

GLENKENS GAZETTE

incorporating news from Glenkens Community & Arts Trust

FREE IN : BALMACLELLAN ~ CARSPHAIRN ~ MOSSDALE ~ NEW GALLOWAY ~ ST. JOHN'S TOWN OF DALRY

June / July 2006

ISSUE 34

www.glenkengazette.com

OZ COMES TO CARSPHAIRN

Pupils of Carsphairn Primary School had the opportunity to show their acting talents when they put on a production of a play based on The Wizard of Oz, by Frank L Baum.

The play was originally written especially for Carsphairn pupils, 18 years ago, by one of the parents. At that time there were only 10 children at the school and a former pupil recalls that he had to make several rapid costume changes backstage, as most of the children had to take more than one part. With 16 pupils now in school, only the Munchkins and the Guardian of the Gates had to double up as Winged Monkeys.

This time, the part of a narrator was added to the script, allowing more of the story to be told between the scenes.



ON THE BEN WITH KEN & FRIENDS



On Wednesday 10th May a party of seven climbers from New Galloway joined Kenny McDonald on his climb of Ben Nevis. The party consisted of (from left to right) Paul Carney, David Roberts, John Stott, Kenny McDonald, Mike Powles, Gavin McGhie, Andrew Roberts, Colin Edgar.

The party ranged in ages from 19 to 67. The expedition resulted from a comment made by Kenny on a December night that he had always had an ambition to stand on top of Britain's highest mountain. So David Roberts and Paul Carney decided to make this possible, and supporters from The Cross Keys soon joined the group to give support to Kenny and join in the experience.

It was also decided to raise funds for the Glenkens Medical Centre for them to buy equipment.

The ascent started at 8.30am and we arrived at the summit at 14.40 (a total of 6 hours 40 minutes) after a long, hard climb on a near perfect day with temperatures on route reaching 23 degrees centigrade. Even Kenny was seen drinking water.

Once at the top, views of approximately 60 miles were possible with snow up to 5ft deep at the summit.

The journey back was much quicker and all the group were back enjoying a well earned pint after 3 and a half hours - 6.30pm.

A total of £1060.50 was raised.

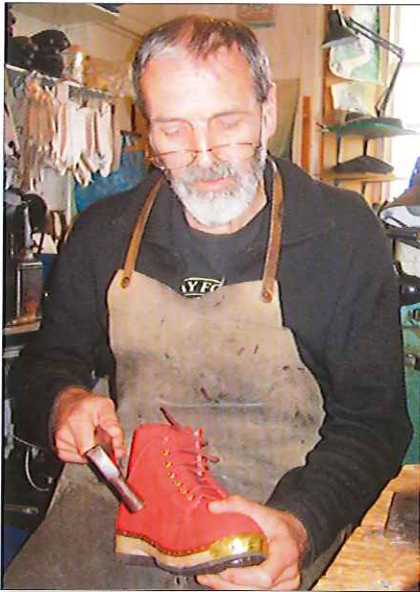
Kenny and the group would like to thank everyone for their support and their generous sponsorship. Kenny is now looking forward to next year's challenge!



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LOCAL ARTISTS Godfrey Smith

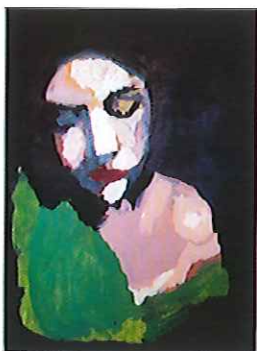
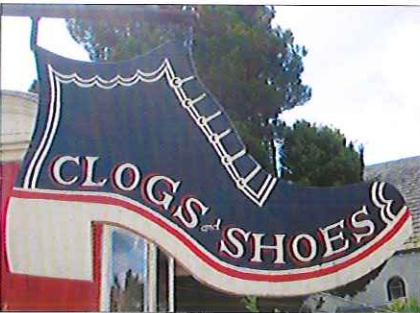


Godfrey Smith of Galloway Footwear Ltd. has been making clogs in the Glenkens for nearly 30 years. He started in Dalry in 1977 and then moved to the old school building in Balmaclellan where he created The Clog and Shoe Workshop.

Today Godfrey makes over 20 styles of footwear, ranging from strappy sandals to ankle boots, traditional clog boots to ladies' court shoes. A lot of the work he does now is footwear made-to-measure for people who have problems finding shoes to fit. People like the fact that they can get a nice looking pair of shoes to fit their unusual feet as a lot of shoes for difficult feet are rather ugly.

The Clog and Shoe Workshop is open in the summer season from 10am to 5pm Monday to Friday. It's a lovely place to visit, with a showroom and also a museum corner containing Godfrey's collection of antique clogs and shoes and various pieces from around the world.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 01644 420465



ACCESS ART

Access Art is a project run by Turning Point Scotland to enable people with learning difficulties to have access to a variety of forms of artistic expression. The Dumfries based project has a skilled team of artists who work with the service users in a variety of mediums, from paints to silk screening, clay to puppet-making and animation. Regular exhibitions of service users' artwork are held both locally and nationally, in various venues from the Access Art's own studio and gallery to the National Museum of Scotland. The project co-ordinator, Steven Burnie, has been considering ways to bring Access Art to more rural areas such as the Glenkens. With the addition of Hannah McAndrew - a resident of the Glenkens herself - to the team, this is now feasible.

Hannah has a degree in 3D Design and worked with the Gracefield Arts Centre before setting up her own pottery studio, The Barm Pottery, between Balmaclellan and Corsock. She says "I make functional pots because I enjoy seeing my work being used and enjoyed...I am fascinated and thrilled by constantly developing the skills and techniques of my craft and am particularly focussed on making pots that are of a very high quality and that perform their jobs to a very high standard. As pottery has the potential to outlast many generations, I believe it is my duty to use every bit of care and skill that I can when creating something from clay."

Hannah would like to organise sessions around the Glenkens. She will work in a one-to-one environment, encouraging service users to express themselves through working with clay, so enjoying the creative process whilst making something useful in the process.

For more information, and to arrange sessions, please contact Steven Burnie:

Access Art
Dumfries Train Station
Platform 2, DG1 4LU
Tel: 01387 248560
Email: accessart@btinternet.com



Paintings: top left by Kenny Carus
above by Alan McCreadie

CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY GATHERING

In 1996, Carsphairn was threatened with not having a Shop and Post Office. The business was on the property market, with no guarantee it would carry on as a shop. Fortunately the community of Carsphairn got together and had the foresight to purchase the property.

This year we celebrate the ten years of Community ownership of our Shop and in recognition of the Community spirit of Carsphairn, it has been decided to hold an afternoon of celebration.

On the 11th of June, from 12pm-5pm, at the Old Manse, Carsphairn there will be a bouncy castle, sticky wall, rodeo bull, live music, trout, venison and beef barbeque, pancake stall and more. Please bring picnic blankets and enjoy the beautiful landscapes, our local pub, of course the shop, and also the Heritage Centre which currently has an exhibition on the Covenanted times.



BALMACLELLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

AGM - The AGM was held in April, at which Ian Douglas presented the chairman's report for last year. The office bearers elected to serve up to the time of the triennial elections later in the year are chairman Jane Douglas, vice-chairman Alan Pallister, treasurer Fiona McKinnon, secretary Joyce Harvey and minutes secretary Alistair Hinton.

At the monthly meeting which followed, it was noted that an application for planning permission for dwellings to the rear of the village hall was imminent. This is an area designated for possible development in the Local Plan, but any such development depends upon agreement on adjustment of the access road at the side of the hall.

Blackcraig - On the subject of the proposed Blackcraig Wind Farm, if this were to go ahead, the Glenkens Sustainability Trust would be expected to provide the local community with more explicit details of their participation proposals and the claimed benefits.

Attention was drawn to the lack of any provision in the village for recycling cans - D & G Council acted promptly and a bin has now been provided.

A Marie Curie 'Field of Dreams' is to be investigated.

Village Hall - The separate AGM for the village hall was held on the same day, and officers were elected. It should be noted that membership of the hall committee is not confined to community councillors and others are always welcome to come forward. After the external re-decoration of the hall last year, the next step is re-decoration and improvements internally. This will help promote hall usage. It has been decided that the regular hall committee meeting will in future be held on a two-monthly basis.

Core Paths - Outside the meeting transactions, the matter of 'Core Paths' is of immediate relevance. D & G Council requests initial proposals from community councils by August, and to enable these to be put together, the intention is to have an open day in the village hall where information can be gathered and maps marked up accordingly. This will be publicised in advance, and it will be important to have as wide a participation as possible.

Alan Pallister

CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

At the meeting held on 17 April discussion covered many relevant topics, amongst them being:

Speeding - Parents at the school have expressed concerns at the speed which vehicles travel through the village. PC Wilson suggested that the Community Council and the Head Teacher should request a review of the speed limit at the school with a view to reducing it to 20mph at times when children are coming to or leaving school. A report has been submitted regarding speeding in the village and consequently the local road traffic vehicle will be in the area more often.

Salt Bins - During the bad weather in March many villagers had found it difficult to walk along the street because of the snow or icy conditions. The Chairman will discuss with council officials the possibility of having salt bins placed at suitable points in the village for residents use during very cold weather.

Community Garden - The working party has cut the banking and cleared weed trees and shrubs. Some of the dyking has been completed and there is a further request for stone.

Anna Campbell

DALRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Library - At the April meeting, members were pleased to note the assurance in a letter from Mr W Scobie, Chairman of Education & Community Services Committee, Dumfries & Galloway Council, that Dalry Library would not now be closed. Further to this, Community Councillors and interested residents were pleased to welcome Mr Alastair Johnston, Operations Manager: Cultural Services, Dumfries & Galloway Council, to address them and give his vision for

the development of Dalry Library in the future. Mr Johnston gave a clear indication of the way in which library services might develop if funding were to be available. He took note of the many suggestions and points of view of those present.

