



1949 - 2009

***Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary
Organisations (SLCVO)***

formerly

Skye Council of Social Service

1949 - 1960

1949 – Skye Council of Social Service formally constituted on April 23.

1950 – The first Skye Week organised by Skye Council of Social Service.

1952 – Skye Council of Social Service is given temporary office accommodation in a room at the MacLeod Hotel on Wentworth Street and then at the Drill Hall in Portree.

1952 – Skye Council of Social Service active with various committees, looking at issues of transport, crofting, tourism, health and care for the elderly.

1953 – District Council approach the Council of Social Service to form an Old Peoples Welfare Committee

1954 – Skye Old People's Welfare (SOPW) is formed and continues to be part of Skye & Lochalsh CVO.

1955 – Toravaig Eventide Home in Sleat opens 23 May 1955 with visits being made each Christmas with presents for the residents from SOPW.

1956 – Skye Old People's Welfare buy their first welfare van -used to take the elderly shopping, to hospital appointments and to make hospital and eventide home visits.

1958 –An approach is made to the Development Commissioners to enable the Council of Social Service to build their own office. A sketch plan is prepared and submitted to the Commissioners who are of the opinion that a more elaborate building should be the aim. The Department of Agriculture prepared plans for a concrete building but on digging the foundations it is found that it is unsuitable for this weight of building. As no other suitable site can be found it is decided to build a wooden building with cedar wood facings.

1960 – Skye Council of Social Service new building is completed; the building is greatly admired by visitors and locals alike! The office serves the dual purpose of office for the Skye Council of Social Service and Information Centre for the Skye Tourist Association.

1960 – Toravaig Eventide Home has its fourth annual review and this reveals that it is proving difficult and costly for relatives to visit as it is too far from the centre of the population. This is also making it difficult to get staff. It is agreed to look for premises in Portree.

1961 - 1970

1960-61 - Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service take up the campaign for cheap fares from Armadale to Mallaig on behalf of the people of Armadale after their application to Messrs MacBraynes is refused. Eventually Messrs MacBraynes agree to cheap fares two days a week enabling the Armadale residents to cross to Mallaig for their shopping.

1960-61 Captain JW MacLeod meets with Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service to outline his proposed scheme for an air service to Skye.

1961 – Skye Old People's Welfare purchase an Austin A40 for £402.15s

1962 – Gifts by Skye Old People's Welfare given to residents of Toravaig Eventide Home, Edinbane Hospital and Creggan House at Christmas.

1963 – Skye Council of Social Service invite Crofters Commission to give a talk on land improvement schemes in Lewis and Shetland. As a result several schemes of reseeded put into operation on Skye.

1964 – The Skye Old People's Welfare Car carries visitors to Toravaig Eventide Home and Gesto Hospital. Old people's gardens tidied up under the auspices of the Council.

1965 – Gifts taken to old folks home in Harlosh, Toravaig House and Gesto Hospital. Coal sent to residents whose names were provided by District Nurses.

1965 – Skye Council of Social Service is repository for WRI assemblies and parcels, for Village Council queries, for press information and for general knowledge for visitors who wish to come and live in Skye

1965 – Skye Council of Social Service office shared with Tourist Association who have as many as 40-50 queries each day.

1965 – Skye Old People's Welfare Committee deal with gardens of the elderly as and when they require help

1967 – SOPW replaces their Austin A40 with an Austin 1100.

1971 – 1980

1971 – Budmor Eventide Home opened in Portree. Toravaig Eventide Home closed

1976 – First minibus presented to Skye Old People's Welfare by the Isle of Skye Round Table.

1976 - Skye Council of Social Service becomes Skye & Lochalsh Council of Social Service and committee is streamlined.

1976 – 1977 activities of Skye Old People's Welfare increase to include use of the mini-bus on a monthly rota in many areas of Skye.

1977 - Skye & Lochalsh Council of Social Service raise funds to fit a Tail Lift to the mini-bus and for two wheelchairs to provide disabled access.

1977 - Skye & Lochalsh Council of Social Service support provision of an emergency winter ferry service at Kyclerhea; came into being later that year.

