

GLENKENS GAZETTE

incorporating news from Glenkens Community & Arts Trust

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

December 2009/January 2010

ISSUE 55

www.glenkengazette.com

Gordon's Cycle Challenge

Gordon Mills, from the Lochinvar Hotel in Dalry, recently completed the 'LEJOG' 2009 – Land's End to John O'Groats cycle challenge to raise money for cancer research.

The journey commenced on 3rd October, with Gordon and fellow cyclist Glen Rossell raring to go. Although it was a long stint, it sounds like a great time was had, with 975 miles covered in 11 days.



Gordon says: "Great trip - all completed with only two punctures! Stops along the way included Bodmin, Tiverton, Pill, Ambleside and St John's Town of Dalry, to name but a few. The stint from Ambleside to Dalry, 117 miles in the rain, was particularly gruelling. Glad it's finished and I can truly say I am not missing the Lycra!

"A huge thank you to everyone who has supported me and cancer research – your kindness was very motivational. And remember, you can still donate over the coming months – check out my web page for details."

If anyone would like to make a sponsorship/donation to cancer research or read more about the journey, they can do so by visiting www.justgiving.com/gmills or following the link from the Lochinvar Hotel website (www.lochinvarhotel.co.uk).

Once you donate, JustGiving will send your money directly to the charity and make sure Gift Aid is reclaimed on every eligible donation by a UK taxpayer. So it's the most efficient way to donate - raise more, whilst saving time and cutting costs for the charity. So dig deep and donate now for Gordon's fundraising cycle challenge!



Dark Skies for Galloway Forest Park

The 75,000 hectares of the Galloway Forest Park, which includes a large area of our Glenkens, has another feather to add to its cap - it is the first Dark Skies Park in the UK, and the first outside of the United States.



Photograph of Perseus from Craigenallie, Clatteringshaws, by James Hilder

The largest forest park in the UK, the Galloway Forest Park is home to the 7Stanes mountain bike trail, and parts of the Southern Upland Way. It has great fishing, canoeing and hill-walking as well as spectacular scenery and wildlife, and now with its Dark Skies status, its appeal doesn't even diminish after dark.

The Dark Sky Association set up these awards with the aim of informing on the effects of light pollution, conserving energy and being aware of and looking after nature. The rural location and lack of light pollution in our area creates an environment dark enough to study the skies in all their grandeur. Less than 10% of the UK population can see the full beauty of the night sky, but here in the Glenkens, we can see over 1000 stars including our own Galaxy, the Milky Way.

The Sky Quality Meter Scale (0-25) measures the park's skies between 21-23.6, near to total darkness, giving it Gold Tier Status - the highest achievable. The Forestry Commission website suggests many places within the park where telescopes can be set up and includes Clatteringshaws Visitors Centre car park and the Galloway Red Deer range car park.

by Sara McNeill ...continued on p3

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A Merry Christmas to all our readers!



Local Artist: Carol Taylor



Childhood Memories by Carol Taylor... I was born in Dumfries in 1957 and grew up in the beautiful wee village of St Johns Town of Dalry. I was a pupil at Dalry primary and secondary school until the age of 16 when I had to attend Kirkcudbright Academy for one year to study for my Highers. I left the area when I was 17 to become an art student at the Edinburgh College of Art where I studied sculpture for five years.

I miss the rolling hills of Galloway and visit my parents and the area regularly. Life as a child and teenager in Dalry had a profound impact on me as an artist. I met the artist Kim Redpath (the painter Anne Redpath's nephew) when I was 8 years old. His home and studio were 3 miles away in Balmaclellan where I spent many weekends learning to draw and paint. He was my art teacher at Dalry School and we have remained friends for the past 44 years. Kim was my mentor, a real inspiration, and still is today at 83 years of age and he is still painting!

My Dad was the village policeman and my Mum was the assistant cook at school. We didn't have a butcher in Dalry so my Dad fished the rivers for salmon and trout; he went shooting so that we could eat meat. Game was our staple diet along with a fantastic range of vegetables from my Dad's large organic garden.

We had a very rural, rustic upbringing close to nature and the hills, lochs and the river Ken. My Dad loved nature, gardening and photography. I decided when I was 9 years old that I would go to art school and become an artist. I spent my childhood in Galloway drawing and painting everything around me and realise now that I was inextricably linked into nature.

I currently live and work in my studio situated in my garden in a beautiful rural location in South Lanarkshire, Scotland. I am currently involved in collaborations with scientists

who "explore and explain the world of plants" (RBGE). I feel it is vital to explore ways in which artists, scientists and community can work together to combat pollution and raise awareness about sustainability and other environmental issues.

You can see and also buy Carol's work at The CatStrand, New Galloway; Gracefield Arts Centre, Dumfries; The Tolbooth, Kirkcudbright and Thomas Tosh in Thornhill, or visit her website at www.castaylor.com



NOTICE BOARD

Coffee Morning Success

Abbas Rest Orphans Coffee Morning on 3rd October in Dalry raised a total of £787.29. Many thanks to all the generous people, too many to mention by name, who helped to make this such a wonderful success. Your help was very much appreciated. Jean, Avril & Barbara

Carols by Candlelight

with Glenkens Church Choir
Sun 13th December at 6pm in Dalry Church

Reminder for Balmaclellan 'Senior Citizens'

Christmas Lunch on 17th December
Have you had your invitation yet? No? Then phone 01644 420 686 to ensure a place.

Show Secretary Wanted

As was mentioned in the last issue of the Gazette, the current Glenkens Show Secretary, Rosie Mair, is retiring after over 10 years of successful shows, and they are looking for an enthusiastic volunteer to take her place. For further info, please call Rosie on 01644 450 223

Static Caravan for Sale

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What Will Happen to the GTI Bus?

Dumfries & Galloway Council are preparing their budget for next year and apparently this will involve wholesale cuts. There is a possibility that funding for transport initiatives such as the Glenkens Transport Initiative (GTI) will cease. The minibus was originally funded by the Scottish Executive, but responsibility for this was handed over to the D & G Council over 12 months ago.

See p7 for more...



