

GLENKENS GAZETTE

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

June/July 2019

ISSUE 112

FREE

FANTASTIC FOOTBALL FOR GLENKENS SCHOOLS TEAM

The Paul Jones Football Festival, created with support from the Paul Jones Bakery in Kirkcudbright, is an annual event organised by D&G Council's Active Schools and Community Sport Team in the Stewartry and is open to all Stewartry Primary schools.

Kieran and Jack, who are in the Glenkens Primary team, tell us a bit about how things are going:

This month our football team have been competing in the region's Paul Jones Festival.

We have been working hard at this club since January. When the Paul Jones Festival began, the first match for the Glenkens was in Kirkcudbright where five matches were played. Glenkens played against Crossmichael, Auchencairn, Cluster All



The Glenkens Primary football team - back row, left to right: Jamie, Jack, Alex, Joe, Sam and Christy. Front row, left to right: Karol, James and Kieran.

Stars, Gelston and Kirkcudbright Girls. The team came home with two wins.

The week after, Dalry hosted the event. In Dalry, we played three matches against Twynholm, HLS Rovers and HLS United.

The team did a fantastic job and won two of their matches. Throughout the tournament they displayed super team work skills and a positive attitude.

Kieran Jardine & Jack Peacock, P5, Dalry Primary School

Another Award for Carsphairn Tearoom

Lindsay Duncan and Paul Smith are celebrating once again after winning yet another accolade for their Carsphairn shop and tearoom business.

The duo attended the Scottish Café Awards at the Marriott Hotel in Glasgow in May with their daughter Courtney to collect the award for the Best Café in south-west Scotland. Said a delighted Lindsay: "We are over the moon at achieving this latest success and would like to thank all our customers – locals and visitors alike

– for their continued support.

"This was our fifth separate award in as many years and especially rewarding as it was in a very tough category in which we were up against nine other establishments."

Most recent of these other awards are the Community Tearoom of the Year award from the Scottish Food Awards & Academy and then winning the Best Café category of the 2018 Dumfries & Galloway Life Awards.

A big contributor to this winning streak has been the introduction of internationally-themed pop-up bistro evenings on the last Friday of every month. The move has been a big hit with both villagers and tourists to the Glenkens.



Paul Smith and Lindsay Duncan of Carsphairn Tearoom, with daughter Courtney.

Town Hall Asset Transfer Viability

As the June/July issue of the Gazette is published, the Local Initiatives in New Galloway (LING) Board will be hearing the results of the public survey which took place during May.

The survey forms were delivered to around 400 houses within New Galloway Burgh and Kells Parish. An afternoon and evening drop-in was held at the Town Hall to talk

directly to the consultants to find out more about plans and to give opinions. The survey was also able to be completed on-line. Other local groups were contacted for their views.

In June a draft feasibility study, including architectural reports will be presented to members of the board and by the end of July we hope to have a final feasibility and business plan.

LING has been managing New Galloway Town Hall for three years and the board is keen to see the hall brought up to modern standards particularly relating to accessibility to the upper main hall

and upgrading toilet and kitchen facilities.

Although LING has been active and successful in terms of smaller amounts of funding for the hall and the purchase of the small car park, it is impossible to gain funds for large projects when we don't own the property or have a long-term lease.

With grants from the Heritage Fund, the National Lottery Awards for All and the Architectural Heritage Fund, LING was able to contract independent consultants, Creetown Initiative, to carry out this study.

Ros Hill, LING Chairman

A CHAT, A CUPPA AND A CAKE

Balmaclellan Village Hall is now open every Wednesday between 10am and 2.30pm for folk to come together and catch up.

Enjoy a chat over a cuppa and a cake, and come and try your hand at different crafts. Entry is £3 and includes refreshments. Soup and roll at lunchtime are available for a small additional charge.

Everyone is most welcome,

including children although they must be accompanied by an adult.

There will also be a sales table available for craft sales - a 10% commission will be charged on each item sold.

During the next few weeks we will be establishing a community library and we plan to invite guest speakers and organisations in the future. We are also looking for volunteers to help on the day.

If you would like more information on what's going



on in Balmaclellan, please contact Julia Higgins on juli.a.higgins55@outlook.com or 01644420297, or Ailsa Malone on ailsa.malone@aol.com. Please contact Julia Higgins if you require transport to and from hall for events or activities.

*Julia Higgins, Chair,
Balmaclellan Community Trust*

Spalding Bowling Green Opening Day

President Elizabeth Peacock welcomed everyone to Spalding Bowling Green Opening Day.

Our new Honorary President, John McNally, threw the silver jack and the first bowls of the season (and had a toucher with his first bowl), then declared the green open.

In total 32 people took part in a very enjoyable opening day.

Valerie Russell



Spalding Bowling Green Opening Day.

Clachan Pub of the Year Second Year Running

The overall winner of the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) Dumfries & Stewartry Pub of the Year 2019 is the Clachan Inn in Dalry which also took the Stewartry area pub award.



*Trevor Hayward presenting the certificates to Phil Papworth and Laura Burnie of the Clachan Inn.
Photograph by Alan Glass.*

This is the second year in a row the Clachan has taken these titles. Chairman of the local branch of CAMRA, Trevor Hayward, explained how the CAMRA awards have been decided: "We have around 120 members in our branch and they are all invited to vote for their nominated Pub of the Year. We then take all these nominations along with beer scores submitted throughout the year via the CAMRA Whatpub system for the quality of

real ale being sold to decide on the winners.

"Our Dumfries and Stewartry branch region is large, so we split the voting into three areas: Dumfriesshire, Dumfries Town and the Stewartry and select three area winning pubs as well as one overall winner".

The Clachan Inn now goes forward to the regional heats to select Scottish winners to go into the national CAMRA Pub of the Year competitions.

WEE SCHOOLS MATTER CAMPAIGN

Parents at Brydekirk Primary School, near Annan, have started a campaign called Wee Schools Matter, and are asking for support from across the region to highlight the importance of rural schools.

This is in response to the recent council decision to increase the cut off point for one-teacher schools to 25 or under - so any primary school whose roll falls to 25 or less will become a one-teacher, single-class school.

