

Minister - Rev. Angus Adamson B.D. Tel: 01770 302334
Parish Assistant - Mrs Jean Hunter B.D. Tel: 01770 860380

Session Clerk – Bill Scott Tel: 830304
Church Treasurer - Fiona Henderson Tel: 830270

Lochranza & Pirnmill Church Elders

Wren Gentleman Tel: 830313, Kitty Milne,
Chris Knox Tel: 830618 Bill Scott Tel: 830304, Anne Coulter Tel: 830219
Peter Emsley Tel: 850232, Neil Robertson Tel: 850224,
Wilma Morton Tel: 850272, Elspeth MacDonald Tel: 850284,
Christine Black Tel: 850263, John Adam Tel 850230, Louise Minter Tel: 850263

Church Organists

Lorna Buchanan-Hollingworth Tel: 840681
Aileen Wright Tel: 830353

Congregational Board Members

Rev. Angus Adamson, Christine Black (Clerk), Richard Wright,
Fiona Henderson, Lizzie Adam, Archie Cumming

Pastoral Care Group

Group Leader - Anne Coulter Tel: 830219,
Aileen Wright Tel: 830353, Elisabeth Mobbs Tel: 830370, Lizzie Adam Tel: 850230,
Christine Black Tel: 850263, Robert Cumming Tel: 830302

F.O.L.K.

(Friends Of Lochranza Kirk)

Chair – Shared by the Elders – **Treasurer** – Elisabeth Mobbs

PIRNMILL GUILD

Convener - Christine Black, **Secretary** - Wilma Morton,
Treasurer - Louise Minter

Sunday Services

Lochranza & Pirnmill Church 10.15 am
(alternate Sundays, see church notice board)

Tea & coffee served after the services

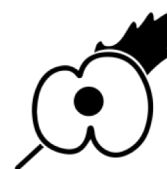
All are welcome

Lochranza & Pirnmill

Scottish Charity Registration No . SC009377



Church & Community Newsletter NOVEMBER 2017



www.lochranzachurch.org.uk

The Manse, Brodick

This July I enjoyed a week on South Uist at the Ceolas Festival, a wonderful celebration of Gaelic culture, music and heritage. Like our McLellan Festival here on Arran, which each September celebrates the work of Poet and Playwright Robert McLellan as well as the Scots language and the arts, there is a church service in connection with the festival. In fact, the Ceolas week begins with worship in St Peter's Church in Daliburgh followed by registration for participants in the church hall, which is also used for many of the week's ceilidhs, including the legendary Piper's Ceilidh on the Tuesday evening.

Besides being one of the true heart lands of the Gaelic language and piping tradition, South is of course predominantly Roman Catholic. Indeed, it has been argued that it is largely thanks to the Roman Catholic Church and its priests that piping heritage survived there intact, compared to many other parts of the western isles, where after the Reformation, so many Protestant ministers put an end to what they perceived as frivolous pastimes such as music making. It is said that in Skye the local ministers made bonfires of fiddles and pipes and any other vain instruments of pleasure.

On South Uist there is also a small Church of Scotland congregation of around sixty people and during the course of my week I met with their treasurer. She explained that over the past few years they have had to close two of their buildings and now maintain only churches at Howmore and Daliburgh, with at present Sunday services alternating between them. However, as of last year they no longer have a resident minister on the island, South Uist now being linked with Barra, where the minister lives. There is uncertainty as to how they are going to continue during the winter months when due to curtailed sailings between Barra and Eriskay, it will be impossible for the minister to get over and back in order to preach on both islands on a Sunday, as she currently does in the summer months.

At this point those with a good geographical knowledge of that part of the world will be wondering why not link South Uist to either of its immediately northern neighbouring islands of Benbecula or North Uist, connected by a causeway and very much largely Protestant islands, with existing vibrant Church of Scotland congregations. The simple answer is differing theology. Whilst the Kirk folk of South Uist are fairly liberal and happy to call a female minister, North Uist is very conservative, so much so, that the Rev Dr Lindsay Schluter would not be welcome in any of the pulpits there. In fact, due to this anomaly, South and North Uist are now in different Presbyteries, South Uist having in recent years disjoined itself from the Presbytery of Uist and is now in the Presbytery of Argyll.

