

GLENKENS GAZETTE

incorporating news from Glenkens Community & Arts Trust

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

August / September 2006

ISSUE 35

www.glenkensgazette.com

A BEE IN HIS BONNET

On the 18th June the South of Scotland Beekeepers Association came to visit Peter Birch's apiary at The Brough, New Galloway. Peter is one of the youngest beekeepers in Scotland and, at only 15, is confident around the bees and enthusiastic about his hobby. He says "I started keeping bees at the same time as my grandad, and we have learned together. The best bit is the honey - I don't really like to eat it but love to make it and also to sell it!". The congregation of beekeepers from all over Southern Scotland was full of praise for the young bee keeper and there were numerous suggestions that Peter should enter the National Honey Show with his wild flower honey. I got in close enough to take a picture of the hive before realising that everyone else was wearing protective clothing from head to foot... Having made a hurried retreat to the refreshment tent, I got to try Mrs Blyth's delicious honey cake and also some of Peter's fresh local honey on a home-made pancake. Mmmm! If anyone would like information on beekeeping and future events, please contact Janina Harrower on 01556 650329 or email janina@naims.co.uk

Sarah Ade



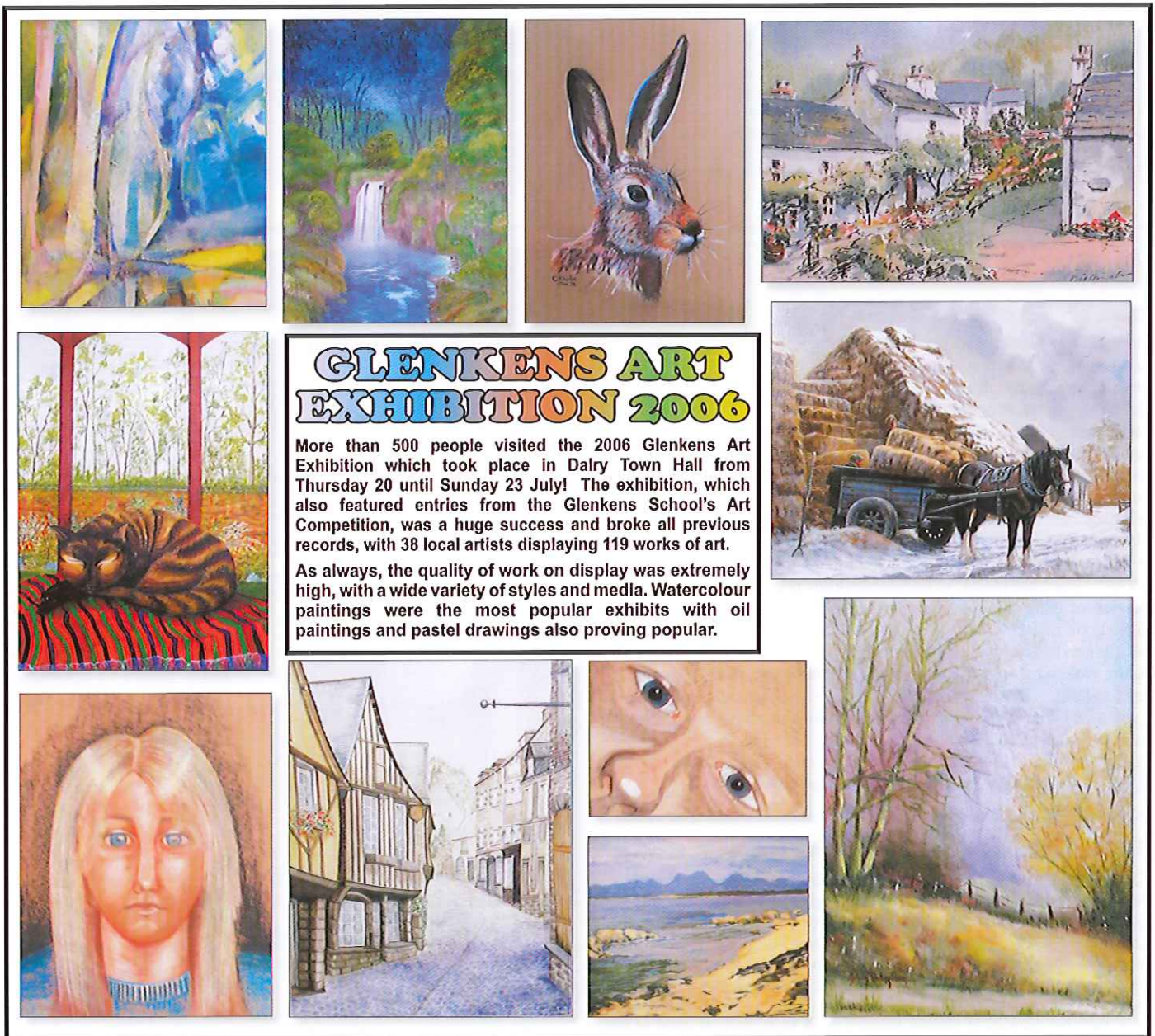
CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY SUCCESS

Carsphairn's Community Day on the 11th of June was a huge success. There was a variety of local food available, great kids' attractions and live music too. The event was the product of a lot of hard work by Carsphairn Community - they managed to encourage a large number of local firms to sponsor the event, which is why there was such delicious free food and such a wonderful variety of attractions. A lot of people attended and there were many comments along the lines of 'free food - are you sure?!' before they went back for seconds of venison burgers, fresh local trout or some of the other delicious fare on offer. For kids there was face-painting, a bouncy castle, a sticky wall and a rodeo bull. The local fire brigade turned up in style, much to the children's delight - especially when they created a water feature with the hose! And the rodeo bull competition was great fun, both for spectators and participants, as people of all ages were thrown around. Three live bands played over the course of the day, creating a great atmosphere, some of the members from within the Carsphairn community and others from as far a field as South Africa. The whole event was non-profit making but just through donations and some takings from the sticky wall, rodeo bull and bar (everything else was free) £400 was raised for the Carsphairn Community fund.



