

# 'ROCK PAPER CHISELS' GUIDED VISIT AND WALKS

The visit and circular walks, which are for adults and children, will be guided by island historian and volunteer Mary Braithwaite. They are free, but donations will be greatly appreciated to help support Luing's heritage. No advance booking is needed, but arrive in good time as the walks start promptly.

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 12.30-2.00pm and Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1.00-2.00pm**

## **CARVINGS ON STONE: Kilchattan church and Medieval boat graffiti**

Luing's historic church and graveyard, and its unique Medieval boat graffiti, will be shown to you. A recent survey has revealed fascinating details about the graffiti, carved at a time when longboats sailed between Ireland and Norway and the Hebridean sea-routes were used by merchants, pilgrims and warriors. The gravestones are also a story of Luing's history and community from the 17<sup>th</sup> century to the present day.

Distance: Church is c.60 metres from parking

Meeting and end point: Gate to Kilchattan old graveyard. Location: *clubbing.trend.printouts* / NM744091

Parking: Hard standing opposite the graveyard.

Advice: The graveyard is grass with no paths, and is accessible to people on foot but unfortunately not in a wheelchair. Dress warmly as the site can be windy. Waterproof clothing or umbrella needed if rainy. No dogs. Please avoid walking or standing on the flat grave-slabs in the old graveyard.

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2.30-4.30pm**

## **ISLAND INDUSTRY: Ballachuan and Port Mary**

We're taking a circular walk from the old slate quarrying village of Cullipool up to the even older deserted farmstead of Ballachuan with its corn drying kiln, and over to Port Mary, where more slate quarrying took place. On the way back we'll have a fine sea view taking in an early Christian holy isle, a Medieval island fortress and the slate island of Belnahua.

Distance: 1.7 miles/2.7 km max.

Meeting and end point: Outside Cullipool Village Hall. Location: *croaking.fruit.belonging* / NM739130

Parking: Atlantic Islands Centre car park or hard standing around the Hall

Advice: The route starts with a short steepish section but is mainly undulating path or track with a section over grazed pasture. It can be a bit rough and wet in places, so care is needed and walking shoes and sticks are recommended. Dress warmly. Waterproof clothing needed if rainy. Dogs are welcome but must be on a lead.

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2.00-5.00pm**

## **BUILDING IN STONE: Ballycastle and Leccamore forts**

Our walk takes in Luing's two fine hill forts, built at the north and south ends of a metabasite ridge with great views. Our prehistoric ancestors had a good understanding of the rock's qualities, using it to build high protective walls and a cairn in the bay below. On route we'll see several hut circles and a holy well, and get a sense of how the land was used by island communities in the past.

Distance: 2.2 miles/3.5 km max.

Meeting and end point: Junction of Ardinamar road (W of cattle grid) and track going south to Leccamore.

Location of meeting point: *darker.conductor.booth* / NM753119

Parking: Hard standing beside road and track.

Advice: The route is mainly undulating and a mixture of track and grazed pasture, with two steeper sections to reach the top of the ridge. It can be a bit rough, so care is needed and walking shoes and sticks are recommended. Dress warmly. Waterproof clothing needed if rainy. Dogs are welcome but must be on a lead.

Each walk is ideally limited to a dozen people. If more, it may be difficult for everyone to hear the guide's explanations, so please bear this in mind when joining the walk.