The Royal Burgh of New Galloway & Kells Community Council

Election of Councillors October 2009 - there being no poll, ten candidates remain validly nominated for the Community Council. Continuing councillors being Margaret Sainsbury (Chairperson), Maybelle Thomson (Vice Chair), John McGaw (Treasurer), Brian Edgar, Andrew Frew, Vic McIntosh and Jimmy McKenna. Three new councillors are Chris Newman (Secretary), John Boyd and John Thom.

The popular annual Alternative Games (held in August) brought in gate money of £2,010.00 plus donations from stallholders etc. With most of the expenses now accounted for, the dispersal of funds will be discussed at the next meeting of the Community Council on 7th December 2009.

A number of maintenance issues reported to Dumfries & Galloway Council have been dealt with satisfactorily, others await confirmation or completion. A further issue being dealt with by the Community Council is the possible provision of a bus shelter at Achie Bridge bus stop at the lower car park, to serve the residents of Carsons Knowe area.

Arrangements for the Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch to be held on Sunday 13th December 2009 are progressing well.

Balmaclellan Community Council

The Returning Officer described procedure at this first meeting and shared sources of guidance and information for Community Councils, including the code of conduct, constitution and guidelines. Introductions were made, with members of the new council being Chris Bird as Chairperson, Clive Brayshaw as Vice-Chairperson, June Hay as Secretary and Jane Brayshaw as Treasurer. The date and time of subsequent meetings were confirmed as usually being the last Monday of the month.

Christmas Lunch will be on the 17th December at the Ken Bridge with 50% cost paid by council (tbc). It was agreed to attend the Convention of Community Councils. It was agreed that a loan of tables to St Margaret's Church would be made – a donation would be welcome. Regarding the village hall, there is enthusiasm in the community for the hall to be used more and a need for it to have its own committee. Following discussion, it was decided to hold an

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

open meeting regarding this. On a different note, the local Access Officer is to be invited to attend the January meeting.

Carsphairn Community Council

Regarding the Core Paths, although the council is obliged to prepare a Core Path Network, they are not legally obliged to implement it. There is no budget for maintenance of the proposed core paths.

The condition of the bollards on traffic islands at both ends of the village are a matter for ongoing concern. There is still no lamp on the island at the North end and the southernmost bollards and lamp were demolished in a recent accident - the traffic islands do not seem to serve their purpose in slowing down traffic and in their present condition they present a hazard and seem to cause accidents. This issue will again be brought to the attention of Charles Clemie. The Carsphairn community website is progressing – a site has been established and work is ongoing.

The Duchrae planning application is being looked into and it was agreed that the CC would write again to express concern on increased traffic through village and general detrimental effect on roads surfaces.

An out of court agreement was reached between Knockengoroch Community Interest Company and Scottish Power which prevented Scottish Power from restricting vehicular access to festival-goers which allowed the September event to go ahead. KCIC is currently in negotiation with SP over access to secure the future of these community events. It has been established that we now have a Cashless Payphone in Carsphairn. A BT card is needed and these are available in shops. The chairman will find out if they are available in Carrick's. It should also be possible to use a credit card, but at the moment it doesn't appear to accept them! Instructions displayed in the box are not clear and some are irrelevant or out of date.

The Shop and Heritage Centre are willing to take leaflet and bags for dog fouling. A letter to village dog-owners and holiday houses is still to be composed. Neil Dyson confirmed for November meeting regarding timber transportation – the format for the meeting and invitations to other CCs was deferred to the next meeting.

Dark Skies story continued from front page... The Galloway Forest park is, of course, accessible by foot, bicycle and by horse for the more adventurous, but for those who prefer to drive, our own Raider's Road (open Friday night till Sunday afternoon) and the Carrick drive (open early April to October) also offer a good view of the night sky. The Forestry Commission, one of the bodies involved in this initiative, is eager to point out that Dark Skies is part of their conservation policy. Energy conservation along with responsible use of exterior lighting not only allows us to see the glory of our night skies, but it also benefits our wildlife who live according to our planet's cycle of day and night and who can be confused by our electric lit 24 hour lifestyle. They point out that we can all help maintain the glory of night skies with simple measures; turning off exterior lighting when not needed or pointing down exterior spotlights. It all helps.

For more information please visit the forestry commission website www.forestry.gov.uk/gallowayforestpark and follow their links, or phone the Recreation Ranger on 01671-402420. For those of you interested in stargazing and learning more about the night skies, the Wigtownshire Astronomical Society aims to promote and advance public education in astronomy. Set up in 1998 the Society, run from the Galloway Forest Observatory, has a full programme of workshops and classes that focuses on encouraging a popular interest in astronomical study and observation. All groups are welcome and they can be contacted on astro@glenamour.com or on 01671404387. Why don't you get out there and see the stars!

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GLENKENS SCHOOLS REPORT

Kells in Action

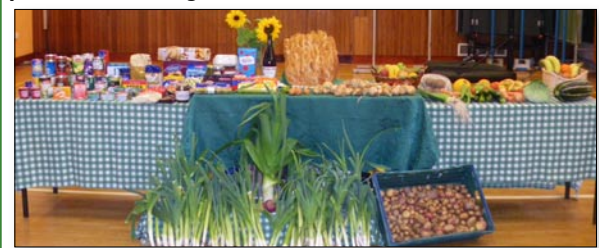
We have now changed the date of our 'Kells in Action: Open Morning' - it will now be on Friday, 4th December at 9.15 am Details as given below.

We would like to invite any members of the community into school who have a skill they think they could share, or any ideas for how the school could support the community. The open morning is an opportunity for people to watch the classes in action and for everybody to contribute to the direction of the school, ensuring Kells reflects the values of it's community.

Also, we are having a Rag Bag Textile Recycling Scheme pick up from school on Wednesday morning, 9th December, to raise money for school funds. Any unwanted clothing, textiles, shoes, bags, hats, belts, towels, curtains or bed linen in black bags would be gratefully received. These could be brought to school anytime after 8.30 a.m. on 9th December.

Our school Christmas production is on Thursday, 10th December, two performances, at 1.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. P1-3 are performing "A present for the baby" and P4-7 will be entertaining the audience with carols.