1977 - Skye & Lochalsh Council of Social Service petitions the District Council to remove abandoned vehicles; happens later that year.

1977 - Monday Club set up to provide a meeting place for members of Portree and district; sponsored by Skye & Lochalsh Council of Social Service

1977 – Skye & Lochalsh Council of Social Service commission a transport survey with a grant of £1000 from the HIDB, to assess the existing public transport facilities and to ascertain what improvements could be made in utilisation of existing facilities. Subject to results the District Council provide 25 bus shelters and extend post bus facility to Dunvegan area; Postal Board extend the Arnisdale/Inverinate route to Kyle.

1977 - Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service petition MP Russell Johnston to prevent the replacement of the Loch Arkaig with smaller vessel; agreed to increase the size of the boat already under construction, to carry 120 instead of 80 passengers and facilities to be improved to include catering.

1977 - Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service assist Scottish Consumer council and HIDB with a study into prices in rural areas.

1977 – The first of 20 Community Councils in the District established at Kilmuir, followed by 19 others.

1977 - Skye Council of Social Service organised a joint meeting of community councils. There was useful exchange of views and from this meeting a call for a Gaelic radio station was made and received wide press coverage. Joint meetings of Community Councils continued on an annual basis under auspices of Skye Council of Social Service.

1976 – 78 - Skye Council of Social Service raise problem of illegal trawling; Guidelines made available at the council's office to assist people to determine whether boats were illegally trawling and where to report the incident.

1977 – 78 Skye Council of Social Service works towards making Skye litter free; organises an annual schools' competition to make children aware of the litter problem and take an interest in their environment.

1977 – 78 Skye Council of Social Service raise concerns over rubbish dump in Portree; Forestry Commission provide and plant rhododendrons around dump to act as a screen.

1979 – Council of Social Service working for 13 years to establish a Citizens Advice Bureau in the area, to meet advice needs of rural areas; this year a Freephone telephone advice service is launched in the north-west Highlands, equipped to deal with a full range of enquiries including housing, consumer goods, personal and family problems, legal and money matters, employment, health, education etc.

1978-79 - Skye Council of Social Service approach bodies concerned in the development of the "Nodding Duck" system of deriving electrical energy from Wave Power to make use of the new 132 Kv line to Broadford to export electricity as well as import it and for installations to be situated off the coast of Skye; response shows Outer Hebrides better location for wave power but possible need for transmission of power across Skye, and power being brought to Skye by underwater cable across the Minch - potentially Skye could become a control centre.

1979 - Skye Council of Social Service concerned with unemployment in area; contacts district council to discover what projects are planned for the industrial site at Sluggans, Portree. Response outlines project developments as well as a site purchased by the HIDB where they hope to build an advanced workshop with a view to attracting a new manufacturing industry to the area.

1979 - Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service conduct a survey to determine public opinion on the controversial issue of whether the Swimming Pool should be opened on a Sunday or not. 507 replies against Sunday openings; 399 in favour. Responses passed to the District Council for deliberation.

1979 – At the annual meeting of community councils, held under the auspices of the Skye Council of Social Service a paper is presented on the reason why a bridge between Kyle and Kyleakin is necessary for Skye to continue as a community; it was decided to initially petition for a 24 hour free ferry service with a view to eventually pressing for a bridge.

1979 – Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service along with other local groups work together to raise money for Blue Peter's Cambodian Appeal. A three day Bring & Buy Sale is organised and £1143.37 raised.

1980 - Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service meet with over 20 voluntary organisations to agree a programme of fundraising events for an extension to Broadford Hospital.

1980 – Lochalsh and Loch Long Community Council ask Skye Council of Social Service for their help in trying to obtain the services of a visiting optician. The matter is pursued with Mr Gray, the local optician and Highland Health Board. Highland Health Board are unable to assist but Mr Gray arranges for an assistant to begin work in the practice.

1981 – 1990

1982 – Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service takes over the secretariat for the Crofters Union.

1982 - Skye and Lochalsh Association for Disability (SLAD) established as a sub-committee of Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service.

