



PETTINAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL AUTUMN 2024 NEWSLETTER

WELCOME TO YOUR AUTUMN NEWSLETTER: VILLAGE HALL FUTURE \\ 2025 BURNS SUPPER \\ NATURE ON YOUR DOORSTEP \\ GETTING TO KNOW PETTINAIN \\ COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATES

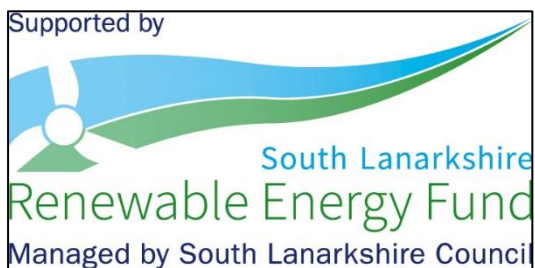
FIRST SOME SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS: Our microgrant funded wood-fired pizza ovens arrived in the village...and this is how we roll in Pettinain!

Mobile and very easy to use, they've already proved a hit with a well-attended pizza evening taking place outside the Village Hall on a balmy September Saturday evening. The pizza ovens are available to book (free of charge!) for your own events or social gathering. Contact Iain Reynolds.



Our nearest Agricultural Show, Carnwath, in July saw Pettinain local hedgerow flowers winning over the judges and a Grange Farm dairy cow awarded show Champion of Champions. Pettinain resident John Adamson, of Swaites Farm, is President of Carnwath Agricultural Society. Why not come to next year's show – July 26th, 2025 – and even enter one of the classes in the industrial section? Great fun for small and big kids. See <https://carnwathagriculturalsociety.com/>

VILLAGE HALL FUTURE: Please welcome the **SUSTAINABLE PETTINAIN SCIO!**



The hall will transfer to the community in early November (gulp!) supported by funding from the Renewable Energy Fund and managed by "Sustainable Pettinain", a newly formed Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). Our on-line but easy hall booking system will open soon.

The group is committed to retaining the hall but we considered there was more to be gained by support from a Pettinain-focussed Trust as there are community needs and opportunities wider than the hall (see for example the article on Discovering Pettinain). So "Sustainable Pettinain SCIO" (Scottish Charity register, SC053698) was created. This Pettinain-focused charity will benefit the community by:

- advancing community development and rural regeneration through the establishment and operation of schemes of a charitable nature

- providing facilities for recreation and other leisure time activity available to the public at large with a view to improving their conditions of life
- advancing environmental protection or improvement by promoting sustainability and biodiversity.

In early 2025, to help prioritise action, Sustainable Pettinain will ask what you would value.

All this happened quickly, so SPS Trustees are those who could respond swiftly and bring a talent to the table: alphabetically by first name - Anne Galloway, Ashleigh Dodds, Charles Alexander, Dan Jones, Daphne Alexander, Finlay Stuart (Secretary), Iain Reynolds, Ian Hope (Treasurer), Isla Hughes, Jane MacConnell, Kat Lawrie, Sharon Hope, Susan Waldron (Chair).

SPS are open and welcoming and keen all Pettinain interests will be represented. If being a trustee and shaping SCIO activity interests you, or have other questions, contact sustainpettinain@pm.me.

WHAT A NIGHT THAT WAS... A **HUGE** thank you to all of you who came and supported the 'Pop Up Comedy Club': great fun and laughter, raising over £2,400 to help hall retention and development (funds that can now be held by the Sustainable Pettinain SCIO).

Given the very positive feedback the Pop-Up comedians are booked for September 2025, and a special front row seat reserved for Frankie 😊



WHAT A NIGHT THAT WILL BE ...DIARY TIME

Please join us on Saturday 18th of January 2025 for a Burns Supper and Ceilidh in Pettinain Village Hall. We are lucky to have Finlay Hope's band secured again this year. There will be haggis, neeps and tatties (vegetarians catered for), soup and dessert. We will be providing alcohol, details to be confirmed. This will be another fundraiser, but more importantly a fine night out. The ticket price will be around £20 a head – really good value for a three-course meal, a ceilidh and some liquid refreshment.

Numbers are limited to 120 to allow room for tables and dancing, so please register interest to pettinainhall@pm.me to secure a space and receive further details.

We all need some January cheer, and this is just the thing!

NATURE ON OUR DOORSTEP *Thanks to Mary Gilbert for this article & the superb photos*

We are lucky to have so many birds on our doorstep. Garden birds are year-round residents, along with sparrow hawks, buzzards and now red kites high above. In summer we welcome swallows, house martins, sand martins and even ospreys. During winter, redpolls and long-tailed tits visit. I derive great pleasure from watching and photographing our feather friends.

There are two theories on feeding garden birds: 1. feed only in winter when there is less food, offering extra food to help them through the toughest part of the year; 2. feed all year, to provide resource for moulting, growing mating plumage, being in the best condition for breeding, and

to sustaining chicks and adults in the busy breeding period. With our, sometimes drab, Scottish weather, I ascribe to the second theory.



