

Eilean eisdale

The Easdale Island Community Development Group
Newsletter 49, November 2012

WORLD STONE SKIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP OVERWHELMING SUCCESS!



Coerd presents Mellon with floating shoes



The World Stone Skimming Championship 2012 raised a record £9,500 for the community! This year's event was won by Ron Long, who also took the 'Old Tosser'. Second was Dougie Isaacs who won last year, and third equal were Chris Main and Simon Fraser. Simon also won the junior boys and took the Bertie for the best score by an island resident. Lucy Wood was the winning woman, Iona Graham won the junior girls, while John Macfadyen and Natasha Keir took the under 10 awards. Full results are on the website at www.stoneskimming.com.

Ron Long takes the trophy



Lucy Wood hears she's won!



The success of this year's event was partly due to a last minute media frenzy following our refusal to pay island owner Jonathan Feigenbaum what we saw as a £1,000 tax on the event. The rumour that the insurance for the event was inadequate was totally unfounded. The Press and Journal newspaper stepped in and paid the £1,000 to allow the event to go ahead when Mr Feigenbaum threatened legal action.



Dougie Isaacs hits the back wall

Saturday night's Pre-Skim Dance with live music from the Hazy Janes raised the temperature to competition fever pitch.

Simon Fraser takes the 'Bertie'



The Absurdist Pipe Band entertains

The World Stone Skimming Championships exceeded all expectations and brought a record crowd of competitors and spectators on a superb sunny day. Media interest was considerable and there was huge support for the organisers which was much appreciated. Enormous thanks must go to our major sponsor, John Forteith and his team, Tony Hill and his crew for running such an efficient ferry service, all our other sponsors and the huge number of volunteers who give so much time and effort on behalf of this community.



Some of the pirate team

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STONE SKIMMING TAKES HOLLAND BY STORM

Easdale and the World Stone Skimming Championships has been the destination for a group of eight Dutch skimming guys for the last couple of years. The Dutch contingent have made the journey over in September just to take part and have certainly caused a stir at the event with their flags, clogs and skimming antics! They love skimming so much that they decided to organise their own event in Holland and this October staged the inaugural 'International Stone Skimming Championships' in Brouwersdam in aid of Sailing Kids Foundation. This foundation organizes sailing holidays for children and young adults with severe and / or chronic illnesses. As a gesture of goodwill and to recognise the support they have shown to Easdale we were delighted to donate Easdale Slate Skimming Stones for their event. Collected from the 'Rush n Gush' by volunteers the stones were transported to Oban where they were collected by a Dutch haulier and transported to Holland ready for the event on Saturday 20th October. We thought this was a great way to strengthen links in the world of stone skimming! Mellon made the trip out to support Coerd and his friends at the weekend and acted as umpire - and his partner Maggie came second in the ladies competition.

Check out www.stoneskimmingbrouwersdam.nl for more information.

Skimming slates for Holland!



Mellon keeps them straight



Maggie shows them how it's done





the harbour filling up



landing at Eilean Naiobh



inside Fingal's cave, Staffa

Another fantastic Easdale RIB Rendezvous!

This year's RIB Rendezvous organised by Sea.fari Adventures from 4th to 7th April brought over 40 boats to the harbour to enjoy all the island has to offer. The sun shone, the sea sparkled and boats came from all over the country. Groups of RIBs made expeditions all round this amazing area including Tobermory, Iona, Staffa and the Garvelochs. The Puffer hosted a 'Best of the West' BBQ and Glasgow band 'String Driven' played in the Hall to an enthusiastic audience. See the highlights from this year's trip on Youtube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tdhutrAHjVA&feature=related>
The next Rendezvous is already planned for the 4/5th May 2013.



RIBs tucked up for the night in the harbour



Tobermory

ATLANTIC ADVENTURE DAY



Great fun was had by everyone both on and off the water on the 11th August - the sun shone, the water was warm - ish, and a last minute raft built by our two island joiners flew round the course and secured first place in both the children's and adult races. One of the band members who had just arrived by boat promptly entered the aquathon and won, securing himself a bottle of malt!

The Whisky River Boat Band provided a rousing finale to the day in the Hall. We would like to thank all the volunteers and sponsors who helped make it such a success.



Jan and Tony checking moorings at the start of the season

HARBOUR UPDATE

Thanks to everyone who has paid their harbour dues, and a reminder to the others. We rely on this income to maintain the moorings and insurance for the harbour and hope to be able to improve the facilities offered - renovation of the harbour area is the ultimate goal but we need to establish a substantial and reliable income stream before we can think about starting on this project.

