

THE STORY BEHIND THE NAME: A REAL WOMAN.

SOME BRIEF NOTES ON WHO PRINCESS LOUISE WAS...

Louise, daughter of Queen Victoria, lived at Rosneath Castle as she loved the beauty and quietness of the Gareloch. In her later years, the area was to provide a haven for her.

This talented woman was both intelligent beautiful and artistic. Her dissatisfaction with the royal court led her to pursue sculpture and painting. It was said of her that she could "draw beautifully" and also that she was an able dancer. However, because of her royal rank, an artistic career was out of the question. Nonetheless in 1863 the Queen allowed her to attend art school. Later Louise was also to become a supporter of the women's suffrage movement.

Although of independent mind, she was gentle and unaffected. She mingled freely with people and had very democratic views about human relations. 'The less fortunate' were always her concern.

In Rosneath she was Patron of St Modan's Parish Church, which she

attended regularly, contributing to the church organ fund, the building fund for the vestry, and to the installation of electric lighting to the church and manse. Appointed as the first royal patron of the Girl Guides, she expressed a desire that the Dunbartonshire Girl Guides should be called Princess Louise's Own, a royal accolade they have been proud to bear ever since.

Louise was President of Rosneath District Nurses Association and a great supporter of Erskine Hospital for disabled servicemen which she formally opened in June 1917. She visited it every year until she too frail to do so.

During WW2 Rosneath castle - now demolished - was an HQ for the Rosneath Naval Base. In 1942 Churchill, Eisenhower and Montgomery planned Operation Torch, the successful invasion of French North Africa, within its walls.

We are still researching how this community building came to be named for this extraordinary woman and doubtless, some local knowledge out there will supply answers and more.

A PRINCESS'S LEGACY

- **A rebellious daughter**
- **A much loved location**
- **A once much loved community centre**
- **A community in need**

HOW YOU CAN HELP & SUPPORT



**Everyone Counts: Community Hubs
Make Good Things Happen**

WHAT'S MISSING IN OUR COMMUNITY?

- **Social** - local voices matter - makes yours heard, make a difference.
- **Information** - if the community doesn't know what's happening...nothing happens OR bad things happen.
- **Food** - current prices crisis - community should have and does have the means to help
- **Health** - Scotland's is poor. Post covid multiple issues exposed. Means to address at local level needed.
- **Youth** - no services = stressed parents & bored kids. Not a good combo for any community..
- **Senior** - aging population, differing needs rurally i.e. transport, caring & more.
- **Celebration** - brings people together!



- **Information** - lack of knowledge = lack of options
- **Skills** - like celebration, these can bring people together, enhance well-being and increase opportunities
- **Support** - we all need it sometimes.
- **Environment** - potential to develop in respect of local jobs, income, business but also in respect mental health etc.
- **Local views** - they matter, but only if means to make them

known.

- **A hub** - a place to connect, to meet and so much more.

THIS LIST IS BY NO MEANS COMPLETE, NOR IS IT IN A PARTICULAR ORDER. IT ARISES FROM CONVERSATIONS HELD AND FROM QUERIES MADE BY PEOPLE MOVING HERE. ADD TO IT - USE YOUR VOICE!

CURRENTLY OUR COMMUNITY HAS NO SHARED FOCAL POINT FOR ENSURING A HEALTHY VIBRANT COMMUNITY FOR ALL, NOR SIMPLE MEANS TO EXPRESS SUCH NEEDS.



AIMS

OUR PRIME FOCUS

- To **establish** a new group to help steer the lapsed charity, Princess Louise Hall, to new **stability and success**.
- To **secure funding** to ensure the Princess Louise Hall serves our communities needs.
- Such funding initially to:
 - ♥ ensure all **community voices** are heard
 - ♥ that the **building is fit for purpose** (as many purposes as possible!)
 - ♥ **wind and weather tight!**
 - ♥ consult with **potential partners**, interest groups to ensure full use of the building.

Contact



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Facebook: Princess Louise Hall

Check out progress too on Instagram

