



Kilmartin Museum Trust

Annual Review

2015 – 2016





Table of Contents

Executive Summary.....	3
Part 1: Introduction	4
Part 2: Strategic Aims Delivery 2015-2016	8
Strategic Aim 1: Develop and care for our Collections to the highest standard and ensure people are able to engage in understanding their meaning and significance	11
Strategic Aim 2: Develop and diversify the Museum’s range of Audiences and ensure the experience they gain is of the highest standard	15
Strategic Aim 3: Develop and conserve the Museum’s resources to ensure financial and environmental sustainability.....	24
Strategic Aim 4: Increase Knowledge and Awareness of the area’s archaeology and natural heritage and ensure its future preservation	29
Part 3: Analysis and Conclusions	33
Appendix 1.....	35



Executive Summary

This annual review has been produced to report to Kilmartin Museum's core funders, project funders, and other supporters.

Core funding continues to be provided by Argyll and Bute Council and Historic Environment Scotland. The Service Level Agreement whereby Kilmartin staff curate the archaeology and natural history collections of the Council and provide curatorial advice to other museums in the area also continued. This work is undertaken by Dr Sharon Webb, the Museum Director and Curator.

News of the success of the Museum's application, submitted in April 2015, for a Round 1 Heritage Lottery Fund grant for an ambitious Redevelopment Project was received in July 2015, and was a cause for much celebration. Permission to start on the Development Phase of the project was given in November 2015, since then activity has focused on getting the right staffing levels in place to undertake this work. In order to improve the organisation's capability to deliver a large Redevelopment Project, a new charitable company limited by guarantee, the Kilmartin Museum Company Limited, was set up on 31st March 2015 to replace Kilmartin Museum Trust. Steps to wind up the Trust and establish the VAT group are in process. This work will be completed in the next financial year.

Significant grant funding to progress the development of the Museum has been granted from a number of agencies including Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Museums Galleries Scotland through their Strategic Investment Fund.

Visitor numbers have increased overall this year as a result of various measures being implemented after a difficult trading year in 2014-2015. User numbers for the Education & Outreach Service have increased this year, while visitors to site has remained steady and the proportion who also visit the Museum, expressed by ticket sales, has risen to 42% from 37% in 2014-2015. This has resulted in a much more successful trading year and an increase in self-generated income from the Museum shop and café.

This has been an exciting year for archaeological discoveries in the area, with Museum staff being involved in an excavation at Carnasserie Mor where a complete Bronze Age food vessel was found in a cist, and in the excavation and display of an assemblage of Bronze Age metal work on the island of Coll.

In summary, progress against strategic aims has been steady and work has continued to review and revise these aims ready for implementation in the new Forward Plan for 2016-2019.



Part 1: Introduction

The Annual Review reports on the Museum's Forward Plan 2013-2016 and incorporates the Strategic Themes, Aims and Five Year Vision that guide the Museum's work. The review is produced by the staff of Kilmartin Museum to report on activities in more detail than space allows in the Annual Report and Accounts.

The review is also a reporting requirement of Argyll and Bute Council, Historic Environment Scotland and other funders. As organisations that provide grants, Museums Galleries Scotland and Highlands and Islands Enterprise will also receive a copy.

Trustees and Museum staff have had a very busy year continuing with strategy planning and implementing the next stage of the Redevelopment Project. This work is detailed below as well as the work involved in the continued operation of the Museum.

Campbeltown Museum continues to be managed by Kilmartin Museum under a Service Level Agreement with Argyll & Bute Council. Work at Campbeltown Museum has focused on education and curatorial work which is detailed in the relevant sections below.

Mission Statement

Kilmartin Museum inspires and educates people by interpreting, explaining and conserving the internationally important archaeological landscape, artefacts and natural heritage of Kilmartin Glen.

Five Year Vision

Kilmartin Museum is a well-run, well known, high class, award winning, independent, small Museum with excellent visitor and community facilities. The Museum provides volunteer placements and a wide variety of learning opportunities for all ages through an innovative education service that covers a wide range of themes. The active archaeology programme engages the community and enables students to find out more about the heritage and is thus contributing to the body of knowledge about the area.

It is THE visitor attraction in Argyll and is widely well known for its unique interpretive exhibition and active arts programmes.

An excellent employer, the Museum respects the environment by operating in a sustainable manner and conserves resources wherever possible. The Museum shop is well stocked with a changing range of goods; it is profitable and well used by the local community. The ambience, innovative menu, excellent service and friendliness of the staff in the Museum café mean that it is an attraction in itself.

The Museum is providing a repository for archaeological artefacts from all over Argyll where they can be well cared for so that they can be enjoyed by generations to come. Above all, Kilmartin Museum is helping people from all walks of life to understand and enjoy the past and to be able to use it as a source of inspiration.



Strategic Themes

These themes articulate how we will achieve our vision and fulfil our mission statement.

- Collections
- Audiences
- Resources
- Knowledge and Awareness

Strategic Aims

To facilitate delivery of the Strategic Themes, the following aims have been produced:

1. Develop and care for our **Collections** to the highest standard and ensure people are able to engage in understanding their meaning and significance
2. Develop and diversify the Museum's range of **Audiences** and ensure the experience they gain is of the highest standard
3. Develop and conserve the Museum's **Resources** to ensure financial and environmental sustainability
4. Increase **Knowledge and Awareness** of the area's archaeology and natural history and ensure its future preservation

The ways in which the Museum has delivered its Strategic Aims in the 2015-16 financial year are detailed in Part 2.

Revenue Summary

Museum visitor numbers increased to 11,879 [2015: 10,791], with a consequent increase in admissions income. Much of this increase was due to tickets sold to pre booked groups at a discounted price. In previous years, groups have tended to stay on site for a short time to visit the Museum but a trend is developing for groups to spend longer in Kilmartin, visiting the café and participating in guided walks in addition to visiting the Museum.

Shop turnover increased to £54,092 [2015: £45,324]. This has resulted from a thorough stock review and additional staff training and resulted in a net profit of £8,057 being achieved [2015: £2,629]. Café turnover rose to £146,399 [2015: £139,677]. However, staff costs have risen significantly and consequently net profit increased by a lesser amount to £743 [2015: -£1,721]. Difficult economic conditions continue to prevail and all staff continue to focus on driving up café and shop turnover and containing costs.

Investment income has increased to £54,982 [2015: £43,163]. This increase reflects the improved contribution from the Trading Company. Total incoming resources were £306,882 [2015: £245,518], boosted by £37k of donations received to progress the Redevelopment Project. Total expenditure in the year ending 31st March 2016 was £267,315 [2015: £244,712].

Organisational Structure, Staff & Reporting

Kilmartin Museum Trust is an independent charity (SC022744). It employs a Museum Director/Curator and staff as outlined in the table below. The Director reports to a Board of Trustees who meet four times a year.



Kilmartin Museum Company Limited, a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, was established on 31st March 2015 and work continues to wind up Kilmartin Museum Trust and transfer the assets to the new company. Approval to proceed with this transfer was granted by OSCR in January 2016 and legal work continues to effect the transfer.

Trustee Ruth Knox recommended that Kilmartin Museum Company Ltd and Kilmartin House Trading Company Limited should alter their year-end to 31st December to improve operational efficiency. This was agreed by Trustees at the September 2015 board meeting and will be implemented on 31st December 2016.

Trustee Professor Allan Hamilton stood down as Chair of Kilmartin House Trading Company board in June 2015. Trustee Ruth Knox took over this role.

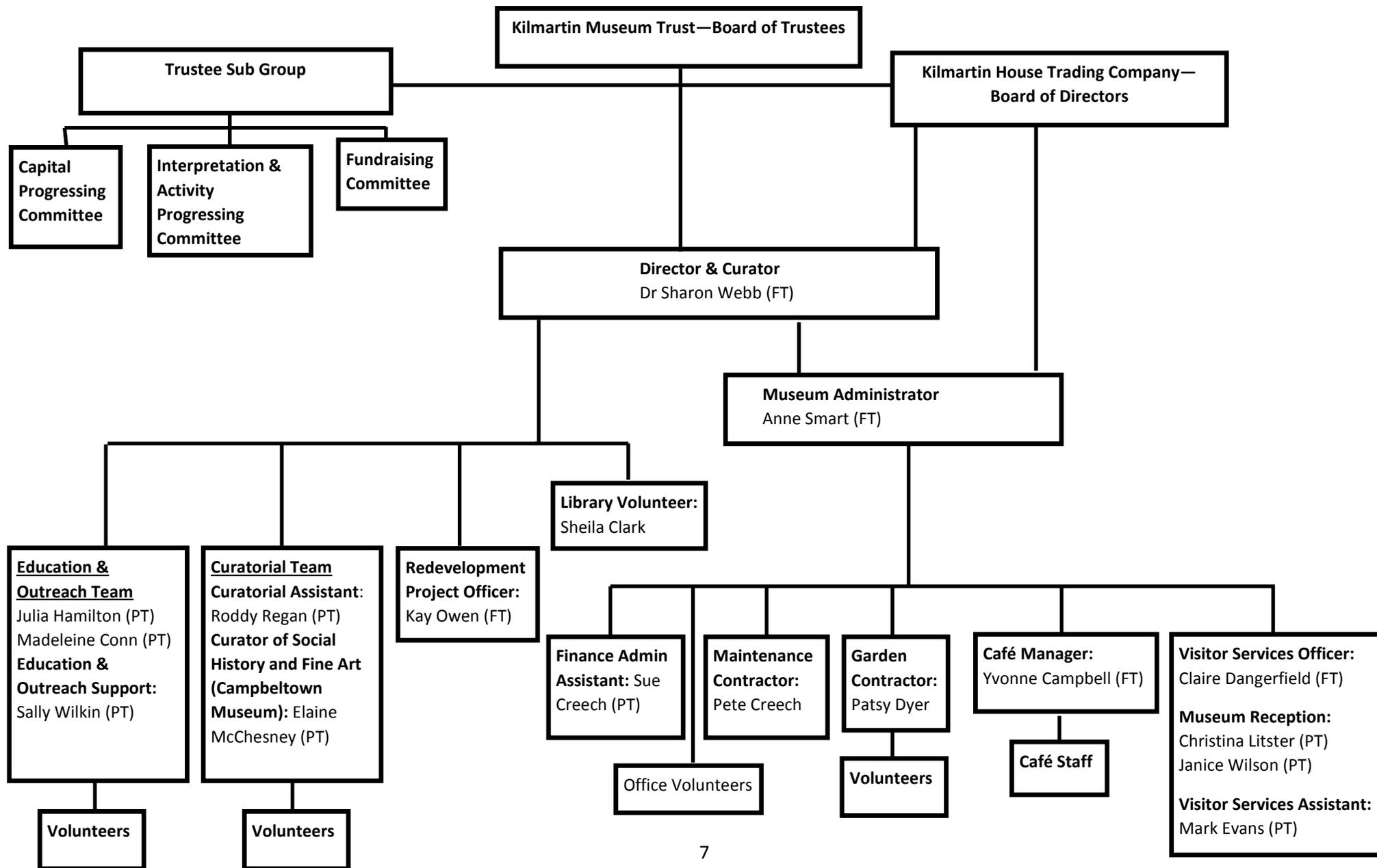
There were some staff changes during the year. Kate Moody left the post of Education and Outreach Officer in June 2015 after six years in the Education and Outreach Service, and Madeleine Conn was recruited to replace her in September 2015. The Director and Trustees extend their grateful thanks to Kate for her hard work and the enthusiasm she brought to the post. Madeleine brings ten years' experience in Education and Outreach, having previously worked at National Museums Scotland, National Galleries Scotland and Glasgow Museums.

