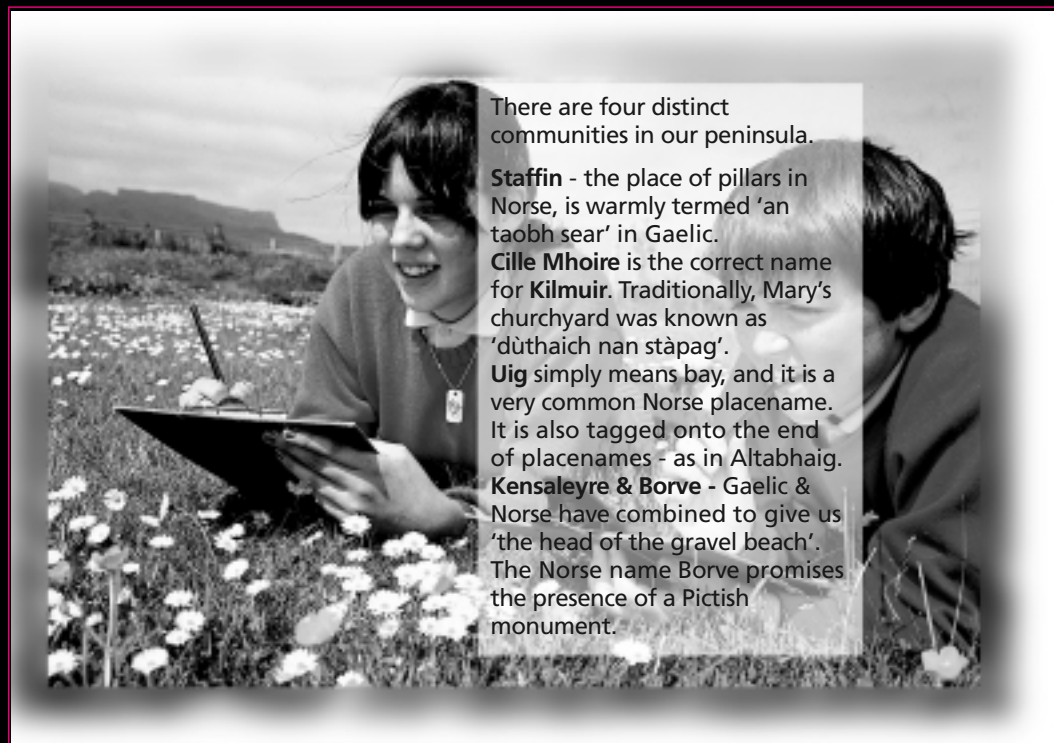


'Dè th'ann an dàn
ach grèim an tiotan tìm
no an obair-ghrèis do là?'

What else is poetry but
frozen moments from
our lives,
or the tapestry of
our time here?

as An Nathair Aigh le
Maoilios M Caimbeul
a Flòdaigearaidh



There are four distinct
communities in our peninsula.

Staffin - the place of pillars in
Norse, is warmly termed 'an
taobh sear' in Gaelic.

Cille Mhoire is the correct name
for Kilmuir. Traditionally, Mary's
churchyard was known as
'dùthaich nan stàpag'.

Uig simply means bay, and it is a
very common Norse placename.
It is also tagged onto the end
of placenames - as in Altabhaig.
Kensaleyre & Borve - Gaelic &
Norse have combined to give us
'the head of the gravel beach'.
The Norse name Borve promises
the presence of a Pictish
monument.

Aig
mur
is
tir

"I appreciate being able to carry on working
my croft because it was handed down from
my father and that means something to me.

We plan as a Trust to move towards
low input crofting, by aiming for niche
markets with a local label for
added value meat and vegetables."

(John Angus Mackenzie of the Borve and
Anishader Township Trust)

"My brother and I started off young at the
creel fishing. You can make a living if you
work hard, but you've got to be cut out
for the lifestyle. Recently, my own young lad
joined me on the boat. Prawns are our main
catch today. And the prime objective of local
fishermen here is to upgrade the pier at Uig."

(Donald Angus Campbell of Uig)

"I became interested in the history around
me when I was a teenager with time on my
hands. In the closing years of this millennium,
the Staffin Jurassic beds have yielded dinosaur
fossils of international importance. There is
no doubt that Staffin is now recognised
as the dinosaur centre of the UK."

