

Goireasan Services

Tiree has been decades behind the mainland in getting services

Water *Uisge*

1859 Dam built on Loch Katrine to give Glasgow, 30 miles away, a mains water supply.

1936 New Cornaig School installs windmill at Loch Bhasapol which filled a tank in the school.

The new sanitary offices for the pupils were brought into use yesterday, thus providing them with water-borne sanitation for the first time in the school history of Tiree. CORNAIGMORE SCHOOL LOG, JUNE 2ND 1936

1943 Mains water led from Loch a' Phuill to the RAF camp in Crossapol. *When the prisoners of war came in here, they were staying down at Scarinish. The first job they gave them - they built this pump house on the other side of the loch [Loch a' Phuill] there. And it was an eight inch pipe of cast iron. And they started digging there. And you couldn't see right along the place, they were so near each other, I would say two feet apart. I would say about four or five hundred [of them].* DAVID MCCLOUNNAN, BALEPHUILL

1963 Water tank built on Ben Hynish for mains water supply to the west end of the island.

1967 *New flush toilets...the mains water led into the [school] house.* SCARINISH SCHOOL LOG, FEBRUARY 1st 1967



Bothers Iain (Iain Chaluim) and Hector (Eochair Chaluim) MacKinnon at Iain's well in Kilmoluaig, photographed by the Glasgow Herald



New Cornaigmore School opened in 1936



Iain MacKinnon (Iain Chaluim) drawing water from the well at his Kilmoluaig well



Glengorm transmitter on the hill of Mull

Electricity *Dealan*

1879 Electric light lit for the first time in St. Enoch's station, Glasgow. By 1901 there were 3,000 consumers in the city.

1936 New Cornaig School built with a 10 horsepower diesel generator which charged up a bank of 50 batteries. These lit the buildings and powered a small vacuum cleaner in the headmaster's house.

1941 RAF builds own electricity generation in Crossapol and Hough.

1956 *Today is a special day in Tiree's history. At 3pm Mrs Hunter, wife of the local doctor, is to turn on the current to light up the east end of the island under the Hydro-electric scheme. We hope we will be in the same position before next winter.* HEYLIPOL SCHOOL LOG, MARCH 16th 1956

2007 Iain MacKinnon, Iain Chaluim, Kilmoluaig, died. Mains electricity came to his door but he chose not to bring it inside his house.

Television *Am Bocs*

Some of the characters that were around when I came to Tiree, you can't replace them. They made life interesting for people without turning on a radio or a television set, they could entertain you just as you talked to them without any particular effort. They could make you laugh, they could make you listen. Sometimes they could make you cry. They held your attention! GORDON CONNELL, RETIRED TEACHER

1952 First television broadcast in Scotland – the funeral of King George VI.

1952 Bert Addis, who worked in the RAF power station, rigged up a television set and aerial in Upper Square, Hynish.

1956 Douglas Rundell, the RAF station engineer, buys the first TV licence on Tiree at Cornaigmore Post Office, getting quite good reception [on the station HQ] through a gap in the hills to Glasgow.

We didn't get much of a [TV] picture in the 1970s in most parts of the island. A fair number had [a set] but they didn't watch it that often because it was pretty snowy. Some parts of the island you could get a good reception from Northern Ireland at times. It wasn't all that great. People tended to go and ceilidh with other people and do the old fashioned things and sing songs and play games, before telly came along and spoiled it... It's a different way of life [now]. GORDON CONNELL

1979 Glengorm transmitter built on Mull, giving Tiree reliable reception for the first time.

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