Scotland in Bloom - Arrangements regarding the village's entry into the Beautiful Scotland in Bloom contest are progressing. Miss Christine Rae reported that flyers giving information to residents would be circulated in the near future.

Development - The wording of a letter from the Chairman reiterating the Community Council's view on the development of the land adjacent to the playpark was approved by members and duly forwarded to Councillor George Prentice and appropriate Council officials.

Fly-tipping - PC Keith Dickie reminded members that anyone witnessing fly-tipping should note the car/van number and alert Environmental Health and the Police. Police can issue a fixed penalty fine for this offence.

Tom Scott, Chairman

THE ROYAL BURGH OF NEW GALLOWAY & KELLS PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Chairman of the Community Council presented the Chairman's Report for 2005-2006 at the last meeting. The report covered the four main issues concerning New Galloway; The Town Hall, Old Edinburgh Road, parking in New Galloway and maintenance issues.

The Town Hall report covered mainly the repairs to the clock, dampness problems and guttering, although there is still much work to be done. The cost of hiring the building was also reported, as was disabled access. The Old Edinburgh Road report pointed out that necessary repairs have still not been carried out by the local authority. Parking in New Galloway and along Loch Ken continues to be an issue. When reporting on maintenance issues, the Chairman praised the standard of grass cutting around the town, especially around the time of the Alternative Games. The Chairman concluded the report by thanking all the councillors and all concerned who have assisted the council over the last year.

CORE PATH NETWORK OPEN DAY

Dumfries & Galloway Council's Access Officers are holding a drop-in open day on Wednesday 7 June in New Galloway Town Hall from 10am until 8pm. The council is currently looking for people who enjoy walking, cycling and horse riding to put forward suggestions for local walks as a basis for a network of pathways across the region.

If you would like more information please contact Roy Hooker on 01644 420453.

REGULAR USER GROUPS AT DALRY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Monday 1.30 - 4.30pm Paint and Art
Bill Hines - 01644 430224

Monday - Friday 9.15 - 11.45am
Glenkens Playgroup
Julie Moore - 01644 460687

Wednesday 1.30 - 3.00pm Glenkens
Mother & Toddlers

Sarah-Jane Mackenzie 01644 430429
Tuesday 2.00pm - Good Neighbours Club
Mabel Young - 01644 430472

Thursday 2.00 - 4.00pm Craft Class
Jean Maltman - 01644 430497

Drama Club
Harvey Hamilton 01644 430398

For further details on booking
the Community Centre or any
other information needed please
contact Bill Hines 01644 430224
(Very reasonable rates for private hire)

GLENKENS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

There will be a meeting on 26th of June in Dalry Town Hall. Stephen Phillips from Burness solicitors in Glasgow has been invited to speak at this meeting as he is Scotland's leading expert on Cooperatives, Community Businesses, Community Interest Companies and related structures for Trusts. The meeting aims to explain the process of public consultation, individual opportunities for investment into renewables, a scheme to extend share ownership to those without the private means to invest and to finalise a range of questions to be used in the consultation process.

The public meeting will be held in Dalry Town Hall at 7pm on Monday 26th June. Speakers at this event will include those with:

- Legal expertise to advise on appropriate community and cooperative structures and on how to negotiate with energy generating and other larger companies, agencies and public bodies
- Ideas for using a variety of small scale renewable energy devices in homes, work places, schools and public buildings
- Experience in conducting this kind of in depth community consultation process

For further information
please contact
Roland Chaplain,
Tel: 01644 430138,
email:
roland@glenkensbb.co.uk

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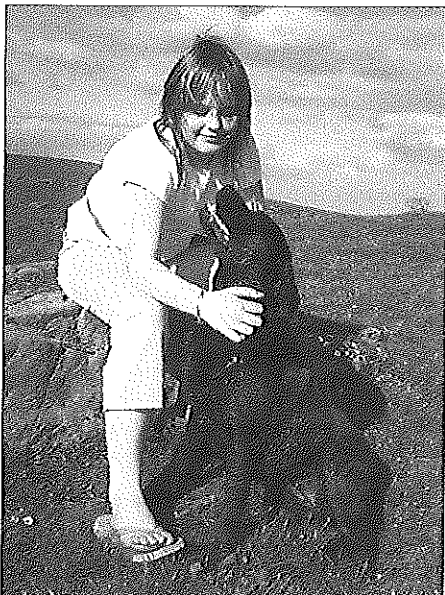
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YOUR DOG LABRADOR RETRIEVER



Connie and Fen

Breed History & Characteristics

The Labrador Retriever is the most popular breed of dog in the world, playing the role of family pet and working gundog equally well. The breed originated in Canada where the dogs were used by fishermen to drag in nets and retrieve any fallen fish from the icy waters. It was around the start of the 19th century that the Labrador arrived in Britain, but it was not officially recognised as a breed until 1903.

In the name Labrador Retriever, the 'retriever' part of the name is the type of dog – a dog which has been bred to retrieve – and Labrador is the actual breed name. Originally these dogs were always black, but today there are three recognised coat colours – black, yellow and chocolate.

Main Uses in the Glenkens

The Glenkens is a popular shooting area, and most people who shoot will have either a working Labrador or Springer Spaniel. There are a multitude of other gundog breeds, but these tend to be the most popular in this area, and nationwide. The Spaniel flushes the game – usually pheasants here in the Glenkens – and the Labrador retrieves the fallen birds.

Labrador Retrievers as Pets

Labradors tend to make wonderful family pets as they have an easy-going, friendly and willing temperament. They do have a lot of energy however, so often get into trouble through sheer exuberance. They are intelligent, trainable and have a huge sense of fun.

Anna Nielsen and her partner Eric's black Lab Trigger is both a pet and a working dog. Anna trained Trigger to retrieve, and says he was "Incredibly easy to train as his nature is so eager to please, and retrieving is so instinctual to Labs".

Eric says about Labradors "they're sensitive dogs and can tell when you're unwell and need cuddles!" Their dog Trigger has hip dysplasia, a genetic condition which causes arthritis and discomfort in the joints and is mostly found in large breeds. Anna says "when buying a puppy make sure you find out if the parents have been hip-scored (a low hip score is good), and look out for how a puppy moves as it can sometimes be spotted in the puppies. Not that we ever regret getting Trigger, despite his hips – It's just something we keep working with, making sure he doesn't over-work his joints by excessive jumping and running."

Other Working Areas

These dogs are the most renowned breed as guide dogs for the blind. This is due to their intelligence, patience and caring nature. Labradors are also used in a variety of other fields such as police 'sniffer' dogs and hearing dogs for the deaf.

Training

Start training your dog from the day you bring it home. Even at nine weeks, a puppy will learn commands like 'come', 'sit', 'stay', 'down' and 'heel' if you work at it in short, fun sessions. As Labradors are very food motivated (hence you see a lot of rather pudgy Labs), the use of food as a reward during training works well. Use very small bits of food, or ideally part of the dog's daily meal ration, to reward correct behaviour. Labradors are also very playful dogs, so play as a training reward can be extremely effective. This is often used for guide dog and police dog training – when the dog offers the correct behaviour, its favourite toy is produced and it gets a couple of chases of the ball or whatever it likes best.

Twelve year old Connie is training her dog Fen as a gundog. "Fen is four, and she is very friendly and enthusiastic but a bit too much so! I have taught her to sit and to stay just now, which I am very pleased about, and she will do this with the distractions of my mum and baby brother around too... The next thing I am working on is for her to heel and lie down, and once she is generally obedient I can start getting her to retrieve".

Finding a Dog

When you go and see a litter, make sure you ask to see the puppies with their mum and if possible their dad also. Pick them up and see how they react. Are they fearful or relaxed? Do they seem used to people? For a family pet, you should ideally go for a puppy from a home where it has been handled a lot, preferably also by children. Try and pick a pup that isn't the pushiest, but is also not the shyest – a middling one.

If you would like to adopt a dog, check out local rescue centres (Dumfries & Galloway Canine Rescue Centre – 01387 770210 or SSPCA Dunragit Animal Welfare Centre – 01581 400253) or find a breed specific rescue centre – the only one I can find in Scotland is run by Mrs Salmon up in Fife; 01337 85836.

Please feel free to contact me with any interesting or entertaining dog-related stories, or if you have any comments or suggestions for this feature. Call Sarah on 01644 430138 or email glenkengazette@hotmail.co.uk

Sarah Ade

WANTED! Grey Squirrel Sightings!

There has been an increase in the number of grey squirrel sightings in recent weeks in Galloway. Grey squirrels have been reported on Forrest Estate, Balmaclellan, Crossmichael, Castle Douglas, Wood of Cree Nature Reserve and Garlieston.

It is unclear how these squirrels are moving into the area – they could be moving south from Ayrshire or north over the English border. Grey squirrels will use natural corridors such as woodlands, hedgerows and watercourses lined with shrubs and trees to disperse.

Grey squirrels not only compete with red squirrels for resources but also carry a virus known as 'squirrelpox'. To our knowledge grey squirrels suffer no ill effects of the virus however if transmitted to red squirrels, it is fatal. They can suffer lesions to the eyes, feet, mouth and genitalia and become increasingly more lethargic. They often die after approximately 2 weeks.

It is thought that over 60% of grey squirrels in England and Wales carry antibodies to the virus which means they may have the ability to pass on the disease although at this stage it is unknown how the virus is transmitted. Grey squirrels are moving across the Scottish/English border and grey squirrels carrying the virus have been controlled in Lockerbie, Langholm and Newcastleton. So far no red squirrels in Scotland have died from Squirrelpox. It is unknown how far virus carrying grey squirrels have travelled into D&G but it is imperative that all grey squirrels are reported as soon as possible with a date and location. I run a trap loan scheme whereby traps, blood testing kits and training can be provided to anyone who has grey squirrel(s) on their land. It is vital that anyone controlling grey squirrels takes blood samples to be tested for pox so that we can monitor closely the spread of the virus and trapping may be targetted in the appropriate areas.

