



Kirk Michael Trust
 www.kirkmichael.info www.facebook.com/KirkmichaelTrust
Community newsletter October 2016

Limeworks almost complete, and up goes the roof!

We have been blessed with superb summer weather in September and October and the lime mortar is making the gables look suddenly sharp and tall. Look out for them as you drive down Mounthigh towards Udale! The dark wood for the roof beams has now arrived and soon the bright mortar will be covered over once more by the sparkling blue-grey of Ballachulish and Easdale slate.



SEPTEMBER ACTIVITY A great day was had by all on 17th September with over 450 people attend the first-ever traditional **Country Show**, raising over £5000 for Resolis Primary School. We were especially grateful to Historic Environment Scotland's Conservation Learning Department **Engine Shed** Team in Stirling for managing to get us a brilliant boxful of appropriate resource material to give away free (fantastic new website, take a look! conservation.historic-scotland.gov.uk/engineshed). Laing Traditional Masonry (LTM) also did us proud with excellent **building conservation demonstrations** of stone-carving and lime-slaking on site and display at the show. NB our workshops in these skills 25/27 October are fully subscribed.

KMT trustees and supporters also toured **Easter Ross**, visiting **Tain Collegiate Church** and burial ground, **Tarbat Discovery Centre** and **Nigg Old Church** where we were made very welcome. Dr Jim Mackay and Verity Walker teamed up with Susan Kruse from ARCH to lead six activity sessions at **Rosskeen** and **Kilmuir Easter** burial grounds with students from **Invergordon and Alness Academies**, also piloting activities for use online.



Our archaeology team Lynne and Lachlan McKeeggie will be supervising **voluntary archaeology activity** on site over the next few weeks. Among the debris from the original roof collapse, we hope to find fragments of broken wall monuments which can then be repaired. If you would like to spend at least two days on site between 17th October and 4th November assisting with this and other important work, please email Lachlan at lachlan.mckeeggie@hi-arch.co.uk (last few places left in the first and last weeks, and a special session on Saturday 29th October). October got off to a flying start with our **Highland Archaeology Festival** 'Nine Days of Wonder' activities both on Facebook and out in the community. Many thanks to those who attended any of the storytelling or lecture sessions delivered by Verity Walker or Dr Jim Mackay in September or early October, see pix of many of these on www.facebook.com/KirkmichaelTrust.

Other October/November diary dates:

- October 29th - Black Isle Landscape Partnership café-style discussion 2 -4 Gordon Memorial Hall
- November 5th - Training Day on Resolis, Kirkmichael and Old Cullicudden (location confirmed on booking)
- November 12th - Kirkmichael Creative exhibition at Cromarty Community Market 11 - 2. Please contact Verity for more details on verity@interpretaction.com or call 01381 620575 after 24 Oct.

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