

Lairg Magazine

LAIRG & DISTRICT COMMUNITY INITIATIVES



The 'Northern Lights' captured by Cara Cameron

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Lairg Remembrance Day Service

10.45 AM on Sunday 14th November 2021
at the War Memorial



Recipe of the week

Poppy Biscuits

INGREDIENTS:

1/2 cup butter, softened
3/4 cup icing sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 1/2 tablespoons finely grated lemon zest
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1 tablespoon poppy seeds
2 cups flour, plus more for rolling the dough
1/2 teaspoon salt

FOR DECORATING THE BISCUITS:

2 large egg whites
4 cups icing sugar
2 tablespoons lemon juice
Red and black food colouring
Poppy seeds, for sprinkling



TO MAKE THE BISCUITS:

Beat butter, sugar, vanilla, lemon zest and juice until combined. Beat in flour, salt and poppy seeds. Form dough into a ball, wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate until firm, at least 2 hours. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Turn dough out onto lightly floured surface and roll out to 1/4-inch thickness. Cut out Biscuits using 2 or three different size cookie cutters. Transfer to a baking sheet and refrigerate for 30 minutes. Bake until the edges just start to brown, 10-12 minutes. Remove from oven and cool completely.

TO MAKE ICING:

Beat egg whites until firm but not dry. Add icing sugar and lemon juice and beat to combine. Add more lemon juice if too thick or more icing sugar if too thin. Tint a large portion red, a small portion black and leave the remaining white.

TO DECORATE BISCUITS

Trace an outline around the cookie with the red icing, following the poppy shape. Pipe a dot of icing into each of the petals and feather to cover each petal. Immediately make a circle of small dots in the middle with the white icing. Using a toothpick draw the white icing to the edges of the poppy. Once the icing is set, pipe a large white dot in the centre of each cookie. Once the dot is set, pipe a black line around the dot and immediately sprinkle with poppy seeds. Allow to set completely before storing.

LAIRG



HELPING HAND FUND

IT'S OKAY TO NEED SUPPORT

The Helping Hand Fund provides one off financial support to households in Lairg Community Council area who are living in need.

Grants of up to £250 are available to households who require support towards energy costs, purchase of energy efficient white goods or help towards the costs of heating system repairs.

Confidential support is provided by local Citizen Advice Bureaus and the Lairg & District Community Initiatives Project Officer.

Contact Kirstin:

projectofficer@lairginitiative.co.uk

07961 372427

Lairg &
District
Community
Initiatives

The
ROBERTSON
Trust

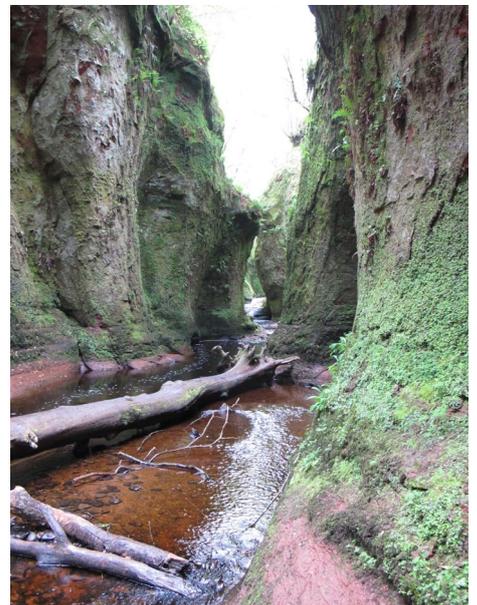
citizens
advice
bureau
EAST & CENTRAL
SUTHERLAND

(Answers on page 6)