CHURCH DUTIES

	DOOR	READERS	COFFEE	DUTY ELDER
05-Nov	Jt Communion	Shiskine 11.15am		
12-Nov	P/Mill Hall 10am	Remembrance Sunday		
19-Nov	Maureen Cumming	Archie Cumming	Anita Ford	Wren Gentleman
26-Nov	P/Mill 10.15am			
03-Dec	Chris Siddle	Richard Wright	Aileen Wright	Chris Knox
10-Dec	P/Mill 10.15am			
17-Dec	Hazel Gardiner	Hazel Gardiner	Hazel Gardiner	Anne Coulter
24-Dec	P/Mill 10.15am			
25-Dec	Gail Scott 11am	TBA		Bill Scott
31-Dec	P/Mill 10.15am			
07-Jan	Richard Wright	Marion Gentleman	Marion Gentleman	Wren Gentleman
14-Jan	P/Mill 10.15am			
21-Jan	Isobel Kerr	Robert Cumming	Janette MacLeod	Chris Knox
28-Jan	P/Mill 10.15am			
04-Feb	Fiona Henderson	Fiona Henderson	Fiona Henderson	Anne Coulter

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.....

5 th Nov	Thanksgiving Service, 7pm Corrie Church
12 th Nov	Remembrance Service, 10am P/M Hall
3 rd Dec	Come to Church Sunday
25 th Dec	Christmas Day Family Service 11am
21 st Jan	Christian Unity Service W/B 12 noon
4 th Feb	Communion Lochranza 10.15am

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER!

Please could I have articles for this by **22nd January** at the latest!

bg.ornsay@btinternet.com

Many thanks. Ed.

F.O.L.K. (*Friends Of Lochranza Kirk*)

Wednesday 8th November - Talk by Jan McGregor on 'Working with Fair Trade both home & Abroad'

Wednesday 10th January - TBA

Wednesday 14th February - Talk by Mary Smith on 'Mercy Ships'

Meetings take place in **Lochranza church at 2pm.**

Everyone is very welcome to come along and have a cup of tea after wards.

PIRNMILL GUILD

Theme this session – Be Bold, Be Strong, Go in Love.

Monday 13th November Craft Day
(would all members please bring their glasses!)

Monday 11th December Christmas DIY

Tuesday 9th January Shiskine

Monday 12th February Gordon Davidson

Monday 12th March AGM

We are small in number, but big on fellowship, and on laughter. Anyone, church goer or not, is welcome to one or all of our sessions.

There will be a **Soup & Sandwich Lunch** before each of our meetings from 12.30 – 1.30 in the village hall. Attendance at lunch does not mean you have to come to the meeting! **These are from 2.00 onward.**

TAKE NOTE OF DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS

Distillery - on front wall of the visitor centre

Cal Mac building - on the outside wall

Catacol Bay Hotel - on front wall below the kitchen window

Pirnmill Shop - in red telephone box

All cabinets are unlocked and open to anyone who requires to take the defib. No prior experience of using one is required make sure you've called 999 to get an Ambulance & the **First Responders** on the way



Nov 7, 21
Dec 5, 19
Jan 2, 16, 30
Feb 13



Oct 31
Nov 14, 28
Dec 12, 26
Jan 9, 23,
Feb 6




It was nice to hear one of the main organisers of Ceolas say that, although she herself was Roman Catholic, she hoped the Church of Scotland on the island would survive to maintain its presence. Despite that sentiment, one shared by many others I spoke to, still there lingers an underlying tension along denominational lines, especially when local couples marry across the so-called religious divide. Mixed marriage between Protestants and Roman Catholics doesn't make life any easier for those who find themselves in that situation, as I found out when I spoke to the local barman, himself a Protestant married to a Roman Catholic.

All that made me feel saddened and a little despairing, that despite the wonderful teachings of Jesus about love of neighbour, Christians, even those on such a wonderfully welcoming and friendly island as South Uist had problems in getting along with each other. Surely nothing puts people off organised religion more than such as this.

