

# STRATHERRICK & FOYERS NEWSLETTER

December 2021 Issue Number: 29

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
FROM US ALL  
AT SFCT!



WINTER  
WONDERLAND  
FUN!

MEET OUR NEW  
DIRECTORS!



and... we are recruiting.



# CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

It has been a busy year for us as Directors and staff at Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust. We have welcomed new staff members: Tony our Manager, Caroline our Project Co-Ordinator, Carlene our Finance Officer and Mark our Facilities Manager. Our team also includes Laura and Steven who we wish to pass on our thanks to. We now have a fantastic team working together to get things done, and manage & distribute the community benefit monies across lots of projects within our community.

We continue to collaborate with and support many different organisations in Stratherrick and Foyers, including our Community Council, Boleskine Community Care and Knockie Trust - who also do wonderful work. But this also includes smaller social groups, associations, and projects that you might be part of. We are really proud to be a part of a community which is thriving with active and growing groups, where there is hopefully something everyone can take part in. If you have a new idea for a group or project that you think would benefit the people of Stratherrick and Foyers then why not give it a go and we will be there to support you along the way.

A major part of our commitments over the last 12 months has been commissioning our Community Action Plan, which is now finalised and published for you all to read. We have worked hard alongside Nick Wright and his team to deliver your plan in a way which gives you ownership and opportunity to take any of the projects forward. It is an exciting plan which will help to bring health, happiness and prosperity to our community. Hopefully you have now received your copy through the post, but it is also available to read online at [www.communityfuture.net](http://www.communityfuture.net)

Our Directors and staff continue to drive forward each of our Legacy Projects, including The Wildside Centre, Riverside Field, Foyers Bay, Errogie Church, Communications and

Broadband. You can read more about all of these projects by visiting [www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/projects](http://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/projects).

I would like to thank all of our Members and the wider community for their input and support over the last 12 months – I know you will be welcoming and supportive of the new Board as we go forward. The next 12 months look to be very exciting, full of action and progress for current and future projects. Our Board would like to encourage you to volunteer some of your time, knowledge and skills in taking our Community Action Plan forward so please sign up to one of the Action Groups.

Thank you,

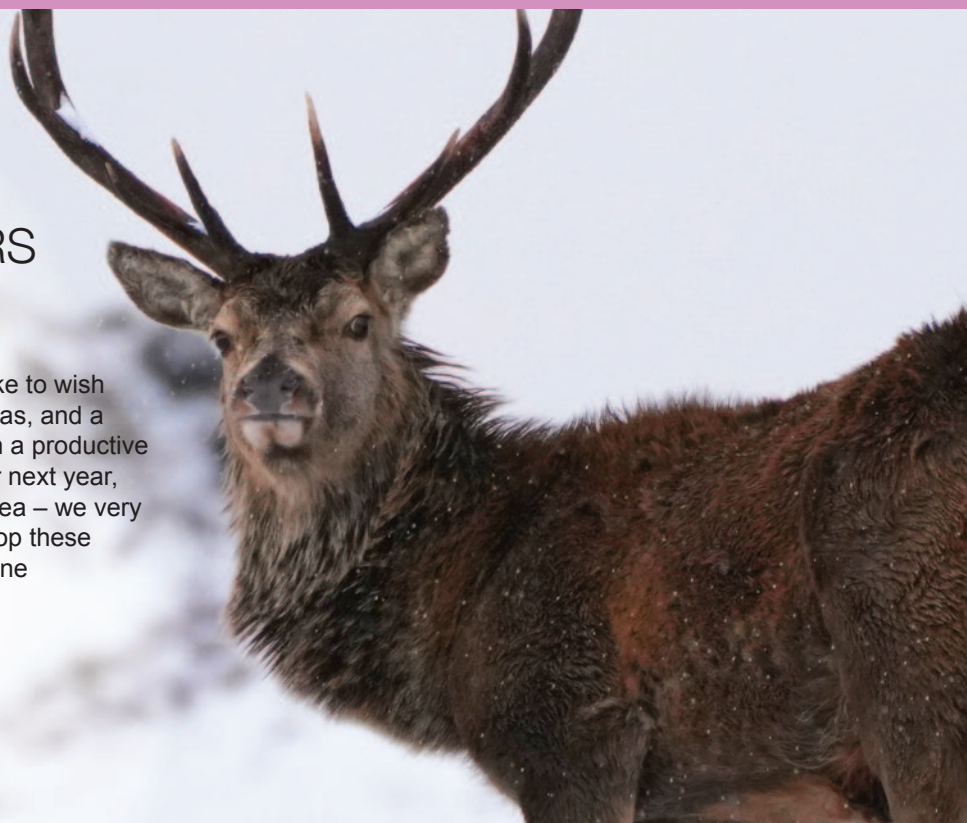
Kirsty Balfour Chair, Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust



## MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM EVERYONE AT STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY TRUST!

