

GLENKENS GAZETTE

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

December 2018/January 2019

ISSUE 109

FREE

Best Café Award is Served Up to Carsphairn Tearooms

From shortlisted finalist in 2016 to winner this year...

Carsphairn shop and tearoom has come out on top in the Best Café category of the 2018 *Dumfries & Galloway Life Awards* – a fantastic achievement just three years after having to close temporarily when floods devastated their premises.

"We're absolutely over the moon to receive this award which is fantastic recognition for all the hard work that has gone into rebuilding the business after we were forced to close for refurbishment and remodelling work," beamed proprietor Lindsay Duncan.

"We've had fantastic support from locals and visitors alike and when the news came out about our win, my phone never

stopped buzzing with messages of congratulation."

Lindsay and her partner Paul Smith have transformed the shop and tearoom into a community hub that had been lacking in Carsphairn after the village pub closed many years ago. Especially successful have been the monthly themed bistro evenings in which their 11-year-old daughter Courtney plays a big part, waiting on tables.

The Carsphairn business beat three other finalists to the title. "It was an extremely tough competition and we are so grateful to everyone who has supported



Paul, Courtney and Lindsay are thrilled to receive recognition from *Dumfries & Galloway Life*.

us since we came to the village over four years ago," said Lindsay whose enterprise last year also won the Community Tearoom of the Year award from the Scottish Food Awards and Academy.

Glenkens Pot Luck Supper Success

Mary Smith reports on the first Ladies' Pot Luck Supper at New Galloway Town Hall.

Arriving on your own is sometimes a bit nerve-wracking, but it felt relaxed and welcoming as soon as I went in. There was an amazing spread of food and the conversation buzzed with good humour. I met people I knew well, many I knew a little or recognised, and some completely new faces.

I know that a lot of work went into planning, spreading the word, setting up and clearing up, not to mention everyone who had prepared food and come along on the night. It was great to see a lot of familiar faces from New Galloway and the Glenkens but also people from further away, which shows that through events such as this we are attracting and welcoming people to the area as well as just

entertaining ourselves!

Community engagement worker Sam Rushton, who organised the event, said: "I was really pleased with the success of the Ladies' Pot Luck Supper. 48 people attended, and the feedback was excellent. Thanks to everyone who gave their time to help out and to come along. During the evening we gathered ideas for more events and activities which I will be working with people to take forward".

You can keep in touch through Facebook @CommunityEngagementActivitiesNewGallowayandKells, or

get your name put on the mailing list for upcoming events and activities: samCEW@newgallowaycommunity.shop



Ladies of the Glenkens and further afield enjoying the Pot Luck Supper organised by New Galloway's community development worker Sam Rushton.

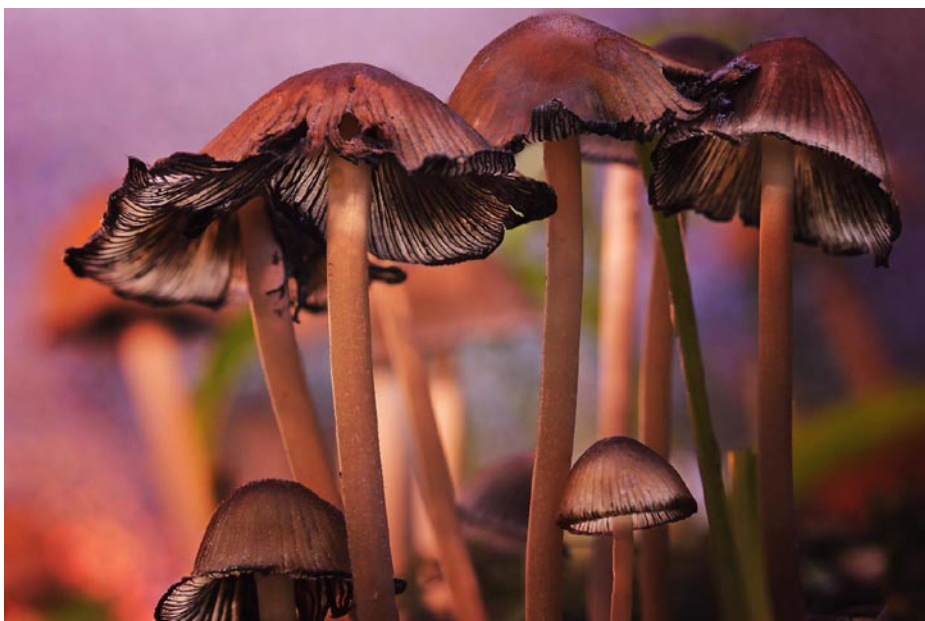
DUNCAN SHORTLISTED FOR AWARD

Duncan McNaught, from Dalry, has been shortlisted in the British Photography Awards in the Macro category.

The entry which made the shortlist is titled *Inkcaps*. Duncan says: "Inkcaps must be my favourite fungi to photograph. They don't last long, so its always a treat to find some nice specimens before they wither and die. This particular group were in a rather dark part of the forest at Glenlee, so I decided to use my hand-help LED torch with some coloured plastic on the lens to create some nice light. I also placed a piece of reflective card behind the fungi to brighten up the shot."

"This image is the result of several shots stacked together in Adobe Photoshop to create more depth of field. I also used my remote cable release between each shot to prevent any movement."

Duncan seems to be consistently topping the bill with his amazing macro shots of nature's wonders. He says: "My first recognition was in 2017, when I was commended in the Sony World Photography competition with my image



Above: *Inkcaps* by Duncan McNaught, the photograph which made the shortlist in this year's British Photography Awards. Below: Duncan McNaught.

titled *Tiny Jewels*. Then, also in 2017, I came first in The Royal Society of Biology competition with my photograph titled *Welcome to my Humble Abode*. At the beginning of 2018 I came second in the Botanical section of The Scottish Nature Photography Awards with my image titled *Nature's Umbrella*. Then this November I won the *Dumfries & Galloway Life* award for Visual Artist/Maker 2018."

We'll look forward to hearing about Duncan's next achievement as it seems certain there will be more to come...



Ian's Great Scottish Run

On a bright dry Sunday morning at the end of September I completed the 13.1 mile Great Scottish Run through Glasgow in 1hr 37mins in 1100th position out of 15000, with help from some local support.

I have spent the last month collecting an overwhelming amount of money that has been donated from over 200 individual sponsors, locally and online, to achieve a grand total of £4,097 for the Beatson Cancer Charity. A

big thank you to everyone who donated their hard-earned cash, and especially to New Galloway Post Office, New Galloway Community Shop, Wright's shop in Dalry, Balmaclellan Village Stores, CatStrand and Carsphairn Tearooms, who kindly held sponsor forms and collected money for me, and to New Galloway fire station who held their own collection. Myself and my girls would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their offers

of support, wishes, blessings and prayers over the past eight months, with a special thank you to those who have brought us meals and cakes - it has been greatly appreciated. As for Fiona, she has had three rounds of the most intensive chemotherapy available, total body radiation therapy and a bone marrow transplant, returning home to the Glenkens at the end of August. She has to visit DGRI weekly to be monitored, with a long road ahead - only time will tell if the treatment has been effective.

Ian Oliver

Why Should I Vote?

A new Councillor for the **Dee and Glenkens ward** of Dumfries and Galloway Council will be decided at the **by-election on 13 December** and by the time this *Glenkens Gazette* is published we will all have received our voting cards.

Local elections tend to have a low voter turnout. This is surprising because the dictionary definition of voting is the expression of opinion or preference and surely everyone here in the Glenkens has an opinion on local government? The areas that Dumfries &

Galloway Council govern include Housing, Planning and Building, Schools, Waste and Recycling, Administration of Benefits, Community Safety, Business Support and Advice, Trading Standards, Leisure including Sports and Visitor Attractions, Libraries, Local Care Services, Support for Children and Families, Public Transport, Road Works, Street Lighting – all of these are vital for us and our community.

Please, Glenkens voters, exercise your right to vote! How can we expect our children to take

...the dictionary definition of voting is the expression of opinion or preference and surely everyone here in the Glenkens has an opinion on local government?

responsibility for their actions if we do not take responsibility for the way in which we are governed?

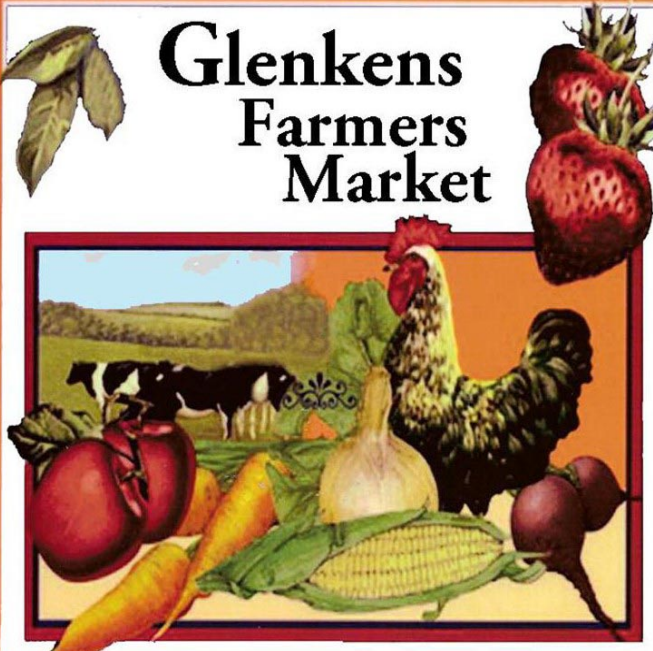
Our ancestors fought for the right to vote. Universal suffrage in the UK, allowing all adults over 21 to vote, did not happen until 1928, only 90 years ago. There has been much written about women achieving the vote but it should also be noted that prior to the 1918 Act, when women over 30 gained the vote, men could only vote if they owned property.

Our system of voting is that those elected are accountable to the people they govern, be that local or national. Five candidates have been nominated for this by-election and the local press has carried information about each one. [Two of the candidates have

chosen to include information in this issue of the Gazette, which can be found on p11]. This can also be found online and many of them have published leaflets. Please study what the

candidates say and vote for who you think will do the best job for your community.

Nicolette Wise



Glenkens Farmers Market

2nd Saturday Monthly
8th December
12th January
10am-12.30pm

For further information or to book a stall
 ring 01644 430 454 or visit
www.dalrytownhall.co.uk

Entrance by donation - proceeds towards Dalry Town Hall Refurbishment Fund
 North of Castle Douglas, A713 Ayr Road

Hair by Jayne

Jayne would like to thank everyone for making the salon such a great success!



Our Macmillan Cafe was again a great success - we raised £736. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the event.

- we now stock Wild Olive soaps,
 shower smoothies & bath melts -

Jayne, Emma and Blair wish all their customers a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

01644 430 525
07876 397 725

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 glenkensgazette@hotmail.co.uk

OFFERED

Neoprene Muckboots, size 5, green, unisex style, fairly wide fit, very good condition, fully waterproof. Contact: Sue on 07563 718 011

Set of four wall lights with glass shades. Good condition. Contact: 01644 450 265

WANTED

Old skateboard, for moving hay/ straw bales. Contact: 07563 718 011

*Thank you to everyone who has been saving **used postage stamps** which I pass on to the Bransby Horses charity, which raises funds from the sale of them. With Christmas coming, I hope you'll all be kind enough to continue dropping them in*

my letterbox at 3 Midtown, Dalry – or ring me and I'll collect them: 07563 718 011. Thanks again, Sue.