Top Left: Juvenile bluetit will grow bright blue head feathers; Top Right: Redwing enjoying the rowan berries; Right: Greater Spotted Woodpeckers - the juvenile will lose the red cap.

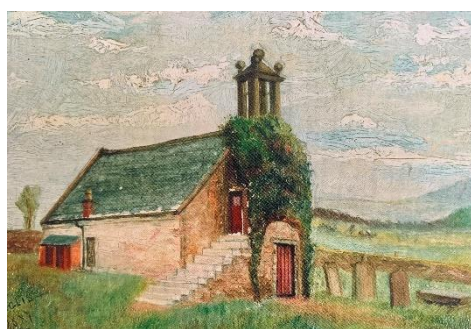
All birds need to bathe daily to keep their feathers clean and ready for flight. So please consider a water bath - a plant pot saucer/tray works perfectly. The water needs to be refilled or changed often and don't forget it will freeze in deepest darkest winter.



If you want to attract birds, most love peanuts, but please do NOT use net bags, as visitors can very easily get tangled. Mixed seeds, suet and mealworm will attract the various tits and finches, and ground feeders like blackbirds, thrushes and robins will clear up the dropped seeds. Niger seeds will attract siskins and redpolls in winter. They all love fat balls - especially the long-tailed tits in winter. With a little help, you can enjoy birdsong all year long!

DISCOVER PETTINAIN Thanks to Victoria Collison (HSC SC024407) for this article and the images

Pettinain Kirk, a distinctive landmark with elegant, stepped bellcote and walled graveyard, stands on the highest point of our hamlet with far-reaching views. The very old building dates from the late 1700s, though records stretch back to 1150 when King David I of Scotland granted a chapel at 'Pedyne' to Dryburgh Abbey. By 1588 the church had a thatched roof, earth floor, and two glass windows. By the 1600s the bell cast by renowned Edinburgh founder John Meikle, rang out.



Left: Pettinain Kirk today; middle: 1887 painting by G Inglis showing the old lean-to used to store fuel for the stove which heated the church (outline still visible today), right: inside the kirk

Until 1952 Pettinain had its own Church of Scotland minister, after which it was linked with Carmichael and then Covington and Thankerton from 1972. In 1995 a new, united parish of Cairngryffe was formed and Pettinain and Covington churches were to be sold. The inhabitants of

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Pettinain campaigned to save their church and in May 2000 successfully supported the transfer of ownership to the heritage conservation charity now called Historic Churches Scotland (HSC).

The Friends of Pettinain Kirk thereafter enabled weddings, funerals and visitors from around the world to explore their Pettinain roots and visit Commonwealth war graves. The church was used in the Taggart episode 'Island' (2008), and the graveyard as the resting place of his Aunt Hettie (1992).

The lack of water and toilet facilities makes regular church use difficult. The need to replace the outdated electrics and heating system has put access on hold. Historic Churches Scotland see the required upgrade as an opportunity to understand how the church might better serve the Pettinain community, and what the building might need to enable it. HSC would like to hear your thoughts, ideas and suggestions of what could work, to partner with the community to write a new chapter in Pettinain Kirk's centuries-old story.

With suggestions or offers to help please contact: victoria@historicchurches.scot 0778 068 2961

COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS: WHO WE ARE \\ AGM \\ PLANNING \\ MICROGRANTS

The Community Council (CC) is an organisation recognized by and supported by South Lanarkshire Council and other statutory bodies as a voice that can represent the Community. We receive funding from the council to distribute to the community and we try to maintain community spirit through newsletters like this or organised events. Chair: Fin Stuart \\ Treasurer: Susan Waldron \\ Secretary: Sharon Hope \\ Ordinary members: Iain Reynolds, Ashleigh Dodds, Ian McLeod.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Our AGM is on 21st November 7pm in Pettinain Hall. Please come along and support us; maybe consider taking on a role on the community council? We need fresh thinking and new members to ensure the CC can continue to support the community well. Without a CC and its statutory powers, a powerful community voice is lost, not reinstated easily.

PLANNING UPDATES To inform our response through many channels for feedback on the final Cloburn quarry extension planning submission. No messages of support were received and so "to represent the community voices we have heard" we objected to the proposals. SLC on-line planning portal hosts our response and other relevant documents – search on Cloburn Quarry. We noted in our objection that Cloburn Quarry has not realised the community liaison group it proposed. We have since been recontacted by the quarry to form this group.

FUNDING UPDATES:

FOR US!! The Eric Wright Group, who built the Clyde Bridge, visited the hall on 20th September and awarded the Community Council £2,000 towards the village hall. The Group has a **Social Value Strategy**, "Improving lives within the communities in which we live and work" and considering "It is a privilege to be part of the communities we work in". We love the bridge and the donation!

<https://www.ericwright.co.uk/about-us/social-value/>

FOR YOU: A reminder that we have £5,000 annually from the South Lanarkshire Renewable Energy Fund for microgrants of up to £500. These awards support local groups and individuals for community-focused or charitable activities which i) enhance quality of life for residents and ii) contribute to vibrant, healthy, successful and sustainable communities. The application process is very simple with a decision generally made quickly. Please email laighglengall@gmail.com for further information.