We understand that councillors are looking at ways to help mitigate the cuts, but in this climate it's essential that we keep the importance of rural schools high on the agenda, and meanwhile support our schools in every way we can. You can add your support to their petition at www.weeschoolsmatter.org

Kells Parent Council

DALRY SCHOOL COMMUNITY CHOIR

Dalry School is starting a community choir - and would like to invite you to come along!

The choir will meet on Wednesdays from 3.30-4.30pm, in the music room in Dalry Secondary School.

All ages and abilities are welcome - if you enjoy singing, or even if you have never tried before but want to give it a go, you're very welcome come and see what you think.

Singing is a wonderful way to uplift the spirits and de-stress,



and the beautiful thing about singing in a choir is the harmony of voices together - so much more than one voice alone, and really energising to be a part of.

The repertoire is mixed, and will be tailored to meet the skills and interests of participants. Instrumentalists are also welcome - we'll adapt to suit; if you enjoy

making music as part of a group, we'll fit you in!

Just come along as and when you can - there's no regular commitment necessary.

For further details get in touch with Sue St Joseph at gw08stjosephsue@ea.dumgal.sch.uk or call the school office on 01644 430 259.

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 glenkengazette@hotmail.co.uk

OFFERED

Sky+ box and remote control in working condition. Contact: Nigel on 07774 778872

Wildlife of Britain Magazines, 135 magazines in 9 folders. Contact: 07547 606 792

WANTED

Garden trolley for use with loose parts play at Dalry Primary School. Contact: 07727 127 997

FOR SALE

Saddle rack, green, £5. **Dutch gag bit**, 5.5" with French link, £8. **Numnah**, faux sheepskin, cob size, washable, brown, £8. **Ladies' white shirt** with collar for tie, size 10/12, £4. All items nearly new. Contact Sue on 07563 718 011

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NOTICES

Dalry Church Session House is

available for hire at £5 per hour, and has tea-making facilities. Contact Rev David Bartholomew on 01644 430 380 or DBartholomew@churchofscotland.org.uk

Gordon McAdam, Dalry-based plumber, would like to dispell local rumour that he is winding his business down, and let folk know that he is still operating in the Glenkens in the area of plumbing and heating.

"My ad in the Gazette has only been in for one issue but it's been great, I've had loads of responses. I'll definitely run a series of ads next season, based on the success of this one." Ewan

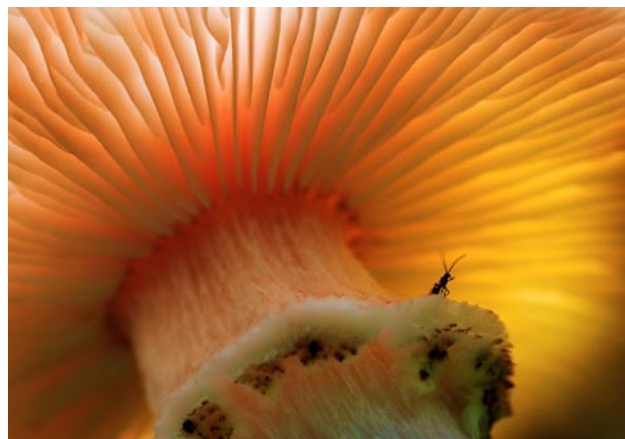
DUNCAN'S SHOT FEATURES IN NATIONAL RSPB CALENDAR

Glenlee photographer Duncan McNaught has been chosen by the RSPB to have his award-winning photograph *Welcome to my Humble Abode* featured in their 2020 calendar.

The RSPB's Inspiring Nature

photography calendar 2020 will be for sale across the UK from July, and Duncan's photograph will represent the month of November.

To the right is Duncan's photograph, winner of the 2017 Smithsonian Photo Contest, which will be featured in the calendar.






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LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY

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Climate Change

Sustainability is extremely important if we want to help prevent climate change. Climate change is caused by excess greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, which are produced by pollution. Pollution is caused by factories, deforestation, vehicles and people not recycling. Because of climate change the Earth is expected to be two degrees warmer by 2050, and because the Earth is warming many animals are suffering and could go extinct because their habitats are being destroyed.

Dumfries & Galloway Recycling Scheme

In 2012 the Dumfries and Galloway authorities tried to come up with a scheme to become more sustainable - however, it failed miserably. The authorities purchased many recycling bins and bin lorries for this scheme, but the scheme never happened, and now thousands of bins and lorries are sitting in warehouses. The scheme failed because there was a limit of one bin per household. In 2017 we found out that over £300,000 is being spent on the storage warehouses.

There is a new plan that started in Wigtownshire in 2014 in which

you can have multiple bins per household. This is most certainly a good thing because it will mean that less money is being spent on storage. Also, having more bins around will promote recycling in the area and help stop global warming and stop the poor animals suffering.

The Strikes

Recently hundreds of thousands of pupils all over the world took part in a strike about climate change. There have been big protests in London, Brighton, Oxford and Exeter. The main group that helped coordinate these protests have four main demands. The first is that the government should declare a climate emergency and the second is that they should inform the public about just how serious the situation is. The third is that the curriculum should include information on "the ecological crisis" and the fourth is that the age of voting should be lowered to 16 so younger people can express their opinions on the matter.

An example of one of the smaller protests is that hundreds of pupils from the local school of Kirkcudbright marched around their hometown, chanting and campaigning for the end of climate change and gathering local attention on the matter. Now there is even a club at Kirkcudbright high school



for educating people on climate change.

What Can You Do?

Some things that people can do are to turn off unneeded switches. Energy conservation is one of the most important things you can do, and it brings your electricity bills down! Invest in eco-friendly technology and switch to renewable energy; it's very easy and will help a lot. Don't waste food! Using up the planet's resources for food and then wasting it is very bad. Finally, recycle everything you can to help stop pollution. Pollution is the main factor of climate change.

Conclusion

In conclusion, our planet and the animals on it are severely suffering because of humans' lack of sustainability. We believe that it's of utmost importance that people work together to be more environmentally friendly, in order to save our planet. Recycle everyone!!!

*by Grace T & Tamsin S,
CatStrand Work Experience Pupils*



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COULD YOU RUN CLATTERINGSHAWS VISITOR CENTRE?

