

Eilean eisdéal

The Easdale Island Community Development Group
 Newsletter 50, November 2013



2013 Champion
 Dougie Isaacs .



Allan Laycock in action about to hit the back wall.

IF YOU WANT TO WIN IT... YOU HAVE TO SKIM IT!!

The World Stone Skimming Championships 2013 welcomed BBC Blue Peter and a Japanese film crew to the island on a beautiful sunny day, with perfect skimming conditions. The competition ended in a nail-biting finale when islander Allan Laycock and 4 time winner Dougie Isaacs battled for the winning place. Dougie triumphed, but Allan also took home the 'Bertie' for the longest throw by an islander.

The ladies competition was won by Lucy Wood, and local winners in the younger categories included John MacFadyen and Morven MacFadyen-Donald. Full results can be found on the website www.stoneskimming.com.

Spectators were entertained by Emma Hunter our very own budding singer songwriter, and local piper Innes MacQueen, who gave everyone a warm Highland welcome.

Many thanks must go to our main sponsor Forteith Foodservice of Oban, the Press and Journal newspaper and our many local sponsors who have helped us raise £8,500 for community projects. Thanks to all the hard work behind the scenes by our army of volunteers this year's event ran like clockwork. To see just how many people helped, take a look at the list on the website! Special thanks to the ferrymen; Alan MacFadyen, Tom Tinney, Simon Green and George Houston, late ferry skipper Drew Stephenson and also to Sea.fari for their help. Last but certainly not least a massive thank you to Donald Melville for his help in organising and compering the competition.

Also in this issue:

Hall 10th Anniversary Celebrations

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Atlantic Adventure Day 2013

Panto 2013

Diary Dates

And not forgetting the wedding of the year!



The Japanese film crew had all the latest gadgets!



Just some of the PR from the 2013 World Stone Skimming

There was a lot of Wallies!



Bring it on!



homecomingscotland.com

DJMC and his decks of steell!



Atlantic Adventure Day

A small group of brave swimmers crossed the freezing Atlantic on the 10th August to kick off this year's Atlantic Adventure Day. Great fun was had in the harbour as the tide was slow to return, and the rafts especially found it hard going! Rory Hunter made a valiant effort and completed the course. Many thanks to all the volunteers especially Annabel & Dave for the BBQ, May for the ever popular pet show and DJ MC for the foot stomping disco in the evening. A big thank you to Sea.fari Adventures for donating the 'round the island' boat trips which were enjoyed by all and also to Seil Skiff rowers who came along on the day and offered people a chance to row as part of a team. AA Day raised over £1,000 for community funds.



Warming up for the raft race!



Sponsored Swimmers

THE BODYGUARDS!!



EASDALE PANTO 2013

Easdale Very Amateur Dramatics enthralled (or maybe that should be appalled) residents and visitors with their adaptation of Peter 'Gok Wan' Pan at the start of the year. The annual panto had the biggest cast to date and there was the usual local jokes, shenanigans and a 'Gangnam Style' Dance

off to provide the audience with plenty of laughs. A rousing version of 'Don't Stop believing' closed the show. Huge thanks to all involved. The panto raised £272. Panto DVD's (courtesy of Allan Hunter) are available to buy (Oh yes they are!!) for just £5 with all proceeds to EE. See Keren at The Puffer or email keren@easdale.org



Gangnam Style!

The Cast of Peter 'Gok Wan' Pan



eilean eisdeal
Summer Arts Festival
Light & Dark
 Easdale Island Community Hall
 Sat 6 and Sun 7 July

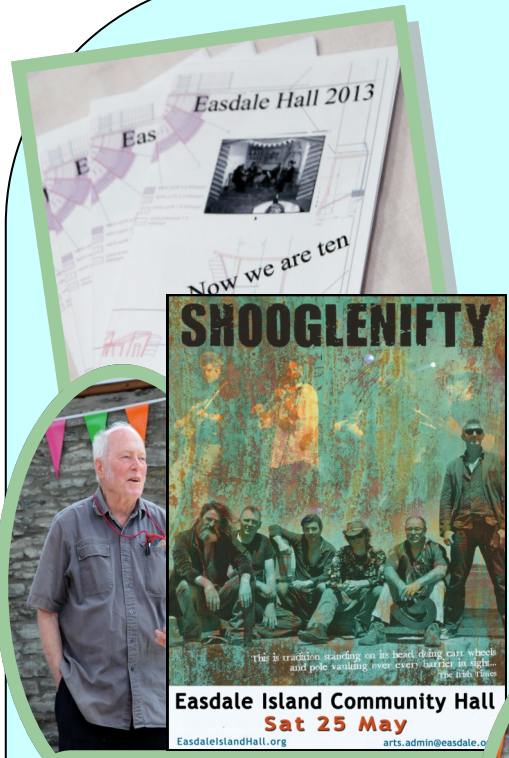
Short Stories by Lucy Johnstone
 An Exhibition August 18th - September 15th