House to let wanted, New Galloway area, local family, entry any time between now and autumn 2019, long-term let. Contact: Mary 07967 959 511

Fire bricks from old storage heaters. Contact: Simon on 07426 124 982



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GLENKENS BIRD WATCHERS

The Glenkens is a wonderful place to get to know about birds, with diverse habitats ranging from forests to wetlands.

Stewartry Birdwatchers is a branch of the Scottish Ornithologists' Club (SOC). Both members and non-members are very welcome to attend talks held on a monthly basis from September to March in Kells School, New Galloway. A wide variety of bird-related topics are covered by interesting and informative speakers.

On 13 December Ian Bainbridge will give a talk *Shorebirds of the Solway* answering, among other things, the intriguing question "which wader nests in two different countries in the same year?"

2019 kicks off on 17 January with a photographic feast with Mick Durham, a semi-professional wildlife photographer specialising in Scottish subjects. His talk, *The Wildlife of Shetland*, is about the rich and varied flora and fauna found on these islands in the summer months.

On 14 February well-known wildlife artist Keith Brockie will give a talk entitled *The Teuchat Glen: Wildlife on a Highland Perthshire Estate*. This should be of particular interest as it is about a conservation-minded grouse shooting estate featuring deer, mountain and brown hares, raptors, red and black grouse and many other bird species, with the main star of the talk being the lapwing and the problems it faces.

Kat Keogan will give a talk on 14 March about seabird breeding habits. These birds are globally threatened, with one of the key reasons for this being our changing climate.

The season ends on 28 March with David Lingard's talk *Birdwatching in Italy* and the Work of LIPU. David will explain the work of Italy's equivalent of our RSPB.

Weather permitting, Stewartry Birdwatchers arrange birdwatching excursions and are especially keen to help beginners with bird identification. So, young or old, if you would like to find out a little more about the birds who share our habitat, why not come along, or get in touch to find out more (call secretary Joan Howie on 420 280).

Joan Howie, Secretary, Stewartry Birdwatchers

Eco Feature

sponsored by



REDUCE POLLUTION AND INCREASE YOUR STOVE'S FUEL ECONOMY TOO

David Tallontire, a chimney sweep based in Dalbeattie who covers the Glenkens, is backing a national campaign to help reduce pollution and keep flues safe.

He has signed up to the BurnRight campaign, which was formulated by chimney sweeps and professionals in the solid fuel industry in an effort to educate people on how to use their woodburners and multi-fuel stoves correctly.

If not properly operated, appliances can not only pollute the atmosphere, but also pose a risk to life and property.

David said: "The BurnRight campaign has come at a critical time, as the government is looking closely at emissions from domestic fires.

"The root of the problem is that wood is often not burned at a high enough temperature. If it's not hot enough, unburned fuel vapours travel up and out of the chimney causing unnecessary pollution.

"There is a real lack of awareness with some of these issues and most people who use a stove don't even

know there is a problem, let alone think that they might be a part of it.

"The design of the stove and the moisture content of the wood are two factors that affect the burning temperature but the most important thing is the way the user controls the air supply to the stove. Basically, if the air supply is closed off too much, the wood can't burn hot enough. Closing the air off too much does not save fuel, it wastes fuel!"

BurnRight seeks to help people who use stoves to get it right and make a difference to the air quality where they live. Not only is this good news for the environment, but users will save money, their chimney will be cleaner - and therefore safer - and the chimney and the stove will last longer too.

The campaign is being spearheaded by professional chimney sweeps across the country. David said: "We have a unique perspective of the stove, the fuel, the chimney and the customer's burning habits and can advise accordingly."

For a full guide you can visit the BurnRight website, which includes video demonstrations which explain best burning practice - www.burnright.co.uk

To find out more you can also get in touch with David Tallontire on 01556 612944 or 07709144299.



Chimney sweep David Tallontire.

THE GARDEN SPOT

Last month I planted my garlic bulbs for next year, but soon realised that I had forgotten to add garden lime.

So, I had to go back and rectify my mistake. Sometimes it seems that gardening is all about making mistakes and learning from them.

Last February, I found a pack of daffodil bulbs and one of tulips that I had forgotten to plant. The daffys were reasonably firm so I found a spot in the border that was vacant and planted them (more in hope than in expectation). The tulips looked OK too so I planted

them up in a pot and left them outside. You know, they all came up and flowered! A little late, and a little on the short side, but a 'wee bonus' - pun intended...

Now, do you know about the New Zealand Flatworm? There was an article in the *Gazette* last year about these horrors. Here is a photo of one from my own garden. Flatworms = no earthworms (at least, not many). So, top-dressing the soil with manure or compost is a waste of time as there are no worms to pull it down, it all has to be dug in.

We don't want these things spreading, so if you have them in

your garden (you will know by the lack of earthworms), then don't pass on plants to other people unless they too are already infested. If you don't have them in your garden (lucky you), be very careful where you get your plants and only take them from a trusted source.

Now to get the catalogues out to order seeds for next season!

The Intrepid Gardener



New Zealand flatworm.

Glenkens Transport Initiative

www.glenkenstransport.org

email gti@catstrand.com phone 01644 420374 mobile 07841 512449



DECEMBER 2018 - JANUARY 2019

REGULAR SERVICES

Wednesday Evenings

Glenkens - Castle Douglas (Tesco)

(Registered Route)

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

Booking not required

Thursdays

Glenkens - Castle Douglas Day Centre

Passengers not attending the day centre may also use this service.

Outbound pickups:

Dalry (Underhill) 1015; New Galloway (CatStrand) 1030

Pickups can also be arranged from Balmaclellan, Parton and Crossmichael bus stops or from passengers' homes.

Return service leaves Castle Douglas Community Centre 1430.

Return Fare £3.00 Booking required.

Fridays

Glenkens to Newton Stewart

Outward Pickups: Dalry (Underhill) 0930;

New Galloway (Town Hall) 0940, (CatStrand) 0942

Return Pickup Newton Stewart (Aldi Car Park) 1130

Return Fare £3.00 Booking required.

MONTHLY

Glenkens - Ayr - Saturdays

Usually the last Saturday of each month

see www.glenkenstransport.org for dates

Pickups

New Galloway (CatStrand) 0930,

Dalry (Underhill) 0940, Carsphairn (1000)

Leaves Ayr 1500

Fare (each way) £3.50/ Concessions £3.00

Booking required.

MINIBUS HIRE

8, 15 and 16 seat minibuses for hire
information and bookings

www.glenkenstransport.org/hire

email gti@catstrand.com

or call 01644 420374

EXCURSIONS

2018

December 1, Saturday

Gretna Gateway & Carlisle - Christmas Shopping

Pickups: Dalry (Underhill) 0930; New Galloway (CatStrand) 0940; Crossmichael (Shop) 0950, Castle Douglas (British Legion, Market Hill) 1000. Fare £7. Concessions £6.

December 15, Saturday

Hetland Garden Centre and Moffat

Christmas Lights and Shopping

Pickups: Dalry (Underhill) 0930; New Galloway (CatStrand) 0940; Crossmichael (Shop) 0950, Castle Douglas (British Legion, Market Hill) 1000. Fare £7. Concessions £6.

2019

January 12, Saturday

Gretna Gateway Sales

Pickups: Dalry (Underhill) 0930; New Galloway (CatStrand) 0940; Crossmichael (Shop) 0950, Castle Douglas (British Legion, Market Hill) 1000. Fare £7. Concessions £6.

Seats must be booked in advance online at www.catstrand.com or by phone 01644 420374

PATIENT TRANSPORT

GTI has just started operating a car-based patient transport scheme to get people to and from hospital if they don't have their own transport or are unable to drive.

Initially, the service will be in response to referrals from the Scottish Ambulance Service but the aim is to extend it to anyone with a genuine need and to include journeys to out-of-region hospitals.

...I'd like to gather as much information as possible about the extent of the need for this service in the Glenkens so if you have observations or suggestions or if you are in need of patient transport please email them to gti@catstrand.com or phone Glen on 07841 512449.



DRIVERS WANTED

GTI requires volunteer and paid drivers.

MiDAS training provided.

Interested? – Please phone or email.



GALLOWAY GLENS

Landscape Partnership

From the Desk of the Galloway Glens Scheme

This regular column will give a snapshot, aside from the headline project stories, of what we are learning about our heritage and the day-to-day life of working on a scheme like this.

This issue is from Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership (GGLP) project officer, Nick Chisholm:

In early 2018 I was looking for a new challenge, having spent the last three and a half years in environmental consultancy, when I saw the advert for the Galloway Glens Scheme Project Officer. I was lucky enough to be offered the post and joined the team in May.

The first challenge has been trying to get to know both the range of projects and the range of people involved in them. It has been really heartening to see the enthusiasm that was built up over the development stage, with everyone raring to go. We really hit the ground running with two organisations in particular, the Glenkens Red Squirrel group and the Kirkcudbright Development Trust. Both of these groups were clearly champing at the bit and as soon as the green light for project start was given, they were up and running.

Both projects show the importance of having enthusiastic volunteers that are passionate about what they do. A key aim of the GGLP Scheme is to try and get as many organisations to work together as possible to maximise the outcomes for the area. These two initial projects could not have epitomised this any better, with strong links being created that will help to improve red squirrel conservation in the south of the region and also offer great opportunities to educate the public on what more can be done.

Due to the work of the Kirkcudbright Development Trust, the Barhill Woods project is pretty much completed. The new hide is up and running and it is heartening to see the increase in usage, particularly parents with very young children who can now walk with pushchairs from the town and into the woods. The hide has been a great success, with pictures taken from it appearing across social media. There has recently been a visit from a semi-professional German wildlife photographer because of this coverage. If you have a spare hour or so and would like to see red squirrels and other local wildlife at close range, a trip to the hide at DG7 1TB is well recommended.

Now a number of months have passed and more projects have started across several themes, with many more due to start shortly. A number of staff-

members have also been appointed by our partners. Within the theme of Understanding the Galloway Glens, Gilbert Márkus is now in post as the researcher for the Place Names project; within the theme Visiting the Galloway Glens, Laura Davidson has started with the Biosphere Experience project; and finally in the Natural Landscapes theme, Ed Tooth has recently been employed as the Black Grouse officer.

Meanwhile in the GGLP Castle Douglas office, the project team is now at full strength with the appointment of Jonathan Barrett as the land management and access officer and Helen Keron as the education and community engagement officer joining myself, McNabb and Jude.

There is still a huge amount to do but I think we have made a great start!

Please sign up for our newsletter and follow us on Facebook and Twitter. If you think there is an opportunity to shout about our heritage, please let us know.

Please sign up for our newsletter and follow us on facebook and twitter. If you think there is an opportunity to shout about our heritage, please let us know.
www.gallowayglens.org



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GALLERY AT LAURIESTON WINTER SHOW

The Gallery at Laurieston is once again proud to host some of the region's best artists and makers.