Café Manager Yvonne Campbell has continued to effectively manage the Museum Café, achieving a net profit in a difficult economic climate.

The Museum Director and Curator Dr Sharon Webb continues to serve as a committee member of the Argyll and Bute Museums and Heritage Forum and sits on the National Committee for Carved Stones of Scotland as well as being a member of the Argyll and Bute Council Arts and Culture Steering Group. In the Autumn of 2015, Sharon Webb was elected to stand on the Council of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, and her outstanding contribution to Kilmartin Museum and Argyll & Bute was recognised by the award of an MBE for services to Archaeology and Heritage in the Queen's New Year's Honour's List 2015.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Trust and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major operational and financial risks. However, in the autumn of 2015, risk management work identified that the senior members of staff were at risk of overload. Highlands and Islands Enterprise commissioned a human resources consultant to undertake a review of staffing in the context of the burden the Redevelopment Project will place on existing staff. She identified that the two senior posts of Director/Curator and Administrator are overloaded. Trustees have discussed the issue and are working with the senior staff to identify a solution.

Trustees, staff and volunteers are detailed in the diagram below.





Part 2: Strategic Aims Delivery 2015-2016

Focus continues to remain on the Redevelopment Project as the key means of delivery of the Museum's Strategic Aims.

Redevelopment Project Summary

To progress the Redevelopment Project, an application was submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) in April 2015. In August 2015 it was announced that this application was successful and HLF have agreed to grant £400,000 towards Development Phase costs to enable a second round application to be submitted in 2017 for a further £3.1 million towards a total project cost of £6.7 million. Permission to start was granted by HLF in October 2015.

The project's Development Phase is also being supported by Argyll and Bute Council, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and the Schroder Foundation.

Embarking on the next stages of our Redevelopment Project has necessitated a closer look at the whole span of human history in Argyll, information which will feed into the evolving interpretation strategy and eventually the new exhibitions. So, in November 2015, the Museum held a very successful 2-day Symposium entitled *Unfolding Argyll's Archaeological Story*. This proved to be one of the highlights of the year. Academics from all over Britain and Ireland attended the event, along with 75 participants over the two days. This unique event discussed our present understanding of the region's archaeology and where this knowledge might take us in the future.

Match funding for the HLF grant will need to be raised prior to submitting a Round 2 application, which is due to be submitted in Autumn/Winter of 2017. At the end of March 2016, we are confident of receiving funds totalling £5.1m, with a fundraising strategy on track for raising the remaining £1.6m by the end of 2017.

HLF funding provides for the recruitment of a Redevelopment Project Manager to support the project to the 2nd round application. Recruitment for this role in January 2016 was unsuccessful. We now plan to revise this key role as a consultancy with a tender notice to be advertised in April 2016.

Three progressing committees (Capital, Interpretation and Activity, and Fundraising) continued to review individual elements of the project, reporting back to a Trustee Redevelopment Sub Group. The Progressing Committees consist of Trustees, staff and advisors.

The work of the Fundraising Committee has been mainly focused on the Private Individuals fundraising campaign. Events to raise the profile of Kilmartin Museum and attract donors were held in March 2016 at Westminster and in Edinburgh. Invited guests including MPs and MSPs were shown a specially commissioned film about Kilmartin Glen, the Museum and the plans for Redevelopment followed by a drinks reception and presentation by the Museum Director. A further fundraising event at Kelvingrove Museum in Glasgow is planned for August 2016. The Fundraising Committee also worked to produce Donor Packs and took advice from



consultant Square Route Partnership. Businessman Nicholas Ferguson is supporting the appeal and has agreed to serve as Fundraising Patron.

A community consultation on the issue of car parking for the redeveloped Museum was held in October 2015 with hay bales placed on the proposed site to show the visual impact of the overflow car park. There was a mixed response shown in the questionnaires and a clear level of opposition. Work continues to identify other potential sites for an overflow car park.

To date the Capital Progressing Committee and Interpretation and Activity Committee have not been required to meet. These committees will re-activate once a Redevelopment Project Manager is in post. Interpretation and exhibition planning work has been progressed by Sharon Webb.

The Progressing Committee members are:

Fundraising Progressing Committee

Gordon Gray Stephens (Chair), Jan Brown, Grace MacLeod, Ruth Knox, Wilma Campbell, Sharon Webb, Bill Bergius, Kay Owen. Paul Smyth stepped down at the end of March 2016 after 3 years supporting the Redevelopment Project.

Capital Progressing Committee

David Green (Chair), Gordon Gray Stephens, Sharon Webb, Chris Purslow, Kay Owen (secretary). Staff member Anne Smart also attended meetings with this committee.

Interpretation & Activity Progressing Committee

Jane Robinson (Chair – stepped down April 2015), Sharon Webb, Julia Hamilton, Kate Moody, Madeleine Conn, Kay Owen, Ewan Campbell, David Clarke, Stuart Shaw and Lorna Ewan.

Redevelopment Project Aims

The Project has six key aims:

1. To create an inspiring place where we can celebrate and tell the story of Kilmartin Glen's heritage to encourage people of all ages to understand and appreciate its global significance.
2. To broaden and build upon our local audience by widening and increasing cultural and participatory experiences and opportunities for local people.
3. To work with partners to ensure the preservation and appreciation of the Museum's Collections of archaeological artefacts, local landscape and monuments.
4. To widen the cultural impact of Kilmartin Museum so that it is better known and appreciated locally, nationally and internationally.
5. To secure the financial sustainability of Kilmartin Museum by implementing cost savings in an environmentally friendly building and increasing self-generated income.
6. To bring greater economic benefit to the area.

To deliver these aims, the Redevelopment will provide:

- An inspiring space designed by award winning architects Reiach & Hall
- A new museum exhibition and interpretation to enable never-before-seen objects to be showcased and accommodate larger visitor groups
- A major programme of exciting educational, cultural and archaeological events



- A new accessible collections store to provide safe storage of prehistoric artefacts and access to items not on display and to ensure Argyll's archaeology remains in Argyll
- A laboratory with finds processing facilities
- A temporary gallery for use by local artists and to display national collections
- A new learning space for school groups and a space for lectures, workshops and events
- Improved café, shop and parking facilities to provide visitors with modern and efficient services



Strategic Aim 1: Develop and care for our Collections to the highest standard and ensure people are able to engage in understanding their meaning and significance

Strategic Actions

Continue to develop the collections

The Museum continues to operate in accordance with its Collections Development Policy and collects archaeological finds from all over Argyll where this does not conflict with the Policy of another accredited museum in the area. The other Museums in this category are Campbeltown Museum (also managed by Kilmartin Museum staff), Bute Museum and Mull Museum.

The following Treasure Trove cases which Kilmartin Museum made successful bids are:

- An Early Bronze Age axe head from Taynuilt
- An exciting hoard of Bronze Age metal work including swords and spear heads from the Isle of Coll
- An excavation assemblage containing mostly 17th century material from Tarbet Isle
- An excavation assemblage containing mostly 18th century material and one Prehistoric arrow head from Arrochar.

On behalf of Campbeltown Museum, we bid for the following assemblages:

- A Neolithic axe from Southend
- An excavation and field walking assemblage consisting of Mesolithic to Bronze Age material from a research project led by Dr Vicki Cummings of the University of Central Lancashire.
- A 18th and 19th century archive from a developer funded excavation in Campbeltown.

Provide a suitable repository for archaeological artefacts from all over Argyll

An accessible collection store is planned as part of the Redevelopment Project. This will allow facilitated access to the Museum's reserve collections for educational and research purposes as well as allowing people to engage with the collection in a more in depth manner. The Outline Activity Plan and Interpretation Strategy prepared for the HLF application outlines how we intend to do this.

This purpose built collection store will provide safe and suitable storage for the Museum's collection and will meet Accreditation standards. It will accommodate the varied items in the collection, from extremely heavy carved stones to small bone fragments and reconstructed prehistoric pottery.

