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ISSUE 10 June/July 2002

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Local author's new book launched

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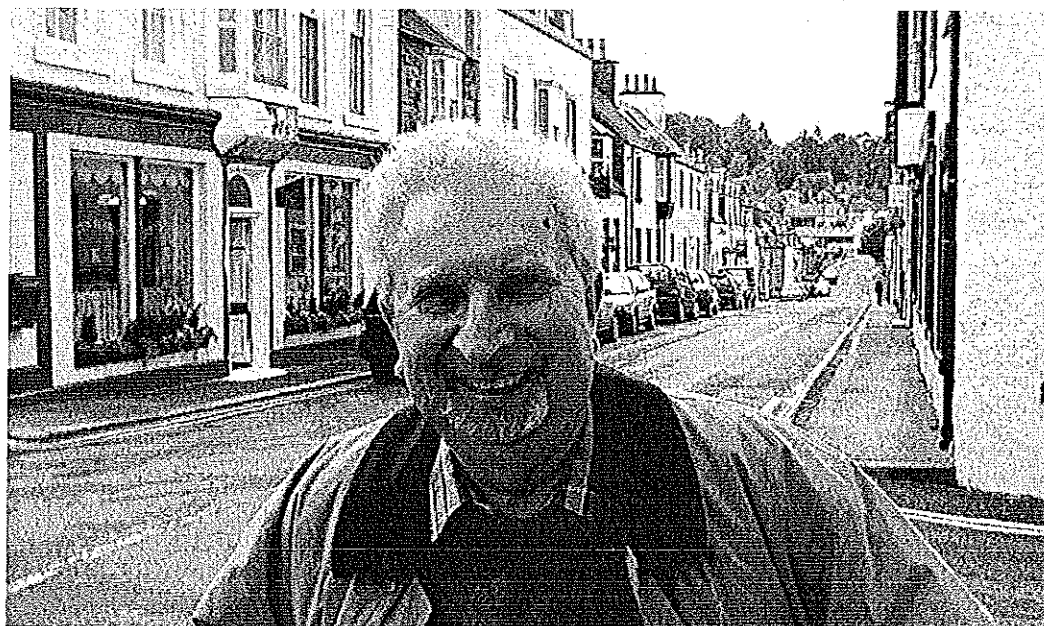
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Have you ever wondered what life was like in the Glenkens, and particularly New Galloway, 100 years ago?

If so, answers to your questions are now available and may be found in a new book - 'Through the Lens - Glimpses of old New Galloway', written by Mr Ronald Russell - which was launched on 25th May in New Galloway Town Hall by Alex Fergusson MSP at a special ceremony.

Mr Russell's book contains photographs of life through the ages in the Glenkens, giving us an insight into what the area and the local people were like over the last 100 years. This fascinating little book was compiled and written by Mr Ronald Russell of Greenhead House, New Galloway. It took him over a year to complete and would have been published earlier had the terrible outbreak of foot and mouth disease not forced him to put his work on hold as no research could be carried out.

Mr Russell received much appreciated help from many people in and around the Glenkens, all of whom are mentioned in the book. Some people provided facts and information, others kindly gave old photographs which were used to help compile the book. Some of the photographs, such as those of the firemen of New Galloway past and present, or the aerial photographs of Kenmure Castle in full working order alongside the bird's eye view of the now "roofless ruins"

(Continued on page 2)

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today. Mr Russell moved to New Galloway nine years ago from Cambridge. He and his wife decided to make the move after years of visiting relatives in Balmacellan. Mr Russell is a retired English teacher, although he says he is now busier, having more things to keep him occupied, than he has been for years. Perhaps not many will know that Mr Russell is a full time writer and has been for many years – a fact which he very modestly let me know during my interview with him. In total he has written 15 books, which cover a variety of subjects, ranging from swimming to antique prints. So, next time you are in the library, keep your eyes peeled for 'Swimming for Life (The therapy of swimming)' and 'Discovering Antique Prints', just two of Mr Russell's works. Although he has written many books, "Through the Lens – Glimpses of old New Galloway" is his first photographic book and Mr Russell says he is extremely pleased with the final results, so much so that he has decided to take on a similar task of looking into the full history of New Galloway and the Glenkens, which, he says, will take years to complete.

Mr Russell says that, apart from the unfortunate foot and mouth epidemic which brought a pause in the research for the book, everything ran fairly smoothly. He also told me that now, after completing his work, he sees New Galloway in a new light. 'It's more interesting once you've found out why things are as they are,' he says. Mr Russell admits that New Galloway has changed a great deal over the last 100 years. Let us hope not for the worse.

