

Stratherrick + Foyers



Community Trust

# Stratherrick & Foyers News

Issue 1 March 2016



**Stratherrick and Foyers  
Community Trust**

**COMMUNITY  
CONSULTATION DAY**

Please drop in at the  
Stratherrick Hall on  
Thursday 3 March 2016  
from 2pm to 9pm. More  
information about this  
event is on Page 3.

## **Let's start up the Stratherrick and Foyers News!**

Welcome to the Stratherrick and Foyers News, a new community newsletter for our area. It's been a while since the final issue of the much-loved Boleskine Bulletin. Many local people feel that this has left a gap and that there's a need to get more news and comment circulating around households in our area. The Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust, the local membership body which manages the community benefit funds for our area has decided to start a basic community newsletter which will run initially for four editions starting in March 2016 with issues every three months.

Contact us

[strathnews@sfctrust.org.uk](mailto:strathnews@sfctrust.org.uk)

[www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk](http://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk)



## **COMMUNITY CONSULTATION DAY**

**A Drop In event  
with Trust Directors and Staff**

**Thursday 3 March 2016**

**Stratherrick Hall**

**2pm to 9pm**

All views welcome

Open to the entire community, not just members

Come along to discuss the current and future proposals  
and priorities of your community.

**- BROADBAND \* LAND AT FOYERS \* GRANTS -**

Refreshments available

Information from other organisations will also be available including

- Boleskine Community Care
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Foyers Crew
- Community Broadband Scotland
- Highland Small Communities Housing Trust
  - Home Energy Scotland

Free transport available - contact Steven on 07525 120 966



# News from the Trust



## Why are we having a Community Consultation Day?

Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust has now received additional money from the windfarm and hydro schemes. The Directors want to hear what the priorities are for local residents. It is also an opportunity to learn more about how the Trust is operating and how your community funds are being looked after.

### Why should you attend?

Please come along and speak with your local directors and Trust staff about issues that concern or interest you. We can update you on the grant schemes and project developments.

### What has changed?

The Trust can also consider larger grants or contributions to major community projects. We need ideas and feedback from local people which would lead to improvements to the social, economic or recreational opportunities for local residents.





# News from the Trust



Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust is in final negotiations over the purchase of valuable land at the edge of Lower Foyers village. The Trust's solicitor is confident the purchase will be completed within the next few days.

**Scottish Land Fund**  
Ionmhas Fearainn Na H-Alba

Delivered by



Highlands and Islands Enterprise  
Ionaid na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean

Funded by



The Scottish Government

Zoe Iliffe, Chair of the Trust said 'This opportunity for our community to own and use this land was too good to miss. Public meetings showed there was enough interest in the community acquiring the land. Flat land close to the village is at a premium and acquiring the land is the first step to any development which will improve our community life.'

The field is located behind the houses at Riverside. The land covers over 5 acres and is large enough to accommodate a range of recreational and community uses. The land is being sold by Ashdale Land and Property Limited of Hampshire, the company which acquired much of the land previously owned by the British Aluminium Co.. Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust received a grant of £28,200 towards the cost of the purchase from the Scottish Land Fund to allow the ground to pass into local community ownership.

Zoe Iliffe added 'It is now up to the local community to come forward with their ideas and priorities. Residents are asked to attend the Consultation Day or contact the Project Coordinator with their initial ideas.'



# Joining the Trust or Applying for a Grant

## MEMBERSHIP

Why not become a member of the Trust? Full membership of the Community Trust is open to all residents over 18. There is also a Junior membership category. There is no charge to become a member, and you will only ever be asked to contribute a maximum of £1. It is easy to join up. Forms can be downloaded at the Trust website, picked-up at Foyers Post Office or call the Project Coordinator and he will send you one in the mail. Once you are a member you can vote at the Trust's AGM and stand for election as a Director. There are vacancies for Directors every year.

Last year's AGM took place on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015 at the Stratherrick Hall. For more details click [www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk](http://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk)

## GRANT SCHEMES

The current grant schemes are open for applications

- Constituted Community Group Project
- Non Constituted Group for Community Benefit Project
- Individual sporting grant
- Individual educational grant
- Individual home energy efficiency grant

If you would prefer a paper version of the application form for the grant you want to apply for, please call Steven Watson on 07525 120966. If you have a form and need help to complete it or to gather any additional information like costs or permissions, contact Steven and he will help you. He can call and visit you, or arrange to meet you at the Stratherrick Hall.