For further information, to report a sighting or to assist with grey squirrel control, please contact:

Ann-Marie MacMaster
Red Squirrel Conservation Officer
at Carlow House,
Locharbriggs, Dumfries, DG1 1QS
Tel: 01387 711804 or
Mob: 07733 121837
E-mail ann-marie@red-squirrels.org.uk
Web :www.red-squirrels.org.uk

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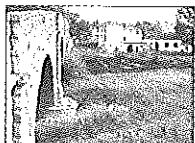
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NEW GALLOWAY - Our Historic Burgh

by Helen Bolton - PART XXX

The Hydro-scheme Takes Shape



Before work on the construction of the enormous hydro-scheme could take place, certain land-purchase problems had to be resolved. 'Clatteringshaws Farm' had been bought by the Earl of Mar in 1927, for the sporting rights, and also because it was the site of a decisive battle between Robert the Bruce and the English, and Mar claimed direct descent from Bruce! Through his agents, Barton and Pearman, Mar made it clear he was not prepared to sell the part of the farm needed for the dam, he insisted the whole farm was purchased.

Mar, in 1927, had paid £1,200 for the farm and the assessed value of the property, house, farm, woodlands, fishings and shootings was £65 per annum. A usual figure for the purchase of land was twenty times the annual rateable value shown in the valuation roll, therefore £1,300 was a reasonable price. Mar, however, wanted £4,500! After much haggling his agents accepted £1,900, subject to Mar retaining Bruce's Stone and five yards of land around it with rights of entry, departure and return. Payment was made in December 1931, and in April 1932 Mar sold Bruce's Stone to the National Trust.

Some 1500 men were employed in the construction of the Galloway Hydro-scheme, and about 500 of these worked on the Glenlee tunnel, a massive project. Accommodation camps were

set up at Clatteringshaws, Craigenbay, Craighinnie and Glenlee. Problems arose over local men applying for work, as they were expected to live-in at the camps at a cost of 22/6 (£1.12) per week, even when they lived within travelling distance of the tunnel. Eventually works buses were laid on to run morning and evening from Dalbeattie to Tongland, but the employment, or lack of it, for the local men continued to be a source of trouble throughout the construction period.

Living conditions in the workers camps were, to say the least of it, spartan. However, in August 1932 a Church of Scotland chaplain, Rev. Thomas Hitman, was appointed to tend the men's social, spiritual and welfare needs. Rev. Hitman had formerly been chaplain to the Lochaber Hydro Scheme in Inverness-shire, and was familiar with the problems facing the workers. Regardless of religious following, the men attended services held at camps, and soon Rev. Hitman became totally involved in his new charge. He organised concerts, indoor games including billiards, carpet bowls, draughts, etc., and also set up library facilities at each camp, books and magazines being collected from local residents. A football league was also started, and matches were played between the camps, and also with local teams. Initially Rev. Hitman travelled between the camps by bicycle or on public transport, but the number of camps increased as the scheme progressed, and the Presbytery eventually provided him with a motor cycle, and his average weekly mileage rose to about 170!

The large numbers of men employed on the scheme gave rise to some concern regarding the policing of the Glenkens district. Two additional constables were appointed, but in the event their presence was hardly necessary, so little trouble being reported. One wonders if this would be the case today!

ABBAS REST ORPHANS

The coffee morning held at Dalry Community Centre on 6th May was a great success. It raised £921.70 to buy medicines for the children in the remote villages of Chiringa, Muona, Ngabu and also the surrounding settlements. This is an area of Malawi where other aid does not reach. This wonderful amount would not have been raised without the team effort of the ladies of the Glenkens, too many to mention by name, who donated so much time and effort whether with baking, raffle prizes, bric-à-brac, etc. and help on the day. There were also many kind donations of money given on the day to help with our funds. Thank you all once again, your help was very much appreciated.

Avril Brown & Barbara Colbenson, Dalry

Glenkens Gazette Advertising Rates 2006

Advert	Format	Size	Price per issue	Discount for Block of 3 ads
Basic Small	Black & white	6cm x 6cm	£15.00	10%
Basic Small	Colour	6cm x 6cm	£30.00	10%
Quarter page	Black & white	9cm x 13.5cm	£35.00	10%
Quarter page	Colour	9cm x 13.5cm	£65.00	25%
Half page	Colour	13cm x 18cm	£120.00	25%
Full page	Colour	18cm x 27cm	£200.00	25%

Contact

To place an advert please contact the Glenkens Gazette on 01644 420374

GLENKENS '73 CLUB August Panto

On Thursday the 24th August a casting meeting will be held to audition for parts in this year's pantomime. It will take place in the games room at The Lochinvar Hotel, Dalry, at 7.30pm. Anyone who would like to take part or help in any way (scenery, costumes, music, choreography, etc.) will be most welcome. Children MUST be accompanied by a parent or other suitable adult. For further details contact any member of the committee or Sheila Little on 01644 430257

Carsphairn Show

Saturday 3rd June

SHEEP DOG TRIALS SHEEP,
CHILDRENS' PETS,
SPORTS, HILL RACE
INDUSTRIAL SECTION
CRAFT TENT
DANCE AT NIGHT

Entries on day - secretary:

Jean Gibbon
01556 505478

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Mon, Wed, Fri 3-3.30 pm
Tues & Thurs 6-6.30 pm

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01556 502263

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01644 430393

07834 321789

Glenkens Community & Arts Trust

LINKING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE GLENKENS

GCAT coming events:

ARTISTS ARE INVITED TO
SUBMIT WORK FOR THE
**GLENKENS
ANNUAL
ART EXHIBITION
2006**

to be held in Dalry town hall
20th - 23rd JULY 2006
Entry forms are available from:
GCAT, The Old Bank,
New Galloway, DG7 3RN
Tel: 01664 420374

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01644 420374**

RSAMD RETURNS TO THE GLENKENS



The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama returns to the Glenkens in June with a performance and workshop programme presented by the Academy's second year traditional music students. The students, who are currently touring around Scotland with their band, Agus an Cù, which means "And a Dog" in Gaelic, will be performing at the Kenbridge Hotel, near New Galloway on Monday 5 June at 7.30pm. This will be followed on the Tuesday by a day of workshop tuition for primary and secondary pupils in schools around the Glenkens.

"Their previous tours have been a showcase for the wealth and breadth of young talent in the Scottish Music Department," says Jacqueline France, the tour organiser, "and this year's event promises to continue that trend."

The 15 strong band consists of an impressive lineup of fiddles, pipes, clarsach, accordion, piano, whistle, percussion and Scots and Gaelic song, with a few instrumental surprises along the way. Many of the students have already been busy representing the Academy all over the world and followers of the success stories to have already emerged from this department can be sure of seeing some future high fliers at this concert.

Tickets for the concert, which cost £5.00 full price and £3.00 concession are available on the door or in advance from the Glenkens Community & Arts Trust, High Street, New Galloway or by phoning 01644 420374.

GLENKENS ART EXHIBITION

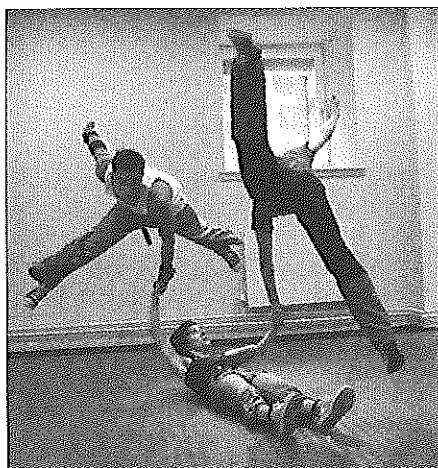


The biggest date in the local community's art diary, the Glenkens Annual Exhibition will be taking place this year from Thursday 20 July until Sunday 23 July in Dalry Town Hall. The exhibition, which offers original works for sale by local artists, is open to the public from the Thursday until the Sunday, from 10am -8pm each day, except Sunday, when it will be open from 10am until 6pm.

Last year's exhibition was a huge success with 34 local artists, both professional and amateur, displaying over 100 pieces of work. The quality and range of the works on display was very impressive, and of a consistently high standard.

All artists living in the Glenkens 01644 telephone code area are eligible to enter, although there are restrictions on the number and type of exhibits which you may submit. If you would like an entry form with rules of entry, you can pick them up from shops and post offices around the Glenkens, as well as the GCAT shop, or you can call GCAT on 01644 420374 if you would like one posted out to you.

yDance



Scottish Youth Dance's yDance project are coming back to the Glenkens in June to begin a year long programme of Street Dance and hip-hop workshops.

The company have been to the Glenkens twice in the last year. In the spring of 2005 they ran some of the taster dance workshops at Dalry School and in October they returned with more workshops as well as a performance of their fantastic production, "Story of the Blues." Their previous workshops proved a hit with local pupils, especially the boys who loved their hip-hop head-spinning action. This time they are returning thanks to grants from the Scottish Arts Council, The Holywood Trust and Leader+.

The first block of 4 workshops will take place in venues around the Glenkens from Tuesday 6th until Tuesday 27th June. They are aimed at young people of secondary school age and beyond. The first workshops on 6th June will offer P7 primary school and Castle Douglas High pupils a taster session of what the company have to offer. The following three sessions on 13th, 20th and 27th June will take place in Dalry School. Each session a workshop will take place during school hours for Dalry pupils and will be followed by an after school workshop for anyone who would like

to participate. If transport home after the workshop is a problem, get in touch and if we get enough numbers we will run the community mini-bus.

