

GLENKENS GAZETTE

News from Balmaclellan, Carsphairn, Mossdale, New Galloway and St John's Town of Dalry

June/July 2013

ISSUE 76

FREE

Fond Farewell to Gazette Founder

Dalry shopkeeper and founder of the Glenkens Gazette, Matthew Newton, and his wife Gill, are moving to Aberdeen at the beginning of July.



Left to right: Matthew Newton, new owner
Lindsey Forbes, Gill Newton

Neither Matthew nor Gill had any experience of running a retail outlet, but after being made redundant from the NHS Matthew decided the time had come to fulfil a life-long dream of being self-employed, and so started the search for a village shop to run. Having looked all over Scotland, they decided that the shop in Dalry that Mr Kerr was selling fitted the bill, and they took over the business in September 1995.

A steep learning curve followed, made easier according to Gill by the excellent staff and patient customers! However, that first winter was very testing when the extremely bad weather deprived them of water and power for over a week and made it almost impossible to get supplies in for the village. Luckily, a massive truck with snow tracks from their main supplier managed to get through.

Their children, Imogen and Sean, both attended Dalry School and Gill has high praise for the way the school helped them both settle in. For Imogen in particular it was a big change from her High School in Glasgow, where she was one of 1200 pupils. Both children took advantage of the many clubs and groups, with Sean enjoying football and Imogen joining the youth drama group. A proud moment for them all was when the group's play 'Dream Jobs' won against stiff competition from adult groups at the Stewartry Drama Festival.

By Nicolette Wise, continued on page 6...

CORE PATHS UP AND RUNNING

This year saw the adoption of the Core Paths Plan for Dumfries and Galloway (D&G).

One hundred of these key paths can now be found crossing the region, with nine of them in the Glenkens itself, geared for the use of all outdoor users - hill walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

D&G Council was obliged under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act of 2003 to locate and investigate a number of key or main paths in the region that would provide the public with routes that fulfilled a variety of objectives: functional, educational and recreational.

The routes would be primarily off-road and would promote, for

example, safer access to school or a route to a particular place of interest. It also gave landowners the means to manage and navigate outdoor users through their land, while at the same time recognising the general public's right of responsible access or 'right to roam'.

The research started in 2006 when the D&G's Outdoor Access Service kicked off the Core Paths plan by consulting with Community Councils, landowners and the general public. Communities and individuals were asked to mark maps with the routes which they used or wished to use. Some of the paths suggested were already physically there and were in use, but some new paths were proposed.

By Sara McNeill, continued on page 2...



Photo by Bob Peace

Continued from front page...

Each was assessed according to specific criteria including natural hazards, state of repair and relevance to the 'Core Paths Plan' objectives.

This year these paths have been made a legal entity in themselves. It should be pointed out though that they are not owned by the Council and remain at all times in the ownership of the landowner through whose land the paths pass.

There is a variety of walks all with different types of paths and through different landscapes, of varying distances and requiring different levels of fitness. One of

the conditions of becoming a core path was the ability of the path to be brought up to a suitable standard, and all efforts will be made to ensure that the paths are both passable and navigable.

To assure your safety and wellbeing in walking, cycling or horse riding along these routes it is essential to remember that the land which you are traversing provides the local landowner with a livelihood. You have to be aware and accept that the outdoors cannot be made risk-free. This includes not only making sure that you have the right fitness level for the walk, but also wearing the appropriate clothing and

footwear as well as carrying maps, food, water, and a mobile phone. Look out for signage as you may well be entering an area where shooting is taking place or cows are calving; it is always better to avoid areas with young livestock, especially if you have a dog with you. Dogs must be kept under control on short leads.

The Core Paths Plan can be viewed in all libraries and Customer Service Centres in Dumfries and Galloway. Alternatively, the routes are available online at www.dumgal.gov.uk/corepaths

For more information on access rights, please visit: www.outdooraccess-scotland.com

CORE PATHS AROUND CARSPHAIRN

In this and future issues of the Gazette we will feature Core Paths in different parts of the Glenkens. In this edition we focus on the Carsphairn area.

The Carsphairn Community Council area is nearly 100 square miles. A lot of the Core Paths routes, as mentioned in the front page feature, are already established and used, and indeed those who know this tranquil and remoter area of the Glenkens may already be familiar with them. Those who frequent our award-winning Heritage Centre will definitely recognise the routes as some of the Centre's former Heritage Walks.

The area is so ideal for the project that the Core Paths have been split in to two. The first area of paths are to be found off the A713 and the second off the less central B729 (known locally as the back road between Carsphairn and Moniaive).

There are six centrally located Core Paths: Upper Deugh Trail, Knockengoroch Trail, Holm and Garryhorn Trail, Cairnsmore Trail, Knockgrey Trail, and the Dundeugh Trail. The first four walks are to be found north of the village on both sides of the A713. The Upper Deugh and Knockengoroch trails are appropriate for both walkers, cyclists and horse riders. It is a

mixture of tarmac and forestry tracks that takes in an ancient burial cairn, wild moorland and with an Ordnance Survey map one can discover the remains of an area that used to be more densely populated. The Holm and Garryhorn Trail is a fascinating walk that takes you through a landscape that played an important part in not just local history but in the history of Scotland in general. The walk wends its way through an old abandoned mining village where the standing remains of a whole community can still be seen, and it isn't hard to conjure up the life lived there.

If it is views that you seek then you may want to give the Cairnsmore walk a go. It is a circular route (descending on the Knockgrey Trail or vice versa) that takes you past the Green Well of Scotland, with its many legends, and up the famous Cairnsmore of Carsphairn. It has to be said that this is a walk for the more fit amongst you and it will take about an hour and a half to reach the summit. The views are stunning and on a good day you can see both England and Northern Ireland. The last Core Path off the A713 is the Dundeugh Trail, based around Dundeugh Hill; bordered on three sides by water it is suitable for horses, walkers and cyclists, and frequented and greatly loved by all local dog owners. There are the remains of two ancient castles in the



Local artist Robin Ade with the Carsphairn Core Paths signboard for which he did the artwork. The board is situated at the junction between the A713 and B729 just outside Carsphairn village.

area which can be found with a bit of perseverance and a good map. The charm of this walk is that a section of the walk takes you along the banks of the Kendoon Loch, with its abundant wildlife. Once you are feeling confident with the main route do discover all the little tracks that cross over and intertwine it. Some take you down to the suspension bridges with their lovely views up the rivers, and some take you on quirky routes through the forest.

The Carsphairn Core Paths really help you to discover what is our most far-flung Glenkens landscape and community. Why don't you take advantage of these accessible and well-maintained routes, and discover some of the local secrets and hidden gems? You won't be disappointed!