Chance finds from all over Argyll continue to be brought to Kilmartin Museum.



Following a report of the discovery of a cist at a farm in 2014 to the north of Kilmartin, an excavation was carried out in May 2015, funded by the Graham Hunter Foundation. This



revealed a cist structure constructed within a pit, which had been cut into the natural rock. The cist contained a complete food vessel that no doubt accompanied a burial, although no bones had survived the acidic soils. The relatively small size of the cist suggests the individual it once contained was likely to be a child. The pot is highly decorated and according to Dr Alison Sheridan of the National Museum of Scotland, who accompanied Museum staff on the dig, is around 4,000 years old. The pot still

retains its contents and will be excavated and consolidated under laboratory conditions. Post excavation work is on-going.

Ensure artefacts are well cared for

Over the course of the year, environmental monitoring of artefacts and collections took place and conditions were adjusted where necessary.

It has been previously acknowledged that Collection storage facilities at Kilmartin Museum are not currently able to provide appropriate storage for the Museum's Collection. Despite moving the current Collections Store in December to a larger room, this Store is now full. We are undertaking a piece of research to establish the size requirements of collection storage at present and into the future. The results of this research will ensure that the Redevelopment Project provides suitable long term collection storage space and that we are able to continue to collect archaeological material in the future.

Document new acquisitions and ensure accumulated knowledge about them is preserved

The continued employment of the Curatorial Assistant has meant that cataloguing and accessioning work remains up to date and has been carried out using the existing collections management system. The current system is no longer externally supported and so an application will be made to Museums Galleries Scotland in June 2016 for part funding to purchase the necessary software and pay for the work to be done.

Volunteer Sheila Clark continues to catalogue the Museums slide collection of over 6,700 images. Older images are an important resource as the images chart how the landscape and monuments as changed over the last forty years or so and is also valuable for publicity and media use.

Continue to meet accreditation standards

The Museum has maintained its Accreditation Status for the past three years despite operating in challenging circumstances and building infrastructure that is no longer fit for purpose. The most recent Accreditation Return was submitted to MGS in November 2015, the outcome of this is expected later in 2016.



Explore methods to increase knowledge about the Museum collections

The Outline Activity Plan and Interpretation Strategy that was developed for the Redevelopment Project now features a plan to produce a marketing strategy to promote the importance of the Museum collection and information about it.

The accessible collection store included in the Redevelopment plans will allow the entire collection to be viewed for research and educational purposes.

The Museum's website features a selection of artefacts from the collection both individually and as part of a feature on Glen monuments and the artefacts that were discovered at them.

The Symposium entitled *Unfolding Argyll's Archaeological Story* held by the Museum in November 2015 gathered a huge amount of research and sources of information on 12,000 years of human history in Argyll, which will be used to produce a Regional Research Framework for Argyll. This will fit into the Scottish Archaeological Research Framework being developed by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. The research papers presented at the Symposium are available on the Museum's website, and we are seeking ways to make this information more widely accessible.

Ensure all Museum interpretation and displays reflect the state of current knowledge

Archaeological investigation continually challenges our understanding of the past and it has already been established that the current Museum exhibition requires significant revision to reflect new knowledge. This is no small task and making the required changes will affect the entire exhibition layout, the content of interpretation panels, collection store facilities and artefacts on display.

This major undertaking can only be addressed by a Redevelopment Project with a comprehensive interpretation strategy, however, the Symposium has helped to make significant progress in gathering together a baseline of archaeological knowledge of the area.

In the lead up to the Round 1 submission to HLF in April 2015, a considerable amount of work was carried out by staff and advisors on producing an interpretation strategy and activity plan which outlines how the Museum exhibition can better tell the story of Kilmartin Glen and the surrounding area using the Museum's collection to its full potential.

Raise awareness of existing collections and new Acquisitions

Through the Redevelopment Project, work continues to promote the collection's 'star objects' and their importance. At present the Museum is currently unable to display these due to lack of space. Awareness raising has been carried out via Redevelopment information brochures, using social media, a display in the Museum gallery and at fundraising events.

Ensure more of our collections currently in storage are accessible to the general public

The proposed gallery space for the redeveloped museum will be three times that of the current exhibition space. This will accommodate a much greater display of the Museum's collection and revised interpretation to accompany it. An additional temporary exhibition



space is also planned, which will allow a rotation of external exhibits and items from the museum's collection store to be displayed.

Ensure more of our collections currently in storage are accessible to students for research

An accessible collection store is included in the Redevelopment Project's capital build and plans for the use of this room are available in the Activity Plan. The 'Dig Deeper and Discover' storeroom will allow access to all the Museum's collections not on display, access will be by arrangement and facilitated by Museum staff or volunteers which will make it ideal for educational and research purposes.

During the year the Museum has facilitated a visiting researcher from Sydney University who examined the Torbhlaren collections.

Ensure Kilmartin's archaeological collection is recognised as nationally and internationally important

Promotion of the importance of Kilmartin Museum's collection continues in all Redevelopment Publicity. It is anticipated that this will be a strong aspect of the marketing strategy that will be produced as part of the Redevelopment Project's Delivery Phase (Jan 2018 – Oct 2020).



Strategic Aim 2: Develop and diversify the Museum's range of Audiences and ensure the experience they gain is of the highest standard

An Outline Activity and Interpretation Plan, to set out what the Redevelopment Project will do in terms of interpretation and activity, and to demonstrate that our project meets the needs of people and communities as well as benefitting heritage, was submitted with the HLF application in April 2015. This was developed from the findings of on and off-site survey work, consultations and visitor questionnaires of Argyll residents, visitors and stakeholders. The Outline Activity and Interpretation Plan looked specifically at current Museum audiences, new audiences and how these will be addressed by the project, new interpretation and future activities.

Strategic Actions

Understand who our audiences are and what they want

From the analysis of survey work and ticket sales, we defined our audiences in key groups. This helped us to put together an in-depth picture of what we need to provide for our audiences and what they expect from the Museum. More detail can be found in the outline Activity Plan and Interpretation Strategy; however, the key areas of need identified by our audiences were: an updated exhibition and temporary gallery to facilitate return visits, better incorporation of the area's natural heritage, improved and updated interpretation and good facilities for family days out.

Explore ways to broaden our Audiences

The Audience Analysis work identified key audience groups that the Museum wanted to improve its connection with. The key target audiences were local people, visitors to Kilmartin Glen, families, students, virtual visitors and volunteers.

The planned and costed activities in the Activity Plan are designed to increase engagement with these audience types and to increase visitor numbers to the Museum as a whole.

Provide excellent facilities for Museum Visitors

The facilities at Kilmartin Museum do not currently represent those of a first-class visitor attraction or the significance of the landscape and archaeological artefacts held here.

The Museum Redevelopment plans drawn up by architects Reiach and Hall and submitted as part of the HLF application will transform the existing manse and barn buildings to provide modern facilities suitable for an archaeological story of international importance. The redeveloped building will provide a central reception and shop area providing indoor access to a spacious exhibition area which can also accommodate temporary exhibitions. The plans also make provision for remodelled and expanded café facilities and adequate toilet facilities.

Visitors to the museum made the following comments on TripAdvisor with regard to the current facilities, showing that many of our visitors also recognise the need for redevelopment:

"... the museum is brilliant- informative thoughtful and full of challenging stuff- more importantly it tells you about the whole wonderful landscape - worth at least two days



hanging round- and I hope they raise the funding for an even bigger museum too because it can get crowded!”

“Very welcoming lady at reception, who made some practical suggestions for my trip. Museum is small but makes efficient use of limited space to tell the story of Kilmartin and surrounding area. Shop sells selection of books and craft items. Grounds of museum alive with colourful flowers. Delighted to read that they have secured additional funding to expand the museum, as befits its place at the heart of Scotland's main prehistoric ritual landscape.”

Provide excellent facilities for local community users

Currently a local Geology group meets in the Education room during the winter months. Other community groups such as Blarbuie Woodland Trust, Ford SWRI and Kilmartin Gala Committee have borrowed equipment from Kilmartin Museum including projectors, screens, laptops and tents for use at various events.

The Redevelopment Project will provide excellent facilities for use by the local community. The new Education Room will provide 62.7m² of flexible space (able to accommodate at least 30 people) for lectures, talks and for groups to meet, in addition the Temporary Exhibition space will provide 52.6m² available for use by groups as well as much improved space in the café.

Consultation held in the run up to the successful HLF submission provided feedback that:

People acknowledge and believe that the benefits of the Redevelopment Project will stretch far beyond the walls of the Museum and deliver real economic, cultural, social and educational benefits for the whole of Argyll.

Provide and develop formal schools learning opportunities

The Education and Outreach Team delivered school projects covering a diverse variety of topics and time periods, giving schools multiple opportunities to engage with the Museum.

This included the following:

Tayvallich Primary School - Viking Topic

Pupils visited the Museum and took part in workshops which explored Viking clothing and the runic alphabet.

Tayvallich Primary School – Highland Clearances topic

Pupils visited the deserted settlements at Arichonan and Kilmory Oib to learn more about the way of life in settlements and the changes which the clearances brought about. Archaeologist Roddy Regan led the visit and he was able to tell the children about findings from survey work previously undertaken at these sites.

Tayvallich Primary School – Museum visit

Pupils from Tayvallich Primary School spent a day at the Museum taking part in a variety of Mesolithic themed activities such as cookery and Rock Art painting, as well as enjoying a visit to the Museum gallery and learning about objects by handling them and recording them.



Lochnell Primary School – Viking topic

The Education team visited Lochnell Primary School and delivered a round of workshops on pottery, costume and storytelling, spinning and carding, and artefacts to pupils studying the Vikings.

