



# SOUTH ISLAY NEWS

April 2024

## ***The Ardbeg All Islay Fund Year Two - 31 Applications Received -***

Ardbeg Islay single malt Scotch whisky established a £ 1 million to support community and environmental projects on Islay. Working in cooperation South Islay Development (SID) and Ardbeg were delighted to open the Ardbeg All Islay Fund Year Two on the 8th of January 2024 inviting applications from groups and projects across the island. The fund will run over 5 years with £180,000 per year to be allocated and distributed.

Drop-in sessions were held in Port Ellen and Bowmore for the SID team to meet the community groups and allow them to ask questions and become more informed about the funding application process.

SID has been delighted by the enthusiastic interest in the fund as year two opens up. The drop-in sessions have proved very useful for groups to ask the SID team for advice, and guidance on their applications before they submit.

By the deadline on the 13th of March, there were 31 completed applications received from projects spanning the whole of Islay. All applicants have had acknowledgements of their applications.

Now the hard work starts behind the scenes! All applications are being reviewed to ensure all the attachments have been submitted by the SID staff who will then send all the documents to the independent panel. The panel meetings will be held at the end of April.

**The successful applicants will be informed by the beginning of May at the earliest.**

Thanks for all the interest and support – this is a very exciting fund which will allow many organisations to fulfil their ambitions for a wonderful community to flourish and prosper.

We will continue regular updates as the Ardbeg All Islay Fund progresses.



# Port Ellen Playing Fields Update

**The New Pavilion:** SID are delighted that the timber kit for the new Pavilion is now up, with the internal walls and roof trusses being finalised. The block work and roof will follow.

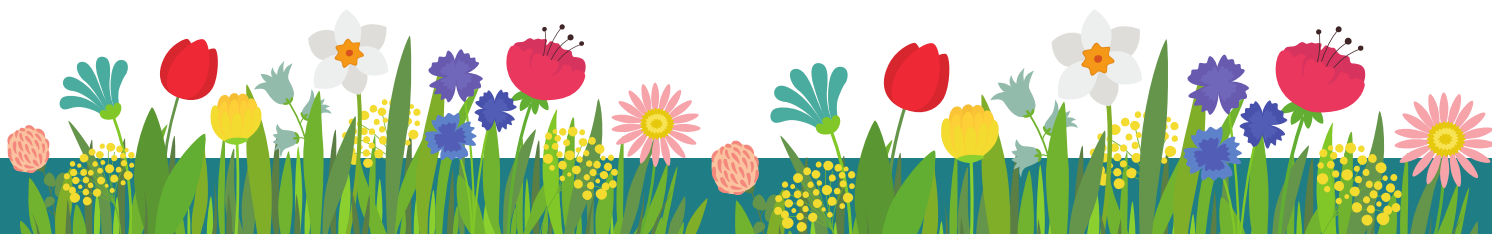
**The Playpark:** The design team and Procast have put together an additional surface water drainage plan, to reduce potential for flooding. It is extremely important this is right before the kit is installed, but it does mean progress has been slower than expected. Two new items of kit have been delivered. Chosen by Port Ellen Mothers & Toddlers these will compliment the existing kit. The playpark area will be extended up towards the Ramsay Hall to allow for more new items in the future.

**The Motorhome Area:** Now that the timber kit has been moved, this area is clear for progress to continue. The foundations for the WC/ Shower are progressing, while work is ongoing resurfacing the area, and joining the old and new sections together.

**Programme:** The new Pavilion is due to be completed in Summer 2024; however SID will look to reopen parts of the site as and when the works are completed.

Elsewhere on the Playing Fields there are plans to revamp the existing shed with a new roof and doors, redo the drainage ditch at the back of the pitch, create new areas of planting (trees, flowering shrubs and bulbs), and fix the tennis court fencing and net. Watch this space!

For any questions regarding the Playing Fields progress contact Rosie at [portellenplayingfields@gmail.com](mailto:portellenplayingfields@gmail.com)





# PORT ELLEN FILLING STATION

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invites you to a**

# **FAMILY CEILIDH**

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The Ramsay Hall  
Doors Open at 2pm**

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- RAFFLE -**

For More Information contact Danielle -  
[sidcommunityengagement@gmail.com](mailto:sidcommunityengagement@gmail.com)  
or Call 01496 300 579

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# **FUEL - PARTS - CONFECTIONARY - MOTORHOME SERVICES -**

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