



Morvern Community Development Company

Quarterly Newsletter

September 2025



MCDC's AGM will be held on 7th October 2025

All members are warmly encouraged to attend this year's AGM which will be held on 7th October 2025 in Lochaline Village Hall at 6pm. Morvern Community Development Company (MCDC) is seeking to elect new directors to the board at the AGM. Anyone wishing to be considered as a director must be an ordinary member (or eligible to become one—please contact MCDC office if you are unsure about your membership status), provide the names of two other ordinary members who have agreed to support your nomination and provide a 100 word statement introducing yourself to the membership and stating where you can be an asset to the MCDC Board. Please submit your application in writing to the Company Secretary, Suzanne Pender, via operations@morvern.org by 29th September 2025.

The AGM agenda is available to read on the website (<https://morvern.org/notice-mcdc-agm>) and immediately following the AGM there will be an ordinary meeting of the Company's Directors at which the new board will elect office bearers of MCDC and may appoint directors of its two subsidiaries, MCTC and MorVolts. Morvern Community Council representatives on the MCDC board will also be confirmed at this meeting.

We encourage all members to attend the AGM, but if you are not able to come to the AGM, you can appoint a proxy to attend and vote on your behalf. Proxy forms are available from MCDC. Anyone wishing to become a new member or enquire about their membership status should contact the MCDC office.

A successful summer season at Lochaline Harbour

It's been a fantastic season at Lochaline Harbour with glowing reviews from visitors and locals for our facilities and new improvements. We'd like to say a big thank you to the whole harbour team for all of their hard work throughout the busy summer months which have made the harbour such a lovely place to be. Thank you to everyone who has come to visit, to try out our sauna or enjoy a drink at our new bar. It wouldn't have been the same without you and we're looking forward to doing it all again next year.

Winter Sauna Opening Times

MCTC is delighted to announce that the sauna will be staying at the harbour for the winter. However, the harbour is not staffed 7 days a week during the winter season and so the opening times have changed to reflect that. The sauna will now be open from Wednesday-Friday, 2-6pm. We are also looking into starting a Weekend Sauna Club and details will be announced via the Lochaline Harbour social media pages in due course.

Please see www.lochalineharbour.co.uk/sauna for more information and follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates.

FACEBOOK



INSTAGRAM



Winter Loch Run

THE LOCH ALINE 5K
first Saturday of each month, 9.30am

Whether you are a family, have a buggy or a dog on a lead - all are welcome to come and take part in the monthly LA 5K! Join us at **Lochaline Harbour** where our track will begin at 9.30am.

Our winter dates are:
Saturday 4th October, Saturday 1st November,
Saturday 6th December, Saturday 3rd January,
Saturday 7th February and Saturday 7th March.

Enjoy 10% off in The Hub Cafe, Lochaline, when you complete the Loch Aline 5K!

We will be continuing Loch Run throughout the winter although it will move to a monthly run with the first run on 4th October. All are very welcome to attend no matter how fast you walk or run. Buggies and dogs also welcome to participate. Thank you to our team of volunteers who come out rain and shine to make it work.



The Hub Café Winter Opening Times

Thank you to everyone who has come to enjoy our coffee, cake and lunches at The Hub Café over the summer and thank you to the whole café team for working so hard to create and serve such delicious food. Moving into the winter we will be opening Thursday-Saturday, 10am-3pm but please keep an eye on our social media for any updates to this.

Facebook



Instagram



Autumn Events in The Hub Café!

**THE HUB CAFE
AUTUMN EVENTS!**

Creative Conversations	Sunday 12th October 2-4pm
Canadian Thanksgiving	Friday 17th October 6.30pm
Halloween	Friday 31st October 4-9pm
Girls Aloud Open Mic	Friday 7th November from 6pm

Follow us online to find out more!

We're hosting a series of exciting events in the café this autumn!

On the 12th October we will be holding the first of our monthly Creative Conversations. There is no entry charge and the topic for this month's conversation is, "The portrayal of the Highlands in the arts: should we ditch the shortbread tin?"

On 17th October, Madi is whipping up a feast to serve a traditional Canadian Thanksgiving including turkey, stuffing, all the sides and pies for dessert. Please contact us via operations@morvern.org to book.

For Halloween we are hosting pumpkin carving and trick & treating from 4-9pm on 31st October including a prize for best costume! All ages welcome. The bar will be open.

Finally, on 7th November we're hosting a 'Girls Aloud' Open Mic night! A chance for the women of Morvern to let their hair down, enjoy some wine, drinks and snacks and sing their hearts out!