1. How many points are awarded for a goal in hurling?
2. Which coastal city's name when translated into English means Fragrant Harbour?
3. What slang word links a sausage and an old car?
4. Which artist painted The Scream which was inspired by "clouds that hung like blood"?
5. In which year did Queen Victoria die?
6. Who wrote the novel Lord of the Flies?
7. Pimms No. 1 Cup is based on which spirit?
8. Kimchi is a dish of fermented vegetables originally from which country?
9. John Hinkley Jnr shot Ronald Reagan in March 81, which Hollywood actress was he trying to impress?
10. Julia Gillard succeeded Kevin Rudd as Prime Minister of which country?
11. Who directed the video for Michael Jackson's Thriller?
12. What are the only 2 letters in the Greek alphabet beginning with O?
13. What colour is most associated with Breast Cancer charities?
14. Bernie Taupin is known for his long term writing collaboration with which singer?
15. In what car did Malcolm Campbell break the land speed record?
16. Where in Scotland would I find The Devil's Pulpit?
17. 'Never get out of the boat' is a quote from what 1979 Vietnam war film?
18. What is the name of Liverpool's main train station?
19. Which book starts with the line "It was a bright cold day in April and the clock struck 13"?
20. 'Just one look and I can hear a bell ring' is from what Abba song?



Ronald Reagan



Devil's Pulpit

Scotland has a proud history, admirable in many ways, but probably not concerning Christianity. Without attempting to condense 800 years into a couple of sentences, the outcome of it all is that we have five churches in our village.

Prior to the onset of Covid, an informal group, 'Christians in Lairg', instigated joint events, for services and especially children's activities with growing success. Now it is time for a revival.

The purpose of this little piece is to give notice of Church service times and locations. It is aimed largely at some who may have got out of the Church attendance habit. (We realise that the virus is still about, and some are wary of meeting in groups.) However, there must also be new residents in and around Lairg who have been active Christians, but are so engrossed in their new home life that church attendance has slipped.

As you see there is choice! All five churches are very welcoming and also active in the community. Church is of course, much more than an hour on Sunday.

Here are the five:

Church of Scotland – Large church above the War Memorial. Minister - Hilary Gardiner. 10am with hymns.

Free Church – Large church beyond the petrol station. Minister - Ben Fidean. 10.30 with psalms and hymns, and 6.30pm fortnightly.

A.P.C. Church (Associate Presbyterian Church) – Small church 200m up Saval Road, Minister—Alexander Murray. 3.30pm with psalms

Scottish Episcopal Church (Anglican Communion) – Uses Church of Scotland. Rev James Currall. 8.30am. Communion with liturgy and hymns.

Lairg Christian Fellowship - Community Centre. Local and visiting preachers. 10.00am with Praise band.

The War Memorial Service will take place as usual this year at 10.45am on the 14th November.

By Mike Geldard



A snapshot from the past

Does anyone know what year the photograph of the War Memorial on this postcard below might have been taken?



Notice of Road Closure

A836 LAIRG – ALTNAHARRA

ROAD CLOSED

09:00-11:00, 11:30 – 13:30, 14:00 – 16:30

MONDAY – FRIDAY

FROM MONDAY 25/10/21 – THURSDAY 23/12/21

EMERGENCY CONTACT: 07747 237 706

Ferrycroft Aire Project Will Not Go Ahead

Following the extension of the online community consultation that was reopened on the 11th October, Lairg & District Community Initiatives (LDCI) would like to announce that we have made the decision not to go ahead with the proposed Aire project at the Ferrycroft site.

As LDCI had submitted a funding application, we continued with both the community asset transfer and the planning processes under the advice of Council officers, but in the meantime, we were monitoring the responses received through the e-forms. We have listened to the comments, and we acknowledge that there is significant opposition from residents living close to Ferrycroft and from other community groups; therefore, we decided that even if we had secured funding and/or the relevant permissions, it would not be in the community interest to continue with the project at Ferrycroft. Given this, we withdrew our application to the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund.

LDCI would like to apologise if exploring the feasibility of this project has caused concern to people within the community.



Would you like to **Keep fit & Socialise?**

THINK NATURE HEALTH WALKS

Lairg Health Walks

Walking can lift your mood and make you feel happier

Date: Tues 23rd November at 10.30am

Meet at: Ferrycroft Car park

With the option to go for refreshments afterwards!

For more info contact:

Kirstin Langlois
T: 07961372427
E: projectofficer@lairginitiative.co.uk

Think NATURE HEALTH WALKS

Health Walks paths 2019

Supporting Sustainable Travel

Smarter Choices, Smarter Places

LAIRG & DISTRICT COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Harvest Festival

Thank you to the Church of Scotland for donating the gifts received from the Harvest Festival to LDCI to distribute with the Community Food Larder deliveries to households in our community. The donations were very much appreciated!