You DO NOT have to be a member of the Trust to apply for a grant for yourself or any community organisation of which you are part. Our current grant schemes are detailed on-line at <http://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/grants-system>

Stratherrick + Foyers



Community Trust

## SSE delivers early on Dunmaglass Community Benefit Cash



Last November, Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust hosted a short event to mark the handover of £1,600,000 from SSE. The cash is to be split equally amongst the three neighbouring communities which will benefit from the Dunmaglass Wind Farm Community Fund. Strathnairn, Strathdearn, and Stratherrick and Foyers will receive a total of £14m over the lifespan of the project. Originally scheduled to be paid on completion of the wind farm, SSE brought forward the first payment as part of its commitment to start community benefit payments at the construction phase of its projects.

Representatives from Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust Ltd., Strathnairn Community Benefit Fund Ltd. and Strathdearn Community Development Company visited Stratherrick Hall to mark the launch. They were joined by Councillor Margaret Davidson, Leader of The Highland Council, and George Baxter, Head of Development Strategy, from SSE Renewables. George said: “SSE is a responsible developer of renewable energy schemes and that means helping communities that host our renewable developments to realise social and economic benefits that will sustain over time.”

Zoe Iliffe, Chair of Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust, said: “We welcome the recent payment from SSE which means the Trust is now able to make the significant improvements to life in our area. The Trust will work with local community groups to get the funding they need for their projects now. We are also looking at longer term investments to ensure that our community benefit income will continue for future generations.” The 33-turbine project, which SSE acquired from RES in May 2013 will have a generating capacity of 94 megawatts.





Stratherrick and Foyers is part of the Highland Council's Aird and Loch Ness Ward. When Cllr. Drew Hendry was elected to Westminster as our new MP, there was a vacancy for a fourth Councillor to join the other three sitting councillors. The election took place on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2015 and Jean M E Davis, Scottish Liberal Democrat, joined the other three Highland Councillors for Ward 13.

Our current Highland Councillors are

- Margaret Davidson  
(Leader of Highland Council)
- Helen Carmichael  
(Provost, & Leader of Inverness & Area)
- Hamish Wood
- Jean M. E. Davis

The Highland Council Ward Manager for Aird and Loch Ness is Charles Stephen. He is based at Inverness Town House.

[Charles.Stephen@highland.gov.uk](mailto:Charles.Stephen@highland.gov.uk)

01463 785010

Stratherrick and Foyers has its own Community Council. From 17 November 2015, a new set of Community Councillors took up the reins.

The eight councillors are

- Gordon McAndie, Boleskine,
- Graham Philip Taylor, Riverside, Foyers
- Stewart Ronald Goodwin, Riverside, Foyers
- Catriona Nicolson Fraser, Gorthleck,  
(Deputy Chair)
- Martin Donnelly, Craigdarroch House,  
(Treasurer)
- Ian Henry Bateman, Whitebridge,
- Iain Alexander Brown, Whitebridge, (Chair).
- Kim Burton, Foyers has now been co-opted and is the new Community Council Secretary.

Issues discussed at recent Community Council meetings include the seasonal re-opening of the Foyers Toilets for 2016. The Community Council meets in public every month. The Community Council website is <http://stratherrick.net/>.

# South Loch Ness Heritage Group Publications

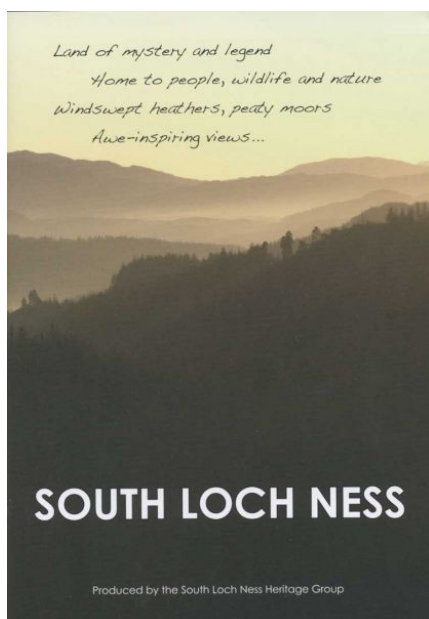
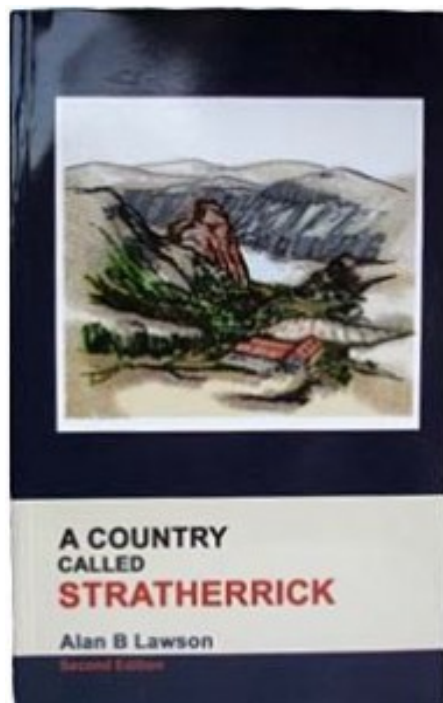
The South Loch Ness Heritage Group has copies of two publications for sale.