Clatteringshaws Visitor Centre is located on the banks of Clatteringshaws Loch, on the Queensway towards Newton Stewart.

Situated on the edge of the Glenkens, not far from New Galloway, it's the perfect location for an afternoon out with the family. Park by the loch, take a stroll or a cycle to Bruce's Stone, pop into the cafe for lunch... Except the visitor centre and cafe have been closed now since last season.

The centre is owned by the Forestry Commission, and they are putting it out to tender again, in the hope that someone will take it on and make a go of it.

For folk in the Glenkens, it is such a great location to visit – near the wild goat park and the red deer range, Murray's Monument and

the mountain biking routes through the forest around the Palnure Burn. Wouldn't it be amazing if someone local took it on and made it into somewhere truly great to visit? Perhaps selling simple, local food – even just home baking and good tea and coffee, maybe soup and sandwiches... A community group perhaps, or local business branching out? Previously the centre had really successful stargazing evenings, and during the day RSPB activities for children. The Galloway Glens scheme have projects running and potential for more heritage and environment elements, which could tie in nicely



View over Clatteringshaws Loch by Stuart Littlewood.

with activities run from the centre.

So...does anyone out there fancy making a success of this little visitor centre with huge potential?

To find out more about taking on the tender for Clatteringshaws Visitor Centre, visit www.publiccontractscotland.gov.uk or email rhiannon.naismith@forestryandland.gov.scot or call 0131 370 5229 as soon as possible to register your interest.



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Celebrate & Share

It is now two years on from saving New Galloway's last shop from closure.

In light of this, New Galloway Community Enterprises (NGCE) Ltd is inviting everyone to a Celebrate & Share event - a pie and baked tattie supper - in the Town Hall on Saturday 22 June.

We will not only be celebrating our thriving community shop but also the opening of our self-catering apartments - recently awarded 4 Star status by Visit Scotland - our community laundry, and our expanding community engagement programme which now ranges from an oil-fuel buying cooperative to activity events and information services.

Celebrate & Share will run from 6-8.30pm, is free and open to all ages, and entertainment will be provided by local musicians and performers. Please 'bring-your-own-bottle' if you fancy a tipple, and let us know you are coming so that we buy enough pies and tatties!

NGCE Ltd is a community benefit society, owned by its members who are all residents or friends of New Galloway and Kells. At our Celebrate & Share event we will also be relaunching our Community Share Offer to give anyone who is not already a member the chance to be part of our exciting project.

Look out for posters with more information. Please let us know if you are coming - and book your pie - by emailing samCEW@newgallowaycommunity.shop, texting 07741656601 or leaving your name in New Galloway shop.

*Sam Rushton,
Community Engagement Worker, New Galloway*

Launch of Blackcraig Wind Farm Fund

The Glenkens & District Trust (GDT) is delighted to report that the Blackcraig Wind Farm Fund will be open for applications this summer.

Following on from a number of discussions with the owner of Blackcraig Wind Farm, plans are well in hand to get initial payments out to Community Councils and to open the main fund for applications in June. This will enable awards to be made before the end of 2019.

Blackcraig Wind Farm Ltd has agreed to provide an annual payment totalling £264,500 and this is expected, but not guaranteed, to last for 25 years. They have decided that the fund should benefit the communities served by the following ten community council areas: Balmaclellan, Balmaghie, Carsphairn, Corsock & Kirkpatrick Durham, Crossmichael & District, Dalry, Dunscore, Glencairn, The Royal Burgh of New Galloway & Kells, and Parton. This total area is called the fund catchment area.

Foundation Scotland, an independent grant-making charity, will carry out the administration and governance. They carry out a similar role for a number of wind farms across Scotland and bring a wealth of experience with them.

To assist with some initial and immediate spend, each of the ten Community Councils in the fund catchment area will shortly receive £2K. Balmaclellan Community Council will receive an additional £2k in recognition of the fact that Blackcraig is located in their area.

The main fund will open in June and GDT will make the decision on the awards from it. Working with Foundation Scotland, GDT will also draw up the criteria and strategy for the fund and monitor spending.

GDT is a separately constituted legal body and run by a board of trustees made up of individuals appointed by its Community Council members and chaired by an independent chairman. All of the above Community Councils are members, other than Glencairn and Carsphairn.

When carrying out their role as trustees, they must act in the best interests of the trust. The trustees are working closely together with a clear objective to make our wider community more sustainable and to enhance the opportunities for those living and working in the area over the longer term.

By working together we can ensure the money from the Blackcraig Fund is used to make the whole area stronger which will benefit our wider communities. We are delighted that this vision is shared by the owners of

farms. This means that as long as that arrangement is in place, projects that will benefit residents of the Glencairn Community Council area will not be eligible for funding under the Blackcraig Main Fund.

Groups establishing or running projects that benefit the residents of Carsphairn Community Council area can apply for funding from the Blackcraig Main Fund, but Carsphairn Community Council has also decided not to join GDT at this time and to leave GDT to make the decisions. We will however ensure that we work closely with them and keep them informed. We intend to have regular meetings with them and with Carsphairn Renewable Energy Fund Ltd (CREFL).

The fund will open for applications in June. GDT and Foundation Scotland are finalising information including criteria, priorities and application and guidance material to enable the fund to be launched (see Diary section at the back for dates of drop-in sessions to provide support for applicants).

All parties involved in this recognise that our communities have waited a

long time for this fund to be available and that there is likely to be considerable demand. We are focussed on making the process straightforward, fair and transparent but are also realistic that in this first round there are likely to be teething problems that will need to be resolved. There will be

regular review meetings to ensure we all get the best for our communities.

It is fantastic that we have, at long last, got to this stage and, by building on what we have achieved over the last few months and continuing to work together, we can all make a real difference to our communities.

If anyone has any questions you can get in touch with GDT chairman Fiona Smith at fiona.smith1@btinternet.com

Fiona Smith, chairman, GDT

By working together we can ensure the money from the Blackcraig Fund is used to make the whole area stronger which will benefit our wider communities.

Blackcraig Wind Farm as demonstrated by their choosing to work with GDT in this way.