Morvern Digital Community Calendar

Robert Melohn has created a digital calendar for community events. This is an aspirational project to provide a useful alternative to Facebook if all local groups can get involved. There is a read only link here to have a look and if you are planning an event and would like to know how to add it to the calendar, please get in touch and we can put you in touch with the calendar team. Link—<https://teamup.com/ks3zvojm66xdhpwtmi>

Beautiful Morvern Photography Competition and Calendar!

Thank you to everyone who entered our photography competition and to our highly talented judges, Jim Manthorpe and Sam Firth, who kindly gave their time and experience to judge our competition. Our Beautiful Morvern Calendar for 2026 is now on sale in the harbour and the café. 50% of the profits will be donated to Caolas. The calendar makes a perfect Christmas present for anyone who loves our special corner of the world. The full list of winners is below. Congratulations to everyone!



Overall winner—Isla Robertson 'View towards Crosben'

Beautiful Morvern Category:

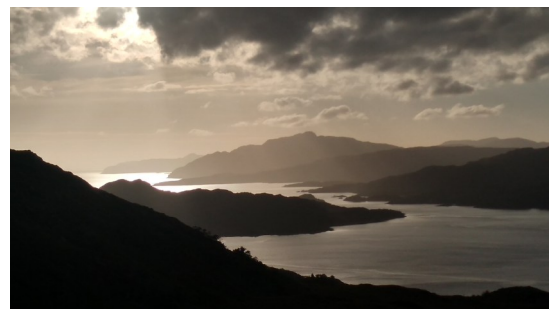
1st—Isla Robertson 'View towards Crosben'

2nd—Helen Woolston 'Table of Lorn'

3rd—Jennie Robertson 'Bluebells'

Highly commended—Isla Robertson 'Iced waterfall'

Highly commended—Susan Taylor 'Woodland Path'



Community Spirit Category:

1st—Jennie Robertson 'Belly Dancers'

2nd—Jennie Robertson 'Duck Race'

3rd—Colin Johnson 'Boxing Day Swimmers'

Highly Commended—Annie Tordoff 'Coracle'



Lochs & Sounds Category:

1st—Helen Woolston 'Towards Loch Sunart'

2nd—Isla Robertson 'Sound of Mull Sunrise'

3rd—Shirley Shaw 'Ferry Sunbeams'

Highly Commended—Helen Woolston 'Seaweed'

Highly Commended—Carol MacInnes 'Pink Rainbow'



Wildlife Category:

1st—Peter Guthrie 'Eagle'

2nd—Colin Johnson 'Sandpiper'

3rd—Rhonda Newsham 'Pinemartin'

Highly commended—Laura Wilson 'Butterfly and Bee'

Under 18s Category:

1st—Zara Manthorpe 'Ferry in the Narrows'

2nd—Archie Mane 'Pink Rainbow'

3rd—Zara Manthorpe 'Flowers'

Under 12s Category:

1st—James Cameron 'Butterfly'

2nd—Kayleigh Cameron 'Butterfly'

Congratulations to everyone and thank you to you all for sharing your beautiful photographs with us. The judges were very impressed by the high standard of all the entries.