Harvest Assembly: On Friday 2nd October Dalry school held their annual Harvest Assembly. The P1/2/3 pupils and Nursery children led the assembly in front of a lot of friends and family. Everyone contributed a lot of produce for the harvest table and then stayed after the assembly to help share it amongst nearly one hundred bags. The children, with parents and staff, then went out into the community and delivered each bag to one of the Dalry locals. Everyone enjoyed the day and our local residents seemed very pleased with their gifts.



Dalry Small School Sports

On Wednesday 7th October Dalry School held a Small School Sports event. Pupils and teachers from Hardgate, Kells, Carsphairn and Crossmichael Primary Schools came to join us. We played rugby, netball, and rounders, and even though it was really cold, quite a few parents came out to watch us! We all had a fantastic time and hope to make it an annual event.

Winning the Quaich



Calum, Drife, Elizabeth and Greig; captains of last years' Dalry School football teams with the John McQueen Quaich awarded to the school for outstanding achievement by Dumfries & Galloway Schools Football Association.

Christmas Dates for Dalry

There are two musical events taking place in December at Dalry School: Tuesday 8th December at 1.45pm - Good Neighbours Concert combined with primary open afternoon. Tuesday 15th December - combined Dalry Primary and Secondary Christmas Concert - 7pm. In addition, there is a combined Christmas service in Dalry Church for all three local primary schools - Dalry, Kells and Carsphairn - on December 18th at 10am.

Dalry School Remembrance Day Assembly

The remembrance assembly at Dalry School began with Mr Simpson, the head teacher, giving an introductory talk on the passing of Harry Patch who died this year and was the last British survivor of World War I.

The assembly then took a different direction this year. A short talk was given by Paul Goodwin who is the school ICT Technician but also the Regional Volunteer for the War Memorials Trust. He explained the importance of War Memorials as a focus for remembrance and the work the trust does on preserving War Memorials. He went on to give a presentation with slides on Adam Byers who is commemorated on the New Galloway memorial and who was killed in the trenches in 1916. A small murmur went around when the pupils realised that two of them now lived in the house where Adam Byers had left to go to war. At the end of the talk Paul presented the results of the research to the special guests of the day, William Galloway from Twynholm who is the Great Great Nephew of Adam Byers and William's Grandmother Margaret who actually knew Adam Byers' sisters and widowed mother.

Mr Simpson then asked all those present to stand in turn according to a card each were given as they entered, representing the number of WW1 men listed on each of the four parish memorials in the Glenkens. By the end of which, almost all were standing and everyone was left with a strong impression of the number of men killed.

After the two minutes silence, S3 pupil Henry Sainsbury read 'In Flanders Fields'. Reverend Dr David Bartholomew went on to read from a letter to the bereaved parents of Robert James Clark of Dalry who was also killed in the first World War. The assembly ended with the usual prayer of remembrance.

Carsphairn School News

The children at Carsphairn Primary school have been busy during November and December preparing artwork and finding facts about Carsphairn for the annual School Calendar Enterprise. Children have been learning about different printing techniques as well as painting and collage for the artwork to be included in the calendar.

Over the last 6 weeks children at Carsphairn have also had visits from two different writers. Shoo Raynor, an author and illustrator visited the school and was able to show the children how he came up with different stories and where his ideas came from for his characters. Another author, Lari Don travelled from Edinburgh to visit the school twice during November, working with the children on improving writing skills and helping them to find ways of writing stories. Watch this space for more about the finished articles!



Dalry Pupils & CD Shops Send Out a Happy Christmas!

Pupils from Dalry School got a fantastic response from Wilkinson's store in Castle Douglas when they asked for local shops to support their Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal. First year pupil Hannah Daly wrote to several stores within 25 miles of Dalry. Wilkinson's responded by sending four trolley loads of goodies! Pens, paints, craft materials and pencil cases were added to what pupils had already collected. Pictured with S1 pupils are assistant manager Peter Butterworth and staff Wendy Makin and Carol Jardine who brought £30 that Wilkinson's staff had collected.

Mr Bannister of Dalry School said: "They gave us so many things we will be able to do so much more than we had hoped to. We need more shoe boxes!"

So far, 30 finished boxes will be sent to children in Africa, Central Asia and Eastern Europe. Castle Douglas Tesco also contributed a £10 voucher to spend in their store on goods for the appeal.





CLUB

CORNER

Glenkens Strollers: The Glenkens Strollers meet at 2pm each Friday at the top bus stop in Dalry for a slow walk (and brisk conversation) on good roads or tracks, followed by tea/coffee and biscuits. If you would like to join in please contact John or Isobel on 01644 430539.

Below: Glenkens Strollers enjoying a cuppa after a walk to Barscobe Castle.



News from the Stewartry Camera Club

The Stewartry Camera Club's 'Open Competition' was judged by David Symonds, Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society. It was an entertaining evening and David provided lots of constructive criticism to both the beginners and the more experienced members.

The winning entry for the competition was by John Houfe, who lives in the Glenkens, with 'York City Walls'. This was also the best monochrome print. The club meets at 7.30 p.m. on most Wednesdays throughout the winter in The Tolbooth, Kirkcudbright and caters for all photographers from beginners through to professional. For further information contact Mary McIlvenna 01644 420613 or George Wishart 01557 870090.



Glenkens Walking Group: 1.30pm every Wednesday outside the Bank of Scotland in Dalry. **Glenkens Ramblers:** 1.30pm every Monday outside the Bank of Scotland in Dalry. If very wet, please phone a Walk Leader to confirm that the walk will proceed. For further info on either activity contact John & Isobel on 430539, Peter on 420219 or Gerry on 420852.

The Glenkens '73 Club: Apologies for any confusion caused in the last Gazette, but due to the Youth Players originally planning two plays for 26th November it was agreed (just after the last issue went to print) to hold the long awaited staging of 'Chips with Vinegar' by Harry Glass until February when it could be performed at The CatStrand as a 'warm up' for the Festival. The well known and beautifully written wartime comedy-drama was entered for the Festival back in February but had to be withdrawn at the last minute due to illness. The cast have been doing their best to keep the words ticking over in the meantime and will go into full rehearsal mode after Christmas to fine tune the production ready for staging at The CatStrand in late February, before the Drama Festival which will take place in Lochside Theatre over the last weekend of the month.