Winterfest

Lairg's annual Winter festival - *Winterfest* usually takes place in November. Unfortunately, due to the uncertainty surrounding social distancing rules, LDCI were unable to programme the event this year. However, we are very hopeful that Winterfest will be able to take place once again in 2022. When a date is confirmed we will publicise the event so that the crafters and anybody else who would like to participate in the Christmas market can save the date!

Lairg Health Walks

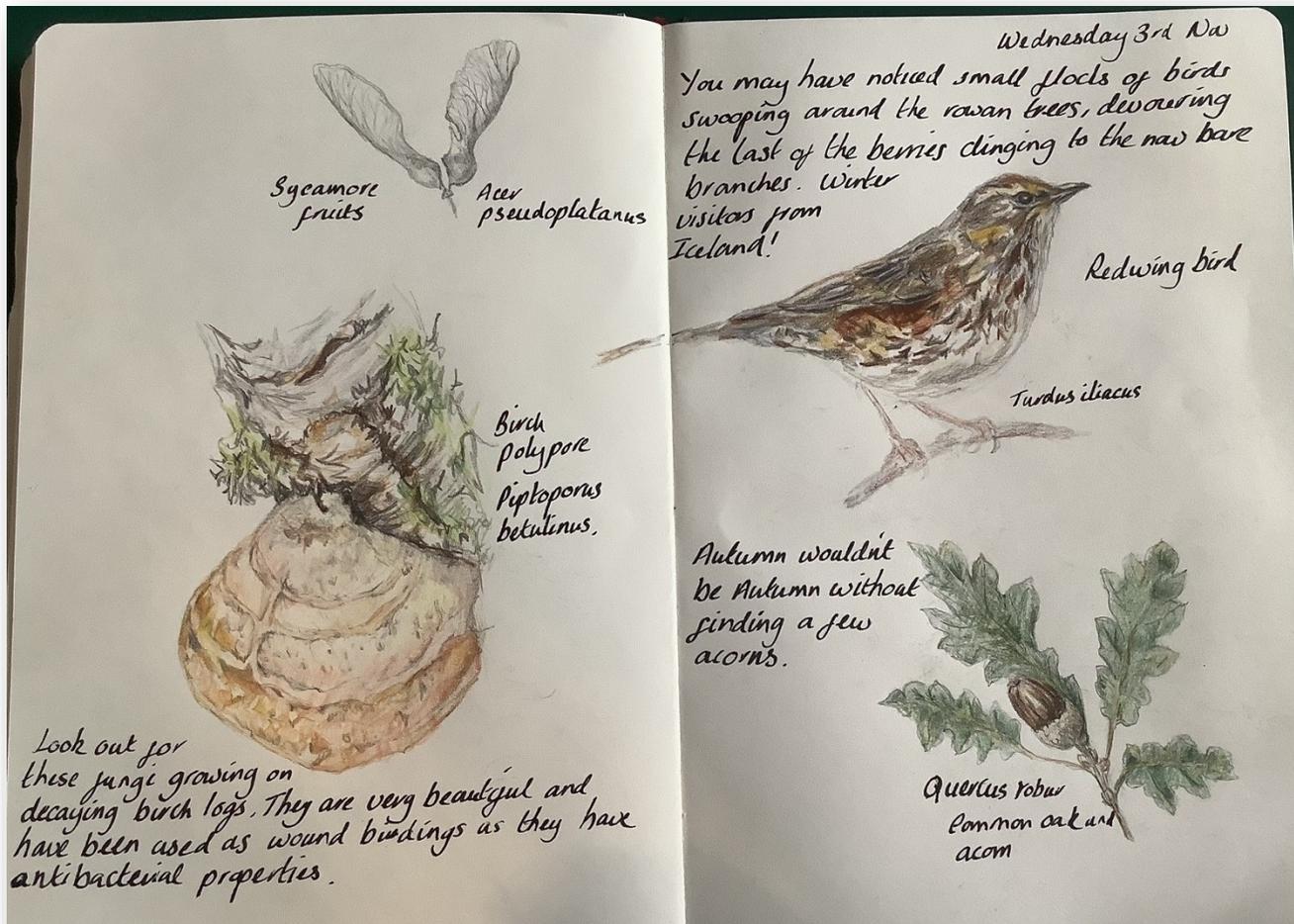
It was pouring with rain for the last Health walk in October but that didn't stop a small dedicated group from braving the elements! Although the Ferrycroft Centre is now shut for the winter, we still plan to meet at the Ferrycroft car park. We are currently making arrangements about where we will go after to warm up afterwards. Details will be circulated next week.



