

STRATHERRICK & FOYERS NEWSLETTER

Sept 2024 Issue Number: 51



THANK YOU
SOUP TO GO

GOOD LUCK
TONY!



BCC NEEDS
YOU!

and... Looking back at this
summer's Highland Gathering!

CHAIR'S BULLETIN

It is hard to believe that summer has nearly gone - not that it was ever really here in the first place with little warmth or sunshine over the school holiday period.

However, we did enjoy a dry day for our Highland Gathering which proved once more to be a fantastic event. It was splendid to see so many families from the area enjoying themselves and to see former residents catching up with old friends. Plenty pictures and more information about the event in this newsletter.

As the community all know, our CEO Tony Foster leaves at the end of August after three years in the role. We wish him all the best in his new job and hope that he has enjoyed his time working for Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust (article later in newsletter). The Trust is now in the process of looking for a new CEO and hopefully advert for the job will be posted soon. In the meantime, current members of staff will take on the responsibilities of the CEO with Maureen MacGuire (Vice Chair) being chief liaison with them on behalf of the Board.

Enjoy what is left of the brighter evenings and maybe an Indian Summer will make an appearance!

Catriona Fraser
Chair

*The deadline for content for the Autumn Magazine is **Friday 27th of September 2024***

Please email communications@sfctrust.org.uk with your articles including your name and a picture!

TONY FOSTER

It was with regret that we accepted the resignation of Tony Foster at the beginning of June after three and a half years in his role as CEO.

Tony joined SFCT in March 2020 and, despite almost all meetings being held on-line due to the post-COVID rules, he quickly got to know the Board and the intricacies of our diverse and varied community. His arrival brought a significant change to the running of SFCT and relieved the voluntary directors of much of the onerous tasks at a time when it was moving into "project phase".

It was a crucial appointment as Tony brought with him a wide knowledge of statutory bodies and organisations which

enabled SFCT to keep up to date with current legislation, access opportunities for funding and the ability to glean information from the experts in their field. Since he joined SFCT, the number of staff has grown significantly bringing a depth of knowledge and expertise that he could utilise to further the aims and aspirations of the community.

Tony starts his new job as Chief Executive Officer of Edinburgh Napier Students' Association at the beginning of September and we wish him every success in the next chapter of his career. We hope that his time at SFCT has been enjoyable and that he takes away fond memories of working with our community.

On a personal note, I will miss his calming influence in difficult situations – but perhaps less



so his quirky sense of humour!!

The current (and former) Directors and staff of SFCT wish Tony, Monika and the family all the best for the future and look forward to you visiting us soon.

Catriona Fraser
Chair

SOCIAL MEDIA STATEMENT

Facebook has become an invaluable tool for sharing information, publicising events & activities and discussing opinions on a wide range of topics. In general, this is carried out in a positive and amicable manner.

Unfortunately, on occasion, such discussions can become heated and borders on bullying or abuse.

On behalf of all the Directors on the Board of Stratherrick &

Foyers Community Trust, Trust staff and community volunteers, please can we politely remind you that:

All comments on Facebook should be courteous towards other community members

Concerns regarding ongoing projects or activities can be raised through the appropriate channels (attending steering group/ community council meetings or the SFCT AGM) or by emailing the relevant contact. If in doubt, please email admin@sfctrust.org.uk

All Directors and steering group members are

volunteers. Each community member who has taken on this responsibility does so as they feel they have something positive to give to their community to help improve where we live. You are welcome to stand as a Director or join a project steering group if you feel you have something to offer or would like your opinion heard. Again, please contact admin@sfctrust.org.uk if you would like to get involved.

Thank you
Catriona Fraser



SOUP TO GO

Dear Friends,

It has been almost four and a half years since the Monday Soup to Go service started.

Apart from a few exceptions, the StG team has provided a lunch service each week since 2020.

Originally funded by the Scottish Government and

Highlands & Islands Enterprise, we thought our weekly service would only run for 3 months. At that stage we were making 4 different soups each week and providing 100 cups of soup per week.

When funding finished in March 2020 you asked if we could continue providing this service and we have.

Before StG began, the members of the team had all retired. Now, with some of us in our middle 70s, the team has reached a point where we all need a good long break.

The menu planning, ingredients shopping, ingredient deliveries, soup

making, cake making, accounting and banking, all take a good 2-3 days of our week.

Then there is all day Monday setting up the hall, making/heating soup, baking bread, cutting cakes, packing up the soups etc for delivery.

Therefore Soup to Go has decided to close.

It is now time for us to take a break and catch up with all those things we've put aside.

Our last day of service will be Monday 30th September.

Lyn Woods



JOIN BCC AS A VOLUNTEER AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY!

Boleskine Community Care is growing, and we need your help! As we expand our offerings at The Hub, we're seeking enthusiastic volunteers to join our team.

DRIVERS: Help us ensure everyone has access to essential services and fun

events. Your role will include picking up prescriptions, driving people to medical appointments, and ensuring community members can participate in local events.

BEFRIENDERS: Make a difference in someone's life by being a companion and friend. We'll match you with people who may be experiencing social isolation, illness, or are housebound, and share similar interests with you.

