



Gallery
Newsletter
October 2018

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Liam MacKay

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Autumn Exhibition

This month's edition introduces one of our newest makers....

Liam MacKay of Dachaigh . The Gallery currently stocks his beautiful clocks inset with tweed and a range of tealight holders.

Whisky Barrel Stave Woodworks

What or Whom inspired you to start your business?

I guess you can say it all started with watching television on a stormy and wet day. There is a programme called Money for Nothing where they go around recycling points and take away which were due to be recycled. They turn this "junk" into beautiful items and this really got me thinking that there is far too much waste these days. So, this is really where it all started for me after I was lucky enough to come across some whisky barrel staves. I soon started my research to turn this old wood into items for around the home This is why I decided to call my business, Dachaigh which is Home in Gaelic.

The ethos of your work is very much on trend right now, are you tempted to re / upcycle other materials too or do you want to expand your product range?

Currently I am mainly working with Whisky Staves as this is really the thing that started my business. Due to still being in my first year as a new business I do plan to expand my product range along with my skill sets with time. There are so many items that I plan to start making but it's just finding the time to get all these ideas from my brain to actual products.





As a wood worker your work is very tactile, do you spend your time selecting just the right piece of wood?

I guess you could say so, yes. When I am looking through whisky staves it can be quite difficult to know which ones are going to end up looking good or which one's won't. Its only really when you get to know the piece of wood by starting to sand it down before you know what its purpose is going to be. It can also be quite difficult making products from the staves due to them all having curves and bends in them, this makes it somewhat of a challenge when trying to build products. The thing I really like is all the staves are totally different, so this makes every item somewhat unique.

What has been your biggest challenge in the past 12 months?

My biggest challenge has been trying to get my business idea off the ground and into a business that I will hopefully be able to live off. I have started small, but I am now managing to get my name recognised around the place.

Where can we find your work?

My work can currently be found on In The Gallery in Torridon. The Bealach Café and Gallery at the start of the Applecross pass. Crafted in Moray in Elgin & Craftiness in Fort Augustus both stock some of my work .

www.dachaigh.co.uk



Beinn Alligin from Wester Alligin. Photo: Les Bates

LANDMARKS..... Our annual Autumn Exhibition at the Gallery, celebrating ‘Out There in Torridon’ has already received submissions of work from many artists and craftworkers among them Katherine Sutherland, Sarah Dunton, Ken Bryan, Clare Blois & Vicky Barrett-Webb. It runs from 1st October.

A book produced by local authors, ‘The PLACE-NAMES OF LOCH TORRIDON’ was launched in late June at the Loch Torridon Community Centre. It records the many Gaelic names for features that were important to the people, living and working both on the land and at sea. It is for sale at the Centre along with other local writers work.

Torridon Gallery

Summer

24 March – October 31st
Monday to Saturday
10am – 4pm
Closed Sunday

Winter

1 Nov – 31 March
Mon, Wed, Fri
11- 3 pm

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