Sara McNeill

THE 19TH HOLE

The 2013 Golf Season is now well under way at New Galloway Golf Club. As a result of reading the article in the last issue of the Gazette readers will already have pencilled in their diary Saturday 1 June for Give Golf A Go at New Galloway Golf Club; hopefully this article will act as a reminder.

It is a free event, and you don't even need your own clubs - just come along to the Club and try it out. Members will be on hand to help from 10am to 3pm.

The Captain's drive-in was late this year due to the atrocious weather. However, a good number of members and friends turned out to see the Club Captain, Jeff Sutcliffe, drive

off along with the Lady Captain, Gerry MacKechnie, after which all members played in the Celts Challenge - the first time the competition had been played to celebrate the life of Chris Thomas, the Club's President who died last year.

Chris had always given great support to the Club and this was a fitting way to honour his loyalty.

Work has been completed on the course drainage system, which hopefully will mean less days lost to bad weather. By the time you read this article, all the greens will have been topped, dressed and, with the right weather, will once again be the envy of all the courses in the area.

The Ladies Team have won through to the 4th Round of the Daily Mail National Team Competition, their next game



Jeff Sutcliffe and Gerry MacKechnie

being away to St Medan Golf Club. All the Club's competition results can be seen on the Club's website - www.nggc.co.uk or www.masterscoreboard.co.uk

We have had a number of visitors playing the course, several from overseas, and they all comment that the course is in excellent condition and the views magnificent.

The Club is looking to improve the woodland walk in the near future which is an amenity for the community and tourists alike.

*Captain and Match Secretary,
Jeff Sutcliffe*

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Glenkens Freecycle

sponsored by natural power



EVERYTHING listed in the Glenkens Freecycle section is FREE - you just need to contact the owner and go and pick it up!

If you would like to list something on this page, please get in touch with Sarah on 07727 127 997 or email glenkensgazette@hotmail.co.uk

Please remember that people list their items in good faith that they will go to an appreciative home - items are not to be collected simply to sell on.

Various

Bundle of 25 BBC Good Food magazines. Contact: Margaret on 460 250

Steel bath (no taps), not bad condition but more as a water trough than bathing. Contact: Andi on 430 255

Set of Deer Antlers. 70cm at widest point. Contact: Alan on 07769 680 938

Furniture

Dark wood IKEA coffee table, extendable with storage inside and shelf underneath. Contact: 430 218

4 Victorian dining chairs. Been reupholstered (removeable seats) but now faded. Contact: Alan on 07769 680 938

Various bits of pine shelving - might need a DIY enthusiast! Contact: 430 218

Small round wine table. Red leather top. 50cm tall by 30cm wide. Contact: Alan on 07769 680 938

IKEA white cot bed, currently without 4th side, but could be put back on. Will need new mattress. Would suit 18month

to 3 years as is, from birth with 4 sides. Smoke and pet free home. Contact: Helen on 07789693698.

4 cushions for patio chairs. Brown all weather covers. 47cm x 50cm. Brand new still in packaging. Contact: Alan on 07769 680 938

Clothing/Shoes

Long black riding boots, size 5. Contact: 430 218

Children's

'Kangaroo' child's car booster seat, has a head rest so really comfy for long journeys. Contact: 430 218

Electrical

Creda Easyload Condensair (condenser) tumble dryer. For spares or repair. Motor works and tumbles etc but doesn't heat up. Contact: Alan on 07769 680 938

Sky Digibox made by Grundig (one of the better ones apparently?). Box works, but no working card. Contact: Andi on 430 255

WANTED

Horseradish root. Contact: Sue on 07554 644 993 (pref evenings)

Small plastic tube about 4" long used to show pansies and violas at flower shows. Contact: Louise on 07901 696 694.

Tent pegs - any kind. Contact: Sue on 07554 644 993 (pref eve)

Chains (small and large lengths), winches, hand-winches, cables, pulley systems, wheelbarrow, hammers, files, gardening tools, etc. Can collect. These would help me greatly as I only have full use of one arm, and pulleys, etc, will help me with things like logs and bags of coal. Contact: Dave on 07547 134 276.

Unwanted Spectacles Needed

Do you have any unwanted (prescription) spectacles? Why not donate them to a good cause?

Vision Aid Overseas is a charity which will put them to good use in third world countries.

Leave your old glasses at Carsphairn, Kells or Dalry School or in the Glenkens Community Shop in Dalry.

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Art Show

The Glenkens Art Group will hold its annual exhibition in the Community Centre in Dalry from Friday 14 to Sunday 16 June. It opens at 12 noon on Friday and closes at 4pm on Sunday. Work will be by artists from all over the region, including an exhibition of paintings entered in the Glenkens Schools Art Competition.

Eco Feature

sponsored by natural power



New funding available for energy-saving measures...

Our region will benefit from Scottish Government funding to the tune of £1.27 million. This is the sixth highest funding allocation in Scotland.

The key purpose of the funding is to tackle fuel poverty in our region and the focus will be on whole street solid wall insulation, free loft and cavity wall insulation and a whole house approach to energy saving.

The range of measures available include new heating systems, solar panels, double glazing and

thermal insulation.

Many properties in our region have a solid wall construction and are built using traditional stone materials. This new scheme will provide access to funding to tackle the poor thermal insulation normally associated with these properties.

This is a particular issue in rural locations, such as the Glenkens.

Eligibility for each scheme will be assessed on a case by case basis by the Energy Agency with the applicant's post code, council tax band and income level dictating the level of help available. This

will ensure that the free support is focused on those that need it the most.

The funding for 2013/2014 is three times greater than last year's allocation, and will allow the Council and its partners to implement a strong programme of works across our region.

The loft and cavity wall scheme will continue from April 2013 with the solid wall insulation project and whole house scheme to follow in early summer.

Community Energy Project

Meetings are being held with representatives from the Community Councils of the Glenkens to agree a plan to take this project forward.

We hope to provide information to the community

about home insulation and types of sustainable energy. In the meantime be careful of the 'special offers' you are being offered by cold-calling companies. Check whether the company is registered with the Government Green Deal and that any deal being offered is really worth your while.

Local Initiatives in New Galloway (LING)

New Galloway Town Hall: At last things appear to be moving. D&G Council have introduced a new format for their asset management. In the Stewartry, New Galloway Town Hall is now featuring on their immediate list, so look out for ways to put your views forward.

To be viable and able to be used by the whole community, it will be necessary for a lot of upgrade work to be done – disability access, upgrade to toilets and kitchen, as well as a

replacement of the heating system. This can only happen if we can justify appropriate grant applications with evidence about present and future use. As well as fundraising activities over the next few months, there will be meetings and surveys involving the whole community to find out what people would like to see happening. But don't wait; if you have any immediate ideas or would like to offer particular skills or general support, please get in touch on 420 632 or ros.hill@rathanhouse.me.uk

Ros Hill

STEWARTRY SHOW



THURSDAY 1st AUGUST 2013
STEWARTRY RUGBY CLUB
CASTLE DOUGLAS

This year's Stewartry Agricultural Show is beginning to take shape...