Glencairn Community Council has decided that they do not wish to become a member of GDT. The Glencairn Community Council has made separate arrangements with the owners to administer a sum for their area in line with arrangements they already have in place for community benefit payments from other wind

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CATSTRAND'S NEW YOUTH ARTS COORDINATOR

I am thrilled to have joined the CatStrand team as the new youth arts coordinator, and have really enjoyed getting to know our young people so far and experiencing some of the amazing art provision that is offered here, from animation to film-making to writing and dance.

It has left me with lots of food for thought. Having recently moved to the region

from Sheffield where I was teaching, I have been made to feel very welcome in the community, so thanks to everyone who has said 'hi'.

I'm currently trying to collect as much information as I can about talent in our region, so if you do know of any artists or musicians available to work with young people, let me know! My email is katy@catstrand.com

Katy Billington,

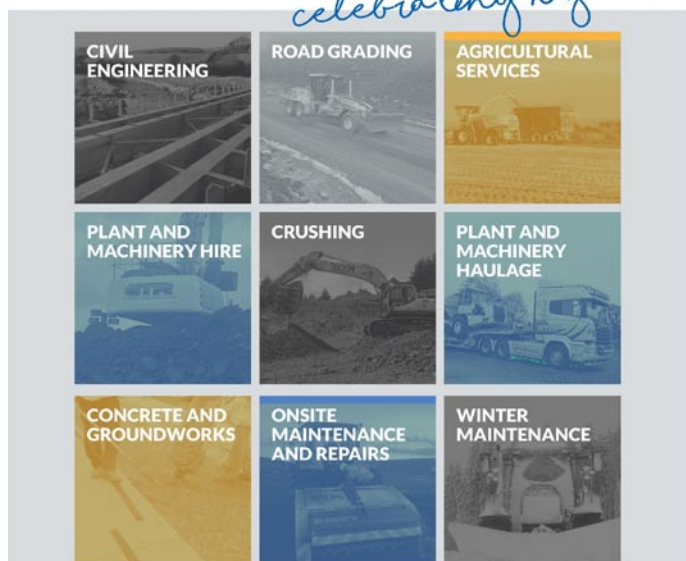


Katy Billington by the Youth Booth, New Galloway.



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CatStrand Highlights

As the Glenkens starts to warm up, CatStrand is getting ready for a summer of outdoor adventure theatre, dreamy folk, punchy jazz and high energy ska topped off with a smattering of international cinema, poetry walks and opera.

Our local villages, towns and communities will be delivering their own arts programmes over the coming year, with the support of the Glenkens Community & Arts Trust (GCAT), so look out for feedback cards for your local programme which have been placed around the villages for you to have your say about programming in New Galloway, Carsphairn, Dalry, Balmaclellan and Crossmichael.

As well as our summer Youth Arts programme – running in July/August – we've got plenty for families to fill those long summer days. The Garroch Estate plays host to an interactive outdoor theatre experience for families; **Call to Nature** (Sat 22 June) starts on minibuses as you set off on an adventure to hunt for mystery eggs in the woods.

Back at CatStrand we have a great line up of international artists to light up your summer calendar from German dancer **Elisabeth Schilling**, who returns to CatStrand with her latest interpretive show and installation inspired by touch (Fri 21 June) to Danish duo **Andreas Tophoj and Rune Barslund** (Fri 19

July) whose melting pot of sounds offers a new interpretation of the Danish folk tradition.

Hailing from closer to home, we have some of the best musicians Scotland has to offer including the magical and charismatic Aberdeenshire singer **Iona Fyfe** (Sat 17 Aug) fresh from Celtic Connections. **Ross Ainslie** returns with old friend **Tim Edey** for a sure to be sell-out summer set (Fri 30 Aug) and local lads, **Muckle Spree**, serve up traditional melodies that groove into the digital age in a laid-back Sunday afternoon session (Sun 26 July).

If you'd rather be in the cinema, whatever the weather, we have exclusive screenings for film lovers, including award-winning Swedish family film **Cloudboy** (Sat 21 July) and a sublime Willem Dafoe narrated and Australian Chamber Orchestra accompanied documentary **Mountain** (Tue 24 Sept). Get out your deck chairs for our teen **Movie in the Park: The Way, Way Back** (Sun 19 Aug) complete with barbecue in New

Galloway Park. Dalry Film Club bring the big hitters **Bohemian Rhapsody** (Wed 4 Sept) and **Stan & Ollie** (Wed 18 Sept) delivering a cinematic experience, with tea and cake, in Dalry Town Hall.

We look forward to sliding into these summer months with our audiences new and old, soaking up some sunshine on the way to exploring new venues and enjoying an array of great events across the Glenkens. The summer is special in Galloway and we're looking forward to greeting visitors and showing off what our communities have to offer here at CatStrand and around our village venues – lush scenery, fabulous community spirit and a sparkling array of spectacular arts and culture events taking us right through to September.

Enjoy – and get those sandals on...summer is here!

Aidan Nicol, Arts, Culture & Heritage Manager, CatStrand

Our full brochures are available now from CatStrand, or take a look online at www.catstrand.com



Cloudboy

CALLING ALL YOUNG PERFORMERS!

We're holding a **Youth Open Stage** night at CatStrand for young folk on Monday 15 July at 7.30pm, and we want YOU to take part.

Whether you're into song, slam poetry, spoken word, DJ-ing or anything else musical and linguistic, we'd love to see you on our stage. Hosted by the amazingly

talented singer-songwriter Kate Kyle, this will be a relaxed and welcoming evening. Come along, add your name to the list and bring your pals!

CatStrand Youth Players are holding their summer show on June 14 at 7.30pm. Join us for an evening of theatre and see what our young actors, directors and stage experts have been working on.

Katy Billington, Youth Arts Coordinator

HAIR RAISING FUNDRAISING

Local lad Daniel Roberts has raised a whopping £510 by shaving his head for charity.

Having made the decision to support cancer support charity Beatson, Daniel set his mind on shaving his hair off to raise funds.

Daniel's mum, Chrissy, said: "The local shops did a fantastic job of collecting for us, and the Glenkens community were very supportive. A big thank you to everyone who donated, to the shops for having the sponsor forms in, and to Jayne at Hair by Jayne for making the shave run so smoothly - excuse the pun!"



Daniel Roberts handing over the cheque to Beatson Cancer Charity.