All the Directors and staff from the Trust would like to wish everyone in the community a very Merry Christmas, and a happy, healthy and prosperous 2022! It has been a productive year for the Trust, and we have exciting plans for next year, which will continue to bring benefit to all in the area – we very much hope that you will be able to help us develop these visions! Seasonal wishes to you all, from everyone at SFCT.

Kirsty Balfour  
Chair, Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust



# INTRODUCING OUR NEW DIRECTORS!

Following our AGM last month, we are pleased to introduce our 4 new Directors – welcome to the Team!

## MAUREEN MCGUIRE

Having recently moved to the area permanently, I am looking forward to becoming more involved. I am aware of the work the trust has done previously to benefit the community and strongly believe in the work currently being undertaken to reposition the trust by increasing governance and transparency and building the CAP plan to develop community led initiatives. Community action is the way forward for rural communities and I would like to serve my own community.

After studying Physics at University, I spent 20+ years' living in London and Paris working in Financial Services as a Software Engineer, Business Analyst and now Project Manager specialising in Change Management, I have worked for a range of companies, Fintech, Investment Banking, Asset Management and presently in Development Finance. I am a big believer in education and have volunteered for a number of educational charities at board level, running maths clubs in deprived areas of London and helping build education websites in Africa.

I hope I can use my analysis and project management skills to benefit the community as we roll out the CAP and am grateful to be given the opportunity to help in any way I can.



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## KEN SINCLAIR

I am a Chartered Forester, retired Chartered Surveyor and a Chartered Environmentalist with over 40 years' professional working experience in rural Scotland and England. I have a wealth of professional experience operating at Board Level.

My particular strength lies in forestry valuations and land values.

Many of my skillset are ideally suited to the numerous challenges that a small rural community may encounter. I know I have the experience and professional knowledge to perhaps help resolve some of these issues with business oriented solutions. I would relish the chance to again do my little bit to help my community.

## MAIRE BROWN

I am looking forward to my role as Director for several reasons. Being a director will provide a better understanding of how the Trust operates, allowing me to use personal experiences, Trust related and otherwise, to help identify and work on areas that can be improved, while contributing to the good work already in place, and appreciating what the trust does for the community. This is all with the hope of creating a community that I and other younger community members would wish to return to.

I may not have as much experience as others on the board, but from employment, I have practice of managing time, money and resources, and from my learning for my career of choice (veterinary nurse,) an understanding of confidentiality, correct procedures and balancing those against a desire to make things better beyond your individual means, be they resources, physical ability or mental and emotional capabilities.



## INTRODUCING OUR NEW DIRECTORS... CONTINUED

### MARK SUTHERLAND

I grew up in Erroglie, attending school in Gorthleck and then Inverness. I benefitted from the input of countless local people who taught me at school, cooked my meals, delivered the post and ran the shops, hotels and tourist businesses. Having moved home from Edinburgh I wish to reinvest in the area so that the next generation may continue to benefit from and enjoy a similar quality of life. I would seek to preserve and enhance the sense of community I grew up with whilst supporting initiatives to build the kind of resilience and engagement that will see Stratherrick and Foyers thrive well into the future.

I have worked with diverse communities in Edinburgh alongside statutory, private, community and third sector groups at all levels tackling complex social problems. I have a keen interest in trauma & mental health, and am a wellbeing champion in my current employed role.



## LOCAL INSTALLERS FOR DOMESTIC SMOKE AND FIRE ALARMS

The Scottish Government's new regulations requiring many households to install linked alarms to detect smoke and heat come in to force in February 2022.

Most commercial alarm companies are focussed on commercial buildings only, but we are fortunate that two local firms will offer a 'supply and fit' service for Stratherrick and Foyers properties.

ICM from Inverarnie and Logic Alarms from Beaully will arrange to come and fit alarms in homes either for the owner occupier or for homes which are rented out. The total cost

must be met by the owners. (The guidelines governing how community benefit funds can be spent prevents Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust from subsidising the costs of making homes compliant with the new fire alarm regulations.)

Both firms use alarms made by AICO, which are a well-trusted manufacturer. Alarms generally have a long-life battery which is sealed inside the unit to give years of service. The cost depends on the size and layout of the property and the number of rooms.

*Note to readers – This is a public information article and not an advertisement. Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust does not recommend any particular businesses and is not liable for any claims in relation to smoke or fire alarms or fitting.*

Steven Watson  
Community Liaison Officer, SFCT



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Tel: 01463 783001  
Email: [info@logicalarms.com](mailto:info@logicalarms.com)

# WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN OUR TEAM?

Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust Limited (SFCT) are looking for a Community Fundraiser to join their team.

The role of the Community Fundraiser is to raise funds to ensure the financial stability of the Trust and other organisation in the Stratherrick and Foyers area whose work aligns with outcomes in the Community Action Plan. It is a new and very exciting role and we have a goal to match fund into the area of Stratherrick and Foyers the £4 million we will receive from renewable projects in the next five years. The role is full time but we would consider job share. There are no supervisory requirements for this role.

