

Home-Start Lorn produces a half yearly **newsletter**, with the purpose of keeping the community and supporters informed of its activity within the Lorn area..

### What does Home-Start Lorn Do?

**Home-Start believes that children need a happy and secure childhood and that parents have the key role in giving their children a good start. Home-Start wants to see a society in which every parent has the support they need to give their children the best start in life. We therefore focus our support on the early years of a child's life, the most crucial time in a child's development.**

**Our family support volunteers provide non-judgmental and practical support. This support helps build a family's confidence and ability to cope. Volunteers provide one to one home-visiting support on a weekly basis.**

we would go ahead, we all duly arrived at Ardchattan Priory around 12 noon and so did the sunshine.

The children had a wonderful time throwing blowing bubbles, flying a kite and just running around, while the adults enjoyed the beautiful gardens. Both children and adults were amazed by the fabulous cacti grown by Mr. MacNab. All-in-all everyone had lots of fun and that's what Home-Start is about, helping families to enjoy themselves and laugh together!

### Have a look at our Website

You can find our web site at:

[www.homestartlorn.org.uk](http://www.homestartlorn.org.uk)

Home-Start Lorn's Annual Report 2009-2010 can be found here along with other useful and interesting information. Have a look!

### Summer Picnic



**Volunteers & families at recent picnic.**

Families and volunteers enjoyed the recent summer picnic held at Ardchattan Priory. A trip to the gardens at The Priory has become an annual event thanks to the kindness of Mrs. Sarah Troughton (owner) and Mr. George MacNab (gardener). The morning began rather grey and wet. However, despite the many phone calls questioning whether

### Funding and Financial Support

Home-Start Lorn receives funding from Argyll and Bute Council in recognition of the important work it does within the Oban and Lorn community. Home-Start Lorn is very grateful to Argyll and Bute councillors for their ongoing support and encouragement.

Home-Start Lorn relies on ongoing funding in order to deliver this important service.

If you think that what Homestart-Lorn does is important, then please make a donation, however small, or alternatively support through being involved in their fundraising activities.

**If you make a donation and are a tax payer, then please use our Gift Aid form so that Homestart-Lorn can recover tax on this donation. The form can be downloaded from our web-site [www.homestartlorn.org.uk](http://www.homestartlorn.org.uk)**

## Volunteers needed. Could it be you?

Do you have a spare hour or two each week, and would like a fulfilling role offering friendship and support to a young family? Homestart is always looking for new volunteers. If you are a parent or grandparent, and are interested in finding out how you can help, then please contact co-ordinator **Aileen** on **01631 566749** or email to: [homestartlorn@btconnect.com](mailto:homestartlorn@btconnect.com)

## Meet Home-Start Lorn Chairman



Chairman Bob Clarke

I have been Chairman of Home-Start Lorn for just over a year now and have been on the Management Board since 1996. I have a background of working within the local voluntary sector for some 28 years in total. I have been a member of Children's Panel for 26 years, during which time I have been made aware of the needs of children and families in Argyll and Bute. I currently work as a part-time casual Children's Support Worker for the Social Work Department, and am a qualified counsellor working with children, young people and adults. I know that Home-Start Lorn makes a difference to families and that this is important and essential work. It is also interesting to note that Home-Start Lorn is virtually the only voluntary organisation that addresses the needs of families. Through the experience and hard work of co-ordinator Aileen, admin worker Gill and the many dedicated home volunteers, both parents and children have benefited locally. The many accolades and personal references from families are a testament to the sterling work that is being done.

Home-Start Lorn is a unique and vital service providing voluntary support to young families in the local community.

The coming year will be difficult because of economic recession, political reform and financial constraints and we need our future to be secure.

The difficult economical times ahead will impact on local families and their coping skills, and we must make sure we are ready to respond to the needs of the community.

Thanks to everyone who is connected with Home-Start Lorn for making it what it is.

Bob Clarke, Chairman

## New Volunteers – Preparation Course

Aileen will be holding a course for new volunteers starting September. The course takes place in Oban and is one day per week for 5 weeks. Applications from those wishing to become volunteers are currently being accepted. Maybe you know someone who would be interested?!

## Volunteers Monthly Meetings.

Volunteers get together for mutual support monthly as part of their ongoing training where they can also be kept up to date with information and procedures. Meetings for 2010 are:

- 25th August
- 29th September
- 28th October
- 24th November
- Christmas Party 15th December.

## Be a Supporter

If you would like to be a supporter of Homestart and receive regular information about fund raising events then please contact Aileen on 01631 566749 or e-mail to [homestartlorn@btconnect.com](mailto:homestartlorn@btconnect.com)

## What do families say about the work of Home-Start Lorn?

One Mum who received support said,

**"I am extremely grateful for all the help and support both physically and mentally from Home-Start and would like to praise my volunteer – she is worth her weight in gold."**

Another Mum said,

**"Home-Start is very good. You have no idea what a difference 2 hours once a week makes. It is very underrated as not enough people know about it".**

## Look out for our next Newsletter.

Help cut down our running costs. IF YOU RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER BY POST, but **could** receive it electronically, please send your email address to [homestartlorn@btconnect.com](mailto:homestartlorn@btconnect.com)