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4-5.30pm – The Hidden Road

Fridays:

8-10.30am – Dalry
10.30-11am – Glenlee Area
11am – New Galloway
12noon – New Galloway Shop
2pm – Mossdale area

3-4pm – Laurieston to Gatehouse

Please note that all times are approximate.

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400 Mile Charity Walk

Glenkens-based Robin Hood achieved his fundraising target of £50,000 raised for veterans.

Robin towed Jock, an 18 stone, eight-foot statue of a first world war soldier carved out of Douglas fir, from Dumfries to London, a 400 mile journey.

The purpose of the journey was to raise money for local charity SWS RnR and also to pay homage to the many people who lost their lives in WW1. Robin, who runs the charity, said: "I had to think of something that would make us different, and this certainly makes us different. People will remember this forever and a day. They'll say 'are you that nutcase who pulled that piece of wood for all that way?!'"

The money Robin raised will go towards training veterans as HGV drivers with the aim of providing them with a new career, and hopefully a new lease of life, while also filling the national gap in lorry drivers.



Robin Hood in Hexham.



GALLOWAY GLENS Landscape Partnership

From the Galloway Glens Scheme Desk: Jude Crooks, Galloway Glens Administrator

At the point of print for this issue of the Glenkens Gazette I have been working for the Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership for just a little over year.

They say time flies when you're having fun, and I cannot believe a year has passed already - which means we are into our second year of a five-year scheme, almost 20% completed!

My role within the Galloway Glens Scheme is primarily to support the co-ordination and implementation of the scheme. This involves a variety of tasks and activities but mainly centres around financial elements such as drawing down funds from the Heritage Lottery Fund and supporting project partners to access allocation of their grants from the Galloway Glens Scheme.

I would hope by now, as we are a year underway that you would have had contact with a staff member, a project partner or with one of the superb army of volunteers who are working on Galloway Glens funded projects? If not, and you need to contact the scheme, I am most likely to be your very first point of contact. It sounds like I do not get away from my desk very much, but this is not the case - the role is so diverse I am often out and about liaising and supporting project partners.

The most exciting part of my role is coordinating the 'Our Heritage' Small Grants Scheme which has £100,000 in total earmarked by our Partnership Board to be awarded. The Small Grants Scheme seeks projects that support our efforts to 'connect people to our heritage' by providing opportunities to support emerging projects, which align to the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere Principles and the six Galloway Glens themes.

If you are interested in making an application to the 'Our Heritage' Small Grants Scheme or would like to get in touch please do not hesitate to contact me on jude.crooks@dumgal.gov.uk or 07500 107 696.



MY SCOTLAND

A poem written by Barbara Buchan of Glenlee.

Oh to be in Scotland now that spring
is there

With the gambolling lambs and the
prancing calves and the dance of the
mad March hare.

To see the woods where the
snowdrops peep and later the
bluebells adorn,

Oh, I'm glad to be in Scotland, the
land where I was born.

Oh to be in Scotland now that
summer's there

To see the fields so gold and green
and the blossom everywhere.

The birds on wing, and feeding
young, so bright their feathers shine,
It makes one glow with inner pride
to be here in summertime.

Oh to be in Scotland now that
autumn's there

To see the heather on the moors, a
blue haze everywhere.

While from mountain crag the quiet
of dusk is cleaved by a raucous call,
As the stag proclaims, the land as
his, proudly to one and all.

Oh to be in Scotland now that winter
is there

While blizzards blow and the cold
North wind sends each to his own
snug lair,

Where faces gleam as the fire glows
red and young slippered feet make
their way to bed,

Oh, I'm glad to be in Scotland - to
the land I am lovingly wed.

A Galloway Englishman's View of Brexit

by John Fenner

In times past we knew no foe, an empire gained by overthrow,
The referendum choice was clear, we don't want any foreigners here,
A campaign based on lies and deceit, there were no facts, just indiscreet
Suggestions, we'd be better off, but don't include the working class,
Confronted with a barrage, of promises from Nigel Farage,
And the likes of several 'well heeled' men, never mind Beethoven, roll over
Tony Benn.

The 'Out' campaign, to seize their chance, to cut us off from root and branch,
Have sailed into a choppy sea, it's just not Parliamentary,
The PM's name is becoming hazy, is it Theresa or is it Daisy?
A puppet in the Cabinet, you hear them cry it's time she went,
I've had enough, I'm feeling ill, from across the Channel no good will,
From their perspective what a lark, the M20's a lorry park.

You may leave soon "goodbye, chin chin", but just you try to get back in,
Jacob, Boris and their crew have knocked the UK all to skew,
The voters thought of World War II, stand all alone, it isn't new,
But Churchill's gone and in his place we have a ghastly carapace,
And in the web we all are caught, common sense just counts for naught.

Destroy the trade of thirty years, fight and squabble with our peers,
And in the end what will we have, expensive paper for our lavs,
A blue passport that's laughed upon, "please wait here it won't be long",
And now that the end is near, we'll all be crying in our beer,
That's if we have some beer to drink, I think I'll pour mine down the sink.

But in the north across the border, the Scots perceive this grave disorder,
They live in a most friendly land, to one and all, extend their hand,
But now they find that 'Number 10', in parenthesis, has spoke again,
You voted not for this divorce, but we'll remove you too by force,
So, dear Scotland wave the flag, lest your spirits start to sag,
And look forward to your proper station, as an independent nation.

Book Review: *The Man Who Changed Everything*

Paul Goodwin reviews
The Man Who Changed Everything by Basil Mahon:

Why didn't we know this before? I was amazed by this biography of James Clerk Maxwell, the most famous man you never heard of.

Much more than just a biography, this book tells of a boy from Glenlair, near Parton, largely taught by his mother, who became a man admired by men of science the world over - Einstein even had a picture of him on his wall.

Although the book of necessity contains much science, much of it remains accessible for those without such a background; with tales of the man, his life, his tragedies and his legacy.

The author skilfully paints a picture of a remarkable polymath, weaving stories of James' life and tragedies around his scientific achievements. Surprises unfold throughout the book, including his interests in philosophy, biology and chemistry and pretty much everything else that came to his attention. And, perhaps most surprising in a scientist,

he was a devout man of God.