It made me very glad that here on Arran, another island renowned for its warm welcome of strangers and the friendliness of its inhabitants, we have a wonderful organisation called Arran Churches Together, in which Christians from the Roman Catholic, Church of Scotland, Baptist, Scottish Episcopal and now Free Church congregations are not only happy to meet together, but to worship together several times a year as we do on Christian Unity Sunday each January, on Good Friday each Easter, at the summer songs of praise service in July and at the end of November each year, usually for a Christingle service. The fact that this year the last Thursday in November coincides with St Andrew's Day has prompted a change for 2017, and once again after a break of several years we will have a St Andrew's night service in Brodick Church, a short half an hour service, followed by a ceilidh in the church hall.

Neither are exclusively just for church people and anyone church or non-church would be most welcome to come along on Thursday 30th November at 6.30 p.m. to help us celebrate our common heritage on our national saints' day.

Angus



The elders of Lochranza and Pirnmill church would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year when it comes

There will be a joint **Family Christmas Service** held in Lochranza church on **Christmas Day at 11am** when Mrs Jean Hunter will conduct our worship. We would love you to come along with the children

Bill Scott. Session Clerk

Eco Savvy

The Eco Savvy Reuse and Reduce project was awarded funding this year from Climate Challenge Fund Scotland (CCF) The aim of our 10 month project is to reduce Arran's carbon footprint by 1000 tonnes, an ambitious but realistic target.

There are three main ways in which we hope to achieve this target;

- We said we would **save carbon by reducing car miles**. By opening our 'micro hubs' people have a reduced need to travel to our Whiting Bay shop therefore cutting car miles. We record this evidence in the form of a Carbon Data Form (CDF) People who visit our hubs fill out their name, how they travelled and why.

- We said we would **save carbon through reuse of unwanted items**. Our Hubs receive donations (small electrical items, clothing and fabric, books, toys etc) and then re-use or sell on to others, we see this as stopping things going to land fill. Every item sold or passed on is weighed, recorded and then a formula used to calculate the carbon saved.

- We said we would **save carbon through workshops**. Teaching skills like puncture repair, clothes repair or sewing on a button, are seen as 'life skills'

Our workshops are a great fun way to get together locally and pass on our skills to last a lifetime. Dates of workshops coming up include

Halloween/Fabric Fun
Sunday 15 October, 11am to 4pm
Lochranza Field Centre

Bike Repair & Maintenance
Monday 23 October, 3pm to 6pm
Pirnmill Village Hall

Halloween/Fabric Fun
Monday 16 October, 2pm to 5pm
Pirnmill Village Hall

Home Made Sweeties
Sunday 10 December, time TBC
Lochranza Field Centre

Regular Hubs are currently running in **Lochranza at the Village Hall, every Tuesday, 10am to 12pm Pirnmill Village Hall, every Monday, 4pm to 7pm**

You can find out more information on our workshops and Hubs by contacting Holly via email lochranza.ecosavvy@gmail.com or on our Facebook Page **Lochranza Eco Savvy Hub**

Our Patient and User Participation Group

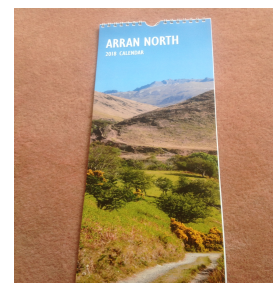
Arran Medical Group has set up a Patient Participation Group (PPG) to help tailor primary health care to the changing needs of Arran's public. Our PPG exists to give us all a voice in the areas of health and social care provision. It is a channel for feedback concerning our needs, concerns and interests. Through the PPG we have a say in the drawing up of action plans and the ways in which these services are delivered. This is also a means whereby the public is better informed; the communication works both ways. To engage with these issues you are invited to contact your local representative. She or he will raise your points at the next PPG meeting.

Confidentiality is assumed unless you wish it to be otherwise.

Your local reps are:

Lochranza and Catacol: Julie Graham 830247 and Fred Shortland 830610

Pirnmill: Mark Harwood 850577.



2018
CHURCH CALENDAR
NOW ON SALE
£5.50

Available from "Stags Restaurant". Pirnmill Shop and
Distillery or call Bill 830304

Lochranza & Catacol Seniors Christmas Lunch

The Lochranza and Catacol Seniors Christmas lunch will be held on **Tuesday, 12th December - 12.30 for 1.0 pm in Lochranza Hotel**. There will be entertainment from local artistes, a visit from Santa (if he's not too busy) and transport can be arranged. Numbers, as always, are limited so if you would like to go please let **Ethne Cumming** know as soon as possible. **Tel: 830302**



Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall Report

Many thanks to all who supported and assisted the committee in the last very busy summer the hall has enjoyed.