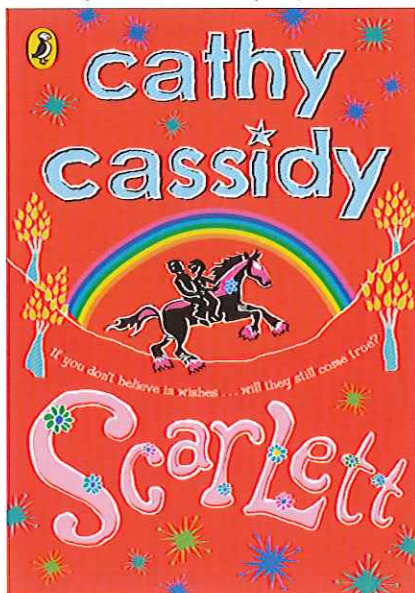
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NEW BOOKS FROM LOCAL AUTHORS

Glenkens author Cathy Cassidy has had a busy summer following the launch of her new book, *Scarlett*. 'Earlier this year, we bought a VW camper van like the one on the cover of my first book, *Dizzy*,' Cathy told us. 'We took the van to Hay Literary Festival and then for a tour of schools and bookshops around the UK, to promote my new book *Scarlett*. We finished up with a fab Friendship Festival outside Ottakars in Dumfries - readers

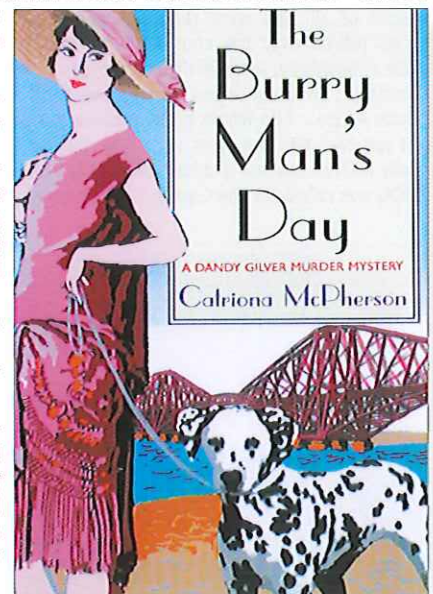


coming along to get their books signed were invited to eat strawberries, make a friendship bracelet and have their faces painted. It was a lot of fun!

One of Cathy's books, *Driftwood*, recently won the Grampian Children's Book Award, and several others have been shortlisted for awards. 'The books are selling really well, and so far the feedback on *Scarlett* has been terrific,' Cathy explained. 'It's the story of a very naughty girl, a mysterious boy... and a big black horse! I feel very lucky to be doing a job I love so much, and living in such an inspiring place. It's the icing on the cake to know that kids all around the world are loving the books.'

Scarlett (Puffin, £4.99) is available in all good bookshops. Like Cathy's other books, *Scarlett* is aimed at readers aged 9-13. For more info, or for details of a cool new writing comp for under 16s, visit www.cathycassidy.com

Meanwhile Catriona McPherson's new novel, *The Burry Man's Day*, will be on sale in August. This is the second book in her Dandy Gilver Murder Mystery series, following on from *After the Armistice Ball* which was published in paperback last year and is shortly to be released in paperback. For more information on Catriona and the Dandy Gilver series please visit www.dandygilver.co.uk



CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The AGM of the Community Council was held on 29 May 2006 during which the chairman Mrs Sylvia Sinclair gave a summary of issues and achievements from the previous year. It was followed by an ordinary meeting.

Following on from the April meeting P.C. Wilson reported that the police traffic car has been and will be in the area shortly. The Council is investigating the possibility of introducing rumble strips on the approaches to the village and it is likely that the 20mph zone outside the school will be in place by the end of the summer.

Funding has been awarded to complete the community garden in the next few months.

A summary was given of the meeting between Councillor George Prentice, Mr Charles Clemie (Roads Department) and Mrs Sylvia Sinclair. Various issues arising from Community Council meetings were discussed and a subsequent action plan was formulated. Most matters related to roads issues within the parish. Action will be taken on the uneven footpaths on both sides of the village street, a salt bin will be provided at the start of the winter season, faulty street and beacon lighting will be repaired and improvements will be made to the site of the recycling bins.

During the meeting a demonstration of a portable defibrillator was given by members of the Stewartry Safety Forum and the Galloway Mountain Rescue team. It was agreed that the machine was easy to operate and that the Community Council would contact other groups to see how they operate and establish a list of people locally who may be willing to be "on call" on a rota basis as well as apply for funding to purchase a machine.

Anna Campbell

THE ROYAL BURGH OF NEW GALLOWAY & KELLS PARISH Community Council Chairman's Report 2005-06

Town Hall

After much delay and several complaints the town hall clock has been repaired. The stairway was re-decorated due to damp seeping through the wall and damaging the wallpaper; however, the root cause of the damp (a leak in the roof) has not been addressed. The costs of renting the town hall need to be looked at - local organisations such as the Fire Brigade and Gold Club are finding it too expensive to use our facilities. Disabled facilities need to be upgraded - there is no way for a person in a wheelchair to get into the upper hall and no disabled toilet facilities.

Old Edinburgh Road

The road is part of the bus route and, due to the width of the road when a bus meets a lorry, one of the vehicles has to reverse to a suitable place so the two vehicles can pass. We were informed that the road would be upgraded but, apart from necessary maintenance, nothing has been done.

Parking

Parking has always been an issue in New Galloway. It has been submitted to the Council, primarily for safety reasons, that there should be better parking facilities available for the fisherman and tourists along side Loch Ken. This work will be carried out by the Forestry Commission if a grant is approved by the Tourist Board.

Maintenance

After the Alternative Games were completed all the rubbish in the park was collected and bagged very efficiently. The park and village benefits from people taking the time and care to help keep our community clean and tidy.

Social Events

A collection was held for Mrs Mary (Myra) Walker who worked for many years at the Glenkens Medical Practice. On the same evening as her retirement party a cheque for the sum of £1500 was presented to the local branch of the MacMillan Cancer Fund - this money is to be used at Dumfries Hospital. Part of the money was raised at the Alternative Games.

A Burns supper and Ceilidh were held with great success - they are now more or less annual events which we hope will continue to grow.

The Cross Keys Hotel hosted the Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch, with a turnout of 44 people. Kells School children provided the entertainment and afterwards a free raffle was held.

General

The Youth Shelter has been completed and seems a popular meeting point.

UPGRADES TO DALRY TOWN HALL

In the next few weeks major upgrade work is due to start on the Hall. There will be upgrades to electrics (including new sockets in the Hall, emergency lighting and consumer units), a new event poster board, new portable staging system and replacement of sash and case windows to the Hall.

Two of the above changes are the result of successful grant funding applications - the stage improvements through the Event Challenge Fund and the window replacement through the Village Hall Improvement Grant.

The electrics upgrade will bring the venue into the 21st century, making it much easier to stage modern events - currently there are only three sockets in the Hall which makes it difficult to accommodate all the high-tech equipment necessary for modern performances. And hopefully the new poster board will help to advertise events at the Hall, ensuring larger audiences.

Mark Stoves

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 or Gordon Hill - 01644 420632

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

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YOUR DOG

JACK RUSSELL TERRIER

Breed History & Characteristics

The term 'terrier' refers to a group of dog breeds that were originally bred for killing vermin. Terriers are small in stature, but don't let this fool you - they are tough, energetic dogs that tend to bite off more than they can chew.