Glassary Primary School – Kilmartin Glen topic

Pupils from Glassary Primary School worked with the Education Team for five days over a two-month period finding out about Kilmartin Glen. Their first visit involved a tour of the museum, a walk to the linear cairns, a visit to the medieval gravestones in the churchyard and a wool workshop. They spent another day at the Museum taking part in various 'medieval' themed activities such as pottery, wool processing and carding, cooking, object handling and recording. They also enjoyed a further day of activities delivered by the Education Team at Carnasserie Castle, and a visit to Dunadd Fort.

Rock Art Session

Glassary Primary pupils took part in a Rock Art session which was filmed by Aaron Watson for use in a promotional film about the Museum and its work.

Mòine Mhór Tileworks Trail – in partnership with SNH and artist Lesley Burr

Glassary and Kilmartin Primary School pupils and Lochgilphead High School students created ceramic artworks for installation at the Tileworks Trail at Mòine Mhór. This was a major project that ran between November 2015 and April 2016.

Provide and develop informal learning and interpretation opportunities for school age children, families and adults

The Education Team again worked with Forestry Commission Scotland to deliver the hugely popular Easter at Achnabreac event for families on Easter Monday, and the Halloween at Achnabreac event in October 2015. The Education team along with FCS delivered three trail walks amidst faeries, goblins and dragons at the Halloween event which were very well attended.

Three Duke of Edinburgh Gold award leaders attended a full day's training led by Roddy Regan. The bespoke training was to enable the leaders to confidently survey and record monuments and deserted settlements, allowing them to teach these skills to participants and to later forward on all surveyed and recorded information to Roddy. Sites visited during the day were the Kilmartin Glen monuments, Dunchraigaig and the deserted settlements of Kilmory Oib and Arichonan.

A Festival of Museums event was held over two days in May at the Museum and at Carnasserie Castle, with demonstrations of Scottish Green Woodworking and a birds of prey display, as well as entertainment from jesters and a chance to try out circus skills.

Scottish Crofting Federation courses in Animal Husbandry, Horticulture, Beekeeping for beginners, Spinning for beginners, Woodland Management, Saw Mill & Firewood Processing, and a 2-day Entry Level Induction Course were organised by the Education team.



Demand increased for our volunteer led guided walks in 2015, these continued to take place throughout the year with over 340 members of the public taking part.

Over the past two years there has been a decreasing number of primary school aged children attending the Great Auks children's archaeology club, therefore after discussions with local schools and parents it was decided that the club would now be run as an 'after school' club for 11-16 year olds at Lochgilphead High School. A club planning meeting was held in October and the first after-school club meeting was held in January at the school campus with meetings held monthly thereafter. Members have been tasked with coming up with a new name for the club and designing a logo.

The Education & Outreach team also worked with Argyll Youth Services to deliver summer Wildlife Discovery activities for John Muir Award students in July 2015. One outing was to Moine Mhor nature reserve to record Nymph dragonflies, the second outing was to the wildlife reserve at Castle Stalker and to Glasdrum Reserve surveying trees, moths and shoreline crabs.

A programme of monthly winter evening talks on topics ranging from archaeology to wildlife was delivered at Living Stones Christian Centre between December 2015 and March 2016.

As part of the MGS funded Facing the Future Project and the Redevelopment Project, the Museum organised a very successful 2-day Symposium entitled *Unfolding Argyll's Archaeological Story* in November 2015. This proved to be one of the highlights of the year. Academics from all over Britain and Ireland attended the event, along with 75 participants over the two days. This unique event discussed our present understanding of the regions archaeology and where this knowledge might take us in the future. Sponsored by Historic Environment Scotland, Museums Galleries Scotland and Argyll and Bute Council, the event relied on the voluntary contributions of the researchers involved. We also received a huge amount of support from the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. The success of the Symposium has led to the Museum undertaking to create a Regional Archaeological Research Framework for Argyll. Funded by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, this work will take place in the 2016 financial year.

Full Listing for Events and Activities 2015-16

Event Name	Location	Attended
April 2015		
Dalintober & Carradale Primary, Iron Age of Kintyre	Kildonan Dun	30
Dalintober & Carradale Primary, Iron Age of Kintyre	Kildonan Dun	30
Dalintober & Carradale Primary, Iron Age of Kintyre	Kildonan Dun	30
Lochgilphead High School, STV filming for Hayman's Way	Nether Largie	8
Easter Guided Walk	Kilmartin Glen	13
Glen Guided Walk	Kilmartin Glen	13
Glen Guided Walk	Kilmartin Glen	6
Glen Guided Walk	Kilmartin Glen	5
Glen Guided Walk	Kilmartin Glen	8
Duke of Edinburgh Leaders training with Roddy Regan	Kilmartin Museum	3



Dalintober Primary Iron Age Loan Box	Dalintober Primary	31
May 2015		
Glassary Primary, Kilmartin Glen	Kilmartin Museum	38
Dalintober & Carradale Primary, Iron Age of Kintyre	Kildonan Dun	30
Dalintober & Carradale Primary, Iron Age of Kintyre	Kildonan Dun	30
Dalintober & Carradale Primary, Iron Age of Kintyre	Kildonan Dun	30
Dalintober & Carradale Primary, Iron Age of Kintyre	Kildonan Dun	30
Oban Schools, Festival of the Sea	Corran Halls, Oban	86
Glassary Primary, Kilmartin Glen	Dunadd fort	36
Glassary Primary, Kilmartin Glen	Carnasserie Castle	37
Great Auks, Bug Hunt	Moine Mhor	7
Glen Guided Walk	Kilmartin Glen	2
Glen Guided Walk	Kilmartin Glen	4
Glen Guided Walk	Kilmartin Glen	10
Glen Guided Walk	Kilmartin Glen	19
Glassary Primary, Mesolithic Loan Box	Glassary Primary	38
Glassary Primary, Neolithic Loan Box	Glassary Primary	38
June 2015		
Glassary Primary, Kilmartin Glen	Kilmartin Museum	38
Glassary Primary, Carnasserie excavation	Carnassarie	24
Minard & Furnace, Carnasserie excavation	Carnassarie	12
Local schools, Viking Festival	Lochgilphead	120
Kilmartin & Achahoish, Carnasserie excavation	Carnassarie	25
Great Auks, Carnaseerie excavation	Carnassarie	12
Carnasserie dig guided tours	Carnassarie	16
Carnasserie dig guided tours	Carnassarie	25
Kilmartin Gala - Volunteers	Kilmartin Green	100
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	9
Carnasserie rock art	Carnasserie Mor	10
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	13
Carnasserie Mor guided Walk	Carnasserie Mor	16
Summer Solstice walk	Kilmartin Glen	22
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	19
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	6
July 2015		
Lochgilphead High, Carnasserie excavation	Carnassarie	22
Oban school pupils, John Muir Award	Moine Mhor	14
Summer Activity Coil Rush Baskets	Kilmartin Museum	5
Summer Activity Bike One Knit One	Kilmartin Museum	7
Summer Activity Stone Carving	Kilmartin Museum	12
Summer Activity Storytelling	Kilmartin Museum	15
Summer Activity Bronze Age Pottery	Kilmartin Museum	28
Summer Activity Weaving	Kilmartin Museum	27
Inveraray Highland Games	Inveraray	200



Summer Activity Cordage	Kilmartin Museum	13
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	16
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	10
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	26
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	16
Animal Husbandry	Dunmore	10
Horticulture	Kilmartin Museum	13
Bee keeping	Ford	7
Spinning	Kilmartin Museum	8
August 2015		
Oban school pupils, John Muir Award	Glasdrum SNH Reserve	14
Summer Activity Wool carding & spinning	Kilmartin Museum	20
Summer Activity Storytelling	Kilmartin Museum	0
Mid Argyll show	Mid Argyll show ground	60
Summer Activity Jewellery	Kilmartin Museum	18
Summer Activity Sim Dig	Kilmartin Museum	16
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	13
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	6
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	12
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	20
Oban High, Mesolithic Loan Box	Oban High School	124
September 2015		
Weave Your Own Willow Sculpture	Kilmartin Museum	8
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	6
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	16
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	15
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	5
Glen guided walk	Kilmartin Glen	5
Bowmore Primary, Mesolithic Loan Box	Bowmore Primary	24
Ardrishaig Primary, Neolithic Loan Box	Ardrishaig Primary	23
Campbeltown Grammar, Viking Loan Box	Campbeltown Grammar	4
Woodland Management	Kilmartin Museum	11
Saw Mill & Firewood processing	Achnamara	9
Willow sculpture	Kilmartin Museum	8
October 2015		
Argyll - the Making of a Spiritual Landscape Talk	Kilmartin Church	24
Isle of Coll treasure Talk	Isle of Coll centre	175
SCF Induction Course	Living Stones Church Hall	15
SCF Induction Course	Living Stones Church Hall	15
Halloween at Achnabreac	FCS Achnabreac	60
November 2015		
Tayvallich Primary, Mesolithic	Tayvallich Primary	21
Glassary and Kilmartin, SNH Tileworks project	Moine Mhor	52
Kilmartin Primary, SNH Tileworks project	Kilmartin Primary	11