This year's impressive Winter Show 2018 cast list includes: Hazel Campbell, Clare Dawdry, Lisa Rothwell-Young, Gary Craig, Peter Wareing, Pamela Grace and Phil McMenemy.

The gallery is open most days

during the build-up to Christmas for you to call in to keep supporting our local creatives in this wonderful local gallery.

Phil is available to be contacted on 01644 450 235 and welcomes your visit to browse the quality Scottish art on display.

Further information on the exhibition can be found on the ad on the back page of this issue of the Gazette.



River Dee: Winter by Hazel Campbell, one of the artworks which will be on display at the winter show.

Galloway Glens Biosphere Experience

A new project has recently started called the Galloway Glens Biosphere Experience.

The aim of the project is of boosting tourism in the area by developing a series of bookable packages for visitors and locals.

Run by Laura Davidson of the Southern Uplands Partnership, the project wants to connect people to the natural, cultural and artistic heritage of the area.

The project is looking to support and assist local businesses and individuals

who are able to offer authentic experiences tied in with the themes of our natural resources, landscape and people. This might include a food-and-drink theme, seeing how local producers work and then following up with a cookery class utilising the product. Alternatively, a weekend of arts-and-crafts, spending time with a variety of artists and enjoying taster sessions of what they do.

There will also be a focus on nature, wildlife and landscape including the history and stories that shaped the area.

Working closely with the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO

Biosphere and the Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership team, Laura is currently welcoming input from existing businesses or those with an idea that they would like to progress. It is hoped to hold some open meetings in the Glenkens area over the next few months to allow everyone to share their ideas for the project.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the project can email Laura directly on laura@sup.org.uk or follow the Facebook page @experiencegalloway

Local surgeries with
Alister Jack MP
Dumfries and Galloway



FRIDAY 25TH JANUARY 2019

1:15pm - Kirkcudbright Library

2:30pm - Dalbeattie Town Hall

4pm - Constituency Office, Dumfries

FRIDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2019

2pm - Castle Douglas Town Hall

4pm - Constituency Office, Dumfries

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH 2019

1:15pm - Kirkcudbright Library

2:30pm - Dalbeattie Town Hall

4pm - Constituency Office, Dumfries

To book an appointment please get in touch by calling 01387 216109 or emailing Alister.Jack.MP@parliament.uk



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Kirkcudbright and Dumfries*

CatStrand Highlights

CatStrand's festive season kicks-off in traditional style with the annual Youth Players pantomime.

On stage at 7.30pm on Friday 7, Saturday 8 and 2pm on Sunday 9 December will be the traditional story of Cinderella...but with a few twists. Don't miss one of the most popular events of the year!

Friday 14 December sees the last Dark Sky Jazz Club of 2018, featuring the Alyn Cosker Trio. They present exciting, fresh electric jazz and their recent album KPF has created quite a buzz on the jazz scene.

The *Christmas Ukulele Party* will be on Tuesday 18 December at 7pm (please note change from date published in the CatStrand brochure) - free admission even includes a glass of mulled wine.

CatStrand Open Stage was re-launched in October and Wednesday 19 December sees the Christmas Open Stage hosted by local singer-

songwriter and poet Alan McClure. This popular evening is open to everyone, whether you want to perform or just be in the audience. Admission is free and no pre-booking is required.

Our final event of the year is the Christmas choir concert on Saturday 22 December at 4pm, for which The Cairn Chorus will return to CatStrand as part of their *Star of Wonder* tour.

All the usual regular events will continue until CatStrand closes on Sunday 23 December for the festive break, re-opening on Thursday 3 January.

The Midwinter Film Festival runs from Thursday 10 until Sunday 13 and featuring five films shown in various locations - CatStrand, Dalry Town Hall and Lagwyne Hall, Carsphairn. A season ticket for this is only £20.

Friday 18 sees the return of local theatre company Fox & Hounds with their production of *I'm Missing You*, a much acclaimed show from this talented company.

January will be brought to a close with another much-anticipated



The CatStrand Ukes in performance.

annual event, the CatStrand Burns Supper. For the first time it will actually be on the bard's birthday, 25 January. All the usual ingredients of speeches, poems, songs, music and of course the haggis supper will be in order. Tickets are much sought after so be sure to book early!

All at CatStrand wish everyone a merry Christmas and a very happy New Year - thanks to everyone for your tremendous support throughout 2018 and we look forward to welcoming you over the festive season and into 2019.



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FLASH FICTION COMPETITION

Are you a writer? Do you enjoy flash fiction? Well get writing!

This issue's subject is 'Rebel' to tie in with Scottish Book Week. Rules: It must be your own work. It must be no more than 450 words. It must be Fiction. Minimum age of entry 12 years with no maximum age limit. It must include a separate 50 words about yourself and what inspired your story. The winning entry will be published in the next issue

of the *Glenkens Gazette*, including an online presence on the *Gazette* website, Facebook and Twitter.

Entries will be judged by local author Ian Patrick, and the winner will receive a **£10 Amazon voucher** to spend on a book of their choice.

Email entries to glenkens_gazette@hotmail.co.uk by 5 January 2019.



The winner of the October/November Flash Fiction Competition is Jean Gibbon with *Bruno* (printed below). Competition judge Ian says: "Congratulations Jean. A seasonal reminder of how we must care more for all sentient beings without shelter."

About the Author - Jean lived in Glenkens for around 25 years, moving here from Lockerbie. She is married to a hill farmer, loves dogs and has always been moved by canine loyalty: "Whether they are given an oil drum or piece of carpet or the best sofa for a bed, they are always there for you," she says.

BRUNO

That was no ordinary dog howl.

A dog in pain, agony. Cara lifted her head and looked out of the small panel window of her tiny bedroom above the shop. It was almost time to open up, Christmas Eve shoppers would be calling in early for their vegetable orders, and the wholesale van would be drawing up any moment. She pulled on a fleece and ventured out to the windswept street. The howl came again, and she followed the noise up the little lane adjacent to the shop.

"Oh Harry!" Cara stifled a scream. The howling stopped. She quickly extracted her mobile and called an ambulance although she knew Harry had left this world. "Oh Harry, you said you

were going up to the shelter last night," she cried. But she knew the problem. The problem was sitting beside Harry, a shaggy tail flapping dejectedly on the ground and big sad brown eyes boring right into her soul. "I know, I know Bruno. You were not allowed in there."

The blue lights screamed to a halt and in minutes Harry was gone, his cardboard box bed shuffled aside and the lane once again dark.

The dog had slunk behind a parked car and the howling started again. "Oh Bruno, what are we going to do with you?" Cara could still see the grief and confusion on his face.

She remembered Harry telling her how Bruno had "chosen" him when, under the arches one Christmas, he was having one of his low spells. "He must have thought a master is for life, not just for Christmas. But now it was

Christmas again and there was no master.

Later that day Cara stroked his fur, and tried to coax the animal to eat. Plates of chicken, a bone from the butchers, but nothing would lift his spirits. Customers enquired, other shopkeepers called in. Cara asked each visitor: do you know anyone who would give Harry's old dog a home? But a tramp's flea bitten mongrel was not going to make any child happy on Christmas morning.

"Days later you'll still be here, a modern day Greyfriars Bobby. If I had a butchers shop you'd be happy, but a greengrocers..?"

"Oh Bruno, what are we going to do? It's Christmas, and yes, a dog is for life, and you fulfilled your loving duty....I have no option, do I?" She looked directly into Bruno's eyes, and they both knew the answer.

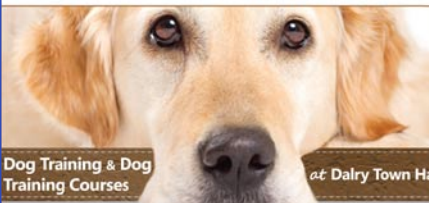
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BY-ELECTION IN THE GLENKENS

Following the resignation of one of the councillors representing the Dee and Glenkens Ward on Dumfries & Galloway Council, a by-election will be held on Thursday 13 December. Two candidates chose to submit a brief statement about their policies and themselves to the *Gazette*, which are published below.

GLEN MURRAY: SNP

Glen says: Born and bred in the Stewartry, I was educated at Kirkcudbright Academy.

For a number of years I lived in Dalry, where my children went to the primary school there. I was secretary of Dalry Community Council and convenor of the group that got the playpark installed in the village. I was also very active in the successful campaign to prevent the closure of Carsphairn and Kells primary schools.

I've lived in Kirkcudbright for the last 18 years but still work in the Glenkens as manager of GTI. This initiative provides essential community transport services across the area which are of particular value to our older and more isolated or vulnerable citizens.

Through GTI I've contributed to the region's community

transport public social partnership's achievements in developing local transport services, including establishing a patient transport scheme and developing better transport arrangements for our young people.

I understand very well the pressures faced by people living and working in our rural communities and the damage done by continued austerity and the increasing cost of living being caused by the impending exit from the EU.

I combine skills and personal qualities learned over a varied career with a wealth of unmatched experience on issues



Glen Murray, SNP candidate.

affecting our rural towns and villages in Dee and Glenkens and, as your councillor, I will be a strong and highly respected voice for all the communities in our beautiful area.

LAURA MOODIE: GREEN

Laura says: If you elect me as your councillor, I will...

- Fight for investment in reliable, affordable and integrated public transport
- Continue to campaign against cuts to education, particularly additional support for learning.
- Protect funding for carers support.
- Argue for a new recycling policy that reduces financial and physical waste and tackles the scourge of plastic pollution.
- Encourage the community economy to flourish through investment in small businesses, promoting the region to visitors and attracting more young families like my own.
- Support the Galloway Without Pylons campaign and argue

for a better and more resilient solution to upgrading our energy infrastructure.

I am the only candidate returning to the ballot for this election. As a community councillor, activist, charity worker and campaigner, I believe in putting power back in the hands of our communities.

I will work hard for everyone in Dee & Glenkens to create a stronger community, a sustainable local economy and a better environment for our children to grow up in.

If elected as Dumfries & Galloway's first Green Councillor, I will fight for the interests of the community of Dee & Glenkens and be a strong independent voice in the Council chamber.



Laura Moodie, Green Party candidate.

Use your vote to elect someone you know will stand up for people, and the planet, and who has a track record of working hard with and for her local community. Vote for positive change.

The other candidates running in the by-election are Pauline Drysdale (Conservative), Jennifer Blue (UKIP) and Colin Wyper (Independent).

THE MEN'S SHED

Every little helps as the saying goes, and that's certainly true up at the Glenkens Men's Shed based in Balmaclellan.

Located behind the Old Smiddy (now well into its redevelopment phase to create a new community space) the Shed continues to thrive.

Our new tea room looks brilliant - many thanks to all those 'shedders' who helped pull this together. The tea room's official title is the Ian McDonald Room and was named after one of our members who sadly passed away earlier this year. Ian was an inspiration to us all and the catalyst behind the new room and accessible facilities. Next up is the Rob McLaughlin memorial workroom and bench. Rob was one of our founder members who also passed away suddenly in the summer - our thoughts remain with Ann who continues to support the Shed.