We have also enjoyed working alongside the Field Centre during the **August Ceilidhs** in the hall and so much look forward to planning the **Bonfire night** with them again along with the assistance of the **Fire Brigade** on **November the 3rd** which this year will be in the field beside the hall. We are all hoping the weather will stay fair so everyone can enjoy the bonfire, the fireworks, the burgers and hot dogs and the licenced bar and music for a while afterwards.

The ladies of the **coffee morning** rota managed to raise **£250 at the McMillan Coffee Morning** held at the Hall on **29th September** all these proceeds go to this wonderful charity. This is an amazing effort for such a little Hall and great credit is passed to everyone involved.

It is that time of year again and Tony Baboolal has also been putting a lot of work into recruiting candidates to join the **Lochranza 200 Club** and would encourage those of you who may not yet have joined to obtain your form and invest your **£15 per person** and gain the chance of winning a little windfall in our hall lottery while supporting the up keep of Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall.

The **AGM of Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall** will be held in the hall on **Wednesday November 8th** and everyone is very welcome. As always we appeal for any new members that would consider joining us and supporting the original team and the younger exuberant team to help keep pushing the hall committee into the 21st century.

There will be the usual **Children's Carol Service** in the Hall on **Sunday 17th December** with, hopefully, a visit from someone very special!!

On **Saturday, January 13th 2018**, The Great Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall **Burns Supper** will take place in the hall at 7.15, doors opening at 6.30. Tickets will be on sale from November at coffee mornings or by phoning Kate (01770830226) or Fiona (01770830270). We can only accommodate 100 people so get your tickets early and avoid being disappointed as we have some highly amusing and entertaining speakers planned and some very talented musicians to entertain you.

Kate Hartley – Chairman

Lochranza and Catacol Community Association (LCCA) Report

During the last three months, the LCCA) have met on two separate occasions, namely on the 5th July and the 20th September

It was agreed at the July meeting to send out a letter to all residents outlining the aims and aspirations of the LCCA and to ask for a contribution to enable the committee to undertake work that may involve a financial element. I am happy to report that this initiative has raised in excess of £ 300. A welcome addition to the LCCA funds.

It was also agreed that the minutes of the LCCA meetings would be circulated to all villagers four times a year.

The September meeting welcomed Alison Stewart to the committee as the Catacol representative

At this meeting Holly Murdoch was invited to outline the Eco Savvy initiative, the main aim being to reduce in ten months the Arran Carbon Footprint by 1000 tonnes.

The committee were informed that the old Lochranza toilets are open again and a cleaning rota established. (See article on Lochranza Loos)

Refurbishment work by CMAL on the Lochranza ferry service waiting room has yet to start. The committee are aware however that planning permission has been given for this upgrade and work is expected to commence before the year end.

The Lochranza and Catacol beach clean which took place on the 6th May 2017 yielded 20 bin bags of assorted rubbish. A similar beach clean is planned for the Spring of 2018

It is the intention of the committee to invite the Police Sergeant to the next public meeting for advice on local matters, such as camper vans, signage, and speeding within both villages

The next open meeting of the LCCA is planned for Wednesday, **November 29th at 7.00 pm in the village hall**

Ken Thorburn - Chairman

Lochranza Philosophical Society.

The L.P.S. Winter Season of 2017/18 started at the beginning of October in the familiar surroundings of Lochranza Hotel, between **5.30 and 7pm on a Friday** (from November), with a current **membership of 18**.

This years monthly programme is varied, with members speaking on two evenings of the month on their subjects of interest, one evening with an invited guest speaker and an evening of general discussion or debate on a topical subject. The guest speaker on the **10th November** is **Dr Malcolm Kerr** on the State of the Union and Indy Ref 2, and we hope to have **Kate Sampson** the Head Ranger at Brodick Castle as our guest in December.

In addition to our weekly meetings we have had many enjoyable outings to places of interest such as **Hunterston Power Station**, **Ferguson Shipyard** at Port Glasgow to see the construction of our new Arran Ferry, The Glen Sannox, just to mention a couple. Also more recently we visited the **Irvine Maritime Museum**, followed by refreshments in Charlie's Bar in Ardrossan and dinner in **Cecchini Restaurant**, then the late ferry back home, another day to remember.

