

NEWS, VIEWS AND REVIEWS

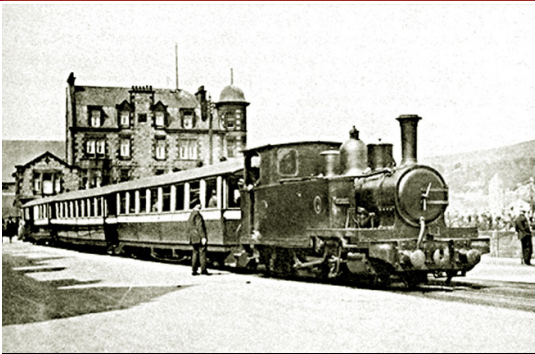
The Campbeltown Railway Trust

In 2007 Campbeltown was gifted a 10.25 inch gauge railway by Mr Passey, the previous owner and operator of the Ardrishaig Miniature Railway. A group was formed to see how this could be developed in Campbeltown.

In January 2009 the Campbeltown Railway Trust (C.R.T.) applied for charitable status to The Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.

The C.R.T.'s short-term objective is to establish and operate a narrow gauge railway on Campbeltown's sea front green.

There was previously a railway in South Kintyre, the 6-mile long, 2 foot 3 inch gauge, independent Campbeltown and



Machrihanish Light Railway in Hall Street

Machrihanish Light Railway, originally built as a coal carrier from the pits at Drumlembie to the quay at Campbeltown in 1877, was extended to

passenger traffic in 1906 during the Clyde Steamer era. Sadly after the First World War it's popularity declined with the advent of road transport and closed in 1931.

The C.R.T.'s long-term objective is to reinstate this line in some shape or form.

In the near future (date TBC) the current locomotive will be displayed at the Campbeltown Heritage Centre and it is hoped Nigel Macmillan (Author of "The Campbeltown and Machrihanish Light Railway") will give a talk. You will be able to join the CRT on this day, or by contacting the Treasurer.

Andrew Hemmings, Secretary C.R.T.



Performing artists from L to R: Lorne MacDougall, Archie McAllister, Rebecca Brown, Ross Kennedy, Jennifer Austin, Jerry Holland and Frank Rochford



Workshop attendees



Jerry with two students

Review A Kintyre Music & Arts Tuition Group, Kintyre Fiddlers & Kintyre Cultural Forum Event

Jerry Holland Concert and Workshops

Legendary Cape Breton fiddler Jerry Holland broke off from his hectic Celtic Connections schedule to head for Campbeltown for a couple of very successful workshops and this sold-out concert.

First to the stage was Carradale's Lorne MacDougall, limbering up for his appearance in the final of the Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year. As ever, Lorne made the crowd sit up and pay close attention to his exemplary fingering and inventive playing. A great start to the evening!

Next up young Campbeltown fiddler Frank Rochford just gets better and better. Frank has developed an easy confidence in his playing and once again he left the audience wanting more.

Although it is a number of years since Archie MacAllister and Ross Kennedy worked together on a regular basis, it is clear from their showing here that the chemistry between this Campbeltown duo is undiminished. Delivering a typically explosive set underpinned by moments of devastating beauty they received a reception that nearly took the roof off the venerable old venue. While it is unlikely that Archie and Ross will work together on a regular basis due to other commitments, there is no doubt that individually and collectively they still have the magic fingers.

After a short-break, fiddler Rebecca Brown and pianist Jen Austin were joined by Lorne on his small pipes for an all too brief set before we welcomed Jerry Holland to the stage. Initially backed by Ross and Jen, Jerry demonstrated not only his masterly fiddle playing but also his skills as a composer. Inevitably, Jerry invited Archie back on stage to revisit the joint 1997 recording "A Trip to Cape Breton", made under the name of "JCB with Jerry Holland". For the uninitiated, JCB stands for the Jura Ceilidh Band, a fondly remembered outfit whose early line-up had Messrs MacAllister and Kennedy as the musical heartbeat. Special mention must be made of their rendition of Jerry's lovely air "Boo Baby's Lullaby" amongst many high spots.

Towards the end of the concert, all the players took to the stage for a rousing finale and this was followed by a tremendous informal session into the wee small hours courtesy of the White Hart Hotel. Thanks are also due to Willie Durnan for his lights, Ross Kennedy (PA) and Alex MacAllister (keyboard), not forgetting Sheena and the other Trustees of the Heritage Centre.

Look out for the next concert, this time featuring Bruce MacGregor from Blazin' Fiddles on March 26th in Kirk Street Hall, details are on page 2 of this Newsletter.



Jerry Holland

Review by Les Oman

Weekly / Monthly Events

Kintyre Writers' Circle: Meet 1st Wednesday and 3rd Saturday of every month, usually in Campbeltown Library

Argyll FM: Broadcasting from Campbeltown 24 hrs a day on 106.5, 107.1 & 107.7 FM to the West Coast of Scotland.

Templar Arts and Leisure Centre, Tarbert: Craft Fair's April - Nov every third Saturday of the month, 10am - 4.00pm

Campbeltown Picture House: Showing starts at 8pm, doors open 7.30pm every evening except Friday: Tel 01586 553899.

Tarbert Film Club: Films shown on the 2nd Saturday's of every month at 8pm Sept - June.

Contact: Lisa Tuttle: 01880 820 063 or email: lisatutt@googlemail.com

Campbeltown Heritage Centre: Open Easter Weekend - End Sept, Mon - Friday 11.30 am - 4.30 pm and Sunday 2.00 pm - 4.30 pm. Prices £2.00 per adult, £1.50 concession & children under school age free. Contact: 07733 485 387.

