

GLENKENS GAZETTE

incorporating news from Glenkens Community & Arts Trust

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

June/July 2009

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www.glenkensgazette.com

Carsphairn Coming Home



On Sunday 3rd May an original 'Homecoming' event titled 'Carsphairn: The Pupils Come Home' was held as a farewell party for Miss Anne Rutherford's retirement.

Having been Head Teacher of Carsphairn Primary School for 27 years, there were many pupils past and present in attendance, along with their families. With over 100 guests, many people had travelled from far-flung regions of the UK, and members of the community who had been involved with the school at various times over the years were also present.

The speeches started with Lucy Blackett, presently in Primary 6, who read a wonderful poem remembering good times with Anne. Following this, past pupil Helen Campbell made a touching and humorous speech recalling some of the memorable moments of her school days, and finally Fraser Simpson, now Head Teacher of all the Glenkens Schools, gave an interesting account of the ways in which Anne has worked through a number of major changes in education over the past 27 years.

There were photographs spanning nearly three decades, computer slide-shows, food, wine and laughter – all in all it was a wonderful get-together enjoyed by all. Sylvia Sinclair, a longstanding member of the local community who has been involved with the school for many years, said: "The afternoon was a great success and we wish Anne Rutherford a long and happy retirement!"

Spalding's First Lady

Elizabeth Peacock, a member of Dalry's Spalding Bowling Club, has been elected as the Club's first lady president.



Having been a member of the club for over 25 years, Liz knows the turf well. She says: "I was treasurer for seven years and it was just a natural progression really. I was the first lady on the committee as well, which was a big step amongst all these men!"

The club is made up of about eight or nine women out of the total of 36 club members at present, and it has always had a high ratio of men to women. Liz says: "I enjoy the game, the company and the friendship in it – win or lose, it doesn't matter. You lose more than you win".

The club meets twice a week, Monday at 7pm and Saturday at 7pm, both for a sweep game. There are other competitions as well, both within the club and in conjunction with other clubs. Men play the league on a Tuesday night for seven games, but there aren't enough women to play a ladies league. There are two open competitions a year when people from other clubs come over, one in June and one in July, and the club will have its centenary in 2012, so there will be celebrations for that.

A Big Thank You to Helen Bolton

This issue includes Helen Bolton's last 'New Galloway - Our Historic Burgh' article, as she has now brought us up to recent times.

The Glenkens Gazette would like to thank Helen for all her hard work in compiling these interesting and informative articles over the years.

Perhaps she would like to start on some of the other villages in the Glenkens...?

Turn to p8 for the final instalment.

"New members are always welcome," says Liz. For the first year membership is half price, so £20 for adults (full membership is £40), for seniors it's £16 (£32 full price) and for juniors £2.50 (£5 full price). Visitors can come along for £1 a game – Liz says: "Everyone's welcome to come and try – it only costs £1".

To find out more or to become a member of the Spalding Bowling Club, contact Liz on 01644 430 581 or green keeper Hamish Sinclair on 01644 430 422.

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Local Artist: AMANDA SIMMONS



Amanda Simmons of Corsock Glass has travelled a winding path to get where she is today. "I started as a BT engineer in the South East of England at 16 (at that time the only female engineer in the region)," says Amanda. "I stayed four years but realised I wanted to work closer with people and not machines so went to Kings College University to study Biomedical Sciences and then a BSc (Hons) in Clinical Sciences whilst training as a clinical perfusionist (medical technician that runs the heart and lung machine during cardiac operations)."

After working in this field for eight years, Amanda needed a change. "I studied many art forms but they never felt quite right, but after attending a stained glass summer school and finding kiln formed glass I knew I had finally found my medium; within a month I had started my own studio producing stained glass panels and kiln formed glass to commission. Further study at Westminster College and then a Postgraduate Certificate in Glass and Architecture at Central St Martin's School of Art and Design in London gave me the confidence to go full-time as an artist, coinciding with our move to Dumfries and Galloway."



When considering why they decided to move to the Glenkens, Amanda says: "There are many reasons for re-locating here; the quieter pace of life and the terrific landscape drew us here after visiting for many years and making good friends in the region."

"I make kiln formed and cameo engraved glass, mainly for gallery exhibitions around the UK and produce work for commission. I also work on larger scale public commissions, an area that I am pursuing further, especially Arts in Healthcare, which would combine my two passions of glass and science. Recent exhibitions include a spotlight show at Blackwell Arts and Crafts House near Windermere (now stocking their excellent contemporary craft shop), Gifted at the National Museum of Scotland and The Affordable Art Fair in London (represented by Cafe-Jello, a glass specialist gallery in Cambridge). This year I have been selected to show at Origin: The London Craft Fair, which is the UK's principle selling event for makers of contemporary craft. It's an extremely difficult show to get into and I am very happy to be representing Dumfries and Galloway!"

But what is it about glass that Amanda finds so fascinating? She says: "I am very process led and love working with glass because of its technical and chemical challenges. The firing process for me is just the beginning as much of my work is done with 'cold working' the glass using diamond tools and a lathe to engrave designs, grinding to give form to my vessels and sandblasting which gives my trademark 'matt' look to the glass. "We have been in Corsock now for three years and my husband and I love it here. For a small community there is a lot going on and it is so good to know and speak to your neighbours."

For further information you can visit Amanda's website at www.corsockglass.co.uk or contact her on 05601 470120.



NOTICE BOARD

Tennis partner
sought. Contact
Matthew Newton on
430 225

Glenkens Annual Art Exhibition

17, 18 & 19 July
Glenkens Community
Centre, Dalry

Antiques, Collectables & Craft Market

Sun 14 June, 12-
4pm, Cross Keys
Hotel, New Galloway

Wine-making
equipment for sale.
Contact 430 225

Soldier's Memorial Access Update

As we reported in the last issue of the Gazette, the Forestry Commission has recently improved access to the Soldier's Memorial which overlooks Loch Ken between New Galloway and Mossdale.