AN TOBAR PRESENTS

MICHAEL MARRA & THE HAZY JANES

THE LEGENDARY DUNDEE SONGWRITER AND A DELUXE BAND PLAYING SONGS FROM THEIR NEW RECORD 'HOUSEROOM'

THURSDAY 22 MARCH
IONA VILLAGE HALL
01882 30011

FRIDAY 23 MARCH
AN TOBAR, TOBERMORY
01882 30011

SATURDAY 24 MARCH
EASDALE ISLAND HALL
www.easdaleislandhall.org

SUNDAY 25 MARCH
DUNNOON BURGH HALL
01849 70022

HOUSEROOM RELEASED ON TOB RECORDS, 19 OF MARCH
www.antoobar.co.uk



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Samba Sene and Diwan



DANCE! DANCE! to Afro-beat and jazzy grooves from Senegal

Easdale Island Community Hall

Saturday 7 April

8.00pm, (doors & bar open 7.30), 11pm return ferry
Entry £8/£6 (accompanied under 16s free)

www.EasdaleIslandHall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 30011
Registered Scottish Charity Number SC027102

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Roddy Woomble

Familiar to many as the front man of Idlewild, Woomble is also a celebrated solo performer.

"Insider and epic, enormous yet touching" BBC Music
"A moving and quietly joyous collection of pieces weaving together folk, jazz and country" Guardian

Easdale Island Community Hall

Saturday 12 May

8.30pm, (doors & bar open 7.30), 11pm return ferry
Entry £14/£11 (accompanied under 16s free)

www.EasdaleIslandHall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 30011
Registered Scottish Charity Number SC027102

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THE BONZO DOG DOO DAH BAND

changed my Life Forever

The story of Bob, a shaggy Dog Doh devotee, who has come to audition for a Tribute Band show.

Easdale Island Community Hall

Saturday 26 May

8.30pm, (doors & bar open 7.30), 11pm return ferry
Entry £10/£8 (accompanied under 16s free)

www.EasdaleIslandHall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 30011
Registered Scottish Charity Number SC027102

By The Seat of Your Pants

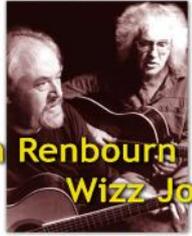


Easdale Island Community Hall

Friday 8th June 6.30pm

www.easdaleislandhall.org 01852 30011

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John Renbourn and Wizz Jones

Two of the greatest folk and blues guitar artists of our time on one stage!

"Formidable technique in the company of good tunes... undeniably first class." BBC Music

Easdale Island Community Hall

Saturday 6 October

8.15pm, (doors & bar open 7.30), 11pm return ferry
Entry £14/£11 (accompanied under 16s free)

www.EasdaleIslandHall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 300113
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Another successful season of Hall events

The posters show the huge quality and range of Hall events this year despite the fact that our funding application to Creative Scotland was unsuccessful. A major problem is that under the new funding scheme, a full arts programme must be submitted by October for the following year, before many performers especially theatre groups, have secured funding for their productions. We will hear about this year's application in January. Many thanks to the Hall committee and volunteers for making events run so smoothly for everyone's enjoyment.

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Vistas and Horizons

recent works by

David V Donnison and Kenneth A Burns

Easdale Island Community Hall

Sat 7th - Thurs 19th July

Exhibition preview Sat 7 July - 7.30pm

www.EasdaleIslandHall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 30011
Registered Scottish Charity Number SC027102



The Fiddle-Singers

Rona Wilkie
BBC Scotland Young Trad Musician 2012
Kate Young
Marit Fält

Easdale Island Community Hall
29th June 8.30

boats, doors and bar from 7.30pm
return boat 11pm

SOLAR PV FEED-IN TARIFF

We received our first payment from British Gas who are our feed-in tariff provider for the solar PV panels on the Hall roof. This came to just over £700 for 7 months, 20% of which will go to the island children for whatever project they decide.

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from Country to Psych to Powerpop, with chunky chords, wistful lyrics and lush harmonies.