Glassary Primary, SNH Tileworks project	Glassary Primary	38
Kilmartin Primary, SNH Tileworks project	Kilmartin Primary	11
Conservative locals lunch	Kilmartin Hotel	18
Tarbert SWRI	Tarbert	25
Kintyre Antiquarians Ireland Talk	Ireland	
Tarbert Academy, Mesolithic Loan Box	Tarbert Academy	24
December 2015		
Castlehill Primary, Celts	Castlehill Primary	30
Archaeology in Argyll: a Snapshot from the Symposium	Living Stones Church Hall	19
January 2016		
Tileworks Project: Lochgilphead High School	Moine Mhor	15
Rock Art: Glassary Primary	Glassary Rock Art Site	18
Tileworks Project: Lochgilphead High School	Lochgilphead High School	10
Great Auks meeting (1)	Lochgilphead High School	7
Old Sites - New Discoveries with Roddy Regan	Living Stones Church Hall	29
February 2016		
Wildlife in Argyll Talk by Philip Price	Living Stones Church Hall	42
Tileworks Project: Lochgilphead High School	Lochgilphead High School	9
Great Auks meeting (2)	Lochgilphead High School	3
Park Primary Oban, Viking Loan Box	Park Primary	28
March 2016		
Kilchattan Primary School, Crofting & Clearances	Kilchattan Primary School	8
Kilmartin Primary School, Patsy's Project	Kilmartin Primary School	28
Park Primary School, Vikings	Park Primary School	24
Kilmartin Primary School, Patsy's Project	Kilmartin Primary School	29
Kilmartin Primary School, Patsy's Project	Kilmartin Primary School	29
Campbeltown Grammar, Glen Rea Project	Campbeltown Grammar	20
Campbeltown Grammar, Glen Rea Project	Campbeltown Grammar	19
Tileworks Project: Lochgilphead High School	Lochgilphead High School	5
Campbeltown Grammar, Glen Rea Project	FCS Glen Rea Site, Southend	19
Great Auks meeting (3)	Lochgilphead High School	3
Middle Iron Age native glass production of the western seaboard Talk by Clare Ellis	Living Stones Church Hall	18
Glen Guided Walk	Kilmartin Glen	8
Glen Guided Walk	Kilmartin Glen	4
Campbeltown Grammar, Neolithic Loan Box	Campbeltown Grammar	22
Refresher Training for Walking Guides	Kilmartin Museum	7
Skills Development for New Walking Guides	Kilmartin Museum	7

Explore ways to develop formal learning opportunities for University and College students

During 2014, discussions were held with the University of the Highlands and Islands, Argyll Collee and Orkney College to map out ways that Kilmartin can be involved in expanding opportunities for formal learning about archaeology at this level in the local area. The



Redevelopment Project plans have outlined what and how this could be delivered in the Outline Activity Plan and Interpretation Strategy and the architectural plans have included facilities to enable a programme to be delivered. Little progress has been made in this area, however it remains an aspiration to move this forward in the next financial year.

Provide an active arts programme to generate new audiences and help promote artists' work at the Museum

The summer activities programme runs from the first week of July until the end of August. Over 10 weeks, each Thursday afternoon, an activity is delivered at the Museum. This year's programme was funded by MGS and contained a diverse range of cultural and natural heritage activities to suit all ages and interests delivered by Museum staff. Artists' work continues to be exhibited in the Museum Café and various artworks by local artists are available to buy through the Museum Shop.

Continue to develop a volunteer programme that benefits both the Museum and volunteers

Volunteers make a huge contribution to the Museum, delivering a programme of guided Glen walks for visitors throughout the year, carrying out garden maintenance, working in the Library, managing the Friends of Kilmartin Museum scheme and assisting the Education & Outreach service with various projects, courses and programmes. Two new walking guides were recruited and trained for the 2015 walking season. New walking guides were again recruited in February 2016 and attended training in March 2016 ready for the 2016 walking season to start at Easter. Existing guides also attended refresher training on walk content and new discoveries in the area in March 2016. All volunteers have furthermore received up to date First Aid training. Volunteers attend monthly meetings with Education staff and communication between volunteers and staff has been improved by a monthly email newsletter.

Develop the Friends of Kilmartin Museum Organisation

The Friends scheme continues to be managed by a volunteer. It was identified by the Square Route Partnership fundraising strategy as having the potential to provide a secure income stream for the Museum as well as offering better benefits to Friends. Currently members of the Friends scheme pay an annual fee of £25 (individual)/£35 (couple)/£40 (family) and receive free entry to the Museum, invitations to Museum events, two newsletters per year, a 10% discount on workshops and opportunities to get involved in archaeological field work and other voluntary activities. It is intended that The Friends scheme will be reviewed and re-launched to correspond with the re-opening of the redeveloped museum.

Be THE top class visitor attraction in Argyll

Although the Museum is already a popular visitor attraction in the area, in order to grow, achieve its aims or even just to subsist, the Redevelopment Project is vital.

Visitors have always given positive reviews about the Museum, café and shop, as illustrated by the following reviews on TripAdvisor:

"A small but excellently presented museum telling the story of the glen over the ages. The archaeology is fascinating and the whole area is a little known treasure. I would probably



advise visiting the museum before visiting the local sites (of which there are many) to get an overview of the surroundings.”

“This place is incredible. Exhibit is child friendly and you can grind axe heads. Lovely shop, walk map, food, beehive hut, yurt and loos.”

“Situated at the head of Kilmartin Glen this small museum displays much local archaeological material within sight of the prehistoric linear cemetery. There is an excellent interactive model of the surrounding prehistoric landscape and a gift shop with guide books, maps of the glen and an excellent range of archaeological books. There is also a tea room and parking is free. A must before walking the glen.”

However, it is clear that some visitors recognise the need for redevelopment, mainly commenting on the small size of the museum gallery:

“We stopped here for lunch and to look around the museum on our way up to Oban, and we were so impressed with the whole facility. The cafe is excellent.... They are currently fundraising for a major renovation of the museum and that is really something to look forward to, as even in its small space, it already has a lot to offer.”

“The museum is small but filled to overflowing with information about the archaeological treasures around the area. There are plans to expand it - hopefully keeping some of the character!”

“Great little museum that has big plans for the future. The museum, whilst only small, gave you a really good overview of the history of the area.”



Strategic Aim 3: Develop and conserve the Museum's resources to ensure financial and environmental sustainability

Efforts continue to increase Trading Company turnover and reduce costs to increase the financial sustainability of the Trust. Some of the cost cutting issues have improved the Trust's environmental performance too. However, the planned Redevelopment Project is required to make any significant improvement in this area.

Strategic Actions

Ensure core funding from Argyll & Bute Council is continued

In late 2015, Argyll & Bute council launched its *Service Choices* consultation to gauge public opinion on what services could be reduced or stopped in order to make budget savings for consideration at the February 2016 budget planning meeting. Core funding for Kilmartin Museum was not part of this consultation.

Argyll & Bute Council's natural history and archaeology collections are curated at Campbeltown Museum by Kilmartin Museum staff under the terms of a Service Level Agreement. The social history and fine art collections are curated under the terms of a separate SLA. As a result of the *Service Choices* consultation, Argyll & Bute Council chose to offer Campbeltown Museum for community ownership. Kilmartin Museum staff have given advice on how the process should be undertaken using the Code of Ethics for Museums. The Council plan to advertise in the next financial year and we await the outcome of this process. In the meantime, the Service Level Agreement will continue for 12 months to March 2017.

Ensure core funding from Historic Environment Scotland is continued

Core funding from Historic Environment Scotland continued this year and the relationship continued to be managed by the Director & Curator.

Secure funding for Education & Outreach Team salaries

Funding for the Education Service was received from Scottish Natural Heritage, Historic Environment Scotland, Forestry Commission Scotland, and Argyll and Bute Council. An application was submitted to the Robertson Trust in October 2015 for 3 year's Education Service funding. Confirmation was received in February 2016 that a £10k per annum contribution will be made to the Education Service starting in April 2016.

Secure funding for the Redevelopment Project Manager, Redevelopment Project Officer and manage existing grants

Funding for a Redevelopment Project Manager was secured as part of the HLF Round 1 grant. Recruitment for this post began in January 2016 and after no suitable applications were received, it was decided to put the post out to tender as a consultancy with recruitment to be completed in the next financial year. The Redevelopment Project Officer post continued to be funded by Museums Galleries Scotland and HIE. These organisations also funded 2 part-time posts for the year - a Curatorial Assistant, and a Finance Assistant. These roles supported the Museum Director/Curator and Administrator to work towards furthering the Museum's development and sustainability in the future.



Ensure the Museum respects the environment by operating in as sustainable manner as possible and that all staff are following the Museum's Sustainability Policy and Procedure

Operating procedures in the café are constantly under review to ensure that supplies of stock are sustainable and responsibly sourced.

Cleaning and waste management including composting and recycling is closely monitored to ensure the museum's environmental policy is adhered to. Thanks are due to the Friends of Kilmartin Museum who donated £250 to enable us to buy a composter which accepts cooked food waste and further reduced the quantity of waste sent to landfill.

Building stock is regularly reviewed to identify any short and long term improvements that could be made to reduce heat leakage and heating costs. All measures possible in the short term have been implemented and a major redevelopment is required to further improve the Museum's environmental sustainability.

Explore the development of new partnerships with income generating possibilities to ensure the Museum is financially secure

The Museum has had discussions with the University of the Highlands and Islands and with Argyll College about the possibility of developing an arrangement whereby UHI students and staff can benefit from the activities of Kilmartin Museum Trust, and staff at Kilmartin Museum Trust can benefit from engagement with relevant activities at UHI within the fields of archaeology and museum studies. A Minute of Understanding was signed by all three parties in May 2013 with a view to further exploring the possibilities. Additional resources will be required however and so it may only be possible to deliver activities through the Redevelopment Project.

Ensure the Museum is financially secure by the level of self-generated income which it generates via the café

The café served 28,500 customers in the period 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016. Customer numbers have remained steady over the last three years which demonstrates the level of customer loyalty built over that time and is reflected in the quality and quantity of positive Trip Advisor reviews received.

Café turnover increased this year, however staff costs in the café rose significantly and consequently net profit increased by a lesser amount. Difficult economic conditions continue to prevail and all staff continue to focus on driving up café and shop turnover and containing costs.

Demand for one off events and group bookings has increased this year, further boosting turnover, and a Deputy Café Manager was appointed in March 2016 to increase staff capacity to meet this demand.