Winterfest, 2019

Thank you to local artist Jan Blackwell for allowing us to print excerpts of her illustrations and notes from her own journal. Here is November's diary entry. Jan is working on putting the journal into print form. If you would like to see more of her work you can follow her on Facebook and Instagram. See:

www.facebook.com/janblackwellhighlandjournal/ and www.instagram.com/highland_journal_art/



LDCI Quiz Answers

- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. 3 | 8. Korea | 15. Bluebird |
| 2. Hong Kong | 9. Jodie Foster | 16. Finnich Gorge, near Stirling |
| 3. Banger | 10. Australia | 17. Apocalypse now |
| 4. Edvard Munch | 11. John Landis | 18. Lime Street |
| 5. 1901 | 12. Omega and Omacron | 19. 1984 |
| 6. William Golding | 13. Pink | 20. Mama Mia |
| 7. Gin | 14. Elton John | |

How did you do?

1-5/20

Poor

5-10/20

Okay

10-15/20

Good

15-20/20

Excellent



Well, how can any of us ignore climate change with **COP26** going on just now? Has it switched you off? Has it motivated you to do more? Has it stopped you in your tracks, frozen, not knowing what to do? Each passing day it's becoming more clear that every single one of us needs to change what we do: individuals, communities, business, charities, councils, governments. We can't wait for someone else to "fix it". And why should we? There are many steps we can take that are actually great fun. Indeed, the atmosphere in Glasgow just now is truly exciting.

Closer to home:

The Highland Council Highlands Adapts team is having its initial meetings with community and business groups, helping us all work together. The North Highlands and Islands Climate Hub is now fully staffed and building its plans - <https://www.nhclimatehub.co.uk> . This is the renewed Scottish Government Climate Challenge Fund scheme. It's based with Thurso Development Trust and is one of only two pilot schemes in the country.

And, last month I mentioned the Highland Council Climate Conference. Even although this was on line, the energy and excitement coming out of the talks and meetings was palpable. You can watch the recordings here – https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/1210-environment/982/2021_highland_climate_change_conference.

We're fully involved with all these ventures and looking forward to the huge benefits they will bring. Climate discussions can divide us, but finding that one small step which we can all agree upon will truly start us on an exciting journey. And, with 75% of young people thinking of the future as frightening – surely we need to do something to help?

Why not make that 1st step to come along to our next Lairg carbon cafe? These meetings are very informal with no obligations or pressure. But hey, we might well come up with some fab ideas such as:

- an e-bike scheme – e-bikes aren't cheating and they are great fun to ride
- planting an orchard – wouldn't it be amazing to walk along the street and just pick a few apples off trees when you're out for that loaf or pint of milk?
- starting a meal club – eating together is not only great fun but reduces the energy we use in our individual houses – both from cooking and from being out of the house
- going for a walk in the woods – every day – don't wait for the new year to start your get fit resolutions
- take some hard wood cuttings from bushes in your garden to share with friends and neighbours next year
- check out the great courses at our Learning Centre – several folks have been overjoyed at learning to sow and mend clothes.

To find out more see: www.planetsutherland.com
or: www.facebook.com/groups/PlanetSutherland
or email: anna@planetsutherland.com.



Photographer: Wes Kingston



Year of Stories - 20th Anniversary of LDLC

20 years of Lairg & District Learning Centre celebrated by a Year of Stories.