## A Country Called Stratherrick

By Alan B. Lawson.

Second Edition including photographs - £7.50

This is a fascinating detailed portrait of south and east of Loch Ness by Alan Lawson who spent many years exploring the nooks and crannies of South Loch Ness. A Country Called Stratherrick traces the evolution of the area from the stone age arrival of man, through the formation and destruction of the clan system, to the 20th century. The book explains developments in a way which can be easily related to the landscapes and people which we see here today. It is a fascinating read and a reference source to return to, time after time and essential for anyone with historic or family connections to the area.



Copies of the South Loch Ness Heritage Group's full colour 44 page booklet covering the south side of Loch Ness from Dores to Whitebridge are also available. The contents include Wildlife & Nature, Peoples Past, The Coming of the Kirk, Wade & Telford, Transport, Sports, People & the Land and Forestry. In addition there are 4 pages for each of the main villages; Dores, Inverfarigaig, Foyers, Gorthleck and Whitebridge with detailed maps showing the locations of places of interest and also suggested walking routes.

The book is priced at £5.50 including postage but orders of 10 or over can be purchased at a discount (maybe appealing to guest house or B & B owners).

To buy these books, please contact Frank Ellam on 01456 486691, e-mail to [frankellam@btinternet.com](mailto:frankellam@btinternet.com) or send a cheque payable to South Loch Ness Heritage Group to Easter Boleskine, By Foyers, Inverness-shire, IV2 6XT.



# South Loch Ness Heritage Group Publications

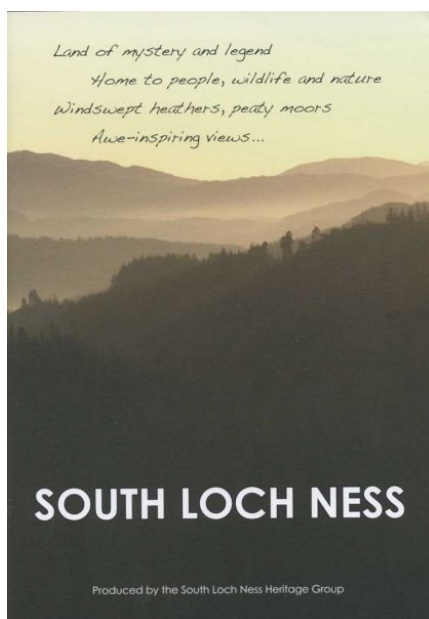
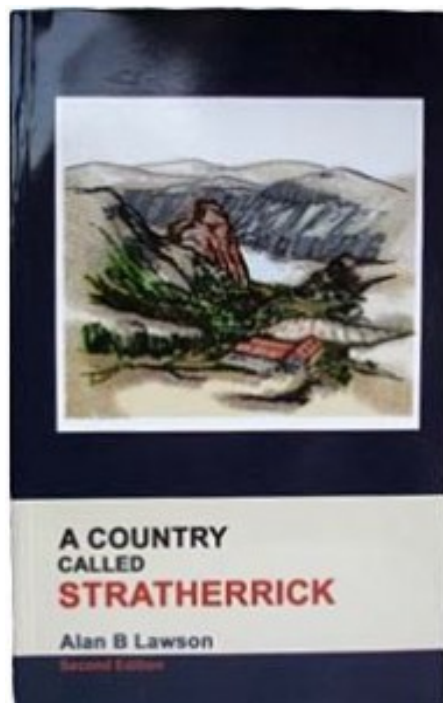
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# Sporting events around South Loch Ness 2016



17 April 2016 - **Man v. Horse**, Whitebridge to Dores, [candy@lochnessriding.co.uk](mailto:candy@lochnessriding.co.uk) .

