



To contact the Community Company, call 01320 366800
or email contact@communitycompany.co.uk
Follow us on Facebook to keep up with all the news.

Community Caretakers

The Highland winter has thrown a few challenging days at the team, with freezing temperatures, lumps of snowfall and endless grit bins to fill, but we are seeing through the other end now.

Looking forward to Spring, we have secured a number of solid oak whisky barrels to be used as floral planters throughout the area. Most of our existing tubs have seen their day, so time for bigger and better. We'll make sure there are splashes of colour in each of the villages, which always lifts your mood. However, it's a pity we have to fill them as they have a very addictive aroma about them already!

We will also be opening our Community Composting area again in March, as it proved very popular last year. There will be new signage as guidance and I would encourage users to treat the service with responsibility and not abuse it. The team have already used a lot of the waste products on our projects, such as woodchip mulch or leaf mould.

The Great Wall of China (I mean the Fort Augustus version!) has been the focus of our attention of late. The discussion of, lowering and restoration of the ancient, shuttered wall has been an ongoing project since the community company took ownership of the Old Convent land in 2018. The team have now achieved a stately and safe entrance driveway to the Kilchuimen Cemetery. A yearly maintenance schedule will be a priority every winter, for as long as the caretaking team exist.

The next time you are walking your dog down the drive, I challenge you to spot the Flamingo!

Glen



Grants awarded

Since the last issue of Ness News, the following grants have been awarded:

- Kilchuimen Academy £4,400 to pay for transport on a residential trip
- Kilchuimen Primary Parent Council £2,925 to pay for travel to swimming lessons
- West Glenmoriston Community Company £18,442 to pay for a generator at the Hub
- Glenmoriston Millennium Hall Community Association £38,242 to set up and run a community shop
- Lynne West £550 to engage Plunkett Foundation for advice on setting up a Community Shop
- Robert Spence £300 to undertake special Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Training
- 6 Cost of Living Grants for a value of £2,000 in total.
- 2 Student Grants at £600 each

You can apply for a grant at any time, and it will be assessed at the first possible opportunity. The forms have all been simplified this year but do get in touch if you need any help.

Tarff Trading – Hardware store



Thursday 26th January saw us taking over the Hardware store. Ian, Chief Officer is pictured here with our first customer.

The Community Company has purchased the building and is leasing it to Tarff Trading, a wholly owned trading subsidiary of FAGCC. This new business has its own Directors and the intention is for it to cover its costs with any small profit to be returned to the community.

We are trying to get to grips with the stock and new systems, so if you can't find what you are looking for John & Nigel will be happy to help.

We will not be doing bike hire this year, so that gives us some scope to look at new product lines. So if there is anything you would like us to stock please do let us know.

There is a suggestion box in-store or you can email the shop directly tarfftrading@gmail.com.

Update on Glentarff House & Memorial Hall

The initial paperwork has now been presented, to start the asset transfer request for both these properties.

They now have to go through due process with both the Highland Council (Memorial Hall) and Scottish Canals (Glentarff House). This may take quite a while. So, if you don't see anything happening yet do not be surprised. We will keep you updated when there is more news.

E-Cars



We took delivery of the first E-car at the end of January. This is now being use by Sunflower Home Care to get to and from their clients in Glengarry. You may see it in the Medical Centre car park being charged up at the new dedicated charging point.

The team had a day of induction into using the car before zipping off to take it for it's first outing.

Invermoriston Falls Shop

The Board of Directors were delighted to support a recent grant application to support the opening of a new community led shop in Invermoriston. The grant will fund the initial stock and set up costs, along with rent and salary of the manager for the first year.

Good luck to the community group who are leading on this, we can't wait to see how they get on.