The Jack Russell Terrier is a feisty little character originally bred for fox hunting. The Reverend John 'Jack' Russell was a renowned fox hunter of the 19th century. It is said that while he was studying, the milkman in the local area had a little white bitch with black and tan spots that Russell took a liking to. He bought her, and she became the foundation for the breed we now know as the Jack Russell Terrier.

Jack Russells are small dogs, standing around 25-30 cm at the shoulder (Parson Russell Terriers are very similar and easily confused with the Jack Russell - they stand a little taller at 32-38cm). The colouring is mainly white with black or tan patches particularly on the face and at the base of the tail. Jack Russells can be smooth or rough coated.

Traditionally their tails were docked to a 'hand's length', to make it easy to pull them out of fox holes, but this practice is now nearly banned, and certainly frowned upon, in the UK and many other countries.

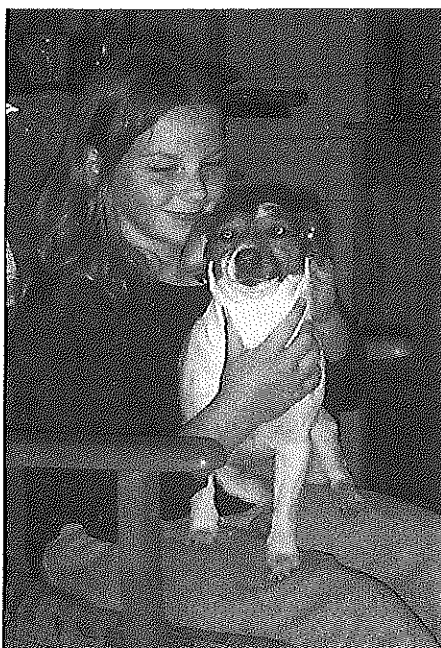
Main Uses in the Glenkens

In the Glenkens Jack Russells are a popular breed of dog, mainly as pets. Some people do still use them to deter vermin such as rats and mice around the farm as they have a natural instinct to chase nearly anything, especially small, fast, furry things. Unfortunately these days this often means cats are the focus of overly enthusiastic Jack Russell Terriers' attentions...

Jack Russell Terriers as Pets

Jack Russells are a very popular pet breed, often because people think that a small dog is cute and easier to manage than a bigger dog as it needs less exercise, feeding and training. Not so! Just because they are small does not mean that terriers are any less 'dog' than their bigger relatives. Often bigger breeds, such as the Greyhound or Mastiff, are much more suited to a relaxed, quiet life than Jack Russells and other terriers. If you want a dog who is full of energy and has a lot of character, go ahead and choose a Jack Russell. Just don't be deceived by size!

Tika Adam-McTaggart, aged 10, says "people often think Jack Russells are yappy, nippy dogs. But if you look after them well, and spend lots of time with them, they make lovely pets. And great guard dogs. And they are good with kids too, if they are brought up with them. Sweet-Pea, my dog Scampi's puppy, loves to play with children even though she has her tail pulled all the time when they are playing together - she is very



Tika & Scampi

patient and good natured with children, and with everyone really".

Training

Small dogs need just as much training as big dogs. Jack Russells were originally bred to kill vermin, so their bite is often their first reaction in a situation - this used to be their advantage as a working dog, but today is no longer a positive trait and has led to their reputation as snappy dogs. It is said that the most bites from dogs in the UK which need stitches are caused by Jack Russell Terriers. Often people seem to think that a little dog is cute when it barks/growls/chases things/latches on to someone's foot - but this is a very dangerous attitude. With good training and enough time and attention, Jack Russell Terriers can make great pets with their endless energy and up-for-it attitude - but they are no less work than their bigger relatives and training is just as essential.

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 glenkensgazette@hotmail.co.uk

Sarah Ade

DALRY DOGS' MEETING

A humorous letter (featured below) was recently brought to our attention by a Mr Fergus Gibson as he featured the letter in an article he wrote for the historical railway magazine 'Back Track'. The letter, posted in the Kirkcudbrightshire Advertiser of 26th October 1888, was written by a Dalry resident - does anyone know this dog...?

Sir

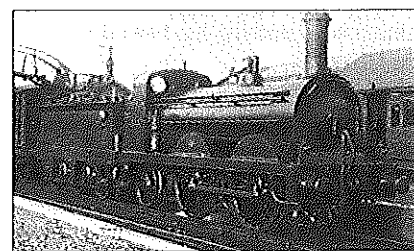
Perhaps you will kindly permit me to say a few words in your newspaper - although I am only a dog - especially as I can refer you to a good precedent in the poems of Robbie Burns, who was sufficiently interested in the canine race as to publish the conversation of Caesar and Luath in the well known poetical satire of 'The Two Dogs'.

Now, Mr Editor, Sir, the dogs at Dalry - more particularly the collie dogs - held a meeting a few nights since, just opposite the Lochinvar Hotel in our town, and the meeting was conducted in the most business-like manner, and with the greatest decorum. There were few interruptions and not more than one dog attempted to address the meeting at the same time, and the conclusions were unanimous. We did not have a vote of thanks to our Chairman as we are busy dogs and cannot afford to waste time in passing useless and generally ill-deserved compliments, like our superior masters.

Well, Sir, we are all much in favour of the railway, and the collies are sure that it will save them many a sore paw in driving cattle and sheep to Castle Douglas Market as most of the stock will, in future, no doubt, go by rail and arrive in much better condition. Then, Sir, we were very sorry to come to another conclusion, viz. - that many of the so-called superior race of human beings connected with the Glenkens Railway have rendered themselves liable to some uncomplimentary remarks - they display no desire to help our railway and to send in their subscriptions. Whether their motives are to be attributed to an exceeding love of their own siller (silver / money) or a disinclination to part with it, even for their own advantage, or whether it arises from what our masters untruly and incorrectly refer to as 'doggedness', we do not pretend to say.

We have all been taught from our earliest days that 'a cat may look at a queen': it seems only justice that 'a dog may bark at a demagogue'. This is not a political allusion - we consider that any human being who addresses the public or his friends, on any subject either from the platform of a railway station or a Town Hall, or even when walking along a public road, is a demagogue.