1983 – Austin Maestro purchased for Skye Old People's Welfare.

1983 – The Housing Association, set up by the Housing Corporation with the assistance of Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service addresses the problems of the elderly and infirm by providing housing in areas of need.

1983 – Skye and Lochalsh Council on Alcohol committee set up as sub-committee of Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service.

1984 - Community Information Service (became Community Advice Service then CAB) project started by Social Work, Community Education and Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service, with a community Information bus visiting several outlying districts.

1985 – Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service finalise the setting up of a Crossroads scheme in the area with grants received from Highland Health Board and Highland Regional Council's Social Work Department. Scheme to be run on the same principle as the home help service.

1986 – Crossroads Care is established – Marion MacLeod appointed

1986 – Round Table present minibus number two, to Skye Old Peoples Welfare

1987 – Steering Committee elected for Skye and Lochalsh Arts Council serviced by Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service.

1988 – Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service reach agreement with the District Council for the lease of the old Fever Hospital on Struan Road, Portree to be turned into a new arts centre, named An Tuireann (the spark from the anvil).

1988-89 - The First house building scheme, in Glendale, was greeted with enthusiasm by both the tenants and local residents. Building continues in many areas of Skye.

1989 – Skye and Lochalsh Arts Council become independent of the Skye and Lochalsh Council of Social Service.

1991 – 2000

1991 – Skye & Lochalsh Council of Social Service changes its name to Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations

1991 – An Tuireann opens

1991 – Skye Old People's Welfare gets minibus number three from the Round Table.

1992 – Co-ordinator, Evelyn Hunter, appointed to Alzheimer's; working from home.

1993 – The Cabin (Mental Health Association) set up by Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations as a drop-in centre appoints Pat Gordon as Manager.

1993 – Chrisanne MacDonald starts as Organising Secretary of Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations in August.

1993 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations approached by Arthritis Care with a view to setting up a group in the area. Inaugural meeting held in March 1994 with secretariat being operated from Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations office.

1993 – An Tuireann becomes independent from Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations.

1993 – Community Advice become independent from Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations.

1993 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations organise first public meeting on establishing a local community radio station.

1994 – The Cabin is officially opened; Evelyn Glennie performs opening ceremony.

1994 – Victim Support Scheme launched through Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations

1994 – Skye Old People's Welfare celebrates their 40th anniversary.

1995 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations moved to the former Social Work office at The Green, with the hut being taken over by Crossroads Care as a store for goods for the Crossroads shop

1995 – Cuillin FM's first live trial broadcast (RSL) from a room in Portree Hospital

1995 – Chrisanne steps down as Secretary to Arthritis Care

1995 – Volunteer Link project starts managed by Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations. Annie MacHattie employed to work part time.

1995 - Community Transport study carried out for Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations by Annie MacHattie

1996 – Chrisanne stands down as Co-ordinator / Secretary of Victim Support as the Scheme is amalgamated with Ross and Cromarty.

1996 - Pam Noble takes over Volunteer Link project from Annie MacHattie.

1996 - Skye Old Peoples Welfare gets minibus no 4 from The Round Table

1996 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations manage Environmental Community Chests project developed by Scottish Natural Heritage. The chests are green boxes filled with books, videos, tapes, leaflets, etc all with environmental themes.

1996 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations look for funding to replace the old hut to provide a meeting/training facility for Voluntary groups, and office space to hire out. It will be fully accessible for the disabled.

1996 – Chrisanne takes over as Assessor for the Princes Trust for the Skye and Lochalsh area.

1997 – Rita Taylor retires after 28 years service.

1997 – Application made to the Lottery for funding for a new building and full time Centre Manager.

1997 – Six month Community Transport pilot project introduced MIDAS training to our volunteer drivers.

1997 – BBC Children in Need come to Skye (Nov).

1998 – Maxine Masson employed as Centre Manager – 3 year post

1998 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations moves into new Voluntary Resource Centre at Tigh Lisigarry in Autumn 1998. The name 'Tigh Lisigarry' was chosen by Mrs C Morrison from Uig and the building was designed by Mike Dinnes. The office is shared by Crossroads Care.

