

NEWS, VIEWS AND REVIEWS

Kintyre Cultural Forum Update

The Kintyre Cultural Forum has recently received a grant for up to £7,200 from the Scottish Arts Council towards a research trip various cultural / art centres and relevant organisations in Scotland and to also hold a seminar later in the year. The trip and seminar will be conducted as part of an audit of the needs of people involved in or affected by the cultural sector in Kintyre to further develop the possible creation of a cultural / arts centre in Campbeltown and a Kintyre wide culturally focussed web site. The group will visit various venues meeting with their representatives as well as the Scottish Arts Council, Hi-Arts, the Workers' Education Association, Comunn na Gaidhlig and Moray Council. The KCF is very grateful to the Scottish Arts Council, Argyll & Bute Council, Dr Donald Smith and Highlands & Islands Enterprise for their support. The committee are also grateful for the work that J.I.G. Events has done on their behalf and are thankful for the financial support from Awards for All and the Rotary and will be pursuing

funding for this year's newsletters. The idea for the cultural /arts centre and web site came out of the Cultural Seminar which was held in the Campbeltown Heritage Centre in September of last year. Since then the idea has gained much support locally and nationally meaning that an audit of the cultural needs of groups and individuals in Kintyre is essential in building a solid plan of what is needed.

Newsletter

The KCF has now completed the current run of six issues over the past year receiving fantastic feedback from this run and for the project as a whole. The project aims were to:

1. Produce six issues of the Newsletter.
 2. Update the KCF database.
 3. Hold a cultural seminar and conduct a feasibility study into the KCF future aims.
- All of these aims have been achieved and the KCF are now forging forward into the second year of the project.

Deirdre Henderson, Chair

A CELEBRATION OF KENNETH C. GILCHRIST

2/10/75 - 8/1/08

SADLY the start of 2008 saw the loss of one of Kintyre's truly original artists and characters. Kenneth known as Kenny was a self styled singer/songwriter whose creativity increased year-by-year expanding his repertoire. He spent most of his life developing his musical style and had many links with other artists and various events organisers in Kintyre.



With his roots in the history of the area he took inspiration from this and his family members but above all, wrote straight from the heart.

Many, many people will miss his unique laugh and approach to life but the fact remains that Kintyre culture has been enriched by his contribution.

NEWS, EVENTS, REVIEWS AND INFORMATION FROM AROUND KINTYRE



THE KINTYRE CULTURAL FORUM



Vol 2 Issue 6
March/April 2008

Highlands and Islands Enterprise Organise Training in Campbeltown

Highlands and Islands Enterprise is supporting Campbeltown based businesses and Community Organisations by working with Argyll Training to run a course that will enable Door Stewards to gain an important qualification. Organisations based in Campbeltown have identified a need for staff to achieve higher level qualifications as Door Stewards if future events are to be carried out as planned. Music, sporting and community events play a vital part in the social and cultural aspects of living in Kintyre and need to have qualified staff locally available for their success. Previously, qualified door staff have been brought in for each relevant event outside of the area, increasing event running costs and leaving organisers open to problems with transport and timing. By providing the course locally with Argyll Training, Highlands and Islands Enterprise will enable a significant number of local people to gain the required qualification and licence to ensure that Campbeltown events are not disadvantaged in the future. This will reduce running costs giving events the opportunity to become more sustainable in the long term. Anyone interested in registering for the course should contact kerrie.redington@hient.co.uk or telephone 01546 605416.

Tarbert Village Hall Renovations Start

Work has now begun on the rebirth of Tarbert Village Hall. Work started when Duncan MagGregor took possession of the Village Hall site on February 13th 2008 and involves a complete refurbishment of the existing hall with new extensions for a kitchen and toilets. The project which has a total budget of £641,000 and a completion date of Dec, 2008 will also have an addition of a new Youth Group facility which will be located where the Caretaker's cottage was attached to the hall. Built in 1902 for the inhabitants of Tarbert it was let to the local Company of Volunteers, later the Territorials and was known as the Drill Hall. It consisted of a large main hall, kitchen, entrance hall with cloakroom and toilets. The Hall committee would like to thank everyone who has helped raise funds towards the renovations and look forward to welcoming you to the Hall once the work is finished.