Our next adventure is our yearly visit to **Oran Mhor** on Byres Road in Glasgow on the 1st December for "**A play, a pie and a pint**", a day not to be missed from past experience.

Finally our **Annual Dinner** this year is to be held at our own **Stags Restaurant** on **Friday 15th December** to 'round off' what has been a full and very enjoyable year.

Hillwalking

An offshoot from the L.P.S. is the hillwalking group, having had many weekly adventures on Arran, for example, climbing **The Holy Isle** in appalling weather to celebrate **Relentless Robert's 70th Birthday** with a glass of fizz at the top, rounded off by an hilarious dip in the **Doctor's Bath at Corrie**.

We have now extended our range to the mainland by climbing **Ben Cruachan** in May and more recently **Ben Nevis** in September to celebrate the coming of age (three score and ten) of two of the group.

The Ben Nevis party consisted of Relentless Robert (Cumming), A'Chir Archie (Cumming), Captain John (Ford). Dynamic Doug (Coulter), Silent Assassin Ken (Thorburn), Dogged Dave (Henderson) and Sherpa Dick (Wright).

The seven 70's above, set off at 9am after a good breakfast at a lovely B&B in **Spean Bridge** to climb Britain's highest mountain. Weather was very kind to us with spectacular views on our ascent, which took approx. 4 hours, not too bad for a combined age in excess of 500 years! The Ben Nevis mountain path on the

Community Council Information

The Community Council meet the last Tues of the month at the **Ormidale Pavillion @ 6pm** with the exception of December. The public can attend.

The minutes of the meetings are available to read in the Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall, the Lochranza Hotel, the Catacol Hotel and the Pirmill Shop. If you have any concerns you would like taken forward, could you contact me (Lochranza and Catacol) or Liz Evans (Pirmill).

Thank you.

Contact Addresses:-

Julie Graham - The Old Exchange, Lochranza, KA27 8HL. Tel 01770 830 247
Email:- acc.lochranza.julieg@gmail.com

Liz Evans - Shore Cottage, Pirmill, KA27 8HP. Tel 01770 850 267
Email:- acc.pirmill.liz@gmail.com

Pirmill War Memorial

As part of my fundraising towards the WW1 memorial I'm putting together a talk on the history of Pirmill and district.
I will be giving the talk twice-

Wednesday 8th November 2-4pm
Saturday 11th November 7-9pm

both in Pirmill hall.

There will be tea/coffee etc during an interval - there is a lot of material so everyone will need a break halfway-including me!

Fiona Laing



'CAROLS IN THE CO-OP' – 16th DECEMBER 11am-12noon

F.O.L.K.(Friends Of Lochranza Kirk)

Last week **Brian Miller** gave a most interesting talk to the FOLK meeting in Lochranza church.

It was about **Paschendale**, one of the bloodiest battles of the First World War. He briefly covered the reasons why Germany went to war, its primary objectives and how, having failed to achieve these, it set up for a war of attrition. Being first there, Germany chose the high ground to dig its trenches. As a consequence, the allied troops generally had to advance uphill into enemy fire, through mud and barbed wire. Water flows to the lowest point and so allied trenches were wet and muddy while the Germans remained comparatively dry. Brian read a graphic account from a soldier's letter home in which he described an advance struggling through waist deep soft mud unable to shoot back as he had to hold his rifle high above his head to keep it dry. Horror beyond imagination!

Paschendale was the idea of General Haig to straighten out a bulge in the allied lines. Brian gave other reasons, among them, Haig's ego and the desire to get a victory ahead of the French. The war cabinet were reluctant, but Haig persuaded them to agree through a brief of half truths and omissions.

The bombardment lasted 11 days, with a field gun every 6 feet firing day and night. Around 4 million tons of ordnance were shelled at the German lines. Unfortunately for the British, the Germans were dug deep and comparatively little damage was done.. When the soldiers went over the top, they were of course expected and were easy targets for the machine guns. Over 50,000 troops were killed or injured in that first day, and although some made it to the enemy lines, the Germans simply fell back to their second or third lines of defence trenches. Over the whole battle which lasted for many weeks, the British army managed to advance about 5k but failed to meet Haig's strategic objectives of securing a port and a key railway junction. Ironically, a few months later, it was decided to give up the ground gained and the army fell back to its pre battle positions. **300,000 men died** for, in practice, nothing. Paschendale will be ever linked with the names of Ypres and the Somme in terms of horror and loss and futility.

