

GLENKENS GAZETTE

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

August/September 2015

ISSUE 89

FREE

WHAT CAN YOU DO IN THE GLENKENS?

The Glenkens will be celebrating the diversity of activities and interest groups in the area at the first Clubs and Societies Fair on 12 September.

The massive variety of activities on offer in the area, from Art to Zumba - via just about every letter of the alphabet in between - will be showcased at the event.

Clubs and societies run primarily by volunteers will be invited to the Fair to advertise

their activities and to let local people know what help they need. There is a phenomenal amount of good work done, largely unseen and unsung, by volunteers in this area, and they are always keen to get new recruits.

The Fair, which is the initiative of Dalry Community Council, will take place from 2-5pm on Saturday 12 September at the Glenkens Community Centre in Dalry. There will also be sport and activity taster sessions run by the Council across the road in Dalry school. The event will also feature local businesses that offer useful services.

Continued on page 3...



Award for Cub Leader

A Glenkens Scout worker has been honoured in the Queen's Birthday Honours list for 50 years' service to the movement.

Heather McIntosh of New Galloway has been awarded the British Empire Medal for her work as Cub Scout Leader with the 1st Glenkens pack.

Heather says the announcement was "wonderful news" and came as a complete surprise. "I would like to share the accolade with family and friends, all fellow Scouters in Galloway, Hannah and

Doug, leaders of the pack, and the kind folk of the Glenkens and beyond who help the group in many different ways."

She also wants to share it with all the children who have been members of the pack over the years, right up to the present. "I hope my commitment has touched their young lives in some way." Heather was born in Mossdale but moved to New Galloway when she was five. She had already been a Brownie, Guide and Cadet when local Scout leader Bob Carruthers asked her to help with the cubs "for an hour a week" in 1964.

Continued on page 2...



Heather McIntosh with her British Empire Medal.

A Glenkens Community & Arts Trust (GCAT) initiative

**CatStrand Film Makers
film shortlisted at Edinburgh
International Film Festival!
See p13 for details...**

FUNDING BID TO SAVE NEW GALLOWAY SHOP

A bid has been made to the Big Lottery *Growing Community Assets* fund to buy the Hopkins shop in New Galloway which is facing closure.

The detailed funding application, submitted at the end of June, seeks funds to buy the shop and house and meet the cost of renovations and some of the initial operating

costs. As well as a community shop it is intended to create two self-catering flats and workshop space available for rent. Competition for this fund is extremely strong, with a 30% success rate. A response is expected by the end of August.

The bid has been made by New Galloway Community Enterprises (NGCE) Ltd, a community benefit society formed in June 2015. A community benefit society can trade commercially but all profits must be re-

invested in the community. A brief recruiting drive has already resulted in 75 members and the membership drive will continue if the application is successful.

The NGCE management committee - Helen Keron (chair) Sarah Parry (vice-chair) Margaret Watson (secretary) Jean Marsden (treasurer) David Briggs, Mike Brown, Emma Curtis and Dawn Spornagel - would like to thank everyone for their support, including Jim and Margaret Hopkins.

Your Chance to Become a Community Councillor

In October 2015 communities in Dumfries and Galloway will have the opportunity to elect new members for their Community Council.

Community Councillors are local people elected by members of their community to represent their views on a wide variety of subjects such as planning applications, public transport, the environment, conservation and licensing matters. Community Councils may be

involved with local projects and events, and many are in receipt of community windfarm benefits which are used to benefit their communities.

There are currently over 80 active Community Councils in Dumfries and Galloway and members for them must be nominated by the public. Anyone age 16 years or over, living in the Community Council area and registered to vote in local government elections, can be nominated for their Community Council and, if elected, training will be provided to enable people to fulfil their role.

There are some areas of the

region where there are no active Community Councils, but if there are sufficient people in one of those areas who are interested in developing one, support can be provided to set up a new Community Council.

The deadline for nominations is Friday 25 September and information about how to nominate people is on Dumfries & Galloway Council's website.

Advice and support to re-establish Community Councils will be provided by local Area Framework teams who may be contacted via the Council Contact Centre on 030 33 33 3000.

Cub Award for Heather

Continued from front page...

By 1965 she was Cub Scout Leader and has been ever since. She "begs to differ" over his "hour a week" claim having been heavily involved not only with the pack but with wider scouting activities including the post of district commissioner for Cub Scouts.

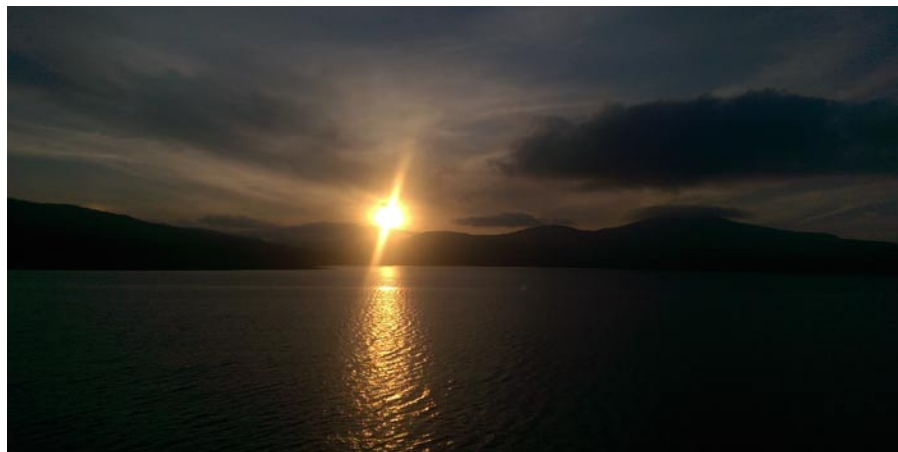
She has seen major changes over the years: the arrival of

girls as well as boys in the pack, changes in uniforms and new activities and badges. The Cub Scout programme reflects the modern world with activities such as disability awareness, global issues, conservation, computing and martial arts. However, in a tradition dating back to 'Wolf Cubs', she is still known as 'Akela' to the children and her Cub Scouts still love

'sausage sizzles' and camping, but now one of the novelties is washing up dishes in a basin - a new experience for those who have grown up to the sound of a dishwasher. "I believe scouting helps the children to develop life-long skills, boosts their confidence and creates thoughtful independent people. And," she adds with a laugh, "it's about having fun."

Photo of the Issue:

Sponsored by the Ken Bridge Hotel



Competition judges, Dave and Sue at the Ken Bridge Hotel, said: "14 superb photos, and it is so difficult to choose a winner, we really wish the Gazette could publish all of them. In the end we have chosen Kyle Butterworth as the winner with his atmospheric scene of Clatteringshaws loch".

Kyle wins a meal for two at the Ken Bridge Hotel's renowned Sunday Carvery.

Glenkens Clubs

Continued from front page...

So look out for the advertising closer to the time, and do come along if you can. It's free, and there will be a take-home directory of all the activities. You might just surprise yourself with what's out there, and pick up a brand new hobby at the same time!

The list of sponsors confirmed at time of going to press include the Glenkens Community Shop, the Galloway Association of Glasgow and Dalry and New Galloway Community Councils - thanks to all of them for their support.

To get involved contact Nicolette at nicolettewise@aol.com or 430 218.

Local Initiatives in New Galloway

Following the very successful Open Days last year a new Local Initiatives in New Galloway (LING) committee was formed.

Then due to various personal reasons there has been a gap in developments.

Recently Dumfries & Galloway

Council have intimated that they will be considering closing New Galloway Town Hall unless the community can produce a viable plan for its ongoing use and sustainability.

This is being submitted and in the autumn we will be setting up activities and groups which have been requested.

The Town Hall does not appear to be registered under the Council as Common Good

despite the fact that financial reports of the previous Burgh Council list it as such. It appears that other properties were acquired for revenue raising and these contributed to the Town Hall's upkeep. If anyone has any information about this, please let us know.

An open meeting will be held in September and a new committee elected.