I am & c, Only A Dog



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NEW GALLOWAY - *Our Historic Burgh*

by Helen Bolton - PART XXXI
The Glenlee Tunnel

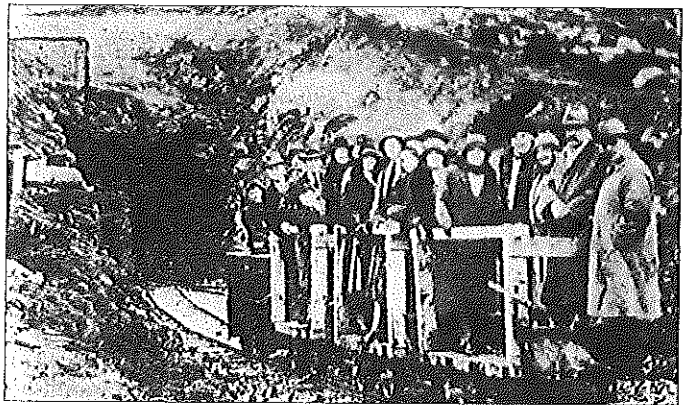
The most expensive, and arguably the most impressive contract in the whole Galloway Power Scheme was that for the Glenlee Tunnel, let to Messrs A M Carmichael of Edinburgh, and signed in March 1932. This was a massive project, consisting of cutting a tunnel 3½ miles long and 11½ feet in diameter through solid rock. Excavations were carried out simultaneously from six faces, one at Glenlee, two at an adit close to the foot of Glenlee Hill, two from the Craigshinnie shaft and one from the intake at Clatteringshaws. The Craigshinnie shaft was chosen solely to divide the distance equally between the adit and the intake, but due to its position, after the tunnel was completed, the shaft was used to bring in extra water to the system from two adjacent burns.

Electricity for running the ventilation system, lighting and other essential equipment was obtained from a temporary substation at Glenlee, a single circuit line on wooden poles being extended along the line of the tunnel. One of the last of these poles, near the Craigshinnie shaft, has recently been cut down and lies in pieces nearby!

On 27th, December 1932 the first section of the tunnel between Glenlee Portal and the adit was completed. Captain Wickham Weekes, Convenor of Kirkcudbrightshire Council, fired the final shot to link the two faces, "Passing slowly along the electric lit way into the depths of the age-worn hill the party was most impressed by this feat of engineering science which has mastered nature," So said The Galloway News on this historic occasion.

On 10th October 1933 the tunnel was completed, and in the presence of around two hundred invited guests Sir Andrew Duncan, chairman of the Central Electricity Board, fired the final shot which linked up the last two sections, at the Craigshinnie shaft.

The next stage was to line the whole length of this remarkable tunnel with concrete, a job which required much skill. A unique gantry was used, made of steel, a collapsible, self-supporting unit, 150 feet in length, so constructed as to allow roof and walls to be lined in one operation. It was possible to complete the 150 foot length in 24 hours, but a further 18 hours had to elapse before the



unit could be eased away and moved along on its rails to the next section. Average progress during this stage of operations was 1,300 feet per month.

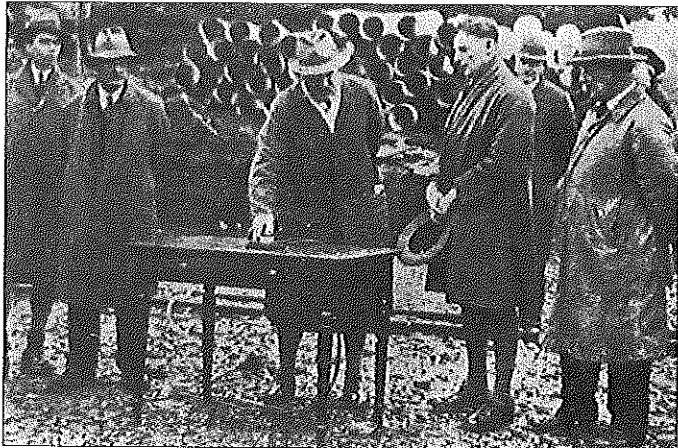
As the scheme progressed large pieces of machinery, such as huge generating units and transformers, were brought up on the railway to New Galloway station at Mossdale. From there they made their laborious way to Glenlee, Earlstoun, Carsfad, and Kendoon Power Stations. The inhabitants of New Galloway would come to their doors to watch Pickfords' giant traction engines hauling their unwieldy burdens along the High Street! The railway company undertook entire responsibility for the transporting of all machinery for the scheme, whether by rail or road, and the providing of cranes for transferring and off-loading all the equipment.

On the completion of the Glenlee tunnel New Galloway was able to augment its water supply, at a cost of 6d. (2½p) per 1,000 gallons, by drawing on the water from the tunnel. This must have been a blessing for the Burgh, as up to that time the water supply had been doubtful, to say the least!

Glenlee Power Station commenced supplying power to the National Grid at midday on Wednesday, 6th. March 1935 and on Tuesday, 27th October 1936 the entire Galloway Hydro-scheme was completed. However, although it was the largest integrated hydro-electric scheme in the U.K. it started work quietly and unobtrusively. It was not until 11th March 1938 that a large number of invited guests witnessed a dual ceremony commemorating the opening of the scheme, and the contribution made to its success by the late Col. William McLellan, whose involvement with the Galloway scheme began with the first investigations in 1923, and continued until his death in December 1934, just a few months before Glenlee became operational. A memorial to Col. McLellan was unveiled by Captain Wickham Weekes.

Lord Meston, Chairman of the Galloway Water Power Company, at the unveiling of the McLellan memorial, made the following comments. "In the execution of this work, hands have been laid upon the beauties of the country. Power houses, dams, aqueducts, surge towers now dot the valley, and it will take time for them to merge into the hues and contours of the landscape, but in partial compensation a whole series of new lochs have been created which will grow in attractiveness as nature takes them into its care."

Few of us, I would suggest, can argue with Lord Meston's profound statement.



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GCAT COMING EVENTS.....

Last Word Productions, a Musical Theatre group, will be coming to Carsphairn Church on Wednesday 27 September at 7.30pm with their show, "A Day in the Life of... one day, three friends: a musical review." Ever wanted to take a peek through the keyhole to see what really goes on in other people's lives? This funny, touching, and intimate view of the lives of three friends offers a unique opportunity to take an inside peek at the dreams, disappointments, and eccentricities of others. By means of the best Musical Theatre songs, Last Word Productions will transport you through a day in the life of... with their fast paced style, wit, and insightful emotion. They offer an exceptional and unique evening of entertainment with songs by Sondheim, Bernstein, Rogers & Hammerstein, Kander & Ebb, Lerner & Loewe, and many more.

Tickets, which cost £5.00 and include a light refreshment, are available on the door or in advance from Church Elders or the Glenkens Community & Arts Trust on 01644 420374.



Catriona McKay and Chris Stout, two of Scotland's top young musicians, will be coming to Balmacellan Village Hall on Saturday 23 September at 8.00pm as part of the Gaelforce season of events.

This talented duo combine individual virtuoso and creative styles to perform an unforgettable evening of traditional music.

