

# Newtonmore Camanachd Club

Newsletter

October 2018

**1] Marine Harvest Awards** Most of you will know by now that Newtonmore rightly dominated the awards which were held at the Drumossie Hotel the evening before the international. A new feature this year was that the International squad were presented with their strips as part of the event.

<i>Club of the Year</i>	Newtonmore
<i>National Player of the Year</i>	Rory Kennedy
<i>National Coach of the Year</i>	PJ Mackintosh
<i>Premier Coach of the Year</i>	PJ Mackintosh
<i>North Division 1 Coach of the Year</i>	Orsten Gardner

The clubs record in these award in the last few years has been impressive.

Rory won the under 21 award in 2011; we were previously club of the year in 2013 and 2016; PJ was National Coach of the Year in 2013 and Premiership Coach in 2013, 2014 & 2015; Norman Macarthur won that award in 2011.

Norman Campbell was Player of the Year from 2011-2013 and Steven Macdonald won that in 2014. Steven was also Premiership Player in 2016 following Glen Mackintosh's success in 2015. We have also had the North Division Player of the Year with Evan Menzies in 2011, Callum Stewart in 2013 as well as 2015 and Iain Robinson in 2016.

Coach of the Year awards in the North Division have also been won by Cammy Macdonald in 2011 [with Glen Tonkin] and in 2015 & 2016. Michael Ritchie was Youth Coach of the Year in 2013.

**2] International honours** Newtonmore had possibly our largest ever number of players involved in what turned out to be an exciting match of two halves against the Irish. Congratulations to Rory Kennedy, Steven Macdonald, Andy Mackintosh, Mike Russell, Glen Mackintosh and Evan Menzies who all played a great part in the win.

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November sees the under 21 squad play across in Ireland and congratulations to Craig Ritchie, Iain Robinson and Ian Richardson on being selected.

**3] Dinner dance** This will take place on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November** at the Balavil Hotel. The cost this year is £25 and tickets are available from the Post Office and the Balavil Hotel.

**4] Annual Shinty sale** Its been going since 1923! This year it is on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December** with the start time still to be decided. This is our single biggest annual fundraiser so I hope you will support it again.

**5] Shinty Heroes** There are still a few tickets left to the final performance of

*Shinty Heroes* in the village hall on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November bookable through Eventbrite. The story will focus on Badenoch players who sacrificed their lives in the Great War, including of course Dr Johnnie Cattanach.

**6] Annual General Meeting** This will be held on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December** at 1900 in the Balavil Hotel. [The Association's AGM is on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November.]

**7] 1<sup>st</sup> team sponsorship** I am pleased to report that the committee has accepted the offer from the Balavil Hotel to be the 1<sup>st</sup> team sponsor for the next three years. It is great to have a local business supporting us in this way. The Balavil Hotel has provided long term support to the club not least in the provision of meals to visiting teams.

**8] Player and match ball sponsorship 2019** Player sponsorship will be **£30** for next season with match ball sponsorship remaining at **£20**. Let me know if you would like to be a sponsor and any match or player preference. You will need to be particularly quick to secure a 1<sup>st</sup> team match ball sponsorship as these are going fast!

**9] Road safety measures at the Eilan entrance** Still no progress with the work the Council is supposed to be doing. Patience is wearing thin!

**10] Highland Folk Museum Seminar** The Folk Museum is hosting a seminar to help celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Camanachd Association from 0930 – 1630. The cost is £30 and £25.50 for students. This was originally scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> October but has been put back till **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November** and will last from 0930 to 1630.

**11] Dalwhinnie Distillery** is one our longest standing supporters and was the winner of the 2017 Drinks International Best Distillery Tour in the World. Last year some of you, or your guests, may have taken advantage of their free Distillery Tours over the winter. Well you can do so again. In addition to saving £12 on the guided tour you will get 2 tastes of Dalwhinnie, a chocolate from the Highland Chocolatier and the glass to take away.

The offer lasts Nov to March and there are other offers available including a 15% discount on most bottles of whisky over the period. Opening hours are 0930 to 1700 and bookings can be made on 01540 672219.

**12] Help with Dr Johnnie Cattanach Field** There are the occasional drifts of surface stones on the new pitch. Some of us have already done the odd stint removing these clusters to the edge of the field. It would be really great if a few more people could come down for say an hour. All you need is a small trowel and a pail to put the stones in. Garden canes mark the worst spots.

The new grass is growing well and the contractor will do some cross seeding in the spring. Removing as many surface stones as possible will allow us to bring the field into operation as early as possible.