The club would be delighted to welcome new members at any time as a larger membership would allow more productions to be planned throughout the year. At the moment due to limited numbers and resources the focus is mainly on the annual One Act Play Festival. However, they achieved unprecedented success in 2008 by reaching the West of Scotland Finals with their production of 'Murphy's Law' by Harry Glass winning the National Players Trophy for the best Scottish Play, finishing in fourth place overall and missing out on an appearance at the National Final in Inverness by one point! The members are keen to build on this success and would welcome any new members whether to act or help behind the scenes. If you are interested please contact the Chair, Marie Davie on 430293 or leave your name and contact details at The CatStrand. The club are also planning a Burns Supper in The CatStrand on January 30th with top local speakers and entertainment. Put the date in your diary and look out for further details in due course.

YOUTH UPDATE

The Battle of the Bands - Sat 19 Dec, 7pm

It's the annual CatStrand battle of the bands, where local bands can get together, perform to a live audience and compete for a star prize. To be eligible to take part, band members must be resident in Dumfries & Galloway and be aged between 16 and 26. It's free to participate, so if you're interested in registering your band please call The CatStrand on 01644 420374 or email info@catstrand.com. The closing date for registration is Mon 14 Dec. (Under 14s must be accompanied by an adult.)

CatStrand Youth Players: The Youth Players will proudly present their latest production at The CatStrand on Thursday 26th November. 'Cinderella, the Sequel' by Isabella C Rae will be their fifth play in little over a year since the group was formed in September 2008. Unfortunately, the performance of the other play planned for that evening has had to be postponed until a later date due to rehearsals being curtailed by a few casting problems and some members having other commitments. Hopefully though, 'Spud Ferret and the Case of the Stolen Diamonds' will take to the stage in January.

Plans for the 2010 SCDA Drama Festival will be made after play reading meetings on Sundays 29th November and 6th December. These will be at our normal rehearsal times of 3pm - 5pm and any new members are very welcome to attend these meetings.

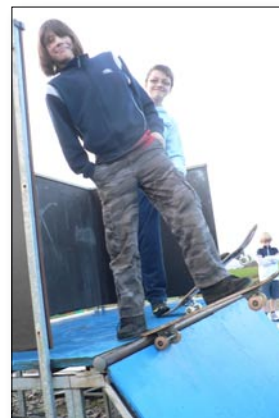
Well done Glenkens Youth Project!

And thank you to every one who kindly donated to the fund. The newly formed Glenkens Youth Project (GYP) spent the October holidays car-washing, collecting donations and doing odd jobs in order to raise the money to buy a 15m x 3m skateboard ramp set.

The group (which had set up as a swift response to a recent accident, when a local boy received a serious head injury using his skateboard on the roads) had been given two weeks to find the money needed to buy the ramps and haulage costs. The youngsters managed to raise £830 and the ramps are now being stored in the Glenkens until a public consultation has been completed and planning permission obtained.

The group are working closely with Dumfries and Galloway Council Leisure & Sport and Combined Services Departments, and hope to get the ramps located within the play area of New Galloway park.

GYP would like to thank St Margaret's Ladies Guild who were so impressed with the group for raising the money for the ramps and have kindly donated towards installation costs. Also thanks to Niven's and McWilliam's Haulage companies and to the Maxwells for their help and assistance.



GYP Members Oliver and Joseph Barrett-Phillips and Cameron Walker with the new ramps.



The CatStrand: News & Events

Galloway Gatherings: Enlightenment and Environment, Wed 2 & 9 Dec, 2-4pm, £8 per lecture. This session's CatStrand lectures explore ideas of the Enlightenment and the Environment. Wed 2; 'Farm Steadings of Galloway' with Alison Burgess, Wed 9; 'The Works of S R Crockett' with Professor Ted Cowan.



Exhibition: Willow, Canvas & Clay by Lizzie Farey, Bea Last and Hannah McAndrew, from Sat 28 Nov until 30 Jan, CatStrand opening hours. Lizzie Farey will be showing new wall based willow 'drawings.' Bea Last works with the process of addition & subtraction, movement, memory & energy, while evolving a series of paintings concurrently. Hannah McAndrew's ceramic work is in red earthenware, decorated using coloured slips and a rich honey glaze.

Robert Burns in England; An Illustrated talk by Chris Rollie, Wed 2 Dec, 7.30pm, free but ticketed so please book in advance. Chris Rollie, from Dalry, is a leading authority on Robert Burns who has spoken to a wide variety of audiences all over the UK and overseas. This illustrated talk focuses on Burns' visits to northern England in 1787.



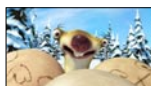
Christmas Shopping Evening, Thurs 3 Dec, 5-8pm. Take away the stress of Christmas shopping and buy all your presents at The CatStrand! You can choose from an exclusive seasonal collection of locally made arts & crafts, gifts & cards at this Christmas shopping event, while enjoying a glass of mulled wine and live musical entertainment.

The Feral Choir: Forgotten Carols; Soloist - Emily Smith, Reader - Tom Pow, researched & conducted by Ali Burns, Fri 18 Dec, 7.30pm, £8 (including mulled wine and mince pies). This beautiful and atmospheric concert is fast becoming an essential part of Galloway's winter celebrations. The performance is woven together with readings of contemporary poetry and prose. The soloist this year will be the award winning Emily Smith and making a popular return as this year's reader, is Dumfries based writer, Tom Pow.



Battle of the Bands, Sat 19 Dec, 7pm, £3. It's the annual CatStrand battle of the bands, where local bands can get together, perform to a live audience and compete for a star prize.

Film - Ice Age 3: Dawn of the Dinosaurs, Tues 29 Dec, 2pm, £4.50/£3.50. The adventure continues as Diego, Manny, and Sid all return for another round of prehistoric hilarity in the third installment of this popular computer-animated series.



Film - Star Trek XI: The Future Begins, Wed 30 Dec, 7.30pm, £4.50/£3.50. A chronicle of the early days of James T Kirk, Spock and their fellow USS Enterprise crew members during their time at Starfleet Academy.



Puppet State Theatre Co: The Man Who Planted Trees, Sat 9 Jan, 3pm, £3.50. A magical, comical, multi-sensory and award winning adaptation of Jean Giono's well-loved environmental story; accompanied by his faithful dog, a French shepherd sets out to plant a forest and revive a barren and desolate land.