There is still space for trade stands, in the craft tent and in the farmers market avenue,

and anyone interested should contact secretary@stewartryshow.co.uk for info. Entries for all classes now being accepted.

For more information about the show visit www.stewartryas.co.uk or contact Messrs Hewats, 63 King Street, Castle Douglas, DG7 1AG (01556) 502391

Carsphairn Show



Saturday 1st June

**Livestock Judging,
Sheep Dog Trials,
Industrial Section, Pet
Show, Dog Show, Hill
Race and Dance at night.**

Continued from front page...

Gill feels strongly that her children have achieved so much by living in the Glenkens: "The school, the community spirit and all the groups, volunteer-led, gave them a really good start," she comments. Matthew has been involved with many of the local groups and organisations, including 12 years with Dalry School Board, first as a parent member, then a spell as Chairman and latterly, once his children had left school, as Clerk. Head Teacher Fraser Simpson says; "Matthew was a great support over the years that he was Clerk to the School Board. Despite being inundated with minutes, D&G papers, Scottish Executive memos and so on, he always remained calm and effective and had a wicked sense of humour at just the right time. A real gentleman and pillar of the community".

In addition, Matthew has been involved with the Clachan Fair, the Town Hall Committee, the Community Council and the Heritage Group. Hilda McAdam, Chairman of the Heritage Group, says; "Matthew was an active member, particularly

during the production of 'A Day in Dalry', our book recording life in Dalry at the millennium".

By 2000, Matthew felt that although there was so much going on in the area, there was no newsletter highlighting all that was going on in the community. Having noted that Moniaive had a newsletter, he asked their advice and, with help from local councillor George Prentice, got a grant to help with printing and paper.

Thus the first Glenkens Gazette was put together on the Newtons' kitchen table!

It quickly became a great success, but after two years Matthew found he did not have the time needed to keep producing it and so the newly formed Glenkens Community & Arts Trust (GCAT) took over. Now in its 13th year, it has become part of the fabric of life in the Glenkens and it gives Matthew great pleasure to see it going from strength to strength.

Running a local shop, open seven days a week, is so much more than the sum of its parts.

Newspapers, groceries, local baking, coffee and filled rolls at lunchtime, ice-creams and sweets, beer and wine, dry cleaning and general information point all combine to make it an important part of village life. Gill says; "We have particularly enjoyed taking on young people as staff and seeing them grow and develop into confident young adults". Matthew adds: "All our staff, both past and present, have been so supportive, as have our customers. Even in these difficult economic times, when people have to shop more carefully, they still continue to support their local shop".

Now that their daughter is married and settled in Aberdeen, Matthew and Gill feel the time has come to retire and move up there, particularly as there is a grandchild due later in the year. They are delighted that Lyndsay Forbes (nee Wright - pictured on front page) is taking over the business and wish her every success. Lyndsay was ten when her family moved to Dalry and ran the Garden Centre. After leaving school she moved away, but now comments: "It's so nice to be coming home!"

Aileen McLeod MSP



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To Thine Own Lion-Heart Be True

There is an old Italian saying: 'È meglio vivere un giorno da leone che cento anni da pecora', which translates as: 'It is better to live one day as a lion than 100 years as a sheep'.

Undoubtedly, it is hard to be a lion (even on a good hair day), for that would mean taking a fearless and bold approach to life. How many of us can honestly say we do that? What is it that stops us? If you followed the old Zen adage of 'leap and the net will appear', what would you be doing differently with your life?

For many people it is a lack of self-esteem and confidence which stops them from achieving their goals and embracing life. Self-esteem is how we measure our worth. It can be seen in the ways in which we think about ourselves and the beliefs we hold. If we have low self-esteem, we feel overwhelmed, powerless and lost. Thoughts such as 'I am unloveable', 'I am not good enough', 'it's all my fault, I'm a terrible

person' or 'I should have done that/should have done this' all come from the core beliefs we hold about ourselves deep inside of us. These then become our patterns of thinking about ourselves, which influence what our place is in the world.

The bad news is that low self-esteem can make us ill. Feeling bad about ourselves, allowing others to treat us dis-respectfully and holding onto our emotions, such as anger and fear, can lead to suppressed immunity and high levels of the stress hormone cortisol. Not to mention depression and anxiety.

The good news (hooray!) is that we can change the way we feel about ourselves through learning new positive ways to think about ourselves, setting new goals, finding our voice and being supported.

My new course, Lion Heart Confidence, is designed to support you to challenge the beliefs you hold about yourself which are limiting your potential. You can learn new ways to communicate which will help you to reduce conflict and feel empowered. Most importantly, it will allow you to meet your best self. Living life

with confidence can be seen as a marriage between trust and courage.

Trust in yourself to know what the right thing to do is and have courage to carry out your conviction.

We develop trust in ourselves when we remain authentic and do what we think is best, regardless of what others may think, and we accomplish goals that we set, regardless of any mistakes we may have made along the way. We can all be lions all of the time if we learn how to have a lion-heart.

Gill Stanyard

For more information on booking a place on a Lion-Heart Confidence Course, or for 1-1 sessions to help improve confidence, please email lionheartconfidence@outlook.com or phone 07971 769 785.

There is a free session of laughter Yoga included in the course - designed to naturally release endorphins and let go of stress and worry.

ARNDARROCH OPEN GARDEN

Support Glenkens Children's Club and Dumfries & Galloway Canine Rescue Centre by visiting Arndarroch Garden, by the kind permission of Annikki Lindsay, on Sunday 30 June from 2 to 5pm.

The 2 ½ acre garden is a wildlife-friendly, semi-natural environment with views over Kendoon Loch and Cairnsmore of Carsphairn. Red kites circle overhead and peregrine falcons may also be spotted.

There are good collections of herbaceous plants, shrubs and trees, including a Clootie Tree and an Anvil tree. Over 20 different

bamboos provide interest all year round, and a woodland was planted in 2000 and a second bog garden in 2012.

There will be an exhibition of photographs by Mary McIlvenna, plus a plant stall where you can buy some of the varieties of plant you see growing. Dogs are welcome, but must be kept on leads.

Entry is £3.50, with children under 16 free, and teas are available for £2.50.

Arndarroch is on the B7000, five miles from Dalry or

Carsphairn, and the postcode is DG7 3UD. Follow the blue signs till you see the blue balloons at the turning to the drive.

Beneficiaries: D&G Canine Rescue Centre 70%, Glenkens Children's Club 30%.



Photograph by Mary McIlvenna

Bowling

Spalding Bowling Club opened the green for play on Saturday 20 April.

