



K i r k m i c h a e l T r u s t

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Community newsletter June 2016

Works due to commence on site Monday 27th June – just after Kirkmichael Creative!



The project ‘pre-start’ meeting took place on 8 June. This key meeting saw **Laing Traditional Masonry (LTM)** Managing Director Steven Laing (centre left) and his team meet with project architect Chris Bowes and Dr Jim Mackay, Chairman of the Kirkmichael Trust. Passing local residents will soon notice the arrival of portakabins and other project infrastructure concentrated on both sides of the north-west corner of the kirkyard wall, well away from the current burial area. LTM will be working with us to organise **demonstrations and workshops of traditional building techniques** such as nail-making, masonry and lime-burning – look out for these dates in our next issue.

Word of the launch of our **Kirkmichael Creative** project strand is spreading. Our photography workshop leader (11 – 12.30) is award-winning photographer Charlie Phillips and we have other free workshops on offer, arts & crafts (led by Becs Boyd 12.30 – 14.00) and music/creative writing (David & Marjorie Cowan and Verity Walker 14.00 – 15.30). You can sign up on Facebook – or just come along. If you create something as part of Kirkmichael Creative (writing, knitting, embroidery, lace, music, art, story, poem, sketch, photograph – you name it!) please make sure **Kirkmichael Creative – Saturday June 25th** is in your diary, and tell your friends – you’ll be warmly invited to display/perform your work at Resolis Hall later in the year. There will also be **free make and take activities all day for children**, including 50 free Pirate Chest decoupage kits courtesy of Hobbycraft, and clay tile making kindly provided by Barbel Dister at Cromarty Pottery.

Just round the corner at Balblair’s Ferry House there will be an **exhibition by local artists and photographers** (including Susi Cooper, Barbara McHardy and Andrew Dowsett) with teas, music in the morning and a bric-a-brac sale (please note this exhibition will also run for the whole of the previous week until 26 June).



We have enjoyed several visits of young **Fortrose Academy pupils** and their exchange partners from Manosque from over the past few sunny nights.

In April/May our team:

held a successful **Archaeology Day** at both **Kirkmichael** and **Old Cullicudden** attended by 75 in spite of the weather

met with the team at **Inverness Museum and Art Gallery**

enjoyed Lorraine Evans’ **memento mori** exhibition at **Cromarty Courthouse**

ran a **hard-hat-decorating activity** at Tore Primary School

held a further planning session at with **Cromarty Primary** – look out for a **mediaeval meal** later in the year!

Our July/August newsletter will look forward to our next Open Day – **Naturally Kirkmichael**, a joint event with the RSPB and other wildlife groups, exploring the kirkyards as habitat, which will be held on 27th August. More information from **Verity Walker** on 01381 620575/ verity@interpretation.com.

For a full list of project funders, please visit our website (above).

