



8th September 2020

Dear All,

TORRIDON COMMUNITY CENTRE - NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2020

We are still finding our way through these strange times, however this latest newsletter hopefully provides you all with an update on the current situation at the Community Centre and what is, or what is not happening, going forward over the rest of the year.

- **So what has been happening;**

- The Community Centre opened with just a little trepidation on the 20th July 2020 not knowing what was going to happen or whether we were going to be able to operate within the new guidelines set by the Scottish Government. Well we need not have worried as generally all visitors to the Centre have adhered to the guidelines and restrictions imposed. You will all have noticed how busy the area has been since the hospitality sector opened for business in early July and this has reflected in a marked increase in visitors to the Centre.
- The Wee Whistle Stop Café has also been very busy, now operating from the new Kitchen. Visit the Torridon Community Centre website (www.lochtorridoncentre.co.uk/wee-whistlestop-cafe) and The Wee Whistle Stop FaceBook page (<https://www.facebook.com/WeeWhistleStop/>) for opening times and latest menu's.
- With the increase in footfall due to the opening of the cafe gallery sales have seen a marked increase in sales over previous years, which is all good for the local artist's exhibiting.
- Sessions with Osteopath Wayne Coleman have been well attended and are currently scheduled through to the end of the year, dates being available on the Community Centre website calendar. Bookings can be made with Wayne Coleman direct on 01536 390868.
- Hairdresser Jane Stevenson's first day at the Centre on the 3rd August 2020 was a success and well attended. Jane is back on 11th September 2020 and those that have not already booked should contact Jane directly via her email janestevenson5@hotmail.co.uk providing your contact number and preferred time slot and she will get back and confirm. Jane intends to visit every 5 weeks so keep checking the Community Centre website for future dates.



Charges are as follows;

- Ladies wet Cut **£24**
 - Ladies cut and blow dry **£30**
 - Gents cut **£12**
 - **All payments cash only**
- Volunteers Zoe, Mat, Jo, Adrian, Les, Phil, Seamus, Ruraidh, Sally, Fiona and Anne have all been busy working on the old township of Doire na Fuaran above the Centre and the existing Shore path. The work is not yet complete but those that have explored the walks recently will now see that the nine benches and two picnic tables are now in place along the route. The old township ruins and walls have been cleared of bracken making them more visible. For those that not have explored the walks yet it is well worth doing, not only to get a feel for the past, but also the views down and around Torridon and the Inner Loch. The benches and picnic tables allow you to stop off and take in the view. Works will continue over the next couple of months putting in place signage, story boards, bridges etc.
 - Discussions are ongoing with the various user groups and it hopeful that a number of these will be starting up again over the winter months, Scottish Government Guidelines permitting.
 - Pilates will be starting up shortly on a Saturday morning and Helen will be circulating details over the coming weeks.

● What is not happening

- The Main Hall will remain closed for Country Dancing, Craft Markets, live entertainment and other events involving larger gatherings until Scottish Government Guidelines allow, and that the Community Centre can hold such events safely.
- Gym – Although the Scottish Government guidelines allow the opening of the gym, the TDCA having reviewed the layout and the risks together with all the additional cleaning measures and have taken the decision to keep the gym closed. We know a number of you will be very disappointed with this decision, however we trust you understand our dilemma and again we will continue to review as and when the Scottish Government Guidelines are updated

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Although only September we are staying positive and are already planning for 2021 which we believe will be another busy year here.

We trust you all stay safe and look forward to seeing you at the Community Centre or out on the local walks having a picnic or just sitting back on a bench taking in the grandeur and history of our beautiful area.