

Europe Direct Information Centre Outer Hebrides

June 2014
Issue 10



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The Eurozone

€1=£0.81

€1=\$1.36

Source:

European
Central
Bank

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EDIC opening hours are from
9.00am to 1.00pm Monday to
Friday

Europe Day celebration with Stornoway Library

We marked Europe Day on the 9th of May with Western Isles Libraries, in Stornoway. An information stand was manned by Linda Cunningham, (EDIC Manager) who was assisted by Alice MacDonald (Modern Apprentice). Resources and information were made available regarding the European Union, Europe Day, the European Year of Citizens, and the upcoming European Parliament Election which was heavily promoted and voting encouraged.

As part of the celebrations and the shared date between Europe Day and the awarding of PGI status for Stornoway Black Pudding by the EU, we held a competition with the question being: 'Which local food was granted protected geographical indication (PGI) status last May, by the European Commission?'

We were kept very busy answering questions on what Europe Day meant and with entries to our competition – we told participants that the prize included a gift of local significance!

The prize bag also included EU information resources relating to Europe Day, EU citizens rights, children's resources, European Parliament election leaflets/resources, EU freebies, and last but not least a Stornoway black pudding (showing the EC official number on the skin), which was kindly donated to the EDIC by W.J. Macdonald's butchers in Stornoway; the top picture shows the pudding, framed PGI rosette, Linda, and butcher Derick Smith!

The 'Schuman Declaration' of 9 May 1950 was a governmental proposal by Robert Schuman to create a new form of organisation in Europe called a supranational community. Following the experiences of two world wars, France concluded that certain values such as justice could not be defined by the State apparatus alone. It led to the re-organization of post- World War Western Europe by Treaty. The proposal led first to the creation of the European Coal and Steel Community. It was also the forerunner of several other European Communities and also what is now the European Union. The event is celebrated annually as Europe Day, and Schuman is considered one of the Founding fathers of the European Union.

[WJ MacDonald butcher](#)

[Geographical indication in the European Union](#)

[Schuman Declaration](#)

[European Parliamentary Election](#)



Event Photos include the Europe Day window display in the Stornoway Library for a week including Europe Day

Co-funded by
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2014 European Parliamentary Election - Local Voter Turnout Increases

A big well done to all the voters in the Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Counting Area for making the effort to vote at the European Parliamentary election on the 22 May 2014, and raising the turnout rate by 7.56%!

The local turnout rate was (34.96%), versus a local turnout of (27.4%) at the last European Parliamentary election in 2009, and the local turnout also exceeded the Scottish average turnout at 33.5%!

The Scottish average turnout also increased by 4.9% from (28.63%) in 2009, to 33.5% in 2014.

More information on the European Parliament election can be found on the [Comhairle website](#).

Party	Number of Votes
Britain First	88
British National Party	66
Conservative Party	761
Labour Party	1842
Liberal Democrats	243
NO2EU	30
Scottish Green Party	500
Scottish National Party (SNP)	3310
UK Independence Party (UKIP)	847

Rejected ballot papers	Rejected votes
(1) want of an official mark	1
(2) voting for more than one registered party	10
(3) writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
(4) unmarked or void for uncertainty	7
The total number of rejected ballot papers	18

To see the total results for the UK please see the link [here](#).

To see the total results in all of the EU please see the link:

[Results of the European Election 2014](#)

The following six candidates have been duly elected to serve in the European Parliament as members for the Scottish region:

- 1 IAN HUDGHTON, SCOTTISH NATIONAL PARTY (SNP)
- 2 DAVID MARTIN, LABOUR PARTY
- 3 IAN DUNCAN, CONSERVATIVE PARTY
- 4 ALYN SMITH, SCOTTISH NATIONAL PARTY (SNP)
- 5 CATHERINE STIHLER, LABOUR PARTY
- 6 DAVID COBURN, UK INDEPENDENCE PARTY (UKIP)

The six newly elected MEPs are pictured from left to right: David Coburn, Alyn Smith, Ian Hudghton, Ian Duncan, Catherine Stihler, David Martin
 Photo courtesy of The City of Edinburgh Council



SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION

The 2014-2020 ERDF and ESF Operational Programmes have been drafted with extensive stakeholder input over the past year, and shaped from the strategic interventions consulted on.

These draft documents are now presented for further [stakeholder comment](#), which should be sent by 16 June 2014 to : Future_funds_2020@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Are you going away on holiday this summer and are full of unanswered questions, such as....

Who can help me, if during my holidays my plane, train, or bus and boat journeys are delayed or cancelled...?

What do I need to know if I want to take my pet with me on holiday in the EU?

Can I bring back some meat or cheese from my holidays abroad?

Follow this link for hints and tips when travelling in the EU: [useful tips for a worry-free summer](#)

Euroquiz Final 2014

On 12 May 2014 the Scottish final of the 2014 Euroquiz took place in the Debating Chamber of the Scottish Parliament.

A big well done to the Stornoway

Primary who were the Western Isles finalists(team of four boys (pictured), for making it to the Scottish finals against 31 schools where they worked very hard indeed, and made it to a very commendable placing of 4th equal over all!

Congratulations to the winners: Crossford Primary school in Fife!

<http://www.seet.org.uk/index.php>

Photo courtesy of The Scottish Parliament