*Ros Hill,
01644 420 632*

Glenkens Community Shop

Grants allocated in July 2015

Ist Glenkens Guide Unit	£125
Glenkens Community Centre	£500
Dalry School Tech Club	£380
The Ex Servicemen's Club	£500
(DCC) Society's Fair	£500
Dalry Town Hall	£300
Dalry Bowling Club	£200
Good Neighbours Club	£200
Glenkens Art Workshop	£280
Craft Club	£200
Dalry Rural	£200
Glenkens Children's Club	£300
Dalry Community Council	£500
The Glenkens Shed	£500

Total - £4,685

Thank you to all volunteers and customers who make this possible.

Wright's Shop & Post Office Dalry

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stocking a range of local suppliers
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Monday to Friday: 7am – 6pm

Saturday: 8am – 6pm

Sunday: 8.30am – 4pm

Tel: 01644 430 225

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

Various

White melamine 'conti' board. Contact: 430 690

Compost Tumbler needs a new home. Contact: Annikki on 460 640

Oval shaped extending teak dining room table made by William Lawrence. Max width 3' 3", length 4' 6" extends to 5' 10". Good condition. Detachable legs. Free to good home but any donation to Riding for Disabled

welcome. Contact: Keith on 450 201

Mattress for double bed. Clean, little used but surplus to requirements. Contact: Alan on 07769 680938
Corby trouser press. Perfect working order. Contact: Fiona on 420 227

Basic computer table. Contact: June on 420 361

Double bed frame. Contact: 07876 353 557

Wood chip, ideal for garden paths etc. Bring own bag to

fill. Contact: 430 218

Vick's CleanAir air purifier, virtually unused. Contact: 430 380

WANTED

Plastic bath. Contact: Corina on 07790 052 937

3/4 drawer filing cabinet with lock. Contact: 01556 670 239

Petrol mower/trimmer, any condition, preferably working. Contact: Simon on 07426 124 982

CLACHAN FAIR FUN

Fun has not been forgotten this year even though there has been no Clachan Fair Week.

The first event was the Fun Dog Show at Newfield Farm where money was raised for the Dumfries & Galloway Canine Rescue as well as Clachan Fair funds.

The show started with an agility demonstration followed by a *Have a Go at Agility* event. This was enjoyed hugely by all dogs and their owners. Many thanks to Diana Lord and the STARS for all the fun.

Then 21 competitors took part in the Dog Show and judge Vorna Gilkes had some difficult decisions to make. All the dogs were looking their best but after much deliberation Bailey (springer-cross-Labrador), owned by Trudie Mitchell, won best in show. Reserve was Kim (golden-red Labrador), owned by Paul Cain. A big thank you to

all our generous sponsors and all the competitors for such a great day out.

The Clachan Fair June Weekend started off with the *Splash Party*. When you let over 100 children loose with paddling pools, water guns, water balloons and water pistols of all shapes and sizes, you end up with a very wet but great fun event. With hotdogs and burgers for tea at the barbecue, altogether it was an afternoon to remember. The parents who stayed seemed to enjoy it too.

The adults (and some of the children) then enjoyed a quiz night on Saturday during which the Clachan Fair raffle was drawn with about 15 prizes to be won.

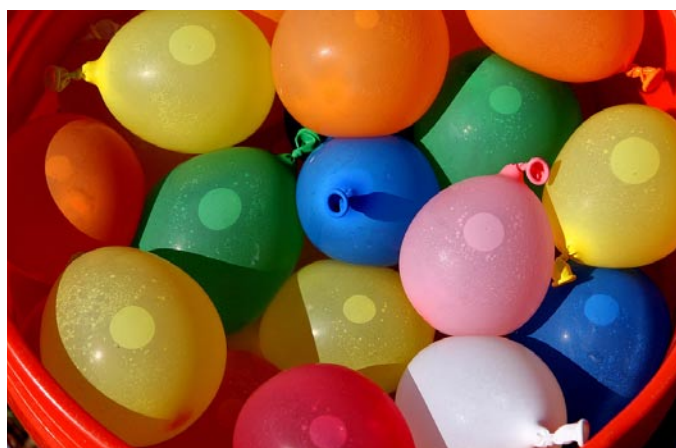
These were the first events in the new-look Clachan Fair

with activities being spread throughout the year rather than concentrated into one week. Further events are planned for later in the year so please watch out for posters.

Next year should see a more traditional Fair over a weekend, including the usual stalls and parade as well as other events throughout the year.

If you have any ideas please let us know, and we are always on the look out for new members of the committee and volunteers to help at events.

Sally Hooker



Eco Feature

sponsored by natural power



SIGN UP TO THE BIOSPHERE CHARTER

Do you have a passion for your place?

The Biosphere Partnership has ambitious goals and wants as many people as possible to share an enthusiasm for this special place by signing up to the new Biosphere Charter at gsabiosphere.org.uk

By agreeing with the six principles of the Biosphere Charter, you can demonstrate that you are proud to be a supporter of the Biosphere designation and are playing your part in promoting and developing the sustainability of the area.

The six principles of the Biosphere are:

- 1) - *Help conserve the natural resources of the Biosphere*
- 2) - *Support the economy to benefit people and nature*
- 3) - *Promote cultural heritage and local products*
- 4) - *Contribute to health and wellbeing of the community*
- 5) - *Develop knowledge, understanding and research*
- 6) - *Raise awareness of the Galloway and southern Ayrshire Biosphere*

We believe that the more supporters who sign up to the six Biosphere principles the greater the benefits will be. Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere, simply known as a Biosphere, is an international designation awarded by UNESCO to areas renowned for their special environments which are valued by local people. By providing a distinctive badge associated with this special place we can help promote the best environments, local products and services. Using the badge

will help others recognise and understand the high quality of our environment and the more we know about our surroundings the more we will want to care for it. Together we will make life better for people and for nature.

Anyone who signs the FREE Biosphere Charter will receive a Biosphere Charter certificate and a (highly desirable and exclusive) 'Proud Supporter' window sticker. Information on events and a regular e-newsletter will also be supplied to Biosphere supporters and we also hope to invite people to take part in a 'Learning Journey' in the Biosphere.

Community groups or businesses that are located

within the Biosphere area will also be permitted to use the Biosphere brand on promotional materials and website. We are currently developing an interactive map on the Biosphere website which will have hyperlinks to supporters' websites and, for community groups, a link to a dedicated page. The web page will highlight what you have identified as special about your place under six headings, Wildlife & Natural Beauty,

Heritage & Culture, Inspiration, Tranquillity, Recreation & Enjoyment and Local Produce.

Eventually we hope that settlements in the Biosphere area will adopt the Charter and badge themselves as Biosphere Communities on their entrance signs.

Landscape Partnership Scheme Update: Dumfries & Galloway Council has now submitted a first stage application for the Galloway Glens Project to the Heritage Lottery Fund Landscape Partnership Scheme. A successful bid will lead to a period of community project development before a second stage application is submitted.



GALLOWAY AND
SOUTHERN AYRSHIRE
BIOSPHERE

gsabiosphere.org.uk

Get on Your Bike!

Natural Power employees have been participating in *Love to Ride* the UK's first national cycling challenge, notching up almost 4,000 miles and topping the leader board in the SME category in Scotland.

The National Cycle Challenge is a fun, free competition that gets employees motivated and encourages colleagues to experience first-hand the joys and benefits of riding a bike. It is also a major part of Bike Week and supported in partnership with Cyclescheme and CTC, the national cycling charity. The three week challenge took place between 8 and 28 June.

This year 2,119 organisations from across the UK took part in

the challenge, including Scottish Natural Heritage, Ofcom, Google, NHS and Aviva. Fiona Grubb, Head of Business Development and Marketing at Natural Power led the initiative as Challenge Champion. She said: "This is a fantastic initiative to encourage our team to be active and outdoors, whether it's cycling to work or taking on an adventurous, mountain-biking expedition at the weekend. We're delighted that so many staff took on the challenge and it's been great to see some healthy competition amongst our people!"



The National Cycle Challenge is the main event for Bike Week 2015. It is an annual opportunity to promote cycling, and show how cycling can easily be part of everyday life by encouraging 'everyday cycling for everyone'. Demonstrating the social, health and environmental benefits of cycling, the week aims to get people to give cycling a go all over the UK.