The Tesco Bags of Help funding has been vital in the ongoing development of the Shed and its facilities; we are most grateful to

all in the community who voted for us. Next up is the Co-op Local Community Fund which came on-stream in October - please help the shed by picking us as your local good cause when shopping at the Co-op. Other fund raising activities in the New Year will include a Race Night and Fancy Dress Disco - we hope to see you there!

Although we are known as the Glenkens Men's Shed, we have a number of lady members and promote inclusiveness.

We have been working with other organisations such as Capability Scotland and the Visibility charity to encourage attendance from all areas of our community.

Membership fees for 2019 have been set at £15 for the year and subscriptions at £2 per week for as many sessions as you like. So if you want to see what goes on, join the gang, pursue a hobby with a bit of company, lend a hand or learn a new skill, then please join us - we'd especially like to hear



Electronics Workshop hosted by Hamilton Men's Shed - at the rear are Dave and Frank from Hamilton Men's Shed, and seated, left to right, are Ian Biggar, Kevin Richardson and Andi Holmes.

from young people.

Glenkens Men's Shed is supported by Connecting in Communities, a LEADER and Big Lottery funded project. To get in touch call in at the Shed or contact Brian/Chris on 420 374 or Tom on 420 895.

Normal Shed opening times are:

Mon 9.30am-4pm & 6.30-8.30pm; Wed 9.30am-1pm & Woodcarving from 2-4pm; Fri 9.30am-12.30pm.

*Chris Jowsey,
Glenkens Men's Shed Treasurer*

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**If you would like an appointment,
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Write to:
107 King Street, Castle Douglas, DG7 1LZ

Email: Finlay.Carson.MSP@parliament.scot

Phone: 01556 504991

Facebook: FinlayCarsonMSP
Twitter: fincarson

RENTING IN THE GLENKENS

Are you a landlord, looking for a tenancy or considering renting out a property in the Glenkens?

Private rented accommodation is vital to the area which is why our local housing trust (the Pamela Young Trust) is so important. By providing secure, affordable long-term rents to people with local connections they are giving young people the opportunity to set up home here, the elderly to retire locally and encouraging families to stay in the area, helping to keep the schools, communities and businesses flourishing.

However, the Pamela Young Trust is mainly centred in Dalry and has a limited number of properties suitable for larger families. This leaves a significant gap in the

Glenkens housing market for private landlords, yet rented properties in the Glenkens can be hard to come by. Often the only way to find out about what's available is by word of mouth, or being in the right place at the right time.

Local community engagement worker Sam Rushton has been approached by a number of people looking for help finding housing and has agreed to look at ways we can make the local private rented market more

This leaves a significant gap in the Glenkens housing market for private landlords, yet rented properties in the Glenkens can be hard to come by...

accessible for both prospective tenants and landlords across the Glenkens.

The place to start seems to be with a database of local landlords and rental properties that is free and easy to access, helping to

match properties with tenants. From there, we may be able to look at ways to support landlords and tenants who rent long-term and incentivise property owners to choose to let on a longer-term basis.

If you think this is a worthwhile idea and would like to get involved, or have your property listed on the local database, please contact Sam on 07741 656 601 or samCEW@newgallowaycommunity.shop

Sam is also encouraging local landlords to get involved in the Glenkens Business Network (GBN) for support, information and opportunities

locally. There is a closed Facebook group @GlenkensBusinessNetwork, or get in touch to be placed on the GBN email list.

Mary Smith



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MOODIE, Laura



1



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On Thursday 13th December **Vote GREEN** **1**

Promoted by Sandy Rogerson, 3 Nith Avenue, Dumfries, DG1 1EF on behalf of Laura Moodie, Plunton House, Borgue, DG6 4SP

Kells School's Latest Adventures

Thursday the first of November the inhabitants of Kells Primary set out ready for adventure!

We met on the rubber playground, ready to start the fun. First we discussed our five senses, spilt into groups and off we went cameras and clipboards at the ready. One group found an interesting cobweb that had dew on it - spectacular. When we had found lots of interesting objects, we laid out lots of hoola hoops. We made different sections, depending on the different senses and in the bobbly section there was a mysterious bobbly hat; I wonder if a hippy had anything to do with that?

Next we headed up to the gazebo, for the Grand Opening. (Little recap: the gazebo is a large wooden building situated at the top of our playground. For many years the gazebo has just been a storage space. Recently we tidied it out and finally got rid of all the junk. Yippee! Recap finished.) We sang a 'Happy Gazebo to You' song, cut the ribbons and finally entered.

Next we choose what activities we would like to do. We built a GYM (gymnasium), out of wood. We did some construction, some creative art and some exercise. We also did some wood piling and some vegetable cutting ready to make our famous camp fire soup on bonfire night. Afterwards we

made boats out of leaves and twigs and floated them down the stream. This was really fun and almost made us late for lunch!

After lunch (eaten in the gazebo) a few people snuck inside (even though we spent all day outside) to make a birthday banner for a very special Teacher - he thought he had kept it a secret. We put his favourite things on it and then the children signed it all top secret. Then we hid it in the cupboard, very secret... At the end of the day we made a massive photo frame out of planks of wood and made an abstract collage for our art piece: Bearded Man. After this we were really excited so we had a two-minute leaf fight that was awesome; all the boys ganged up on the girls. You may be able to guess who won... (boys).

Finally Mister Thompson drove his van up to the top of the hill, and we put on some rather loud, rather crazy, music that had a lot of bass and we all had a mad, energy-burning outdoor dance!

At six o'clock on Monday the fifth of November the party began. The children of Kells Primary School



Kells Primary School pupils with, somewhere, teacher Mr Thompson.

gathered around the bonfire which was glistening like the moon on a dark night. During the night there were some amazingly fun activities on offer including sparklers, cooking sausages and soup, playing with glow sticks, hide-and-seek, and having a whole lot of fun in the darkness. We also raised a great £81.63 which we plan to use towards our fundraising for a bell tent.

We would like to thank all the parents and carers, family members, teachers and friends for providing us with these opportunities.

Fiona Edgar & Stefan Perkins, p7

Dalry Secondary's Brand New Breakfast Club

Breakfast - the most important meal of the day.

It has been shown that eating a healthy breakfast before starting the school day is linked to improved concentration, better test scores, increased energy, a higher intake of vitamins and minerals, and even a healthier body weight.

Breakfast is especially important for young students whose brains use up about half of the body's energy. With this in mind, Dalry Secondary has established a new Breakfast Club to ensure that we never have any child or young person's education suffering because they are hungry. It is available for all and is a chance not only to grab some breakfast but also to socialise with friends in a relaxed atmosphere prior to the start of the school day.



Pupils chatting and enjoying breakfast in the school cafeteria.

It's proving to be very popular and the elected members of the pupil council are currently looking at how the pupils would like to see it develop to become even more appealing.

EARLY LEARNING IN THE GLENKENS

What a positive start to an exciting new year it's been at Dalry Early Learning & Childcare (ELC), formerly Dalry Nursery, situated in Dalry Primary School.

August and September saw lots of exploring our surroundings and the open-ended learning resources we have created in our new 'curiosity and enquiry-based' nursery environment. The hard work put in to this new setting has paid off - we are seeing the most magically creative and collaborative learning taking place. This type of engagement is something that we firmly believe would not take place with conventional toys and games.

The summer term also saw us enjoying daily outdoor play in the new Primary/ELC outdoor area. Here we can guddle, dig, pour and splash, investigate bugs, wildlife and plants, climb, adventure, balance and create in a variety of outdoor situations. We also love to have the primary school children in to play during breaktimes; the older children usually bring a

different and varied style of play, which is enjoyed by the ELC children, and the 'big ones' are incredibly sensitive and caring to the younger ones.

We have also been utilising the community park behind Throughgate to offer a more diverse and 'wild play' experience. The park's everchanging scenery has stimulated wonderful learning around the seasons, biodiversity and interdependence, something which cannot be taught in an indoor, synthetic, adult-led environment.

We have been learning about Bonfire Night, Diwali and Poppy Day, allowing the children to lead the way in asking questions. These lines of enquiry have led us to look at light and dark, shadows and puppetry...so much fun!

We have also welcomed a lot of visitors - the police came in to tell us about being kind and helping others; some of our parents enjoyed telling us about their experiences with the armed forces during Poppy Day; Morag from Energise involved us in a community art project (watch this space); and Charlie the Fish Van Man visits every Friday for the children to choose and pay for their own healthy snack from his van.

However, I think our favourite



ELC children having fun with our outdoor blackboard.

visitors of all are the parents and family members when they come in for our monthly 'Stay & Play' sessions.

For the rest of the Christmas term we intend to continue to investigate our exciting and diverse resources and enjoy daily outdoor play.

If you would like regular updates on Dalry ELC, please 'like' and follow our open Facebook page - have a look around and please feel free to leave a comment or two.

Jenna Devlin



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1st January: closed

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GLENKENS GUIDES CULINARY VISIT

1st Glenkens Guide Unit enjoyed an outing to Station House Cookery School, Kirkcudbright, instead of holding their usual weekly meeting at the Glenkens Community Centre.

They were joined at the Cookery School by guides from Kirkcudbright, and all the girls were given instruction by Nick, the owner and head chef, on the safe and correct use of kitchen knives, preparation of vegetables, rice and curry spices, and a demonstration of how to make an Indian flatbread.

The girls then went through into the work stations and prepared their own vegetable curry, rice and flatbread. Nick is an excellent teacher, showing great patience and sympathy when working with such young cooks. The cookery school is a really good place to learn new culinary skills, and there are several courses on offer throughout the year.

1st Glenkens Guide Unit will be holding a Quiz Night on Friday 18 January to raise funds for the Unit and to help guide member Sarah McCreath raise funds towards the cost of attending an International Guide Camp next summer. Anyone interested in entering a team in the quiz should contact Hilda McAdam on 430 383. The quizmaster will be Keith Dickie. Your support will be gratefully



Sophie preparing her veg for the curry.

appreciated, whether by entering a team, donation of a raffle prize, or help with providing a supper.

New members to our Guide Unit are always welcome. Please go online to Girlguiding UK 'Join Us', or contact Kathryn Peace for more information on 430 281.

Kath Peace

Spooktacular Halloween

Friends of Dalry School (FoDS) hosted their annual Spooktacular Halloween Party at Dalry Town Hall.

It was a huge success, with around 50 children enjoying the evening's entertainment of dooking for apples, donuts-on-a-string, pumpkin-putting and worms-and-eyeballs-in-the-flour.

Thank you very much to everyone

who came to support this event. It was lovely to see so many younger children and new faces too.

Thanks also go to the wonderful FoDS team, who never fail to host a brilliant event. Keep your eyes peeled for updates on the new FoDS committee - the current role-bearers wish them the best of luck with their future fundraising ventures. We are sure they'll be amazing! For updates and info visit www.facebook.com/friendsofdalryschool



Jenna and Julie hard at work...

DALRY SECONDARY'S POPPY PLEDGE

Dalry Secondary School would like to thank everyone who gave their support to the school over the past eight months regarding the Poppy Pledge.