In front of a good turn-out of spectators the President John Peacock invited his wife Eliz to throw the SilverJack and declared the green open for play. After a cup of tea 24 people played in a friendly Sweep.

Anyone is welcome to come along and have a try and new members are always welcome. Sweep nights are on Mondays and Saturdays, at 7pm. You can play at other times - just ask any of the members.



Over £750 Raised for Lifeboats

Another successful evening was held at Dalry Town Hall to raise money for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) in May.

The Glenkens Committee were delighted to report that over £750 was raised. Mrs Nicolette Wise spoke about the RNLI ethos of using volunteers wherever possible and how this could be admirably demonstrated by Mrs Jean Maltman, who recently stepped down from the Glenkens Committee having joined in 1970. Her exceptional 42 years of volunteering for the Lifeboats was applauded.

The Kirkcudbright Lifeboat Station was last year joined by two new recruits who have settled in and are doing well. The Glenkens Committee hope the money raised will go towards the costs of their official training in Poole later this year.

Return of the Mulloch Hill Race

The Mulloch Hill Race is to be run as part of Dalry's Clachan Fair on Sat 15 June at 3.15pm, starting from the school playing field. This is a short race with winners in three classes: adult, secondary age child and primary age child. Entry is on the day from 2.30pm, no fee but donations accepted. Fun runners and walkers welcome.

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Photo of the Issue: 'Summer in the Glenkens'

Sponsored by the Ken Bridge Hotel

This issue's winner is this lovely shot of a bee by Nicola Kenyon.

Dave, owner of the Ken Bridge Hotel and judge of the Photo of the Issue Competition, says: "We were so impressed with the quality of the entries; any one of them could have won. We'd like to give a special mention to Fraser McCormick for his photograph of Kendoon Loch."

Competition winner Nicola, 23, says: "I am a young local photographer who took this picture in my mother's garden in New Galloway. I stood for over an hour to capture this shot but I am very pleased with the outcome."

Nicola will receive a meal for two at the Ken Bridge Hotel.

We will keep all entries on file and if they suit a future theme/season, they will be re-considered.



PLANTS, CAKES & CREAM TEAS

Balmaclellan & Kells Church are holding a Plant Sale with cream teas and a cake stall in Balmaclellan Village Hall on Saturday 25 May. It will run from 2pm to 4pm, and entry costs £2.50 per person with proceeds in aid of church funds. Please come along and support this event.

Margaret Morris Movement

- a holistic dance technique -

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Created over a century ago, this modern dance technique is accessible to all and remains as relevant as ever to the needs of the individual looking for a movement method that focuses on posture, breathing, co-ordination, relaxation & fitness, at the same time as developing the creative dimension in all of us.

Classes for Adults at the CatStrand, New Galloway, are on Mondays 2.30 to 3.30pm during term-time.

Classes for early years at CatStrand, New Galloway, are on Mondays 3.45 to 4.30pm and 4.30pm to 5.30pm for upper primary and youth.

For further information, contact Sara on 01556 612854 or [sara.lockwood @sky.com](mailto:sara.lockwood@sky.com)

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SEVEN LAKES IN ONE DAY

The recent Glenkens Transport Initiative (GTI) trip to the Lake District, rearranged because of bad weather, proved to be success despite the rain.

A day of changing weather meant that the route and itinerary were regularly reviewed in an effort to make the most of improving overhead conditions. There was coffee in Caldbeck, followed by a murky drive past Bassenthwaite Lake. Then we headed on past Thirlmere to Grasmere for lunch and on to Rydal Water and Windermere. We took time out for a quick group photograph before passing Pooley Bridge and back up the M6 home.

REFUNDS:

Unless a trip is cancelled or re-arranged by GTI, no refunds will be made if someone who has booked a seat cannot go. This is the same as if you booked a seat on public transport or a seat at the theatre, so do your best to find someone else to take your place if you can't go.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE TO CASTLE DOUGLAS:

An application has been submitted to the Traffic Commissioner to slightly alter the times of this service with effect from Wednesday 7



Kath Bates, Libby Ritchie, Mary Dougan, Evelyn McMurray, Syd and Daphne, Precious, Dot Struthers, Jean Winstanley

August 2013. The departure time from Underhill will remain as at present (7pm), but journey times will be adjusted with the return journey being back in Dalry by 9.15pm; don't worry, you will still have a similar amount of time for your shopping, and you'll be home earlier! Full details will be in the next issue of the Gazette.

Keith Cooper

Introducing PC Ian Dunn

PC Ian Dunn will be taking over from Bryan Bruton as Community Constable for the Glenkens.

In the next issue of the Gazette we will have an interview with Ian, discussing the role of Community Constable and what this means for residents of the Glenkens.

Ian says: "I feel very privileged to be able to live and work in such a beautiful part of the country and I have found the people so welcoming since moving here. In my role as Community Constable I hope to be able to return this, helping people to feel safe, secure and able to enjoy living and working here too."

"I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the coming years and hope to become as integral a part of your Community as Constable Bryan Bruton has been."



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VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

CatStrand Highlights

The CatStrand welcomes the summer with a programme of fantastic music, theatre and workshops.

World-class folk act Lau will take the stage on Friday 28 June, and a new collaboration of four of the finest singers and musicians from Ireland and America will perform a mixture of Americana and Irish traditional music, along with contemporary songs and tunes, on Tuesday 2 July.

Described as "old-time music with attitude", Americana livewires The Hot Seats bring some Virginian sunshine to the Glenkens on Wednesday 31 July.

Bringing music and dance together, we present Betsy Thunder; a collaboration from musician Plum and choreographer Emma Jayne Park, director of Black Swan Dance Theatre. See what they developed during their residency at Dance Base on Saturday 1 June.

As well as dance, enjoy some top-class theatre this summer. The CatStrand are taking part in Refugee Week by presenting *Some Other Mother* on Wednesday 19 June, a poetic drama by AJ Taudevin about the trials of an African

family claiming asylum in Scotland.

Young theatre-lovers are sure to enjoy Tall Stories Theatre Company's *My Little Brother the Robot* on Tuesday 16 July.

Over the summer months there will be plenty of workshops for all ages, ranging from life-drawing to drama and film-making.

And as a final snippet of what's on, you can watch the documentation of the lives of eleven-year-olds from around the world preceded by films made by young people from the Glenkens in *I am Eleven*, screening on Friday 19 July.

For full listings, or to book tickets, call 01644 420 374 or visit www.catstrand.com

Come along to the CatStrand Cafe for a brand new menu with breakfast and lunch ideas - Cafe now open for food on Saturdays and Sundays too.



Some Other Mother

Forestry Commission Scotland
Coimisean na Coilltearachd Alba

Galloway

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www.alexfergusson.org.uk

or contact him by e-mail at:

alex.fergusson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Carsphairn Primary Goes Fizz, Boom, Bang!