Brain on Fire
 exhibition of work
Heide Pfuetzner
 Easdale Island Community Hall
 Sat 13th - Sun 25th July
 Exhibition preview Fri 12 July 7.30pm
www.EasdaleIslandHall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 300113
 Registered Scottish Charity: Number SC027102

HALL ART EXHIBITIONS

2003-2013

On Saturday 25th May Shooglenifty topped the bill for the Hall 10th anniversary celebrations. Part of an amazing weekend filled with music and memories as we celebrated the renovation of this fantastic building and its huge success as a community venue ever since. Speeches by Fiona Blakey, Mike Mackenzie & David Donnison highlighted the ups and downs of this historic building's journey and what it means to the Easdale community. Many thanks to the decade party organisers and all who helped out over the weekend.



2013 Arts Programme

A successful funding application to Creative Scotland provided revenue for an eclectic mix of artists to perform on the island. Events were well attended and massive thanks to Wee, Lynn, Annabel & Jess for their tireless efforts organising and running these events.

Platero
TRAVELS WITH A DONKEY

A music on a Monday into the heart of a small Spanish town...

based on 'Platero y Yo' by Juan Ramón Jiménez

Adapted and written by Mike Maran with Nino Nasute

from the producers of Italia 'n' Caledonia

Music, & poetry grow suitable for

Mike Maran Productions & Marjanishvili Theatre, Easdale Island Community Hall
15 June @ 8.45pm (doors & bar 8.00) late return free
www.easdaleislandhall.org

Sandra MacBETH
& Guests

With an organic Rootsy style, honest rich vocals and a heavy acoustic guitar style, Sandra wrangles with and musically gravitates to the obscure.

Easdale Island Community Hall
Saturday 24 August

8.15pm, (doors & bar open 7.30 pm), late return free
Entry E8/E6 (accompanied under 16s free)
www.easdaleislandhall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 300113
Registered Scottish Charity: Number SC027102

PET ANIMATION FESTIVAL 2013

LIE THE WOLF

TOP PUPPET COMPANY

Easdale Island Community Hall
Monday 1st April

doors 2.30 pm start 3.00pm
www.easdaleislandhall.org Entry E5
March 23 March - 20 April 2013
arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 300113
Registered Scottish Charity: Number SC027102

Kava Ka

"gorgeous new psychedelic funk"

Pre-World Stoneskiimming Champion

Easdale Island Community Hall
Saturday 28th

8.30pm, (doors & bar 7.30 pm), midnight
Entry E8/E5 (accompanied under 16s free)
www.easdaleislandhall.org arts.admin@easdale.org
Registered Scottish Charity: Number SC027102

MUDSLIDE

Easdale Island Community Hall
Friday 24 May

8.00pm (doors & bar open 7.30 pm), late return free
Entry FREE
plus DJMC

STORMIN' BLUES FROM ARGYLL

www.mudslide.org.uk

Hannah Fisher

annah Fisher, fiddle; Sorren Maclean, guitar; Craigh...

three of Scotland's finest young musicians blend traditional bluegrass with richly textured tunes and infectious...

Easdale Island Community Hall
Saturday 27th

8.15pm, (doors & bar open 7.30 pm), late return free
Entry E8/E6 (accompanied under 16s free)
www.easdaleislandhall.org arts.admin@easdale.org
Registered Scottish Charity: Number SC027102

MYSTERY JUICE

house-shaking grooves, the dirtiest blues guitar licks and howling fiddle, topped off with machine gun vocals

"this menacing gang of awesomeness power their way through an incredible mix of rock'n'roll, r'n'b, funk and rockabilly, driving the crowd mental!" *The Skinny*

Easdale Island Community Hall
Saturday 13 July

8.15pm, (doors & bar open 7.30 pm), late return free
Entry E8/E6 (accompanied under 16s free)
www.easdaleislandhall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 300113
Registered Scottish Charity: Number SC027102

Family Ceilidh
with **Bandidos**

Easdale Island Community Hall
Monday 30 March

bar open 7.30 pm, 11pm return free
Entry E5 (accompanied under 16s free)
www.easdaleislandhall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 300113
Registered Scottish Charity: Number SC027102



Easdale RIB Rendezvous 2013

Around 40 RIB's and their crews gathered in Easdale in May. Inclement weather forced the planned trip to Jura to be cancelled but it didn't stop the RIB's from heading out to various other local destinations and having a great time.