You never know what you may find out about your local area, so if you want to discover your community and its surroundings as they have been in years gone by, buy a copy of Mr Russell's new book, 'Through the Lens – Glimpses of old New Galloway'.

The launch of the book also marked the opening of a photographic exhibition entitled 'One Hundred Years of Life in the Glenkens'. This has been organised jointly by the Library Service and Glenkens Community and Arts Trust and after being open to the public in the Town Hall it was relocated to the GCAT offices in the High Street in a slightly reduced form, where it will remain until Friday 7th June. Opening hours will be 2pm to 5pm daily.

Ashley Thomson

GLENKENS SCHOOLS GO BACK IN TIME

On Friday 10th May the pupils and parents of the Glenkens were reminded of what it was like in the Victorian classroom. Lots of reciting, lots of tables, intimidating teachers – and the tawse!

As part of Local History Week, the three local primary schools, Carsphair, Dalry and Kells united to put on a wonderful evening's entertainment for an audience of over 200. The three primary heads, Ann Rutherford, Sandra Brown and Nancy Plummer, pooled their resources and their pupils and produced a show in three parts. The Infant classes of the three schools performed Victorian playground games, organised by Erica Porteous and Sheila McHattie; the combined choir conducted by Nancy Plummer and accompanied by Lillas Thomson; and the Victorian classroom scenario written and directed by Sandra Brown with costumes by Ann Rutherford.

Among the highlights for the audience were the infant chain which got itself into a tangle, the performance of some songs which had been sung in local schools over 100 years ago, the administration of the tawse to a naughty boy – offstage with dramatic sound effects – and a classroom of pupils scared to say a word out of place because of their terrifying teachers! The teachers were played by two of the secondary staff, Isobel Prowse and Sheila Nelson who were so convincing you would think they had experienced the Victorian classroom at first hand – but surely not!

There were, of course, many more people involved in organising rehearsals and the final performance was a great credit to the three schools and the local community. Anna Campbell of the Carsphair Heritage Group introduced the entertainment and, in her vote of thanks at the end of the evening commended the hard work of the teachers and all the pupils who transported the audience back to Victorian times with affection, humour and harmony.

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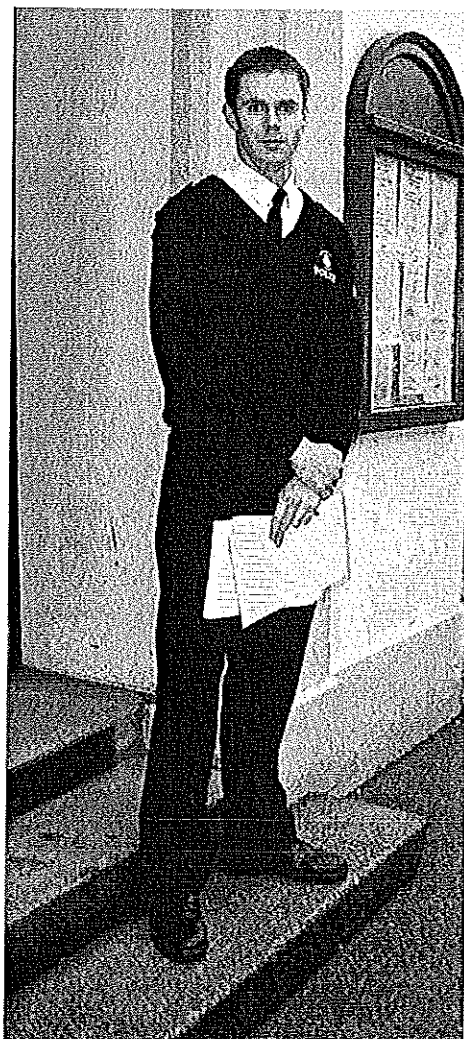
"The Law of the Land" by PC Ewan Cannon, Glenkens Community Officer

As the new Community Officer for the Glenkens area, I should first of all tell you a bit about myself. I have served in the Police service for almost 6 years, having previously been stationed in Dalbeattie and Castle Douglas as an operational officer.

This is the first Community role I have undertaken, and see it as a challenging and, hopefully, rewarding one, helped by the fact that it is such a beautiful area to work in. Indeed, I see it as something of a privilege to be stationed in such a scenic area, coupled with the generally friendly approach of the public. Also, I was born and brought up in a rural community, so I feel I am quite well equipped to deal with the problems and issues surrounding country life.

The first job on my list as Community Officer is to launch this year's Cycling Proficiency training with Carsphairn, Kells, Dalry and Corsock Primary schools. As the light nights are once again with us, it is a timely reminder to us *all* to remember our basic road safety skills and not be complacent when it comes to safety on the roads, be it in a car, on a bike or walking. Unfortunately, a fatal road accident occurred on 10th May 2002 near Carsfad Power Station, which reminds us that it *can* happen to anyone, at any time.