This involved several days work by a team from the Forestry Commission using chainsaws and a large chipper. Access to the memorial is now from the car park at the foot of the Lowran Burn - walk towards New Galloway and take the first track sharp left through the trees and then follow it to the memorial. The track is very boggy and 'wellies' are advisable, but otherwise it is a relatively easy walk and well worth it for the view. Archie McNeillie from the Forestry Commission says he expects to have signposts installed later in the summer and is hoping to be able to improve drainage on the track although he is not yet able to plan this work.

The memorial is to John Murray of Troquain who was killed in the First World War. Information on war memorials in the Glenkens and the rest of Scotland can be found online at www.scottishwarmemorials.co.uk

Paul Goodwin

Glenkens Business Association

We are through the first stage of another grant application; this one in partnership with the Southern Upland Partnership and Glenkens Community and Arts Trust for funding through the new Stewartry Targeted Support Fund to promote economic development in the area.

The theme of this project is to further promote the area particularly as a walking destination for all ages and abilities, with accommodation that welcomes walkers and an area which provides a range of other interests and activities. We are also pleased to have received a grant of £1000 from the Stewartry Area Committee to enhance the local area information on the GBA vistglenkens.com website. The aim is to spread the word that the Glenkens is a great holiday destination and to link in to the Homecoming themes.

Consideration of the application for the grant for the next directory has been postponed by the Area Committee to this current financial year.

Along with several individual members the GBA has taken an advertisement in the Homecoming on your Doorstep Guide - 3. Look out for us on the centre pages.

The next meeting is on 30th June at 7pm at the Ken Bridge Hotel. All members or potential members are welcome.

Membership of the GBA gives you an entry in the web directory and in the next hardcopy directory. To join or renew your membership contact Alan Rumble on 01644 420250 or email alanrumble@gmail.com

Rosalind Hill, GBA Chairman

Local Initiatives in New Galloway (LING)

An application for funding for a full feasibility study has now been submitted. This study needs to be done before application can be made for a grant to purchase premises. It will include further and more detailed consultation on what the community feels is needed over the next several years. It will also look into the financial costs and sustainability of projects. In the meantime there has been a meeting with the officer from the Council who is responsible for the Town Hall. We have been told that there is money set aside within the budget for repair works and for disability access. A condition survey is being organised by the Council. When this is done there will be further discussions and consultation.

Rosalind Hill, LING Chairman

The Royal Burgh of New Galloway & Kells Community Council

The Annual General Meeting was held in New Galloway Town Hall on Monday 11th May. The Provost, Mrs Margaret Sainsbury, gave her comprehensive report of the year's activities ranging from the threats to the local Post Offices and the Town Hall to development of the new Loreburn Housing at Carsons Knowe.

The Community Council had also marked the auspicious occasion of our oldest resident Miss Nettie Murray's 100th Birthday, and also the retirement of Mrs Nancy Plummer after 27 years as Head Teacher of Kells Primary School.

The Provost thanked all Community Councillors for their commitment throughout the year and also Mrs Joan Berkley who had retired as Secretary in February. Mr John McGaw then presented the Treasurer's Report.

Mrs Margaret Sainsbury was unanimously re-elected as Provost. Mrs Maybelle Thomson will continue as Vice Chairman and Mr John McGaw as Treasurer. The members were pleased to note that Mr Chris Newman of Carson's Knowe, New Galloway, was interested in taking on the role of Community Council Secretary. He would be invited to attend the next meeting.

Before the meeting, members were pleased to present cheques for £500 each to Macmillan Cancer Relief and The Maximum Attack Leukaemia Appeal. The donations were made from the proceeds of last year's Alternative Games.

The cheques were accepted by Mrs Irene McFadzean on behalf of Macmillan Cancer Relief and by Gordon Clendinning for the Maximum Attack Appeal Fund.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 8th June 2009 at 7.30pm in New Galloway Town Hall.

Full minutes of local Community Council meetings are available to view at Dalry Library.

Carsphairn Community Council

A lack of road gritting during the winter months was mentioned by the Councillor present, George Prentice. There was discussion about particular roads where there was a problem.

It was reported that the Scottish Government have dropped the idea to lease Forestry Commission forest but still want to plant more forestry, they just need a new way to finance it. It was agreed that the CC would oppose this but no action was to be taken at this time.

Near the A713 north of Carsphairn, branches have been baled and there are now enormous piles awaiting transportation. It was agreed to write to Charles Clemie, head of the Timber Transport Forum, asking about this and Councillor Prentice said he would ask too. Councillor Prentice was asked whether it would be standard practice, as it will significantly increase the amount of timber lorries going through the village. The subject of scoping reports was raised – one will be done in July for Carsphairn forests. This is the chance for local people to give their views. It was mentioned that when a scoping report for Drumjohn forest was received by the CC they gave a lot of feedback but were unsure if this was taken into account at all. It was agreed that more information on the next scoping report would be sought.

Discussion was held on the matter of refuse collection. It was thought that the new cost of 50p per Council refuse bag and the £30 per item for collection of white goods would increase fly tipping.

It has been suggested that there is a need for a community notice board as well as a CC notice board as there are often too many notices for the shop windows. It was agreed to approach Carsphairn Village Shop (CVS) Ltd as the owners of the building.

Date of next meeting – Monday 29th June in Lagwyne Hall at 7.00pm.

Scotland Players Come to the Stewartry



Stewartry Rugby Club is preparing itself for the start of the new season for the under 14's who are breaking with tradition and opting to play 'Better Weather Rugby'.

From the 6th of May every Wednesday evening during term time the club will be playing rugby. Play will stop for the holidays and then start again with the autumn term until the end of October when the clocks go back. To launch this new initiative, the club is thrilled to have four Scotland internationalists from the Glasgow

Warriors coming to the club to watch over the first training session.

The four players are probably the most influential and well known young players in the Scotland squad; Max and Thom Evans, John Barclay and Graeme Morrison, who between them they have 40 caps. Registration for the primary school children will be between 5pm and 6pm with coaching starting at 6pm. Our Scottish heroes will be at the club from 6pm and will be involved with the training and host a question and answer session at the end. A professional photographer will be on hand to take photos and there will be an opportunity to gather autographs from the players. The club is very lucky to have this opportunity and is encouraging a huge turnout whilst ensuring the famous guests are made very welcome.