Vatersay Boys To Play Campbeltown



J.I.G. Events have just announced that the Vatersay Boys will play in the Victoria Hall, Campbeltown on Friday May 30th this year. The band from Barra who play to sell out crowds at the Barrowlands in Glasgow (pictured) intend to put on a show to suit all, starting the night off ceilidh style and finishing with, in their own words "a bit of a hoolie". They have also asked that the tickets be priced at £10 to allow all ages to attend. The hall will be laid out with tables and chairs, meaning tickets will be limited. For more details phone Iain Johnston at 01586 552034 or email jigevents@hotmail.co.uk

Scottish Opera performance

Reviews

Victoria Hall, Campbeltown, Feb 12th 2008

Essential Scottish Opera

On Tuesday 12th February, a large, enthusiastic audience was treated to two hours of pure entertainment by four young singers and a pianist in the Victoria Hall, Campbeltown. The programme was extremely varied, encompassing comedy as well as pathos, familiar works as well as the unfamiliar. It began with the foursome quaffing wine, and ended in the same way.

From the start, the minimalistic use of props and costumes gave every performance an up-to-date feel. The famous "Drinking Song" from La Traviata was full of fun, the splendid acting explaining the story well to those of us who did not understand the language! This was repeated throughout the concert many times, with the audience responding with delight and laughter. Perhaps one of the most memorable scenes was when the bumptious Sergeant Belcore, in "L'esire d'amore", performed his "striptease" in an attempt to attract the ladies!

The fun, kissing and romance continued in the hilarious performance of "The Kissing Trio" where the clever use of both voices and props thrilled the audience. In "The Audition Duet" the seduction techniques were very colourful! Both voices blended beautifully, but conveyed the sense of comedy so very well. And the somewhat saucy adaptation of "In praise of wine and love" had the audience in stitches!

This wonderful blending of voices along with the marvellous use of props was very evident in the operatic love duet, "Pur ti miro" their voices entwining as they expressed their love. Each of the performers moved effortlessly from comedy to a range of other emotions, as was seen in the hauntingly beautiful performances of "Must the winter come too soon?" and in the harrowing soliloquy, "Billy in the Darbies." The moving and touching piano section here was particularly memorable.

The high quality of singing from all four performers in every piece they performed was an absolute delight to hear. The amazing body language used by them to tell each story as they sang, was both funny and moving, and the piano accompaniment a joy.

They ended as they begun, this time with what could be interpreted as an English equivalent of the song that started the programme, praising all the good things in life.

An excellent evening at the Opera.



Review by Alison Brown

Weekly / Monthly Events

Kintyre Writers' Circle: Meet 1st Wednesday and 3rd Saturday of every month, usually in Campbeltown Library
Argyll FM: Broadcasting from Campbeltown 24 hrs a day on 106.5, 107.1 & 107.7 FM to the West Coast of Scotland.
Contact: 01586 551800 argyllradio@hotmail.com

Campbeltown Picture House: Showing starts at 8pm, doors open 7.30pm every evening except Friday: Tel 01586 553899.

Tarbert Film Club: Films shown on the 2nd Saturday's of every month at 8pm Sept - June.
Contact: Lisa Tuttle: 01880 820 063 or email: lisatutt@googlemail.com

Campbeltown Heritage Centre: Open Mon - Friday 11.30 am - 4.30 pm and Sunday 2.00 pm - 4.30 pm.
Prices £2.00 per adult, £1.50 concession & children under school age free. Contact: 07733 485 387.