His achievements ranged widely across the field that we now know as physics, from an early paper on the stresses of bridge trusses to producing the world's first colour photograph and from an important paper on the rings of Saturn to his most important work on the nature of electromagnetic waves.

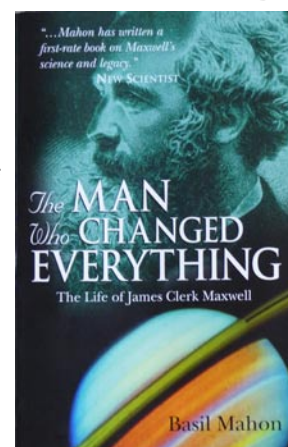
Not that he spent all his time with his professors and his students. He was also known for his (free) talks to working men; "a farmer recalled how the professor had stood one of them on an insulating mat and 'pumpit him fu' o' electricity' so that his hair stood on end".

The book contains examples of his poetry in local Galloway dialect and extracts from his letters, one of which concerns a fellow professor's excessive brevity and had me chuckling aloud.

Some may consider this book to be a misguided blend of a biography and text book, but if so, the short-sightedness is theirs - take up the challenge and read on. James would not be bound by the presumptions of his predecessors and I urge you to be

open-minded and accept the book for what it is. I, for one, will put this onto my bookshelf to be re-read in the future and to keep as a reference.

With buildings named after him in London and Edinburgh, a telescope in Hawaii, a memorial outside Parton Church (where he is buried) and a statue in George Street, Edinburgh, James's career is taught in schools across the world, seemingly everywhere except Britain. On finishing the book, I was left with one clear thought: "Why didn't I know this before?"



Crossing Words

Deugh – Ken – Dee



Throughout the Galloway Glens we are never too far away from a river, a loch, or a burn.

What does having water between us mean? Water can connect but it also divides and creates boundaries. Crossing points are important – be they bridges, stepping stones, or fords. And, of course, our predecessors had to find ways of crossing water not only before cars came to be widely used but also before bridges were built. What has happened at crossing points in the recent, as well as distant, past?

These musings were the inspiration for this page, an offshoot of Ken Words*. **Crossing Words** will be a regular piece in the Gazette. It will be a page of writing submitted by anyone who has a tale to tell or a reflection to share, with a different crossing point being featured each issue, from Carsphairn to Kirkcudbright.

Your writing (max. 300 words) can be imaginative or prompted by real events or experience. Do you have a childhood memory or a story passed down? Are you inspired by the stories of historical figures, by the variety of people who have passed through this area? Do you cross the water here now, and does it give pause for thought?

*Ken Words is a community writing project supported by Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership, Creative Scotland, and GCAT. If you would like to find out more about Ken Words' activities, please contact Jane McBeth on jane.kenwords@gmail.com or 01644 420374.



To get your creative juices flowing, here is a poem about the crossing at Dalry:

Oyster Catchers

We follow the old road down
between kirk and castle mound to
the crossing point
watched by orange eyes.

Not wishing to spoil this parapet pairing
we pause, as so many others
must have done
before they forded here.

*Did you stand your ground before
king and soldier
Did you point your proud bills at
pilgrim and drover?*

The bridge begins to sway to our steps
and the lovebirds screech down to
skim the river – as we head
westwards to the hills.

Andrew Mellor 01/04/2019



This issue's crossing point is the ford and suspension bridge at Dalry (pictured). Please send your writing to me, Laura, by email: laura.kenwords@gmail.com or post c/o CatStrand, by 21 June 2019. A selection of responses will be printed in the next issue and all submissions will be kept for possible future publication.

Galloway Glens Business A

The Galloway Glens scheme has been running its Business Academy for four months now, in partnership with Business Gateway Dumfries & Galloway.

In that time, it has hosted three events, all aimed at different sectors of the local economy. This is in line with one of the Galloway Glens' two main aims - that of supporting sustainable rural economies, and to better connect people with our local heritage.

68 people in total have attended the three free events which were held in the Clachan Inn in Dalry, then in Kirkcudbright Galleries and lastly in Mr Pook's Kitchen Castle Douglas. People who attended found them to be packed full of technical detail of specific relevance to their business or organisation, with a range of excellent speakers.

Maximising the income from your Accommodation Business

At the first event in January, Ronnie Bradford of Brookford B&B, Jo Blaylock of SuperControl Booking Systems, Dane Smyth from Lets Go D&G and John King from Business Gateway D&G spoke to accommodation providers about maximising the income from their accommodation business.

Ronnie spoke about the importance of working together to increase the tourism potential of the area - he considers his competitors to be in the Lake District or the Highlands and Islands, not Dumfries and Galloway. He also emphasised the importance of going the extra mile in giving guests the experience they are looking for. This includes doing research into the amazing area that we live in such as the Biosphere, the Forest Park or the Dark Sky Park, and both using these in your marketing and also being able to give advice about how to access them.

Dane then spoke about what your social media and website should be doing for you. He also emphasised using the many natural resources of the area as a pull for visitors, with great photos and links. He then gave an overview of the insight that Google analytics can provide for you, about where your website users are coming from and how long they stay on your page.

Jo gave some fascinating insights into when and how people book their holidays now. 81% of people now book online, and 40% of those bookings are made between 6pm and midnight - so an easy-to-use booking system with real-time availability can make the difference between people booking with you or moving to the next property.

Lastly, John gave an excellent view on managing your accommodation business efficiently, with some advice on Making Tax Digital and how to make your life simpler with an



The New Routes to Marketing for Small Businesses in Kirkcudbright

effective accountancy software package. Sounds boring but is increasingly essential!

New Routes to Market for Small Creative Businesses

Next up in Kirkcudbright was an event aimed at small and micro Creative Businesses. This time we were joined by Morag MacPherson, an artist and one of the initial founders of PA Pop-Up, an artists' collective which now has shops in Kirkcudbright, Castle Douglas and Gatehouse.

Morag spoke passionately about the ethos behind the Co-operative, where people work together to man and run the shops, giving small businesses a High Street outlet they would never be able to afford otherwise. Work is sold commission-free, in return for a monthly fee of between £25-£35 and a time and effort contribution to the running of the shops of 1 or 2 days per month. The waiting lists for each shop are growing, so you may have to be patient, but if you like the idea of co-operative working, this is a great option. Morag spoke of the necessity of having smaller items such as greetings cards to turn over quickly while you wait for the larger pieces to sell, and of the importance of being realistic about your sales, especially in the early days.