Ensure the Museum is financially secure by the level of self-generated income it generates via museum visitor ticket sales and sales in the shop

The number of visitors paying to enter the Museum increased from 10,791 in 2014/15 to 11,879 this year. Tour group visitation has increased this year with over 900 tickets sold to people arriving as part of an organised tour, compared to just over 500 sales last year. A new



Family Pass was introduced in March 2016 giving a family a year's admission to the Museum for £13. It is hoped that this will increase the number of local and visitor families making return visits.

Shop turnover increased this year to £54,092 [2015: £45,324]. This has resulted from a thorough stock review and additional staff training and resulted in a net profit of £8,057 being achieved [2015: £2,629].

Display of products has been a main focus for the Museum Shop. Better display material, increased lighting and more creative ways of displaying goods have all contributed to higher sales and a more pleasant atmosphere for customers.

The Fair Trade and Christmas themed market was again held in November 2015 after the success of the previous years' event. This saw both the Museum shop and café profits increase and very positive feedback was received about the event. Another Fair Trade Market is planned for 2016.

The Museum has been continuing to make use of social media, launching a Shop Facebook page in February 2015 in addition to the existing Café and Museum Facebook pages. The new addition of the Shop Facebook page has increased interest in the goods that are sold and has also allowed guests to the page to make purchases of certain items that otherwise might have been missed. The Facebook page is also a platform to demonstrate the Shop's commitment to showcasing local artists' work and enforces its core values of selling quality handcrafted goods. In addition, it helps to give the Shop its own identity as a place to visit in its own right.

The Museum also plans to post on Twitter more regularly. The Shop and Café will also be posting to gain new audiences. Currently any post on Facebook is shared on Twitter but it has been proven that original content posted solely on Twitter gains more attention. With this in mind, it is planned to unlink the two social media platforms and produce content that is more suited to Twitter users.

Ensure the Trading Company is well managed and seek ways to increase profitability across all income generating areas

Regular monthly Trading Company board meetings discussed all aspects of the Trading Company business to address issues and generate ideas for new stock ranges for the shop and ways to improve café profitability.

At the beginning of the financial year, budgets are set for each income generating area and monthly performance is monitored against budget. Areas for concern are discussed with operational staff responsible for these income generating areas and an action plan developed to address issues.

Ensure the Trust is well managed

Trustees and the Trading Company board continued to meet throughout the year to monitor the running of both Kilmartin Museum Trust and Trading Company.



Trustees and consultant Lorne MacLeod recommended that a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee should be set up to protect Trustee liability during the Redevelopment Project. The recommendation to set up the Kilmartin Museum Company Limited was completed on 31st March 2015 and the steps to wind up the Trust and establish the VAT group are in process. This work will be completed in the next financial year.

Retain staff resource by being an excellent employer

The Trust remains a flexible employer, for example, allowing staff to adjust hours to suit family or caring commitments and providing a number of benefits including discounts in the café and shop. During the course of the year, staff have been able to take up training opportunities as resources have allowed. As part of the Accreditation process, new policies and procedures have been drafted and will be completed in the 2016-17 year.

The Trust has continued to comply with employment law. John Morris, the Health and Safety consultant, was retained to provide advice and ensure compliance.

Auto enrolment pensions will be required for Trust and Trading Company employees by April 2017. Planning to ensure deadlines are met has been undertaken by the Museum Administrator in conjunction with Russell Anderson of St James Place Wealth Management, and the process is on schedule to be complete by the staging date of April 2017.

Ensure that the Museum shop is well stocked with a changing range of products and is profitable, and well used by the local community

The Museum shop has introduced a new range of branded products, with more planned for the coming seasons. Along with branded products the Museum shop has also expanded the range of goods by local artists as well as goods purchased from suppliers. It is hoped that this will continue to ensure guests who visit multiple times will always find something new and interesting to purchase.

We have introduced a new range of skincare products which are produced in Argyll and whose producer has links to the local area. These products have sold well with both the local and visitor markets due to their quality, price points and size. This particular range is also not sold by other outlets within the immediate local area which is a further benefit to the Museum shop.

Although increasingly people are turning to digital e-readers rather than paper books, a large amount of the Museum shop's turnover is still generated by book sales. The shop has increased its range of books offered and a large number of books have been signed by their authors. Our own publication 'In the Footsteps of Kings' has been a best seller and additional income is raised by supplying copies to other outlets.

Education Officers and shop staff liaise about upcoming events and where appropriate additional stock is purchased to tie in with those specific events. For example, during the summer activities programme in 2015 the books featured in the Storytelling workshop were promoted and sold very successfully in the Museum shop.



The shop achieved a net profit of £8,057 in 2015-16 and staff and Trustees continue to work towards maintaining and increasing this level of profitability.

Supplier contracts have been introduced to formalise agreements between the shop and suppliers. Supplier payments have now largely moved to BACS, which is quicker, more reliable and additionally saves money on postage.

Ensure that the Museum café is a draw in itself for its ambience, innovative menu, excellent service and the friendliness of the staff

The café ambience continues to prove a draw to visitors and locals with many comments on Facebook and TripAdvisor about the views, the friendliness of the staff and the quality of the food. The menu continues to focus on local produce and high quality ingredients cooked simply with a wide range of home baked cakes an important focus. The daily specials board focuses on innovative menu choices with a tart of the day and unusual dessert options such as a vegan beetroot and chocolate torte.

An increasing number of visitors to the café have particular dietary requirements and food intolerances. Many customers are impressed to find there is always a choice of gluten free options, vegetarians are well catered for and there are vegan options too. Staff are knowledgeable about ingredients in dishes to aid customers with dietary queries.

Customer service training is ongoing to ensure customers receive a high quality experience and new staff receive training in the cultural and natural heritage features of Kilmartin Glen.

Over 90% of TripAdvisor reviews the café receives are either excellent or very good. The Museum café was a 2015 TripAdvisor Winner with an overall star rating of 4.5 stars out of a possible 5. A social media volunteer responds to each review personally ensuring that reviewers appreciate how important their feedback is.

Develop additional self-generated income sources

The development of further self-generated income sources is not possible without a redevelopment of the Museum and the provision of suitable amenities. The Museum is at the limit of what it can achieve with its current facilities. The Business Plan produced for the HLF Round 1 submission identified the following key areas for future income generation:

- Improved Museum exhibition
- Temporary exhibition gallery
- Educational services delivered to universities and extended to schools beyond Argyll
- Talks and lectures
- Archaeology summer camps
- New publications.



Strategic Aim 4: Increase Knowledge and Awareness of the area's archaeology and natural heritage and ensure its future preservation

The newly designed website which was launched in early 2015 has continued to operate successfully and has featured news and events, as well as showcasing artefacts from the Museums' collection, the Glen monuments and excavations carried out by the Museum.

The Redevelopment Project also includes a marketing programme which will produce a strategy and action plan to promote the importance and preservation of Argyll's archaeology and how natural history is connected with this, the Museums' collection and advertise the Museums' services and events.

Strategic Actions

Run an Active Archaeology programme which is engaging the community and enabling them and students to find out about the heritage, and is contributing to the body of knowledge about the area

It is anticipated that the museum will deliver this aim through the Redevelopment Project, and plans for doing so are laid out in the Outline Activity Plan and Interpretation Strategy. Considerable funding is required which is included in the Project Funding Strategy.

To test the potential uptake of such projects, the Education and Outreach Team delivered two weeks of archaeological excavations at the deserted township of Carnasserie Mor in June 2015, led by Field Archaeologist Roddy Regan as part of DIG IT 2015, a series of events coordinated by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and Archaeology Scotland to celebrate Scottish archaeology. Funding for the project was provided by the Graham Hunter Foundation. The project was a great success, with around 20 volunteers and 70 local school pupils taking part, and some interesting finds being recorded such as coins, medieval glass, greenware pottery shards and a piece of worked flint. The data structure report of this site has now been completed and is available to download on the Museum's website.

Develop and deliver unique interpretive programmes that engage, educate and inspire all our users

The Outline Activity Plan and Interpretation Strategy discusses how the core exhibition will initiate an exciting and engaging interpretive programme using the Neolithic and Bronze Age ritual landscape on our doorstep and featuring Dunadd, the Atlantic Oak woods and the Mòine Mhór peat bog. It is intended that this programme will include:

- Hands on and active learning for all age groups
- Never before exhibited artefacts
- Digital experiences to engage visitors and demonstrate how the landscape may have looked in the past
- Costume, dressing up and other elements that encourage play.

Continue to develop and deliver a temporary exhibition programme that engages and inspires, as well as securing repeat visitors and additional income

Time constraints on staff have meant that there have not been any temporary exhibitions this season, however a Redevelopment exhibition was prepared and includes the news of the



success of the Round 1 HLF funding application. This was displayed in the Museum porch and garnered a lot of interest from visitors and locals.

Discussions have been ongoing with National Galleries of Scotland and National Museums Scotland regarding the loan of objects for the proposed new gallery. Permission has been granted for the Museum Director/Curator to visit the NMS Collection Store in Edinburgh to identify and photograph artefacts from Argyll with a view to loaning them once the Redevelopment is complete.

Develop and deliver a marketing and publicity programme that raises awareness of the unique nature of Kilmartin Museum, Kilmartin Glen and Argyll

As referenced earlier, a marketing strategy for the Museum will be produced during the Redevelopment Project.

Staff members attended a training course on Digital Communication Workshop Media in January 2016 run by Culture Republic in Oban to learn about promoting the Museum via social media. This has prompted a review of internal marketing which will be discussed at an upcoming staff meeting.

Awareness raising activities and events focused on local natural heritage were delivered by the Education and Outreach Service throughout 2015. These included Wildlife Discovery days for John Muir Award school pupils, Scottish Crofting Federation courses, evening talks on archaeology and wildlife, and the ever popular guided Glen walks.

