

WEEKLY BULLETIN 9

Rotary Club of Lochaber

Wednesday 20 May 2020

We are now into our ninth week of strange times - hope you are all keeping well and staying safe. Although we are all in lockdown and distancing from one another, we still have lots of Rotary news as you see when you skim through this little newsletter. Our AGM is scheduled for 27 May and President Clive is encouraging you to read through the agenda papers that were circulated on 7 May, record your decision on the various resolutions, and forward your proxy vote to Secretary John by this Sunday. Today's 'Zoom' get-together will be hosted by President-Elect Richard - 1pm today! Hope to see you there!

... firstly, a brief summary of how we intend to navigate the Club through the government lockdown over the next few months ...

It is very likely that, lawfully, we will be unable to physically meet as a Club before July at the earliest. This restriction will impact significantly on the Club's formal procedures in terms of holding our AGM, appointing conveners and their committee members, preparing and approving committee programmes, and carrying out the presidential handover. To address this, we have devised the following programme:-

24 May - Secretary John circulated the formal AGM papers on 7 May - it is important that members complete and return the Proxy Vote to him by Sunday 24 May at the latest - this records your approval or otherwise of the current Office Bearers' and Conveners' year-end reports on their committees' activities, and elects next year's Office Bearers and Conveners.

27 May - online **AGM** - Secretary will count members' votes and email all members thereafter to let them know the result of the voting which would include a list of next year's Office Bearers, Council Members and Conveners etc

After 27 May and before 10 June - Incoming Conveners to (1) attend online District Assembly for briefings on ideas/information, (2) meet with President-Elect Richard and pick their committee members and (3) each committee will meet and decide on their programme for the coming year - all before 10 June

3 June - Online or Zoom **Joint Club Council** - outgoing and incoming conveners exchange programmes and ideas to ensure a smooth transition

10 June - Committee programmes to be completed and forwarded to Club Secretary

17 June - online or Zoom - Conveners' programmes to be approved by Club Council; thereafter, Secretary to forward programmes to all members for approval at Club Assembly...

24 June - online or Zoom **Club Assembly** - Club approves Committee programmes.

1 July - **Presidential Handover** -- Richard takes over the reins on the 1st and we can have a formal hand-over ceremony at the first actual lunch meeting of the Club (assuming it is after the 1st July)....

...and we continue with a piece of interesting news about Past-President Angus Nicolson's son Alastair..

Alastair is an occasional visitor to the Club and, as members will recall, on 26 September 2018, in his earlier role as Lochaber Programme Manager with Highlands & Island Enterprise (HIE), he delivered a very upbeat and lively presentation (see below) on HIE's plans to make Lochaber a "fantastic place for people to live, work, visit, study and invest"



The Lochaber Times reports that Alastair has now been appointed Interim Area Manager for HIE for Lochaber, Skye and Wester Ross for a period of six months - a great achievement for this local lad. The Club sends its congratulation!

... and a follow up from John Goodall in Arisaig. John reports that Sheila tripped and bruised her face (shades of Brenda!) and that he is in the process of building a stone wall and narrowly avoided a catastrophe !

Hi Everyone,

I was sorry to hear that Brenda had tripped on the railway and got a nasty black eye - Sheila did just the same 3 weeks ago when she managed to trip on the concrete steps

at our back door and landed on the right side of her face. She had a huge 'egg' on her temple and her face went all the colours of the rainbow over the next week or two.

I'm quite pleased to see the rain today (Sunday) - it means that I now have a break from lugging large stones up 40 ft to my stone 'wall' (20 inches high). A few weeks ago I agreed with Sheila that it would be nice to have a little wall dividing our 'rock garden' from the 'wildflower meadow' on the very steep slope we are trying to cultivate. At first it was easy - there were lots of stones lying around and I made good progress - then the local supply ran out and I had to resort to going to the bottom of the hill for stones.

Carrying them up was very hard work so I decided to put them in the trailer and drive them up to the road at the top of our plot and throw them over the fence to roll down towards my little wall. All went well until a large flat stone of about 20 kgs decided to go on edge like a wheel and suddenly turn at right angles to go straight towards our oil tank. By a miracle it fell over just before hitting the tank, thus saving me from a very expensive and smelly disaster !! Best wishes, John

.... and we follow this with an update from Jenny at Kilmonivaig who is keeping busy during the lockdown with cycling, quilting and fiddling !

Hi Everyone,

Lockdown seems the norm now at Blackcairn House. No visitors, fishing, or trips away but we are keeping busy. We should have been travelling out to the Kola Peninsular next week for our Russian fishing adventure, flying to Helsinki then Murmansk, then helicopter out to the Varzuga river to the camp. An amazing wild place, some of the best salmon fishing in the world, and 24 hours daylight! But sadly we'll have to wait till next year!

We have had some good bike rides in the kinder weather, Steve is logging for the wood store for next winter but we've had to leave putting it away as we have wagtail babies in their nest in the log store.

My Lockdown quilting project is taking shape and I have another batch of elephants ready to make up for my friends mother and baby charity in Kenya. In between all this I have joined Sheana's violin Zoom group so lots of violin practice going on! Quite a difference in technique from classical violin to playing the local 'fiddle' music but enjoying the challenge.

Hope everyone in the club is keeping safe and well and I would like to offer again any help with shopping, prescription collections or anything else I can help with. Regards, Jenny

.... **eight members joined host Sheana at last week's online Zoom get-together.** Today's event will be hosted by Richard. Hope you can join us at 1pm today !



... **and a plea from David Mee to vote for the "Secret Portrait"**

 DaveandMo Mee  Ken Johnston
Sunday at 23:00 · 🌐

please ask Rotary members to vote for this, Coleen is asking

 West Highland Museum
Thursday at 14:05 · 🌐

Highland Objects launched their #highlandobjects competition today. We think our Secret Portrait of Prince Charles Edward Stuart deserves to win!

This is our most famous exhibit. A unique anamorphic painting that reveals a hidden portrait when a cylinder is placed on the panel. The Jacobites used objects like this to hide their public support for the Stuart dynasty and would secretly toast 'the King over the water'.

Please vote for us and share this post to encourage your friends and family to vote for us too!
To vote click on this link: <https://buff.ly/2WTJfdt>

#highlandobjects #museumsunlocked #museumfromhome #heritagefromhome #museumweek #curatorbattle #jacobites #secretportrait #1745rising #bonnieprincecharlie