Helen Keron, Galloway Glens Education and Community Engagement Officer, then shared a number of tips about options for



The Starting or Growing a Small Food Producing Business event, held in Mr Pook's Kitchen, Castle Douglas.



This page is sponsored by the Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership
For further details contact McNabb Laurie, Gall

Academy - The Story So Far



Small Creative Businesses event, held in the Light Galleries.

selling hand-made work online. It is critical to do your research and find the selling channel that works best for you, both in terms of audience reach and commission levels. Ebay is relatively cheap and cheerful but quite general. Etsy and Folksy are more specifically for hand-made crafts. You could also choose to go for volume with the big players like Not On The High Street.com or Amazon Handmade, but be sure to read the T&Cs carefully! Photographing your work well is also critical, as it is all the buyers have to go on. Go for light, modern shots and plenty of them.

John King of Business Gateway D&G then spoke about the challenges of running a micro-business, and his theme was clear – Time is Money! You have to account for all of the time you spend on social media marketing, invoice generation, following up on leads and administration, not just the time you spend actually making your product. £20/hour of your creative time is a reasonable starting point for costing your work if you would like to earn above the minimum wage in reality.

Starting or Growing a Small Food Producing Business

Lastly, we were joined in Castle Douglas by Louise Matheson, owner and manager of The Dumfries Larder, a high-quality delicatessen specialising in cheeses and many other fine foods.

Helen Keron firstly spoke from her previous experience about the regulatory compliance needed to start a food or drink business. There is a lot of support out there, but it is critical to get registered with Dumfries and Galloway Council Environmental Health team at least 28 days before you start, and to put in place all of the policies and practices necessary to ensure you are producing food that is safe as well as delicious. You will also need to understand the requirements for your produce labels, including highlighting allergens to your customers.

Helen then moved on to tips for selling at Farmers' Markets. This included a summary of how to contact the Glenkens Community Market in Dalry, the new Castle Douglas Producers' Market or Kirkcudbright Farmers' and Producers' Market, as well as some tips on effective presentation. It is critical to display your wares in an eye-catching way that is also safe and hygienic. Your approach behind the stall is also important – try not to sit down if you can, and always be prepared to tell your story.

Louise then gave a fascinating insight into the world of retail, highlighting that she will typically need a 40% margin for any product she buys. For VAT-rated goods, the picture is further complicated by the fact that she will have to pay VAT to HMRC on her sales, even if you are too small to pay on yours. For example, for a bar of chocolate that you sell at £5 at a Farmers' market and might propose to sell to her for £4 so she can also sell it for £5 would incur an 83p VAT bill for her, leaving just 17p or 4% margin to cover her 40% overheads.

The main thing therefore when looking to sell to a retailer is to be practical about what both price points should be and what sales volumes you think will be achieved. A long shelf-life is a big bonus – if you also sell at Farmers' Markets, consider swapping out shorter-life products to sell that weekend and replacing them for the retailer with longer-life items.

John then finished the evening with his now familiar tale of Time is Money, highlighting again how important it is to account for all your time, not just cooking time. He also had some great tips for selling to retailers who can deliver the volume you need to make a decent living, including making sure your processes make you easy to work with.

Future Plans

All of the slide packs from the above three presentations are available at www.gallowayglens.org/resources, and look for Business Academy – they're well worth looking at if you have one of these three business types, as you'll find



The Maximising Income from your Accommodation Business event, held in the Clachan Inn, Dalry.

much more detail than has been covered above.

Business Academy will continue throughout 2019, so look out for upcoming events. And remember that Business Gateway Dumfries & Galloway is always open to enquiries, no matter how small or large your business is. For an appointment contact 01387 808738.

Scheme, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Dumfries & Galloway Council.
Galloway Glens Team Leader, on mcnabb.laurie@dumgal.gov.uk

GIVING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE A VOICE

"We have been learning about time. Time is important because you might be late for work or school. We have been learning about times tables. Two times four equals eight and ten times ten is a hundred. We have been doing Forest Schools and we have been learning about ants. If we had the same strength as an ant we would be able to lift a car with our mouth."

Jake

Mardi Gras Activities

The Primary 1-3 class at Dalry had a fabulous day celebrating Mardi Gras with their student teacher Miss Gill.

Everyone wore the Mardi Gras colours of green, purple and gold and made Mardi Gras floats. They also made colourful masks. Thanks to Miss Gill for giving the class such a great experience.



Dalry Primary p1-3 pupils with their Mardi Gras masks.

PUPILS ACHIEVE DISCOVERY AWARD

Some Dalry Secondary pupils have been completing a John Muir Award as part of their Wednesday afternoon activities.

S1 pupils Lucy, Campbell, Tori, Sophie and Jessica received their Discovery Level Award certificates.

These required them to commit 24 hours of time to discovering, exploring, conserving and sharing information about their local natural and cultural heritage. This involved finding out about the local folklore and history of Dalry, visiting Ken Dee RSPB reserve and Bellymack Farm to find out about the red kite reintroduction programme, mountain biking and walking to explore new areas and conducting OPAL surveys to help monitor insect



Dalry Secondary S1 pupils Lucy, Campbell, Tori and Sophie with their certificates.

numbers and distributions.

This was the first year that Dalry Secondary have taken part in the John Muir Awards, and hopefully we will be able to do so again next year for pupils who would like to discover more about their local natural environment.

Visit the Dalry School blog to find out more about what the pupils have been doing this term - <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/dalrysecondary>

Ross McFarlane

"We have been learning about insects ... Last week we went on an insect hunt. We found a caterpillar - it was the size of a small worm. We also found a snail, its shell looked like a fossil. The colours were so beautiful it looked like a rainbow. This week we pretended to be ants so we got smelly oil and made a trail. Then we got a blindfold and put it on so we needed to use smell to try to find the thing the trail led to. I found out that there are three types of ants: there is a queen, flying and a scout ant."

Elizabeth

GIVING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE A VOICE

Dalry Primary Science

Dalry Primary have been doing science such as pendulum testing, building paper bridges, trying to stop eggs from breaking from a certain height and making a gas to blow up a balloon.