Catriona is respected as Scotland's leading harpist due to her exceptional skill as a performer and versatile musician as well as her expertise on Scotland's most ancient instrument, the clarsach. Shetlander Chris is widely regarded as the leading fiddle player of his generation both in Scotland and beyond.

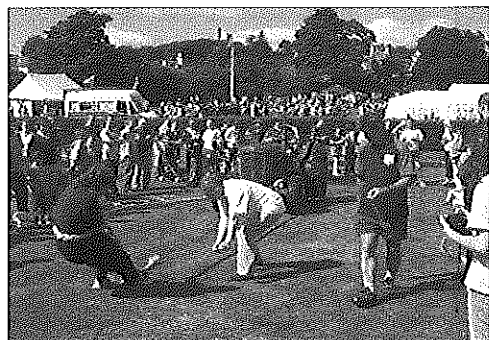
Tickets, which cost £7.00 (£5.00 concession) are available on the door (unless sold out) or in advance from the Glenkens Community & Arts Trust, High Street, New Galloway, tel. 01644 420374.

THE ALTERNATIVE GAMES WEEKEND 4th - 6th 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, Balmacellan 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



PLAY IT BY EAR TO RETURN IN SEPTEMBER

Thanks to a grant from the Scottish Arts Council, Play it by Ear, the music, singing and storytelling workshop for pre-school children will be returning in September for another year.

This event, which takes place on the second Tuesday of every month, will be back in its usual venue, Balmacellan Village Hall. For more information please contact GCAT on 01644 420374.

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

The Glenkens Children's Festival is back on Saturday 5 August and it promises to be a fun-packed day with loads of great storytellers, circus skills, giant puppets, workshops, face-painting, tons of stalls and lots of carry-on! This event, which takes place every year in the park at New Galloway, kicks off at 12 noon and runs until 4pm.

There will be catering available on site with burgers and ice cream. Entry is free although we would appreciate donations on the gate to help with costs.

THE GLENKENS CENTRE

GCAT is delighted that the construction firm of T. Graham and Son of Langholm has now been appointed to undertake the building works at The Old School. They have recently finished work on Broughton House, Kirkcudbright on behalf of The National Trust for Scotland and are due to start work on site in New Galloway this month.



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.



GLENKENS BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The Glenkens Business Association was formed to promote and support businesses within the Glenkens. It has taken a while to get the association off the ground. Our first project has been to put together a Directory of Businesses from Carsphairn to Crossmichael and Corsock to Laurieston. The idea behind this is to let local people know about local businesses, instead of calling in people from outside. The Directory will include the business name, address, phone number, email and web site address (if they have one).

THE DIRECTORY OF LOCAL BUSINESSES

produced by the
Glenkens Business Association

We hope that the directory will be available from early August when you will be able to pick up a copy from any outlet where you get your Glenkens Gazette. There will also be a web site where an online version of the Directory will be available which will be kept updated with any amendments and additions that people may wish to make before the publication of the next Directory, which will be next year. The web site address will be www.glenkens-business-association.org.uk

In addition to the Directory we shall be running a series of talks from guest speakers during the winter, to which anyone who is interested is welcome to attend. Notices will be put up about these meetings and the information will be on the web site. There will also be information in the Glenkens Gazette of forthcoming meetings and events.

GLENKENS HORTICULTURAL SHOW 2006

This year's Glenkens Horticultural Society Show is to be held on Saturday 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.

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!

GTI BUS TRIPS SUMMER TRIPS

Tue 8TH & Thu 10TH AUGUST

KIPPFORD REGATTA

DEPART 12.30PM

RETURN BY APPROX 6PM

TIME TO ENJOY THE DELIGHTS OF KIPPFORD AND ROCKCLIFFE, AS WELL AS THE REGATTA

PRICE £3 (£2 IF BOOKED BY 7/8/06)
CONCESSIONS £2 (£1 IF BOOKED BY 7/8/06)

RE-ARRANGED DATE

TRIP TO LANARK WILL NOW TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER TO COINCIDE WITH THE VICTORIAN FAIR!

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!

TOUR OF BRITAIN



The Tour of Britain professional cycling race will return to Dumfries and Galloway this year with the Scottish stage finish in Castle Douglas on Tuesday the 29th August. The 2006 route for the Tour will run from Glasgow to Castle Douglas with the one key difference to 2005 being that when the Tour enters Dumfries and Galloway (on the A713, north of Carsphairn) it takes place wholly within the Stewartry.

The Scottish Stage this year will be marketed by VisitScotland Dumfries and Galloway and their Glasgow counterparts. The aim of the marketing effort will be to promote the Tour of Britain as an exciting day out for visitors to the region and to attract weekend visitors to the Stewartry using the Tour as the basis for a cycling themed short break.

The race route comes into Carsphairn along the A713, then goes along the back road from Carsphairn to Dalry, through Dalry, back onto the A713 and then off again into New Galloway at the Kenbridge and down the west side of Loch Ken past Laurieston and into Castle Douglas for the finish.



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.

COMMUNITY FIRE SAFETY MESSAGE

Dumfries and Galloway Fire & Rescue Service recommend that 10-year approved, battery type smoke alarms are the minimum standard you should provide for your home. At least one alarm should be fitted on each floor of your home. If you do not have a working smoke alarm in your home call 01387 252222 and fire fighters will attend at a mutually agreeable time to fit a free 10-year smoke alarm. You are entitled to a free one regardless of your age.

If you are 60 or over, or have a disability you may request a free Home Fire Safety Check, and a free smoke alarm will be fitted to your house at that time. The Fire & Rescue Service would like to remind people who burn coal or logs to ensure that their chimneys are regularly swept, at least twice a year.

Dumfries and Galloway Fire & Rescue Service has many safety leaflets, which may be sent to you on request. If you have any queries regarding Fire Safety in the Home please call 01387 252222, or call me direct on the number below

Susan Maxwell, Community Safety Officer, Kirkcudbright Fire Station Tel 01557 332028

GLENKENS FIRE CADETS

The Glenkens Cadets have recently ended their first module of their revised schedule, which was 'Firefighting'. During their seven week training module they discovered the reasons for fires, learned how to carry out a ladder drill, gained experience with hose-running and branch techniques and enjoyed a night of fire extinguisher training where they battled various simulated fires, in a special training unit, with various types of extinguishers. Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary's 'Road Safety Unit' provided useful information for them.

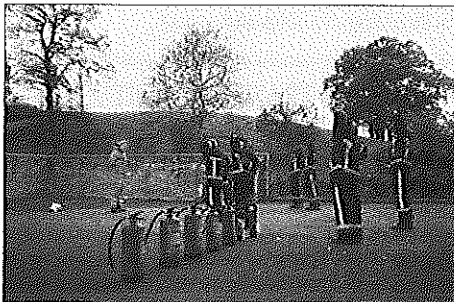


The Glenkens Fire Cadets kick off their second module of the year on Wednesday 23 August. The module will last for seven weeks with a break in the middle week and will be themed around the blue light services work at Road Traffic Collisions.