It is a surprising fact that, on average, more deaths occur dur-



ing the summer time as a result of drinking and driving than at Christmas time, so if you are drinking, think about how you're getting home first. If you do not, not only are you putting yourself and others at serious risk, but if you are caught

it can lead to a fine, a period of disqualification and horrendous insurance premiums for years to come. Let's be honest, it's not worth the risk.

I am keen to know what's going on in our communities, so if you have any events, dances etc, please make sure you drop me a line, as I may be able to assist.

Please remember to report any suspicious persons or vehicles to Police. You never know who's going about, but with the eyes and ears of *everyone* in the community together we can perhaps help prevent offences from being committed, and make the Glenkens a safer place to live in.

The telephone numbers for Police are:

Dalry Police office (01644) 430222

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Castle Douglas Police office

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(1557)(your call may be diverted)

(1558)

Police Headquarters, Dumfries

(01387 252112)

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I look forward to seeing you.

PS - Why not come and have a look at the new Dalry Police Office on Clachan Day, Saturday 8th June 2002, between 10:00am and 2:00pm

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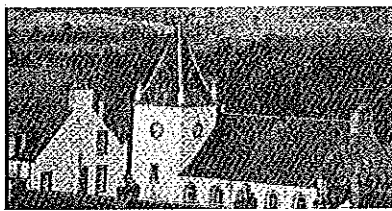
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New Galloway – Our Historic Burgh.

By Helen Bolton



After the religious troubles which had caused so much misery in Galloway for the greater part of the 17th century, many years of crippling depression followed. Farming, the main-stay of the local economy, was in the doldrums, with the land in a poor state owing to so many farmers being evicted and their livestock confiscated. Landowners were seriously in debt, having had their homes garrisoned and their possessions seized. Although Lord Kenmure returned to the castle, his home was sorely in need of repair, and he was financially unable to help his tenants. The situation was serious.

Owing to these problems, insufficient food was being produced in the Kells area to feed the population let alone feed stock through the winter. Surplus cattle were killed off at Martinmas and the meat salted in barrels for the farmers and their families. Only sufficient stock to maintain the herds were kept.

In many ways the inhabitants of New Galloway were better off than a lot of people, as each cottage in the town had a long garden to the rear for growing vegetables, and room to keep a cow. They, at least, had some food and milk to make cheese and butter for the winter.

Cattle, sheep and horses, once the area's prime products, were in such short supply and poor condition that the staple exports of hides and wool dwindled to nothing. It was common to see a farmer using a mixed team of horses and oxen to pull the heavy plough used in those days, and so poor were the beasts that as many as

Part IX A Depressed Scene.

eight were sometimes needed rather than the usual team of four. The people, also, were suffering from the poor quality of their diet, surviving as they were on grey oats and kail, supplemented with the occasional salmon from the rivers for those lucky enough to live near the water.

However, the cattle trading between Ireland and England continued, and the droves passing through the area brought a modicum of trade to New Galloway. Drovers put up at local hostelrys and markets carried on their trade. The little burgh therefore fared better than many in the area. Being still quite "young" during the troubled times, the town remained small and under-developed owing to lack of funds, and was never to become the flourishing burgh envisaged by its creator.

Some local inhabitants tried to cash-in on the droves by "imposing illegal exactions of money upon the herds crossing their land" thus making a few meagre pence for themselves! This was soon stopped, however, as it was damaging this important trade.

1707 saw the signing of the Treaty of Union, a move received with mixed feelings. For the farming community, taking all into consideration, it was a step forward. The opening up of the English markets for the sale of Scottish beef cattle could only improve a very bad agricultural scene. But as in all "improvements", there were many who suffered hardships in its wake.

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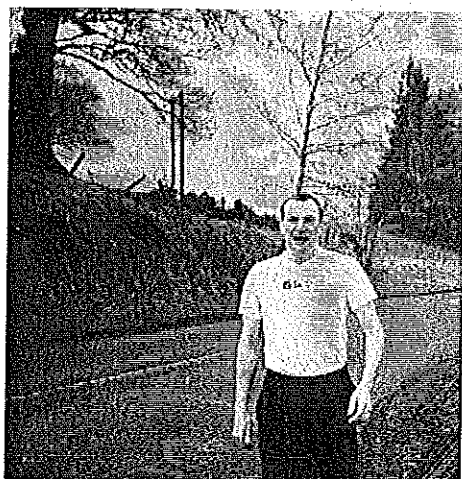
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Flora London Marathon 2002

As the Flora London Marathon 2002 began and 30 000 people jostled and shuffled their way over the starting line I (Neil McRoberts, Fintloch, New Galloway) wondered for the first time why exactly I was there.



