

Jean's Bothy update – August 2023

Our membership continues to grow with now 360 members having joined since we opened in September 2018.

We had our first “on location” day on 10th June at Geilston Gardens. Relocating a number of our activities to this beautiful location for the day members had access to art, chair yoga, mindfulness, herb walks, creative writing and photography. 21 members took part and as a result we are now looking at where our next in location day will be.

On 24th June 12 members climbed Ben Lomond, it was a tough day for them all, and not without its challenges and changes in weather conditions but they made it to the top. Great sense of achievement all round.

We had a successful open day on Friday 21st July where we raised over £700, welcomed new people into the bothy, signed up new members and gave families the opportunity to spend some time with us at Jean's Bothy.

On 2nd July we held a car boot sale in partnership with Colgrain Bowling Club, although we moved it inside due to weather it was a success and hope to be able to make it a more regular event.

At Jean's Bothy we aim to support our members to facilitate, deliver and run their own groups if that's what they would like to do. Over the last month we have supported another 4 members to start their own groups – diamond painting; expressionism painting; painting with colour and also a new gaming group. We have also supported a member who delivers 2 sewing groups in the bothy to attend a in depth know your sewing machine course which she will run for the first time in September.

Our fundraising and events team continue to plan ahead for events later this year including a community Halloween event and Christmas activities.

SMHFA course completed with Macdonald MacMillan Training. 10 completed the 2 day course.

Helensburgh savoy held fundraiser in aid of Jean's Bothy and raised £1305 for us. We thanked everyone who attended their Variety at the Vice event and donated on the night.

We continue to feature in the Maid of the loch exhibition and have had 1 purchase so far which is amazing for the member involved. The exhibition remains open every weekend 11-4 until end of October.

Kath Polley is currently working with members on a Photography project of members portraits. We hope to be able to display these in the bothy before the end of the year.

Dates coming up

18 Aug – joint herb walk with carers

5th Sep – Millport cycle – our annual trip across to the Isle of Cumbrae is open to be whole community to join us. Registration will be open this month.

6th Sep – Pain & Wellbeing Event

Planned joint book club meet with Helensburgh Community Hun and Helensburgh & Lomond Carers

We are planning to carry out an independent evaluation of our service over the next 6 months with support from ENABLE and will be looking for feedback from partners etc in the coming months.

.