At Carsphairn this term, the children are learning about the human body and its systems.

The children launched their new science topic with some help from the experts at Edinburgh International Science Festival. Science experts Laura Henderson and Rebecca Thirgood, from Generation Science, came to our school to talk about chemical reactions in a presentation they call 'Fizz, Boom, Bang!' We soon found out why...

The children did a number of experiments to create chemical reactions, then used their skills of observation to decide which materials gave the best fizz, boom or bang. And of course, we all dressed up like scientists in safety goggles, safety gloves and lab aprons.

We learned about acids and alkaline materials, the four signs of a chemical reaction and even designed our own experiment. It was a great afternoon and a fun way to get our new science topic started. All the pupils would like to give a special thank you to the Edina Trust for donating the funding for this inspiring visit.

Walker McKenna



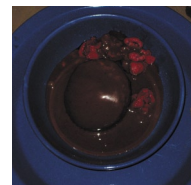
Wednesday Afternoons at Dalry School

There's now an established activity at this time of year at school where pupils can choose to learn more about camp-craft and go on two camps on Wednesday nights, packing up and getting back for school the next day.

Camp 1 was at Taliesin, where the pupils baked tatties in the campfire, and one pupil produced this

magnificent dessert (pictured) which we were all jealous of!

Camp 2 is going to take advantage of the art installation in the Dark Sky park. We're hiring warm suits from the CatStrand, so just need a clear night. Here's hoping... *Linda Biggar*



CatStrand Youth Players

The Youth Players enjoyed yet more success at the West of Scotland Finals in Glasgow. This was their third appearance in the past four years, this time with the very challenging production of 'Little Bro Morning & Big Sis Afternoon' by Mike Tibbetts.

The performance at the Stewartry District Festival in February had swept up three trophies and received an excellent adjudication

too, so expectations were high for the trip to the Eastwood Theatre.

The young cast had one hour to rehearse on the Eastwood stage and get used to the new venue. They certainly did not disappoint, taking the play to a new level and wowing their new audience with their very mature performances of an extremely difficult and very emotional piece. As the adjudicator had commented at Castle Douglas: "I have previously watched this play being performed by an entirely adult cast and they did not achieve the level of intensity and emotion that was sustained by this young but very talented cast."

The only concern at this stage was that the play had run slightly over the maximum time allowed, which meant three penalty points deducted. However, even taking this into account, it wasn't until the last club took to the stage in the evening (Kirkintilloch Youth Players) that a serious challenge was presented!

Everyone waited with baited breath for the adjudicator's verdict, and the CatStrand Youth Players

were delighted to be awarded the Ross Arthington Memorial Trophy for second place. Thankfully the time penalty had not made any difference to the placings; we were well clear in second place.

A hat-trick of 'silver medals' at the Western Finals achieved in the space of four years is absolutely fantastic, and everyone should be very proud of this achievement. The CatStrand Youth Players are now firmly established on the Scottish Youth Drama scene and surely it can only be a matter of time before an appearance at the Scottish Final!

The next productions will take place at the CatStrand on Thursday 6 and Friday 7 June at 7.30pm. After the emotion of 'Little Bro', we thought it appropriate to stage an evening of comedy, so book your tickets now (see p11 for CatStrand booking details).

After these performances, the Youth Players will break for the summer and meet again from the beginning of September to begin rehearsing for the Christmas Panto.

Brian Edgar

Tai Jitsu Teamwork

The young people of Carsphairn have banded together to buy new equipment for their Tai Jitsu Club.

David Birdsall, Club instructor, said: "After a lot of searching and asking for support for the young people of the area in buying training mats for use in the village hall, we are pleased to announce that we have secured our first funding from YouthBank.

"As the instructor, I am very pleased with the attitude and determination of the young people in Carsphairn to prove that they are willing and capable of finding the



funding needed that was not available locally. Well done!"

Each week a 'Carsphairn Tai Jitsu Junior Student of the Week' is chosen from Club members. David says: "This is awarded to the student that used good manners, behaved well in class, listened and tried hard. All the students achieve this, but every week a student shines out."

Summer Scheme

The school holidays are on their way; but no need to get bored - this year there will be plenty on offer in the Glenkens.

Young people can take part in different activities each week thanks to the Glenkens Summer Scheme, a project run by the CatStrand and supported by D&G Council and the Holywood Trust. There will be regular drop-in sessions as well as workshops, trips and projects with everything from film making to Forest Park adventures to choose from. See below for details of some of the activities on offer, and keep an eye out for the full Summer Scheme timetable coming soon.

Nightingale Stage Academy: Monday 8 to Friday 12 July, 9am to 3pm, Ages 6 to 16, £60.

Filmmaking with Scene 1 Take 1, Monday 15 to Friday 19 July, 10am to 4pm, Ages 10 to 18, £20.

Painting Workshop with Robyn Wade, Wednesday 24 July, 9.30am to 1pm, Ages 10 to 16, Free.

Twisted Loons Animation, Saturday 3 August, Age 8 to 12, £3.

Big Groove Samba Workshop, Sunday 4 August, 3pm, All ages, free.

Street Workshops with Bright Night International (Parkour, Beatboxing, Breakdance), Wednesday 7 & Thursday 8 August, Ages 8+, £4 per workshop or £10 for all three.

PLUS Keep an eye out for: Drop-in activities/sport & games/dance leadership/Forest Park adventures/youth trips and more!

REBECCA'S ON A ROLL

You may have noticed that this issue our Youth Banter section is missing... This is because CatStrand Youth Worker Rebecca, aka Beck Goldsmith, is having an exciting time with her music career taking off. But watch this space for a jam-packed Youth Banter next issue!

Featured on the front page of the last Gazette for having her rendition of 'I Vow to Thee My Country' played on a BBC TV trailer, Rebecca is on a roll... She says: "It's been a bit of a roller-coaster since the last issue of the Gazette. Our version of I Vow to Thee My Country seems to have taken on a life of its own! BBC Radio 2 played it on their Good Morning Sunday show and were inundated with feedback. It got into the iTunes top 100 and almost topped the Amazon Folk Chart... I'm now writing songs for a new album, which will hopefully be out before Christmas. Thanks everyone for your support and encouragement so far."

So watch this space - we'll keep you updated on Rebecca's star progress.

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'Connecting in Retirement' Opportunities for Over Sixties

The CatStrand's new 'Connecting in Retirement' project is now underway.

This is a four-year project, funded by the Big Lottery, which aims to reduce social and rural isolation among Glenkens residents aged sixty-plus.

The project has already attracted a great deal of attention and support from numerous individuals and groups based in the Glenkens. Brian Jones, who was appointed in February as the Community Projects Officer at the CatStrand, is keen to hear from any Glenkens residents aged over 60 who would like to join a newly-formed activity committee to plan and implement activities and events.