<http://www.entrycentral.com/festival/607>

24 April 2016 - **Etape Loch Ness** Thousands of Cyclists return to Inverness from Fort Augustus via Foyers - [www.etapelochness.com](http://www.etapelochness.com) see Etape Article Page 10

10 September 2016 - **Coast to Coast**, Rat Race - Nairn, Calanour, Lynn of Gorthleck to Glencoe <http://ratrace.com/coasttocoast2016/#>

25 September 2016 - Baxter's **Loch Ness Marathon** and Festival of Running - Suidhe, Whitebridge, Foyers, Inverfarigaig to Inverness <http://www.lochnessmarathon.com/>

1 October 2016 - **Loch Gu Loch Swim Run** - Urquhart Castle, Torness, Farraline, Compass and Whitebridge to Fort Augustus <http://lochguloch.com/>

If you know of any other events please let us know at [strathnews@sfctrust.org.uk](mailto:strathnews@sfctrust.org.uk) and we can publish details to advise residents here.

All of the events information in this newsletter is checked at time of printing. Please re-check the event organisers' websites for alterations. Strathnews cannot be held liable for changes.

# Community Events

Please check with the organisers for full details and to confirm these events are going ahead as detailed

## South Loch Ness Heritage Group Talk

**Tuesday 22nd March 2016**

Changed venue – Aldourie Castle, IV2 6EL (not the Stratherrick Hall)

'The Aldourie Pottery of Mary Fraser Tytler' – at 7.30 pm.

A presentation by Louise Boreham about the history of the Dores, or Aldourie, Pottery – Louise is a retired college lecturer who developed an interest in art history through researching the life of her grandfather who actually taught pottery classes at the Dores pottery at the beginning of last century. Louise will explain how a pottery came to be established at Dores, and its links with potteries elsewhere in Britain. Examples of Aldourie pottery still exist locally, and if you have any, please bring them along to the meeting.

Weblink - <http://southlochnessheritage.co.uk/dores-pottery-talk-on-22nd-march-2016/>

## Loch Ness Luvvies – Next production

**23 and 24 April 2016**

Stratherrick Hall is booked for the next Luvvies Production - check local noticeboards closer to the date.

*Scottish Government Elections – 5 May 2016, Stratherrick Hall / Foyers Primary School (Page 19)  
EU Referendum - 23 June 2016*

## Boleskine Community Care – Afternoon Ceilidh

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

3pm – 6pm Stratherrick Hall.

Weblink <http://www.boleskine-communitycare.org.uk/>

## Gorthleck House Gardens

Scotland's Garden Scheme Charities

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

Your only chance this year to see progress on the Smith's Gorthleck Garden, Steve said 'Park outside the house on the gravel or where indicated.' 10am to 9pm Admission £5.

Weblink <http://>

[www.scotlandsgardens.org/gardens/garden/f3fd961a-351a-4274-95c3-a24d00a9182f](http://www.scotlandsgardens.org/gardens/garden/f3fd961a-351a-4274-95c3-a24d00a9182f)



**Community Markets – Dores Hall** - Stratherrick and Foyers producers were to the fore at the inaugural community market. It was such a success that four markets are now planned for Saturdays in 2016. The dates are 26<sup>th</sup> March, 11<sup>th</sup> June, 20<sup>th</sup> August and 12<sup>th</sup> November. The market is run under the auspices of Dores Community Council. The contact for the markets is [candy@lochnessriding.co.uk](mailto:candy@lochnessriding.co.uk)



# Stratherrick and Foyers News Letters Page get your contributions in please!



## Your contributions are welcome

If this newsletter is to be a success, we need your news, opinions and information. Some photographs, old or new, would also be useful.

The Stratherrick and Foyers News wants your input for the next issue, due out in late April 2016. You may wish to write us a letter, send us an e-mail, provide an article or update on any issue of local interest, so please get in touch using the contact details below.

Deadline for copy Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016.

E-mail - [strathnews@sfctrust.org.uk](mailto:strathnews@sfctrust.org.uk)

Snail mail - Strathnews, S&FCT, Evergreen, Inverfarigaig, IV2 6XR

## Stratherrick and Foyers News – some information and editorial policy

- Information given here is in good faith but cannot be guaranteed.
- Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust cannot guarantee any of the information in this newsletter is correct and will remain current as dates and times of events may change.
- Opinions expressed are not the views of Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust.
- We will print letters covering a range of views.
- Businesses mentioned are not endorsed by the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust.
- We will always print corrections and retractions and apologise if necessary.
- If you think any information, errors or comments are unfair, please let us know.