Carradale Network Centre and Tearoom: Opening hours (winter) 11 am - 4 pm closed on Wednesdays & Thursdays.

This Newsletter was designed & produced by Iain Johnston, J.I.G. Events, Muneroy, Argyll Street, Campbeltown, Argyll, PA28 6AZ
contact 01586 552034 or kintyreculturalforum@hotmail.co.uk © Kintyre Cultural Forum

MOK Pipe Band Championship 2008



Kintyre Schools Juvenile Pipe Band at last years event

Pipe Band Association" run competition. The event culminated in a grand parade from the Grammar School down to Main Street in the Town which turned out to be a magnificent sight. This year the organisers hope to attract even more bands and have also included Highland Dancing and a Chanter Competition in the events. There will also be stalls, catering and the popular beer tent of course with a junior football tournament going on too.

The grand parade will also be slightly different this year because of the change of venue. It will start at The Aqualibrium going down Kinloch Road and along the front at Hall Street, pausing at the New Quay and returning along Hall Street, finishing back at Aqualibrium. The competition will start at 1.00pm with the parade starting at approx 5.30pm.

The day's events will continue with a Ceilidh in the Victoria Hall featuring Skerryvore, the extremely popular band from Tiree who featured at the Mull of Kintyre Music Festival last year. Tickets will be priced £12.50 and will be available nearer the time.

To secure your tickets please call 01586 820324.

MOK Festival 2008



Bodega

Skipinnish make their debut along with 2006 BBC Radio Two Young Folk Awards winners, **Bodega**. Skipinnish with accordionist Angus MacPhail from Tiree and piper Andrew Stevenson from Lochaber leading the band have, over the years built up a great reputation on the ceilidh dance scene. Bodega formed in 2005 play cleverly arranged sets of fierce energy and imagination with a fine mix of songs.

This year the Festival runs from August 21st - 24th and the committee are promising another full weekend of music and entertainment. The event kicks off on Thu 21st August with a variety of music workshops and ends on Sun 24th with the ever popular Survivors Night in the Victoria Hall.

Despite last years washout on the Saturday afternoon the committee intend to go ahead again this year with the Saturday Parade and afternoon of entertainment on Kinloch Green. Look out for further news as it becomes available closer to the event from the Festival Web Site at www.mokfest.com or Email mokfest@hotmail.co.uk

Highlands & Islands ENTERPRISE

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DATE: SAT 8TH TO TUES 11TH MARCH 2008
9AM TO 5PM EACH DAY, LUNCH PROVIDED

VENUE: ARGYLL HOTEL, CAMPBELTOWN

COST: £265* PER PERSON

LIMITED NUMBERS. PRIOR BOOKING AND REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL.

FOR REGISTRATION DETAILS PLEASE E-MAIL: KERRIE.REDDINGTON@HIENT.CO.UK OR TELEPHONE 01546 605416.

*(INCLUDES £15 TO BE PAID BY THE INDIVIDUAL TO RELEASE INDIVIDUAL LEARNING ACCOUNT FUNDING)

THE KINTYRE CULTURAL FORUM EVENTS DIARY

"String Driven Thing" Back In Carradale
Just announced "String Driven Thing" return to Kintyre to play in Carradale Village Hall on April 12th. See diary for more details.

Kintyre Music Club
Glonodar Wind Ensemble return on March 18th, consisting of two Irish and three Scots including Fergus Kerr from Campbeltown.

Whitehouse Jazz Gourmet Night
Whitehouse hosts a special three-course seafood supper night prepared by professional chef David Evamy and helped along by the relaxing sounds of the Meri Wrightson Jazz Trio playing in their Trad/Swing style on. Tickets will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis, please mention if you require the vegetarian option. Meri Wrightson will also be playing at a Ceilidh-Dance in Tayinloan Village Hall on the evening of the Kintyre Way Relay Run on Saturday 10th followed by a live ceilidh-band.