Find out more at www.lovetoride.net

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www.relationships-scotlanddg.org.uk



CatStrand Update

The essential repairs to the CatStrand building have proved to be more extensive than first anticipated as several further issues have been discovered as the work progressed.

However, everyone is working very hard to complete the reinstatement programme to allow CatStrand to re-open as soon as possible. At the moment we anticipate being able to open again by mid-September and are planning an exciting 'Welcome Back' Festival Weekend of events in October to celebrate being back home in our newly refurbished venue again. Please look out for details being announced on the website and in local media in due course.

We appreciate that the work has taken longer than initially hoped due to various circumstances beyond our control and we are working hard to minimise any further delay and we look forward to welcoming our many patrons and friends back to the building soon. In the meantime, we are extremely grateful to all of the other local venues for helping us to continue with most of our planned events and activities throughout this difficult period. To allow the staff to fully concentrate on planning the re-opening as effectively as possible, we have not arranged many events during August and September other than the regular classes and activities.

The repairs are progressing well and after the lengthy stripping-out and drying-out phase from January through to April, the re-plastering has now been completed and the toilets have been refitted. The

next stage will see the wooden floors re-laid, the kitchen installed and then the remaining floor coverings can be laid and decorating completed. A great deal of thought has gone into the planning of the re-fit and the opportunity has been seized to make some improvements to the fixtures and the layout where possible within the parameters allowed by our insurance company. We hope you will agree that the 2015 version of CatStrand will be even better than the original!

In relation to the flooding problem, we instructed an independent Flood Risk Assessment and have also been working closely with Dumfries & Galloway Council and The Scottish Flood Agency to find the best possible solution to prevent any future recurrence. A Caro flood barrier system is to be fitted to all of the vulnerable external doors around the building. In addition, as a result of the Flood Risk Assessment, various further preventative measures are being considered in relation to the Cat Strand burn itself. Our Flood Appeal has helped to meet some of the additional costs

not covered by insurance and we are extremely grateful to all who have contributed to the fund so far.

Everyone at CatStrand greatly appreciates the tremendous support and understanding shown since January and now at long last we can see the light at the end of the tunnel. We hope to see you in CatStrand soon!

*Brian Edgar,
General Manager,*



**ALEX
FERGUSSON
MSP
FOR
GALLOWAY &
WEST DUMFRIES**

Holds regular advice surgeries at:

**Constituency Office, New Market
Street, Castle Douglas, DG7 1HY**

on the 2nd Friday of every month from 5pm

Telephone free on **0800 028 7260**

for an appointment or to make
any alternative arrangement.

You can visit Alex's website at:

www.alexfergusson.org.uk

or contact him by e-mail at:

alex.fergusson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Spalding Bowling Club

Spalding Bowling Club held a very successful Triples Tournament.

The sponsors were the Clachan Inn, Dalry, Gordon McAdam Plumbing, Dalry, and Brian Pringle Services, Corsock. The picture shows Gordon McAdam (centre) and club president Peter Hamilton (right) with (from left) runners-up Brian McClune, Stevie Little and Robert McClune, and winners Scott Davis, Alan Davis and Eric Montgomery.



Glenkens Transport Initiative

Wednesday Evening Bus Service

Dalry to Castle Douglas and back (registered route)

	Outward Journey
1900	Depart Dalry (Underhill)
1905	New Galloway
1915	Mossdale
1925	Lauriston
1930	Townhead of Greenlaw
1937	Castle Douglas (Market Street)
1940	Castle Douglas (Tesco)
	Return Journey
2035	Depart Castle Douglas (Tesco)
2037	Castle Douglas (Market Street)
2047	Townhead of Greenlaw
2050	Lauriston
2100	Mossdale
2110	New Galloway
2115	Dalry

GTI has 8 and 16 seat minibuses for hire.
Hirers must be registered GTI user groups.
For more information or to book call 01644 420374.



GTI Excursions August 2015

Phone the CatStrand (01644 420374) or see GTI page on the CatStrand website for more details and to book.

The Kelpies & the Falkirk Wheel

Sunday 9th August



Visit the spectacular Kelpies and see the amazing Falkirk Wheel in action.

A great day out!

Pickups: New Galloway 0900; Dalry 0915
Fare £7/ concession £6

Loch Lomond (Balloch) with Boat Trip

Sunday 23rd August



Pickups: New Galloway 0900, Dalry 0915
Fare £7.00. Concessions £6.00 (boat trip not included in fare)

If there's somewhere you'd like to go and you think others would too, email Glen on gti@catstrand.com or phone 07841 5124494.

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STRESS RELIEF THE 'SNOOPY' WAY

The American creator of the *Peanuts* comic strip, in which 'good ole' Charlie Brown and his philosophical pet beagle, Snoopy, starred, held the unique philosophy of "I am only going to dread one day at a time".

Despite his ability to produce comforting, feel-good cartoons, Schultz had regular panic attacks and would

often descend suddenly into a feeling

of 'impending doom.' Dread, panic attacks and doom can all be descriptions of what can be described in today's parlance as symptoms of stress.

Stress is the feeling of being under too much mental or emotional pressure. When you are up against something you find threatening, your body produces chemicals which enable you to become stronger and more alert – the so-called 'fight or flight' response. These were historically to survive physical threats, such as a stampede of woolly mammoths.

Our stress now is usually in response to something which negatively triggers our emotions and we don't know what to do. Maybe your manager is giving you a hard

time at work or you really want to be able to say 'No' to someone, but every time you see them, you end up saying 'Yes'. If this keeps happening with no rest or relaxation, we start to experience the physical and emotional effects of stress.

Examples of these are headaches, stomach upsets, loss of libido, feeling overwhelmed, becoming moody and agitated, and avoiding people and situations.

The way we speak to ourselves greatly affects how we can deal with our responses. Research shows that if we are able to talk kindly and encouragingly to ourselves, our stress levels will reduce. Examples of such positive self-talk could be 'I can handle this' and 'I am doing

"Every day in every way, I am getting better and better."

the best I can'. This is not a new concept. Over a hundred years ago, Emile Coue saw the power of positive thinking and came up with the famous affirmation: "Every day in every way, I am getting better and better".

Some top tips for stress relief are:

- Exercise: just 30 minutes walking a day releases powerful feel-good

endorphins to help us feel calm, soothed and hopeful.

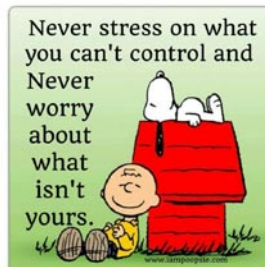
- Take time out to do the things you enjoy which do not include screens - put down your iphone and step away from the lap-top! Run a bubble-bath, curl-up with a good book, day-dream out of the window, paint a picture; silence can really help.

- Drink more water: stay hydrated. For every cup of tea and coffee you have, drink half a cup to a cup of water. Cut down on the red wine!

- Get connected with others; join a group, catch-up with a friend, have a good belly laugh, volunteer. Find a way of being with others in a shared way.

- Take Snoopy's advice and accept the things you cannot control. Read *Peanuts* for more canine-inspired wisdom.

Gill Stanyard



For help with lowering your stress and living a brighter life, Gill is qualified in Stress Management, specialising in walk and talk sessions, guided meditations and visualisations and coaching to increase your confidence and feel ok being you.

Contact Gill at blueskiesventure@outlook.com or phone 01387 780 260.

I look forward to hearing from you - cost is never a barrier.

GLENKENS MEDICAL PRACTICE

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*The Surgery
High Street
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**FOR APPOINTMENTS CALL
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ALL CHANGE FOR GCC

After a very successful initial three years, it's all change at Glenkens Children's Club (GCC) this summer.

From small beginnings in 2012, the Club has grown and grown until it now includes a packed summer programme, GCC Playgroup and GCC New Galloway.

We are all delighted that so many volunteers and staff continue to work together so hard to provide such great facilities for the pre-school children of the Glenkens. We are also most grateful for the level of support from our wider community, with both moral and financial support offered often.

It is now time for the old committee to step down as their children grow and move on, and a new committee to be elected. This ensures that the clubs are always managed by people who really understand

the needs of the children.