The Community Fundraiser role includes responsibilities for:

- With support from the Trust Manager to stimulate, encourage, support and write grant applications and fundraising activities in Stratherrick and Foyers carried out by individuals, organisations and associations and the Trust on a weekly basis.
- Develop our grant applications and fundraising in the area and support any legacy investments, community share offerings, community lottery or renewable energy investment opportunities that may arise.
- Identify and apply for funding that meets the aims and objectives of the Community Action Plan.
- To organise regular Craft Fair and advertising in newsletter to raise funds for communication activities.
- Make links with individuals and groups, including companies, schools, churches and community organisations.
- Identify and develop grant, fundraising and legacy initiatives to engage individuals and groups including companies, schools, churches and community organisations.
- Encourage local participation in SFCT calendar of events.

- Work with organisers of events taking place in Stratherrick and Foyers to encourage participants to raise funds for community projects specific to the Community Action Plan
- Advise and launch a 'Friends of Stratherrick and Foyers' legacy programme
- Produce resources such as posters, sponsorship forms, fundraising packs and thank you certificates to support and promote community fundraising events.
- Actively find new supporters to promote Stratherrick and Foyers collection tins and merchandise across the area and grow income as a result
- Recruit and support volunteers to assist you with fundraising activities

## Other duties

- Regular reporting and evaluation on areas of responsibility
- Keep up to date with local government legislation, charity law, national fundraising guidelines and SFCT policies and procedures to ensure all fundraising activities comply.
- To undertake all other reasonable duties as required by the organisation.
- Provide support to the initiatives and events organised by other SFCT volunteer groups, including providing help and attendance as needed.
- This is a full-time position 37.5 hours per week. Note that some weekend and evening work may be required. We would consider a job share.

For a full job description, how to apply, and further information on working for SFCT, please visit [www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/contracts-for-work](http://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/contracts-for-work)

Closing date for applications is 12 Noon on Monday 12th January 2022.

## LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Our community is very fortunate to be home to a number of local businesses, many of whom would appreciate your support this festive season. To find out what is on your doorstep, visit the community's Business Directory – [www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/directory](http://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/directory). If you are business owner who would like a listing, please contact [Steven at clo@sfctrust.org.uk](mailto:Steven@sfctrust.org.uk) and he will let you know what is required.





## FESTIVE FUN AT WILDSIDE!

Last weekend saw the return of Winter Wonderland, which was this year joined by the Trust's first Christmas Market! It was fabulous to see so many members of the community of all ages coming along to see our festive lights, visit Santa, buy some locally made gifts and of course enjoy some seasonal refreshments!

We were also pleased to be joined by the ladies of Monadhliath who provided some live music for us on both Friday and Saturday – thank you Jenni, Christianne and Lesley!

This event could not have taken place without the hard work of our staff and directors, so thank you to every one of them for the part they played in making the weekend a success. Thanks also to Santa, his helpers and his elves, Calum and Graham Martin for their amazing work on providing the lights, the Toddler Group, Boleskine Community Care, Foyers Fire Service, all of our traders, and of course every single volunteer who played a part in the organising, running of and tidying up after the event. We would be keen to hear your thoughts on the event, both good and bad, so that we can make it even bigger and better for next year! Below is a link to a short survey, so please take a few minutes to complete it.

[www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WintWond21](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WintWond21)

Thank you, and we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2022.

Caroline Tucker  
Project Co-ordinator









# JOIN THE TRUST

If you would like to become a member of the Trust then please click the link.

<https://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/join-the-trust/>

## EVENTS IN JANUARY

Soup to Go!	Every Monday from 12pm, resuming Monday 3rd January
Wildside Baby & Toddler Group	Every Thursday 9:30am - 11:30am
Wild Crafts	Second Saturday of each month from 9th January
Monthly SFCT Board Meeting	Wednesday 12th January
Needles & Pins	Fortnightly from 10th January, Tuesday evenings 6:00pm-10:00pm
Stratherrick Spin & Chatter	Fortnightly from 17th January, Tuesday evenings 6:00pm-10:00pm
Closing date for grant applications	21st February 2022

## HIRE THE WILDSIDE CENTRE FOR YOUR SPECIAL EVENTS & GROUP MEETINGS

### 2 EVENT ROOMS

Each can hold up to 84 people, one with kitchen access

### 1 MEETING/TRAINING ROOM

For up to 29 people



**CONTACT** [admin@sfctrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@sfctrust.org.uk)

## MANY THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS... AND PHOTOGRAPHER

This newsletter is made possible by community benefit funding from SSE Renewables, Greencoat and Green Highland Allt Luaidhe (228) Limited.

Thanks also to Russell for his fab photos.