For four hours and more, I did what everyone else was doing. I ran, and ran, and ran, drank some water (and poured some all over myself), and ran, and ran, and drank some Lucozade (and poured some all over myself), then ran for a bit more. I got to famous landmarks – Cutty Sark, Tower Bridge – and each time I arrived, I did the same thing. I ran past, and then ran some more. On I ran, and as I ran, I pondered the question again. 'Why am I doing this?' 'Why is that woman in front doing this?' 'Why are those wombles doing this?' There was no answer to that one; the best thing seemed to be to keep running.

After four hours and twenty one minutes, I stopped running. It felt great and a huge endorphin buzz carried me back to the hotel and through a hot bath and an enormous meal, but the question

did not go away. Not until I was collapsed in front of the BBC highlights did the answer come.

Running, ten minute miles, wombles, canoes, diving suits, Lucozade, Vaseline (don't ask) and kit bags were hardly mentioned. Instead people were talking about leukaemia, homelessness, cancer, refugees, guide dogs, school-books, famine.

Because of course, the Marathon is not just a fun day out for the spectators and proof of insanity for the runners – it's a charitable event which has just this year raised its lifetime total of money raised to an unbelievable £150 million pounds.

I was doing it, of course, for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Diabetes is still the leading cause of new adult blindness in the UK, a disease which constrains and cuts short thousands of lives, which costs the NHS 8% of its budget every year, and whose sufferers endure not only the constant threat of amputations, coma and early death but also the popular misconception that insulin 'takes care of diabetes' and that it is no longer really a problem. The JDRF, for this last reason, have taken as their slogan: *Because insulin is not a cure.*

By the time I arrived back home in Galloway the day after the race, the envelopes had started to arrive, from friends and family, from hospital clinics, and even from people I have never met in my life, but who know someone with diabetes and wanted to help.

I had to raise a minimum of £1500 in return for a guaranteed place on the JDRF team. My personal aim was to raise £1750, and thanks to the generosity of hundreds of people I have in fact

raised £2,020 to date with a few more pledged contributions still to come.

In the last year, we have all seen the very worst that people can be; notably in the US in September but in other places around the world too. One of the joys of an event like the London Marathon is that it lets us see for a change the very best that people can be: generous, unselfish and dedicated. The runners have a lot of fun doing the Marathon. We get fit, we get a weekend in London and we get medals – but the sponsors are the ones who really count. Thanks, thanks, and thanks again to everyone who helped.

GLENKENS DANCE

Katie Wiseman continues to run dance classes in Kells Primary School on Friday afternoons for children between 3 and 12 years old.

Katie, who is from Ayr, is a qualified and enthusiastic dance teacher, whose classes are energetic and fun. Children are always encouraged to do their best. Boys and girls love the music and quickly learn the dance routines.

Now it is planned to continue the classes throughout the summer holidays in Balmaclellan Village Hall, starting on July 5th and running for 6 weeks. There are separate classes for different ages.

For further information call Kate on 01644 420328 or Alison on 01644 420272.

Winner of Survey Prize

The winner of the pair of Hunter boots generously donated by the Gates Rubber Company is Mrs Joyce Hunter Blair of Dalry. There was no claimant for the box of crisps.

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SCHOOL REVIEW : DALRY SCHOOL

As many of you will be aware, the Education Committee decided on 25 January 2002 to retain secondary education in Dalry but under the management of the Headteacher of Castle Douglas High School. A Working Group has now been established to consider in detail how the linkage will work in practice.

The Working Group comprises:

Mr Allan Jackson Acting Headteacher, Dalry School
Mrs Catherine Murray, Chairperson of Dalry School Board
Mr Iain Proudfoot Headteacher, Castle Douglas High School
Mr Drew Low, Chairperson, Castle Douglas High School
Mrs Anna Campbell, Chairperson, Glenkens Education Action Group
Mrs Christine Dignan Head of Education (School & Adult Services)

The priority of the Working Group has been to develop proposals for the new management arrangements which will be required. At its meeting on 7th May 2002, the Education Committee will be invited to approve the appointment of a "Head of School" who will be responsible for the day-to-day management of Dalry School under the direction of the Headteacher of Castle Douglas High School. Whilst it is difficult to give guarantees about timescales at this stage, every effort will be made to complete the appointment process as speedily as possible and to have the successful candidate in post at the start of the new school session or as soon as possible thereafter.

There are, of course, many further practical matters that need to be addressed to ensure that the link between the two schools results in effective and sustainable secondary educational provision in Dalry in the long-term. The Working Group will turn its attention to these over the coming session, and if necessary, the Group may be expanded to involve others who have a contribution to make to the discussions.