There will be a small 50p charge for the after school sessions, although a free yDance water bottle and T-shirt will be provided to those who book all 4 sessions. If you want more information or to book a place please call GCAT on 01644 420374.

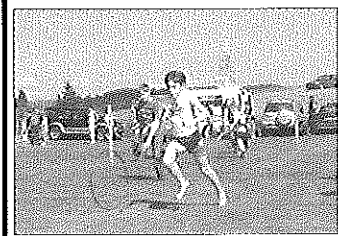
Mentoring programme: In order for the street dance project to continue developing into the future we are looking for local dance teachers willing to come along to the workshops and be trained by yDance. The training will take place in the form of a mentoring scheme and once the yDance project finishes next year there will be opportunities for the newly trained street dance teachers to continue working with local young people in the long term. As there is a shortage of this type of dance teacher in the Dumfries and Galloway region there are sure to be other freelance opportunities out there to work with other community groups offering Street Dance workshops. If you are interested in participating in this mentoring scheme please get in touch with GCAT on 01644 420374

THE ALTERNATIVE GAMES WEEKEND

The dates for this year's Alternative Games Weekend are Friday 4 to Sunday 6 August. As usual the weekend kicks off on the Friday evening with the Alternative Burns Supper and Ceilidh in New Galloway Town Hall. It is followed on the Saturday with the Glenkens Children's Festival which takes place in New Galloway Town Park from 12 noon until 4.00pm. Yet again it promises to be an afternoon of fun for all the family with storytelling, craft activities, circus antics and lots more.

The world famous Alternative Games takes place on Sunday 6 August, again in New Galloway Town Park. The usual activities will be on offer including the Snail Races, Balmaclellan Skittles and the World championship Gird n' Cleek, as well as lots of entertainment, stalls, BBQ etc.

If you would like to help out at any of the events, run a stall, juggle.... whatever, please get in touch with GCAT (Children's Festival) on 01644 420374 or Brian Edgar (Alternative Games) on 01644 420288





GCAT MATTERS

GREEN LIGHT FOR THE GLENKENS CENTRE

At a meeting of the Directors of GCAT held on 24th May a proposal to proceed to the next stage of development was unanimously approved. This means that – 5 years on – work can finally start on site next month. Working closely with architects ARP Lorimer and Quantity Surveyors McGowan Miller, the building firm Kennedy Construction from Auchencruive have been appointed. In an open tendering process they proved to be the preferred contractors and with agreed savings to their initial bid, they are now ready to start. So, with luck and good management, the Glenkens Centre should be completed by this time next year. The whole essence behind the project is to bring into the area quality and professional skills, services and entertainment that currently barely exist.

Funding for the whole capital project has now been secured - though active fundraising for different aspects of the building will still continue.

Plans for the building are on view at the new GCAT offices in the former Clydesdale Bank building so do drop in if you would like to see them.

Once the building is completed it will have several different functions and serve the community in a variety of ways. It will become a modern and quality venue accessible to everyone and can be hired by businesses and training providers for neutral meeting space, conferences, workshops and so on.

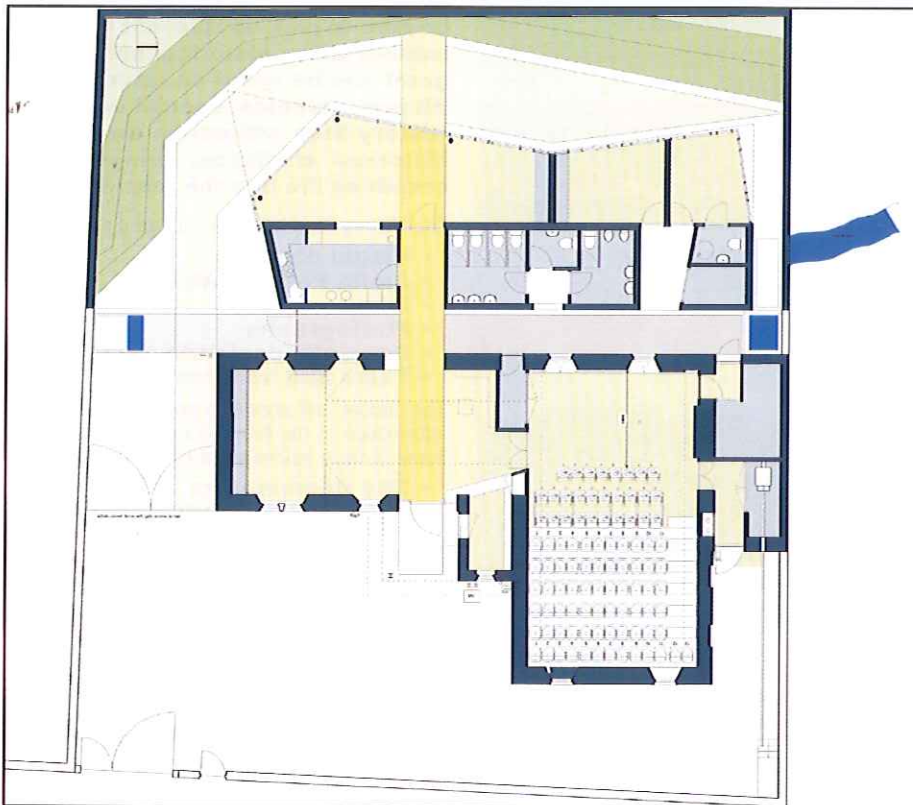
**IT'S YOUR BUILDING,
SO PLEASE HAVE YOUR SAY.**

Staff Changes:

With the capital funds in place to proceed to the next stage, Andrew Ward, leaves GCAT after 3½ years to take up a post at Creetown Initiative.

Mary McIlvenna has been keeping the books in order for GCAT right from the start and now leaves us to spend more time in her garden. We thank them very much for all they have contributed and will miss them both greatly as they have, in their separate ways, been integral to the development of both GCAT the organisation and the creation of the Glenkens Centre. They will, I know, continue to play their part in the future as willing and able volunteers and we will look forward to seeing them at various events and occasions.

Meanwhile Helen Friedrichsen joins us as Office and Finance Manager and has already settled in well.



THE GLENKENS CENTRE WILL BE...

A VENUE FOR THE GLENKENS COMMUNITY TO ACCESS:

- ❖ Professional help and advice on services and benefits
- ❖ Community minibs ❖ Friendly volunteer network ❖ Community garden
- ❖ Computers and internet access ❖ Classes and workshops to develop new skills
- ❖ Facilities and activities for young people

A VENUE WHERE THE ARTS AND EDUCATION CAN FLOURISH:

- ❖ Opportunities for all members of the community to participate in a creative life
- ❖ Partnerships with national companies and organisations
- ❖ RSAMD Youth Works 4-year programme specialising in traditional music
- ❖ Small-scale touring theatre ❖ Film club ❖ Literary events
- ❖ Children's events, including an annual Children's Festival
- ❖ Comedy evenings ❖ Visual arts with a temporary Exhibition Gallery
- ❖ Annual community art exhibition ❖ Workshops, training and masterclasses

A VENUE FOR VISITORS TO DISCOVER:

- ❖ An involvement in a friendly welcoming community
- ❖ The History Stop to learn about the history and heritage of the Glenkens
- ❖ Local arts and crafts ❖ What's on in the Glenkens
- ❖ What's on in Dumfries and Galloway
- ❖ The beauty of the countryside and rural pursuits
- ❖ Hotels, restaurants and accommodation
- ❖ Sporting activities ❖ Local businesses

A VENUE FOR LOCAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL BUSINESSES TO HIRE:

- ❖ Training days and courses
- ❖ Conference facilities with space for break-out sessions
- ❖ Private meeting spaces ❖ Seminars
- ❖ Top quality Audio and Visual facilities

THE HISTORY STOP



GCAT has received a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to set up a focal point within the Glenkens Centre where people can discover about the heritage of the Glenkens. To be called The History Stop it will act as a signpost to various local sites of interest and will be where visitors can go to access information and publications about local heritage. They will be able to pick up relevant guides and maps which will encourage them to explore other historical and cultural locations around the Glenkens. The grant will be spent on refurbishment of the dedicated space, fixtures and fittings, graphics, special equipment and back-up services. Hopefully The History Stop will enrich the visitor's experience and will help regenerate historical traditions, bringing them to a new and younger audience, breathing life into the fascinating history of the Glenkens.

The History Stop will be a dedicated area within the centre which will feature:

- Visual displays
- Audio Presentations
- Films
- Photographs
- Specially designed maps, guides and collectors cards
- Talks and seminars

The displays will provide a potted history of various subjects as well as where to go and what to see information in the form of a collectable guide which the visitor can pick up then go off to explore. Some of these guides might cover topics such as:

- The Covenanters
- The Gordon family of Kenmure Castle
- The Galloway Hydro-electric scheme
- James Clerk Maxwell
- The Scottish Wars of Independence

The History Stop will encourage visitors to explore other locations around the Glenkens, for example:

- The Murray Monument
- Bruce's Stone
- Monuments to the Covenanters
- Carsphairn Heritage Centre
- Iron Age archaeological sites and burial cairns

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Lots of people visiting the Glenkens would like to know more about the history of the area and what to go and see, but how can they find out? How many people living in the Glenkens know about our local landmarks and their history? Could you help a member of the community, visitor or passing tourist to understand the significance of these historical sites?

If you can, then probably you share our passion for the Glenkens' local history. And perhaps you would like to help bring that history to life by joining the new group being set up by the Glenkens Community and Arts Trust that aims to bring the character and history of the Glenkens alive for the people who live here and our many welcome visitors.

We would like to hear from people interested in:

- Reporting local features and landmarks
- Interviewing and recording local people with long memories
- Researching
- Creating materials that will illustrate and explain Glenkens history
- Holding occasional exhibitions and special events

We'll be having an open general meeting soon to brainstorm ideas and find out from you what you think makes the Glenkens so special in its character and history.