This November will mark 20 years since the Lairg & District Learning Centre was set up. We are incredibly proud to have been serving the Sutherland community for such a length of time, and have held classes ranging from German to Wattle Weaving! We appreciate everyone who has helped us at the centre, from those in the community who have supported us, the tutors that allow our learning to happen and of course, all of our students. We cannot wait to see what the next years will bring for the Lairg & District Learning Centre as well as the community we work in.

To celebrate, we are joining in with Scotland's Year of Stories 2022. The Year of Stories will look to share, and create stories in Scotland. We will encourage story sharing through classes, workshops and gatherings. This of course fits well with upcoming Saint Andrew's Day on the 30th of November, to begin a celebration of stories throughout Scotland. We have our own classes and workshops planned for the Year of Stories 2022, we are looking forward to celebrating what is unique about the history and culture of Sutherland.

We are going to launch a Maker's Creative Space, where any creatives can come along and work together on their own pieces, in a social and relaxed setting. Arts and crafts are a way for us all to express our own experiences and so tell our own stories. Burns Night is on the 25th of January, and we're looking forward to celebrating his famous poems! We are launching a Scottish Family History class in the new year where students can look back at their family stories and trace their intricate family movements. Calligraphy and photography have been ways to document past events and we plan to hold classes teaching both in the coming year.

We intend to do more crofting classes with Lochview Rural Training, to learn what to do with sheep wool to maintain an important and historic way of life in the Highlands. You can see a picture from a recent class with Lochview Rural Training Centre, of students at a Sustainable Crofting: Fencing Workshop. A book swap event will literally allow for an exchange of stories, we are looking forward to this tradition celebrated in Iceland, to come together and exchange books.

The importance of remembering old stories and creating new ones is something we are looking forward to learning about, so please stay tuned for future classes.

Stay in Touch:

Join our mailing list: <http://eepurl.com/c5fpKv>

Follow us on Eventbrite: [ttp://](http://lairgandddistrictlearningcentre.eventbrite.com)

lairgandddistrictlearningcentre.eventbrite.com

Facebook: @LairgLC



The world's first international football match was held at the West of Scotland's Cricket Ground on 30 November 1872, between Scotland and England.

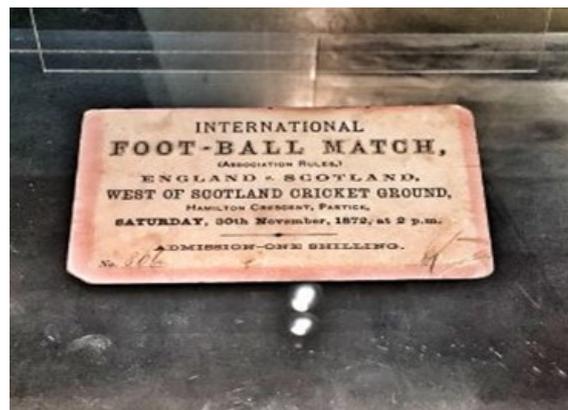
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Scotland v. England

An association football match between the national teams of Scotland and England is officially recognised by the Federation International Football Association (FIFA) as the sport's first-ever international match. It took place at Hamilton Crescent, the West of Scotland Cricket Club's ground in Partick, Glasgow.

Charles Alcock, the Football Association's General Secretary, wrote a public letter in Glasgow and Edinburgh newspapers offering a challenge for a team made up of Scots to face a team of Englishmen.

Queen's Park Football Club decided to take up Mr Alcock's challenge. Robert Gardner and David Wotherspoon of Queen's Park, while playing in London for a Queen's Park FA Cup tie, stayed in the capital to meet with the Football Association to arrange the fixture. The match and location were agreed with Wotherspoon writing a letter published in the Scotsman confirming the news. Both parties agreed Glasgow would be the best location for the tie.



Scottish Football Museum

The match was to be played on St Andrew's Day 30th November 1872 at the West of Scotland Cricket Ground in Partick, with admission into the ground costing a shilling (ladies were admitted free). The ticket illustrated is held by the Scottish Football Museum, the number is 806. The result: 0-0.

Next year will be the 150th anniversary date of that match.

Scotland: Bob Gardner, William Ker, Joseph Taylor, James Thompson, James Smith, Robert Smith, Robert Leckie, Alexander Rhind, William Muir MacKinnon, Jamie Weir, David Wotherspoon (all Queen's Park FC).