So I would firstly like to say a massive 'thank you' to all the office bearers and helpers, past and present, of New Galloway toddler group over the many years it has been running. In particular Chrissy, Fiona and Irene have done a fantastic job this year. This very friendly group has just become part of GCC, although nothing will change in the way that it runs.

Then I would like to say thank you to the secretaries of GCC - first Emma, then Lorraine. They have contributed an enormous amount to the club, and their efforts are very much appreciated.

Dawn has been the treasurer of Children's Club since it started, and has worked tirelessly in this often hidden role, with only the occasional scream of frustration. Thank you so much - the Club wouldn't have been able to run without you.

The staff of Playgroup, Sue, Chrissy and Ailsa, have done a fantastic job this year.

The children in their care have adored their time there, and Playgroup will of course continue with Sue and Chrissy into next year. Playgroup ends this year with 11 children on the books, although there will be space for more wee ones in August as the big ones leave for nursery.

I also want to say thank you to all the non-committee members who have worked so hard on the club. Whether it's thinking of ideas, running a mini-Olympics, gardening with the children, washing up, deep-cleaning the playgroup room - there is so much to be done, and the only way to do it is with many hands. Thank you all, it couldn't have happened without you.

The new Chair of Glenkens Children's Club (GCC) and the Vice-chair of GCC Playgroup is Sarah Parry, mother of Brigid. The Vice-chair of GCC Dalry is Dave Stevenson, father of Isobel, Elizabeth and Mahala. The Vice-chair of GCC New Galloway is Lucy Lees, mother of Jennifer and Patrick. The Secretary of GCC is Miriam Stevenson, mother of Isobel, Elizabeth and Mahala. I thank them for picking up the baton and have every confidence that children's club in all its forms will continue to go from strength to strength under their management.

I would also like to thank the staff and board members of GCAT and the CatStrand, who have supported GCC in many ways since it started - we are proud to be a GCAT project

*Thank you all, Helen Keron,
outgoing Chair of GCC*

Glenkens Children's Club Summer Programme

(Activities run at Dalry Community Centre & New Galloway Town Hall)

JULY:

Mon 20 - Drama Session, 10-11:30am, Dalry

Tue 21 - Stickers & Colouring, 10-11am, New Galloway

Fri 24 - Bushcraft Session, meet at 10am at Forkins (up the Glenlee road). Come dressed for the weather and stay on for a picnic if it's nice weather.

Mon 27 - Wild Foraging with Galloway Wild Foods, places limited; booking essential through keronh@me.com. £10 per adult & 2 children, £2 per extra child, £5 per extra adult. 10am start.

Tue 28 - Sensory Session, 10-11am, New Galloway

Fri 31 - Fundraising Family Ceilidh, 7.30pm, New Galloway Town Hall. Tickets from the CatStrand - 420 374.

AUGUST:

Sat 1 - Hula Hoop Workshop, 10am, Dalry Park or Community Centre if raining.

Sun 2 - The Scottish Alternative Games, 2pm, New Galloway Park.

Fri 7 - Zumbatomic with Sam Rushton, 10am, Dalry

Mon 10 - Storytelling & Songs with Susi Sweetpea, 10am, Dalry

Tue 11 - Sensory Session, 10-11am, New Galloway

Fri 14 - Free Play/Water Fight?!

Mon 17 - End of Holiday Party, 10am, Dalry

Tue 18 - Coffee Morning - all ages welcome, 10-11am, New Galloway

GCC Playgroup: 09.10-

11.40am on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays at the Glenkens Community Centre. 2-3 years & two-year-olds pay £5/session, three-year-olds are free. Ring Sue on 07935 882 470 in Playgroup hours for more info.

GCC Dalry: 10am-12noon, Mondays & Fridays, at the Glenkens Community Centre. Geared towards 0-3 yrs. Babies free, older children £2/session with 2nd/subsequent children £1 each.

GCC New Galloway: 9.45am-11.30am on Tuesdays at New Galloway Town Hall. Geared towards 0-3 years. Babies free, older children £2/session, 2nd/subsequent children £1 each.

SWAGAZINE



SWAGAZINE EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW! with THE EAST POINTERS

Folk trio **The East Pointers** hail from little known Prince Edward Island on Canada's eastern seaboard. Their recent tour brought them all the way to a sell-out show at Balmaclellan Hall. Our music reporters Sky and Aiden spoke to **Koady Chaisson** (banjo), **Tim Chaisson** (fiddle), and **Jake Charron** (guitar). ****Their live show was INCREDIBLE! *****

Coming from a remote fishing family, what inspired you to become musicians?

Tim: Our parents strongly encouraged us all to play music *sighs* [!]

Koady: We all grew up with music, Tim and I were playing fiddle from the age of 8yrs old!

Jake: We just loved playing music...and it was better than going out on a fishing boat!

How did you all meet?

Tim: Well Koady and I are brothers and we met Jake through the music community on Prince Edward Island.

Koady: It's a pretty big music scene out there for a population of 145,000 people.

Who inspires your music?

Koady: Natalie McMaster

Tim: The Beatles

Jake: A LOT of people! Too many to mention...

Do you have any tips for beginner musicians?

All: PRACTICE and stick at it! You're never too young to start playing music.

For more on the
East Pointers visit:
<http://eastpointers.ca>



SKY'S YouTube HITS

YouTube has more to it than it seems: Vloggers, Challengers, Gamers, Singers, Beauty Vloggers, Bakers, Reviewers, Educators & All Rounders! In this section I will tell you my favourite YouTubers to look out for: to Watch and "Subscribe" to!

Zoella

© JAMES CROOK

Zoe Elizabeth Sugg (25) is better known as **Zoella**, a Beauty Vlogger with 6m YouTube subscribers.

She is Brighton-based and used to work for a British clothing retailer. *The Telegraph* called her "One of Britain's most influential Tweeters" and in 2014 she won *Cosmopolitan's* Best Beauty Vlogger Award. She does many other things too and has even written a novel called "Girl Online". She caused controversy however by revealing that she had used a ghost writer. After a ton of online abuse, she quit the internet for a month!

US-based Tyler Oakley (26) is a Vlogger who deals with issues such as gay rights and suicide prevention.



He has 5.8m subscribers and his videos deal with political issues and pop culture on a regular basis, and are frequently humorous.

SWAGAMOVIE WHAT'S HOT IN THE WORLD OF

The Theory of Everything

Reviewed by Aiden J. Taylor

[2015]

The film is about the life of Stephen Hawking and how he struggled with motor neuron disease. Motor neuron disease is a disease that slowly shuts down all the nerves, moving, eating and drinking. I have to say that this film is inspirational. It made me feel happiness and sadness at the same time. It shows how he and his family coped with the "two years" he had left. Stephen Hawking is one inspirational man and this is one inspirational movie.

SOME INTERESTING STUFF:

Stephen Hawking said that the film would lend his voice for the final parts of the 10 years to bring this story to the screen. Redmayne also attended the University of Cambridge footballer Frank Leboeuf plays a Swiss physicist in January 6, while Stephen Hawking on

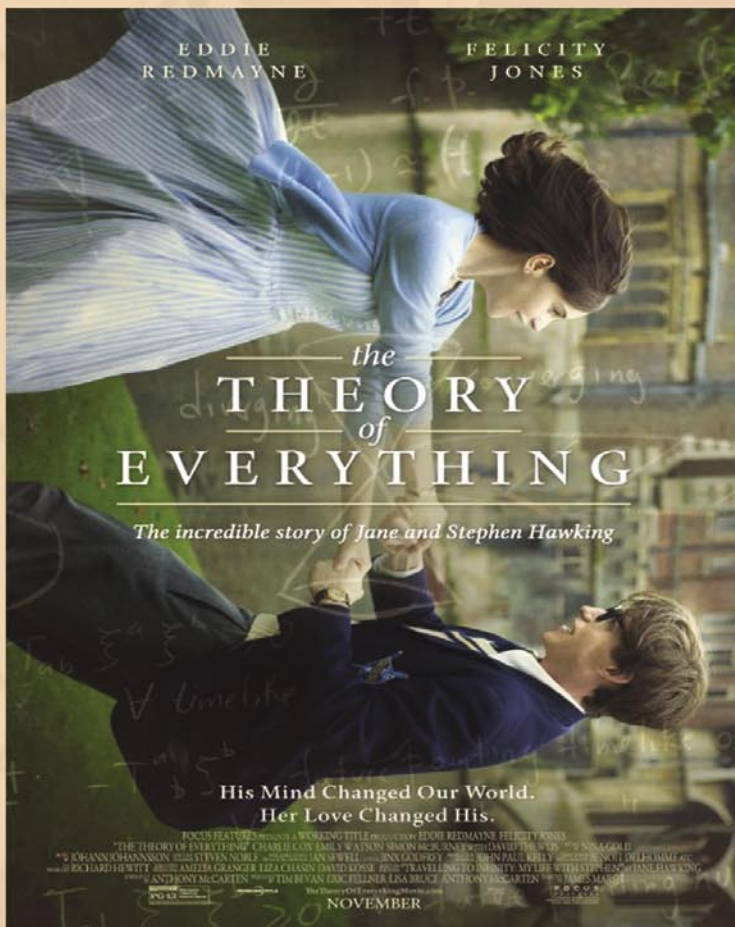
RECOMMENDED! [5 / 5]