Further updates on the progress of the Working Group's deliberations will be shared with parents and the community over the coming months.

Christine Dignan

Since Mrs Dignan wrote the update there has been a further meeting of the Working Group on 8 May. Unfortunately she was unable to be present owing to illness so Mr Proudfoot chaired the meeting.

The job of "Head of School at Dalry is now advertised. Interviews will take place before the end of term. If someone from Dumfries and Galloway is appointed then he/she will be in post at the beginning of the new term. If it is an external appointment then it will be slightly longer. We were told that the eight working weeks' notice for external appointees has become more flexible.

The Working Group meets again on 13th June.

Anna Campbell

HEATHER HOPPING

On Saturday 27 April 2002 the Glenkens Heather Hoppers held their Open Day. The group demonstrated a "typical session", allowing people who were previously unfamiliar with the club to view the play equipment and the way in which it is used.

The event also marked the official launch of the club. Whilst it was set up by Margaret Keith, Kate Maxwell and Jane Trueman last October, it was only with the recent receipt of a £4963 grant from

Sport Scotland Awards For All that the club could buy new equipment and set up in Balmaclellan Hall. Helen McVinnie, Scottish Girls Gymnastic Gold Medallist, kindly cut a ribbon and performed a sample of her skills to mark the occasion.

At the time of the Open Day the club membership was 18. Since then several new members have enrolled.

Writing as a former teacher I believe that the club encourages the development of motor skills. One circuit around the new play equipment incorporates running,

jumping, stretching, climbing, curling, sliding, rolling and balancing. These activities all promote awareness of the body and its movement and therefore provide an excellent foundation for PE in the primary school curriculum.

Additionally, as a psychologist I note that many aspects of the club promote a positive environment for our children. The elements of sharing and turn-taking are evident and the attitude and approach of the skilled group leaders ensures that all

(Continued on page 7)

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GAZETTE EDITOR 'RETIRES'



Matthew Newton, familiar to many as the proprietor of Newton's Shop, is involved with the life of Dalry and the Glenkens in many other ways. One of these has been the initiation and editorship of the Glenkens Gazette.

Matthew first had the idea after seeing the newsletter produced in Moniaive and, after visiting the editorial team there and receiving much help and encouragement, he assembled a committee in the Glenkens and was able to apply for an initial grant from the Council. This provided the necessary funding for the first issue which, like the two that followed it, were put together by Matthew on his own computer.

A breakthrough occurred when Groundbase were approached. They made a grant to allow the purchase of a computer, software and a small digital camera. Things were now set to develop rapidly.

Each issue is now financed entirely by advertising, which so far has allowed a print run of up to 450 copies. To date there have been 10 issues of the Gazette, 9 of which have been edited by Matthew himself during the last 18 months. But now, as he says, he feels that it is time to move on and allow others to develop the newsletter. It has been agreed that the Glenkens Community & Arts Trust will take over the production of the Glenkens Gazette and it is to be hoped that GCAT will prove to have the commitment, time and resources to establish the Gazette as the main source of news and views within our area.

Our thanks are due to Matthew for his energy and commitment in undertaking to start a local newsletter from scratch and then develop it into the Gazette we now greatly appreciate. It has become a symbol of enterprise and endeavour, showing that there is in this area a lively and resourceful community that is justifiably proud of itself.

Caring for Carers

Christine Cassidy, who lives in Dalry, is the chairperson and Initiator of the Caring for Carers shop in St Andrew's Street, Castle Douglas. The shop has been running for a year now and Christine would like to thank all in the Glenkens who have supported it with donations and in other ways. Carers will be celebrating with a special luncheon during Carers' Week - 10th to 16th June. In the shop there will

be a home produce stall all week.

The project began in January 2000, and the shop opened in June 2001. Since then it has gone from strength to strength. There is now sufficient income from the shop to make contributions to organisations which help carers and it is now hoped that funds can be made available to individuals to help with expenses they incur in their caring role.

(Continued from page 6)

children have the opportunity to experience success. This climate can encourage the children to have greater confidence and self-esteem, regardless of age or ability.

Whilst my career choices afford me a "professional" insight into the Glenkens Heather Hoppers activities it is as a mum that I value the club most. My son is always keen to go there, enthusiastic when he is there and tired out afterwards (for at least a few minutes!). Since October I have observed him develop his motor skills, make lots of friends and learn how to be part of a group - Ideal preparation for school life.

Finally, according to my son the club is "great fun" - probably the best reason of all for being a Glenkens Heather Hopper!

For further information regarding Heather Hoppers please contact Kate Maxwell on 01644 420328.