A Talk at Tea Time, Wed 13 Jan, 3pm, £5 including

afternoon tea. Amanda Herries will be presenting an illustrated talk on the tastes and rituals of tea, from the extremes of the Japanese tea ceremony to the great British tea-break cuppa.

Poetry Workshop with John Hegley, Sat 23 Jan, 2-4pm, £10. This workshop promises to be a stimulating & scintillating insight into poetry with this spectacular performance poet.



John Hegley: The Adventures of Monsieur Robinet, Sat 23 Jan, 7.30pm, £10/£8. Tales about a Frenchman with some unusual habits, which include burying his dogs' kennel and his own luggage pieces...



Film: The Hurt Locker, Wed 27 Jan, 7.30pm, £4.50/£3.50. Based on the personal wartime experiences of journalist Mark Boal, director Kathryn Bigelow's Iraq War-set action thriller The Hurt Locker presents the conflict in the Middle East from the perspective of those who witnessed the fighting firsthand.

Regular events:

CatStrand Youth Players, every Sunday during term time, 3-5pm. The Glenkens 73 Club Youth Drama Group will meet on a regular basis on Sunday afternoons - 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. Song, music and storytelling session for pre-school children and their parents or carers.



Children's Dance Classes with Margaret Morris Movement, every Monday during term time, 4-5pm, £3. A series of classes designed to develop creativity and wellbeing.



The Reading Cure, monthly meeting, please call to confirm dates, 11.15am - 1.15pm, free. Come and connect with yourself and others through the shared reading of some of the best books and poems ever written.



Storytelling Café, 1st Thursday of every month, 7.30pm. Cakes and coffee will be available and audience participation will be encouraged! Donations on the door.



Saturday Art Club, 2nd Saturday of every month, 10am-12noon, £4. These two-hour workshops offer expert tuition and hands-on experience across a range of fun-filled visual arts and crafts activities. (Ages 5-12).



GCAT AGM: Notice of the 8th Annual General Meeting of the GLENKENS COMMUNITY & ARTS TRUST Limited to be held at 11am on Tuesday 8th December 2009 at The CatStrand, New Galloway. To become a member of gcac please contact The CatStrand on 01644 420374 or email info@catstrand.com

Eat @ CatStrand

LUNCHES - Mon to Fri, 11am-2pm

NEW! - 'Soup & Sweet' lunches only £4.95, Wednesday & Friday (includes a cup of tea or coffee)





The CatStrand: News & Events

Community Events / Classes

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

Circuit Training,
Mon, 7.45 - 8.45pm,
£24/£18 per 6 week
block.

Teen Spirit, Tues
during term time, 7.30-
9.30pm.

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

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

**Taking the Next
Step in Computing,**
Mon, 5.30-7.30pm.

**Afternoon Tea
Club, 2nd Fri each
month, 2pm, annual
membership £2.**
Minibus pick up from
Balmacellan & Dalry
by prior arrangement
- call 01644 420374.

Carers Coffee and Chat

Starts Tues 1st Dec, 10am to 12 noon

Do you care for someone? Would you like to meet other carers? Keep up to date on the services and support available to you? If so, a new group for carers is starting. Come along for a coffee and a cake - and make it happen.

Please call 420374 for more info.



Christmas Tea Dance

Dalry Town Hall
Wed 9th Dec, 3-5pm
free entry

There will be music
from the Saxachord
Dance Band and tasty
treats by Eileen Edgar.

New Date!

Please note there
has been a change to
the advertised date.

To book please call 420374
(numbers required for
catering purposes).

Help in Redundancy: Money Made Clear

Have you been made redundant? Or going through the redundancy process? If so, then here are some top tips to help you get your finances into shape... Find out how much you will be entitled to. Check out where you can get help with your finances and finding a new job. Take stock of what you have. Plan ahead.

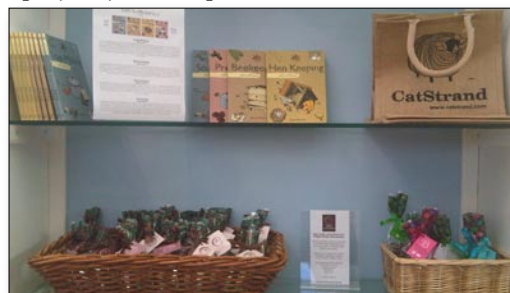
After redundancy... Stay in control of your finances by using a budget calculator to see how much money you have left after expenses. Check what you are entitled to by using the online Benefits Adviser tool. Find out what your options are, whether it's retraining, starting out on your own or finding another job. What ever the stage, don't panic! Talk to your mortgage lender or other creditors early to let them know you are in difficulties. They may be able to help. Check out moneymadeclear.fsa.gov.uk/redundancy. Helping with Redundancy at The CatStrand. There are regular Benefit Maximisation advice surgeries, Careers Scotland advice sessions, business start-up training with Business Gateway and more. Phone 01644 420374 for more information or to book an appointment.



Christmas shopping Locally

Why not save yourself the stress of hectic Christmas shopping and support your local community at the same time?

The CatStrand has a selection of local arts, crafts, gifts and cards - perfect for that personal touch at Christmas. From locally crafted



handmade soaps to delicious gourmet chocolates; beautiful, practical glassworks to a variety of jewellery, books and fine art by local artists and authors. Come along and have a look!

GTI story cont. from p2... In an area with poor public transport the loss of the mini bus would have serious consequences on health, education and the quality of life for many people living in the area. It is important that you take every opportunity to make our local councillors fully aware of the consequences of cutting such funding...after all, it is their votes that matter at Council meetings.

THE BUS : GLENKENS TRANSPORT INITIATIVE

I am sure by the time you read this the Festive Season will be upon us so on behalf of GTI may I wish all our drivers, all our users groups and all the people who support the mini bus in many different ways a happy Xmas and a healthy New Year. Trips continue to be well supported, a recent trip to Silverburn Shopping Centre and/or the Burrell Collection being almost full. Everyone had an excellent day helped by beautiful autumn sunshine showing off the glorious colours.