Carradale Network Centre and Tearoom: Opening hours (winter) 11 am - 4 pm closed on Wednesdays & Thursdays.

Stewarton Village Hall: Ceilidh dancing group meet 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month at 7.45pm, Adults only.

Tuition available so suitable for any level: £3.00 each or £5.00 for a couple, email roddy@lamarine.eclipse.co.uk or 01586 554479

Kintyre Cultural Forum Management Committee: Chair Deirdre Henderson, Secretary Elaine Hemmings & Treasurer Iris Kerr.

Available on-line at www.kintyresongwritersfestival.co.uk

This Newsletter was designed & produced by Iain Johnston, J.I.G. Events, Muneroy, Argyll Street, Campbeltown, Argyll, PA28 6AZ contact 01586 552034 or kintyreculturalforum@hotmail.co.uk © Kintyre Cultural Forum

NEWS, EVENTS, REVIEWS AND INFORMATION FROM AROUND KINTYRE



THE KINTYRE CULTURAL FORUM



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Mar/Apr 2009

KCF Arts Cultural Centre Seminar



The Panel at the KCF 2007 Seminar

We Need You.

The Kintyre Cultural Forum (KCF) is holding a public seminar in the Victoria Hall, Campbeltown to draw up a design plan for an environmental, cultural / arts centre and a culturally focused website for Kintyre.

Since the enthusiasm for these projects was made clear in 2007 the KCF has been conducting an audit of users and promoters for the centre to draw up a picture of how the venue in Campbeltown might be used and what services it might provide in Kintyre. This audit has given the Committee a good insight into what needs there are across the age groups and across the area, including from visitors.

The audit has shown some interesting results so far - including the need for proper performance facilities for events from drama & music to dance shows. Lack of proper facilities for music tuition, rehearsal and training space for all the arts as well display space for local and national artists & exhibitions.

Feedback from the public, local and certain national organisations has been very enthusiastic towards the project with many stating that they would use both the Centre(s) and website if they existed.

We now need your help to come along to the public seminar to work with architects and a web designer to build a quality community facility and website for the benefit of our community. Guest speakers will include Dr Donald Smith of the Storytelling Centre in Edinburgh and Cathy Agnew, Chair of the Catstrand Arts Centre in Dumfries & Galloway who will be able to share their experiences of building similar arts centres, Andrew Leitch from the Scottish Arts Council and a representative from Mull Theatre will attend. The KCF also value the support of our funders and partners, The Scottish Arts Council, Leader, The Campbeltown Common Good Fund, The East Kintyre Windfarm Trust, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, Skills Development Scotland (Careers Scotland) and funding support has been secured by Fyne Homes via the Scottish Government Wider Role Fund, with collaborative support from ACHA.



Arts / Cultural Centre Seminar

Are you interested in MUSIC ART DRAMA CRAFTS LITERATURE WORKSHOPS?

What would you like for the future?

ARTS / CULTURAL CENTRE? KCF INFORMATION WEB SITE?

Come along and join us on

Date: Thursday March 19th
Time: 1.30pm
Venue: Victoria Hall, Kinloch Road, Campbeltown
Cost: FREE (all day or drop in)

For more information and to book please contact Iain Johnston on 01586 552034
Deirdre Henderson on 01586 830 669
email kintyreculturalforum@hotmail.co.uk
Please contact us if you need child care or other support.

KCF Seminar March 19th Format of day

- 1.30pm - Registration and Refreshments
- 2.00pm - Welcome and Introductions
- 2.15pm - Dr Donald Smith
- 2.35pm - Cathy Agnew
- 2.55pm - Guest Speaker
- 3.15pm - Coffee break
- 3.30pm - Workshop 1 session
Web page design:
Cultural / Arts Centre:
- 4.15pm - Workshop 2 session
Web page design:
Cultural / Arts Centre:
- 5.00pm - Food Break
- 5.45pm - Feedback from workshops from Facilitators
- 7.10pm - Closing remarks and last questions

Gigha Gaelic Weekends

Here's Gaelic in the air over on Gigha. Over two weekends, March 28th - 29th and April 25th - 26th fun conversational classes taught by Kevin Rodgers are coming up - you will learn useful everyday Gaelic in a way that sticks! Each weekend stands alone in terms of content and will suit beginners and intermediate learners. Each day costs £15 for tuition and deals are available at the Gigha Hotel for attendees. There is a regular Sunday evening ceilidh in the bar, Kevin is a mean piper himself! The Gaelic classes are funded with help from Bord na Gaidhlig. Louise Oppenheimer is tutor for the Tapestry Weaving course on 21st and 22nd March. If you have seen her work you will have an idea of the intricate designs and tremendous skill involved. The fee is £60 for the weekend and covers materials too. Websites: gighagallery.com or gigha.org.uk for general information about Gigha. Contact email: henri@smashingglass.com All classes are run by Gigha Gallery in conjunction with the Gigha Hotel.

Information request for Southend History Book

Southend has been given the unique opportunity to have the past century of its history captured in a book. Social history author Avril Stone who lives in Southend was asked by her publishers Halsgrove to write a book in their new series 'Reunited' and they agreed for her to write one on Southend.

The book which will be published in time for Christmas 2009 will be a photographic snapshot of people's lives in the parish from the early 1900's up to the present day. Avril who has only 3 months to complete the project said that it is a community based project which can only be produced with the help of people who live in the area or whose families once resided here or even those who have spent holidays here.

If you have any photographs or memories of Southend which could be used in this book please contact Avril on Tel. 01586 830328 or email: avrilpamastone@googlemail.com

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