The project aims to create sustainable groups, activities and partnerships which will enable those who might feel isolated to become involved in the Glenkens communities.

This would include more use of community transport to enable people to attend more

activities and events as well as take part in regular outings.

To date a number of regular sessions are taking place where the sixty-plus aged group are involved - these include Exercise to Music, Pilates and Zumba Gold. A five-week Learn to Play the Ukulele class is also underway with professional music tutor Stuart Butterworth, with participants already playing a number of songs. This has proved to be very popular so the current group looking to continue as well as other new groups likely to start.

Also planned is both an IT Awareness drop in day on Saturday 1 June, followed by a six-week beginners/improvers IT class at the CatStrand. For those people wanting a gentle form of exercise, a ten-week Tai Chi class is being scheduled to start in July, to run in conjunction with the Stewartry Building Healthy Communities team run by Morag Curtis.

For those who would like to take part in basic cooking and nutritional advice, a taster session followed by a six-weekly preparation and cooking session is

planned to happen in the July/August time-frame.

Below are some more activities for sixty-plus folks in the Glenkens:

- Beginner/Improvers photography with a professional photographer running a six week course with included outings.
- Awareness sessions for home safety and fire prevention.
- Awareness session on the latest universal benefits scheme
- Befriending older members of the Glenkens communities.
- Walking groups
- Regular events like Tea Dances or Games afternoons
- Breakfast Club and learn a foreign language
- Astronomy and the Dumfries & Galloway Dark Skies project
- Learning general DIY skill
- Art and craft sessions

If you are interested in any of the above activities or events or have others in mind Brian would love to hear from you and feel free to call in to the CatStrand to have a coffee or tea and a chat with him - 01644 420374 or brian@catstrand.com

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Fiona Hyslop Visits CatStrand

Fiona Hyslop MSP, Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs, stopped at the CatStrand recently on her tour of the region promoting a new arts partnership.

The Culture Secretary was meeting people and seeing projects which will benefit from the new £400,000 Place Partnership between Creative Scotland and Dumfries and Galloway Council.



Left to right: Cathy Agnew, Brian Collins, Fiona Hyslop

Cakes & Plants for Waverley Care

A recent Cake and Plant sale organised by the Ladies Guild at St Margaret's Church in New Galloway raised over £400 for Waverley

Care, Scotland's leading charity providing care and support for HIV and Hepatitis C sufferers and their families.

St Margaret's Ladies Guild

President, Christine Rankin, commented: "Church members had provided a wealth of delicious cakes as well as ransacking their gardens and greenhouses for plants. We were delighted with the success of the sale, helped I am sure by the sunshine!"

Apollo 5 to Revisit Dalry

Having wowed locals last year with their stunning performance, the charitable *a cappella* ensemble returns to the Glenkens this August.

Apollo 5 have been praised for their eye-catching performances, with a wide-ranging repertoire of retro jazz, pop, classical and Christmas a cappella.

The five young professional singers, who perform regularly on Resonance FM and BBC Radio 2, give engaging and entertaining performances.

The group is part of the charitable foundation, Voces Cantabiles Music, and is involved in the foundation's innovative education programme which aims to inspire creativity through music.

The programme, led by VOCES8, reaches 25,000 young people annually, working in over 200 schools in the UK, France, Sweden the USA and Asia.

Apollo5 are proud to be working in collaboration with Red Balloon Learner Centres in the UK. The aim of Red Balloon is the recovery of severely bullied children. The group is working with students to encourage them to grow in confidence and find their voice through singing together, in order to encourage them back into mainstream education and employment.



The concert will be held in Dalry Town Hall on Thursday 8 August at 7.30pm.

Funds raised from the performance will go to the group's charitable foundation, with a portion going to support Dalry Town Hall.

COVENANTER MEMORIAL STONE

Here is a picture of the new memorial stone laid at the Covenanter burial site near the Palfern Burn on Sunday 28 April.

Also in the picture is the belt taken off one of the Covenanters by Stewart McSkimming when the bodies were first discovered in 1977 during Forestry planting operations (see article in last issue of the Gazette) and given to Alastair Penman for restoration. You can see a nick in it from what may have been the fatal wound inflicted on its owner. The belt has a pouch for gunpowder up the centre of it leading to a brass dispenser for loading powder into a musket.

David Bartholomew



Watson Bird Update

The results of some very creative work by pupils at Carsphairn, Dalry and Kells were the key attraction at the Watson Birds Eggs and Nests day on Easter Saturday in Dalry Town Hall.

The imagination and creativity of the children was evident in all of the displays and delighted responses of the 100 plus visitors on the day.

Watson Birds representatives attended the Scottish Bird Fair at Hopetoun House and were pleased at how many people were not only interested in our project, but expressed a willingness to join us for our third Festival in September (Friday 20 to Sunday 22).

On the fund-raising front we are

making steady progress. Our Feathers campaign for activities and events has now topped £25,000, a quarter of the way towards our £100,000 target. Most significantly, we have received an anonymous donation of £100,000 to help purchase Barone. Together with funds provided by the Pamela Young Trust as partners in our project, we are now in a position to begin formal negotiations with the Watson family for purchase of the house.

We are gathering a collection of Donald Watson's paintings on loan from various sources which will be on display in Dalry Town Hall and the CatStrand, to remind everyone of the excellence of Donald's art and the ambitions of our project.

Festival plans are well underway, with some new items this year; photographic master classes and

talks on wildlife photography, talks and debates led by the winner and runner up for this year's Watson Raptor Science Prize, and the formal opening of our walking and car/cycle trails. In addition, we will have music concerts, poetry and an art exhibition and a talk by one of the artists, Darren Woodhead, whose work is currently on display at the CatStrand to emphasise the importance of our bird project as part of the Glenkens Community & Arts Trust (GCAT).

For further information, Aaron Edgar, our part-time project officer based at the CatStrand, can be contacted on aaron@watsonbirds.org or 01644 420374, or you can get in touch with me on roger@watsonbirds.org or 07803 595267.

*Roger Crofts,
Director Watson Birds*

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LOCAL HISTORY with TED COWAN

Alexander Murray: Linguistic Genius



Two hundred years ago Alexander Murray died. He was born at Dunkitterick in 1775 to his 70 year old father and his second wife.

We all know his monument on the Queensway but how many of us really question why he deserves such a memorial?

The obelisk marking his grave in Greyfriars' churchyard, Edinburgh, succinctly captures local pride in his achievement: "Erected by Admirers chiefly connected with Galloway, to Commemorate the Genius and Fame of the Shepherd Boy who rose to be the most eminent Linguist and Oriental Scholar of his day".