Alternative Games 2009

The Scottish Alternative Games will be held on Sunday 2nd August when reigning World Champion Alexander McKenna will be trying hard to defend the title he took from his sister Hannah last year. All the other popular ingredients in the unique Alternative Games mix will be included too, along with a few new ones!

The weekend will kick off in style with a Ceilidh in New Galloway Town Hall on Friday 31st July, and on Saturday 1st August there will be a special Homecoming Burns Concert in The CatStrand.

GLENKENS MEDICAL PRACTICE

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GLENKENS SCHOOLS REPORT

Kings (and Queens) of the Road!

On May 5th, 2009, the Primary 7 pupils from the Glenkens cluster braved some wet weather to participate in their cycle proficiency test at Dundrennan.

Although it was a wet and cloudy day, pupils from Kells, Dalry and Carsphairn Primary Schools didn't allow their spirits to dampen. Part of the Scottish Cycle Training Scheme, pupils enjoyed working with local police to improve their road safety awareness. Pupils learned to be aware of hazards from all directions, while learning to use correct hand signals and wearing the right equipment. The rain didn't dampen anyone's spirits and all our local Primary 7 students would like to thank the Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary for a fun and informative day.



It takes more than a little rain to stop Ryan Wilson of Dalry Primary.



Under a watchful eye, Hazel Banner safely passes a parked car.



Calum Wilkie and Fraser Cameron of Dalry Primary.

FoDS Keep Dalry in the Picture

Friends of Dalry School have recently purchased four digital cameras for the school.



Each primary class has been given a camera which can be used by pupils and teachers.

The images can be easily uploaded,

edited and printed for displays, newsletters and publications like the Glenkens Gazette. In addition, a high resolution camera has been bought for school events - concerts, shows, sports and such like when a higher quality image is required. The photo shows Martin, Jessica, Michael and Kyle with the new cameras – many thanks to FoDS from all at the school.

Glenkens K'Nex Cluster Challenge

The future great minds of the Glenkens area met together on April 29th to compete in the annual Glenkens Young Engineer of Britain K'Nex Cluster Challenge.

Primary 6 students from Kells, Carsphairn and host Dalry met to test their design abilities. Working in pairs, their challenge was to design and construct an aerodynamic vehicle to run down a ramp, then travel the longest and straightest distance.

Thirteen teams competed and enjoyed a morning designing, problem solving and presenting ideas to the judges. The winning team of Sophie Thomson and Eve Langford from Kells Primary will represent the cluster in the Dumfries & Galloway Area Final, date TBC.



Jake and Mackenzie, of Dalry Primary, constructing their vehicle.



Amber and Jenny, of Carsphairn Primary, creating their vehicle.



Eventual winners Sophie and Eve, of Kells Primary, building their vehicle.

Carsphairn Primary Visit the Devil's Porridge Exhibition



The children at Carsphairn Primary have been learning about World War II and enjoyed a trip to the Devil's Porridge Exhibition at Eastriggs, near Annan.

When we arrived, the first thing was to get changed into war-time clothes. We were then split into groups and shown around the war-time house, the old pub and the Anderson Air-Raid Shelter.

We learned about rationing and looked at things which people used in their houses during the war. We got to handle lots of things, and we all enjoyed holding the hand grenades. We then learned about the way that Devil's Porridge was made during World War I and look around the mock WWI trench.

We were given evacuee tags with our names written on them, then we walked to the old train station. The volunteer ladies at Devil's Porridge lined us up and 'picked' us, as though we were evacuees!

Daisy Hickman said: "There weren't any washing machines in the war, people had to make do with a wash board and carbolic soap!"

Caitlin Blackett said: "I liked the squeaky plastic rats in the trench and I liked the typewriter!"



CLUB CORNER

New Galloway Golf Club

New Galloway Golf Club has been part of the Glenkens community for 107 years, and is still going strong.



The course is always presented to an extremely high quality and offers some of the best views of any golf course in Britain. Membership is available at £165 per year with beginners and experienced players welcome.

The club offers weekly competitions for both male and female golfers or for those who prefer the opportunity to simply play and enjoy the

scenery. Check out the club's website for more information and pictures of the course, www.nggc.co.uk

Most members are happy to play with new members who would like some encouragement. The club also offers the opportunity to receive quality coaching from James Erskine, a local professional. James offers

coaching in the basics of the game or at a more advanced level.

The junior section is sponsored by the club presidents Chris Thomas' family Trust and because of this we can offer our junior members a fantastic summer coaching programme, with coaching from the professional James Erskine. The summer programme allows youngsters the chance to learn the basics of the game while having fun at the same time. Details of the summer programme are noted below. Junior membership is £45 per year which in the present economic climate is fantastic value.

Anyone who would like to join the club can obtain an application form from the payment area at the clubhouse, from the club's website or by contacting the secretary, Ian Brown, on 01556 670579.

Junior Summer Coaching Programme:

Saturday 2nd May, Saturday 23rd May, Saturday 13th June, Saturday 20th June, Saturday 4th July, Saturday 31st July, Saturday 22nd August, Saturday 29th August, Saturday 12th September. Each sessions is split into 9.30am to 10.15am; little junior golfers, 10.15am to 11am; intermediate junior golfers, 11am to 12.00; older junior golfers.

Competitions will also be held following the coaching sessions.

DALRY ANGLING ASSOCIATION

Carsfad Loch was stocked before the season started thanks to the efforts of Committee members, and although the fishing season started with some good weather, recently the colder temperatures and the fairly constant rain have not been conducive to good fishing. Let's hope that the end of May brings better conditions!

Fishers who have not enjoyed the superb scenery in which our waters are set should take advantage of the day tickets available to non-members at Newton's shop in Dalry and have a good day out. They only cost £7 per day (£3.50 Juniors). Visitors are always very welcome, and a recent holiday-maker wrote to say how helpful the Treasurer had been, which made his time in the area a real pleasure.

Carsfad Loch is stocked regularly throughout the season with good quality brownies and rainbows, some of which inevitably find their way down the Ken. Should you need more information look on our website www.dalryanglingassociation.co.uk.

Wherever and whenever you fish, have a good season in 2009 and tight lines!