England: Robert Barker (Hertfordshire Rangers), Ernest Greenhalgh (Notts County), Reginald Welch (Wanderers), Frederick Chappell (Oxford University), William John Maynard (1st Surrey Rifles), John Brockbank (Cambridge University), Charles Clegg (Sheffield Wednesday), Arnold Kirke Smith (Oxford University), Cuthbert Ottaway (Oxford University/Old Etonians), Charles John Chenery (Crystal Palace), Charles John Morice (Barnes).
England was represented by University and Club players.

Fire and Smoke Alarms: Changes to the Law

What is changing?

By February 2022, every home in Scotland is required by law to have interlinked fire alarms. The alarms connect to each other so that when one goes off, they all go off – helping everyone to react quickly and save lives. You might not hear the alarm closest to the fire if you are somewhere else in the house. An interlinked system alerts you to danger wherever you are in the home.

What does my home need?

- 1 smoke alarm in the room where you spend most of the day (usually the living room)
- 1 smoke alarm on every floor, either in the hallway or on the landing
- 1 heat detector in the kitchen

If your home has a carbon fuelled appliance like a boiler, heater, or flue, you will also need a separate carbon monoxide detector. These do not have to be linked to the other alarms.

How much does it cost?

The cost for an interlinked system with sealed long-life battery alarms in a two storey house is around £220, the homeowner is expected to meet this cost. There will be an extra cost if you get a tradesperson to fit them for you.

Can I get help with the cost?

The Scottish Government has provided £500,000 funding to support the changes in the law. To be eligible for support from Care & Repair Scotland, you must live in and own your home that has a Council Tax banding of A-C. You must also either be in receipt of guaranteed Pension Credit, or have a disability and be in a support group for Employment and Support Allowance.

Please visit www.careandrepairsotland.co.uk for more information.

Ask for help

For advice on fire safety, or to request a Home Fire Safety Visit, contact The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service on 0800 0731 999.

If you are concerned about cold callers or about the information given by a tradesperson, contact Trading Standards Scotland on 0808 164 6000.

**For more detailed information about the new regulations,
visit: www.mygov.scot/firealarms**



What alarms do I need?

There are two types of alarms that comply with the new standard:

- Tamper proof long-life lithium battery alarms, which can be fitted by householders themselves or;
- Mains-wired alarms, which are cheaper than tamper proof long-life battery alarms, but should be installed by a qualified electrician in accordance with BS7671.

Both types of alarm can be interlinked by radio frequency. Mains-wired alarms, however, are required to be installed by an electrician which will be an additional cost to homeowners. Any redecoration to walls and/or ceilings should be taken into consideration. You may also need a building warrant if you live in a flat.

Will the new regulations impact my household insurance?

Different home insurance policies provided by different insurers will have varying terms and conditions which a homeowner must comply with for their home insurance to be valid. Anyone who is unclear about the terms and conditions of their specific policy in relation to the fire alarm requirements should get in touch with their home insurer in the first instance, to check whether the new requirements will be specifically included in their policy or not.

I live in social rented housing, what do I do?

Social landlords (local authority and housing association landlords) are aware of the new standard and have been working to ensure that the new alarms are in place, where needed. The standard will be monitored by the Scottish Housing Regulator, who may intervene as they deem appropriate for any non-compliance. For further, please contact your relevant association on the contact number below.

I live in private rented housing, what do I do?

The new standards for fire alarms extend those which currently apply in the Private Rented Sector to housing of all tenures, therefore your landlord should already be complying. The standard is enforced by the right of tenants to apply to the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Housing and Property Chamber), if you believe that your landlord is failing to comply, you can apply to the First-tier Tribunal. Penalties for non-compliance would be determined by the Tribunal.