## Outlander TV Series

Have you any comments about Stratherrick, the Frasers and Outlander? Actor Graham McTavish may have Stratherrick connections. Let us know and we'll print them here.

## Errogie Phone Box

Internationally famous, the Errogie phone box attracts a lot of interest, especially from French visitors. Have you a story about visitors coming to Stratherrick and Foyers for a particular reason? Drop us an e-mail please



# Library Dates for 2016 – and Internet Links



Highlife Highland ([www.highlifehighland.com](http://www.highlifehighland.com)) operates the mobile library. It runs on three-week cycles and our area is served by two routes. That's a photo of the Library Van at Calanour.

## **Wednesdays (Route 3): Aldourie - Torness - Errogie - Foyers - Inverfarigaig - Dores**

Dates: 02 Mar, 23 Mar, 13 Apr, 04 May, 25 May, 15 Jun, 06 Jul, 27 Jul, 17 Aug, 07 Sep, 28 Sep, 19 Oct, 09 Nov, 30 Nov, 21 Dec 2016

Times: 09.30 - 10.10 Aldourie Primary School 10.30 - 10.40 Torness Layby 11.00 - 11.15 Errogie Church 11.40 - 12.20 Lower Foyers Riverside 12.30 - Park Terrace house bound 13.30 Lunch 13.35 - 13.55 Foyers, Glenlia Road 14.05 - 14.40 Foyers Primary School 14.50 - 15.05 Foyers Coach House 15.15 - 15.40 Inverfarigaig Forestry Houses / Hillhead 16.00 - 16.40 Dores by Dores Inn.

## **Thursdays (Route 12): Daviot Primary School - Gorthleck - Stratherrick Primary School - Whitebridge - Errogie - Farr**

Dates: 25 Feb, 17 Mar, 07 Apr, 28 Apr, 19 May, 09 Jun, 30 Jun, 21 Jul, 11 Aug, 01 Sep, 22 Sep, 13 Oct, 03 Nov, 24 Nov, 15 Dec 2016

Times: 09.25 - 10.05 Daviot Primary School 10.35 - 11.25 Invernarnie, Farr Hall 12.00 - 12.15 Gorthleck Public Hall 13.15 - 13.55 Stratherrick Primary School 14.00 - 14.25 Whitebridge Old Post Office 15.00 - 15.35 Errogie Bridge before "Ark" 16.00 - 16.20 Farr Croft Croy 16.25 - 16.50 Farr Community Hall.

## **Stratherrick and Foyers on the Internet**

**Stratherrick.net (The Community Council Website)**

<http://stratherrick.net/>

**The Stratherrick and Foyers Facebook Page**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/420094451476149/>

**The South Loch Ness Tourism Group's website**

<http://www.visitsouthlochness.com/>

**South Loch Ness Heritage website**

<http://southlochnessheritage.co.uk/>

**Boleskine Community Care**

<http://www.boleskine-communitycare.org.uk/>

**Boleskine Camanachd  
Friendly Shinty Fixture  
27<sup>th</sup> Feb v. Oban (away)**

**Tell us about your  
community website  
and we can add it here**

# Public Services Listing



Foyers Medical Centre – East Loch Ness and Strathnairn Medical Practice, 01456 486224  
NHS 24 - Phone 111

Police – Non Emergency or to report a crime – Phone 101

Fire – Free Home Safety Check 0800 0731999

Medical, Police, Fire, Loch or other Emergency Phone 999

Raigmore Hospital Switchboard 01463 704000

## Highland Council

- General enquiries, comments, compliments or report a complaint 01349 886606
- Roads, flooding and street lighting 01349 886601
- Council House Repairs and Pest Control, Council Housing applications and rent enquiries 01349 886602
- Domestic Special Uplifts and Refuse Collections, Report Fly Tipping, Dog fouling 01349 886603
- Abandoned vehicles and environmental health 01349 886603
- Blue Badge, Travel and National Entitlement Cards 01349 886604
- Make a payment by debit or credit card 01349 886605
- Planning and building standards 01349 886608
- Licensing 01349 886609
- Ward Manager (Ward 13) Charles Stephen 01463 785101

Foyers Primary School 01456 486612 (Snow Code 042070)

Stratherrick Primary School 01456 486630 (Snow Code 043060)

Bun Sgoil Ghaidhlig Inbhir Nis 01463 725980 (Snow Code 043280)

Inverness Royal Academy 01463 222884 (Snow Code 041100)

Drummond School 01463 701050 (Snow Code 041910)

Kilchuimen Academy 01320 366296 (Snow Code 041110)

Schools Closed Freephone Recorded Info Number (Snow) 0800 564 2272 and use the code

Stagecoach Inverness Bus Office 01463 233371

Caledonian Canal Inverness Office 01463 725500

Fort Augustus Visit Scotland Information Office 01320 345156

National Rail Enquiries 03457 484950

Albyn Housing 01349 852978

**This list is incomplete. If there is information you think we should add for the next issue, please e-mail [strathnews@sfctrust.org.uk](mailto:strathnews@sfctrust.org.uk)**



# Local Services Listing



Here are some of the local businesses which serve our community.  
There are plenty more yet to be listed here so please help us fill this page.