News from the Stewartry Camera Club

The Stewartry Camera Club will hold an exhibition of photographs in The Tolbooth, Kirkcudbright, from Wednesday 10th to Sunday 21st June. Admission is free and a club member will be there should you wish to discuss the photographs or any aspects of club membership.



'Avocet' Photograph courtesy of John Houfe

The club meets in the Tolbooth on a Wednesday evening from the middle of September to the end of March. It is a long-established club that has gone from strength to strength with the advent of digital photography. Most club members now work with a digital camera but film cameras are still used. Many of the photographs exhibited will have done well in the competitions held throughout the season. They display the varied and best work of members.

John Houfe's photograph, 'Avocet', was taken in September 2008 at Pensthorpe Waterfowl Park in Norfolk, featured in BBC's 'Springwatch' 2008. John lives in the Glenkens and has been interested in photography since he was a teenager. He became a member of the club three years ago, and is very keen on wildlife with a particular interest in landscape photography. Whilst on holiday in the Outer Hebrides last year he took many photographs of the beautiful and dramatic scenery. He used these to construct a very interesting slide

show that was enjoyed by members on one of their club nights.

The exhibition is called 'Sixty of the Best – Lashings of Good Photos' as it includes sixty of the best images taken by members. There will be landscape images, flora, fauna and images of many other subjects both in colour and black and white. Do come along and see what has been achieved by The Stewartry Camera Club's members. For further information contact Mary McIlvenna 01644 420613 or George Wishart 01557 870090.



**Call for Entries
for the
Glenkens Annual
Art Exhibition**

**plus Exhibition of Children's
Art from local schools**

Glenkens Community Centre, Dalry
Fri 17th July to Sun 19th July

Entry forms are available from:

Tom Leach, 01644 420 386 or
Christine Rhodes, 01644 430 070

Closing date for entries; Sat 4th July

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**Carsphairn
Show**

Saturday 6th June

*entries on the day for sheep, pets,
and industrial section*

show opens 8am with sheepdog trials,
sheep judging 10am & pets at 2pm

for further info call
01644 460244



The CatStrand: News & Events

Exhibition: Archie Sutter Watt, runs until Thurs 4 June

Archie Sutter Watt (1915-2005) was one of Dumfries & Galloway's most successful artists and teachers with a career spanning over fifty years. He was an elected member of the Royal Society of Painters in Watercolour (RSW) and his works are held in private and public collections across Scotland and the UK.

This exhibition offers an opportunity to see and buy a selection of original landscape and still-life watercolours and mono-prints with a special selection of editioned etchings. All profits from sales will go to continue the work of the Archie Sutter Watt Trust Fund – a charitable body set up in 2005 to support education in art for young people in Dumfries & Galloway. For further details and contact details for the ASW Trust, please visit www.archiesutterwatt.co.uk



Margaret Elphinstone in Conversation with Tom Pow, Fri 5 June, 7.30pm, £5

For six thousand years after the last Ice Age, Scotland was home to bands of hunter-gatherers. They left little trace, but one event is known to have occurred. Around 6150 BC a

tsunami hit Scotland. This is the catalyst for the plot of Margaret Elphinstone's latest novel, 'The Gathering Night'. An inspired evocation of life among Mesolithic people, living in harmony with their environment, her novel provides an ecological parable for our planet today.

Margaret Elphinstone, now living again in the Stewartry where her writing career began, has researched hunter-gatherer communities across the world and studied their crafts and skills, some still surviving: she even built her own coracle. She was formerly Professor of Writing at Strathclyde University. Tom Pow is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Glasgow, Crichton University Campus. Margaret will be signing copies of 'The Gathering Night' after the talk.

Exhibition: Angela Lawrence & David Alexander - Sounds from the Shore, from Sun 7 June to Fri 3 July

Stewartry-based artist Angela Lawrence exhibits widely around the UK. Her paintings show her increasing interest in the elusive changeability of mountains and sea; the result is a substantial series of semi-abstract but expressive oil paintings.



David Alexander lives and works in Kirkpatrick Durham. His fresh body of work reflects his enthusiasm for the Galloway Shore. Walking the cliff paths and stone filled beaches has been a continual source of inspiration in his work.



"I Miss Communism" by Ines Wurth and Mark Soper, Sat 20 June, 8pm, £7/£5

Following critical and sell-out success at the Edinburgh Fringe, and a subsequent world tour, "I Miss Communism" is a true, personal and poignant account of Ines Wurth's life growing up in Croatia as a young girl in a Communist country. It won 'Best Touring Show' in The Fringe Report Awards at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2007 and was nominated for both an Amnesty International Freedom of Expression Award and a Writers Guild Award.

CatStrand Cinema: The Visitor (2007), Wed 24 June, 7.30pm, £4.50 (£3.50 CCC members & concessions)

A poignant and often funny film about rediscovering joy in the most unexpected places, The Visitor boasts an international cast including Richard Jenkins, Haaz Sleiman, Dabai Gurira and Haim Abbass. Cert 15, 104 minutes.



PocoMolto, Fri 26 June, 7.30pm, £8/£6

Pocomolto are 'a vintage ensemble which performs vintage music.' Based in Dumfries & Galloway, they are Shirley Massey, soprano, Sean Rae, bass and harmonica, Helen Keating, piano and double bass and Geoff Keating, piano and alto saxophone.

They present a mixed programme including the music of Gershwin and Cole Porter.



Genticorum, Thurs 9 July, 8pm, £8/£6

Firmly rooted in the soil of their native land, this Quebecois power-trio incorporate the dynamism of contemporary North American and European folk cultures into their music. They weave precise and intricate fiddle and flute work, gorgeous vocal harmonies, energetic foot percussion and guitar and bass accompaniment into a jubilant, unique, musical feast. Genticorum's distinctive sound, sense of humour and stage presence has made the band a worldwide crowd-pleaser.

CatStrand Cinema: Madagascar 2 - Escape to Africa, Wed 15 July, 2pm, £4.50 (£3.50 CCC members & concessions)

The sequel to 2005's 'Madagascar' in which New York Zoo animals, Alex the Lion, Marty the Zebra, Melman the Giraffe and Gloria the Hippo, still stranded on Madagascar, start to leave the island. All of a sudden, they land in the wilderness of Africa, where Alex meets the rest of his family, but has trouble communicating with them after spending so much time at the Central Park Zoo. Cert PG, 86 mins.