So, please pick up the phone, write or email NOW so we can get back to you with the details soon:

HISTORY STOP, GCAT Office, The Old Bank, New Galloway
Tel: 01644 420374 Email: info@glenkens-arts.com



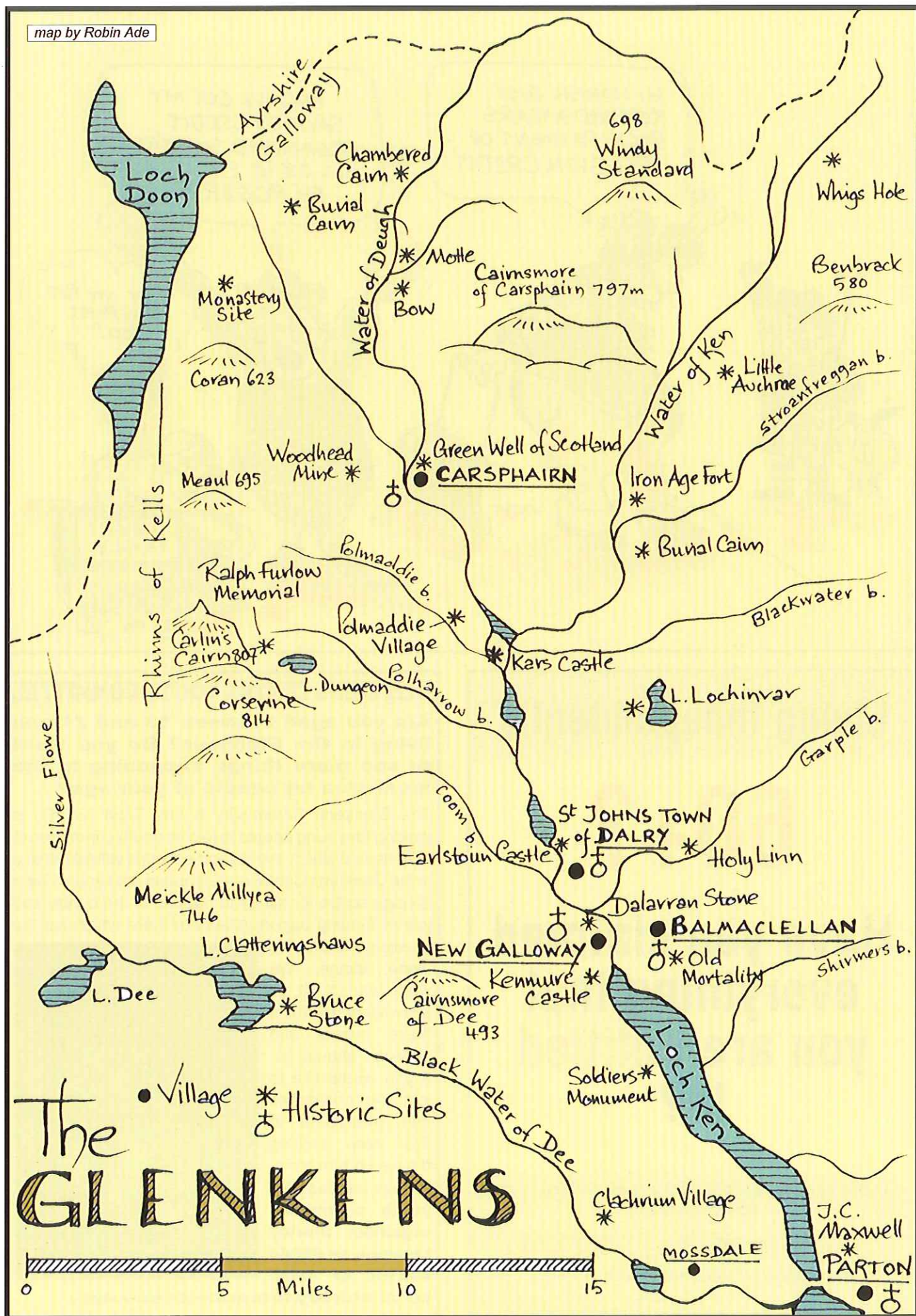
Can you name the sites in the photographs and do you know the history behind them?

How many historical sites in the Glenkens can you name?

Once you've had a think, have a look at the map to see how many you got.



map by Robin Ade





Living Independently

60+?

Have you claimed everything that you are entitled to?

To find out confidentially what you are entitled to and how to apply call:

Liz Cole on 01644 420374

Supported by Glenkens Community & Arts Trust

GLENKENS CENTRE YOUTH COMMITTEE

Are you aged between 13 and 21 and living in the Glenkens? Do you want to see more things happening in the local area for people of your age?

The Glenkens Community & Arts Trust (GCAT) is looking for young people to join its youth committee to help decide which events and services will take place in the Glenkens Centre once it opens next year. There is huge scope for things to happen in the centre and lots of funding opportunities out there which can be accessed to provide these things. We want you to let us know what you think these events and services should be.

If you would like to join the committee and participate in this very exciting development, **please contact our youth committee organiser Shirley Lemmon on 01644 430166 or email her at shirley.lemmon@tesco.net.**



MINI-BUS TRIP TO SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

GCAT has organised a trip on the GTI mini-bus to the Scottish Parliament on the 22nd of June. We don't yet have a driver, so if there is anyone out there who would like to volunteer, please get in touch so the trip can go ahead!! As the trip is on a Thursday, visitors can watch First Minister's Question Time which will take place in the Debating Chamber which has now re-opened. Tickets for the trip cost £12.00 which includes transport and a sandwich lunch. Early booking is recommended as there are limited seats available on the bus. The bus will leave the Glenkens at 8.45am. The day's schedule is roughly as follows:

08.45 Depart Glenkens	12.45 Lunch including Q & A Session with MSP
11.15 Arrive Scottish Parliament- Coffee/Tea and meet MSP	13.30 Tour of Building
11.40 First Minister Questions	14.30 Depart
12.30 Tour of Debating Chamber	17.00 Return to Glenkens

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BOOK A SEAT ON THE BUS, OR INDEED, DRIVE THE BUS, PLEASE CALL GCAT ON 01644 420374

GLENKENS TRANSPORT INITIATIVE HELP URGENTLY NEEDED

We URGENTLY need Drivers to help operate the New Registered Route on Wednesday evenings. FREE training for new drivers can be arranged, but we also need existing drivers of 'user-groups' to do their bit - It only means driving the Mini-Bus for about 2 hours from Dalry into Castle Douglas via Parton and returning via Laurieston and New Galloway.

IF EVERYONE DOES THEIR TURN, IT WILL ONLY MEAN HELPING THREE OR FOUR TIMES A YEAR! WE DO NEED TO KEEP THIS ROUTE GOING FOR THE SAKE OF THE USER-GROUPS, GTI TRIPS AND INCOME TO HELP THE COST OF RUNNING THE BUS.

If you are interested in being trained as a 'mini-bus driver' please ring Keith Cooper on 01644 420374 for training to be arranged. If you are already a 'driver' please ring Keith to inform him when you can help, or please try to make yourself available when he rings you.

GLENKENS TRANSPORT INITIATIVE (GTI)

The new registered route on Wednesday evenings is now operating weekly. Hopefully it will soon be followed by a better service provided by the Council, but please make use of the GTI service - it's there for your use in an effort to try and improve public transport in the area.

The timetable for this service is as follows:

2045 hrs Dept DALRY (Underhill bus stop)	2200 hrs Laurieston
2050 hrs Ken Bridge Hotel	2210 hrs Mossdale
2105 hrs Parton	2225 hrs New Galloway
2110 hrs Crossmichael	2230 hrs Ken Bridge Hotel
2120 hrs Arrive CASTLE DOUGLAS	2235 hrs Arrive DALRY
2145 hrs Dept CASTLE DOUGLAS	

This service is the start of an improvement to public services on both sides of Loch Ken, as later in the year a new daily 'early evening' service will be launched.

The new service operated by GTI will not only fit in with other Public Services in and out of Castle Douglas including the 'Hospital Bus' from Dumfries, but will also give visitors to the area staying in Dalry and New Galloway, the opportunity of a late evening 'Round the Loch' trip.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BOOK THE MINI-BUS OR IF YOU WANT ANY MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT KEITH COOPER, GTI ADMINISTRATOR ON 01644 420374.

**GTI BUS TRIPS
JUNE TRIPS**

SUNDAY 11TH JUNE 2006

APPLEBY HORSE FAIR

DEPARTS DALRY 9.30AM

PICK UP NEW GALLOWAY, MOSSDALE, LAURISTON AND CROSSMICHAEL ON REQUEST. (JOURNEY APPROX 2HRS.)

RETURNS TO DALRY APPROX 6PM

TICKETS £7 EACH -

(£6 IF BOOKED AND PAID FOR BY WED 7TH JUNE)

SATURDAY 24TH JUNE 2006

CONCORDE MUSEUM ETC. EDINBURGH

DEPARTS DALRY 9.00AM PICK UP NEW GALLOWAY, MOSSDALE, LAURISTON AND CROSSMICHAEL ON REQUEST. (JOURNEY APPROX 3HR)

RETURNS TO DALRY APPROX 7.00PM

TICKETS £7 EACH -

(£6 IF BOOKED AND PAID FOR BY TUE 20TH JUNE)

PLEASE NOTE THESE PRICES ARE FOR TRANSPORT ONLY AND DO NOT INCLUDE ENTRY FEES

JULY TRIPS

SUNDAY 9 JULY

AND MONDAY 10 JULY

GTI WILL RUN THE MINI-BUS TO GARLSTON TO LINK UP WITH THE STEAM FERRY TO ISLE OF MAN -

FARE FOR COACH £4 PER HEAD.