- Camerons' Tearoom and Farm Shop, 01456 486572, also on Facebook  
Craigdarroch Inn, 01456 486400, [www.thecraigdarrochinn.co.uk/](http://www.thecraigdarrochinn.co.uk/)  
Foyers Stores, PO & Waterfall Café, 01456 486233, <http://foyersstoresandwaterfallcafe.co.uk/>  
Whitebridge Hotel, 01456 486226 [www.whitebridgehotel.co.uk](http://www.whitebridgehotel.co.uk)  
Loch Ness Shores Caravan and Camping Park, 01456 486333, [www.lochnessshores.com](http://www.lochnessshores.com)  
Lynn Mhor Croft Pork and Eggs, 01456 486291  
Morag's Crafty Bothy, Foyers 07592604249, [www.moragscraftybothy.com](http://www.moragscraftybothy.com)
- Riverside Gallery and Picture Framing [www.riverside-gallery.co.uk](http://www.riverside-gallery.co.uk) 01456 486350 (Hugh Nicol)  
Aberchalder Plumbing Services, 01456 486283 (Neil Kirkland)  
Greensparks, 01456 486291 [www.greensparks.com](http://www.greensparks.com) (Rob Mullen)  
Wildside Lodges, 01456 486373 [www.wildsidelodges.com](http://www.wildsidelodges.com)  
West End Garage, Fort Augustus Garage 01320 366247, Mobile 07889792685  
West End Garage, Home / 24hour breakdown 01320 366426, [www.westendgarage.org](http://www.westendgarage.org)
- Highland Acupuncture 01456 486628 [www.highlandaccupuncture.co.uk](http://www.highlandaccupuncture.co.uk) (Johanna Schuster)  
William Fraser Haulage, Gorthleck 01456 486287  
Scottish Highland Art, Torness [www.highlandart.com](http://www.highlandart.com) (Ros Rowell)  
Cabar Feidh Bagpipe Supplies / Tuition [www.cabarfeidhpipes.com](http://www.cabarfeidhpipes.com) (Brian Yates)  
Internet Service - Tourism Site Fix, Inverfarigaig [www.tourism-site-fix.co.uk](http://www.tourism-site-fix.co.uk) 01456 486631 (Andy Holt)  
Neil M Ferguson Plant Hire, Stratherrick 01456 486771 / 07833 551993
- Guitar and Ukulele Tuition 017979398517 [www.parrotmusic.co.uk](http://www.parrotmusic.co.uk) (Moteh Parrott)  
JT's Seafood Van from Portsoy (Fridays) 01261 843106 / 07921 864979 (John /Steve), on Facebook  
Steadings Hotel / Grouse and Trout Restaurant, (Flichity Inn), 01808 21314,  
[www.steadingshotel.co.uk](http://www.steadingshotel.co.uk)  
Dores Inn, 01463 751203 [www.thedoresinn.co.uk](http://www.thedoresinn.co.uk) (Shuttle Bus)  
Bank of Scotland, Fort Augustus – Tuesdays and Thursdays 1000-1500hrs only.

**This list is incomplete. If there is information you think we should add for the next issue – or you spot any errors, please e-mail [strathnews@sfctrust.org.uk](mailto:strathnews@sfctrust.org.uk)**

# Recent News from the Strath and Foyers

## Gorthleck Water Development Centre

There has been a bit of a clear-out at the Gorthleck Waterworks. The building has a new role. Late last year new signs went up and Andrew Macdonald, Head of Scottish Water Horizons announced that Gorthleck and Bo'ness are to be the country's new water testing centres.

Scottish Water's press release said "By developing these facilities in the Highlands and Central Belt, we are meeting a need in the water industry for dedicated testing facilities where new equipment and technologies can be tested to allow treatment of water and waste water. They are the first dedicated testing facilities of their kind in Scotland, but also the first on an operational scale." All trials will be overseen by Scottish Water, in a safe environment dedicated to equipment testing. The water used for testing at Gorthleck will not be supplied to customers but will be safely returned to the environment."