During the winter months we may well give you the option of two venues on the same day and this idea is already proving popular with the trip on 2nd December to Ayr (Shopping and/or Racing) being fully booked up by the end of October - you must book early to ensure your seat!

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.

Future trips will be visiting Braehead Shopping Centre and Ikea (Sat 28th Nov) and Hetland Hall Gdn Centre and Gretna (Mon 14th Dec).

Congratulations to Jean Jones, Fiona Rae and Stephen Davie who have recently passed the training course to drive the mini bus - please remember all our drivers do so in their own time, so please make them welcome.

Keith Cooper

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



LOCAL HISTORY

The Identity of the Glenkens

Glenkens folk know that they are fortunate to dwell in the very heart of Galloway with its neat farms rooted in a stunning historic landscape of woods, water and wilderness. But what precisely is the extent of the district – from Polnaskie Bridge to Parton or Cairnsmore of Carsphairn to Clachanpluck - the spectacular glen harnessing the waters of Ken, Deugh and Carsphairn Lane while poaching on the resources of Loch Doon thanks to the ingenuity of Hydro technology? The name first appears in a document of 1275 mentioning the deanery of Glenken, an administrative subdivision of the medieval church. Another example is the deanery of Annandale. Glenken comprised the parishes of Kells, Dalry, Trevercarcou, Kirkandrews Balmaghie and Kirkandrews Parton. Surprisingly, perhaps, Crossmichael was not included. There is dispute about the identity of Trevercarcou but it was presumably the old name for Balmaclellan before the latter emerged in the fifteenth century. Carsphairn was carved out of Kells and Dalry around 1640. Thus by today's reckoning Glenkens might properly include the parishes of Carsphairn, Dalry, Balmaclellan, Parton, Balmaghie and Kells.

In 1300 Sir Adam Gordon was granted half the Glenken by John Maxwell son of Sir Herbert Maxwell of Caerlaverock. Sir Adam in turn conferred these lands upon his son William, progenitor of the Gordons of Kenmure. Another document of 1300 declared that Gordon and everyone living in the Glenken were freed from the antiquated and much resented convention known as 'surdits de sergeants' which gave the sergeants or officials representing the lords and barons of the area the right to billet themselves and their men on local householders. They could also accuse individuals of crimes and in some cases they had powers to administer capital punishment. A few years later the 'Community of Galloway', a very interesting descriptor, petitioned for the end of the pernicious practice which had supposedly been banned everywhere in Scotland a generation earlier but which persisted in Galloway. It is ironic that sergeantry should be used as a crude weapon in this area at the outbreak of the Wars of Independence, involving the brutal practice of billeting 300 years before the advent of Bluidy Claverhouse and Grierson of Lag during the Killing Times.

Robert Bruce, having triumphed over the Balliols who held Kenmure Castle among other strongholds, exchanged his lands of Kinfauns in Perthshire for Glenken in 1313 thus showing his determination to control the important north-south route from Carrick to the Solway. Glenkens was Gaelic-speaking in the fourteenth century. In 1365 Gilmor MacAulay McCormack granted Stroangassel in Glenken to Aulan son of Aulan McCormack. A year later David II

granted the New Forest of Glenken to Sir Walter Lindsay and his wife Euphemia Ross. Within a decade it was back in the hands of the ever-receptive Maxwells. Today it is memorialised in the Forrest Estate.

The Glen was for long considered remote and barbarous. The Rector of St John's Town of Dalry, 'in the Glenken', petitioned the pope to be permitted to raise money for the repair of his church, 'which is situated in the woods, far from the habitation of other Christian faithful and among fierce men ill-versed in the faith'. The church was so decrepit that unless it quickly received help it was likely to prove ruinous. Shortly after the Reformation the earls of Bothwell held the extensive estate described as the lands and barony of Earlstoun, 'called the Glenkens'. The plural form of the name probably arose to describe the group of parishes that was by now understood to make up the district. Government orders during the Covenanting era referred to 'the parishes called the Glenkenns', which they designated as Carsphairn, Kells, Dalry and Balmaclellan. These four had provided the main inspiration and support for the misleadingly named Pentland Rising of 1666, which would be better described as the Glenkens Rebellion. Andrew Symson in his Large Description of Galloway (1684) noted that the same four parishes, 'because the river of Kenn runs through them', were commonly called the Glenkennes. One of many addresses against the Union of the Parliaments in 1707 which led to the creation of the United Kingdom was issued on behalf of the barons, freeholders, heritors and others of the four parishes of the Glenkens. It would appear that since the 1660s the name Glenkens has been reserved for the four northern parishes which is the common understanding today.

In 1802 John Rennie surveyed the route for a projected Glenkenns canal between the Boat Pool at Dalry and the port of Kirkcudbright. He it was, the builder of London Bridge, who designed the sturdy granite structure across the Ken, which we all still use, linking Kells and Balmaclellan. He thoughtfully provided arches which would permit the free passage of traffic under the bridge should the canal ever be built. In the mid-nineteenth century a Glenkens Society was formed but that will be the subject of a future article in the Gazette. For centuries Glenkens has cultivated a distinct identity which deserves to be fostered and celebrated now and in the future.

Nb. The variations in spelling of Glenken or Glenkens follows the convention of the documents in which the name is found to give some idea of variations over time.

Ted Cowan

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What is happening to our communities?

In the past, Dalry was a thriving village with over a dozen shops as well as many other businesses. Over the years the numbers of shops and local facilities diminished as people were able to travel further afield for their shopping and services. Now the number is drastically reduced and may soon end up with no shops at all.

It's all very well going to Tesco, etc but if you only need a few things, it's probably cheaper getting them locally. If your local shop doesn't have what you want, and you use the shop regularly, ask them - maybe they can stock it for you.

Strong, integrated communities have power when local people become involved. There is the potential to achieve all kinds of things, such as the creation of new buildings and facilities for adults and children, grants for youth, business and community woodland schemes, developing tourist facilities and attractions, and local enterprise companies.

This area is rich in natural assets - what we need are the resources to promote them. But without a strong community who value and use local trades and events, tourists, who are very important to the area, will not have much to come to see, and we will have no chance of improving things.