Project DIY with the Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama, Mon 20 - Fri 24 July, 10am to 4pm each day, £20 for the week

A week long Drama Summer School Residency course for 11-18 year olds, working with a professional writer and director from the RSAMD who will guide you through the creation, development and presentation of your writing through to performance..

CatStrand Cinema: Slumdog Millionaire (2007), Wed 29 July, 7.30pm, £4.50 (£3.50 CCC members & concessions)

This Oscar winning film by Director Danny Boyle features Jamal Malik, an 18 year-old orphan from the slums of Mumbai, who rises from rags to riches on the strength of his lively intelligence. Contains strong language and violence. Cert 15, 120 mins.



Regular events:



Storytelling Café, Thurs 4 June & 2 July, 7.30pm. This is a regular event on the first Thursday of every month. Cakes and coffee will be available and audience participation will be encouraged! Eat, drink and let your imagination run away with you! No booking necessary, donations on the door.

Youth Drama Group, every Sunday during term time, 2pm. The Glenkens 73 Club Youth Drama Group will meet on a regular basis on Sunday afternoons. If you are interested in acting, directing, costumes, sound, lighting, stage management or any other aspect of drama or theatre, then come along and have some fun. (Ages 10-18).

Play it by Ear, every Monday during term time, 1.30-2.30pm, £2 per adult/child + 50p for each additional child. A weekly song, music and storytelling session for pre-school children and their parents or carers which now takes place every Monday afternoon. Juice and biscuits included in the price.



Children's Dance Classes with Margaret Morris Movement, every Monday during term time, 3.45-4.30pm (age 5-7), 4.30-5.30 (age 8-12), £3. A series of classes designed to develop creativity and wellbeing. Dance exercises are created to develop agility, balance, co-ordination, elevation, flexibility and posture. With dance teacher Sara Lockwood. Please wear loose clothing.



Saturday Art Club, 2nd Sat of each month, 10am-12noon, £4. These two-hour workshops are run by professional artists and teachers, offering expert tuition and hands-on experience across a range of fun-filled visual arts and crafts activities. Advance booking recommended to avoid disappointment and do wear old clothes as things can get messy. (Age 5-12).



The CatStrand: News & Events

COMMUNITY EVENTS/CLASSES

Welfare Rights Surgery, Wed 24 June. Are you getting what you are entitled to? If so we may be able to help, come along to The CatStrand and get advice from the Benefit Maximisation team who will be having a series of surgeries. Please phone The CatStrand to book your individual appointment.

Regular Classes:

Exercise to Music, every Monday, 10-11am, £4/£3.

Boxercise: every Monday, 6-7pm, £24/£18 per six week block.

Circuit Training, Every Monday, 7.45

- 8.45pm, £24/£18 per six week block.

Teen Spirit: Every Tuesday 7.30 - 9.30pm.

Gentle Yoga & Relaxation, Thursdays 10-11.15am, £30 per 6 week block.

Taking the First Step in Computing, Wednesday evenings, 5.30pm - 7.30pm.

Taking the Next Step in Computing, Monday evenings, 5.30 - 7.30pm.

Afternoon Tea Club, 2nd Friday of the month, 2pm, annual membership £2. Minibus pick up from Balmaclellan and Dalry by prior arrangement - to book call 01644 420374.

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YOUTH UPDATE

Forgotten Stories

The project is finely getting underway, and young people from Dalry High School and the feeder schools will be out and about listening and recording local stories and reminiscences before they are lost for ever.

If you have a story to tell or can share your memories of the Glenkens and surrounding area, please get in touch. Possible themes may be; first love, war-time life, picture houses and music halls, transport, home life etc. Please contact Catherine on 420374 if you would like to be involved.

The CatStrand Youth Players

The Youth Players are currently working on their next productions which they will present at The CatStrand in late June or early July (a date is still to be confirmed).

The younger group are already rehearsing 'Around the World with Class 6' by Nick Warburton. The older members are still frantically reading scripts before finally deciding on their next offering. Watch this space! All young drama enthusiasts should also note that the Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama will be hosting a week long Drama Summer School Residency course for 11-18 year olds from Monday 20th - Friday 24th July at The CatStrand, 10.00am to 4.00pm each day. The cost is only £20.00 for the week. Please book early as places are limited.

RAVE NIGHT

Sat 6th June

8.30-11.30pm, £3

**CELEBRATE THE END OF
EXAMS AT THE CATSTRAND!**

Following the success of our initial rave night, we are planning a second evening to celebrate the end of the exams. We are hoping to build on the night and encourage more young people along (aged 14+) to enjoy the sounds. Anyone who would like to have an input into the style of music email info@catstrand.com with suggestions.

THE BUS : GLENKENS TRANSPORT INITIATIVE

YOUNG TRAVELLERS ENJOY DAY OUT: During the Easter holidays a group of younger children (accompanied by a few parents) enjoyed a day out in Glasgow visiting Kelvingrove Museum (including a Dr Who exhibition) and the Transport Museum. This was the first GTI 'junior' trip and more are planned for the summer holidays. Members of the youth group are also enjoying days out with Catherine Phillips, which means the bus is now used by a wide range of people, both young and old.

THE BUS: We had hoped to replace the bus this year but obviously in the present financial situation this will not be possible. However it is hoped to re-furbish it during the school holidays which will involve fitting new seats and generally restoring it to a top class condition. We do realize the bus gets used more and more and think it is worth the effort and expense to keep it in the best condition possible for travellers to enjoy.

REGISTERED ROUTE: There was a possibility of some slight alterations to the timetable but this will not be altered in the foreseeable future. The exact route has recently been clarified by the Council and a map showing this is available at The CatStrand as well as in the bus.