Kintyre Schools Pipe Band Concerts and Ceilidh
The KSPB hold their annual concerts in Campbeltown Grammar School on March 7th and 8th. Each concert will feature Kintyre Schools three pipe bands and the guests will include a quartet of pipers from Brittany whom the band met up with when playing at the Interceltique Music Festival in Lorient last August. Flying over from France for the concerts they will also provide demonstrations and instructions in the schools during their visit, as well as giving their own concert and recital on March 9th. (see diary). Also on the bill at the concerts will be the Keltika Highland Dance group and fiddle virtuoso Maurice Duncan with Cruithne playing at the ceilidh on the Saturday following the concert. Tickets are on sale from Yorkshire Building Society, at £7.00 for the Friday evening Concert, and £10.00 for the Saturday evening concert and dance (Limited public availability).

Skipness Family Dance
The McAllister Trio, father Duncan and sons Alex and Archie will entertain you at the Skipness Family Dance on March 22nd at the village hall. Tickets for adults are £6 and £3 for children, contact details in the Diary.

Kintyre Piping Society Recitals & Junior Piping Championship
The Kintyre Piping Society (KPS) will hold two recitals in the Masonic Lodge, Campbeltown. The first on March 1st features Angus MacColl and the Oban High School Pipe Band and the second on April 12th will feature local pipers. Castlehill Primary School will then be the venue for the KPS Junior Championship which will be held on April 19th. More details in Diary

Kintyre Civic Society AGM
The Kintyre Civic Society invites anyone who is interested in their activities to attend their AGM on April 9th at 7.30pm in the Ardshiel Hotel. Details in Diary

Charity Dances Change of Venue
The charity dances for worthy causes organised by Agnes Robertson will now take place in Stronvaar Bowling Green. The dates for the next few concerts featuring Reason can be found in the Diaries below.

MARCH & APRIL EVENTS LISTING

WHEN	EVENT	WHERE	COST	CONTACT
March 1st 8.00pm	Kintyre Piping Society Recital	Argyll Arms Hotel	£3 & £1	W McCallum 01586 552508
March 1st	Spring Fair	Burnside Square		
March 1st 6pm-late	Caledonia Restaurant Mothers Day Menu	Caledonia Restaurant	£16.95	01586 552123
March 6th	Kintyre Forum on Community Care Conference /Exhibition	Victoria Hall, Campbeltown	NA	S Paterson 01586 830 335
March 7th 8.00pm	Kintyre Schools Pipe Band Concert	Campbeltown Grammar School	£7	I Ferguson 01586 552462
March 8th 8.00pm	KSPB Concert & Ceilidh	Campbeltown Grammar School	£10	I Ferguson 01586 552462
March 9th 8.00pm	Breton Piper Quartet Concert and Recital	Argyll Arms Hotel	£3 & free	
March 15th 7.30pm	Gourmet Jazz Night	Whitehouse Village Hall	£18	01880 730228
March 18th 7.30pm	KMC Concert: Gliondar Wind Quintet (Fergus Kerr on Horn)	Lorne & Lowland Church Hall	£7 & £5	J Kerr 01586 552500
March 21st - 23rd	Caledonia Restaurant Easter Menu	Caledonia Restaurant	TBA	01586 552123
March 22nd	Skipness Village Hall Family Dance	Skipness Village Hall	£6 & £3	J Hunt 01880 820 272
March 22nd 8.30pm	Charity Dance for Auchinlee	Stronvaar Bowling Club	£2.50	A Robertson 01586 553206
March 22nd 8pm	Carradale Cricket Club Dance	Carradale Village Hall	£5	01583 431 321
March 30th 2-4pm	Photograph Exhibition of Malawi	Carradale Village Hall	Silver collection	M Richardson 01583 431 788
April 9th 7.30pm	Kintyre Civic Society AGM	Ardshiel Hotel	NA	
April 12th 8.00pm	KPS Recital featuring Local Pipers	Masonic Lodge	£3 & £1	W McCallum 01586 552508
April 12th 2 - 4pm	Scarecrow Challenge & afternoon tea	St Blaans Hall, Southend		S Paterson 01586 830 335
April 12th 8pm	String Driven Thing Concert	Carradale Village Hall	TBS	S Cameron 01583 431 345
April 15th	Kintyre Music Club AGM	Lorne & Lowland Church Hall	NA	J Kerr 01586 552500
April 19th 9.30 am	KPS Junior Piping Championship	Castlehill Primary School	£3 & £1	W McCallum 01586 552508
April 19th	Craft Fair for Christmas Lights Fund	Templers Hall, Tarbert		I Kerr 01880 820 104
April 26th 8.30pm	Charity Dance for Boys Football	Stronvaar Bowling Club	£2.50	A Robertson 01586 553206