This has been a major commitment and would not have been achieved without the drive and enthusiasm of history teacher Mrs Warren, who has motivated everyone.

We have had a Tray Bake Sale, 1918

Fancy Dress Day, 'Billet Night', Guess the Sweeties in a Jar, Guess the Bear Name, and a Coffee Morning which featured Lorna's famous cake raffle. The events culminated in a night of drama and song with a performance of *Archie Dobson's War* and a community singalong led by The Lyric Community Singers. The evening was a great success, both educational and fun. Special thanks to Alaena Warren, Sue St Joseph, the Lyric Community singers, and also to the Fox & Hound Theatre Company.

Throughout the campaign local businesses have generously donated raffle prizes or agreed to take donation tins. The monies raised contributed greatly to the overall target; for instance, Wright's shop in Dalry filled four tins, raising £370! Special thanks

also to the Galloway Activity Centre for donating such a wonderful prize - a weekend at one of their eco bothies, which raised £354.

The grand total raised is a whopping £2,295.30, a fantastic sum for a small school and community to achieve. Poppy Scotland has sent its thanks personally to everyone.

Most importantly, the pupils have actively contributed to helping ex-servicemen around Scotland with shelter, PTSD and other issues. They have taken pride in this, and worked together to achieve a common goal. Some pupils have challenged themselves and achieved more than they thought possible, and others have shown real leadership and commitment. A special thanks to our fourth year girls, Florrie Newbery, Caitlin Blackett and Laura Edington.

Many, many local businesses supported our fundraising efforts and we would like to give them a huge 'thank you'. *Lorraine Gillies*



S1 pupils displaying grand total raised.

Blackcraig Community Benefit

After a period of uncertainty Temporis Capital, the new owners of Blackcraig Windfarm, have confirmed that they will honour the community benefit payments of £264,500 per annum for the next 25 years.

This confirmation was given at a meeting held by Emma Harper MSP, Finlay Carson MSP and local councillor Dougie Campbell.

The Glenkens & District Trust, which was set up with the purpose of, among other things, advancing community development by distributing windfarm community benefit monies, has welcomed this statement and is planning to meet Temporis shortly to discuss how the monies could be used to bring the maximum benefit

to our communities. The current membership of the Trust includes the Community Councils of Balmaclean, Balmaghie, Corsock & Kirkpatrick Durham, Crossmichael, Parton, New Galloway & Kells and St Johns Town of Dalry.

The Trust has also announced the appointment of Fiona Smith as their independent chairman with immediate effect. Fiona, who lives in Balmaclean, has worked as the General Counsel at two FTSE 100 companies. She has also been a non-executive director of Coventry Building Society and is currently a

The Trust ... needs to ensure it gets the maximum benefit for the area as a whole.

non-executive director at Manchester Building Society. In deciding to appoint her as chair the trustees believe she is the right person to lead a reinvigoration of The Glenkens & District Trust with the support and assistance of a committed and enthusiastic board.

These significant funds coming into the wider Glenkens over the next 25 years have the potential to make a material difference. The Trust wants this money to be used wisely and has already received initial feedback from its members that it needs to ensure it gets the maximum benefit for the area as a whole. It recognises that by working across the wider area it is better placed to achieve this.

The immediate priorities of the Trust are: to engage with Temporis Capital to understand their requirements, and to finalise the outputs from the recent surveys, report back to and

receive further feedback from our wider Glenkens community. The Trust will then take forward whatever actions are required to make it an effective organisation for

the benefit of the communities it serves.

Public meetings will be held in the first quarter of 2019 to present up to date plans. In the meantime, if you have any questions please contact Fiona Smith at glenkensdistricttrust@outlook.com



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For more information or to download an application form, please go to www.pamelayoungtrust.co.uk, or telephone Peter Matthews of A B & A Matthews on 01671 404100.

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Glenkens Business Network

At the beginning of this year a group of Glenkens-based businesses got together at The Smithy in New Galloway to share tea, coffee, cake and ideas.

It was agreed that the aim of the group would be to help give Glenkens-based businesses of all types the opportunity to network, skill share, access information and advice, learn from each other's experience and create more

opportunities for businesses to flourish here in the Glenkens.

Four meetings have been held so far, with 20 local businesses attending. Topics discussed have included supporting young people in our community with job and work experience opportunities, and becoming General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) compliant and using social media to boost your business. Guest speakers have included D&G Business Gateway and the IT Centre, Castle Douglas, as well as award-winning B&B owner Ronnie Bradford who shared his business journey with us.

It is hoped that the Glenkens Business Network will continue to

grow, develop and become an asset to the community. Our next meeting will be on

Thursday 24 January from

6-7pm at the

CatStrand. All local businesses, large and small, are welcome

- just come along! If you have been before, why not bring a friend along... Find us on Facebook @glenkensbusinessnetwork

Sam Rushton, Community Engagement Worker, New Galloway & Kells



A GLENKENS TOOL LIBRARY

How many of us have tools lying around unused for most of the time that other people could potentially use?

How often have you needed a tool for a short time and have had to spend time and money to hire it, then spent even more time and money driving to and from Dumfries to collect it? Have you ever bought a tool for one job because the difference between buying and hiring was so little, whilst thinking "I bet someone near here has got one but I don't know who to ask!"? All of these apply to us.

We want to start a community-run scheme where tools are offered on a

library-style basis. These could range from smaller tools like jeweller's screwdrivers to mend your glasses, to medium-sized things like drain rods and power tools, to larger items like scaffolding and cement mixers.

As a new scheme, we have got to clarify how to keep track of people that would like to be involved, and how the scheme would run efficiently and safely. For instance, we could set it up as an informal network with a list of names, contact details and a list of what tools or skills people could offer. Tools would be lent out on an informal basis and the arrangements would be purely between the two people. Alternatively, if we get enough interest and can raise funds, we could make it much more formal, getting some insurance to cover breakages, and

maybe some storage for tools that belong to the Tool Network/Library. Tool libraries already exist elsewhere in the world - a very successful one being in Edinburgh - so why not in the Glenkens?

Firstly though, we want to find out the level of interest in taking part in the project - what you could offer and what the project could do for you. If you would be interested in this project, please contact Richard or Denise on 420 286 or rkiernan@iee.org. There are a number of us interested in lending our own tools and have our own wish lists, and the Men's Shed have also kindly said that they can donate some tools too. We look forward to hearing from you!

Richard & Denise Kiernan



Photo of the Issue

Sponsored by the Ken Bridge Hotel

This issue's winner is Susan Currie with *A Wee Glenkens Dug Getting Ready for Christmas.*

Susan wins a meal for two at the Ken Bridge Hotel's Sunday carvery. Competition judges Dave and Sue said: "The photograph of the dog is so well framed and, with Christmas just around the corner, we felt this shot had to take the winning seat this issue."

How to Enter: any photos taken in the Glenkens can be entered - landscapes, wildlife, portraits, action shots... Email them to glenkensgazette@hotmail.co.uk

SPALDING BOWLING CLUB

Spalding Bowling Club held its Annual Prizegiving dinner at The Clachan Inn Dalry.

President Gordon McAdam and his wife Sarah presented the prizes. A great night was had by all and special thanks go to Phil, Laura and staff at The Clachan for a lovely meal.

Pictured are, left to right: (back

row) Kate Bone, Valerie Russell, Ann Hamilton, Robin Bell, John Peacock, John McNally, Paul Nicolson, (front row) Ladies' Champion Elizabeth Peacock, Gents' Champion Gordon McAdam, Sarah McAdam, Janet Braithwaite and Sharon Fishwick. *Valerie Russell*



Rocktober at the CatStrand

This October saw CatStrand once again hosting Connecting in Communities' annual Rocktober music-fest.

There was standing room only as the crowd were blown away with hard rocking sets from *The Outfit* and *Voodoo Sun*. Between sets *DJ CJ* filled the gaps with some 'Old's Cool' tunes and a tricky little rock

quiz, while Jim Ranyard worked his magic on the lights and sound desk. Andrew Frew was the busiest man in the house, doing a roaring trade at the bar, whilst the international audience boogied on down with visitors from as diverse a range as Finland, France, Hungary and Geordieland enjoying the show.

CatStrand normally hosts a more sedate music scene, but for those who appreciate their music loud and proud with a



Voodoo Sun performing at CatStrand's Rocktober 2018.

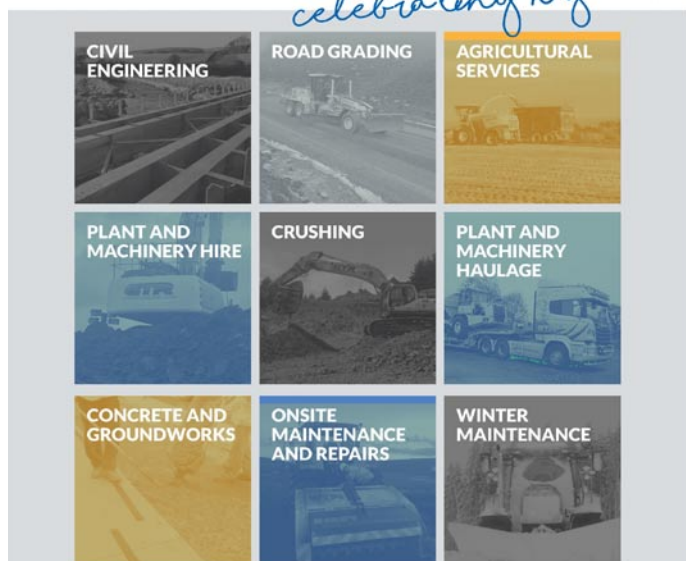
rockier edge, look out for *Sticky Fingers* on Saturday 13 April 2019.

Chris Jowsey



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for the Glenkens

ORAN BAGRAIDH

Knockengoroch's *Oran Bagraidh* album, created at Barscobe House, outside Balmaclellan, launches at Celtic Connections on Saturday 2 February.

The launch event is at the Mitchell Theatre, Glasgow, 7.30pm - book your tickets now before they sell out.

The Oran Bagraidh album was created during the residency that took place in the Glenkens in September this year.

Ten leading traditional poets and musical artists took part in the exciting, multi-lingual week of creation. The artists worked together to create a new arrangement of the Galloway Gaelic Oran Bagraidh song - translating to 'Song of Defiance'.

This song is allegedly the only surviving example of the extinct dialect of Galloway Gaelic, spoken across South West Scotland from the 5th to 18th century, and mentions several place names in the Glenkens parish of present-day.

Musicians and artists/poets included award-winning Scots/ Gaelic singer Josie Duncan, lauded Irish song archaeologist Lorcan Mac Mathuna, former Welsh poet laureate and singer Gwyneth Glyn, celebrated Irish Sean-Nós singer Doimnic Mac Giolla Bhríde, Belfast fiddler Conor Caldwell, ancient instrument virtuoso Barnaby Brown, poet, singer and performance artist MacGillivray, widely published poet Roddy Gorman and medieval Welsh duo Bragod.



Musicians gathered in Barscobe House, Balmaclellan, during the residency.

The album will be the first commissioned, produced and released by Knockengoroch and is available for pre-order now.