Young Film Makers Make



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IES F MOVIES?



as "broadly true" | He then went on to
e film | It took writer Anthony McCarten
een | Just like Stephen Hawking, Eddie
ty of Cambridge | Ex-professional
s doctor | Eddie Redmayne was born on
January 8

ke Edinburgh Festival Final

rand Young Film Makers have had their short film
ight Shed shortlisted by the Edinburgh Interna-
l Film Festival Short Film Challenge. The film will
reened at the Filmhouse as part of the Fringe fes-
n August and is up for three awards. Starring Zoe
atrick and Eleanor Jones, the film tells the story of
ienteering trip gone wrong. You can watch the
on CatStrand TV and the EIFF website.

YOUTH ACCESS SCHEME



YOUTH APPROVED @ CATSTRAND

CATSTRAND Youth Arts Summer Programme

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DRAMA WEEK

with Scottish Youth Theatre

Acting Workshop

Tues 4 Aug | 1pm - 4pm | FREE | Ages 8+
Balmaclellan Village Hall

Play Writing Workshop

Weds 5 Aug | 10am - 4pm | FREE | Ages 12+

MUSIC WEEK

Song Writing Workshop

[with Robert Shields of *Finding Albert*]
Thu 13 Aug | 7.30pm | FREE | Ages 10+

ELSEWHERE

Ant-Man [TBC]

Fri 21 Aug | 7.00pm | Fullarton, CD | £6

The Song of the Sea [PG]

Sat 22 Aug | 2.30pm | Fullarton, CD | £6

Inside Out [PG]

Sat 5 Sept | 2.30pm | Fullarton, CD | £5

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GAMEZONER



Gamezoner's Top 3 Xbox 360 Games of the month:

1. TERRARIA

Terraria is a 2D version of Minecraft but it has a few things different: MORE bosses, MORE materials and A LOT MORE guns! If you're going to get a new game I would definitely recommend this. It's cheap at £12 for an Xbox360 and £15.20 for Xbox One.

Top Tips

1. Always prepare for the worst. It is hard work building up your NPC's [Non Player Controlled] only for them to be destroyed.

2. Always mine more then you need. It's annoying to get a lightsaber for instance then you check your chests and have no crystals.

3. Get good armour and weapons if you're planning on entering Hard Mode. Molten armour is the best to go with.

2. FORZA HORIZON

Forza Horizon is based around the 2012 Colorado Festival. I liked this game because of the multiplayer Rally DLC and of course the customizable cars. The cars are put into tiers: F, E, D, C, B, A, R1, R2, R3. I have never completed the game, but that is because I love free roaming.

3. PORTAL 2

I liked this game but it was kind of boring. All you do is go through levels and I have to admit the co-op was terrible. Maybe on the PC version you can make your own levels.

Can You Spot Our Swagazine Editor?



Mrs McIntosh Retires

A presentation was made to Mrs Heather McIntosh by pupils and parents to say thank you for her service to Kells Primary.

Mrs McIntosh has been a classroom assistant and playground supervisor at the school for 19 years and she will be missed by the children, parents and staff.

Everyone at Kells wishes her a relaxing retirement!



Heather McIntosh with Kells School Pupils.

GLENKENS CAMP RESILIENCE

The experience of camping outdoors has been linked with success and, throughout the Glenkens schools this year, we have been working at improving the outdoor experiences our young people have.

The primary schools have been working with the Ranger service and independently in a variety of outdoor learning locations - and responsible metal detecting at Carsphairn was a new venture. In the secondary school, we have been building confidence through a residential experience at the outdoor centre of Stronord. For young people transferring into Dalry's S1 there was camping on the school field, followed by a camp near Auchencairn and building towards expedition work for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Not always warm and comfortable, but our young people have learnt that they are more resilient than they thought, that 3am is a cold time of night, that wood fires keep the midges off and that carrying a fully laden rucksack is hard work. The staff have been impressed by the enthusiasm and 'stickability' of young people.

Now we are starting younger, logically students should be more ambitious and we are excited to see how far they can get in the time they are with us.

Life Savers: Literacy, numeracy, health and wellbeing are the

cornerstones of young peoples' success and anything family, friends and schools can do to encourage them is priceless in the development of our young people. Reading to children of every age is so important in developing a community that reads. Let us take every opportunity for counting games, estimating and playing with numbers. Eating well, sleeping soundly and good exercise levels keep us well in mind and body - something we all need to aim for.

Young people are taught about these things in school but good habits are 'caught' not taught and so, as adults in the community, we must each play our part and try to give that good example.

However, things do go wrong and the secondary pupils have been finding out what to do when someone becomes unresponsive with no breathing or pulse. As part of the final days activities in school, the British Heart Foundation training manikins were used to make sure students and staff

have the basic skills for saving a life.

With the defibrillator installed at the Dalry Primary entrance for emergency use, what we need now is for every member of the community to be confident that they could step in and preserve life until the defibrillator is applied.

There is lots of information and a downloadable app at: www.bhf.org.uk/heart-health/nation-of-lifesavers/call-push-rescue

The best way to learn something is to teach it, so if any family would like their young person to bring home one of the training dummies, they should phone the school office and we will arrange for one to go home with them for a few nights. In this way we hope young people will reinforce their learning and develop a community skill that can help save lives until the emergency services can reach us.

In the interim, we hope everyone has a good and safe summer.

Jenny Smith, Head Teacher



Walking the hills above Carsphairn.

URG AND I: Part III

One man's story of living with a broken ankle...

Senor Bladder woke us early this morning.

We had hobbled downstairs by 6.30am, glaring at the frost, the compacted frozen snow (which my rubber-tipped crutches easily slip upon) and snarling at the radio.

Later we sat with our coffee and waited. Not for anything in particular. We just waited. This happens sometimes. Maybe we'll read a little, write a little, but generally just wait.

Yesterday I took Urg to the hospital. He had to get a change of clothes. A melodramatic technician removed his slab and replaced it with a sparkling green cast. Hard as nails and rather slippery.

The technician's first comment was that Urg had not been kept raised enough. He knew this because Urg's toes were still bruised; ("I told you so", said Urg).

Then the technician asked if I had hardwood floors or lino. "Yes", I answered. "When this dries", he said,

peering intently, even excitedly, into my eyes, "it will be very slippery!". I think he was smiling. "I guarantee," he continued, "absolutely guarantee!" (his eyes were widening gleefully), "that if you fall down you will break your leg right there!" He tapped my thigh. "Right there!" he repeated. "Really?" I answered. "Oh, yes! Oh, yes!" he replied. But he wasn't done

'...If you don't, then the water will start a chemical reaction with the cast and it will ROT YOUR FLESH!'

yet; "Now..." (he was just finishing up the cast) "you cannot" – he stressed the word dramatically – "get this wet!" "No?" I enquired innocently. "No! If you get this wet you have five hours to get to the hospital!". "I do?" Said I. "Yes!" He replied fanatically, beginning to froth at the mouth. "If you don't, then the water will start a chemical reaction with the cast and it will ROT YOUR FLESH!" Holy

suffering zombies Batpiddle! This was crazy stuff! The consultant's eyes were bulging with excitement - he looked like Ben in the TV series *Lost*.