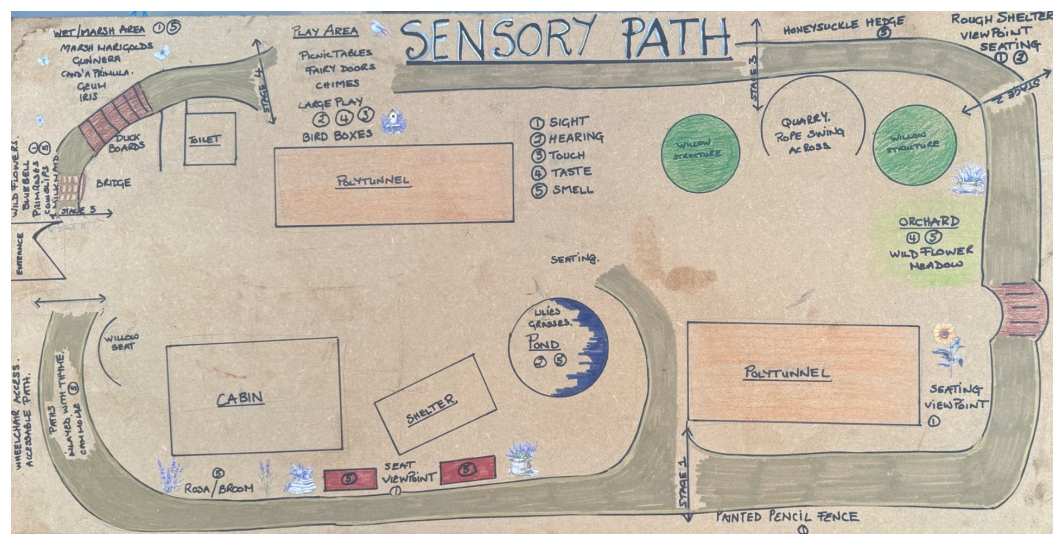
Celebrating Morvern's Volunteers

Many of the amazing activities that take place in Morvern are only possible because of the hard work and generosity of many volunteers. There are many people living here who give a huge amount of their time, energy and experience to make Morvern such a wonderful and vibrant place to live. To celebrate this, we are launching a Volunteer of the Season. We'd like to invite you to nominate a volunteer from Morvern who you think deserves to be celebrated and thanked in our next newsletter alongside highlighting the organisation (or organisations!) that they give their time to. The winner will also receive a voucher for lunch for 2 in The Hub Café. To nominate a volunteer please email admin@morvern.org with 100 words about why you believe your nominated volunteer deserves to be celebrated.

There are a lot of fantastic organisations in Morvern and they all need volunteers to keep them going so if you think you'd like to get involved in any of them, please get in touch with the relevant committee.

CLAM's sensory path plans

Hey there! CLAM has an exciting plan brewing. We're dreaming of creating a sensory path around our main growing area, which will be about 350 meters long.



Our vision is simple yet wonderful: a path that everyone in the community, from young to old, can visit and enjoy. It'll start at the entrance to CLAM, leading through a charming willow arch, into a lush marsh area filled with beautiful marsh plants, candelabra, and primula. Then, it'll take you to a fun play area under the trees, complete with picnic tables, giant painted dominos, fairy houses, and soothing wind chimes.

As you wander along, you'll discover the Orchard of apple, plum, cherry, and crab apples, crossing a gentle burn, and ending back where you started. Along the way, we'll plant themed areas that encourage all our senses—touch, smell, hear, taste, and sight—to promote a sense of well-being for everyone who visits.

We've got play areas for the little ones and opportunities to entertain and educate them about the environment and the importance of outdoor spaces.

Our goal is to make this path accessible to all, and we're hoping to secure some grants to make our dream a reality. We're excited about this project and can't wait to share it with you all!

Article by CLAM chair Henriette Laidlaw

A Men's Shed for Lochaline

Got time on your hands? Looking for banter and camaraderie? Want to share your skills—or pick up new ones? Need a space to work on your own and/or community projects? Let's make it happen—together! A meeting to gauge interest in starting up a new Men's Shed will take place on TUESDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2025 from 7pm at Lochaline Village Hall.

New shed at Harbour



There is a new shed at the harbour, replacing the one that was sadly destroyed in the fire in 2023. Thank you to the staff, architects and contractors who have worked so hard to achieve the fantastic rebuild. The building has one main space and three side workshop spaces. MCTC are looking to use the main space as a gym and is currently applying for funding to achieve this. If anyone would like to contribute suggestions for gym equipment, please get in touch with operations@morvern.org. Two of the workshop spaces will be used to store e-bikes and other essential harbour equipment whilst the third is being used by CAOLAS who said "CAOLAS have kindly been allowed to use a space in the new shed for their oyster restoration activities. They will be installing a tank inside their shed, which will be used to observe and monitor live oysters, helping to better understand their biology."

Urram Lunches

The Hub Café team have been pleased to have been supporting Urram by prepared the food for the Urram lunches in Lochaline Village Hall. Thank you to everyone involved for helping the lunches go ahead.



Filling Station

We are aware that several customers have reported difficulties with the card machine at the fuel pumps. If you are struggling with a purchase, please contact us in the office.

Housing Update



MCDC staff, board and project board are continuing to work hard on the family homes housing project alongside our architect Richard Graves and QS Richard Neilson. We are currently in the final stages of waiting for our amended planning permission to come back and we hope to have a more comprehensive update for the community in the near future. In the mean time, we were very pleased to welcome Kate Forbes to Morvern to view the housing site and to discuss the housing project amongst other plans. Kate Forbes has been very supportive of the project from the early days and we were delighted she was able to visit and see the site for herself.

If you would like to donate, volunteer or become a member of MCDC please email Isla at admin@morvern.org. All that is required to become a member is to fill in a short form providing your address (to show that you are a resident of Morvern) and to pay a £1 lifetime membership