

Soirbheas

Investing in the communities of Glen Urquhart & Strathglass

Green Living Day—Please come along!



With the aim of helping local people save money, have a warmer home and be healthier Soirbheas along with partners Home Energy Scotland, Abriachan Forest Trust & the Glen Urquhart Child-care Centre are hosting a Green Living Day on **Saturday 29th September at the Glen Urquhart Hall in Drumnadrochit 11am—3pm.**

This will include advice on energy saving, waste reduction, growing, cooking and composting plus other money saving tips. Sign up for a free FuelGood driving lesson to save money when you're behind the wheel - **advance booking is essential as places are limited.**

There will be something of interest for **all** ages including trying out an electric bike, a Velocity Café bike maintenance session where you can bring your own bike and give it a health check and a taster Health Walk for adults and families. In addition there will be a kids clothing/book swap - bring along your outgrown items to donate or swap plus local groups and clubs will also be promoting what they are doing on the What's On stall.



During the event the local energy plan will also be launched giving details of the key priorities for Drumnadrochit in relation to power, heat and transport. To view a copy of the Local Energy Plan please visit <http://www.soirbheas.org/local-energy-plan/>.

For more information about what is happening during the day please visit our website at <http://www.soirbheas.org/green-living-event/>.

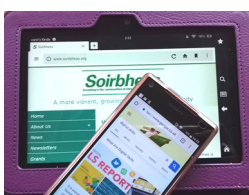
Do you live in a draughty cold house?

Does your traditional home or business need some energy efficiency improvements? Not sure where to start? Are your energy bills filling you with dread? Come along to a free event on **Wednesday 3rd October from 7pm – 9pm at the Craigmonie Centre** to learn about your options.

Moses Jenkins of Historic Environment Scotland will be the main speaker sharing expert advice on installing different types of insulation, glazing, draught-proofing and other measures available during his presentation.

Home Energy Scotland specialists will also be on hand to offer free, impartial energy efficiency advice and to provide information on the latest source of funding support. You can also book a free home energy visit to provide tailored advice and recommendations for your home. For more details contact info@soirbheas.org.

Basic Digital Skills Sessions



Do your digital skills need a helping hand? Frustrated, stuck or scared of technology? Have a smart phone or iPad that you don't use? In collaboration with Glen Urquhart Library and Glen Urquhart Primary School

P7 pupils we are holding digital drop in sessions for adults **every Thursday, 1.45pm – 2.45pm from 1st November - 6th December at Glen Urquhart library.** It's a free and fun way to learn new skills. For more information or to register your interest call into the library or contact Carol for more information 0751 445 2783 or email info@soirbheas.org.

Funding, Funding and more Funding!



At our AGM in June the exciting news was announced that the Soirbheas Tier 3 Capital Grant programme for £10,001 - £30,000 is open for applications! The deadline for expressions of interest forms to be submitted was 12th September and groups successful at this stage will then be asked to submit a full application for the closing date of **30th January 2019.** For more information on all our grants go to our website at <http://www.soirbheas.org/soirbheas-grant-programme/>.

Please note the next closing date for our Tier 2 grants (£501 to £10,000) is **26th November 2018** – please get in touch to discuss your ideas.

Supporting our young workforce

With help from Soirbheas' apprenticeship grant scheme (supported by funds from SSE) one young person from Strathglass is being given a great start with his career. While employed at Tomich Holidays Ewan Pocock will undertake an SCQF Level 5 in Estate Maintenance.



The Soirbheas apprenticeship grant scheme is aimed at supporting local business (based in Glen Urquhart and Strathglass) to employ a young person (aged between 16 – 24) to undertake a Modern Apprenticeship. The fund will support up to 50% of the salary costs over 3 years as well as specialist equipment costs up to £1,000. If you are a local

business who is interested in making an application, the next deadline is **29th October 2018**. There are further details and a summary for young people at <http://www.soirbheas.org/apprenticeship-programme/>.

Broadband update

We are still talking to local broadband providers to push for a better broadband connection for our area. We will keep you informed as soon as an update is available. The good news is you can now access the High-fi service for free in Drum! Turn on WiFi on your mobile phone or other device – Go to your WiFi settings and select DRUMNADROCHIT_WiFi_Free - and follow the instructions. More details at <https://www.highland.gov.uk/site/high-fi/index.html>

Why do I receive this newsletter?

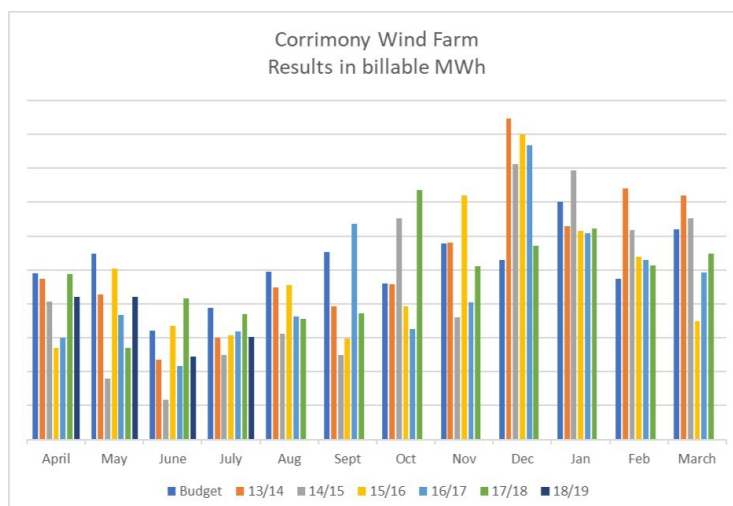
At Soirbheas we strive to keep you up to date with the work we are doing to support and improve the environment and the lives of everyone living in our area. We feel it is important to keep you informed of what is happening and we do this by providing information on our website, social media and a bi-annual postal newsletter. We do hope you enjoy this information! If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by email in the future **OR** would like to become a Soirbheas member please let us know by signing up at <http://www.soirbheas.org/>. Alternatively, if you would prefer not to receive communication from us please let us know and we will remove you from the postal mailing list.

Could you give something back to your community?

Join our team! Soirbheas is a local charity that relies heavily on volunteers who work alongside our community development officer to manage the charity and award the grants. The charity works across the whole community and has now distributed over £150,000 of funds and benefits to over 40 local organisations. We are currently seeking new board members. If you would like to support our work and want to learn more about becoming a board member visit <http://www.soirbheas.org/a-very-rewarding-opportunity/> for more information or contact Carol for a chat.



Latest Wind Farm Data



Next Soirbheas Board Meeting

Thursday 25th October 2018 @ 7.30 pm
Craigmonie Centre, Drumnadrochit
Members welcome!

Are you a member? — Membership is free and open to anyone 12+ who is a local resident. Input from the members is important to ensure we remain in touch with what our communities need. If you are already a member, please make sure we have your up-to-date contact details.

How to get in touch

Email: carolmasheter@soirbheas.org,

Phone: Carol Masheter,
Community Development Officer on 0751 445 2783,
visit the website: www.soirbheas.org
Or find us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.