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2002 is a special year as we celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee and the visit of our Chief Scout. The visit in June will bring together Beavers, Cub Scots, Scouts and Venture Scouts from all over Galloway for an exciting weekend of activities and fun based on the Golden Jubilee to be held at Kirkdale Port, Gatehouse-of-Fleet. The members in Galloway were asked earlier in the year to design a Chief Scout's visit badge and this competition was won by Angus Hilsley from the Glenkens Pack. The design was made into a cloth badge for everyone to wear on their uniform. 2002 will also go down as one of the milestone years in scouting history, as it will be remembered as the year of launch of the new programme, which we await with enthusiasm.

Heather (Cub Scout Leader)

Chit chat from the Cubs

Potters All

The Glenkens Cub Pack have been working for their Artist's Badge and I thought it would make a change for them to get their hands in clay. I gave them some advice about construction and strength and let their imaginations run wild. The results are fantastic: every one is so different and every one is successful, though each in different ways. Next they need to be fired in a kiln to 950° C to make the clay turn to pot. They will be fired at Laurieston House Pottery, Dunscore, where I work. The Cubs will need to be patient as we have rather a large kiln and to work properly it must be full. We make plates, mugs, casserole dishes, bowls etc., so to give the Cubs an idea of how much work was needed

to fill the kiln, I estimated the size in Cubs. Obviously Cubs vary in size, but bearing that in mind, the firing chamber would hold approximately 23! I don't think many potters measure kiln capacity in that way. I am working hard making pots so we hope to fire this summer. I think all the Glenkens Cubs enjoyed it – after all, it was very messy!

Hannah McAndrew
(ACSL Glenkens Pack)

Jumble Joy

Heather, Hannah and the Cubs would like to thank the group committee, parents and friends who worked so hard to make our recent jumble sale such a success. We would also like to thank everyone who donated items to the sale and to all who came along and purchased. You are very kind to us and it is much appreciated. We raised an amazing £923.07.

Dogs Raise Funds

£220 was raised by several dogs (and their owners) enjoying a Sunday afternoon walk by the river at Dalry. The money will go to the Scottish SPCA to help in their work for Scotland's less fortunate animals.

Stewartry Branch Secretary Pat McCrow said: 'Walking the dog is usually good for both you and the dog but this time we can thank all those who sponsored and took part for helping lots of other animals at the same time. I hope people will support the National Dog Walk in Edinburgh on June 23rd too.'

The local Branch of the SSPCA will have a tent at the Stewartry Show on Thursday August 1st and is hoping for a successful day for everyone after the difficulties of last year. For further information call 01644 420212



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With the future of Dalry Secondary School assured and with the continuing dearth of youth facilities in the area, it seemed a very appropriate and opportune moment to initiate a Duke of Edinburgh Award Group based on Dalry School. Therefore in mid April 2002 17 fourteen year olds and 9 fifteen year olds embarked on their Bronze Award. This will take a minimum of 6 months and comprises an Expedition, a Physical Recreation, a Skill and a Service.

At Bronze level, the Expedition involves a 2 day / 1 night journey of adventure and discovery on foot, cycle, canoe or horseback. It includes navigation, first aid, setting up and striking camp and carrying all food and equipment required. On this occasion the Physical Recreation section is being financed by the New Opportunities Lottery Fund in the form of a 10 week course at the Galloway Sailing Centre with a choice of sailing, windsurfing or canoeing. The third section encourages the discovery and development of per-

sonal interests and social and practical Skills, while the fourth provides the chance to be of Service to an individual or to the community.

The Award was launched as an experiment in 1956. Its purpose was to broaden the experience of young people by encouraging them to discover the satisfaction of giving service to others, learning a skill, taking part in a physical activity and undertaking an expedition in wild country. Its ultimate aim was to help young people to become active and responsible adults by introducing them to worthwhile leisure activities and voluntary service.



46 years later, it is very evident that the formula works. It not only complements the academic schedule, but brings young people into contact with adults who are neither their teachers nor their parents, while developing a greater sense of self-confidence.

The concept is of personal challenge and individual improvement through persistence, taking into account the participant's initial capabilities and without any element of competition between participants. Participation is entirely voluntary and individuals have a completely free choice in the selection of locally available options within the four sections.

It is to assist in this area of local available options that we are on the look out for adults with an expertise that might interest a teenager and which they would have the time and enthusiasm to pass on. Any volunteers or ideas would be most welcome. Please contact Chris Mason at Ironmacannie Mill, Balmaclellan. Tel. 01644 420889

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Glenkens Community & Arts Trust

LINKING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE GLENKENS

GCAT NEWS

THE OLD SCHOOL is certainly looking better already from the outside: the playground area has been cleared, the old brick lavatories at the back have been demolished and the splendid iron railings round the site have been repaired and painted. Meanwhile the Draft Feasibility Study has now been received from consultants Halcrow Fox and will be formally accepted at the June meeting of the GCAT Steering Group.

