is commencing a music club for young and old alike? From beginner to experienced.

All welcome! For more information on how to donate any musical instrument and to register your interest in the music club please contact:

Janet McIntyre on 01855 831 271

(Guitars, Keyboards, Accordion, Brass Instruments)

**LEVEN LOGS - LOGS £4.50 KINDLING - £4.00 Call Tracey on 07831 815 006**