

Kirk Michael Trust

Community newsletter February 2016

It's 2016 – the year of Kirk Michael! – and the end of a 15 year fundraising and awareness-building journey for the Kirk Michael Trust. **Architect Chris Bowes** has now placed our all-important contractor brief on the nationwide Public Contracts Scotland website. If you're interested, take a look at www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk - the contract code is JAN232549. Please **let any conservation-minded builders know** that tenders need to be submitted before 19th February (there is an open day on 11th February for interested contractors who book).

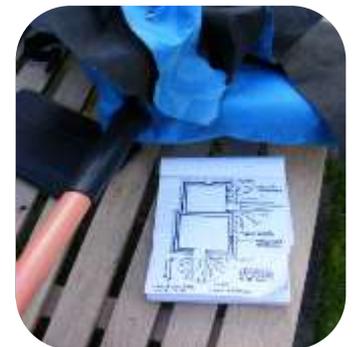


From left to right: George Mackay, Helma Reynolds, Chris Bowes, Jim Mackay, Verity Walker (in doorway), Lilah Dowsett.
Photograph by Andrew Dowsett.

We would encourage all local people interested in our project to **go down and look at Kirk Michael** as it is now. This time next year the building will look very different, with a new roof and internal **displays of some of the most fragile mediaeval carved tombstones from Cullicudden and Kirk Michael** itself. This

unique re-use of old kirk/mausolea buildings will attract visitors to the Black Isle from all over the Highlands - and possibly the world.

The project also offers **opportunities for involvement to the public and local schools**. Tore Primary School has got in first, with an architecture-based visit already planned for March, but we are hoping **all local schools** will take part. There will also be **practical craft workshops** available covering some of the stoneworking (including using quicklime) and other craft skills which will be part of this exciting project. Anyone who would like to find out more is invited to **get in touch** with Project Development Manager **Verity Walker** on **077789 22407**, verity@interpretaction.com (heading your email 'Kirk Michael activities') or via the project's fascinating Facebook page on www.facebook.com/KirkMichaelTrust. We look forward to hearing from you!



Major partners include the **Heritage Lottery Fund**, **Historic Environment Scotland** and the **Highland Council**, but the project could not have succeeded without contributions from many other local and world-wide benefactors. Work is due to start in the spring.