GCAT SHOP

It's made a terrific difference to the running and organisation of GCAT to have a focal point and a base in the centre of New Galloway. We've now employed two part-time members of staff: Mary McIlvenna who is the Office Manager and Co-ordinator of the Community Bus; and



Philip Twinberrow who is Programme and Events Assistant as well as the new Editor of the Glenkens Gazette. We're open every morning and some afternoons. Again, we're always needing vol-

unteers to help keep the shop open longer, so if you have a spare hour or two It's an excellent centre for the Glenkens and our notice board is full of constantly changing.

WINNERS in the Prize draw arranged by Halcrow for respondents to their Questionnaire have now been determined:

Susan Currie of Dalry has won a bottle of whisky and the following people have won a pair of tickets to any GCAT event this year: Catriona Macpherson of New Galloway, Sheila Mackenzie of Balmaclellan, and Anna Campbell of Carsphairn. Many congratulations to them all and please contact the GCAT Shop.

information about what's on in the area.

GLENKENS GAZETTE

As you will have seen from a previous article GCAT has now taken over the editorship and distribution of this community newspaper. Our aim is to continue to produce it bi-monthly so please let Philip have any stories, articles or advertising by 14th July for the next edition.

We're on the look-out for freelance journalists and stringers, so again if you think this is something you'd like to do then please get in touch.

GCAT BUS STOP

The Community Bus has now been ordered and should be here in the Glenkens during the summer. Please let Mary know if you would like to become a Volunteer Driver for the bus.

Free training will be given. Similarly if you are involved with a voluntary group that might become a potential user of the bus, then we'd like to hear from you.

GCAT EVENTS

Photographic Exhibition of 'Through the Lens - 100 years of life in the Glenkens' continues till 7 June at the GCAT Shop. This complements Russ Russell's charming book of 'Through the Lens - Glimpses of old New Galloway'.

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 7th June | Bakelite Boys present Pop goes the Century - 100 years of pop music in 100 minutes. Dalry Town Hall 8.0 p.m. co-promoted with Dalry Clachan Fair. Tickets £5 |
| 27th July | Welsh Vocal Quartet at Carsphairn Church |
| 9th August | Dorset Opera Consort at Mossdale Village Hall |

See the next edition of the Glenkens Gazette for a review of the exhibition.

For more details contact the shop on 01644 420374 or email: info@glenkens-arts.com



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Music in Mossdale

For two and a half hours on the evening of Saturday, 11th May a capacity audience in Mossdale Village Hall savoured the musicianship of Terri Farley and Jim McPhee. The poster had promised 'an evening of music and song' but that was an inadequate description of what really happened. Jim was equipped with a keyboard which enabled him to create the sound of an entire band or just a piano, and when he was joined by Terri Farley it was often hard to believe that there were only two performers on stage.

We heard a varied selection of great standard numbers, but it was perhaps when Terri was accompanied only by the piano that the combined artistry of her singing and Jim's playing could most readily be appreciated. Billie Holiday's 'God bless the child' was a particularly effective number. Terri, who lives in Mossdale was once a professional musician singing with several big bands, including that of Ted Heath. Though she set out to train for an operatic career, she



converted to jazz and blues after entering and winning a singing contest.

A surprise item in each half of the evening was a contribution from Colin Myers who recently played the male lead in the Castle Douglas production of 'Oklahoma'.

The arrangement of the hall added to the atmosphere with the audience sitting at small tables, as if in a café,



and subdued lighting. Refreshments were provided on arrival and during the interval.

This was but one event in an enterprising programme which continues through the rest of the year. In March and April respectively there were a Book and Attic Sale and a Bingo and Beetle Drive. Still to come are:

June 2nd Arts & Crafts Display and Sale

June 16th Barbecue & Boules

August 9th Dorset Consort - popular classical choral music (organised in association with GCAT)

November 30th St Andrew's Night Concert

With dates yet to be fixed there will also be: Strawberry Teas (July); Bingo & Beetle (Sept); a talk on Red Kites released locally (Oct); various charities using the hall for a 'Christmas Fayre' (Oct); Village Bonfire & Fireworks (Nov); Village Christmas Party (Dec).

Dave Turner, Chair of the Village Hall Committee, says that the yoga sessions which ran from April to June may run again in the autumn and that a 100 Club has been running, successfully covering the basic costs of the hall. For further information about events in Mossdale call Dave Turner on 01644 450261.