GENERAL VOLUNTEERS: Love to bake or have a skill to share? Help us by contributing homemade goodies or hosting workshops at The Hub.

By volunteering with Boleskine Community Care, you'll have the opportunity to:

Grow personally and professionally by developing new skills and building connections.

Give back to your community and make a meaningful impact in people's lives.

Gain valuable experience and enhance your resume.

Meet like-minded people and create lasting friendships.

Join our team and be a part of the positive change in our community! To learn more about volunteering opportunities, visit our website www.boleskinecc.com or email us at cec@boleskinecc.com.

Together, let's create a brighter future for all!

WILLOW WEAVING CLASSES



WEAVE A FRUIT BASKET AT INSPIRATION SCOTLAND IN GORTHLECK ON THE 27.10.2024

Weave a fruit basket in this workshop. It is a project that is suitable for beginners as well as more experienced willow enthusiasts.

In this one-day course, you will learn the fundamentals of basket-weaving, from sourcing materials, to the techniques to create a basic basket, and you will finish with a fruit basket to take home.

Workshop runs from 10am to 4pm. Bring your own lunch. Price £60, includes tuition and all material, as well as teas and coffees. You need to pay a £20 non-refundable deposit to secure your place.

Contact Christiane to book a place either at info@inspiration-scotland.com or through Facebook Christiane Morley Inspiration Scotland



WEAVE A REINDEER AT INSPIRATION SCOTLAND IN GORTHLECK ON THE 24.11.2024

Weave a reindeer (or two) in this workshop. It is a project that is suitable for beginners as well as more experienced willow enthusiasts.

You will learn a new pattern and also basic things about willow weaving.

Workshop runs from 10am to 1pm. Bring your own lunch. Price £30, includes tuition and all material (the willow and one beautifully handcrafted birch base). You need to pay a £10 non-refundable deposit to secure your place.

Contact Christiane to book a place either at info@inspiration-scotland.com or through Facebook Christiane Morley Inspiration Scotland



OUR MOBILE LIBRARY!

We are very lucky to have this service available in our community! If you fancy a new read and would like to give the mobile library a go then please pop along at the dates and times below and meet Mark, our lovely local librarian.

The mobile library is visiting locations in our area at the following times:

WHITEBRIDGE.....11am
THE WILDSIDE CENTRE
Sept 18th, Oct 16th, Nov 13th, Dec 11th

ERROGIE10:15 – 10:30
YELLOW BRICK ROAD
Sept 10th – Oct 8th – Nov 5th – Dec 3rd

GORTHLECK.....10:45 – 11:15
VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK
Sept 10th – Oct 8th – Nov 5th – Dec 3rd

Please contact Mark for further information.
Existing membership not required.

Driver: mark.laurie@highlifehighland.com
Tel: 01349 869869

Highland Dancing is back for a new term at the Wildside Centre! After fantastic performances at the Highland Gathering and at the Moy Gamefair, you can now book onto the Autumn session! Missed a few weeks? Don't worry, you can still come along! Book now and secure your spot! It would be great to see the classes grow further!



STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY TRUST

AGM

7PM, WEDNESDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2024 AT THE WILDSIDE CENTRE, WHITEBRIDGE

Further details to follow –
keep an eye on the Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust website and Facebook page

HIGHLAND GATHERING 2024

As we move into Autumn, we would like to have one final look back at this summer's Highland Gathering, which I hope you agree, was a resounding success! Thanks to those who completed the survey, the feedback was very positive, with almost 100% of those who responded wanting to see the Highland Gathering happen again next year. We will take all the feedback gathered from this survey to help us improve the event.

It was great to have so many community groups and local charities being involved in the day, raising awareness of their activities and fundraising too. Some notable fundraising totals from the day are:

STRATHERRICK CLAY TARGET CLUB	£516
MUNLOCHY ANIMAL AID (VIA THE DOG SHOW)	£350
RSABI (THROUGH THE SILENT AUCTION)	£954

We would also like to say a final thank you to everyone involved in the event – our wonderful volunteers, community groups, staff and Directors and local charities and all the amazing businesses who supported us and donated prizes for the raffle, silent auction and dog show. Please support these businesses as well as they support us!



Photo by Cheryl Heggie



Photo by Annelise Glew



Photo by Caroline Tucker



Photo by Caroline Tucker



Photo by Caroline Tucker



Photo by Jillian Barclay



Photo by Robbie Burn



Photo by Caroline Tucker

BOOK A BUILDING?

Are you looking for a venue to host a party? An event? An exhibition? We are fortunate there are a range of options in our community. Check out the Meeting Places on our website and see if any venue suits your needs! Have a look at our website here

www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/meeting-places/

JOIN THE TRUST

If you would like to become a member of the Trust then please go to

www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/join-the-trust/

SAVE THE DATE

STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY
FIREWORKS NIGHT
 SATURDAY 2ND NOVEMBER, 2024
 - LOCH NESS SHORES -
 CAMPING AND CARAVANNING CLUB SITE, MONUMENT PARK, LOWER FOYERS, IV2 6YH
 ORGANISED BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