Urg and I fled the hospital in a state of nervous exhaustion, but at least it wasn't raining.

This morning we had a bath. Masochism, you say. Well, not quite. But very tense. A tense bath. After I'd run the water I dried the entire bathroom. Then we gingerly stepped in. Urg was way up there.

It's surprising how difficult it is to bathe without splashing once, but I managed it. Then came the exit. Standing up I quickly dried my leg above the cast. I didn't want any water running down my body and onto the cast that way. I dried the rest of me and sat down.

Then it hit me! What if I sweat? Oh my God, no! Does this mean I'll have to give up my threesomes with the girls from the grocery store? What will we do for six days of the week? (We take Sundays off for tea). Urg and I had better go now. I think we are hallucinating. Perhaps I got water on the cast after all, and this is the first stage – HELP!!

Kevin Ade

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Abbas Rest Appeal

Our annual coffee morning in aid of Abbas Rest Orphans will take place on Saturday 17 October in Dalry Town Hall from 10am to 12noon.

We do hope that you will once again support this event. Funds

are still badly needed as the oldest part of the large building in the Chiringa Centre had been declared dangerous and had to be demolished. New toilets, bathrooms, kitchen and the children's accommodation have had to be replaced.

At the new centre in Muona everything is going well, and work is going ahead for a new borehole made possible by some large donations. The children's education is also gradually improving and

clothes and uniforms have been purchased.

None of these things would have happened without the funds raised by coffee mornings and other fundraising events.

We would be very grateful for any donations towards the raffle, bottle, cake and bric-a-brac stalls or cash donations, as well as any help you can give on the stalls or in the kitchen.

We look forward to seeing you, and for more information please contact Avril Brown on 430 526 or Barbara Colbenson on 430 090.

Dear Glenkens Gazette,

I have some ideas that I would like to share with readers...

What are people's thoughts on forming a 'Bus Users Group', to help focus transport providers with an informed and broadly based perspective on transport locally?

Also, is there any interest in forming a 'Bike Club' to encourage children and their parents to enjoy cycling around the Glenkens by offering skills-sharing in a safe environment during school holidays? Also available could be opportunities to arrange group trips to mountain bike centres, as well as recycling

children's and adult's bikes with help from The Glenkens Shed project.

I'd also like to volunteer to offer my services for child-minding/elderly-person-minding/baby-sitting when I'm available. (I am a retired health visitor, with enhanced Disclosure Scotland in another voluntary capacity). It would need to be within cycling distance of Balmaclellan, plus I'd prefer a 'barter' basis than monetary exchange (for example, babysitting in exchange for a bottle of wine!).

If anyone would like to discuss these ideas further please get in touch on junehay@glenkensbb.co.uk All the best, June

Aileen McLeod MSP



working for you across the South of Scotland

Postal address:

Unit 7

Loreburn Shopping Centre
High Street, Dumfries, DG1 2BD

Email:

aileen.mcleod.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

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AIR CRASHES ON CORSERINE

Corserine will be well known to most readers. Lying in Kells Parish, it is the highest hill of the Rhinns of Kells at a height of 814 metres or 2,670 feet if you prefer.

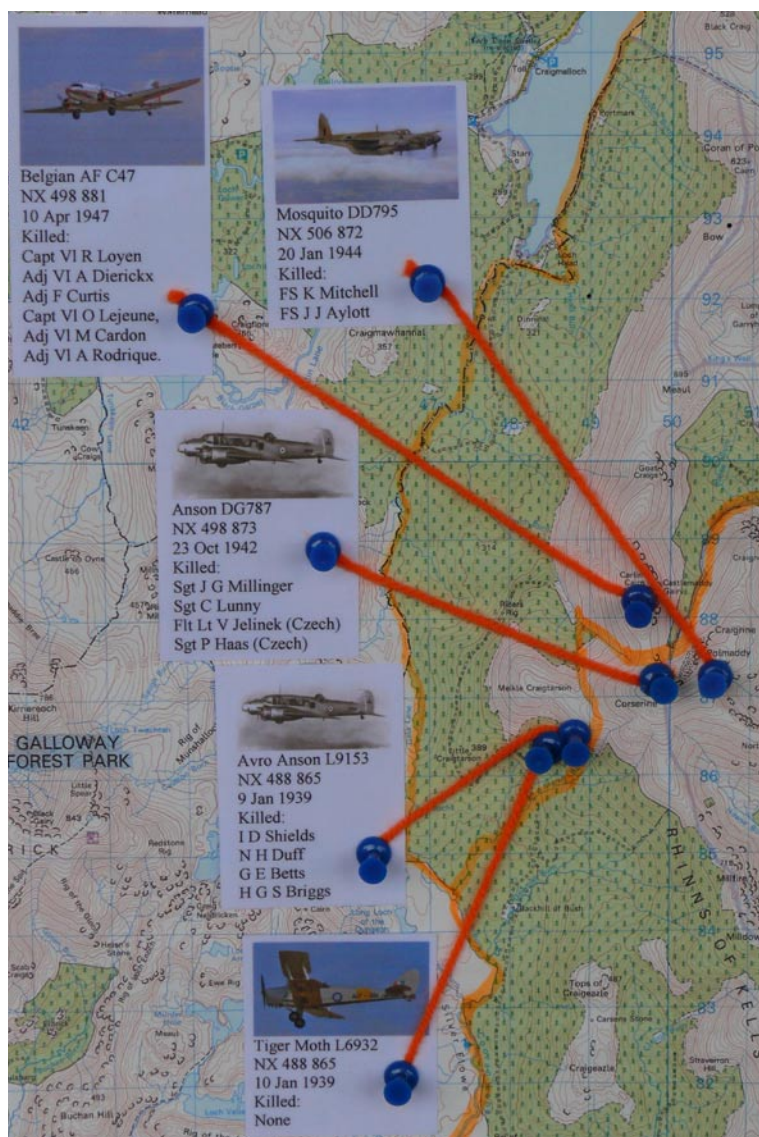
In a little over eight years, five separate aircraft crashed on this hill resulting in a loss of 16 lives.

On 9 January 1939, Avro Anson serial L9153 left Prestwick on a Navigation Exercise (Navex) flight when it crashed into the Western Slope of Corserine near Downies Burn killing Flying Officer Iain Shields, Mr Norman Duff, Leading Aircraftman Gordon Betts and Leading Aircraftman Henry Briggs. The wreckage was found still smouldering the next day by shepherd William McCubbin. Meanwhile, Tiger Moth serial L6932 had set out from Prestwick to find the crashed Anson and, in poor weather, it crashed very close to the original crash site. However pilot Pete Barrow and his photographer escaped uninjured (this was on 10 January). Various pieces of wreckage remain at the crash sites.

23 October 1942 saw another Anson crash, this time just 150 metres North West of the summit of

Corserine. Anson Serial DG787 was on a night Navex from Jurby on the Isle of Man when it failed to return. Two days later a Home Guard unit in the area notified RAF Wigtown of a crashed aircraft and a search and rescue team from Wigtown recovered the bodies of: Sergeant Joseph Millinger, Sergeant Charles Lunny, Sergeant Petr Haas (Czech) and Flight Lieutenant Vaclav Jelinek (Czech). The site was cleared of all large wreckage but some small burnt fragments can still be found.

On 20 January 1944, Mosquito serial DD795 was on a cross country training exercise from RAF High Erroll in Shropshire when it flew into high ground on the South Eastern side of Corserine near Scar of the Folk. Flight Sergeant Kenneth Mitchell and Flight Sergeant John Aylott were both killed. The Mosquito was known as the wooden wonder and most of the aircraft burnt in the crash, leaving very little remains. Immediately following the crash, the wreckage was covered with snow and despite four other aircraft searching for it along its route, it was not found until 11 February, some three weeks later. This wreckage was



Location of the plane crashes.

also found by shepherd William McCubbin, who found the first crash five years earlier.