**Church, farming or environmental News? – please get in touch and we will include this in the next issue.**

## New passing places go in

More passing places with reflective signs and white bollards have been going in on the Gleniath Road and up towards the fire station. Timber transport route bellmouths are also complete near Allt na Goire and between Craigniche and Trinloist.



A new digger at North Murnich.



## Latest News from the Trust

### More Grants awarded by Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust

Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust has awarded over £64,000 to applicants at their February 2016 Grant meeting.

Trust Chair Zoe Iliffe, Whitebridge said 'This is the largest sum we have ever approved at one of our grant meetings. These grants will support young people in education, help a promising footballer take advantage of a training event in England and help fund the Stratherrick and Foyers Guides, Brownies and Rainbows. The girls will now have an exciting programme of events and trips over the coming year to look forward to which will broaden their horizons and increase their confidence. The Trust's contribution allows the group to participate in these special events.'

The largest grant has been awarded to Boleskine Community Care, the local charity which started up around two years ago. The Community Trust is backing their plan to set up a Care Hub in Foyers in leased premises. The grant also includes a contribution to the funding of a Care Manager based in Stratherrick and Foyers. The Trust understands its funding will also enable Boleskine Community Care to unlock additional resources from other national grant funders.

A high proportion of residents are older and in need of increasing support. Boleskine Community Care ensures that local appropriate care is available to local people. They arrange local carers and work in partnership with Highland Home Carers and NHS Highland. The grant will help meet the costs of co-ordination and provide Boleskine Community Care with the resources it needs to sustain its valuable work.

All the grants awarded come from the funds paid to the community from the Glendoe Hydro scheme and Corriegarh and Dumnaglass windfarms. In addition the Trust receives smaller payments from local estates with their own renewable energy projects including the Easter Aberchalder partnership. Thanks to this ongoing funding, our community will continue to develop and grow. Children will enjoy the benefit of trips and out of school activities, our elderly residents will receive the support they need, students will be assisted with costs associated with education and training that they may not otherwise have been able to afford.

Grants are considered every two months. If you would like to discuss an idea for a grant or would like help completing a grant application form, please contact Steven Watson, Project Co-ordinator [pc@sfctrust.org.uk](mailto:pc@sfctrust.org.uk) or 07525 120966.



# Nine little bits of news !

**New Medical Team** Foyers Surgery is now named 'Loch Ness East and Strathnairn Medical Practice'. The four doctors are Akash Devendra, Michelle Mehers, Eilidh Barr and Adam Sime. The phone number is still 01456 486224. <http://www.foyersmedicalcentre.co.uk/news.aspx?pr=H55747>

**Car Park at Falls of Foyers** Thanks to Highland Council and Foyers Estate, new car parking at the Falls and Foyers Stores is allowing additional visitors to stop and leading to improved road safety there. Further work to tidy the area is planned for Spring.

**Road Upgrades** A new cattle grid has been installed on the Leadclune - Balnabeeran road and resurfacing of the Bochruben Road has now commenced. The Errogie Corner now has a completed dry stone dyke and work on the new roadway, kerbing and footpaths has commenced.

**Foyers Primary School** The school has a new outdoor classroom thanks to an application to National Lottery funds. (Photo) Pupils are enjoying their ski lessons at Nevis Range which are funded through a grant from Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust.



**Boleskine Community Care** The new Community Car Scheme is up and running. For more details of how to join and book journeys call Janet Hobson on 01456 486688 or visit their website. <http://www.boleskine-communitycare.org.uk/index.asp?pageid=626996>

**Stratherrick Hall** The Hall now has internet access and also a telephone. To book the Hall contact Pam Simpson on 01456.486364. Regular users include the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows (Thursdays) and Country Dancing (Wednesdays),

**Loch Ness Shores Toilet Award** Donald and Lyn Forbes have won the UK Loo of the Year award in the Eco-friendly Category - the top award possible for their sparkling toilet facilities at the caravan and camping Site. (Photo) The toilets on the site are open to all visitors year round.