THIS STEAM FERRY ONLY RUNS TWICE A YEAR, AND

ALLOWS FOUR HOURS ON THE ISLE OF MAN -

FARE ON FERRY IS £28 PER PERSON.

SATURDAY 22ND JULY

ALL DAY TRIP TO LANARK - FARE £7

(£6 IF BOOKED BY TUESDAY 18TH JULY)

FOR FULL DETAILS OF THESE TRIPS PLEASE SEE LOCAL POSTERS OR CONTACT GCAT OFFICE

TO BOOK PLEASE TELEPHONE 01644 420374 OR CALL AT THE GCAT OFFICE IN NEW GALLOWAY (THE 'OLD CLYDESDALE BANK') THESE TRIPS WILL BE CANCELLED UNLESS SUFFICIENT NUMBERS HAVE BOOKED BY THE DATE FOR DISCOUNTED TICKETS, SO PLEASE BOOK NOW!

COMMUNITY BUS SCHOOL RUN

You might be pleased to see that the Community Bus is being used every morning to transport pupils from the Mossdale area to Kells Primary School. The bus is still available for hire all day after 9am on weekdays during term time and at all other times on weekends and during school holidays, so please do make use of it!

Tel. 01644 420374

THE CLACHAN FAIR

This year the Clachan Fair is going to be a little more lively. During the Clachan Fair week, which runs from Saturday the 3rd till Saturday the 10th of June, all the traditional favourite events will be happening - Whist Drive, Car Treasure Hunt, Raffle, Darts, Bowls and Dominoes Tournaments, Quiz Night and Pet Show, together with concerts by the Edith Ferguson Ensemble, The Stewartry Silver Band and a night of Traditional Scottish Music and ending on the final day with the procession through the streets of Dalry.

But this year the procession will be led by a horse-drawn carriage. And there will be a 5-a-side football tournament during the week in the newly built floodlit games area at Dalry School. Also a Junior and a Senior disco are taking place for which the music will be provided by Robbie Struthers, a student at Dalry School, with his high-tech laptop DJ skills. There will be a free film show in Dalry Town Hall put on by the Film Society, and an all-star Jazz Party with John Fenner in the Lochinvar. And to liven up the afternoon after the procession has finished, the Westsound Radio Roadshow will be on the Dalry School grounds from 3-6pm. See page 11 for an itinerary of events. If you would like any more info on what's going on at the Clachan Fair, please contact Mark Stoves, Co-Chairman, Clachan Fair Committee, e-mail: mark.stoves@btinternet.com. Mobile: 07850 193807

CLACHAN FAIR

Saturday June 3rd - Saturday June 10th 2006

Event	Venue	Date / Time	Ticket Price
Edith Ferguson Ensemble	Town Hall	Saturday June 3 rd Doors 6pm	£5.00
Songs of Praise Silver Band & Glenkens Choir	Church Walk	Sunday June 4 th From 6.30pm	
Whist Drive	Town Hall	Monday June 5 th 7pm	£1.50
Darts Tournament	Lochinvar	Monday June 5 th	£2.00 per entrant
Treasure Hunt	Lochinvar	Tuesday June 6 th	£2.00 per person
Film Show	Town Hall	Tuesday June 6 th doors 7pm	FREE!
Pet Show	Newfield	Wednesday June 7 th from 7pm	£1.00 per entrant
Farm Quiz Night	Lochinvar	Wednesday June 7 th from 8.30pm	£2.00 per person
Scottish Night	Town Hall	Thursday June 8 th from 7.30pm	£5.00
Dominoes	Lochinvar	Friday June 9 th last Entry 8pm	£2.00 per entrant
Tournament			
Junior Disco	Town Hall	Friday June 9 th from 4pm - 6pm	£2.00
Under 12's			
Senior Disco	Town Hall	Friday June 9 th From 7pm - 10pm	£3.00
Under 18's			
Raffle Night	Town Hall	Saturday June 10 th from 7.00pm	£1.50
Jazz Party with John Fenner	Lochinvar	Saturday June 10 th from 9.00pm	£6.00 inc. Buffet

GLENKENS SCHOOLS REPORT

DALRY BEATING BULLYING Lauren wins a prize for her beat the bullies box

The children at Dalry Primary entered a Competition to invent an innovative piece of technology which kids would like to see in the year 2020 and perhaps improve school. Ideas ranged from an electric pencil sharpener to a desk tidy, but the invention which won the Tesco Computers for Schools Competition 2006 was Lauren McMath's 'Beat the Bully Box'.

Lauren says "This can be used to stop bullying in school! It is a little box with key holes for power and volume. The teacher keeps the key to operate it. It has a memory which can hold recordings of all conversations throughout one school day. You attach it to your waistband. It is a device which automatically picks up bullying signals such as kicking, pushing, hitting and so on, and sends an alarm signal to the teacher. There is also a cable which connects to the computer to play back the recordings of the day before they automatically delete information on the memory at a certain time. If someone makes a complaint against someone they can be replayed on the computer as evidence." Lauren, in Primary 6 at Dalry Primary, has won herself a digital camera and a computer for the school! Well Done Lauren for your good idea!

Margaret Heuchan

CARSPHAIRN SCHOOL GROUNDS

For several years the pupils at Carsphairn Primary School, with the help of parents and staff, have been working hard to improve their school grounds. They have planted a hedge to provide cover and shelter for wild-life, and each year seeds are planted to give a bright splash of colour in the flower beds.

Last year, the pupils identified six areas for improvement – a mixture of short, medium and long-term projects.

During the Easter Holiday, a tree seat was installed in the school playground. The pupils had raised money by holding a sponsored spell, asking for donations from local businesses and applying for grants. They researched costs on the internet and asked for quotes from various companies. They were delighted to be able to commission a local firm, Rancher of Castle Douglas, to design and install the seat.



KELLS SCHOOL NEWS

HEALTH WEEK 15-19 MAY

It was activity all the way this week. All the pupils had a taster of Yoga and the P3-7 have embarked on 6 weeks of tennis coaching. We are, also, in the middle of our Superscot Awards (Athletics) and, of course, our Outdoor Bowling Season at Dalry has started, with the senior class being tutored every Tuesday by Mr. Sinclair, the Club's Champion.

Lots of action too on the food front where there was reinforcement as to 'good' foods in life – we even had a cow, provided by Highland Heritage – to milk – and it was more difficult than it looks!

FOOTBALL RESULTS

In the Paul Jones Tournament, which takes place throughout the session, Kells Seniors came a creditable 5th out of 19 teams. The first 4 will be going to the final rounds, while Kells will host a tournament on 5th June for the teams who were 5th-8th.

The younger Kells team made it to the Finals of the Fab4s which took place at Dumfries High on 17 May. Although not the winners, they did Kells proud!

FAULKES TELESCOPE IN HAWAII

Although not as big as the James Maxwell's telescope, the senior pupils have had great fun controlling the Faulkes Telescope for the last 6 weeks, from their classroom computers. They were able to direct the telescope onto Jupiter and got some very good images which you can see on the Website. There were Galaxies abound but they did get a super image of the Whirlpool Galaxy. Dr. Jones was very much involved in this project with the pupils – in fact, it was difficult to get him off the computer to let the pupils 'have a go!' It has been an awesome experience – one, the pupils would recommend to any other school.

ECO SCHOOL 'GREEN FLAG'

Kells already has the Bronze and the Silver Award and on Friday, 02 June the pupils are being assessed for their Green Flag – the highest accolade.

The school recycles paper, cans, ink cartridges, phones, clothes, toys – if you have any of these and you want to get rid of them – please put them Kells' way.

ON OFFER: Worm Juice - 2 litres for £1

Kells has its own wormery which produces

composting juice daily. The worms are performing so well that the Eco School Committee have decided to put the surplus on sale. Contact school on :- 01664 420340

BAGS OF KINDLERS FOR THE GLENKENS SENIOR CITIZENS

Kells pupils are now the proud owners of a brand new stage. The old stage, unfortunately cannot be given to anyone else because it has the start of wood worm in it. The Eco School Committee came up with the idea that it could be cut up in to Kindlers for the Senior Citizens. That's when the committee called on the Dads – actually, Mr. Grieve went to with his chain saw and made it look easy. Thank you, Mr and Mrs. Grieve who helped shift the wood as well.

The senior boys set forth with the axes and the girls bag packed for them. They now have 64 bags which they intend to deliver around the villages during the week beginning 12 June. Pupils have made notices which are in the shops at N.G., Balmacellan and Mossdale. If you want a bag, please put your name on the list. They are aware that some citizens have central heating but they promise a bag to everyone on the lists.

RSMD & 'Y' DANCE – All on 06 June

This the pupils are really looking forward to. One of the best days in the school session. The students are great and it is a wonderful experience for the pupils.

'GOLD' AWARD FOR ENTERPRISE.

At Easterbrook Hall, Dumfries. 08 June, 2006. For the second time, Kells has been awarded the Gold Award for Enterprise and have been invited to Easterbrook Hall for the presentation. The pupils have also been asked to have a Display Table illustrating all their Enterprise activities on the day. The Choir, which is now the top choir in Dumfries and Galloway, has been asked to start the whole proceedings off.

School Sports : 20 June at 1.15p.m.
Parents and Community welcome to join us.

School Trip : 29 June

Whole School is going to Drumlanrig.

Thank you to all Parents and friends who have supported Kells throughout the session? It has been greatly appreciated.

Happy Hols! Regards, Nancy Plummer

A GRAND DAY OUT



All of the Third Year pupils from Dalry School had a grand day out when they took part in the Annual Schools Competition at Dumfries and Galloway College on Friday 12th May. This required them to tackle a variety of tasks in teams with girls and boys working together in almost all of them. The events included Cooking, Construction, Household Wiring, Paper Hanging, Travel & Tourism, Making a Newspaper and Fashion Design. All of the teams put in creditable performances and gained praise not only for their effort but also for their good manners and attitude. We did not return with any prizes but the purpose of the day was to enjoy competing and to discover some of what the College has to offer pupils. In our photo are Peter Birch, Scott Kikpatrick and Michelle Murdoch of the Construction Team with the wall that they built.

