

Your weekly news update Friday 31st January 2025

Hi All,

Here is the weekly news from the Ardentiny Community Council and the Village Hall.

Ardentiny Community Council News

Storm Eowyn

Well, that was a week we will want to forget. As I understand we are all reconnected to the mains electricity, the last of us 6 days after the storm hit. I would like to thank all the SSEN engineers (from as far away as Inverness!) and their contractors (Ross MacArthur and his team) and anyone else I don't know about who worked so hard to get the village back on the grid. The damage at the north and south ends of the village was horrendous, the sheer number of trees down on the power lines was immense. I was also surprised that the internet came back on considering the damage to the telephone lines.

Also, a big thanks to those of who checked in on folks in the village, and provided assistance to me, you know who you are.



The Community Council and the Emergency Team will now sit down and review what went well and what didn't, so that we can try to be better prepared as a village for the next weather event. Certainly, the communication between the office based SSEN staff and the onsite engineers can be improved. The consistently wrong updates for reconnection times on the SSEN PowerTrack App were a clear source of frustration to us all. SSEN have already been informed of that! Their special support service was good and daily phone calls were appreciated to check in on us. I recommend you sign up for it if you qualify.

Just so you know, Councillor Blair was extremely helpful in stirring up support, including getting support from Jenny Minto's staff (our MSP). This helped me get SSEN to deliver that very large generator to the Outdoor Centre, even though we did not use it, and a big thanks to Peter Wilson for the offer of using the Outdoor Centre. Also, those of us off grid the longest did get generators from SSEN for a day until we were reconnected to the grid. This support was appreciated.

We will get back to you with feedback from our meeting. Thanks to those of you who have already made constructive suggestions for the future, and once we share our findings, we will of course welcome further ideas for improvements.

Finally, we will be writing to Forestry and Land Scotland to get the remaining trees that could hit the power lines cut down. Add to that, there are many trees still capable of coming down on houses and other property in our gardens. I know that some of you have approached them in the past and been "fobbed off", but they need to be held accountable as they are the root cause of the problem. I certainly see scope to raise this at MSP and MP level. These trees should never have been planted so close to the power lines and houses in the first place.

If you have pictures of the damage from the storm that you think we can use please send them, also if you have documents that show your requests to Forestry and Land Scotland to remove trees (but nothing was done) please send us a copy at the Community Council email address,

ardentinycc@gmail.com or drop a copy in the letter box at the village hall.

**POLICE VISIT – Scam/Fraud Prevention Talk, Ardentiny Village Hall,
11am, Wednesday 12th February**

This is the rescheduled visit of PC Cunningham who will give a scam/fraud prevention talk, to help raise awareness and help people spot scams and stop them becoming victims.

Can you please email us at ardentinnycc@gmail.com if you plan to attend. Could be a very worthwhile opportunity to hear the advice.

Ardentinny Community Council Facebook page and Website

The Community Council website can be found here - www.ardentinnycc.co.uk

The Facebook page has been updated, search for **Ardentinny Community Council** and we have an Instagram site under the same name.

Regards
John

Ardentinny Village Hall Weekly News

STORM EOWYN

Fortunately, it looks like the village hall survived the storm with little or no damage. Everything appears to be reasonably intact, which considering its age and general condition is quite a remarkable achievement. The power is back on and the heating working so we are set all for the regular hall events and activities to commence again this week.

THE GREAT ARDENTINNY SCORE OFF @ THE VILLAGE HALL Saturday 22nd February @ 2pm **CANCELLED**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO JOIN THE HALL CLEANING ROTA TEAM

Unfortunately, a number of people have had to stand down from the Hall Cleaning Rota Team. If you are able to spare an hour say once a month to join the cleaning team, please let Elsbeth Brint know at ardentinnyvillagehall8@gmail.com

SOUNDBATH

A special thanks to Anne Wood for organising the Soundbath in the village hall, this was well attended and had great feedback from those who came – hopefully one to repeat again soon?

MUGS FOR SALE

We are selling mugs to help raise money for the village hall refurbishment. Mugs are for sale either individually or in whatever number you would like £5 each or £25 for 6 (any design).

Please contact Helen Rowthorn at ardentinnyvillagehall8@gmail.com if you are interested in any.

Top left to top right then bottom row we called them:

- Red boat (SOLD OUT)
- Summer view
- Swans in the bay
- Winter in Ardentinny
- Ferry cottage
- Loch long



Below is a list of the regular hall events with contact details. You can also find this on the Ardentenny Community Council web site.

That's all for now

Mark Rowthorn (Chairman), Brian Hillesdon (Secretary), Helen Rowthorn (Treasurer), and Elsbeth Brint (Trustee).

Weekly Groups	Ardentenny Village Hall	3rd Feb – 9th Feb 2025
Village hall membership information	Monday	Tuesday
<p>Membership £12 per year from 1st April each year Pay directly into the hall account with the details below. Please write the first line of your address as the reference and email your name and the name of anyone else you are paying for including the reference that this has been done to: ardentennyvillagehall8@gmail.com Ardentenny Hall Association A/c: 00123850 Sort: 80-13-46</p>	<p>Ukulele/Music group Please join us on from 17.30-19.30. Following our successful live debut at the bowling club, we are currently running a beginner session. All abilities welcome, spare instruments available. £3 per session, tea/coffee included. Email :- ardentenny.ukulele@gmail.com for further info.</p>	<p>Ladies Badminton 10.30 am – 12.30pm £3 per person. Contact for more info- Anne Wood 07894 274422</p>
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Hobbies 7pm – 9pm All welcome for a chat and a cuppa and friendly help with your knitting/ crochet/ quilting etc. Anyone who has a hobby or would just like to drop in and meet people, please call in. Contact Margo Hendry 01369 810262 £3 per person.</p>	<p>Carpet Bowls Blairmore and Ardentenny Carpet Bowling Club 2.30pm – 4.30pm Contact Gordon Smith on 01369 810218 for new enquiries.</p> <p>Tai-Chi Heavenly Mountain Gate Tai-Chi Chuan (Yang Tradition) 6.30pm – 7.30pm £5 per person Contact Bryan on 07813 374879 for new enquiries.</p>	
Saturday	Sunday	Private Hiring of the village hall
		<p>Contact for more information ardentennyvillagehall8@gmail.com £100 Per day £50 1/2 day</p>