The German lines were never really breached in the war. Germany was forced to surrender through starvation and lack of necessary war material as the result of the successful allied blockade.

There was a lively question and answer section following the talk, and it was very clear that Brian well knew his subject.

A most fascinating and informative afternoon.

Archie Cumming

south side is not too interesting, however the north face more than makes up for it, with rugged cliffs and corries. The summit is boulder strewn with an old ruined weather station. Again we were lucky as the mist lifted and we could enjoy the view from the summit. The descent took approx 3.5 hours with a welcomed pint at the **Ben Nevis Bothy**. The evening was spent at the **Pine Trees Restaurant/Hotel** at Spean Bridge with a splendid meal and some refreshments!! The following day we had a very satisfying return journey to **Base Camp Arran**.

Next expedition in Scotland is to climb **Ben Arthur** (The Cobbler) near Arrochar at the beginning of May 2018 to celebrate our senior mountaineer becoming 75 years young.

I trust this gives you all some idea of the wide range of activities undertaken by the L.P.S in this small community of Lochranza and Catacol. If anyone feels like joining us in the future, you will be more than welcome.

Richard B Wright



Christmas Card Alert !

As the Festive period approaches, this is just a reminder that one card does all !

If you like to send your village friends and neighbours good wishes for Christmas and the New Year, just write one card and bring it to Tuesday or Friday coffee mornings held at the Village Hall between 10 and 12am. Your card will be enjoyed by all present, then displayed on the card star in the vestibule.

There will be a donation box available for a charity chosen by popular demand. Hopefully you will be saving on cards, stamps and elbow grease too !

Aileen Wright

A Massive 'Thank you'



*I sincerely wish to thank you all for my wonderful retirement?!
gift I received at church on 24th September. It completely
overwhelmed me. Such a generous gift. Thanks both to
Pirnmill and Lochranza congregations. I say retirement but it
seems I probably will be a locum organist, or in other words
organgrinder!!*

I will help out now and again as long as I am able to do so.

Lorna

Lochranza Ladies Christmas Lunch

A Christmas Lunch has been organised for Wednesday 6th December at the Kinloch Hotel Blackwaterfoot for 12.30pm, leaving on the service bus from Lochranza at 11.30am (Church) returning on the service bus from Blackwaterfoot at 14.56pm. Anyone interested please let me know by Friday, 17th November. Please telephone me for menu as I require your choice beforehand. Prices are - 2 course including tea/coffee and tip - £18.50 - 3 course including tea/coffee and tip £21.00. Money due for meal on 1st December or before.

Anne Coulter - Tel: 830219

Lochranza Loos Report

When the public toilets in Lochranza were closed on **31 March 2017** there were many fears regarding the consequences – the public health issue, the damage to Arran's image, reputation and tourism, as well as the possible demolition of the building.

A group of local residents arranged a meeting with **North Ayrshire Council** representatives to discuss the situation and on 23 May three officials came to Lochranza. After this meeting the group decided that action should be taken to try to re-open the toilets and to preserve the building. Seven local residents formed a group, **Lochranza Loos**, and on 3 August North Ayrshire council granted a licence to the group to run the toilets on a monthly rolling contract basis.

The toilets were reopened on 4 August.

The group's aim is to provide free public access to toilet facilities in Lochranza and to preserve the toilet building, which is part of the fabric of the village, for the local community. The intention is to fund the toilets by public donation.

Since the 4th of August the toilets have been cleaned and resupplied daily by ten volunteers - Anita, David, Douglas, Ian, Jenny, Kathy, Krystyna, Margaret, Monika and Tony.

What of the future? The future is unclear. We hope that donations will cover costs but clearly we cannot be sure of this after only ten weeks. The group is aware that CMal will be refurbishing their waiting room at Lochranza Pier and will be installing toilets there and while we are unsure as to what this might mean for the provision of year round toilet public facilities in Lochranza it may be that Lochranza toilets will still have a role to play.

Come what may, the group, which is in the process of becoming a charity, would like to see the toilet building preserved for the local community.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help please contact Tony at 839217 or David at 830278.

Tony Baboolal