**RNLI Loch Ness** The Loch Ness lifeboat has an interesting website and Facebook page. You can see uploaded video footage of the lifeboat attending to distress calls. <http://www.lochnesslifeboat.co.uk/>

**Fire Service Recruitment** The Inverness Courier carried an article about the recruitment drive for retained firefighters featuring Foyers. To read the full article visit <http://www.inverness-courier.co.uk/News/Push-on-to-drive-up-numbers-of-retained-fire-crew-in-the-Highlands-21082015.htm>

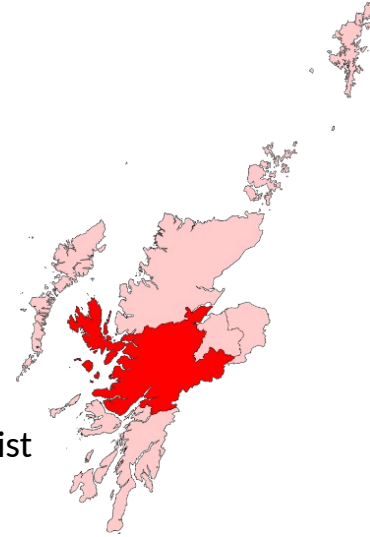
# Scottish Government Elections 2016

The MSPs serving our area will change in May.

The Scottish Government Election is due to take place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2016. Voters will cast their ballots at the Stratherrick Hall and Foyers Primary School.

## Current representation

Our current member of the Scottish Parliament for the Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch Constituency is Dave Thomson of the SNP. Dave Thomson is standing down at this election. We are also represented until May by the following seven Highlands and Islands List MSPs who were nominated by their parties.



- Conservative – Jamie MacGrigor and Mary Scanlon
- Labour – Dave Stewart and Rhoda Grant
- Independent - (both formerly SNP) John Finnie and Jean Urquhart
- SNP – Mike MacKenzie

## After May 2016

This May, the following candidates are likely to stand in our constituency. Others may also stand. There is no UKIP information at time of writing. The candidate with the most votes becomes our constituency MSP.

- Conservatives - Malcolm MacKay
- Labour - Linda Stewart
- Liberal Democrats - Angela MacLean
- SNP - Katie Forbes

## Highlands and Islands Regional List Candidates

Jamie MacGrigor and Mary Scanlon are standing-down. The top two names on the party lists for the Highlands and Islands Region are as follows

- Conservatives – Douglas Ross and Edward Mountain
- Green Party – John Finnie and Isla O’Reilly
- Labour – Rhoda Grant and David Stewart
- Liberal Democrats – Carolyn Caddick and David Green
- RISE Scotland’s Left Wing Alliance - Jean Urquhart and Conor Cheyne
- SNP – Marie Todd and Laura Mitchell (Mike MacKenzie MSP is third on the SNP list).



# THE BACK PAGE

## Stratherrick and Foyers News

In future issues we hope to bring you a more light-hearted back page, but meantime here is some additional news from around the district. Remember, if this newsletter is to succeed, we need your help with letters, local stories or pictures – about the schools, or events or of historical interest. Please email [strathnews@sfctrust.org.uk](mailto:strathnews@sfctrust.org.uk)

### **Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust backs local people with additional learning grants.**

Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust is increasing its help to residents over 18 who want to undertake Further Education, Higher Education or Training. Trust Grants Team members said ‘Our educational grant scheme is designed to enable and motivate interest and involvement in Further and Higher Education, enhancing and enriching study beyond the secondary school curriculum and engaging the public with lifelong learning.’

The Trust Board has also recently decided to increase the sum available to students to £500 per academic year. The Board feels that this is a meaningful amount which will help young people and their families finance college, university costs or provide help with adult training costs. All students starting their courses from August onwards can apply for the increased amount.

*Any students attending or accepted for attendance at a further or higher education or training establishment, who reside in the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council boundary area, are eligible to apply for a grant. Grants are not means tested. Student grants are limited to one per person per academic year. For full details visit this webpage and download an Application Form and Guidelines. <http://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/grants-system>*

### **Stronlaig Wind Farm still in the balance**

Energy firm SSE’s plans to build the Stronlaig Wind Farm, beyond Whitebridge are still not settled. The project needed consent from the Scottish Government, and whilst this was given, the John Muir Trust succeeded in overturning the decision by a judicial appeal. A further appeal is now underway to determine if the planned 67 turbine farm is to go ahead or not.

### **Boleskine House Fire**

Worldwide interest in South Loch Ness was re-ignited by the devastating fire at Boleskine House on 23 December 2015. Foyers Retained Fire Crew was first on the scene and the last to leave once the blaze was extinguished on 24 December. Thankfully there were no casualties. Foyers Fire crew are recruiting new members – see local posters for details or contact Neil Kirkland.



^^ Thanks for reading the first edition of the Stratherrick and Foyers News ^^