



Pennyghael Community Hall

As Spring is sprung, and the daffodils blossom across the Ross, we welcome all our friends, new and old, to a new year of events at Pennyghael Community Hall.

Many of you will already know that we have a new and updated website www.pennyghael.org supported by Martin Hardwidge. This will help you keep up to speed with current and future events, and act as a way to help promote our wonderful area, and the amazing asset of our Community Hall.

The Hall provides space and facilities for community services and activities, such as our very popular themed food nights, quiz nights, 'Pop Up Cafes' and 'Big Breakfast' events held throughout the year. These events make an enormous difference to the wellbeing of the local Ross of Mull communities and wider.

In the future we want to be able to possibly provide facilities such as public toilets, including disabled facilities, internet facilities, meeting rooms - to support such groups as Mull Musical Minds, Carers groups, activities promoting healthy living, such as keep-fit, sports and yoga, healthy minds- and helping reduce the impact of loneliness in this isolated area, provide educational meetings such as U3A, setting up a Film Club, a venue for local democracy, for example using it for Community Council meetings and as a polling station.

We also want to be able to engage more directly with the large number of tourists who travel through our area to Iona and beyond.

We have some of the best wildlife viewing opportunities on Mull - with Eagle Watch in Tiroran Forest as just one example, plus some of the most widely recognised geological educational sites in the UK. Increasing numbers of tourists want to walk 'our Munro' Ben More, the famous Carsaig Arches, and many more paths.

The social and archaeological history of the area is attracting more interest recently as recorded by the popular local Pennyghael and Bunessan Historical Centres.

Such increased year round visitor activity should provide Pennyghael and surrounding community with more local business opportunities in providing accommodation, services such wildlife tours, photography courses, arts & crafts exhibitions, cafe in the Community Hall, supply of fresh produce at producers market.

In order to maintain the services and facilities that many local people rely upon, this community hub needs to have a long term future, and the Trustees need to find ways to fund the modernisation and maintenance of the property to comply with changes in regulations such as disability access and health and safety.

NEWS LETTER SPRING 2018



Once we have been able to modernise the kitchen and toilet, including disabled facilities as well as bringing it up to the necessary electrical safety standards, we plan to generate sufficient funds to maintain the up-keep of the hall and cover all running costs.

Improving physical access to the hall means older people and young families with children as well as disabled individuals will be accommodated more easily. Better facilities, particularly kitchens and toilets, will lead to more people using the facilities for private and income-generating functions. Having more meeting rooms will allow the hall to be used more flexibly and to accommodate smaller groups sensibly.

We will use our website www.pennyghael.org, Facebook, Round and About Mull, fliers and posters to advertise the hall's facilities.

We are hoping to seek future funding through a range of different sources including larger organisations, to the many tourists who come through the hall doors, finally from yourselves, you can help too, by funding a gift aided brick - see how this fund is growing on the wall in the Hall.

Using Pennyghael Village Hall as an extended 'Community Hub' should enable us to support the economic and social regeneration

of our local community, as well as increasing community pride, focus and confidence.

We are delighted to have finally achieved SCIO Status – this is a 'Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation' which is a legal structure which has been purpose built for the charity sector in Scotland, and is generally regarded by funding bodies and public agencies as a more 'stable' structure than a voluntary association.

Finally to let you know, the current committee consists of Joy Roberts as Chair, Steve Ohlsen as Treasurer and Emma Morgan as Secretary. Helen Wilson, Sue Morgan, Rebecca Hallam and Erica Morgan are also all trustees.

If there is anybody out there that would also like to come and join our happy team, we would very much welcome you!

Ultimately we cannot do this without your help and support!

Wishing you all a lovely, good summer!

*Pennyghael Community
Hall Committee*



Our current local fundraising target is to raise £5,000 towards the development of the Community Hall facilities. At the time of writing we have so far raised £585.

If you would like to help us meet this target please come to our events and/or make a donation - if you pay income tax you can Gift Aid your donation which means we can get an extra 25p for every £1 donated.

Our Treasurer - Steve Ohlsen would be glad to hear from you.

If you live in Pennyghael then please think about becoming a voting Member - it costs £10 a year - you can also be an Associate member. You can download a form from our website

To keep up to date visit our facebook page or our website.



**Pennyghael Community Hall
Pennyghael, Islof Mull. PA70 6HB**

www.pennyghael.org