Gary Adam, District Manager in the Fire and Rescue Service who is responsible for running the scheme states "the first seven week module proved to be a great success with some really positive feedback coming from the cadets. I would like to encourage anyone aged between 12 and 16, male or female, in the Glenkens to come along and join us as we still have places for an additional four cadets. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis so please register your interest early".

If you are interested in learning new skills and joining the ten cadets already training, please contact us on 01387 252222 and ask to speak to a member of the Stewartry District staff, or contact Susan Maxwell, Community Safety Officer [Stewartry], at Kirkcudbright Fire Station, St Mary's Street, Kirkcudbright, DG6 4AA or telephone 01557 332028 for more information.

The new module will commence on Wednesday 23rd August at 6.45pm at New Galloway Fire Station.



Cadets and Watch Manager Wilson doing a 'warm up' prior to fire extinguisher training.



Glenkens Cadets after being presented with their module certificates with WM Wilson and WM Maxwell, part of the Stewartry District Team.

EDINBURGH MOONWALK MARATHON



Fiona Oliver and Jean Jones would like to thank all who sponsored them for their efforts in the Edinburgh Moonwalk Marathon. Between them they have raised nearly £1300 for breast cancer charities in Scotland. Around 8,000 people, many wearing their decorated bras, took part in the event which started at midnight in the centre of Edinburgh. Fiona and Jean were amongst the first 200 to finish just after 6.30am.

Having trained for 3½ months, covering over 300 miles, they say it was well worth all the blisters, aches and pains!

The event hopes to have raised in excess of £1 million for Scottish breast cancer charities.

LOCAL EVENTS

If you are organising any local events, please let us know - we are happy to list your event in the Gazette. For community groups, meetings, workshops, performances - use us as a tool to reach out to local communities. Shop windows are great, but what about all the people who don't happen to go into that shop and would love to attend your event? The Glenkens Gazette goes out to over 1,000 people each issue. Allow us to help you get in touch with the Glenkens!

FINLAY'S AMAZING WORLD MARATHON

From the 7th of September, Finlay Young from Laurieston will run a half marathon per day for 24 days all around the world to raise money for Cancer Research. Starting in Newcastle, he will then go on to destinations as far reaching as Iceland, Australia, Ethiopia and India, returning again to Newcastle for his final half marathon on the 1st of October. The GCAT bus will be running a trip from Laurieston on 1st October so that local people can go and watch Finlay's final run. If you would like to sponsor Finlay's World Marathon or to find out more information please contact Jean and Billy Young on 01644 450285.

ON THE BEAT : Community Police News with PC Ian Wilson Helping Crime to fall as Autumn comes along...

It is with a great sense of sadness that I have recently read many Police reports on people being conned into giving out their banking details to persons on the phone and then having mysterious withdrawals from their bank account...

The simple message is NEVER give out details of your bank or building society credit card account, PIN numbers, or other personal details over the phone to callers. Bank staff won't ask you to give out this information so don't give it to a complete unknown stranger over the phone for whatever reason! One lady told me it was the only way to get the caller off the phone. Never give out bank details - just hang up!

There are so many Scams now it is a major industry and the criminal fraternity can obtain your credit card details through the internet, telephone or even by mail. Please don't become another victim THINK before you throw away that bank statement or lose your purse/wallet with the bank card and piece of paper with that PIN number you can never remember written on!

And finally to Road Traffic Safety, as once again by September the nights start to draw in - please check your lights are working. This applies to cars, cyclists AND tractor drivers too!

P.C. Ian Wilson, Dalry

GLENKENS MEDICAL PRACTICE General Medical & Dispensing Services

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The Surgery
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Dalry

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BORDER TV PRODUCER APPEALS FOR MORE HOME MOVIE FOOTAGE



ITV Border's ever-popular nostalgia series, 'The Way We Were', has just finished a 5-week-run and it's been so successful that Border bosses have commissioned another series to be shown in the New Year.

'The Way We Were' uses viewers' home movie footage and personal testimony to tell the story of how the people of our region lived and worked. We would love to see any of your home movie footage, with a specific focus on the categories below (pre-1980s):

The Way We Worked, The Way We Enjoyed Our Time Off, Large and Small Events in our Region, Daily Life, Tourism, Children's and Youth Groups, The War Years, Fashions Through the Years, Winter Wonderland, Playtime, School Days, TT (Trips to the Isle of Man TT Races), Summer Days, Life on a Country Estate, The Great Outdoors, The Elements, Property, Jobs Abroad.

Heather Larcombe, 'The Way We Were' producer, says: "Even if the footage doesn't fit these categories we are interested in having a look at it to see if it's suitable for our new series so we're asking people to raid their attics. You never know, you could be starring in the next series of 'The Way We Were'!"

If you have archive home movie footage that you would like to submit, please contact Heather Larcombe, Holly Ross or Susie Moss on 01228 525101.

OPEN GARDEN AT CAIRN EDWARD ON THE A762 NEW GALLOWAY TO LAURIESTON ROAD

Mary and Gwyn Pugh have kindly offered to open their garden in aid of the **BRITISH RED CROSS** on Saturday 12th August from 2pm to 5pm.

Mr & Mrs Pugh bought Cairn Edward in 1995 and since that date have improved and enlarged the garden, which now extends to about 5 acres. The first task, started in 1996, was the excavation of a boggy area done by Pat Brannock to give an extremely natural lake. Once this had settled ideas were formed, mainly inspired by Mary, for the planting of trees, shrubs and many other plants to produce a natural, colourful garden in keeping with the surrounding area. Local gardener Ross Laurie was closely involved from the beginning with the planting and although Mary and Gwyn now do most of the work themselves, Ross still comes once a week to help with maintenance.



The garden continues to evolve and a pleasant walk around the lake takes one into many different types of planting, each with its own backdrop of trees - Larch on one side of the lake, Firs on the other and many mature Oak and Beech trees in the original part of the garden. Nearer to the house are more formal beds and further down the drive is Mary's latest project, a natural meadow with paths mown through to walk along.

Do come along for a look at this lovely garden, open for the first time, and support the Red Cross. Teas will also be provided - by Balmaclellan & Kells Guild.

BALMACLELLAN & KELLS CHURCH GUILD OUTING



On a sunny July morning six members of Balmaclellan & Kells Church Guild travelled by car to Ayr. Their destination was Carrick Lodge Hotel, where they were to meet for lunch with eight ladies from High Carntyne Church, Glasgow. The two Guild branches formed a "link" ten years ago and, despite distance and transport problems, have been able to get together at some time each year. Carrick Lodge has become the favourite venue, with its lovely décor, pleasant staff and excellent food.