I'm not suggesting we go back to the mid 20th century, but communities in the Glenkens seem to have lost their cohesion. If something is on in or around the village, why not go along and support it. Use local businesses where possible, and buy from your local shops. We need to support our local community or we're going to lose it.

Maggi Kaye

10th Anniversary Concert

In the Autumn of 1999, the Glenkens Church Choir first sang at a Harvest Songs of Praise in Dalry Church. Since then the Choir has built up a considerable repertoire of music of various kinds and has performed regularly in local churches and elsewhere.

To celebrate its 10th Anniversary, the Choir presented a programme of music in Carsphairn Church on the evening of 25th October. The programme consisted of anthems, madrigals and folk songs and concluded with a spirited performance of Vivaldi's Gloria. Members of the choir also performed solos. The Reverend David Bartholomew gave the vote of thanks, in which he thanked all those involved, especially the choir members, whose hard work and dedication had resulted in the success of the evening. This was followed by the cutting of a birthday cake, which, along with other refreshments, was enjoyed by choir and audience.

The Choir's annual Carols by Candlelight will take place in Dalry Church on Sunday 13th December at 6.30 pm. You are invited to come along and listen to carols, join in the community singing and enjoy refreshments afterwards.



Glenkens Show Horse & Pony Section

The rearranged Glenkens Agricultural Society Horse and Pony Show which had been postponed in August took place at the Epona Riding Centre, Crocketford, on Sunday 18th October 2009. Despite the damp weather there were plenty of entries which made for an enjoyable day.

Results were as follows: Tack and Turnout – Winner Jodie Caig on Urr Valley Mist, Equitation – Juniors- Winner Sophie Martin on Chester, Equitation – Senior- Winner Samantha Cloy on May, Coloured Horse; Winner Donald Smith on Donna, Race Horse to Riding Horse; Winner Samantha Houston on Kupka, Childs Lean Rein Pony - Winner Tammy Campbell on Archie, Childs First Pony; Winner and Trophy for Best Rider Sophie Martin on Chester, Mountain and Moorland Pony; Winner Evan McLean on Meikle Royce, Fancy Dress; Winner Jodie Craig on Urr Valley Mist, Champion Show Pony was Tammy Campbell on Archie and Reserve was Samantha Cloy on May. Show Jumping: Wibbly Wobbly – Lead Rein- Winner Holly Murdoch on Misty, Wibbly Wobbly- Winner Hannah Mills on Minty. Beginners: Winner Rachel Jamieson on Pepper, Novice; Winner Donald Smith on Puzzle, Pairs Relay - Winners; Donald Smith and Chris Jamieson.

GLENKENS HAIR STUDIO

DUKE STREET, NEW GALLOWAY

Eileen thanks all her customers for their support throughout the year and wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OPENING HOURS –

Thursday 17th Dec: 9am – 6.30pm

Gent's Barber Shop: 5 - 6.30pm

Friday 18th Dec: 9am – 5pm

Saturday 19th Dec: 9am – 1pm

Wednesday 23rd Dec: 9am – 6pm

Gent's Barber Shop 5 - 6pm

Thursday 24th Dec: 9am – 5pm

Wednesday 30th Dec: 9am – 5pm

Thursday 31st Dec: 9am – 5pm

Please note the Barber Shop opening hours on Wed 23rd & 30th Dec. Closed 1st week of 2010, open as normal from Thurs 14th Jan.

PLEASE BOOK EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS APPOINTMENTS - 01644 420 616

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Health is True Wealth

You could be suffering from a condition that may be improved by a nutritional consultation. Often a change in diet works well alongside your doctor's health advice.

Lorna has been working with patients for over 15 years now and has seen some great health improvements due to changing what we eat.

"You have transformed my life - ill for 42 years, better in three days - thank you!" says Hilary Hawkins, Gatehouse of Fleet

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Digestive problems including bloating, cramps, acid reflux, constipation, diarrhoea etc; arthritis; skin conditions such as eczema, psoriasis and rashes; tiredness and anxiety; weight issues; hormonal and menopausal problems; men's health problems; childrens' health issues, eg. hyperactivity, frequent coughs and colds

Consultations from £35 (minimum one hour)



If you feel that a nutritional consultation could help you, please contact Lorna to discuss your issues on 01644 470218 or lorna@foods4life.co.uk To find out more visit www.foods4life.co.uk

Health Tips:

by Nutritionist & Dietician Lorna Willock

STAYING HEALTHY OVER CHRISTMAS (NUTRITIONALLY SPEAKING!)

With the festive season fast approaching I await, with awe, to watch trolleys laden full being pushed around supermarkets. For keeping healthy over Christmas try a few tips:

- This is the season of excess, especially drinking! A glass of water between alcoholic drinks is helpful and slows things down making one more aware of limits. Water helps to counteract dehydration, resulting in less sore heads.
- The extra chocolates, nuts, little mince pies, fruit cake, etc, will just give some of us more hard work to do towards weight loss in the New Year. Think before you take another of those tempting treats...
- Lots of eating out at this time of year means making wise choices from the menu. To get through the three course meal without adding pounds, have fruit with ham or fish for starters and if you want to indulge in pudding cut out the tatties and extras e.g. bread sauce, chipolatas, etc, from your main course.
- Eat lots of Brussels sprouts – they are SO good for you. Full of vits and minerals they also help prevent bowel cancer. Try stir frying them with chopped chestnuts and herbs...just don't boil them to death!
- Enjoy Christmas soups - leftover turkey makes the most delicious pots of soup so don't throw away these bones. If you don't know how to make soup, have a lesson from mum or granny.
- Now that most of us are given fairly long festive hols try and get some extra exercise - go walking or hill climbing... that dram will taste so much better at the top of a hill!