The project is funded by Creative Scotland, Arts Council Ireland and PRS Foundation and supported by Barscobe Heritage Trust. For further information visit www.oranbagraidh.com

On Barscobe Hill

These small pieces were written by Roddy Gorman during the Oran Bagraidh residency at Barscobe House (see above article).

They are extracts from a sequence of haiku-like tercets, all relating to the immediate locality and with a placename reference of Gaelic provenance in each piece, many mentioned in the song *Oran Bagraidh*.

Air Cnoc Bhàrr Sguab [On Barscobe Hill]

na fir a' saodadh a' chruidh
san fheasgar air Bealach nan Sluagh
a' dol à sealladh uidh air n-uidh
[the men driving the cattle in the evening over the Slock of the Balloch going out of sight little by little]
is carson a bhios mi gun sgur a' caoidh
mun fheadhainn a bh' ann 's a dh'fhalbh
am Baile MhicIllFhaolain 's Baile MacAoidh?
[and why I am forever lamenting about all those that were there and aren't anymore in Balmaclellan and Balmaghie?]
an crodh Gàidhealach a' briseadh na beàrna
's a' cumail orra
thairis air Carrsa Feàrna
[the Highland cattle making a breach and carrying on past Carsphairn]
gun fhiosta, breacadh-rionnaich
a-mach às an adhar air a' mhòintich

os cionn Ach an t-Sionnaich
[suddenly, a mackerel sky on the moor above Auchenshinnoch]

letheach am falach,
am bad far an rachadh na balaich
ris a' bhreacach aig Sruthan Salach
[half hidden, the flocktuftspot where the boys used to go fishing for trout at Stroanshalloch Burn]

na sgòthan a' bagairt
ach fhathast -
na sitheanan air Bàrr an t-Sagairt
[the clouds threatening but still - the fairy-knollflowers on Bartaggart Hill]

anns an Taigh Mhòr le grèin
i mBarr Scuab ar maidin,
dìreach a' bruidhinn rium fhèin
[in the Big House in the sun in Barscobe on my own in the morning just quarreltalking with myself]

eadar mi 's leus, reith
leis fhèin cho math, mo thruaighe,
air an t-slighe tro Chasan Beithe
[between me and the light, a tup on its own as well on the way through Cassenvey]

air ais, a chiall, nach ait
an dèidh nam bliadhnaichean a thoirt
gun triall air Creag a' Chait
[back strange after years not going to the rocky hill at Craightit]

èist! - breacan-beithe
a' ceileireadh ri beul na h-oidhche
am badeigin aig Achadh Reithe
[listen! - a chaffinch warbling in the evening in some tuftplace in the field at Auchrae]

mu dheireadh thall 's a-bhos nam huidhe

air an tulaich mar cheann-uidhe
shuas air Monadh Buidhe
[at long last sat on a knoll as my destination up on Monybuie Hill]
dìreach searrach agus a làir
far an do chuireadh blàr
là dhan robh 'n saoghal an Cùil an Àir
[just a mare and her foal where a battle was fought long ago at Kilnair]
gun charachadh, corra-ghrithreach
's an uair sin a' togail 's a' dìreach
mar sin ri Beinn nam Fitheach
[not moving, a heron and thathourtime then lifting and climbing up Benaveoch]
am feur gorm na gheamhar
agus an t-earrach ùr
air tighinn ann an Clach Reamhar
[the bluegreen grass in blade now that the freshnew spring has arrived in Clachrower]

as t-fhoghar am bàrr a' Bhinnein
far an robh mi uair a bh' ann
le MacIllFhaolain 's MacIllFhinnein
[in autumn on the creamcrottop of Bennan where I was onehourtime with MacLellan and McLennan]

dìreach creatlach de chró tí
mar a mbíodh lena ló de chluichí
ag Teach Mór Dhál Rí
[just straightup the skeletonframe of a hovel where there used to be such games at the Big House in Dalry]

seachain! caochán
nach bhfeicfeá faoi bhun
do bhonn ar Shrón Fraochán
[mind! a blind rill you might not see under your feet at Stroanfreggan]

mo chuimhne de shíor ar shuirí
ach gur imigh sí
an lá sin i mBarr Mhuirí
[thinkremembering about love all the time but it's all gone that day in Barmurrie]

LOCAL HISTORY with TED COWAN

LOCHENBRECK



Lochenbreck (Loch of Trout) on what was the Woodhall Estate, Balmaghie, was for a long time - "time immemorial" according to one reporter - a place of resort for folk in search of cures for such diseases as ague, stomach pains and "many female weaknesses" at the nearby Chalybeate well.

There was a small house offering lodgings but in 1790 it lacked a road. Feus or building leases, however, were to be had on "very moderate terms". By 1844 an inn was available - S R Crockett referred to it as a spa and hotel which, in 1904, was "renewing its youth". In 1908 it was taken over as a private house. The loch is still very popular with fishermen. When the Arctic explorer, John Richardson from Dumfries, published his book on *Fishes in the Fauna Boreali-Americana or the Zoology of the Northern Parts of British America* series, an enormous project which he conceived and launched, he illustrated the entry on salmo fario, or Scottish burn trout, with a specimen from Lochenbreck. He

and his brother Peter, who lived at Disdow, Gatehouse, were, like so many who preceded and followed them, much taken with the loch and its surrounding scenery. Lochenbreck is just off the glorious Lauriston - Gatehouse road. It inspired Malcolm Harper to verse:

*Dear aye to me is the bricht
glancing Burnie
That rins mang the rocks
in the deep shady dell
But dearer an brichter to me
than them a is
The lassie I lo'ed at
Lochenbreck Well!*

He recalled that during bad weather the lads and lassies staying at the hotel would retreat to the Well House for "fun, frolic and banter".

Kenick Hill to the east of the loch was known as the 'Hill of Health'. On the same theme an analyst opined that the well waters would be found efficacious as a beverage. "The mineral ingredients of which the waters are composed are sulphate and carbonate of lime, with iron and traces of carbonate of magnesia." Burns probably looked for something more stimulating when, or rather if, he passed through. It was claimed on the basis of no evidence that he wrote his song 'Scots Wha Hae' in the Change House at Lochenbreck when he was en-route to Kirkcudbright.

For amusement there were bowling and croquet greens. A mile away on the Lauriston road stood Burnside

Cottage, home of two sisters, Tibbie and Maggie McGhie, who were said to be the "last representatives of the McGhies of Balmaghie", a clan which some believed to be one of the oldest in Galloway. Tibbie composed poems and organised levees in her cottage, for the hotel guests and others who showed up for the crack and the fun, as well as for a glimpse into the Galloway past. One of her poems entitled Thoughts on First Seeing a Railway Train requires no explanation:

*An auld wife she sat down to sew,
As wi her specs she loked through;
She saw a train come across
the Dee,
Oh! What a woner's thing,
said she.*

Maggie reputedly attended to domestic matters, keeping the cottage immaculate and the hens fed. The painting by Malcolm Harper is unusual in showing an interior. The seated lady is probably Maggie but I may be wrong, and any information on the two ladies would be very welcome.

The closest metropolis was and is Clauchanpluck, uninspiringly renamed Lauriston by a nineteenth century proprietor. It was for a time the meeting place for the presbytery of Kirkcudbright. Crockett attended the local school. Some years ago, when I asked a resident how many folk living in the village were actually born there, he replied that there used to be two but one had recently emigrated to Crossmichael!

Ted Cowan



Maggie McGhie's Cottage by Malcolm Harper




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VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

The Great War: The Final Chapter

By the time you read this, the commemorations of the centenary of the Armistice will be drawing to a close.

The final Glenkens deaths from the war are: Matthew Brown Hyslop was the son of Daniel and Caroline (Spiers) Hyslop of Mosscroft, Balmaclellan, and was working in Shirmers Farm, Balmaclellan, when he enlisted into the Royal Marines Artillery in June 1918. He died on 25 October 1918 of pneumonia at his brother-in-law's farm of Poundland, Dunscore, and is buried in Balmaclellan

Parish Churchyard.

He was 23 years old when he died

and is listed on the

War Memorials of Balmaclellan and Dunscore.

George Henry Thompson (Thomson on military records) was the son of the late John and Margaret (Wilson) Thompson of Kirkland Street, Dalry. George was a farm servant living at Kirkland Street, Dalry, when he enlisted into the Ayrshire Yeomanry Reserve in November 1914. He died of influenza and pneumonia at the age of 28 on 10 November 1918 and is named on the Dalry war memorial.

Jane Lauder Nodwell was born in Hawick, Roxburghshire, the daughter of Samuel and Janet (Lockerbie) Nodwell of the Cross Keys Hotel, New Galloway. She was a nurse with the Red Cross Voluntary Aid Detachment at Yorkhill War Hospital, Glasgow. She died on 19 November 1918 of influenza at Glasgow at the age of 24 and is buried in Kells Parish Churchyard. Jane is named on the Kells Parish memorial in New

Galloway. In many cases, the names of VAD nurses were not added to war memorials but the local War Memorial Committee chose to add her name and she is the only female name on a Great War memorial in the Glenkens.

John Anderson was born in Carsphairn, the son of Thomas and Mary (McRoberts or Baird or Newall) Anderson of Ligate, Carsphairn. He married Margaret Boyes (Beattie) of Ligate and later of Paisley in 1896 in Holywood, Dumfriesshire. John enlisted in June 1918 in the Remounts Service of the Royal Army Service Corps, they were responsible for the purchase and training of horses. He died of pneumonia in the Windy Knowe Auxiliary Military

...she is the only female name on a Great War memorial in the Glenkens.

Hospital in Blundellsands, near Liverpool, on 11 February 1919 at the age of 47. He is buried in Carsphairn churchyard and is named on the Carsphairn War Memorial.

Much later was the final death to be listed in the Glenkens.

William Campbell was born in Dalry, the son of William James and Janet (Connell) Campbell of Loch Howie, Balmaclellan. William was apprenticed to the blacksmith in Balmaclellan when he enlisted into the Cameron Highlanders in December 1914. He died on 27 April 1925 at Blowplain Farm, Balmaclellan, of tuberculosis and effects from a shell-wound. He was 29 years old and is listed on the Balmaclellan war memorial. His brother Anthony was killed on the Somme in 1916. I am not aware of any later death (than 1925) added to any Great War memorial in Scotland.

Addenda and corrigenda:

It seems inevitable that, once something is published, new information comes to light and errors are pointed out. Such is the case with Alexander Neilson, so here is the amended version:

Alexander Neilson (Nelson in service records) was born at Waterside, New Galloway, and by 1901 was living as a boarder at 18 Back Street in Dalry. In 1911 he was a ploughman at Chapelcroft Farm, Buittle, having been educated at the Dalbeattie Higher Grade Public School and he emigrated to Canada in about 1913. He was the son of Elizabeth Neilson of Hawthorn Place, Southwick Road, Dalbeattie (his mother died in 1919). He enlisted at Prince Albert,

Saskatchewan, in January 1915, sailed from Montreal in June 1915, and was posted to the 5th Battalion Canadian

Infantry in France in August 1915.