From humble beginnings in the wilds of Galloway he became the only person in Britain who could translate a letter written in Ethiopic for George III. He was not strictly a Glenkens man but he had connections here. His father, who grew up in Kells, worked for Mr Lawson of Clatteringshaws. Murray senior had enough education to teach his son to read and write. Alexander's maternal grandfather lived near New Galloway where the boy was briefly taught by William Gordon. There he was mocked as a child from the moors of Minnigaff for his idiosyncratic pronunciation. There too, according to himself, in that well-known den of iniquity, he ran wild for the first and only time in his life: "I learned to swear, lie and do bad tricks".

He was gradually acquiring an interest in languages. Later he received from his cousin, John Heron, father of another lad o' pairts, Robert Heron of New Galloway, a Hebrew lexicon. By



the time he went to Edinburgh University he knew Latin, Greek, French, something of Hebrew, Anglo-Saxon, Gothic, German, Welsh and Gaelic. All were largely self-taught because due to poor health and poverty he had a total of only about sixty weeks of schooling. His secret was in his favourite book. "If I had a copy of the Bible in any language of which I knew the alphabet, I could make considerable progress in learning it without grammar or dictionary".

Locally he was famous for memorising and reciting great chunks of the good book.

He continued his studies at Edinburgh moving into Asiatic languages and especially Sanskrit, knowledge of which was brought to the west largely by Scots serving in India. He became editor of the Scots Magazine and also of James Bruce's Travels to Abyssinia. Then he became minister of Urr, where he worked on his great two-volume History of European Languages before his appointment as Professor of Oriental Languages at Edinburgh, a post he held for less than a

year, dying of tuberculosis aged 37. His History was not published until 1823.

Murray's true contribution was that of comparing the grammars, vocabularies and alphabets of languages to discover the relationships between them. He was one of those who discovered Indo-European, an ancient hypothetical language which was the root of so many others from English to Sanskrit and Icelandic to Abyssinian.

For example the same word crops up in languages far apart, such as 'father', which is 'vater' in German, 'pater' in Latin and 'pitar' in Sanskrit.

Such awareness led in turn to important questions about the origins of language itself, which we are still asking, since it is our basic human possession. In Murray's day it was believed that the first language was Hebrew, spoken in the Garden of Eden and, of course, the language of the Bible. He demonstrated that there were languages older than Hebrew thus potentially questioning biblical teachings and his own faith. His discoveries were as important as later nineteenth-century revolutionary breakthroughs in such fields as geology, natural history and science. As he wrote, "I wish to combine etymology with the study of the human mind, and to trace the history of nations in the history of language". This man who grew up listening to the sheep and the birds in the shadow of Craignelder was truly a giant and a genius. Think on that the next time you pass his monument at the Grey Mare's Tail!

Ted Cowan

APRIL & MAY

MAY

Sat 25, Plant Sale, Balmaclellan Village Hall, see p9

Fri 31, Film: The Quartet, 7.30pm, CatStrand

JUNE

25 May – 8 June, Exhibition: Geoff Forrest, CatStrand

Sat 1, Carsphairn Show, see p5

Sat 1, 'Give Golf a Go', 10am–

3pm, see p3

Sat 1, IT Awareness drop in day, CatStrand, see p14

Sat 1, Plum Tunes: Betsy Thunder, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Wed 5, Open Stage, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Sun 9 to Sat 15, Clachan Fair Week, various locations around Dalry, see ad below

Thurs 11 – Sun 30, Exhibition: The Suitcase of the Dying Village by Tom Pow, CatStrand

Fri 14, Alasdair Roberts Trio, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Fri 14 – Sun 16, Art Exhibition, Glenkens Community Centre, Dalry

Sat 15, Mulloch Hill Race, 3.15pm, school playing field (see below)

Wed 19, Some Other Mother by AJ Taudevin, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Fri 21, Film: Les Misérables, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Fri 28, Lau, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Sun 30, Ardarroch Open Garden, 2–5pm, see p7

JULY

Tue 2, Pauline Scanlon, Noriana Kennedy, Jefferson Hamer, & Méabh O'Hare, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Tue 16, Tall Stories: My Little Brother the Robot, 2pm, CatStrand

Fri 19, Film: I am Eleven, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Wed 31, The Hot Seats, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Tue 2 – Wed 31, Exhibition: Colin Park, CatStrand

Mon 8 – Fri 12, Nightingale Stage Academy, 9am–3pm, Showcase finale Friday, CatStrand, see p13

Wed 24, Painting Workshop with Robyn Wade, 9.30am–1pm, CatStrand, see p13

Mon 15 – Fri 19, Filmmaking with Scene 1 Take 1, 10am–4pm, Screening on Fri 19, CatStrand, see p13

Sat 20, Workshop: Life Drawing with Katharine Wheeler, 10am–3pm, CatStrand

Wed 31, The Hot Seats, 7.30pm, CatStrand

AUGUST

Thurs 1, Stewartry Show, Stewartry Rugby Club, Castle Douglas, see p5

Fri 2, Alternative Games Ceilidh, New Galloway Town Hall, 8.30pm

Sat 3, Dumfries & Lockerbie Agricultural Show, Showfield, Park Farm, Dumfries, see back page

Sun 4, Scottish Alternative Games, New Galloway Town Park, 2pm

Thurs 8, Apollo 5, Dalry Town Hall, 7.30pm, see p15

St John's Town of Dalry

Clachan Fair Week

Sunday 9 to Saturday 15 June 2013

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PARADE DAY SATURDAY 15 JUNE

Watch out for programmes and posters around the Glenkens for details of individual events

SCOTTISH ALTERNATIVE GAMES

**SUNDAY 4TH AUGUST
NEW GALLOWAY PARK
2 PM**

**CEILIDH
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FRIDAY 2ND AUGUST, 8.30PM**

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19:47 Castle Douglas (Market St)
19:50 Castle Douglas (Tesco)

Return journey:

20:45 Dept. Castle Douglas (Tesco)
20:47 Castle Douglas (Market St)
20:52 Townhead of Greenlaw
21:00 Laurieston
21:10 Mossdale
21:25 New Galloway
21:35 Dalry

To book a Glenkens Transport Initiative (GTI) bus or for more information please contact Keith Cooper, GTI Administrator, on 01644 420 374.