(Dougie Ross of Staffin Museum)



Théid
dùthchas an
aghaidh
nan creag

The Dùthchas Project is promoting
sustainability in remote rural areas.
If you would like to hear more
about Dùthchas or have ideas for
the future wellbeing of Trotternish,
please contact us:

Iain Macdonald and Sine Gillespie
Kilmuir Village Hall
Borgh na Sgiotaig, by Portree
Isle of Skye IV51 9YS
Tel/Fax: 01470 552201
e-mail: trotternish@duthchas.org.uk
Website: www.duthchas.org.uk

The photographers were:
Cailean Maclean, Mike Williams,
Willie Urquhart & Fiona MacDonald

Dùthchas is working in three areas of
Scotland: North Sutherland, North Uist
and Trotternish (in Skye). For further
information telephone 01463 244202.

Pelican Design Consultants 01478 612558



where the
landscape is
reflected in
the people



Troternish
our place in the future



"I really appreciate the
distance from the
extremes of consumerism"

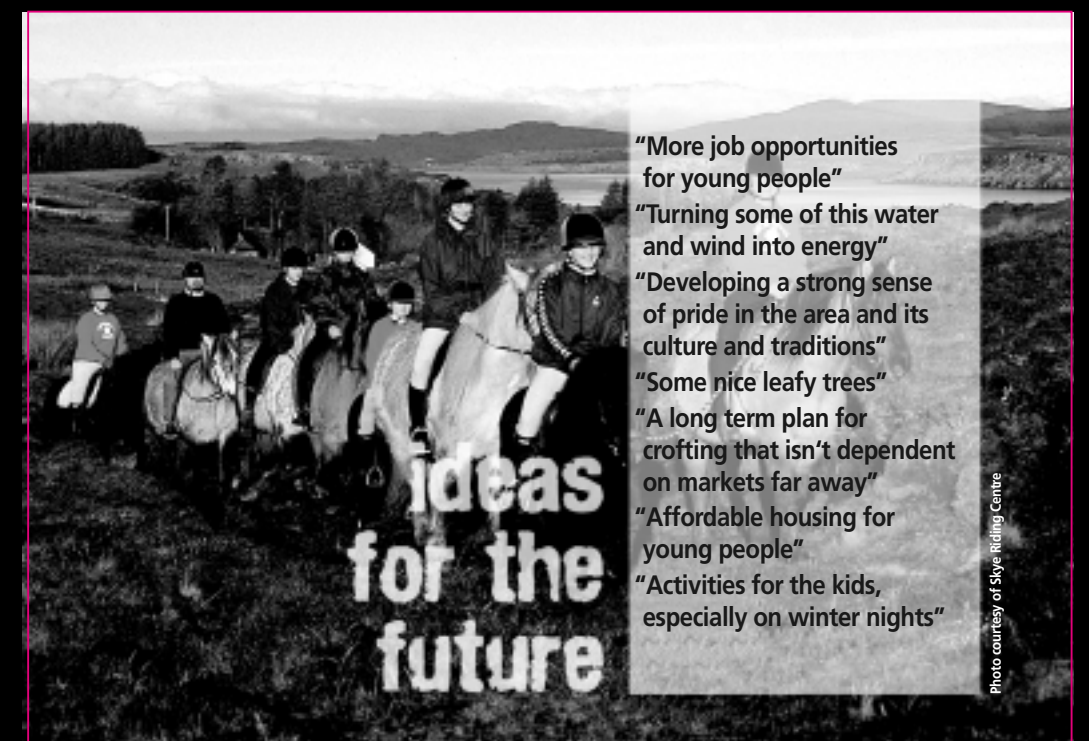
"I like our church life
and the uplift it gives
to daily life"



“S e na daoine a tha deanamh an duthaich anns a’ chiad aite.”

Dùthchas spoke to 320 men, women and children in the Trotternish peninsula. You identified the things that are special about the place, and what you would like to see for the future here.