Museum Administrator Anne Smart continued to serve as a Board Director with the Heart of Argyll Tourism Alliance (HoATA), which also ensures the Museum is fully involved with the Argyll and the Isles Tourism Co-operative (AITC). Collaboration with Argyll attractions and businesses provide wider opportunities to promote Argyll as a tourist destination than the Museum's current marketing budget would allow.

In this financial year AITC and HoATA have promoted Argyll at a number of tourism expos, holiday fairs and events, as well as on their websites and via social media. The Museum has supplied promotional material for stands at the various events.

HoATA has contributed financial and human resource to a number of events that have attracted visitors to the area, such as the Loch Fyne Viking Festival in June 2015. This event was a great success and the Museum was fully involved, contributing Viking resources for school children as well as staff time from members of the Education & Outreach Service.

A new initiative focussing on Christian tourism is being developed by HoATA, as part of this author Dr Ian Bradley, a Church of Scotland minister and lecturer at St Andrews University, gave a talk at Kilmartin Church and then signed copies of his new book *Argyll: The Making of a Spiritual Landscape* in the Museum café in October 2015.

HoATA also installed a route planner kiosk in Museum reception in August 2015, where visitors can send postcards, leave feedback and plan their itinerary for their visit to the area. There is potential for the Museum to commission extra pages and this is under consideration.



Museum advertising continues in the free Holiday West Highland publication and on the Oban Times Lochgilphead tourist map, as well as in the FAB (Families in Argyll & Bute) Guide which also offers editorial to accompany the adverts.

Frequent press releases have been issued to the Museum's local newspaper the Argyllshire Advertiser, and a number of these have been published as evidenced in Appendix 1. Press coverage has also been sought in regional and national media.

Social media and TripAdvisor have been monitored and updated by a volunteer, with staff becoming increasingly involved in promoting events in the Museum and café on Facebook and Twitter.

Kilmartin Museum maintained a presence throughout the year at local shows and galas as evidenced in the Events and Activities Listing on page 15.

In addition to the events calendar on the website, an events news page has also been used to feature articles promoting upcoming events and provide information on past events.

Assist other communities/organisations within Argyll to preserve, understand and communicate the importance of their local heritage

Staff time has been limited to deliver on this aim, however, the Director/Curator has remained on the Board of the Argyll & Bute Museums and Heritage Forum, and has delivered a number of talks to local societies and heritage groups such as the local Conservative Club and Tarbert & Kilberry SWRI. Advice, as time allowed, has been given to some local organisations on the care and interpretation of local archaeological artefacts.

Seek opportunities to raise awareness of the need to preserve the archaeological and cultural landscape

Discussions have continued with Historic Environment Scotland as to the most effective strategies to ensure the long term preservation of the landscape. The Outline Activity Plan prepared for the HLF application sets out ways in which the Museum can further this aim as part of the Redevelopment Project.

Currently, during all walks, events, public talks and school activities, the need to preserve the landscape is stressed to participants and audiences.

Continue to deliver information to visitors via reception about the area's archaeological and natural heritage

A new and improved Glen map, introduced in 2014 to assist visitors with orientation around the Glen, has been well received. It is free with the purchase of a Museum ticket or can be purchased separately from reception for £1.

Reception staff provide additional information to visitors on ways to access the monuments either on foot, by bike or by car, and distance in relation to the Museum. By chatting with visitors and understanding the focus of their visit to the area, staff can also offer information on potential areas of interest within the wider Argyll area, such as National Nature Reserves,



Historic Environment Scotland sites and National Trust for Scotland properties. The HoATA route planner kiosk in reception also provides access to useful information about the area for visitors.



Part 3: Analysis and Conclusions

The 2015-16 financial year has been another very busy and extremely positive year following on from the success of the HLF application and release of round 1 funding. The strategic thinking and planning undertaken as part of the HLF application has been very useful and has fed into the development of new strategic aims and themes for the 2016-19 Forward Plan.

For a number of years, the general trend has been downward in terms of ticket sales but the number of people visiting the site remaining stable. However, this trend was reversed in 2015-16 with ticket sales increasing by 1,088 and the conversion rate increasing to 42% (see table below).

Much of the increase experienced has resulted from a higher number of visitors coming to Kilmartin as part of an organised group. 900 tickets were sold to tour groups in 2015-16 compared to 500 in 2014-15.

	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Ticket Sales	12,964	11,654	10,803	11,526	10,791	11,879
Site Visitors	33,500	26,458	22,553	28,604	28,932	28,500
%	39%	44%	48%	40%	37%	42%

This short term increase is pleasing but well below the peak ticket sales of 18,000 recorded in the early days of Kilmartin Museum and the reductions experienced over time can be attributed to poor building infrastructure and visitor services, as well as a static and inflexible exhibition.

Visitor type	Total
Number of visits to the museum during normal opening hours	28,500
Number of visits during opening hours who purchased tickets	11,879
Number of pupils from schools visiting the museum in an organised group	187
Number of pupils visited by staff in schools for educational purposes	279
Number of pupils educated at an offsite location	592
Numbers attending after school club	38
Number of people attending talks	350
Number of enquiries about the collection	12
Number of visitors to special events	809
Number of pupils or others benefiting from the use of a museum loan box	354
Number of visits to the museum website	136,652
Grand total	

Visits to the Museum's website have decreased this year to 136,652. This has coincided with much greater social media interaction, particularly the Museum Facebook page, but the shop and café pages have also been frequently visited.



Education visit numbers have increased this year and feedback for the service remains exceptionally good.

In summary, progress against strategic aims has been steady.

As 2015-2016 represents the final year in this three-year planning cycle, the Strategic Aims have been reviewed and revised for the Forward Plan 2016-2019 as follows:

Aim 1: Inspire people by sustaining and developing a Museum that interprets and celebrates the global significance of Kilmartin Glen

Aim 2: Curate and develop Argyll's Archaeological Collections of artefacts

Aim 3: Sustain and develop an active and innovative education service

Aim 4: Contribute to the preservation, understanding and appreciation of the area's archaeological monuments, landscape and natural heritage.

These aims form the basis of the Forward Plan for the next three years and will be used to report on the Museum's activities from next year. In 2016-2017, the Redevelopment Project will start in earnest with focus continuing to be on redeveloping the buildings and enhancing the services provided, as well as aiming to grow self-generated income.

Kilmartin Museum is grateful to all its volunteers without which many activities could not take place. The Museum is also grateful to all the agencies and organisations which have provided funding throughout the year.



Appendix 1

Some of the press coverage received in 2015-2016.

ARGYLLSHIRE ADVERTISER, Friday August, 2015 www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk NEWS 3

Big plans in store for Kilmartin Museum

REPORT By EALA MacALISTER
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

KILMARTIN Museum's plans to put the place on the map and make the most of its unique setting have been approved for funding by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

It competed against other similar projects from all over the UK and has been judged a first round pass for £3.1m of funding to make the exciting plans a reality. It now has two years to submit a full proposal and has been given £40,000 of development funding to help with this.

Director and curator Dr Sharon Webb said: 'Kilmartin Museum is surrounded by a world-class prehistoric landscape and fantastic natural heritage. The museum's collection is of international importance and gives amazing insights into the lives of people who lived here. We now collect and care for most of the archaeological artefacts found in Argyll and we've outgrown our current facilities. We have the opportunity to gather Argyll's archaeology in one place and ensure that it remains here.'

There will be a redesign of the current museum and an extra gallery will be built to house the ancient artefacts, some up to 5,000 years old, that are currently in storage as they get on display for people to enjoy. There will also be a bigger education room so the museum can better accommodate school groups.

It is also hoped that extra space and other improvements will mean that more exhibits than other bigger museums, such as the National Gallery of Scotland, can be loaned to Kilmartin. Ruzich and Hall architects have been selected for the project and their director, Neil Gillespie, said: 'Kilmartin Glen is a very special place, remarkable not only for the number and quality of its archaeological sites but also for its wonderful west coast landscape and light. The board and staff of Kilmartin Museum are not only totally committed to safeguarding these prehistoric and early historic artefacts, they are concerned with re-creating them for us.'

He added: 'Ruzich and Hall Architects are absolutely delighted to be part of this extremely exciting project.'



Sharon Webb, museum curator and director, Gordon Gray Stephens, trustee chair and Kay Owen, development administrative officer at Kilmartin.



The museum will be redeveloped

Kilmartin Museum still fundraising for planned improvements

KILMARTIN Museum is preparing for the final stage of its Heritage Lottery Fund application.

The fund will provide about half of the £5.6million redevelopment costs and, although another £1.5m has already been raised, the museum is still fundraising as there are a lot of improvements planned.

When staff at the museum carried out a consultation last year to find out what people wanted from the museum, suggestions included a second exhibition hall, more chance to get involved in excavations, and more formally taught archaeology.

Redevelopment officer Kay Owen said: 'This is a big list and we will be working on how we will achieve all these things in the new museum. Thankfully, we are recruiting for a redevelopment project manager who will help to get us there. We are also planning events in London, Edinburgh and Glasgow to make people aware of how important Argyll's archaeology is and how important this project is.'



This Bronze-age beaker found at Kilmartin, is the oldest in Britain. It will be on display at the museum when the redevelopment is complete.

Kilmartin Museum consults the public on redevelopment plans

KILMARTIN Museum is looking for the views of the public on its redevelopment plans.

The museum was recently awarded money from the heritage lottery fund and are looking for feedback, particularly where their second car park should be situated.

Hay bales have been placed in the proposed area for the new car park to give people a idea of how it would look when cars are parked there.

The new car park will hold up to 30 cars and will be easily accessible from the A916 and there is potential for footpaths to link the car park to the village or the church yard.

The consultation evening will be in Kilmartin Museum between 4 and 8pm on October 12.



The map showing where the new car park could be.



Three million for museum

Heritage Lottery Fund to transform Kilmartin

EXCITING plans that will recognise the importance of the 800 prehistoric sites and Britain's oldest Bronze Age and Neolithic artefacts at Kilmartin Glen have been awarded cash to the tune of £3.1 million.