On 10 April 1947, a Belgian Air Force C47 (military version of the DC3 airliner) was on a ferry flight from Belgium to Prestwick with three passengers and a crew of three when it became lost in poor conditions and crashed just to the North of Corserine on Carlins Cairn. The men who died were Capt Roger Loyer, Adj Andre Dierickx, Adj Felix Curtis, Capt

Olivier Lejeune, Adj Michel Cardon and Adj Andre Rodrique. Little if any wreckage is to be found at the crash site although, like the other crash sites, the scar is still visible.

If you visit any of these sites, please be aware of the Protection of Military Remains Act, which makes it an offence to remove any wreckage from military crash sites without a licence. There are no local memorials to any of these crashes.

Paul Goodwin

Special Places around Balmaclellan

THE HOLY LINN - Garple Burn

The Holy Linn is a natural and very beautiful amphitheatre with lovely flat rock underfoot and ledges and rocks to sit on in a semicircle facing the waterfall. It is surrounded by trees and in particular the oak trees which it is believed the early pre-Christian people revered. One can easily imagine their high priest beside the waterfall addressing the tribe. The Holy Linn is so unique and special these earlier peoples may have travelled many miles to attend.

ST JOHN'S CHAIR

St John's Chair is a river stone probably taken from the Garple Burn or the River Ken. Today sited at the top of Dalry, it may also have initially been used by pre-Christian priests at the Holy Linn in Balmaclellan, and certainly if he wished, a high priest would have ordered it moved for his use. The Novantae lived in this area for hundreds or possibly thousands of years and had control of all the resources of the land, long before any Romans and later Normans arrived.

THE HOLY CROFT

One day a few years ago I followed the Garple Burn, just a

little further on from the Holy Linn. I walked into a little sheltered holm, beside the Garple with sharply rising ground on the South West side, and which probably had trees growing on it in Covenanting times. I was very struck by the sense of hallowed peace there and felt a great reluctance to leave. I did not know about this place until I researched it afterwards. It is known as the Holy Croft and is shown on the first ordnance map survey of 1854.

COVENANTING TIMES

Sometime during the mid 17th Century a number of baptisms were taking place at the Holy Linn when the people were all dispersed by the dragoons. It was agreed to meet again a few days later at the shepherd's cottage at a certain time in the Holy Croft. An account of this happening is given in Pages 282-283, *Lights and Shadows* by John Barbour of Bogue, 1824; a very rare book. I feel sure this lovely place must also have been used by the earlier Celts for some of their own festivals and meetings.



St John's Chair.

RING CAIRNS OF THE EARLY PEOPLE ON GAVELS MOOR

On Thorniehill Farm near Balmaclellan there is a small field of ring cairns. They are between 3000 and 4000 years old. Ring Cairns are found on old uncultivated land always with the same shape and dimensions – a ring of stones covered with grass with a stone-filled hollow at the centre of the ring. The hollow was probably used for a burial. The rings measure 25ft across and is 1ft high. These ring cairns were very well made, with care, and are proof of the existence of the early people in the area.

*Bill Blyth,
Blowplains*




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CARSPHAIRN LEAD MINES

There will be a chance to spend a day exploring the history of Woodhead lead mines above Carsphairn on Saturday 22 August at the latest event organised by The Glenkens Story project.

Anna Campbell of the Carsphairn Heritage Group will lead a walk, starting at 10.30am, round the

remains of the lead mines in the hills above Carsphairn and relate their history.

Participants should be able to walk over rough ground and be equipped with suitable footwear, be clad for the prevailing weather in the hills and bring a packed lunch.

There is no charge for this visit but the party size will be limited to 20 and pre-booking is essential. To book, email mbrown99@dircon.co.uk or call 01644 420 267.

The next event planned by The

Glenkens Story will be a talk in November (date to be confirmed) on the Lowland Clearances. Peter Aitchison and Andrew Cassell, authors of the book and BBC radio series of the same name, will speak on the impact of The Lowland Clearances on the Glenkens and neighbourhood. The talk will be accompanied by archive audio recordings.

The Glenkens Story: Sharing Our History operates under the auspices of GCAT's Connecting in Retirement Project.

UPDATES ON TWO WARS

Waterloo

Two hundred years ago, details were still arriving in the Glenkens of the great Battle at Waterloo, in present-day Belgium, which was fought on 18th June 1815. This was the last great battle before the advent of photography; news was slow to arrive because telephones, radio,

TV and telegraph had all yet to be invented, so all news had to be carried by messengers. This meant that reports of the battle travelled at the speed of a man on horseback at best.

History has not recorded the names of all those who fought nor even those who were killed but a few local connections include a gravestone in Crossmichael to

(former teacher at Dalry and Carsphairn schools and now Head Teacher at New Abbey). The programme is available online so use your favourite search engine to look for 'Border Life' and choose episode 69.

The Great War

The months of June, July and August 1915 saw one death reported from the Glenkens. Private James McLeod of the machine gun section, 6th Battalion Kings Own Scottish Borderers was killed on 10 July and is buried in Le Touret cemetery on the Western Front. He was born in Old Monkland, Lanark, and was the son of the late Mr W McLeod, Calder, Coatbridge, and the late Mrs McLeod of Kirkland Street, Dalry. Sadly he now seems to be unknown in the village and no photograph of him appears to have survived. He was just 22 years old when he was killed and his effects were sent to his brother William.

James is listed in the Stewartry Roll of Honour and on war memorials in Dalry and Dunscore. His death was reported in the Dumfries Standard of 21 July.

If you have information about other local connections with Waterloo or photographs of anyone listed on a local war memorial, please contact memorials@paulgoodwin.me.uk

Paul Goodwin



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Food is served from 12 noon to 2pm and 6pm to 9pm and booking is recommended at peak times (current menu can be viewed on our website).



01644 430241

mail@thelachaninn.co.uk

John Halliday, Sergeant in the 52nd Regiment of Foot who died in France in 1817 and therefore would have served at Waterloo. Captain Alexander Clark Kennedy of Knockgray (Carsphairn) was instrumental in the capture of the French eagle of the 105th Regiment at Waterloo. A little further afield a significant monument to the battle stands on a hill above New Abbey and a recent TV programme about the monument contains contributions by myself and Margaret Heuchan

LOCAL HISTORY with TED COWAN

ROBERT HERON: THOUGHTS ON EDUCATION



It is remarkable that very often, when reading literature from the past, a passage leaps out which could have been written yesterday.

By one such I was struck quite recently: "It is very surprising that the greater number of our young folk, after all the solicitude which is expressed about their education from the time when they enter the nursery, till they are dismissed from the university, come out at last into the world, unable to speak their native language with any moderate copiousness of phraseology, or to write it with any tolerable share of correctness."

The writer was Robert Heron of New Galloway (1764-1807)

some 220 years ago. He blamed the phenomenon of educational failure on teaching methods, an excuse that is still current, at least among politicians, but now reinforced by the welter of electronic technology available to us kids of all ages.

Heron was born in New Galloway and educated at home. At age 11 he became a pupil-teacher and three years later he taught at Kelton school where he was said to have been too hard on his charges. In time he progressed to Edinburgh University where he studied for the Kirk but, having fallen in love with literature, he opted to earn his living by his pen. He wrote on many subjects including Scottish history and topography, poetry, politics, and geography, often translating works in other languages into English. Notoriously he was the author of the first Memorial of Robert Burns.

He contributed articles to the third edition of Encyclopaedia Britannica, a work conceived and published in Edinburgh. He believed that he published a wider range of articles in the periodical press than anyone else. His flaw was that whenever he made money he squandered it. The first volume of his massive Scottish History was written in debtors' prison and he died a pauper in London. I am currently engaged in a rehabilitation of this remarkable and undeservedly neglected individual, having just published the first modern reassessment of this son of the

"...our young folk, after all the solicitude which is expressed about their education...come out at last into the world, unable to speak their native language with any moderate copiousness of phraseology, or to write it with any tolerable share of correctness."

Glenkens in the journal Review of Scottish Culture.

