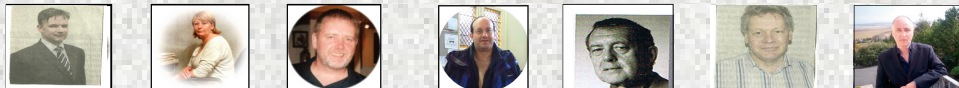




# MANOR & CASTLE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 161

JUNE 2017



## Manor & Castle Newsletter

### Special points of interest:

- Chairperson's Comments
- Councillor's Comment's
- Local information

### CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

#### IT HAS BEEN A YEAR OF CHANGES



Welcome to the June newsletter and the last one until September meeting.

It has been a year of political changes since last June. America and France have new Presidents and the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union commonly called BREXIT.

We have had our UK General Election with Prime Minister May still in that position since taking over from David Cameron last year.

Our local elections last month brought in new Councillors to the Comhairle with Roddie MacKay being elected as the new Leader and Norman MacDonald holding on to his position as Convener.

Now the excitement of the many elections and the EU referendum of last year have come and gone, hopefully over the next few years there will a bit of calm reflection and the decisions of the electorate are accepted and local and national governments get on with the tasks and challenges in hand such as education, health, the economy, welfare benefits, housing and a whole host of other important areas that affect all of us in one way or another.

Our country and our island need stability so fare ye well elections and referendums for a while and value what we have in our democratic nation. (PTO)

### Inside this issue:

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## MANCHESTER

We like to think we are secure on our island and far removed from terrorist attacks that happen on the mainland.

Sadly with the tragedy that has affected many of those in Barra, we are only too aware how close what happened in Manchester and elsewhere in the UK is coming closer. The evil scum of terrorists who inflict misery and terror are just wicked beyond belief. No matter how vigilant we all are, we have to be on our guard as much as possible.

## SUMMER

With this the last newsletter till September, I wish you all a restful and peaceful summer and hopefully you will all be refreshed by the time the next meeting comes around.

**“ For we’re no’ awa’ tae bide awa’, we’ll aye come back an’ see ye”**

Roddy Nicolson

## Councillors’ forum

The days are getting longer as we move towards the summer holidays. I believe that we should get a better summer than we have had in recent years, here’s hoping anyway!

Iain Mackenzie is still in Edinburgh receiving care in the hospital but I have messaged his son, Don, who has told me that they hope to have him transferred to Stornoway at the end of the month. Our prayers are with him and his family.

At Education committee last week, I was delighted to hear the Director of Education make a commitment to review the road safety around the Stornoway Primary including Perceval Road. I have had a number of representations on this issue which I have passed onto Mr Chisholm and I thank those who have continually raised these issues with me to ensure children’s safety coming and going from school.

Another issue was raised at Education committee and that was the subject of space at the Stornoway Primary. This has been raised a number of times at our own meetings and there has been numerous discussions about this at Stornoway Parent Council. I have raised this at committee quite a number of times and a report will be brought back to committee to discuss all these issues. I am optimistic that these will be addressed as it is an unsustainable situation especially as numbers increase.

The Technical Services department are still monitoring Assaye Place traffic and parking issues although they have pledged to fix the top part of the cul-de-sac road surface in the summer.

The Stornoway Parent Council are looking for parents to join the meetings and discuss issues related to the school. This is an excellent opportunity to get involved with school matters and I have attended these meetings which I can strongly recommend—always good to meet up with other parents and teachers.

The committees at council have been decided and I have been placed on the following committees:

Communities and Housing / Sustainable Development / Policy and Resources / Gaelic

I want to wish you a great summer in all that you do,

Best wishes,

Councillor Gordon Murray

### **Neil Macarthur, Portrona Drive**

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Neil (Neilly) Macarthur of Portrona Drive. Neil was a stalwart of the Manor and Castle Residents Association meetings, a regular attendee and one who got involve din all the events. He was always keen to help out and was a regular bagpacker who must have raised a considerable some of money over the years for the Association supporting the Senior citizens' Christmas dinner, Santa run and senior citizens' spring trip. He also was a regular on the trip and was a keen participant in all the excursions and events that made up the trip. It was always a pleasure to be in his company and he will be sorely missed.

#### Comhairle Committees and Chairs

Convenor : Norman A Macdonald (Uig and North Lochs)

Leader : Roddie Mackay (Stornoway North)

#### Policy and Resource Committee

Chair : Roddie Mackay (Stornoway North)

Vice-Chair : Alasdair Macleod (Point)

#### Audit and Scrutiny Committee

Chair: Angus Morrison (Uig and North Lochs)

Vice-Chair : Iain M Macaulay (Stornoway North)

#### Committees and Housing Committee

Chair: Kenny J Macleod (Ness and Westside)

Vice-Chair: Paul Steele (Barra, Vatersay, Eriskay and South Uist)

#### Education Committee

Chair: Angus McCormack (Stornoway South)

Vice-Chair: to be decided

#### Transportation:Committee

Chair : Uisdean Robertson (North Uist and Benbecula)

Vice-Chair: Kenny Macleod (Ness and Westside)

#### Sustainable Development Committee

Chair: Donald Crichton (Loch a' Tuath)

Vice-Chair: Norman Macdonald (Point)

# COOKS CORNER

## EUROPEAN DISH— BEEF GOULASH WITH PEPPERS

**Ingredients** Serves: 6

150g butter (olive oil is fine too) / 4 onions, finely sliced / 50g mild or sweet paprika / 1 splash vinegar, diluted with 60ml water / 1kg beef stewing steak

salt / 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped / 1 small teaspoon ground caraway / 1 small teaspoon marjoram / 1 table-spoon tomato puree / 1-2 red peppers, cut into thin strips / black pepper

### **Method**

Prep:15min > Cook:3hr > Ready in:3hr15min

Heat the lard in a large pan and brown the onions in it, stirring constantly.

Add the paprika, stir briefly and add the vinegar and water. Let simmer briefly and add the meat. Season with some salt and add garlic, caraway, marjoram and tomato puree.

Cook for 2-3 hours with the lid not fully covering the pan on low heat. Keep checking to see if there's enough liquid in the pan, adding a little water if necessary. The goulash should actually stew in its own juices. It shouldn't burn though, so add water if necessary.

When the beef is very tender, add as much water as is necessary to cover. The onions should be completely cooked and should have made the sauce thick.

Add the peppers and simmer for 10 minutes. Again, season with salt and pepper.



### **Dates for diary**

**29th June—Councillor  
Gordon Murray surgery  
at Grianan Centre 5:30-  
6:30pm**

**12th August—  
Community Skip—Bain  
Square  
10am –2pm**