Although our Guild is in the country and has a small membership and theirs a large city Guild, we have a lot in common and could find plenty to talk about. There was much laughter (and probably too much food). Time passed quickly and before driving home a few cameras flashed and clicked so that we could have tangible evidence of another happy reunion.

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

GLENKENS AGRICULTURAL SHOW

This year's show will be held on Saturday 12th of August, in the field with the standing stones between Dalry and New Galloway.

Judging starts at 10am.

For more information, or to organise a stall, please ring Rosie Mair on 01644 45023.

There will be the usual agricultural classes as well as a pet show, dog show, horse events, burger tent and craft stalls.

The GTI mini-bus will be running a courtesy bus taking people to the show for a small donation.

For more information on bus times please call Keith at GCAT on 01644 420374

Glenkens Playgroup

in partnership with



**Dumfries
& Galloway
COUNCIL**

Education Department

managed by a local committee of Mums
For more information please contact
Mrs Julie Moore 01644 460687



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)

THE STORY OF JAMES MC MICHAEL – PART I

A dramatised interpretation by Angela Miller

My name is James Mc Michael, which was also the name of my father, although now they call him "Black" James Mc Michael. The law says that my father was a murderer, and after he died they put his body in a gibbet and left it to rot where all the Clachan could see it. Yet the people of the Clachan cried to see it, and in secret they whispered behind their hands that my father was a Martyr, not a murderer. It was the Killing Times, and fear stalked the quiet streets and country lanes of the Glenkens, while the law was turned on its head by the anger of the King at what he believed was our insurrection.

My father was a man of conviction and my mother always said that none but God himself could change my father's mind once he had made it up. It was certainly the case when he joined the Solemn League, and he declared that no Royal proclamation was going to make him give it up. Then the King set out the fines and punishments for not attending the Kirk, and still Father would not change his mind. He refused to let us go, saying he would never bow his head in prayer to the King when Jesus alone deserved our praise. So strong was his belief, that when I was but a small child, Father marched with many other Covenanters to fight against the King's men, unafraid of what might happen as he believed he was in God's hands. They were defeated, horribly, for they were armed with not much more than farm tools and handmade weapons, but defeat did not dent my father's belief one bit either. He simply came back home and bided his time.

It was in the year 1684, when I was 14 years old, that things became very black indeed. The King sent Graham of Claverhouse and his Dragoons to hunt down the Covenanters and force us back to the Kirk. Violence and death followed in his wake as he ruthlessly went about weeding out the Covenanters from the local folk. Soon, because of the fear that Claverhouse brought amongst us, once trusted men became informers and there were spies among our ranks. Father became suspicious of all but a few of his fellows. Often, I would lie awake to listen as Father sat up late at night with his closest friends, Robert Stewart, John Grierson and Robert Ferguson, talking in soft voices. I knew in my heart they were plotting.

The day that my father earned the name "Black" James is burned deeply into my memory, and I can think of nothing that will remove it so long as I live. The Curate of Carsphairn, Peter Pierson, had been giving away the names of Covenanters freely, buying the favour of Grierson of Lag, who was stationed within a stone's throw of the Kirk at Carsphairn. Father had me drive him and the other men to Carsphairn, where they planned to plead the Covenanters

case with the Curate, hoping to silence him with reason. It was December and dark already as we trundled slowly up the road. Frost was in the air, for Winter's bite was hard upon us. Father told me to wait outside when we came to the Manse and to be prepared to leave as fast as I could should anything go wrong.

I waited, shivering in the cold outside, sick to the stomach with a sense of foreboding. Then, with a crack as deafening as thunder, a shot resounded from within the Manse. Forgetting my father's instructions I rushed inside, to hear my father's voice booming in the parlour. Before him, lying in a pool of crimson, was the Curate, clutching feebly at his chest. The stench of gunpowder was in the air and I felt bile rise in my throat when I saw that my Father held a Musket in his hands which he pointed still at the Curate as he spoke.

"Let the Lord judge you now, for you have sinned against him. You adhere to the King's blasphemy, and I have given you justice for it!"

My father stood surrounded by his friends, all of whom wore grim expressions that spoke of their solidarity. My heart was thumping and my knees turned to water, for I was afraid of the soldiers I was sure would come at the sound of the shot. Then, as I had dreaded, the thunder of horses hooves came echoing through the night, rousing me from my stupor. My father would be killed if he were caught as he was. "Flee Father! The Dragoons are coming!" I cried.

Stewart and Grierson turned at once to go, Ferguson made to follow them but stopped and put a hand to my father's shoulder when it seemed he would not move. "Wait," I heard my father say, and he walked to where the Curate lay, his lifeblood ebbing away onto the floor of the Manse. There, my father stood and waited until the last light of life had disappeared from Curate's eyes. He whispered a soft prayer under his breath before finally reaching down to gently draw the Curate's eyelids closed.

"Please Father!" I cried, for I could see the Dragoons leaping from their horses in the yard outside. My father looked up at me and nodded, then he and Ferguson fled out of the Kirk by the back door. The Dragoons came pouring in the front door, yelling in the King's name. I threw myself behind a curtain, praying to God that they would not see me. They rushed passed the Curate's body, giving it not a single glance, and poured out again by the same door my father had taken. At that moment, I was afraid that I would never see my father alive again.

to be continued.....

TIMES OF WORSHIP IN THE GLENKENS

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sundays

Balmaclellan 12 noon 1st
Carsphairn 10.30 am 1st 2nd (Sept) 3rd 4th
Dalry 9.00 am 1st 2nd (Sept) 3rd 4th (Aug)
Dalry 12 noon 4th (Sept)
Kells 10.30 am 2nd 3rd 4th

Special Services and Events

13th August, 10.30 am

United Family Service, Kells Church

31st August, 7.00 pm

Dalry Guild Sale, Dalry Town Hall

17th Sept, 6.30 pm

Songs of Praise, Dalry Church

24th Sept, 12 noon

Harvest Thanksgiving, Dalry Church, followed by Harvest Lunch in Dalry Town Hall

29th Sept, 7 pm

Harvest Supper, Balmaclellan Village Hall

Communion Service

27th August, 10.30 am Kells 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

ST MARGARET'S LADIES GUILD

In August 2004 St Margaret's Episcopal Church in New Galloway celebrated its centenary. The Church had been built with a donation of land and gifts of money, and it was the responsibility of the congregation to maintain the Church, and also the Rectory which was built later. At times this proved to be a heavy financial burden for those involved. However, over the years the social life of the Church has grown and evolved around fund-raising with the Ladies Guild playing a major part in organising this.