There can be little doubt that the Scottish Enlightenment, the great eighteenth century explosion of learning and enquiry of which Heron was a product, owed much to Scottish education, particularly as represented in the parish schools. The matter is controversial but education seems to explain how so many Scottish children from quite humble backgrounds became figures of national and international importance. Heron had interesting ideas on the subject, claiming that for twenty years he 'taught and assisted young persons, at all periods, in the course of education, from the alphabet to the highest branches of science and literature'. He believed that school-children were bombarded with too many abstract ideas before they were able to understand them. He argued that the young should be encouraged

to describe some of the 'simple visible objects' that surround them. Having mastered such objects as flowers or trees they should then move to more complex items such as a herd of animals or a field which require more complex and inventive language. Such oral exercises would inform their literary skills as they learned to write. The big idea was to encourage the study of 'things' rather than words, visible objects rather than abstract relations and 'sentiments that cannot be represented before the eyes'.

To advance his theories he published almost one thousand pages

in two volumes entitled *Elegant Extracts of Natural History* in 1792 comprising selections of good literature by a wide range of distinguished authorities, describing the Earth, the Human Species, quadrupeds, birds, fish, insects, vegetables and fossils. He thought

that such topics might appeal in particular to pupils in country schools on the principle that learning is about moving from the known to the novel. He expressed the hope that boys of all ages, 'who read with a view to amusement and instruction, without aspiring to extensive science or profound erudition would find the extracts useful'. He presumably did not endear himself to feminists of a future age when he added that he would indeed recommend his work even to ladies 'did I not bethink me, how brutish it would be, to suppose, that ladies should read anything, save billets doux (love letters) and novels'!

Many thanks to all of you who helpfully supplied information about the Old Mortality installation. Does anyone have a photograph of his statue that once stood near the petrol pumps in Balmacellan?

Ted Cowan

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

JULY

Sun 26, Glenkens Acoustic Session, 2-4pm, Clachan Inn, Dalry

Sun 26, Glenkens Story: Visit to the Lost Farms of Blackwater of Dee (above the Raider's Road), 10.30am-3.30pm

Mon 27, Wild Foraging for Kids with GCC, see p10 for details.

Tue 28, GCC Kids Sensory Session, 10-11am, New Galloway

Town Hall

Fri 31, Alternative Games Ceilidh, 7.30pm, New Galloway Town Hall, contact CatStrand for tickets (420 374) and may also be available on the door.

AUGUST

Sat 1, Hula Hoop Workshop, 10am, Dalry Park (Community Centre if raining)

Sun 2, The Scottish Alternative Games 2015, 2pm, The Park, New Galloway

Fri 7, GCC Zumbatomic for Kids, 10am, Glenkens Community Centre, Dalry

Sun 9, GTI Bus Trip: The Kelpies & the Falkirk Wheel, see p8

Sat 15, Glenkens Flower and Vegetable Show, Dalry Town Hall. Look

out for entry forms in local shops.

Sat 8, Glenkens Agricultural Show, Mains of Kenmure, Dalry (see ad below)

Mon 10, GCC Storytelling & Songs with Susie Sweetpea, 10am, Glenkens Community Centre, Dalry

Tue 11, GCC Kids Sensory Session, 10-11am, New Galloway Town Hall

Fri 14, GCC Free Play/Water Fight, 10am, Glenkens Community Centre, Dalry

Mon 17, GCC End of Holiday Party, 10am, Glenkens Community Centre, Dalry

Tue 18, GCC Coffee Morning, 10-11am, New Galloway Town Hall

Sun 23, GTI Bus Trip: Loch Lomond (Balloch) with Boat Trip, see p8

SEPTEMBER

Sat 12, Glenkens Agricultural Show, Mains of Kenmure, Dalry (see ad below)

Fri 25 - Sun 4 Oct, Wigtown Book Festival, see ad on back page



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Mains of Kenmure, New Galloway

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REGULAR EVENTS

CatStrand Activities - currently relocated until CatStrand re-opens (contact 420 374 to confirm details):

Exercise to Music: Mon, 10-11am, New Galloway Town Hall (recommences 24 Aug)

Margaret Morris Movement Adult Dance Class: Mon, 2.30-3.30pm, contact Sara on 01556 612854, New Galloway Town Hall (recommences 24 Aug)

Children's Dance Class: Mon during term time, 3.45-4.45pm age 3-7, 4.30-5.30pm ages 8-15, New Galloway Town Hall (recommences 24 Aug)

Gentle Tai Chi: Wed, 10am, 60+, New Galloway Town Hall

Sing it Out: Thurs, 11am -12pm, Cross Keys Hotel, New Galloway

Pilates: Thurs, 4.15-5.15pm & 5.30-6.30pm, Dalry Community Centre

CatStrand Yukes: Thurs, 1pm - 3.30pm 60+ Cross Keys Hotel, New Galloway

Saturday Art Club: 2nd Sat each month, 10am-12noon, New Galloway Town Hall (recommences 12 Sept)

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, The Clachan Inn, Dalry

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

Glenkens Children's Club: Mon & Fri, 9.30-11.45am

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

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

GCC Playgroup: Tues & Thurs, 9.20-11.50am, contact keronh@me.com

Good Neighbours' Club: Tues, 2pm

Kickback Martial Arts: Thurs, 7-9pm

Thursday Craft Group: Thurs, 2-4pm

Brownies: Wed, 5.30-6.45pm

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

Various Locations:

Ukelele Group: Mon, 11.15am, 60+, New Galloway Town Hall

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

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

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

Bowling for Beginners: Wed, 7pm, Spalding Bowling Club, Dalry (opposite The Garage)

Wednesday Quiz Night: Wed,

8.30pm, Cross Keys Hotel, New Galloway

Stewartry Camera Club: Wed, 7.30pm, Ringford Village Hall, runs Wed 11 Sept till end Mar

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

Carsphairn Post Office: Tues, 1-3pm, Lagwyne Hall

Coffee & Craft Morning: Thurs, 9am-12noon, Lagwyne Hall

D&G Hard of Hearing Group

Drop-in: 1st Friday each month, 10am-12noon, New Galloway Town Hall.

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

To hire the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) behind Dalry School call Sonja Tranter on 430 244 or Nicolette Wise on 430 218.

Dalry Library

Temporary Hours

Tue: 12noon - 3.30pm

Fri: 10am - 12noon & 1pm - 4.30pm

There are 23 mobile library stops - to find out where and when please phone 430 234.

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- **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 Sunday Services - Balmaclellan 12noon: 1st. Carsphairn 10.30am: 1st 2nd(Aug) 3rd 4th 5th(Aug). Dalry 9am: 1st 2nd(Aug) 3rd 4th (Aug). Dalry 10.30am: 4th(Sept). Kells 10.30am: 2nd 3rd 4th. *Special Services/Events:* 30 Aug, 10.30am, United Service with Glenkens Church Choir in Carsphairn Church. 13 Sept, 10.30am, United Family Service, Kells Church, followed by barbecue and children's games at Kells House. 27 Sept, 10.30am, Harvest Thanksgiving, Kells Church, followed by Harvest Lunch

in NG Town Hall. 27 Sept, 12noon, Harvest Thanksgiving, Dalry Church, followed by Harvest Lunch in Dalry Town Hall. *Communion Service:* 23 Aug, 10.30am, Kells 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

Glenkens Schools Art Competition

The Glenkens Schools Art Competition was another great success this year.

The committee would like to showcase the winners - it was once again very hard to judge due to the high standard of entries received. However, after long deliberation, the overall winner and recipient of the Hazelwood Memorial Prize was Rhys in P3 in Dalry.

In the Primary 1-3 section: 1st was Naomi, P3, Carsphairn; 2nd was James, P1, Carsphairn and 3rd was Courtney, P3, Carsphairn.



section: 1st was Seraphina, P4, Dalry; 2nd was Florrie, P7, Kells and 3rd was Grace, P6, Carsphairn. In the Secondary School section: 1st was Rory, S1; 2nd was Skye, S1 and 3rd was Fraser, S1. Special 3D winner was Amy, P4, Kells. Our thanks go to all the children for their excellent work and to their teachers for facilitating the competition.



All work will be on display at the Glenkens Annual Exhibition from 28 to 31 August at Dalry Town Hall.

Tom Leach



Left to right are artworks by Rory (1st in Senior section), Naomi (1st in P1-3 section) and Rhys (overall winner).

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OCT/NOV COPY DEADLINE: 5 SEPTEMBER



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