WORLD STONE SKIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS Sunday 23 Sept



THE HAZY JANES

Pre-World Stoneskimming Championships bash

Easdale Island Community Hall

Saturday 22 Sept

8.30pm, (doors & bar open 7.30 pm), midnight return ferry
Entry £8/£6 (accompanied under 16s free)

www.easdaleislandhall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 300113
Registered Scottish Charity Number SC027102

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Summer Arts Festival

Coming & Going

Easdale Island Community Hall

Sat 21 and Sun 22 July

Exhibition preview Fri 20 July - 7.30pm

www.EasdaleIslandHall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 30011
Registered Scottish Charity Number SC027102

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Blazin' Fiddles



"The Led Zeppelin of the folk world" The Scotsman

Easdale Island Community Hall

Wednesday 29 Aug

8.15pm, (doors & bar open 7.30), 11pm return ferry
Entry £16/£13 (accompanied under 16s free)

www.EasdaleIslandHall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 300113
Registered Scottish Charity Number SC027102

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THE WHISKY RIVER BOAT BAND

WEST COAST BY WHISKY YACHT

atlantic adventure day

Easdale Island Community Hall

Saturday 11th Aug

8.00pm, (doors & bar open 7.10), 11pm return ferry
Entry £7/£5 (accompanied under 16s free)

www.EasdaleIslandHall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 30011
Registered Scottish Charity Number SC027102

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Cèilidh air Chuairt



ceilidh

concert and dance

Easdale Island Community Hall

Saturday 4th Aug

8.00pm, (doors & bar open 7.30), 11pm return ferry
Entry £7/£5 (accompanied under 16s free)

www.EasdaleIslandHall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 30011
Registered Scottish Charity Number SC027102

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Ghalia Asaid RED SHADOWS

exhibition of work

Easdale Island Community Hall

Sat 4th - Sat 18th Aug

Exhibition preview Fri 3 Aug 7.30pm

www.EasdaleIslandHall.org arts.admin@easdale.org 01852 30011
Registered Scottish Charity Number SC027102

PLANNING NEWS

Eilean Eisdeal has engaged a Planning Consultant, Urban Designer and Mediator Suzanne McIntosh BA (Hons) MRTPI of Suzanne McIntosh Planning and Sir Frank Mears Associates Ltd to assist us in developing our ideas, establishing the feasibility of any future development proposals and working up the community plan.

She is currently facilitating our discussions with the council and assisting us in engaging effectively in the local development plan process which is ongoing at present. The first focus of those discussions has been the land to the north of the harbour and seeking clarity on the future use of this land from the council.

TIDAL ENERGY

Following an approach by Nova Innovation Ltd regarding a proposal to install 3 tidal turbines in Cuan Sound, Eilean Eisdeal held an open meeting where the company presented their ideas to the community and gave us an insight into this novel technology. The project potentially involves Seil, Luing and Easdale with each community owning one turbine. There was genuine interest shown at the meeting and we continue to monitor the progress of Nova Innovation's initial community tidal project in Yell, Shetland.

STONE SKIMMING SHOPPING

Stone skipping t-shirts, hats and hoodies will shortly be available to buy on the website www.stoneskimming.com
A perfect Christmas present!

DIRECTORS VISIT LISMORE

Keren Cafferty and Jan Fraser were asked to visit Lismore on 12th May and speak to the new Community Trust and islanders. Our presentation on the achievements of Eilean Eisdeal was much appreciated, and in discussion it was evident that every island community has its problems and we shared ideas on how to deal with these.

NEW GOAL POSTS

Jonny Curley kindly donated new seven-a-side goal posts for the square. The days of jumpers for goal posts are over! Thanks to John Nathan for his help with assembling them.

An excess of 2008-2010 stoneskimming t-shirts has been donated to a group in Glasgow who work with Asylum Seekers. Thanks to David Donnison who organised and delivered the t-shirts

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- volunteer thank you night TBA
- Fundraising for the Hall 10th birthday party - the Puffer Quiz, Saturday 1st December
- AGM Friday 28th December at 2p.m.
- DIY ceilidh 1st January 2013
- The Panto 'Peter Pan' on Thursday 3rd January
- Burns Supper, Saturday 2nd February
- Hall 10th birthday weekend party 24/25th May SHOO-GLENIFTY and THE SEVENTH SONS confirmed

MUSEUM UPDATE

Oral History Project: thanks to funding from Vo-daphone 'World of Difference' we were able to offer a part-time position to Laura Ellis who interviewed residents past and present to capture stories and memories. These will be collated and presented in a format that can be used in the museum and be heard by future generations.

Apologies for the delay in the production of this newsletter, but as volunteers sometimes other commitments have to take precedence. The directors are delighted that another private business venture has had a successful initial season and we wish The Bothy Gallery all the very best.

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 our magnificent Community Hall and continue the Arts Programme despite cuts in funding. 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)
Donald Melville (treasurer)
Jan Fraser (secretary)
Iain McDougall
Duncan Smallman

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

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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