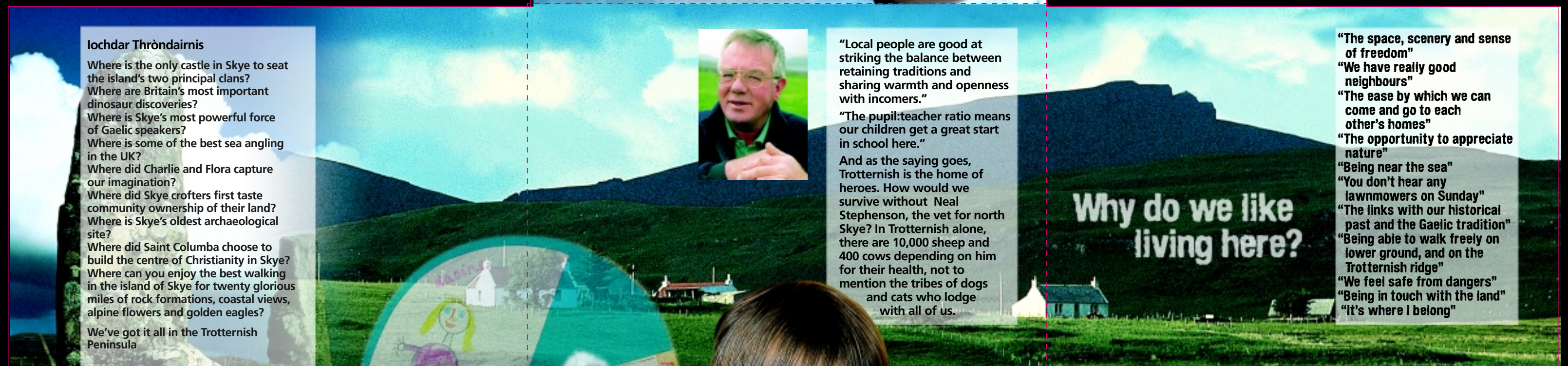
“The thing that means the most to me here is the beauty of the people - not their physical beauty though that is there too, but their warmth. And with the blood ties and the historical links, the landscape is very much reflected in the character of the people.”
(Hector Mackenzie of Hungladair)



ideas for the future

“More job opportunities for young people”
“Turning some of this water and wind into energy”
“Developing a strong sense of pride in the area and its culture and traditions”
“Some nice leafy trees”
“A long term plan for crofting that isn’t dependent on markets far away”
“Affordable housing for young people”
“Activities for the kids, especially on winter nights”

Photo courtesy of Skye Riding Centre



lochdar Thròndairnis

Where is the only castle in Skye to seat the island’s two principal clans?
Where are Britain’s most important dinosaur discoveries?
Where is Skye’s most powerful force of Gaelic speakers?
Where is some of the best sea angling in the UK?
Where did Charlie and Flora capture our imagination?
Where did Skye crofters first taste community ownership of their land?
Where is Skye’s oldest archaeological site?
Where did Saint Columba choose to build the centre of Christianity in Skye?
Where can you enjoy the best walking in the island of Skye for twenty glorious miles of rock formations, coastal views, alpine flowers and golden eagles?

We’ve got it all in the Trotternish Peninsula



“Local people are good at striking the balance between retaining traditions and sharing warmth and openness with incomers.”

“The pupil:teacher ratio means our children get a great start in school here.”

And as the saying goes, Trotternish is the home of heroes. How would we survive without Neal Stephenson, the vet for north Skye? In Trotternish alone, there are 10,000 sheep and 400 cows depending on him for their health, not to mention the tribes of dogs and cats who lodge with all of us.

Why do we like living here?

“The space, scenery and sense of freedom”
“We have really good neighbours”
“The ease by which we can come and go to each other’s homes”
“The opportunity to appreciate nature”
“Being near the sea”
“You don’t hear any lawnmowers on Sunday”
“The links with our historical past and the Gaelic tradition”
“Being able to walk freely on lower ground, and on the Trotternish ridge”
“We feel safe from dangers”
“Being in touch with the land”
“It’s where I belong”



Trotternish is a great place to bring up children

“We’ve got clean fresh air here, and there are no factories”

“We’re all good friends, and we get on with each other”

“I like the beach for playing in the summer”

“There aren’t many burglaries”

“It’s easy to get to sleep here”

An dealbh le Ciorstaidh Pheutan