EVENTS LATER IN THE YEAR

EVENT	WHERE	WHEN
Kintyre Way Relay	Tarbert to Campbeltown	May 10th starts 6.00am
Kintyre Way Relay Ceilidh Dance	Tayinloan Village Hall	May 10th
Mull of Kintyre Pipe Band Championships	Kinloch Green, Campbeltown	May 17th
MOK Pipe Band Championships Concert with Skerryvore	Victoria Hall, Campbeltown	May 17th
Charity Dance for Cancer Relief	Stronvaar Bowling Club, Campbeltown	May 17th
Bell-Lawrie Scottish Sailing Series	Tarbert	May 23rd - 26th
Mull of Kintyre Half Marathon & 10k Run	Campbeltown	May 25th
Caledon in Concert	Victoria Hall, Campbeltown	May 24th
MOK 1/2 Marathon & Run Ceilidh / Dance	Victoria Hall, Campbeltown	May 25th
Vatersay Boys at the Vic	Victoria Hall, Campbeltown	May 30th
Kintyre Songwriters Festival	Campbeltown	May 30th - 31st
Kintyre Piping Society Concert and Ceilidh	Campbeltown Grammar School	June 7th
Charity Dance for Local Radio	Stronvaar Bowling Club, Campbeltown	June 7th
Kintyre Music Festival	Campbeltown	June 11th - 14th
Bay City Rollers Concert	Victoria Hall, Campbeltown	June 13th
Tartan Army Sevens Dance	Victoria Hall, Campbeltown	June 14th
Campbeltown Brass 25th Anniversary Gala Concert	Victoria Hall, Campbeltown	June 21st
Tarbert Seafood Festival	Tarbert Harbour	July 5th - 6th
South Kintyre Art Group Annual Exhibition	Town Hall Council Chambers, Campbeltown	July 18th - 26th
Tarbert Fair	Around Tarbert	July 31st - 2nd
Mull of Kintyre Music Festival	Campbeltown	Aug 21st - 24th
Connect Music Festival	Inveraray	August 29th - 31st
Gigha Music Festival	Around Gigha	Sept 5th - 6th (TBC)
Tarbert Music Festival	Around Tarbert	Sept 19th - 21st

CAMPBELTOWN POTTERY

34 Union Street, Campbeltown
Tel: 01586 553550

Anyone wishing to take out an advert, have their event included in the Events Diary or to submit an article for inclusion in the Newsletter please contact:
Iain Johnston at 01586 552034 or kintyreculturalforum@hotmail.co.uk

To the best of our knowledge, all details are correct at the time of going to print. The Kintyre Cultural Forum cannot be held responsible for cancellations.

GRAPHICS
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Mull of Kintyre Pipe Band Championships
Saturday 17th May 2008

Kinloch Green Campbeltown

Pipe Band Competition
Highland Dancing
Chanter Competition
Football Tournament
Stalls, Catering and Entertainment

Evening Ceilidh

featuring
Skerryvore

Tickets £12.50
Licensed till Late

Contact 01586 820324

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