TRIPS: These are once again being as popular as ever, some being fully booked within a week of being advertised. During June we plan to visit The Burrell Collection /Pollock House (NTS)/Silverburn Shopping Centre on Sat 6th June, The Mull of Galloway on Monday 15th June and The Woolfest Exhibition in Cockermouth on Saturday 28th June 2009. Keith Cooper, Administrator

WEDNESDAY BUS SERVICE (REGD. ROUTE):

CONCESSIONARY BUS PASSES ARE ACCEPTED ON THIS ROUTE, SO PLEASE MAKE USE OF THIS EXTRA SERVICE

Timings are as follows:

1900 Dept Dalry (Underhill)

1910 New Galloway

1925 Mossdale

1935 Laurieston

1940 Townhead of Greenlaw

1947 Castle Douglas (Market Street)

1950 Arrive Castle Douglas (Tesco)

The return journey :

2045 Departs Castle Douglas (Tesco)

2047 Castle Douglas (Market Street)

2052 Townhead of Greenlaw

2100 Laurieston

2110 Mossdale

2125 New Galloway

2135 Arrive Dalry

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



**For further info &
to buy tickets visit
www.catstrand.com
or call 01644 420 374**

LOCAL HISTORY

NEW GALLOWAY - *Our Historic Burgh*

by Helen Bolton - PART XXXX

Changes for Better or Worse

The 1950's and 1960's saw many changes in New Galloway, some were for the better, but others were not welcome at all. A certain amount of building was carried out in the village, when in 1950 the Council built six new two-storey houses in Braeside, and a few years later the Forestry Commission started their housing scheme in the same area. The new Kells Primary School appeared in 1961 to replace the old Victorian school in the High Street.

This airy, modern building was a great improvement, although its flat-roofed design was not as attractive as the traditional old school. It did, however, have a lot more space around it with room for a good playground, a decent-sized football pitch and a garden. Three new Forestry Commission bungalows to house senior foresters were built backing onto the new Kells Primary School, completing the housing in that area.

During this period several of the older cottages in the village were, if not derelict, in bad condition and in need of either complete renovation or demolition. Luckily for New Galloway most of these houses were bought by private buyers and refurbished without spoiling their outward appearance.

In the early 1960's British Rail, who had taken control of our railways in 1947, began making noises regarding the closure of certain 'unprofitable' lines in rural areas. One, named on Dr Beeching's 'hit list' was our own 'Paddy' line, which, owing to increased goods tariffs and increased passenger fares, was not being used as much as it had been in the past. In 1965 plans were laid to re-route all London to Stranraer traffic via the Ayr and Girvan line, adding almost forty miles to the journey between Dumfries and the Stranraer ferries.

The axe fell on Saturday 12th June 1965 when the last passenger train ran through the lovely Galloway countryside. There was sadness and anger in the area as the local residents had always had a certain affection for 'their' railway. As the last train was due at about 11.00pm, a group of people gathered at Mossdale Station to witness the sad occasion.

The train drew in to the platform and people gathered to speak to the crew. Some shook hands with the driver, fireman and guard. Then with a melancholy blast on the whistle the last 'Paddy' drew away from the station on its final journey into history. A few people stood around on the platform until the lights were switched off and the train could be heard no more. The 'Paddy' had died!

Although there were bus services to Castle Douglas there was a feeling locally of being cut off, deprived of a service which had, over the last century, become so much a part of the lives of the community. Soon the tracks were lifted and the railway was no more than a memory.

The 1970's brought further changes to the way of life in New Galloway. The new Local Government Scotland Bill was given Royal Assent in 1973, opening the way to a revolution, not always welcome, in local administration.

The old system of County, District and Burgh Councils

which had operated satisfactorily for many years was to be replaced by a two-tier system of Regional and District Councils, with a voluntary provision for 'Community Councils'. Our well respected Burgh Council, which had been in existence since its inauguration in 1633, was to be dissolved.

Many people were afraid of the small Burgh losing its identity in a welter of paper and bureaucracy, but in 1975 'the powers that be' assured everyone that the new Community Council could, if it was formed, take the Burgh forward! It would have no fiscal powers, but would merely act as a 'watch dog' to express local opinions to the District and Regional Councils. It would also be in a position to organise traditional local events.

Community Councils were eventually formed but only if the residents of the area made a positive approach to their district council. The New Galloway Burgh Council held its last meeting in 1975, chaired by Provost Jack Paterson. Soon afterwards the residents of the village and the surrounding area were making a very clear demand to the Stewartry Council. As a result of this, the Royal Burgh of New Galloway and Kells Parish Community Council was formed and held its first meeting in 1977 under the able chairmanship of Mr Alastair Warren.

And so, although we no longer had our own Burgh Council, and had not the same control over our own affairs, New Galloway, our historic burgh, could look forward to the future.

© Helen Bolton, New Galloway, May 2009

This will be the last article in the series, as I feel that events taking place after the mid 1970's are not historical. So therefore it is time for me to 'hang up my typewriter'! I have enjoyed researching the history of New Galloway and have found it to be an even more interesting place than I expected.

I would like to thank all the kind and helpful people who have patiently answered my questions and given me so much useful and interesting information on our history since I started the articles in the first issue of the Glenkens Gazette back in the autumn of 2000. I would particularly like to thank the following people:

Rev Dr David Bartholomew, Mr Bill Blyth, the late Mr Mike Davis, Dr David Devereux, Mr Brian Edgar, Mr Peter Kelly, Miss Nettie Murray, Rev John Repath, Mrs Hart Robb, Mr Ronald Russell, Mr Eric Taylor, Mrs Lillas Thomson, Mrs Joanne Turner, Mrs Ann Warren, the late Mrs Mary Watson, and the staff of the reference department, Ewart Library. Also thanks must go to Mr Matthew Newton who bullied me into writing the first articles when he was editor of the Gazette.

Last but by no means least, many thanks to my long-suffering husband, Les, for his encouragement, advice and patience on our trips to research my 'little heaps of stones', and who never complained when I commandeered the typewriter!

Helen Bolton

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BAVARIAN EVENING SWAYS AND SWINGS INTO THE NIGHT

Swaying, swinging and singing was top of the agenda when residents of the Glenkens were treated to a Bavarian-style bier kellar evening in Carsphairn on Saturday, 25th April.