The congregation does not just raise money to maintain the fabric of the Church where we worship God. St Margaret's has a policy of giving each year to international, national and local charities. During Lent the Ladies Guild arrange six lunches that are held on Fridays, each in a private house, and supported by members of the congregation, friends, and other interested parties. Each hostess chooses a charity to receive the donations given after a soup and cheese lunch. This year a record amount of £1040 was raised and divided between charities including the Friends of Dalry School, Loch Arthur, SSAFA, and Send a Cow. (In the financial year ended 30.9.05 the Church sent a total of £2409 to different charities.)

The next event for the Ladies Guild will be a tombola stall at the Alternative Games. Last year £233 was raised and given to Castle Douglas Hospital League of Friends. We will be raising money for them again this year.

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GLENKENS EMBLEM COMPETITION

A competition was held amongst the schools in this area recently by the Glenkens Business Association to create an 'emblem' for the region. The purpose was to find an identifying symbol that every one will recognise as being associated with this area of Dumfries and Galloway. The excellent response from the schools was both welcome and appreciated.

The members of the management committee have now met to judge the competition, taking account of factors such as the age of the entrants, imaginative design and relevance of the artwork in reflecting the activities and attraction of the Glenkens. It was a difficult choice since the standard of entrants was high; in the end however it was decided that in order of merit, the four best entrants were:

Lara Currie (winner), Emma Murdoch, Joshua Trueman, Olivia Wise

Mr David Patterson, proprietor of the Ken Bridge Hotel kindly offered lunch at his Sunday Carvery to the winning entrant in recognition of this achievement. Mr Patterson has generously decided to extend this lunch to include the parents of the winner of the competition. It is intended to make full use of Lara's emblem on stationery and promotional documentation relating to the Glenkens, and we would like to record the appreciation of the members of the Business Association for the support of the schools in bringing this initiative to a successful conclusion.

The winning artwork together with the other contributions to the committee is currently being displayed in the window of 'Small Business Solutions', in the High Street, New Galloway (the old GCAT Office/Shop.)



STEPPING IT UP IN THE GLENKENS!



It's been a busy old Spring for the Glenkens Walking For Health Group. Since the start of the year the 2 regular short weekly walks have been going to some great locations: Kennick burn, Clatteringshaws, Stroan Loch and Dundough, to name but a few. At the end of last year we started to do a few longer walks in addition to the short walks and certain members of the team were really keen for a challenge, so after a few months training we tackled and conquered the Merrick. Considering six months ago some of us found it hard walking for the papers, this is a fantastic achievement! We also went walking with Alex Fergusson MSP over volunteers week and have been trying to find wheelchair friendly walks to fit into our schedule.

The group provides its members with a social opportunity to get exercise, with many people finding it really helps to get them out of the house on days when you might not bother. All walkers can go at their own pace and there is always a cup of tea to be had afterwards. If you would like to join any of the walks then please contact one of the walk leaders or pick up a diary of walks from most shops in the Glenkens area. No one is too unfit to join and we have walks to suit all abilities (all from half an hour to an hour), just get some good shoes on and come and join in!

See page 3 for more details



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You can also contact your MSP via e-mail at Alex.Fergusson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

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GCAT - BRINGING GREAT ENTERTAINMENT TO THE GLENKENS AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2006 PROGRAMME



GLENKENS PLAY IT BY EAR

Returns September

Balmaclellan 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

ALTERNATIVE BURNS SUPPER

Friday 4 August, 7.30pm - 12.30am

New Galloway Town Hall

Includes full haggis supper followed by entertainment until 10pm then ceilidh dance until 12.30am

Tickets £8.50 from GCAT on 01644 420374

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



ALTERNATIVE GAMES

Sunday 6 August, from 2 pm

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.

Contact GCAT for more details of times and dates 01644 420374



CATRIONA MCKAY AND CHRIS STOUT

Saturday 23 September at 8.00pm

Balmaclellan Village Hall

This talented duo combine individual virtuosic and creative styles to perform an unforgettable evening of traditional music.

Tickets, which cost £7.00 (£5.00 concession) are available on the door (unless sold out) or in advance from GCAT on 01644 420374

LAST WORD PRODUCTIONS

Wednesday 27 September at 7.30pm

Carphairn Church

This funny, touching, and intimate view of the lives of three friends offers a unique opportunity to take an inside peek at the dreams, disappointments, and eccentricities of others.

Tickets £5.00 include a light refreshment available on the door or from Church Elders or GCAT on 01644 420374



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.

GLENKENS DIARY FOR ALL EVENTS

AUGUST

Tuesday 8th & Thursday 10th August - Kippford Regatta Bus Trips (see page 7)

Saturday 12th August - OPEN GARDEN - Cairn Edward, New Galloway. In aid of The Red Cross. 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday 26th August - Glenkens Horticultural Show - Dalry Town Hall

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 3rd September Bus Trip to Lanark (see page 7)

Thursday 7th September - Tea Dance - Dalry Town Hall 3-5pm

OCTOBER

Friday 27th October 2006 - Fiddlers Concert in New Galloway Town Hall at 7.30 p.m. Tickets available nearer the time.

REGULAR EVENTS & CLASSES

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

Ballroom Dancing (Beginners), Glenkens Community Centre, starting Monday 18th September, 7-8.30pm, series of 8 lessons, £22.80 (concessions available). Learn a variety of Ballroom/Latin dances. For beginners or those with a little experience. Bringing a partner is not essential.

Ballroom Dancing (Improvers), Glenkens Community Centre, starting Monday 18th September, 8.30-10pm, series of 8 lessons, £22.80 (concessions available). Improve your dance techniques and learn a few new moves! Bringing a partner is not essential.

Yoga, Kells School, starting Tuesday 19th September, 7.30-9pm, series of 7 lessons, £19.95 (concessions available). Gentle toning and stretching exercises, together with relaxation and meditation techniques

Computing CLAIT2006, Dalry Secondary School, Wednesdays 7-9pm, series of 8 lessons - please call for details of start date, prices, etc. CLAIT 2006 aims to develop a knowledge of a range of different software applications including word processing and data manipulation. Contact Castle Douglas IT Centre direct 01556 503167

A leaflet with details of all Stewartry classes and enrolment details will be delivered to all households on 21st August. For information contact David Fitzgibbon, Community Learning and Development 01556 503521



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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 OCTOBER/NOVEMBER ISSUE 36:

FRIDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 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
made out to GCAT with s.a.e. and contact
telephone number to :**

GCAT, The Old School, New Galloway, DG7 3RN.

**FURTHER INFORMATION: Tel. 01644 420374
(Answerphone outside office hours)**