*Wishing you health and
wealth for the New Year!*

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

The 12 Days of Christmas Fire Safety Check:

- On the 1st day of Christmas - Check your Christmas tree lights conform to the British Standard
 - On the 2nd day of Christmas - Never place candles near your Christmas tree or furnishings. Don't leave them burning unattended
 - On the 3rd day of Christmas - Make sure your family and guests staying for the festive period know what to do in an emergency. Make a fire escape plan.
 - On the 4th day of Christmas - Decorations can burn easily - Don't attach them to lights or heaters
 - On the 5th day of Christmas - Never overload electrical sockets. Take special care with Christmas lights.
 - On the 6th day of Christmas - Most fires start in the kitchen - never leave a cooker unattended.
 - On the 7th day of Christmas - Celebrate Christmas and New Year safely. The risk of accidents, especially in the kitchen, is greater after alcohol is consumed.
 - On the 8th day of Christmas - If you are planning to celebrate with fireworks, store them in a metal box, read the instructions, never go back to a lit firework and keep a bucket of water nearby.
 - On the 9th day of Christmas - Make sure you have a working smoke alarm.
 - On the 10th day of Christmas - Check the battery in your smoke alarm every week and use Christmas as a reminder to clean it and remove dust.
 - On the 11th day of Christmas - Make sure candles and cigarettes are completely extinguished before going to bed. Keep matches and lighters away from children.
 - On the 12th day of Christmas - Take a second to check on elderly relatives and neighbours this Christmas - make sure they are fire safe.
- Anyone concerned about fire safety and what actions to take can find out more at www.dontgivefireahome.com**



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TIMES OF WORSHIP IN THE GLENKENS CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sundays

Balmacellan 12noon 1st
Carsphairn 10.30am 1st 2nd 3rd 4th
Dalry 12noon 1st 2nd 3rd 4th (Jan)
Kells 10.30am 2nd 3rd 4th (Jan) 5th (Jan)

Special Services and Events

13th Dec, 6.30pm: Carols by Candlelight with Glenkens Church Choir, Dalry Church

24th Dec, 11.30pm: Watchnight Service, Balmacellan Church

25th Dec, 10.30am: Christmas Day Family Service, Dalry Church

27th Dec, 10.30am: United Service with Choir, Carsphairn Church

31st Jan, 10.30am: United Service with Choir, Kells Church

Communion Services:

25th Oct, 12noon, Dalry Church
1st Nov, 12noon, Balmacellan Church
15th Nov, 10.15am, Carsphairn Church

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH (C of E)

St Margaret's, New Galloway: Holy Communion - 10.30am every Sun & Wed

CATHOLIC CHURCH SERVICES

Gatehouse of Fleet: Sat, 6pm
Kirkcudbright: Sun, 9.30am
Dalbeattie: Sun, 11am
St Ninian's Episcopal Church, Castle Douglas, contact Rev McFadden for info on 01557 330687.

GLENKENS DIARY FOR ALL EVENTS

DECEMBER

Wed 2 & 9, Galloway Gatherings: Enlightenment and Environment, 2-4pm, The CatStrand, New Galloway
until 30 Jan, Exhibition: Willow, Canvas & Clay, CatStrand opening hours, The CatStrand, New Galloway
Wed 2, Robert Burns in England; an Illustrated talk by Chris Rollie, 7.30pm, The CatStrand, New Galloway
Thurs 3, Christmas Shopping Evening, 5- 8pm, The CatStrand, New Galloway
Fri 4, Kells in Action Open Morning, 1.30 pm, Kells School, New Galloway
Tues 8, Good Neighbours Concert combined with primary open afternoon, 1.45pm, Dalry School
Wed 9, Rag Bag Textile Recycling Scheme pick up from school from 8.30am Wed morning, Kells School, New Galloway
Wed 9, Christmas Tea Dance, 3-5pm, Dalry Town Hall
Thurs 10, Kells School Christmas production, two performances - 1.30 pm and 6.30 pm, Kells School, New Galloway
Sun 13, Carols by Candlelight with Glenkens Church Choir, 6pm, Dalry Church
Sun 13, Kells Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch
Tues 15, combined Dalry Primary and Secondary Christmas Concert, 7pm, Dalry School
Thurs 17, Balmacellan 'Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch, Ken Bridge Hotel, contact 01644 420 686 to ensure a place.
Fri 18, Feral Choir: Forgotten Carols: Soloist - Emily Smith, Reader - Tom Pow, 7.30pm, The CatStrand, New Galloway
Fri 18, combined Christmas service in Dalry Church for all three local primary schools - Dalry, Kells and Carsphairn - 10am.
Sat 19, Battle of the Bands, 7pm, The CatStrand, New Galloway
Tues 29, Film: Ice Age 3 : Dawn of the Dinosaurs, 2pm, The CatStrand, New Galloway
Wed 30, Film: Star Trek XI : The Future Begins, 7.30pm, The CatStrand, New Galloway

JANUARY

Sat 9, Puppet State Theatre Co: The Man Who Planted Trees, 3pm, £3.50, The CatStrand, New Galloway
Wed 13, A Talk at Tea Time, 3pm, The CatStrand, New Galloway
Sat 23, Poetry Workshop with John Hegley, 2-4pm, The CatStrand, New Galloway
Sat 23, John Hegley: The Adventures of Monsieur Robinet, 7.30pm, The CatStrand, New Galloway
Wed 27, Film: The Hurt Locker, 7.30pm, The CatStrand, New Galloway
Mon 14, GTI bus trip to Hetland Hall Gdn Centre and Gretna

REGULAR EVENTS:

Glenkens Ramblers, Mondays 1.30pm, Bank of Scotland, Dalry

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

Stewartry Camera Club: most Wednesdays throughout the winter at 7.30 pm in The Tolbooth, Kirkcudbright

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

Glenkens Walking Group, meet Wed 1.30pm outside Bank of Scotland, Dalry

Glenkens Strollers, meet at 2pm each Friday at the top bus stop in Dalry for a slow walk

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, 10-11 am

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, 4-5pm (ages 8-12)

Circuit Training: every Mon, 7.45-8.45pm

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

Carers Coffee & Chat, starts Tues 1st Dec, 10am-12noon, The CatStrand, New Galloway

The Reading Cure, Tuesdays, 11.15am-1.15pm, Free

Teen Spirit: Tues, 7.30-9.30pm

Wednesdays, Glenkens Walking Group, 2pm, outside Bank of Scotland, Dalry

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

Catstrand Youth Players meet weekly, 3-5pm

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

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

Glenkens Youth Choir, Sun, 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 drop-in class: Mon 7.30-9pm, £5

Ballroom & Latin Dance course: Mon 9-10pm, for more info tel Sam Hood on 01644 420672

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

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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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