Weather Statistics from Glenlee

April 2002

wettest day Friday 19th 23.8mm

sunniest day Sunday 28th 11.1hrs

warmest day Monday 22nd 19°C (67°F)

Rainfall Totals in April

2002 112.0mm (4.4inches)

2001 71.4mm

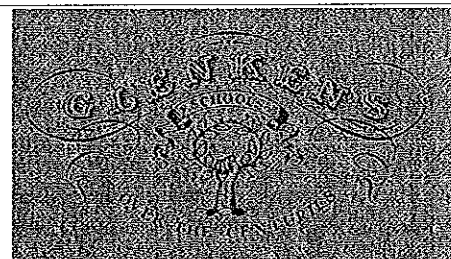
1992 145.8mm

1947* 240.0mm (over 9 inches)

*(the wettest April since records at Glenlee Power Station began)

Warmest day so far this year: Weds 15th May 20.7°C (70°F)

NB All readings are taken at Glenlee Power Station and so can be only a rough guide to the general weather in the Glenkens. Donnie McMillan



Schools, along with the church and the pub have, over the centuries, been at the core of rural life. The Carsphairn Heritage Group's latest publication gives fascinating details of 20 former Glenkens schools, gleaned from old school log books and elsewhere. The leaflet is readily available and may be found at the Carsphairn Heritage Centre, now open for the summer.

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GLENKENS DIARY

JUNE

[to Friday 7th—'100 years of Life in the Glenkens' photographic exhibition in the GCAT shop, New Galloway. 2—5pm daily. Free.]

Saturday 1st Jubilee Dance—New Galloway Town Hall.

Saturday 1st Carsphairn Show and Dance.

Sunday 2nd Clachan Fair Week begins. Songs of Praise at New-field Green.

Arts & Crafts Sale 1.30—5.30 in Mossdale Village Hall.

Hensol garden open, Mossdale. 2—5pm

Monday 3rd Glenkens Jubilee Walk. Start 10.30am.

Picnic in the Park—New Galloway. 1.30—5.30pm.

Carsphairn Heritage Centre open daily (not Wednesday) 10.30 – 5, (Sundays 2—5)

Friday 7th *The Bakelite Boys* – 8pm Dalry Town Hall, with bar. (See GCAT article p).

Saturday 8th Clachan Fair Car Boot Sale on Main Street, Dalry at 2pm. Contact Gordon McAdam 01644 430393

RSAC Rally at Glengap and Clatteringshaws.

Monday 10th New Galloway Community Council meeting. 7.30pm Town Hall

Sunday 16th Barbecue&Boule Mossdale Village Hall

Saturday 22nd Glenkens & District Music Club concert. 7.30pm New Galloway Town Hall. *Simon Mayor & Hilary James.*

Sunday 30th United Service. Kells Church 11am

Macmillan Summer Fair at New-field Farm

JULY

Monday 8th New Galloway Community Council meeting. 7.30pm Mossdale Village Hall.

Saturday 27th Concert 7.30pm Carsphairn Church. *Welsh Vocal Quartet* (See GCAT article p).

Sunday 28th Ardarroch Cottage, Dalry, garden open. 2—5pm

AUGUST

Sunday 4th Scottish Alternative Games. New Galloway Park.

Friday 9th Concert 7.30pm Mossdale Hall. *Dorset Consort.* (See GCAT article p).

24th Flower and Produce Show. Dalry Town Hall.

SEPTEMBER

14th Glenkens & District Music Club concert. 7.30pm Dalry Town Hall. *Tommy Smith & Murray McLachlan.*

27th *Pete McCarthy* 8pm Dalry Town Hall with bar. (See GCAT article p).

Deadline for August/September issue is 14th July.

The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors, who reserve the right to encourage the expression of a variety of views on subjects of interest to the local community.

Please contact Philip on 01644 420374 or by email : info@glenkens-arts.com with news of forthcoming events for free inclusion in the Diary. It will help greatly if you contact the Gazette directly so that we can publish as full a Diary as possible.

Congratulations
to Stephen and Bryher Pears
on the birth of
Bronnen
on 28th April
7lbs 11oz

Times of worship in the Glenkens

Church of Scotland	Sundays
Balmaclellan	12.00 1 st
Carsphairn	10.30am 1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd & 4 th
Dalry	9.00am 1 st Sundays in June, July & August 2002 12.00 2 nd , 3 rd , & 4 th
Kells	10.30am 2 nd , & 4 th
New Galloway Town Hall	10.30am 3 rd (Family Service)

Episcopal Church in Scotland

St Margaret's, New Galloway	10.30am Every Sunday (Eucharist) & Wednesday
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Roman Catholic

Mass is celebrated at the following times:

Castle Douglas	6.00pm (Sat)
Gatehouse of Fleet	10.45am (Sun)
Kirkcudbright	9.00am (Sun)



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