Harbour Update

The holding/visitors mooring in the Sound has been completely renewed and the new sign on the buoy has encouraged many more users to make a donation. Grateful thanks to Tony Hill for his continued help with the harbour moorings and to Calum MacDonald for keeping an eye out in the harbour. A concerted effort will be made to attract more boats to the harbour next year to boost revenue. We are grateful to all boat owners who have made the effort to pay their harbour dues, but would point out that it is our policy to pursue non-payers through the small claims court.

The condition of the 'Bull' – the spit of land which encloses the harbour – continues to be of concern. Further erosion is evident since the Council installed the new gabions. We are extremely grateful for the remedial work carried out by Mike Mackenzie during the Parliamentary recess but this is only a temporary solution. Investigations continue into ways of resolving this problem.

MUSEUM UPDATE

This year the directors opted to waive the entry charge to the museum to help increase footfall and instead asked for a suggested donation. This certainly had the desired effect as footfall for 2013 was up by 1000 visitors compared to 2012. The new specifically designed donation box has encouraged more visitors to donate so we hope income will balance out next year over a full season. Once again the museum is only able to stay open due to the enthusiasm and commitment of our volunteers, so many thanks to Lynne, Annabel, May, Ghalia Suzanne, Beth and Iain.

We have had to make quite a few repairs to the fabric of the building which is showing increasing signs of age. We are currently looking into potential funding for the major repairs which will be necessary before long.

OTHER NEWS

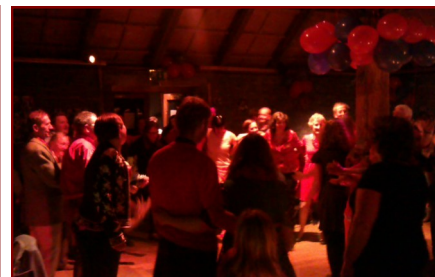
A complaint was made to the Council regarding the area known as the rush'n'gush which is land owned by Eilean Eisdeal. EE met with Council representatives and our planning consultant, Suzanne McIntosh, and the issues of change of use and dealing with refuse and recycling were raised. Suzanne organised a questionnaire and an informal drop in session in the Hall on Sat 13th April to gauge island opinion on this matter. Due to the high level of responses and Suzanne's busy schedule we are awaiting the results but expect them very soon.

Many will have noticed that the old Bin Shed roof has collapsed. Following heavy rain the roof partially collapsed on the 20th Oct. The building was made safe on 28th Oct. by collapsing the rest of the roof. The council were informed and we are currently seeking guidance as the bin shed was used by the council as an overflow for rubbish when the bins were full or away getting emptied but it is unusable in its current state.

STONE SKIMMING MEMORABILIA FOR SALE

We now have a range of clothing (and even mugs) available bearing the World Stone Skimming Championships generic logo. Soft Shell Jackets, Fleeces, Hoodies & T-shirts in a variety of sizes and can be posted UK or beyond.

Check out the website www.easdale.org



AND FINALLY... We send our warmest congratulations to Voirrey and Wee who tied the knot on Sat 12th October. If you missed the party let's just say it was EPIC and one we will all remember for a very long time.

Our apologies for the delay in the production of this newsletter but as volunteers sometimes other commitments have to take precedence.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- AGM Sat. 28th Dec. 2pm
- New Year Ceilidh Wed. 1st Jan.
- Panto Fri 3rd Jan (TBC)
- Burns Supper Sat. 1st Feb.
- AA Day 2014 Sat. 2nd Aug.
- WSSC 2014 Sun. 28th Sept.

Eilean Eisdeal is the community development group for Easdale Island, the smallest permanently inhabited inner Hebridean island. The directors are all volunteers, and rely on their members for support in fundraising to enable us to maintain the Community Hall and continue the Arts Programme. The island Folk Museum and the historic harbour are also owned by the community and managed by Eilean Eisdeal as valuable community assets. We welcome ideas which would help us improve the sustainability of this unique island community.

The current Directors are:

Keren Cafferty (chair)

Duncan Smallman (treasurer)

Jan Fraser (secretary)

Iain McDougall

Alex Mac Rae

Our address is:

Easdale Island Community Hall, Easdale Island, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4TB,
or email secretary@easdale.org

For more information on Eilean Eisdeal go to our website www.easdale.org

More information on the World Stone Skimming Championships is available on the website www.stoneskimming.com

Information on the Arts Programme and Ticket sales are on: www.easdaleislandhall.org

Eilean Eisdeal is a charitable company limited by guarantee.
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