The packed village hall enjoyed a hand-clapping, thigh-slapping night out when a visiting ten-piece brass group from the north-west of England – Phoenix Brass – staged the fund-raiser for community facilities and, in particular, the local primary school.



'Musikmeister' Graham Hetherington comperes the judging of the entrants in the Lili Marlene make-up competition.

Nigel Martin, who recently moved into Carsphairn from Lancashire, had arranged with the village church social committee for the 10-piece brass ensemble, of which he is still a member, to come to the area for the weekend to provide the entertainment.

"The Bavarian Evening went down a storm," Nigel told the Gazette. "I don't think anyone had seen anything like it in the area before – people are still commenting on what a good time they had, weeks after the event."

And apart from a good time being had by all, the evening raised over £400 for the benefit of the community.

On the Sunday, 26th April, Phoenix Brass played the music for a morning Songs of Praise service in Carsphairn Church, conducted by the Reverend Robert Hamill. "During the ensemble's short visit to the Glenkens, people will be able to appreciate the versatility of Phoenix Brass through the Bavarian evening and the church service," Nigel said.



'Musikmeister' Graham Hetherington gets the audience warmed up and in the mood for a cracking good night.

CONVENTICLE

It is planned to hold an open air conventicle at Marscalloch in Carsphairn parish on Sunday 14th June at 4 pm. The service will be held on the front lawn of the Watret's house at Marscalloch, with fine views out over Kendoon Loch, so will be easy of access.

It will remember in particular the two local Covenanters, William Smith of Deughside and his wife Mary McClymont, who were killed at a conventicle they were attending in a woody dell on the boundary between Marscalloch and Dundough. They were buried there close to the spot where they were slain. Chairs will not be provided and those attending may wish to bring a rug to sit on.



Glenkens Walking Group

The group meet for a walk at 2pm on a Wednesday, outside the Bank of Scotland in Dalry.

People of all ages and walking abilities are very welcome, and we will adapt walks accordingly to the people who come.

Please call one of the walk leaders for further information: John & Isobel on 430 539, Elizabeth on 430 581 or Peter on 420 419

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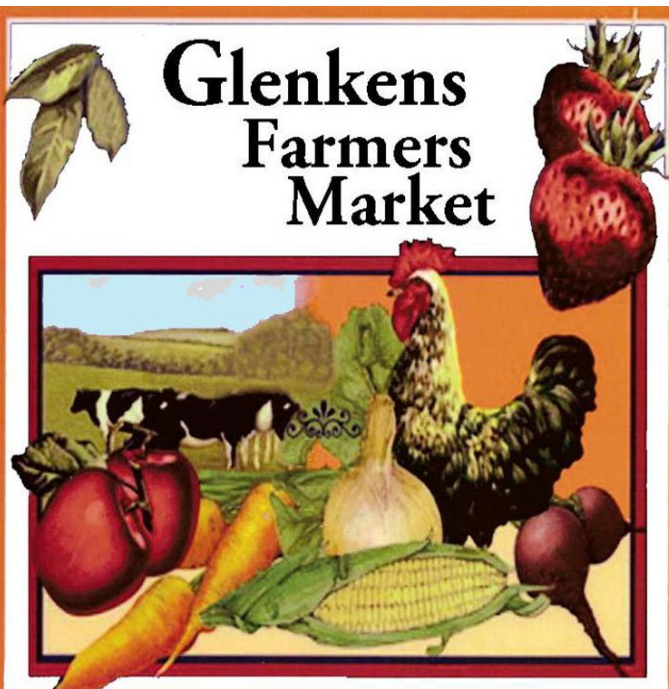


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Glenkens Farmers Market



2nd Saturday Monthly

June 13th 2009

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10am - 1pm

See the website for booking details;

www.st-johns-town-of-dalry-town-hall.co.uk

Entrance Fee 50p - Proceeds towards Dalry Town Hall Refurbishment Fund
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Health Tips: Top Tips for Healthy Meals During the Credit Crunch

by Nutritionist and Dietician Lorna Willock

1. Use plenty of vegetables e.g. carrots leeks and onions to make hearty bowls of soup or to bulk up stews.
2. Make use of pulses – a cheap source of protein with a low glycaemic index (keeps us fuller for longer). A ham end with some lentils or split peas can make a hearty bowl of soup.
3. Try sprouting beans e.g. mung, aduki. Sprout pre-soaked beans in a jar with muslin on top and leave by the window. Rinse and strain a couple of times a day and watch them grow. N.B. Do not leave them too wet or they will rot. Use in salads, stews, stir-fries, lunch boxes or just for snacking.
4. Have a shot at making your own bread or scones. Adding seeds to the bread will increase its health benefits and not strain the purse. Scones, preferably wholemeal, are good for filling up hungry children. Dropped scones are another simple, quickly prepared snack and you can sweeten them with honey rather than sugar.
5. Use the bread above with some local farm eggs to make 'eggy bread'. Kids love it and it is a more nutritious start to the day than coco pops, frosties or crunchy nut cornflakes.
6. Old-fashioned puddings such as crumbles and pies can be tweaked to

make them healthier. Use spelt flour and add some nuts and/or seeds to the mix. I add sunflower seeds and walnuts. Cut back on the sugar – most crumbles are really sweet.

7. Make your own museli – this is another breakfast food that will sustain you until lunchtime without the need to snack. Mix rolled oats with plenty of seeds and nuts that you love and add a little dried fruit to sweeten the mix. Sometimes I omit the dried fruit and add some fresh at breakfast time. It keeps for a while in an airtight container.

8. Even easier – start the day with a bowl of porridge. You won't find a cheaper, more filling start to the day.

9. Cook together chicken and brown rice with lots of chopped vegetables and some stock. This is literally a meal in a bowl and you can take a flask to work with you.

10. Buy cheaper, nutritious cuts of meat and fish. Slow cooking of tougher cuts of meat can make them melt in the mouth – experiment a little and have a chat with the local butcher and fishmonger. They will have plenty of ideas.