He served at Armentieres and Ypres before being killed in action on 2 June 1916 at the age of 21. He is named on the Dalry and Dalbeattie war memorials, and on the Dalbeattie school memorial and the Royal British Legion Roll of Honour now in Dalbeattie Parish Church.

This series of articles has been running for as long as the Great War itself; all of the articles are available online in archive copies of the Glenkens Gazette - www.glenkensgazette.co.uk

The articles are dedicated to the men who died and to the orphans, widows and bereaved parents of those killed and, especially, to those who may have survived but whose lives were irrevocably changed by war. Further information can be found at www.warmemscot.s4.bizhat.com

It's been a significant task, but an honour...

Paul Goodwin

DEE & GLENKENS WARD

Councillor Dougie Campbell

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Crockett's Glimpses Of The Glenkens

The Glenkens are Crockett's heartland in every respect. He wrote: 'I have been most successful when I have "lee'd at lairge...truth to tell, many of my "lees" were grounded in this parish.' In this final Glenkens glimpse I leave Crockett to describe it for you himself:

THE GLENKENS

"And now we come to the heart of the matter. Every traveller's road in Galloway leads him at long and last to the Glenkens - and yet they want a railway, and set poets to ask for it!

But we who are of the older day prefer to think of the Glenkens as it was in the year of Bothwell Brig, when a certain William Gordon, of Earlstoun, rode away through these sweet holms and winding paths south toward the Duchrae. Nowhere, to my thinking, is the world so gracious as between the green woodlands of Earlstoun and the grey Duchrae Craigs. For (writes the hero)

'The pools of the Water of Ken slept, now black, now silver, beneath us. They were deep set about with the feathers of the birches, and had the green firs standing bravely like men-at-arms on every rocky knoll. Then the strath opened out, and we saw Ken flow silver-clear between the greenest and fioweriest banks in the world. The Black Craig of Dee loomed on our right side as we rode, sulky after the burning of last year's heather. And the great Kells range sank slowly behind us, ridge behind ridge of hills whose very names

make a storm of music - Millyea, Milldown, Millfire, Corscrine, and the haunted fastnesses of the Meaul of Garryhorn in the head end of Carsphairn. The reapers were out in the high fields about Gordonston by daybreak, with their crooked reaping-hooks in their hands, busily grasping the handfuls of grain and cutting them through with a pleasant 'risp' of sound. Cocks crowed early that morning, for they knew it was going to be a day of fervent heat. It would be as well, therefore, to have the pursuit of slippery worm and rampant caterpillar over betimes in the dawning. Then each chanticleer could stand in the shade and scratch himself applausively with alternate foot all the hot noontide, while the wives clucked and nestled in the dusty holes along the banks, interchanging intimate reflections upon the moral character of the giddier and more skittish young pullets of the farmyard.'

Furthermore, I have another reason for remembering the Glenkens. It was a favourite cycling route of Sweetheart's and mine - in the good years when cats were kittens, and dogs were puppies, and sheep were lambs, and Sweethearts had not yet grown up!

"We skimmed under the imminent side of the Bennan Hill, now purple and golden-brown with the heather and the dying bracken. On our right, by the lochside of Ken, we passed the little cottage which thirty years ago was known to all in the neighbourhood as Snuffy Point, from an occupant who was said to use so much snuff that the lake was coloured for half a mile round of a deep brown tint whenever he sneezed. A little farther on is a deep tunnel of green leaves, down which we looked. It leads to Kenmure Castle. Sweetheart and I always stop just here to dream. It seems as if we could stretch our arms and float down into the wavering infinitude of stirring leaves.

"In another minute we had come to the summit of the hill, and were sliding smoothly down the long, cleanly-kept street of New Galloway. Not a cur barked in our track - a fact so very remarkable that Sweetheart asked why.

'Because New Galloway is a royal burgh,' I said for a complete answer.

"We passed the entrance to that fascinating Clatteringshaws road, which leads through the wildest scenery that can be reached by wheels in the south of Scotland. Soon we were steering northward along the green holms of the Ken, and, as we looked to the west, the sun was beginning to sit low on the horizon.'

One may spend, as I have done, many hospitable months in Dalry, housed somewhere in the bright smiling village clambering up its long slope, or, better still, provided for in the comfortable Lochinvar Hotel. It is a fine centre for excursions - yet better as a starting-place for the hill-climber, the botanist, the photographer. There is interest on every side."

SR Crockett, 1859-1914

I hope this series of Glenkens Glimpses has awakened an interest both in the places and history of the Glenkens, and the joy that can be found discovering them through the fiction of SR Crockett.

Cally Phillips

For further information and insight into Crockett's Galloway writing visit www.gallowayraiders.co.uk

Crockett's Galloway fiction was republished in a centenary edition *The Galloway Collection* by Ayton Publishing in 2014 and are available in paperback from the online bookseller www.unco.scot, Amazon and other retailers.

The Glenkens also features in Cally Phillips 2016 work *Discovering Crockett's Galloway Volume 2*

A Taste of
Christmas
in New
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* Gift hampers with delicious local produce

* Meet our local suppliers, sample their wares

*** Everyone welcome!**

The Community Shop, High St, New Galloway
Thursday 6th December * 5 - 7 pm * All welcome

New 'Our Heritage' Grants

A new grant is available for local projects.

McNabb Laurie of the Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership (GGLP) said: "We are delighted to now be launching the 'Our Heritage' Small Grants Scheme. We have £100,000 to spend over coming years on local

projects that connect people to the heritage of the Galloway Glens area and support the scheme's six aims, including education, access improvements and visitor facilities."

GGLP are looking to make awards of up to £5,000 in value, and to support projects that aren't part of their headline 'suite' of projects, thus assisting emerging

opportunities that might present themselves in coming years. There is a brief application process - completed application forms must be submitted by 7 January, and a decision on successful applications will be made in February 2019.

If you have a project idea, or would like to find out more, please visit www.gallowayglens.org

POLICE OUTREACH

Community PC Tom Dingwall will be working in the Glenkens on a Stewartry-wide **Crime in the Home** initiative.

On Thursday 20 December from 10am to 4pm Tom will be in New Galloway, Dalry and Carsphairn at various times throughout the day to speak to people, especially the elderly, about how to stay safe in their homes.

Tom says: "The initiative provides information on how criminals are targeting people via the telephone or online and defrauding them of money. We are handing out small cards for people to keep beside their phones to remind them of possible scams and what to look out for."

The initiative is in relation to a rise in crimes whereby people are becoming victims without even leaving their own homes. Especially elderly/vulnerable people are being targeted by

scammers claiming to be from the bank or even the police fraud department. They state that there is unusual activity on the victim's account and they need to move their money to keep it safe - to an account set up by the fraudsters.

They are also engaging the victim in conversation, gathering information which they use to create online banking profiles. These profiles take minutes to create, and give the scammer full access to people's money, which is then changed into Euros, making it very difficult for police to trace.



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To find out more and see if you are eligible talk to us at **RJ McCulloch** or visit **GOV.UK**

Abbas Rest Fundraiser

The coffee morning held in Dalry Town Hall raised £810.70, which will go a long way to help maintain the bore holes for water.

I would like to thank all the people who supported in so many ways with generous donations towards the raffle, baking, bottle stall, books, bric-a-brac and also the generous money donations. Without your help it would not be possible.

Many thanks, Avril Brown

HELP FOR CASTLE DOUGLAS HOSPITAL

Knowing what a valuable resource Castle Douglas Cottage Hospital is for the Glenkens communities, St Margaret's Ladies' Guild decided to donate all the money raised from their Tombola at the Alternative Games in

August to the Friends of Castle Douglas Hospital.

Guild president Christine Rankin commented: "We all know of people who have benefitted from the excellent care at Castle Douglas Hospital, often bridging the gap between DGRI and going home, and we were delighted to raise £269 for the Friends of Castle Douglas Hospital who do so much to help our communities".



CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

hosted by

St Margaret's Ladies' Guild & Glenkens Churches Guild

Wednesday 5 December
New Galloway Town Hall
10.30am to 12noon

- coffee, shortbread, mince pies, stalls, tombola, lucky dip -
Please come along and support this joint venture

CHARITY SEEKS NEW TREASURER

Local Initiatives in New Galloway (LING) is growing apace, managing - and possibly soon acquiring - the lovely old Town Hall, and getting involved in outdoor developments too.

We are looking for a new treasurer to take over from early in 2019. They would play a full part, with the other eight trustees, in planning and implementing future developments. This is a voluntary position, and could be a beneficial first step for someone looking to return to work or change direction in their career, it may help a younger person to develop their CV, or it might enable a retired person

to share the experience gained over a lifetime in a way which supports their community.

Prior financial experience would be valuable, but shadowing would be an option and training opportunities could be made available; the most important qualification is a real interest in engaging with the financial implications of the charity's purposes.

The current treasurer, Bob Glaister, will happily continue to assist with aspects of the role - for example recruiting and supporting 'Friends of the Town Hall'. He has carried out the role for nearly four years and will continue as a trustee but, living partly at a distance, as he does, is proving too challenging for him to stay in the post for the longer-term.

Please contact Bob in the first instance at rtdglaister@aol.com if you are interested in finding out more.



TRUSTEES SOUGHT

Dalry Community Properties Trust (DCPT), who took over ownership of the Glenkens Community Centre in April 2017,

are seeking additional volunteers/trustees to help support this charitable organisation.

DIY or fundraising experience would be especially useful in

order to help maintain the old school building for its community users, but anyone with or without these skills who is willing to support DCPT would be very welcome.

For further information, or an informal chat, please contact chair Andi Holmes on 07729 292126 or andiholmes@hotmail.com

DECEMBER & JANUARY

DECEMBER

Sat 1, GTI Bus Trip, see p6

Wed 5, Guild Christmas Coffee Morning, 10.30am, New Galloway Town Hall

Thu 6, Christmas Tasting, 5-7pm, New Galloway Shop, see p23

Fri 7 & Sat 8 (7.30pm), **Sun 9** (2pm), CatStrand Youth Players Pantomime: Cinderella, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Sat 8, Glenkens Farmers' Market, 10am-12.30pm, Dalry Town Hall

Thu 13, Dee & Glenkens Ward Bi-election

Thu 13, Stewartry Birdwatchers Talk, 7.30pm, Kells School, New Galloway, see p4

Fri 14, Film: Hugo, Dalry Town Hall

Fri 14, Allyn Cosker Trio, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Sat 15, GTI Bus Trip, see p6

Sat 15, Santa's Grotto, 10am-3pm, Kirroughtree, see back page

Sat 16, Glenkens Children's Christmas Party, 3pm, Balmaclellan Village Hall, see p25

Tue 18, Christmas Ukulele Concert, 7pm, CatStrand

Thu 20, Crime in the Home Mobile Unit, 10am to 4pm, see p24

Sat 22, Cairn Chorus: Star Of Wonder, 4pm, CatStrand

Fri 28, Film: Lost in Paris, Dalry Town Hall

JANUARY

Thu 10, Film: Hereditary, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Fri 11, Film: Edie, 7.30pm, DALRY TOWN HALL

Sat 12, Film: Pin Cushion, 2pm, CatStrand

Sat 12, GTI Bus Trip, see p6

Sat 12, Film: Mary Shelley, 7.30pm, Lagwyne Hall, Carsphairn

Sat 12, Glenkens Farmers' Market, 10am-12.30pm, Dalry Town Hall

Sun 13, Film: Dark River, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Mon 14 to Thu 24, Clachan Inn restaurant closed, see p15

Thu 17, Stewartry Birdwatchers Talk, 7.30pm, Kells School, New Galloway, see p4

Fri 18, Fox & Hound Theatre Co present: I'm Missing You, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Thur 24, Glenkens Business Network, 6-7pm, CatStrand, see p18

Fri 25, Catstrand Burns Supper, 7.30pm, CatStrand

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www.dumgal.gov.uk

Dumfries & Galloway



WINTER SHOW 18

QUALITY SCOTTISH ART & CRAFT



Peter Wareing



Lisa Rothwell-Young



Hazel Campbell

Preview Evening:
wine, nibbles
& meet the artists...

