

Members and Friends Update

Hello all, and for those of you who I haven't bumped into on my Luing trips so far, my name is Jane Churchill and I have been doing some work on behalf of the Isle of Luing Community Trust.

Funding secured through the Lorn Islands Partnership is enabling this support and I wanted to give you all an update as to where we are at.

Lots has been going on behind the scenes and I am sure you all appreciate the hard work and the many hours that have been put in by the Directors to keep the organisation going in a time of transition. We know communication could be better and we are working to improve this.

My role has mainly been to apply for funding – we are hoping to fund a Development Manager's post, to coordinate and lead the volunteers and staff, to support the boards and community aspirations, as well as steering the AIC to ongoing sustainability.

Celebrate Event

We secured £3,350 from BIG Lottery to help us celebrate the tireless work of all the volunteers on Luing. The Luing Home Bakers were able to bring Sue Lawrence (award winning Chef and author) to the island to provide an evening of baking demonstrations through this award last week. Mary and Martin Whitmore kindly hosted the event and it was thoroughly enjoyed by all who were able to attend. The rest of the funds are for us to hold an event to which we will invite all those on Luing who volunteer, for any organisation and we are planning this event to take place during the afternoon and evening of September 16th so please save the date – more information to follow!

Lorn Islands Partnership and 4 Greener Lorn Islands Project

This partnership with neighbouring islands Eilean Eisdeal, Kerrera and Lismore has helped us secure funding which we otherwise would not have been able to access.

Recent success with a Climate Challenge Fund application has resulted in a new staff member Rachel Stockton, who has relocated to Seil in order to be close to the communities in which she is working.

Rachel will be visiting the island regularly and will be hoping to speak to as many of you as possible about how we can improve and develop recycling facilities, including the potential of a glass imploder to enable glass recycling on all or some of the four islands.

Goodbye to Jonathan

Very sadly, our Training Development Officer Jonathan is leaving us for pastures new. He will be very much missed and we would like to invite you all to join us on Friday 26th May for a farewell BBQ at the AIC at 5pm We are hoping that Jonathan will stay in touch and visit often!

Creative Scotland

Some more sad news – we were not successful in our recent Creative Scotland bid but we are working hard behind the scenes to provide a quality arts and music programme in the Centre – if you know of any great bands or acts that you would like to see in the AIC please get in touch. Meanwhile, we will be re-writing and re-submitting the application to help support a late summer/autumn arts programme as, although not funded, we were given positive feedback and have an opportunity to try again.

If you would like further information on any of the items in this update, please do get in touch. I will endeavour to help.

I look forward to meeting those of you I haven't met yet soon, and those I have, again soon!

Kind Regards

Jane Churchill