For further info visit www.foods4life.co.uk or email lorna@foods4life.co.uk

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TIMES OF WORSHIP IN THE GLENKENS

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND Sundays

Balmacellan 12noon 1st
 Carsphairn 10.30 am 1st 2nd 3rd 4th
 Dalry 9 am 1st 2nd 3rd 4th
 Kells 10.30 am 2nd 3rd 4th

Special Services and Events

14th June, 4pm: Conventicle at Marscalloch, Carsphairn

Communion Services:

7th June, 12 noon, Balmacellan Church

5th July, 10.15 am, Carsphairn Church

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH (C of E)

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GLENKENS DIARY FOR ALL EVENTS

JUNE:

Until Thur 4, Exhibition: Archie Sutter Watt, CatStrand opening hours, The CatStrand, New Galloway

Thur 4, Storytelling Café, 7.30pm, donations on the door, The CatStrand, New Galloway

Fri 5, Margaret Elphinstone in Conversation with Tom Pow, 7.30pm, £5, The CatStrand, New Galloway

Sat 6, GTI Bus Trip to The Burrell Collection / Pollock House (NTS) / Silverburn Shopping Centre

Sat 6, Carsphairn Show, show opens 8am, Carsphairn

Sat 6, Rave Night: End of Exam Celebrations, 8.30-11.30pm, £3, The CatStrand, New Galloway

From Sun 7 to Fri 3, Exhibition: Angela Lawrence & David Alexander - Sounds from the Shore, CatStrand opening hours, The CatStrand, New Galloway
from Wed 10 - Sun 21, Stewartry Camera Club Exhibition, The Tolbooth, Kirkcudbright

Sat 13, Glenkens Farmers Market, 10am-1pm, Dalry Town Hall

Sat 13, Corsock Village Market, 9.30am-1.20pm, Corsock Village Hall

Sun 14, Antiques, Collectibles & Craft Market, 12-4pm, Cross Keys Hotel, New Galloway

Sun 14, Conventicle at Marscalloch in the Carsphairn parish, 4pm

Mon 15, GTI Bus Trip to The Mull of Galloway

Sat 20, "I Miss Communism" by Ines Wurth and Mark Soper, 8pm, £7/£5, The CatStrand, New Galloway

Sat 20 & Sun 21, NLP Course: 2 Day Certified Course in NLP Foundation Skills, 9.30am - 5pm, The CatStrand, New Galloway

Wed 24, CCC Film: The Visitor, 7.30pm, £4.50/£3.50, The CatStrand, New Galloway

Wed 24, Welfare Rights Surgery, call The CatStrand for info

Fri 26, PocoMolto, 7.30pm, £8/£6, The CatStrand, New Galloway

Sat 28, GTI Bus Trip to The Woolfest Exhibition in Cockermouth

Mon 29, Carsphairn Community Council meeting, 7pm, Lagwyne Hall

Tue 30, GBA Meeting, 7pm, Ken Bridge Hotel

JULY:

Thurs 2, Storytelling Café, 7.30pm, donations on the door, The CatStrand, New Galloway

Thurs 9, Genticorum, 8pm, £8/£6, The CatStrand, New Galloway

Sat 11, Glenkens Farmers Market, 10am-1pm, Dalry Town Hall

Sat 11, Corsock Village Market, 9.30am-1.20pm, Corsock Village Hall

Wed 15, CCC Film, Madagascar 2, 2pm, £4.50/£3.50, The CatStrand, New Galloway

Fri 17, Sat 18 & Sun 19, Glenkens Art Exhibition, Glenkens

Community Centre, Dalry
Mon 20 - Fri 24, Project DIY with the RSAMD, 10am - 4pm each day, £20 for the week, The CatStrand, New Galloway

Wed 29, CCC Film, Slumdog Millionaire, 7.30pm, £4.50/£3.50, The CatStrand, New Galloway

REGULAR EVENTS:

Scouts: Mon, 7-8.30pm, New Galloway Scout Hut

Mother & Toddlers Group: Tues 9.45-11.15am, New Galloway Town Hall

Beavers: Tues, 6.30-7.45pm, New Galloway Scout Hut

Cub Scouts: Wed, 6.45-8pm, New Galloway Scout Hut

Glenkens Walking Group, meet Wed at 2pm outside the Bank of Scotland, Dalry.

Lions Club monthly quiz, alternating between The CatStrand & Lochinvar Hotel. For further info contact Andrew Frew on 420 323.

The CatStrand, New Galloway (see p7)

Exercise to Music: Mon, 10-11am
 Play it by Ear: every Mon during term time, 1.30-2.30pm

Children's Dance Classes with Margaret Morris Movement: every Mon during term time, 3.45 - 4.30pm (ages 5-7), 4.30pm-5.30pm (ages 8-12)

Boxercise: Every Mon, 6-7pm

Circuit Training: every Mon, 7.45-8.45pm

Taking the Next Step in Computing: Mon evenings, 5.30-7.30pm

Teen Spirit: Tues, 7.30-9.30pm

Taking the First Step in Computing: Wed, 5.30-7.30pm

Yoga: Thurs 10-11.15am

Afternoon Tea Club: 2nd Fri each month, 2pm

Saturday Art Club, 2nd Saturday each month, 10am-12noon

Youth Drama Group, every Sun 2pm
 Glenkens Youth Choir, every Sun from, 5-6pm

CatStrand Playstation Tournaments: contact The CatStrand for info.

Dalry Community Centre
 (for info or to book contact Sarah on 430 393)

Glenkens Playgroup: Mon-Fri, 9.15-11.45am

Paint & Art: Mon 1.30-4.30pm

Ballroom & Latin Dance: Mon - Beginners 7.30-8.15pm, Improvers 8.15-9pm, Improvers 9-9.45pm

Good Neighbours Club: Tues 2pm

Kickback Martial Arts: Tues & Thurs 7-9pm, adults welcome

Glenkens Mother & Toddlers: Wed 1.30-3pm

Craft Class: Thurs 2-4pm

Brownies: Wed 5.30-6.45pm

Guides: Wed 5.30-7pm

Drama Club: for further info contact Brian Edgar on 420 288

WRITE FOR THE GAZETTE!

Submit events, activities, news stories, cartoons, reviews, tips & techniques, fiction, photos, ads or ideas...

If you have a submission, contact Sarah on 07727 127 997 or glenkensgazette@hotmail.co.uk

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