1998 – Cuillin FM goes live on air for a second time to coincide with the Royal National Mod coming to Skye.

1999 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations celebrates its 50th Anniversary and Tigh Lisigarry is formally opened by founding member and Patron Mrs M H MacPherson. Also present were Glenelg Primary School, who won the School project competition.

1999 – In May it was agreed to go ahead with the idea of forming a Federation for all the village halls in Skye and Lochalsh

1999 – Cuillin FM begins the process towards a full time broadcasting licence.

1999- Initial Video conferencing training for Skye & Lochalsh CVO members and staff

2000 – The Volunteer Link Project came to an end this year.

2000 - Funding awarded for part time Community Transport worker – MIDAS training continued.

2000 – Maxine leaves post after 3 years.

2001 - 2009

2001 – Margaret H MacPherson, founding member and patron dies (1918 – 2001)

2001 - Michelle Seviour employed as Centre Manager and extended role of Outreach Worker. Admin post reinstated with Maureen MacDonald employed part time

2001 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations website www.slcvo.org.uk goes live

2002 – Royal Visit with range of voluntary organisations as part of Golden Jubilee Tour.

2002 – Emergency Information Scheme “Message in a Bottle” managed by SLCVO in partnership with other agencies. Launched by Prince Charles.

2002 – Volunteer’s Week celebrated in June at Portree Community Centre.

2003 – 3 year funding secured to develop online resource for community groups (Community Toolkit). Kate Nellist appointed.

2003 – Grant awarded for Highlands and Islands Community Broadcasting Federation to develop training programme for community radio volunteers. Chrisanne was Chair for four years.

2003 – Cuillin FM awarded Lottery funding to build & equip a new studio. Ofcom grant an 8 year licence to broadcast on 106.2 MHz.

2003 – First Funding Fayre organised by SLCVO held in Kyleakin hall – 32 people attended.

2004 – Cuillin FM begins broadcasting from portacabin in July 2004. Move into new studio in November 2004. Chrisanne steps down as Chair in December.

2004 – Skye Old Peoples Welfare celebrate their 50th anniversary, are awarded the Queens Jubilee Award and Age Concern Group of the Year. New minibus (number 5) purchased.

2004 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations become Trusted Partner for the Central Registered Body in Scotland (CRBS) enabling us to carry out visual ID for groups registering for Disclosures.

2005 – Sad passing of Pat Gordon, Secretary of Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations 1983-93

2005 – Donegal Exchange visit Feb 05. Return trip to Donegal October 05.

2006 – Second Funding Fayre held by Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations in Kyleakin Hall – 70 people attend.

2006 – Shetland CVS become first CVS to take Community Toolkit feed.

2006 – Rural Services Priority Area Funding received for NW Skye for 1 year

2007 – Crossroads celebrate their 21st anniversary with a Royal Visit

2007 – Health & Social Care Forum set up as sub-group of Community Planning.

2007 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations Community Toolkit wins COSLA Excellence award (short-listed from over 160 Scotland wide)

2007-08 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations and HIE embark on a partnership pilot project during Autumn 2007 to look at the ways in which local communities use ICT. Concludes in E-day event held at Sabhal Mor Ostaig, attended by 70 people over 2 days.

2007 – An Tuireann goes into administration.

2007 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations attend Balmacara Country Day

2008 – Lloyds TSB & Highland Council funding enables Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations to create Community Development Worker post.

2008 – Voluntary Action Scotland is established as the National body for Council's for Voluntary Service.

2008 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations work with Highland Council to produce e-training for Community Councils and to increase attendance at Ward Forums

2009 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations achieve Quality Standard PQASSO Level 1

2009 – Third Funding Fayre held in Kyleakin Hall April 09 – 112 people attended

2009 – Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations launches local community E-bulletin, News, Events and Training and Resources sections on Website.

2009 – Lottery funded partnership project with Glasgow CVS and Voluntary Action Orkney to add Human Resources documents to the Toolkit www.slcvo.org.uk/toolkit

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