

THE REALITY

AFTER ‘*INCREASING PRESSURE*’ BY ANTIQUARIAN DIGNITARIES, AND REPEATED ‘*LOUD CALLS*’ FROM THE PUBLIC OVER 1850-1900

1. **THE 8th DUKE OF ARGYLL WAS PRESSURED AND FORCED TO HALT FURTHER ABBEY DECAY. HE REACTED ON JUST TWO OCCASIONS OVER 50 YEARS.**
2. **RESPONDED TO PRESSURE TO ALLOW UNEQUAL ACCESS TO “REFEREED”, SEGREGATED DENOMINATIONAL SERVICES ON IONA. IT WAS NOT ECUMENISM – BUT APPEASEMENT. **IMPOSED, REFEREED, UNEQUAL ACCESS TO A LOCATION, WHICH WAS ALSO SEGREGATED, IS NOT EMBRYONIC ECUMENISM OR ANYTHING RESEMBLING A NASCENT, 40 YEAR LATER, IONA COMMUNITY. “UNIFICATION” IT WAS NOT.****
3. **RETURNED THE PROPERTY WITHOUT RESTITUTION 1899...AND “ENTRUSTED” THE RESTORATION.**
4. **IT WAS RESTORED WITH PUBLIC FUNDS AND COMMUNITY LABOUR :**
BY THE *CATHEDRAL TRUST* & THE *IONA COMMUNITY*.

THE 8TH DUKE DID NOT SUPPORT ECUMENISM. OR HAVE ANY *VISION* TO INITIATE IT ON IONA. HE CALLED IT ‘*RECRUDENCE OF THE ROMANISING TENDENANCY*’..

IT STARTED **40 YEARS** AFTER HE DIED – FROM STOPPING ATTEMPTS OF THAT SAME YEAR 1938 TO TURN IONA INTO A CATHOLIC SEMINARY BY THE MARQUESS OF BUTE : "*There was alarm that Iona might be turned into a Catholic seminary*"!