BRIAN GEMMELL COACHES DALRY PUPILS



A group of Dalry school pupils have been participating in Golf Coaching during their Wednesday Afternoon Activities since Easter. Pictured with the pupils are Golf Professional Brian Gemmell and teachers Mr Carmichael and Mrs Nelson. Brian is most impressed with the attitude and improving skill levels of all the youngsters. This group will shortly be starting a series of Wednesday afternoons at New Galloway Golf Course – many thanks to all at New Galloway for their support with this group.

Fraser Simpson

GLENKENS MEDICAL PRACTICE

General Medical & Dispensing Services

*The Surgery
High Street
New Galloway*

*The Surgery
Kirkland Street
Dalry*

FOR APPOINTMENTS CALL

☎ 01644 420234 ☎

ON THE BEAT : Community Police News with PC Ian Wilson

Thankfully we don't live in an area where we have to think about crime as being a threat to enjoying the summer weather. In many areas people live their lives with a very different routine than us..... Security of personal property is a priority. Because they know if they don't look after their property it will not be there when they come back. I would ask you to think about whether you locked the car, especially at night - it is quite amazing to drive around in the small hours after a hot day and see sun roofs fully open, car windows half open...If I notice them so will anyone who will steal something from the car or the car itself! There are very few break-ins thankfully these days but opportunist criminals will take anything you don't lock up.

If you see anyone acting suspiciously near a vehicle please phone the police or Crimestoppers on 0800 55 111.

Complaints about speeding vehicles especially Goods Vehicles seem to rise at this time of year many of the large firms operate under the WELL DRIVEN SCHEME.

By phoning the number on the back of the vehicle 0800 225533 you are able to report the speed or inconsiderate driving of the driver. More importantly his boss gets a letter which outlines your concerns. You also receive a letter. The impact of these letters especially on road hauliers who are under contract to provide a safe service is immense and may prevent them from renewing contracts with, for example, the Forestry Commission!

GLENKENS HORTICULTURAL SHOW 2006

This year's Glenkens Horticultural Society Show is to be held on Saturday the 26th of August in Dalry Town Hall. Schedules are again free and can be obtained now from your local Post Office and Dalry Garden Centre.

This year an additional trophy is to be awarded for the best hanging basket, trough or container. Entries will be announced on the day of the show. The trophy has been very kindly donated by Miss Pamela Young.

Apart from the horticultural side, there are many other sections such as decorative, handicrafts, photographic and produce. The Junior's section covers a variety of crafts and is open and free to all, even though they may not be a resident in the Glenkens.

The ever popular 'Grow the Largest Sunflower' class is there again, and not only for the Juniors this time - there is also a class for the adults. The flowers are to be grown in the garden and will be judged in situ prior to the show. The results will again be announced on the day of the show. Judging will be on the morning and the show will be open to the public from 1.30pm. The Trophies will be awarded by Mr Tommy Edgar MBE at 3pm.

As ever we need as many exhibitors as possible. New and seasoned campaigners can call Alan Wright on 01644 430291 or Hilda McAdam on 01644 430383 if they require any information on exhibiting.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

COMMUNITY FIRE SAFETY MESSAGE**H F S C (Home Fire Safety Check) Information**

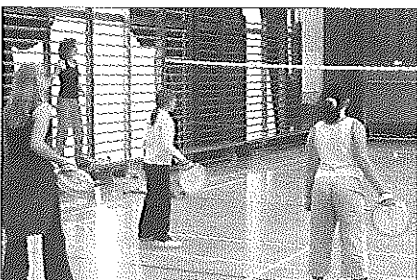
Home fire safety checks are continuing in the Glenkens area with the most recent area being targeted by local firefighters being Corsock, where firefighters have been handing out safety packs and fitting 10 year smoke alarm whilst carrying out a safety check of the residence.

If you do not have a smoke alarm in your house, no matter what age you are, please telephone 01387 252222 and leave your details and the Fire & Rescue Service will contact you to arrange for a mutually suitable time and date to attend and fit one for you.

If you are over 60, disabled, a single parent with a young family, unemployed or on low income, or have a family member with special needs or a dependency on alcohol or drugs, not only will we fit a 10 year smoke alarm for you but we will also carry out a Home Fire Safety Check.

Should you have any questions regarding this please do not hesitate to call 01387 252222 and ask for Stewartry Community Fire Safety Department where I will be pleased to help.

Susan Maxwell, Community Safety Officer, Stewartry

TAMBOURELLI TRAINING AT DALRY SCHOOL

Morag Paterson is a qualified Tambourelli instructor and competes both nationally and internationally in Tambourelli and Tambourello. In Europe they play Tambourello (the original game) which is played with a hard ball, whereas Tambourelli uses a shuttlecock.

She is currently holding training sessions for Dalry School pupils on Wednesday lunchtimes in the school gym. Morag would like to expand these training sessions to encompass the other Glenkens schools - Kells and Carsphairn - and would eventually like to see young team members from the Glenkens travelling to compete in the European tournaments.

The Galloway Championships is on in Newton Stewart on 17th and 18th of June and is open to children and adults. For further information, please contact Elizabeth Tindal on 01988 700791. For more information, or to arrange training sessions, please contact Morag Paterson on 07917 102693 moglet73@hotmail.com

GLENKENS FIRE CADETS

The Glenkens Cadets have recently recommenced their training with a new schedule. Their training is now based upon a four module annual schedule. Each schedule consists of seven weeks. Five of the weeks are purely Fire & Rescue Service skills. They are - Firefighting, Road Traffic Collisions, Breathing Apparatus, and Urban Search and Rescue, and Decontamination.

The Cadets have already had technical input on Fire Safety in the Home, with a fun quiz afterwards. On the practical side of things they have received training in pump operation, hose running, hydrant use, and also branch techniques [this is showing them how we regulate the water going onto a fire from the hose in different ways]. They have progressed onto ladder drills and have also received instruction on Manual Handling and how to avoid injuring themselves.

In addition to the Fire & Rescue Service side of things one week out of each module is purely for outside speakers. We have the Police Road Safety Unit attending and the Casualty Union, who are volunteers skilled at recreating wounds and injuries through make-up.

RED KITE FEEDING STATION

Here is a great picture of interacting red kites taken at the feeding station on Bellymack Hill Farm by Dave McFadzean of Moniaive.

The feeding station is part of the successful Galloway Kite Trail that grows ever more popular with visitors and locals alike. In 2005, ten nests in Galloway produced 18 young kites and many of them can be seen while visiting the feeding station and around the Trail. The local red kite reintroduction project has the aim of returning the red kite to the widespread and common breeding bird that it once was until becoming extinct in Scotland around 130 years ago. Following the final release of four young kites (sourced from North Scotland) in August 2005, the Galloway project will now concentrate on population and nest monitoring. In 2006, it is hoped that with the continued help and support of the ever-growing number of landowners, farmers, gamekeepers and locals whom the kites encounter, we will continue to build on the progress of last year. It is very important to document the progress of the project, both highs and lows, and so we welcome sightings, reports and enquiries regarding nesting kites and kites in general, and we can be contacted on: 01556 670464 Further information on kites and the Galloway Kite Trail can be found by visiting www.gallowaykitetrail.com

George Christie, Red Kite Officer

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CONVENTICLE AT AUCHENCLOY

'In December 1684 Graham of Claverhouse surprised eight Covenanters on Auchencloy Moor off the Raider's Road near Barneywater. Two managed to escape, but four of them were killed on the spot (including the notorious 'Black' James McMichael) and two were taken down to Kirkcudbright where they were executed. Robert Ferguson was buried later where he fell, but the other three bodies were taken to Dalry by their friends and buried in the churchyard. Shortly after, Claverhouse arrived with his troopers and had the bodies exhumed and hung from a tree beside the church. He then made the whole village parade past the corpses as a warning against supporting the Covenanters. They were then allowed to rebury the bodies of Stewart and Grifer, who now lie under a tabletop stone at the north corner of the graveyard near the river. But McMichael's body was left hanging there, until four days later some Covenanting friends crept into the kirkyard at night and took his body away to a safe resting place in the hills. It is said that after the end of the troubles his body was brought back to the kirkyard again and buried in an unmarked grave. Some years ago McMichael's sword was found concealed in the rafters of the Clachan Inn in Dalry and it is currently on display at Carsphairn Heritage Centre as part of their exhibition this year on the Covenanters. In August 1835 a conventicle was held at Auchencloy to raise funds for a memorial to the martyrs. Around 1500 people gathered in that lonely place to sing psalms and hear a memorable sermon from the minister of Girthon. The weather on that day began rather unpromisingly with rain and low mist on the hills, so it was all the more remarkable that such a vast crowd assembled. However just as the service began the mist lifted and the sun broke through, rewarding those who had trekked over the hills. A fine granite monument was built there shortly after. Unfortunately McMichael's name was misspelt as 'MacMichan' on the memorial plaque and in April this year, with support from the Scottish Covenanter Memorials Association, this error was finally corrected.

We are holding a conventicle there again on Sunday 11th June at 3 pm to remember the faith and commitment of the Covenanters, as well as our forbears who gathered in such large numbers at Auchencloy in 1835. All are welcome to attend. To get there, turn onto the Raider's Road near Mossdale and drive for 3.5 miles to the Barneywater turnoff. Turn left onto this road and drive for 1.3 miles. There is then a half mile walk along an old firebreak to the monument. Stout footwear is advised.'