REGULAR EVENTS

CatStrand (New Galloway):

Exercise to Music: Mon, 10-11am

Margaret Morris Movement Adult Dance Class, Mon, 2.30-3.30pm, contact Sara on 01556 612854

Children's Dance Class: Mon during term time, 3.45-4.45pm age 3-7, 4.30-5.30pm age 8-15

Carer's Coffee & Chat: Tues, 10am-12noon

Teen Spirit: Tues during term time, 7-8:30pm (P7 - S3) and 8-9:30pm (S3+, Duke of Edinburgh)

Sing it Out: Thurs, 11.30am - 12.30pm

Pilates: Thurs, 4.15-5.15pm & 5.30-6.30pm

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

Family Film Club: 1st Sat each month, 11am

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

Zumbatomic, last Sat each month, 10-10.45am

Catstrand Youth Players: Sun during term time, 2pm

Glenkens Acoustic Sessions, last Sun of the month, 2-4pm

Glenkens Community Centre (Dalry): (contact Kath 430 281)

Glenkens Children's Club: Mon & Fri, 9.15-11.45am

Paint & Art: Mon, 1.30-4.30pm & Wed, 7-9pm

Ballroom & Latin Dance Class: Mon, 7.15, for more info call Sam Rushton on 420 672

Good Neighbour's Club: Tues, 2pm

Kickback Martial Arts: Thurs, 7-9pm

Thursday Craft Group: Thurs, 2-4pm

Brownies: Wed, 5.30-6.45pm

Guides: Tue during term-time, 6.15pm, contact: Kath 430 281

Various Locations:

Texas Hold 'em Poker, Mon, 7.15pm, Cross Keys Hotel, New Galloway

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

Beavers: Tues, 6-7.15pm, New Galloway Scout Hut

Dog Training: Tue & Wed, 7pm, Dalry Town Hall. Contact: Eric 460 670

Tai Jitsu: Wed, Junior Class (age 6-14), 6-7pm; Senior Class, 7-8.30pm, Lagwyne Hall, Carsphairn, contact David on 07547 134 276, see p5

Wednesday Quiz Night, Wed, 8.30pm, Cross Keys Hotel, New Galloway

Stewartry Camera Club: Wed,

7.30pm, The Tolbooth, Kirkcudbright

Zumba: Wed: 7.30-8.30pm, New Galloway Town Hall, £4

Mossdale Painters: Wed, 9.30am, Mossdale Village Hall

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

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

Folk Music Session: 1st Sat each month, 8pm, The Clachan Inn, Dalry

The Clog & Shoe Workshop

unique handmade footwear

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Easter Mon to 31st October

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Dalry Library (Tel: 430 234)

Opening Times: Tue: 2-4.30pm then 5.30-7.30pm;

Fri: 11.15am-1.15pm then

2-4.30pm. *There are 23 mobile library stops - to find out where and when please phone.*

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- Pot-hole Hotline: 0845 276 0000
- Local Police: 0845 600 5701
- Doctor: 01644 420 234
- NHS 24: 08454 24 24 24
- D&G Council: 030 33 33 3000

Glenkens Community Councils

Balmaclellan Community Council Meetings: 3rd Monday each month, 7.30pm, Balmaclellan Village Hall.

Carsphairn Community Council Meetings: Last Monday each month, 7pm, Lagwyne Hall, Carsphairn.

Full minutes of local Community Council meetings can be viewed at Dalry Library.

Dalry Community Council Meetings: 1st Monday each month, 7pm, Dalry Town Hall.

New Galloway & Kells Community Council Meetings: 2nd Monday each month, 7.30pm, New Galloway Town Hall.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND:

Sundays: Balmaclellan: 12noon: 1st.

Carsphairn: 10.30am: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th.

Dalry: 9am: 1st, 2nd (Jul), 3rd, 4th. Dalry:

10.30am: 2nd (Jun). Kells: 10.30am:

2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th (Jun).

Special Services/Events: 9 June,

United Family Service, 10.30am, Dalry

Church. **9 June,** Clachan Fair Songs of

Praise, 6.30pm, Newfield Green, Dalry. **30**

June, United Service with Church Choir,

10.30am, Kells Church, **7 July,** Communion

Service, 10.15am, Carsphairn Church.

Communion Services:

7 July, 10.15am, Carsphairn Church.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL

CHURCH: 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

Children's Club Gets Go-ahead for Growth

Glenkens Children's Club (GCC) has received a £10,000 grant from the Community and Families Fund, part of the Big Lottery Fund.

The money will be used to re-start playgroup facilities in the Glenkens. Situated in Dalry Community Centre, the playgroup will run two mornings a week, starting in the new school year.

This is a welcome step back towards what the Glenkens Playgroup used to offer before it was closed due to Council budget cuts in July last year.

GCC Chair Helen Keron said: "We are absolutely delighted that the Big Lottery Fund agreed with us that some community



childcare provision for two-to-three-year-olds is essential in the Glenkens area."

GCC Playgroup will run on a Tuesday and Thursday, with the Glenkens Children's Club (where parents/carers must be in attendance) continuing to run on a Monday and Friday morning.

GCC is part of the Glenkens Community & Arts Trust (GCAT) group of community initiatives. Helen said: "We are indebted to the support of the GCAT staff and board in their help in the management of the Children's

Club and support in our plans for expansion."

GCAT Chair Andrew Mellor said: "We are delighted to hear that the Children's Club has been so successful in obtaining this funding and I look forward to seeing how the new venture develops over the next year."

For more details about the Playgroup, or to enrol children, contact Helen Keron on keronh@me.com, or visit www.glenkenschildrensclub.co.uk



STAFF REQUIRED Playgroup Manager & Playgroup Assistant

Exciting opportunity to shape and run the new GCC Playgroup. Posts are for two mornings a week, term-time only, at Dalry Community Centre.

Manager: To start-up and manage the new GCC (Glenkens Children's Club) Playgroup, with the support of the parent-led committee. You will be registered as self-employed and duties will include updating policies, Care Inspectorate registration, etc, responsibility for day-to-day running of the Playgroup, child safety and well-being, all administration and adherence with the Early Years Curriculum. To have degree level qualification in childcare, or to be prepared to work towards this standard, and to have experience of running a Playgroup or Nursery. Hourly rate starting at £10.

Assistant: You will be registered as self-employed and duties will be to assist the manager in child safety and well-being and day-to-day running of the Playgroup. Some relevant experience with the pre-school age-group preferred. Hourly rate starting at £6.50.

Contact Helen Keron at keronh@me.com for info or apply with CV and covering letter. Application deadline 15 June 2013.

DUMFRIES & LOCKERBIE AGRICULTURAL SHOW on

Saturday 3 August 2013

The Showfield, Park Farm, Dumfries

Beef & Dairy Cattle, Sheep, Goats, Clydesdales, Horses and Ponies
Home & Garden Industries, Walking Sticks, Craft Fair and Food Festival.

Entertainment for all...

Grand Parade of Livestock at 2.15pm

Admission £14; OAP £9; Accompanied Children Free; Car Park £3

Livestock schedules available shortly.
Home & Garden Industries schedules available now.

Please contact: Mrs E Bicket, Secretary,
15 Fruid's Park Ave, Annan, DG12 6AY

Tel: 01461 201 199

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Submit events, activities, news stories, cartoons, reviews, tips & techniques, fiction, photos, ads or ideas... Contact Sarah Ade on 07727 127 997 or glenkensgazette@hotmail.co.uk

AUG/SEPT COPY DEADLINE: MON 8 JULY



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