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) will transform the current museum and safeguard many thousands of artefacts in the care of the charity.

Prehistoric

Monuments within 10 miles of the museum include the world's largest prehistoric cup and ring-marked rock and Dan-ald Torc, cited as the King of the Scots by the Gaelic name, when Scotland got its name.

Kilmartin Museum's redevelopment project was initially turned down by HLF, but the determined charity revised its groundbreaking plans.

While final stages of the application are still to be finalised, a £600,000 development grant has been awarded to Kilmartin in order to progress its plans to a full proposal.



Kilmartin museum will benefit from £3.1 million of lottery funding

07/01/2016

The Oban Times

Fab four celebrating New Year honours

Steven Rae talks to the Argyll residents who are to receive gongs from Her Majesty, The Queen



DR SHARON WEBB has been awarded the MBE for services to heritage and archaeology in Scotland. Dr Webb has been the director and deputy of the Kilmartin Museum for the past 17 years.

Dr Webb, 47, said: "When I first saw the envelope, I looked at it and thought it might be something like a tax return. Then when I opened it I didn't think it was real - I thought someone was pulling my leg."

"I was really surprised but a lot of work in the area, really it's just my job. So although it was a complete surprise, it was a lovely surprise."

Sharon has herself been involved in numerous schemes for a New Year's Honours which she helped to write a letter

of commendation for Mal Argyll woman Jan Brown, who received an MBE in 2014 for charity work.

She continued: "I thought it may have been the other trustees of the Kilmartin Museum who nominated me but they said it wasn't them. I was amazed to find out."

"It's extremely nice for someone to have done this for me, so whoever it was, thank you very much."

Having grown up in Birmingham and studied and worked as an archaeologist, accompanied parts of Britain and Europe. Argyll is now very much home for Sharon and her partner, Rod, who is also involved in archaeology.



8 NEWS

www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

New Year honours

TARBERT man Kenneth Ian MacNab has been awarded the Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE) in the Queen's New Year Honours List.

His award is in recognition of services to the fishing industry in Scotland.

A fifth-generation fisherman, 60-year-old Kenney is now in his third spell as chairman of the Clyde Fishermen's Association.

The association aims to protect the interests of fishermen on the firth and adjacent shores, with his grandfather being a founder member in 1934.

Kenney, who is now semi-retired, said: "I was chuffed as hell when I got the letter through five or six weeks ago. I've not got a clue who nominated me as I've been involved with so many guys in the industry over the years. I've also done quite a bit for charity too."

"I was quite surprised, but I have done quite a bit of work for the fishing industry over the years. This is my third



Kenneth MacNab

time as chairman of the association. But really, I think it's the fishermen themselves who really deserve the recognition."

Describing himself as "Tarbert born and bred", Kenney left school to become a fisherman in 1970, and began representing the industry at a local level in 1976 with the Tarbert branch of the Clyde Fishermen's Association.

He and wife Elizabeth still own a boat, but he employs a skipper, giving him a chance to devote more spare time to his work with the association.

Dr Sharon Webb
Dr Sharon Webb has been awarded the MBE for services in her-

itage and archaeology in Scotland. Dr Webb has been the director and curator of Kilmartin Museum for the past 17 years.

Dr Webb, 47, said: "When I first saw the envelope, I looked official and thought it might be something like a tax return. Then when I opened it, I didn't think it was real - I thought someone was pulling my leg."

"I was really surprised because although I have done a lot of work in the area, really, it's just my job."

"So although it was a complete surprise, it was a lovely surprise."

She continued: "I thought it may have been the other trustees of the Kilmartin Museum who nominated me but they said it wasn't them. I may never find out. It's extremely nice for someone to have done this for me, so whoever it was, thank you very much."



Dr Sharon Webb

Reverend Professor Kenneth Rankin Ross

Reverend Professor Kenneth Rankin Ross



Book on Argyll spirituality to be launched



Ian Bradley will launch his new book in Kilmartin.

AUTHOR, Ian Bradley, will be giving a talk and signing copies of his new book, *Argyll - the making of a spiritual country*, in Kilmartin and Kilberry.

Ian said: 'For me researching and writing this book has been a labour of love. I grew up steeped in stories from my Argyll-born mother and also very conscious of the distinctiveness of her own faith. In this book I seek to explore why the religious outlook and spiritual landscape of Argyll is subtly different from that of other parts of Scotland and, in-

deed, unique in the British Isles'

The launch will take place at Kilmartin Church at 1pm on October 10 with a short talk. The event will then move to Kilmartin Museum Cafe at 2pm for a book signing.

On 13 October, Ian will be at Kilberry Church's Meet 'n' Munch to give the same talk on his book.

The events are being run in conjunction with Heart of Argyll and local churches to promote Christian tourism. Both events are free and there is no need to book.

www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

ARGYLLSHIRE ADVERTISER, Friday 20 November, 2015

KILMARTIN

Fair Trade and Christmas-themed market at Kilmartin

KILMARTIN Museum was going like the proverbial fair as it hosted a Fair Trade and Christmas-themed market last Saturday.

Featured was an eclectic range of crafts from Fair Trade projects around the world.

A busy sale was thronged by people looking for unusual gifts, every purchase making a difference to the producer.

The museum shop also offered Fair Trade

goods, including bags, purses, fitted goods, journals, key rings and string wood crafts from various projects worldwide including Nepal, India and Vietnam.

The market at Kilmartin Museum was well attended. *by Sarah Scott*



Neolithic landscape may be quarried

Sir,
I often holiday in Argyll and I was distressed to see a big digger ripping up fields near Kilmartin Quarry. This, I was informed, is a survey to see if expansion of the gravel quarry is viable.

Surely the question should be: 'Can we afford to lose the Neolithic landscape?'

It is ironic that Kilmartin House Museum has applied for huge funding from the lottery citing an increase of visitors to 200,000 per annum, when landscape not half a mile away is being destroyed.

**Torquill Morrison,
Easter Road,
Edinburgh.**

Hallowe'en event at Achtnabreac

DRAGON egg helpers turned up on a wet night to help the Dragon of Achtnabreac find his stolen eggs. Families were told magical stories before embarking on a night time walk discovering the good faeries and picking up dragon eggs with the help of some magic glitter to find the dragon's nest.

Faeries were building little homes in the forest and there were glowing standing stones and a glowing fairy on the way.

The event was run by Forestry Enterprise Scotland in partnership with Kilmartin House Museum and with the help of the Scottish Wildlife Trust.



The dragon egg hunters on their quest

ARGYLLSHIRE ADVERTISER, Friday 30 October, 2015





Realising Argyll's potential

REPORT By COLIN CAMERON
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

KILMARTIN Glen should be promoted for World Heritage Status, and Farbert should have an expanded marina.

These were two conclusions contained in a much-anticipated report by the Argyll and Bute Economic Forum, set up in 2014 to tackle population decline and increase economic prosperity.

As the report Chairman Nicholas Ferguson CBE says the potential in the area is 'immense' but people have to start working together to achieve it.

The forum was set up in October 2014 to drive forward economic progress throughout the area. It comprises members who work in key business sectors, lead agencies and government.

Mr Ferguson, who has a home in Kilmartin, was speaking ahead of the report's publication on Tuesday. Saying that a shared vision on many matters was the key to an area's success, he said: 'From busi-

ness leaders to newspaper editors and teachers, the private, public and academic sectors must come together to drive prosperity in one of Scotland's most promising regions.

'I was asked to look at Argyll from a business perspective. Like any business, if we are to achieve our potential we need a shared vision, with all our members working to make that vision a reality.

'Argyll and Bute can clearly succeed and grow. We have strong advantages in two of the world's fastest growing industry sectors, namely tourism, and food and drink production, particularly aquaculture.

'Marketing the area should be coordinated across all agencies involved. Schools and businesses must forge stronger links so that young people are aware of careers opportunities on their own doorstep. Agencies should focus their spending where possible on local producers and suppliers.'

In developing the region's 'fast growing' marine tourism sector, the report recommends that Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) should support a greater number of moorings and berths around the coast. It goes on to recommend the expansion of marinas at Farbert, Campbelltown and Tobermory to cope with current and future demand.

With plans to expand Kilmartin Museum in the pipeline, the report suggests taking the further step of applying - without delay - for World Heritage Status for Kilmartin Glen, an area with the largest collection of Neolithic monuments in the world. Mr Ferguson concluded: 'It's about everyone coming together in back Argyll and Bute. It's a great place with great potential. A shared vision will bring the prosperity that's there for us to create.'

The Economic Forum meets again in late March, with the aim to ensure that plans laid out in the report are delivered.

KILMARTIN



Symposium at Kilmartin Museum

THERE will be a weekend-long meeting of minds held at Kilmartin Museum today and tomorrow (November 27 and 28).

The meetings will hear speakers discuss more than 10,000 years of Argyll's archaeological history.

Although this symposium is aimed at professionals, members of the public are encouraged to go along as seating will be available for them at the meetings.

Those who are keen to learn more about the history of their area and

its archaeology can find out more on the museum's website.

Experts will openly discuss the current knowledge of Kilmartin and the surrounding area as well as what the future holds for its archaeology.

2015
30 NEWS

Symposium at Kilmartin Museum

Kilmartin Museum is to host an archaeological symposium on November 27 and 28.

It will provide a rare and exciting opportunity to bring together academics and experts from across the UK to discuss the archaeology and history of Argyll.

Those attending will examine and discuss current knowledge of the area and what direction future exploration and research should take.

Expert speakers will champion more than 10,000 years of Argyll's history. The speakers have written discussion papers on each of the time periods which are available to view on the museum's website.

Although this is primarily a professional event, the museum is offering a limited number of places to members of the public who may also be interested in being a part of this significant event.