Helpful numbers

Cairn Housing - 01862 893417

Pat Munro Homes - 01349 800019

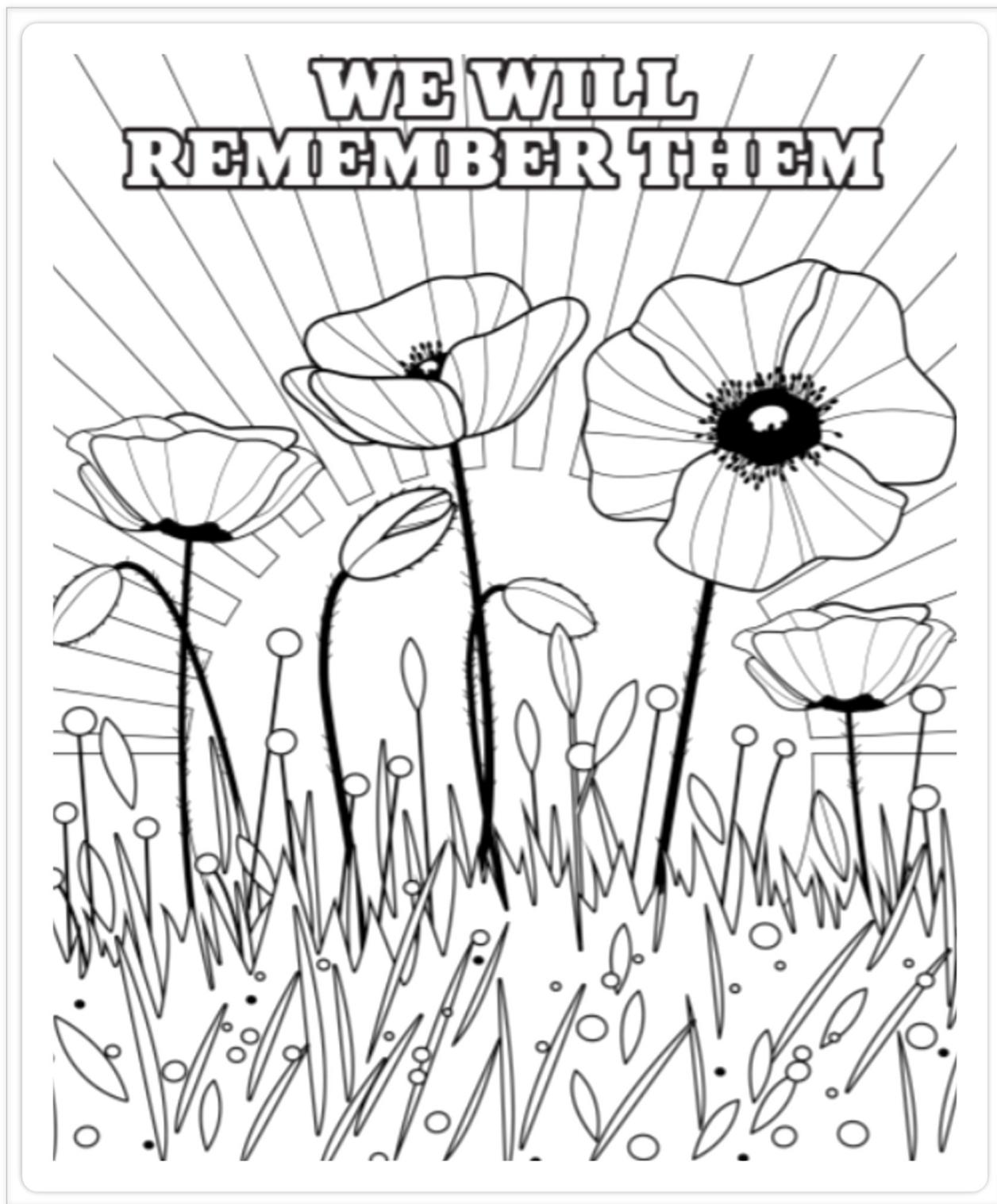
Trading Standards - 0808 164 6000

Communities Housing Trust - 01463 233549

Highland Council - 01349 886602

Albyn Housing - 01349 852978

SFRS - 0800 0731 999



This magazine is funded by:



**Foundation
Scotland**

Thank you for reading issue 41 of the Lairg Magazine! If you would like to submit something to the magazine, please send it to: projectofficer@lairginitiative.co.uk.

Phone: 07961 372 427 write to us at: Schoolhouse, Main Street, Lairg, IV27 4DD