



Urras
Oighreachd
Chàrlabhaigh

Carloway Estate Trust

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

We hope you are all keeping well; 2021 has proved to be a challenging time for us all. It has been another strange year for us as an organisation and we would like to thank all our members for their support during this time. Our office is now partially open with the staff still working from home for at least four days a week. We look forward to re-opening next year in our new office in Carloway School following their refurbishment works.

As a result of Covid-19, we feel it is safer to have this year's AGM online again. Joining details have been provided for all members in your AGM papers. If you would like any help joining, please get in touch with the staff team who will be happy to help. There is more information on the AGM, including our speaker, on the last page of this newsletter. We are really pleased that Agnes Rennie has agreed to join us as a guest speaker after the AGM business - please do join us to hear from her.

Kenneth J MacLennan.

COMMUNITY SHOUT OUT

Have your say on what our community needs.

Drop in 3pm-8pm

Breasclete Hall

Tuesday 7th December

Tea, coffee and baking available

For more information contact -

donald@carlowayestatetrust.co.uk or 07767360142

Hosted by Dalmore to Lochgavich Community Forum with support from:



Carloway Estate Trust

Community Workshop

The first draft of the designs prepared by our architect for the renovation of the building will be displayed at the community workshop in Breasclete.

We are keen to hear what you think of the plans and any ideas you have for the development.

Friday 19th November 6pm-8pm

Saturday 20th November 10am-12noon

For more information contact donald@carlowayestatetrust.co.uk

REMINDER - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The evening will include AGM Business at 7.00p.m. followed by a talk at 7.30p.m. from guest speaker Agnes Rennie (more details in flyer)

Friday 10 December 2021 | 7.00p.m. | Zoom

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kenneth J. MacLennan, Chairman
Alex A. MacDonald, Vice Chairman
Jacqueline Ferguson
Neil J. MacArthur
Karen MacLean
Derek MacLeod
Dòmhnall Macleòd
Iain D. MacLeod
Iain N. MacLeod
Murdo MacIver

New Park, Callanish
Knock, Carloway
Callanish
Breasclete
Doone, Carloway
Kirivick, Carloway
Doone, Carloway
Doone, Carloway
Callanish
Knock, Carloway

STAFF



Sally Reynolds, Development Manager

Sally deals with all elements of estate business and will be focusing on the Dùn Chàrlabhaigh redevelopment project. Her post is partially funded by the Scottish Land Fund. Sally is currently based in the Carloway Office on a Thursday and otherwise works from home. She can be contacted through the office phone number or by email to sally@carlowayestatetrust.co.uk.



Ben Inglis-Grant, Project Officer **Peatland ACTION**

Ben is part of a team of Peatland ACTION Project Officers across Scotland. Ben works on peatland restoration projects across the Outer Hebrides. He is currently working from home. If you would like to find out more, you can contact him directly via his email: ben@carlowayestatetrust.co.uk.



Donald MacKinnon, Local Development Officer **Dalmore to Garrynahine**

Donald's post is a partnership with Carloway Community Association and funded by HIE. Donald works on the Carloway School redevelopment and as a Local Development Officer for the Dalmore to Garrynahine area. Donald is currently based in the Carloway Office on a Monday and otherwise works from home. Please contact him by email to donald@carlowayestatetrust.co.uk.



DEALBH DHIHAOINE FRIDAY PHOTO

This photo is our most popular Dealbh Dhihaoine of 2021 with the most likes on social media.

Thanks to Kathleen MacDonald for sharing this photo of their entry for the scarecrow competition. Can you tell which one is the scarecrow and which one is our Chairman?

We would love to see your photos if you would like to contribute them. Please email photos to: info@carlowayestatetrust.co.uk or send them by private message on social media.

Dùn Chàrlabhaigh



We are delighted to share that Urras Oighreachd Chàrlabaigh have been successful in securing funding from the Scottish Land Fund for support to purchase and redevelop the Broch Visitor Centre and car park. Eventually we hope to fully refurbish the visitor centre and toilet block. Plans include improvement to the facilities and interpretation and development of a digital heritage experience.

Historic Environment Scotland have carried out repairs to the Broch monument in the past few weeks. Sadly, they didn't manage to complete all the required works so they will be carrying out further works next year.

The funding includes capital funding to purchase the building, support with legal costs and insurance. It will also provide funding for a design team, including an interpretation specialist, to produce designs to RIBA Stage 2. We are currently working with Urras nan Tursachan and our legal teams to arrange the transfer of ownership; the next stage will be to work with the design team and community to agree plans for any redevelopment works. Thanks to the funding package from the Scottish Land Fund the project will be supported, on a half-time basis, by our Development Manager, Sally Reynolds.

We will be holding a range of Community Engagement events over the coming months but if you have a particular interest in this project and would like to join our Broch Sub-Group, who will be helping to manage the project direction, please get in touch with Sally.

Peatland Restoration

The first peatland restoration project on the Estate at Loch Fasgro is now complete with just over four hectares (six to seven football pitches) of eroded peatland restored. The project was a partnership with Peatland ACTION, Scottish Water, Urras Oighreachd Chàrlabhaigh and Knock Common Grazings.

The erosion features present at the site were allowing the peat surface to dry, crack and crumble which was resulting in the greenhouse gases, that have been stored within the peat since its formation, being released. The restoration carried out will help to stabilise the area through reprofiled peat hags and newly-created peat bunds which will encourage the vegetation to reconnect and grow over the bare peat. In time, the peatland will begin to form new peat beneath the restored surface and the peatland will function healthily once again.

If you would like to know more about the Peatland ACTION project or would like to discuss a potential project, please contact Ben.

KEEP UP TO DATE

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Annual General Meeting

Our AGM will be held online on Friday 10 December 2021 at 7p.m.. The meeting can be joined online using Zoom or by telephone. As a result of Covid-19 we felt it was safer to hold our AGM online again this year. The online meeting will include AGM business which will only be open to members, followed by a Public Meeting with Guest Speaker Agnes Rennie (all welcome but we are asking non-members to register beforehand by contacting the office).

If you would like to test your Zoom connection, we will open the meeting at 6.45p.m. If anyone would like any further assistance with Zoom either via online or via telephone, please get in touch with us by phoning 01851 643481.

The Public Meeting will feature Guest Speaker, Agnes Rennie, speaking on

An Dè san Diugh sa Màireach



Agnes lives with her family in Galson on the croft originally allocated to her Grandfather after WWI. She has been on the board of Urras Oighreachd Chabhsainn since the estate was purchased by the community in 2007 and currently serves as chair. She has had a long involvement in community development both professionally and as a volunteer member of many local and national bodies including Community Land Scotland.

Agnes has recently been named as the Gaelic Ambassador of the Year in recognition of her active voice within Gaelic culture since the 70s and her important work as manager of Gaelic publishing house, Acair, from which she recently retired. She will be joining us to share her reflections on community land ownership including some of her personal experiences and hopes for the future.

CONTACT DETAILS

Our office is currently open on Mondays and Thursdays. It is business as usual and we can be contacted by phone, email, via our website or on social media.

Office Address:
Carloway Care Unit
1 Lios na Glibe
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