Fri 9th November 2018
7-9.30pm



Phil McMenemy



Pamela Grace

Show:
11th November 2018
to February 2019

Open most weekdays & Sundays
Phone Phil 01644 450235



Clare Dawdry



Gary Craig

Laurieston, Castle Douglas, DG7 2PW | f/galleryatlaurieston | 01644 450235
phil@pmcphotography.co.uk | www.pmcphotography.co.uk/gallery/

The 50th Annual

CARSPHAIRN BURNS SUPPER

Golden Celebration

Friday 18 January 2019
Lagwyne Hall, Carsphairn
7:00pm for 7:30pm

Special ticket price £10 pp.

Tickets must be reserved in advance by contacting:
hall.karen@btinternet.com or Davie on 07710124255

This year's Speakers & Artists include:

Grierson Dunlop - The Immortal Memory
Andrew Hunter Blair
- Toast to the Lassies
Helen Campbell - Reply from the Lassies
Bruce McKenzie - Music



REGULAR EVENTS

CatStrand, New Galloway:

Film Makers' Club, Mon 7-8.30pm
Exercise to Music: Mon 9.30-10.30am
Margaret Morris dance 1: 3-7yrs, Mon (term-time) 3.45-4.30pm
Margaret Morris Dance 2: 8-16yrs, Mon (term-time) 4.30-5.15pm
Youth Volunteer Meet-up, 1st Tues of the month, 6-8pm, FREE PIZZA
Choreographic Skills Lab, Mon (term-time) 7-8.30pm, ages 12-18
Animation Club, Tues 4-6pm (last session 4 Dec till Spring)
Gentle Tai Chi: Wed 10am
Wendletrap Tai Chi, Wed 2-3.30pm
The Glenkens Writers, Wed 12 Dec, 9 Jan, 13 Feb, 3.15-5.15pm (NB No spaces at present)
Game Tech, last Wed each month, 6-8pm
Writers' Cafe, 2nd Thurs each month 7-9pm
Sing it Out, Thurs 11am -12pm
CatStrand Ukes, 1st & 3rd Thurs each month, 1-3.30pm
Yoga, Thurs 9.15-10.45am & 6.30-7.30pm
Zumba Gold, Fri (term-time) 9.30-10.30am, CatStrand, 16+
Glenkens Community Centre, Dalry:
Paint & Art, Mon 2-4pm
GCC Playgroup, Tues, Wed & Thurs 9.15-11.45am
Guides, Tues 6-8pm
Brownies, Thurs 6-7.30pm
Kickback Martial Arts, Thurs 7-9pm
Thursday Craft Group, Thurs 2-4pm
Glenkens Children's Club, Fri 10am-12noon

New Galloway Town Hall:

LING Elevenses & Lunches, Tues 11am-2pm
 Fat Broadband Access, Tues 11am-2pm
Table Tennis & Carpet Bowls, Tues 7-9pm
Circuits, Tues 5.30-6.30pm
Zumba, Wed 7.30-8.30pm, New Galloway Town Hall, 11+
Circuits, Sat 8-9am

Various Locations:

Hatha Yoga, Mon 10-11.15am, Lagwyne Hall, Carsphairn
Carsphairn Post Office, Tues 1-3pm, Lagwyne Hall, Carsphairn
Dalry WI, 3rd Tues each month 2pm, Dalry Town Hall (except Jun, Jul & Aug)
Beavers, Tues 6-7.15pm, New Galloway Scout Hut
Dog Training, Tues & Thurs 7pm, Dalry Town Hall. Contact: Eric 460 670
Mossdale Painters, Wed 9.30am, Mossdale Village Hall
Cub Scouts: Wed 6.45-8pm, New Galloway Scout Hut
Gentle Dru Yoga, Thu 12.30-2pm, Laurieston Village Hall, contact: 450 269
Youth Writing, 1st Thurs each month (during term time) 3.30-5pm, ages 10-15, Dalry Library
Kettleball, Balmaclellan Village Hall, Thurs 7.30-8.30pm
Coffee & Craft, Fri 9am-12noon, Lagwyne Hall
Folk Music Session, 4th Fri each month 7.30/8pm till closing, Ken Bridge Hotel
Scouts, Thurs 7-8.30pm, New Galloway Scout Hut
Gentle Tai Chi, Fri 10-11am, Dalry Town Hall
Golf Junior Coaching, Sat 10-11:30am, New Galloway Golf Course, see p8

Restoring Footpaths, Sat 10am-1pm, phone 420 632 to confirm

Junior Golf & Come-and-Try for all ages, Sat 10am

Men's Shed, Old Smiddy, Balmaclellan. Opening times: Mon 9.30am-4pm & 6.30-8.30pm; Wed 9.30am-1pm & woodcarving from 2-4pm; Fri 9.30am-12noon.



Family and friends coming to stay?
 Short of space?
 Cosy country cottage available (sleeps 4)
 Call Fiona on 01644 420 227

www.covenanters-holidaycottagescotland.co.uk

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

Tuesdays 12noon-3.30pm
Fridays 10am-12noon & 1-4.30pm
 For further library van stops and information contact Castle Douglas library on 01556 502 643

ADVERTISE IN THE GAZETTE

(price per issue incl VAT)

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FULL PAGE: 18cm w x 27cm h, £252 (+ 25% off with series discount)

Call 07727 127 997

VAT Reg. No. 882 8361 87

USEFUL NUMBERS:

- Pot-hole Hotline: 0845 276 0000
- Police, non-emergency: 101
- Doctor: 01644 420 234
- NHS 24: 08454 24 24 24
- D&G Council: 030 33 33 3000

Glenkens Community Councils

Balmaclellan Community Council Meetings: Last 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 TIMES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND: Sunday Services: Balmaclellan 9.45am: 1st. Carsphairn 11.15am: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th. Carsphairn 10.30am: 5th (Dec). Dalry 9.45am: 2nd, 4th. Kells 9.45am: 3rd. **Special Services/Events**: Family Service, Dalry Church, 9 Dec, 9.45am. Carols by Candlelight, Carsphairn Church, 9 Dec, 6.30pm. Watchnight Service, Kells Church, 24

Dec, 11.30pm. Christmas Day Family Service, Dalry Church, 10.30am. United Service, Carsphairn Church, 30 Dec, 10.30am.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH: St Margaret's, New Galloway: Holy Communion, 10.30am every Sun & Wed.

CATHOLIC CHURCH SERVICES: Kirkcudbright: Sun Mass, 9.30am. Dalbeattie: Sat Mass, 5pm

GLENKENS GIG BUS

The aim of the Gig Bus is to provide a low cost, ad-hoc transport solution to get people in the Glenkens to and from events in and around the Region.

One of the biggest drawbacks to living in this rural idyll is poor public transport, which is non-existent at evenings and weekends. If you want to get to any of the principle conurbations such as Dumfries or Castle Douglas, out of hours, and lack your own transport then you are effectively stuck; which is particularly harsh on both the young and elderly.

Registered groups have access to the services offered by the Glenkens Transport Initiative (GTI) but individuals, small groups and families don't qualify for this. Taxis,

where available, are prohibitively expensive so another solution is required... enter the Gig Bus!

Connecting in Communities (CiC), funded by LEADER and the Big Lottery, is a three-year project aimed at enriching the lives of those who live and work in the Glenkens. CiC is trialling the concept over the next few months to test its viability. The plan is simple; **people register their contact details**, (name, mobile and email) with CiC on 01644 420374 and **when an event comes up they would like to attend contact CiC** who'll publicise the 'gig' and if there is sufficient interest, run a minibus to/from the event.

There will be a small charge to cover the bus costs for each event dependant of time, distance, etc. Individuals would be responsible for making their own ticketing arrangements for events and, sadly, under 18s will not be able to access the service without an



Connecting Communities

Gig, event or show in town but no transport? No problem, sign up for:-

The Glenkens Gig Bus!

Connecting in Communities are trialling a Glenkens Gig Bus to take people to and from events when there's no public transport.

Register your details and when there is demand we'll run a minibus to selected events. 18+ only

It's free to register but there'll be a small charge for each event

Want to know more or sign up? Contact Chris:- email: chris@catstrand.com or tel 01644 420374

The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
European Regional Development Fund

LEADER

LOTTERY FUNDED

accompanying adult - but otherwise there are few restrictions.

So why not sign up today, suggest your favourite upcoming event (a Christmas party perhaps? New Year celebration?), and let's get the ball rolling!

Chris Jowsey, Volunteer and Participation Officer, CiC



Kirroughtree Christmas Lunches

Following dates available:
4th, 5th, 6th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 18th December
2 courses: £12.95
3 courses: £16.95

~Santa's Grotto~

at Kirroughtree Visitor Centre

15th December

10am - 3pm

Ticket: £7.50 per child including a present from Santa

Subject to availability

Purchased on the day

Creetown Silver Band
will be playing from 1pm

Self led Christmas trail
for kids to go round from 1st December

Self led arts and crafts
in the café throughout December

Forestry Commission Scotland
Cairnmore na Cilleireachd Aile

Tel: 01671 402994
E-mail: kirroughtree@churchillcatering.co.uk



~Christmas Lunch~

at Kirroughtree

Come and get in the festive spirit with our freshly prepared Christmas Lunches and the chance to pick up some unique Christmas presents made by local artists in our gift shop.

We still have the following dates available:
4th, 5th, 6th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 18th December

Pre-booking is essential to avoid disappointment

2 courses: £12.95
3 courses: £16.95

~MENU~

Breaded Camembert with Cranberry Sauce
or
Carrot & Coriander Soup

Roast Turkey with all the festive trimmings
or
Goats Cheese Tart with a Medley of Vegetables

Christmas Pudding
or
Apple Shortbread with Custard

Tea and Coffee with Mince Pies

We don't have a drinks license. However, you are welcome to bring your own bottle to help get the party started

All items subject to availability
Please ask a member of staff for allergen advice

Forestry Commission Scotland
Cairnmore na Cilleireachd Aile

Tel: 01671 402994
E-mail: kirroughtree@churchillcatering.co.uk

churchill catering
www.churchillcatering.co.uk

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
FEB/MAR COPY DEADLINE: 5 JAN



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