David Bartholomew

A WEALTH OF NATURAL HERITAGE



The Garroch Glen is an estate which has been run by a number of families during its known history, from the Gordons of Kennmure to William Grierson, related to the infamous 'Grierson of Lag'. This unique glen encompasses upland moor, wooded valley, burns and lochs in an environment that is rich in natural heritage and wildlife, and a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Its lands cover areas where Robert the Bruce travelled and Covenanters hid. There is a story of a Covenanter who was captured on his way to Edinburgh and locked in a barn at Old Garroch, but he managed to escape and continue on to Edinburgh safely. Luskie Loch and Garroch Loch used to power the saw mill which was in operation until 1860, and the old mill pond and saw mill are still intact although there is no wheel at present. The oak woods which line the glen were planted for use in the saw mill, where bobbins for the cloth mills were made. And in past times, Luskie Loch and Garroch Loch hosted curling competitions in winter as well as powering the saw mill.

The Garroch Glen is a beautiful place to walk, and special walking routes have been mapped out, bridges built and colour-coded markers placed to show the routes, so it is easy to find your way around.

TIMES OF WORSHIP IN THE GLENKENS

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sundays

Balmaclellan 12 noon 1st
Carsphairn 10.30 am 1st 2nd 3rd (June) 4th 5th (July)
Carsphairn 10.15 am 3rd (July)
Dalry 9.00 am 1st 2nd 3rd 4th
Kells 10.30 am 2nd 3rd 4th

Special Services and Events

4th June, 6.30 pm
Clachan Fair Songs of Praise, Newfield Green,
Dalry, with Sanquhar and District Silver Band

11th June, 3 pm

Conventicle at Auchencloy Monument, off
Raider's Road near Barneywater

30th July, 10.30 am

United Service with Glenkens Church Choir in
Carsphairn Church.

Communion Services

16th July, 10.15 am Carsphairn Church

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH (C of E) St Margaret's, New Galloway

10.30 am Holy Communion
Every Sunday and Wednesday

CATHOLIC CHURCH SERVICES

St John's, Castle Douglas

Masses on -

Saturday 6 pm & Thursday 7 pm

GLENKENS WALKING GROUP

The walks for the coming 2 months will be taking place on Mondays and Wednesdays at 3pm.



The Monday walks we use the glenkens bus which does a pickup at:

Dalry Town Hall - 2.30pm
Balmaclellan Post Office - 2.40pm
New Galloway - 2.45pm

The Wednesday walks - people need to have their own transport although lifts can be arranged.

The Start point varies.

For more info contact: June Hay - 01644 430318 or

Christine Rae - 01644 430209

Peter Corson 01556 502386, 07736 086161 or peter.corson@nhs.net

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Garroch Glen Environmental Tours

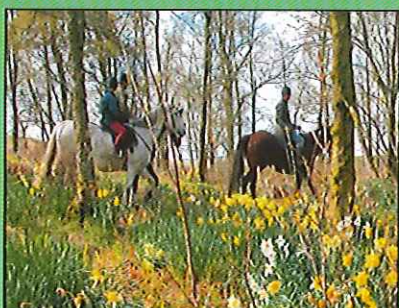


Enjoying the great outdoors comes naturally on a Garroch Glen Tour - spring, summer, autumn or winter, Garroch Glen offers a unique opportunity to explore mile after mile of South West Scotland's wonderful

countryside and enjoy a variety of country pursuits.

From guided walks to chauffeured drives to horse and carriage tours, fishing to hill rides, alfresco picnics to boathouse barbecues, we can organise a tailor-made day for you. Families and groups of up to 12 are welcome. Accompanied by an expert guide, your tailor-made visit can be as short as 2 hours or last a full day.

Whatever you want to do, whenever you choose to visit, however you like to explore, we will be delighted to lead you on a fun and fascinating tour of Garroch Glen planned especially for you.



For more information contact
Nick Roper-Caldbeck:
Tel - 01644 430 349
Email - jnrc@ukonline.co.uk
www.garrochglen.com

JAMES CLERK MAXWELL

175th Anniversary Celebration

Tuesday 13th June 2006

Illustrated talk by *Basil Mahon*

Author of JCM Biography "The man who changed everything"

Visit to Parton exhibition & Kirk (JCM grave), & former home at Glenlair

Evening recital, violinist *Alistair Hardie* & trio playing works written by Maxwell's great great grandfather

Evening meal with anecdotes from *Professor Sir Graham Hills*

"James Clerk Maxwell and the democratic intellect" an illustrated talk given by *Professor Iain MacLeod*

Places for the events are limited and are allocated on a first come first serve basis. (Accommodation is available at the Baron's Craig Hotel)

Please visit our website for further details

www.baronscraighotel.co.uk

info@baronscraighotel.co.uk Tel: 01556 630475

Tickets available from the Rockcliffe Gallery.
Morning talk, Parton & Glenlair visits £15.00
Evening Meal & Recital £35.00
All events inclusive £50.00



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For more information please contact
Mrs Julie Moore 01644 460687



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GCAT - BRINGING GREAT ENTERTAINMENT TO THE GLENKENS JUNE - JULY 2006 PROGRAMME



GLENKENS PLAY IT BY EAR

Monday 12 June, 1.30pm

Balmacellan Village Hall

Tony Bonning's hugely popular Play it by Ear music, song and storytelling workshops for pre-school children and their carers.

Contact: Alison Caldwell 01644 420272

Tickets - £2 per adult/child combo



YDANCE

Tuesdays in June

Dalry School

yDance will be returning to the Glenkens with a workshop programme of hip-hop and street dance for 13 - 18 year olds.

Contact GCAT for more details of times and dates 01644 420374



GLENKENS ART EXHIBITION

21 to 23 June

Dalry Town Hall

An opportunity for local artists to display their work and for the public to view and purchase.

Entry free



GLENKENS CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

Saturday 5 August

12 noon - 4 pm

New Galloway Town Park

An afternoon of storytelling, puppets, circus skills loads of fun and games which promises to be a great day out for all the family.

Contact GCAT for more details of times and dates 01644 420374



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GLENKENS DIARY FOR ALL EVENTS

JUNE

Saturday 3rd - 10th, Clachan Fair

**Wednesday 7th - Core Path Network Open Day,
New Galloway Town Hall, 10am to 8pm**

Sunday 11th - Carsphairn Community Gathering, 12-5pm

Sunday 11th - Bus trip to Appleby Horse Fair

**Sunday 11th to 18th - James Clerk Maxwell Exhibition,
Parton Village Hall, 2-7pm**

Thursday 22nd - Bus trip to Scottish Parliament

Saturday 24th - Bus to Concorde Museum

**Monday 26th - Glenkens Sustainable Development Initiative
Public Meeting, Dalry Town Hall, 7pm**

JULY

Sunday 9th - Bus Trip to Gairlieston (Isle of Man)

Monday 10th - Bus Trip to Gairlieston (Isle of Man)

Saturday 22nd - Bus Trip to Lanark

REGULAR EVENTS

Aerobic Classes

Dalry Community Centre, Every Wednesday, 7.30-8.30pm, £2.50
Contact Sam Hood on 01644 420631

Mother & Toddlers

New Galloway Town Hall Tuesday 9.30 - 11.00 am
£1.00 per session

Scouts Mondays, 7.00pm - 8.30pm, New Galloway Scout Hut

Beavers Tuesdays, 6.30pm - 7.45pm, New Galloway Scout Hut

Cub Scouts Wednesdays, 6.45pm - 8.00pm, New Galloway Scout Hut

Kickback Martial Arts - Karate Classes Tuesday & Thursday
7.00pm - 9.00pm, Dalry Community Centre. £3 entry - adults welcome

Yoga - 7 week course starting 2nd May; morning class 11.20-1pm at
New Galloway Town Hall or evening class 7.30-9pm at Kells School.
£27.30 full price, £14.70 concession, £19.95 60+

Ballroom & Latin Dance - 6 week course, beginners 7-8.30pm
at Dalry Community Centre, or 'improvers' class 8.30-10pm. £23.40
full price, £12.60 concession, £17.10 60+ For more information and
enrollment details contact Pat Rigg on 01644 460668

**Thank you to all who have
supported and contributed to
the Glenkens Gazette**

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GAZETTE

Any contributions to the Gazette are always welcome by anyone and everyone, and all articles, cartoons or photos are considered for publication. We are very keen to receive contributions from a wider area. Please remember that we try very hard to remain politically impartial. Although we encourage you to express your views on subjects of interest to the local community, sometimes an editorial decision is taken not to print an article because it might jeopardize that impartiality.

If you are submitting an article the preferred format is by e-mail to Jonnie Dowsell at [ensys@glenkensbb.co.uk]. He prefers to receive your article as an attachment in text or rich text format (.txt or .rtf files). If you can't email it the next preferred method is on disc which you can post or drop in to the GCAT Shop. Again ideally it should be .txt or .rtf. If you want to submit a printed document then this is OK. Please keep fonts plain so that your text can be recognized by the scanner software. (Ideal fonts are Arial, Times, New Roman, Courier. No bold or italic please).

For those of you who have no idea of what we are talking about, we are still very happy to receive hand written articles which we will happily type up for you.

Sarah Ade is our new chief co-ordinator so if you have a good story but aren't able to write it yourself please get in touch with her. She will be very happy to carry out interviews and undertake research to get your story written. Telephone 01644 430138.

**If you would like to volunteer to become
involved with GCAT either helping to plan
events or co-ordinate items for the Gazette,
then please do get in touch. You'd be
really welcome to join the GCAT Team.**

DEADLINE FOR JUNE/JULY ISSUE 35:

FRIDAY 14th JULY 2006

e-mail : glenkensgazette@hotmail.co.uk

**BOX OFFICE: GCAT Shop, Monday-Friday,
9.30am-4.00pm
or, if available, on the door.**

**TICKETS BY POST: Send full payment by cheque
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**FURTHER INFORMATION: Tel. 01644 420374
(Answerphone outside office hours)**