Sometimes the experiments failed and sometimes they didn't. Some of the experiments were based on our topic about water. With P4/5 we did STEM activities which included the paper bridges and the eggs, but most of the activities where just

for our topic. We did the balloon experiment; we were trying to get a liquid and a solid together to make a gas which is linked with our topic.

Then not long ago we did a shaving foam experiment which was really fun but the whole point of it was that we all were trying to work out if shaving foam is a solid or a liquid and turns out that it is a solid with a liquid inside.

In STEM when we did the paper bridge and the egg dropping challenge the whole point of it was to see if we could work as a team with the other class as well as creating something to stop the eggs from cracking and that pretty much worked.

*Charlie M, George and Lola,
P6, Dalry Primary*



Dalry Primary School pupils carrying out experiments.

Hello Readers...

Today we are writing about water colours and Claude Monet. At school we have been working on using water colours in our art. We have been looking at Claude Monet and how he became an impressionist.

We have been learning different techniques, with a paint brush by using small strokes and to use a lot of water on our paint brushes to make the colours wash. In fact we have been impressionists ourselves. One art lesson we went outside to paint what we see and if we were painting a beautiful landscape and there was an ugly fence in the picture you might think I don't want that in my painting because it will ruin it. Because it is what you see not what the other person sees.

There was one lesson with Mrs Haynes we were learning about Georgia O'Keeffe and looking at her famous paintings of her flowers. Mrs Haynes said "Right were going to have a go!!" I thought I couldn't match my work to hers. But we all looked up a picture of a flower on the computer I did a water lily, the reason that Georgia's stile of painting is different to other paintings is because she sketches the flower first then she outlines it with a pastel next she paints the flower's colour then finally the colour she painted the flower the opposite colour is for the background.

*Bye, Dante Newbery
...thank you and goodnight.*

JOHN MUIR AWARDS AT KELLS

The Kells Primary School P4-7 class are working towards their John Muir Trust Discover Award as part of their Forest Friday activities.

Inspired by the famous Scottish ecologist and founder of National Parks, the award encourages people to "discover, explore, conserve and share" local wild places.

We hope that it will help encourage a lifelong appreciation of landscape and wildlife, as well

as an awareness of the kinds of careers and opportunities there are for caring for and working in the outdoors.

It's fantastic to see the enthusiasm of the class and the challenges they overcome exploring and learning outside.

The children are planning to hold an Open Morning towards the end of term (date to be confirmed) where they can share the site and what they've discovered with the younger class, families and friends - campfire cooking included!

A huge thank you to Mr and Mrs Maxwell for allowing us to use their land every week, and for the support of the parents.

Mary, Forest Friday Volunteer



Exploring the burn.

GLENKENS GUIDES CHIEF GUIDE'S AWARD

The Glenkens Guide Unit attended a party to celebrate the guiding achievements of our Young Leaders Annabelle McAdam and Cara Ramsay.

Annabelle and Cara had also invited many other people from within and outwith guiding who have helped them along the way. We are very proud that they have both completed their Look Wider scheme, and on the night were presented with their Chief Guide's Award by county commissioner Kirsty Tomlin.

Besides being our Young Leaders both girls are members of Girlguiding Stewartry's Senior Section. Well done girls, we're very proud of all you have achieved!

After much discussion and planning with the guides themselves about venues and dates, the 1st Glenkens Guide Unit had an outing to the Cocoa Bean Factory. Besides

enjoying a session of chocolate crafting the girls also had fun on the outdoor play equipment.

Comments from the Guides included; "My favourite part was making the chocolate", "We had lots of fun inside and outside", "I enjoyed pushing Annabelle on the basket swing", "I enjoyed making up my face with moustache and beard".

The Guides are especially grateful to Glenkens Community Shop for the grant which subsidised this outing - it has been very much appreciated.

Further news is that we have a very welcome new Guide Leader, Mrs Fiona Norbury, who is taking over from myself. After some 30 years as a Guider I am going to miss the fun and adventure, but it is certainly time to retire. Thank you Fiona - I hope that you will also enjoy the fun and adventures!

Kathryn Peace



Top: Annabelle McAdam and Cara Ramsay being presented with their Chief Guide's Award. Above: Guides with their new Guider, Mrs Fiona Newbury, and Young Leader Annabelle McAdam..

Hopes Recorded in Balmaclellan

Artist Jason Nelson took a mobile foundry to Balmacellan where he poured molten aluminium into moulds taken from lino cuts.

Moulds were made by more than 80 people including secondary school students and members of the local Men's Shed group.



*Jason (right) with Roddy Mathieson
© Colin Tennant.*

The idea is that people's hopes for the year 2030 are recorded on specially cast metal ingots in a project exploring the legacy of the Galloway Glens hydro scheme and the future for renewables.

Jason's work explores the story of Scotland's hydroelectric schemes and the development of hydroelectric power in Galloway (one of Scotland's oldest and boldest clean, renewable energy projects).

His project was inspired by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's projection that the world needs to fundamentally change its energy production and use by 2030 to avoid irreparable damage to the environment and climate system.

Hydro schemes initially came to Scotland to generate the energy needed for aluminium smelting. Then, with moves to build the national grid, they were seen as a way to bring power to the people.

Jason said: "The Galloway Glens hydro scheme was an astonishing piece of civil engineering - with the capacity to provide clean energy for around 79,000 homes.

"Right now, we need the same kind of drive, vision and creative thinking to put renewables at the heart of global energy production and to help us reshape how we use energy by 2030.

"That's not long - today's secondary school students will only be in their 20s. So I thought I'd ask people of all ages to say what they would like to see in the next 12 years."

Jason encouraged participants to express their aspirations and desires by marking lino using cutting tools, letter punches and stick on letters. Some people's messages were global, like wanting a better environment for their grandchildren. Others were simpler, like hoping for a family of their own - or even a pet dog.

The finished pieces will form part of an Energise exhibition at Gracefield Arts Centre over the summer.

Jason is one of three artists involved in Energise, a project run by Upland Arts Development Community Interest Company, which aims to explore the relationship between climate change and the environment and people of Dumfries and Galloway.

Exploring the Glenkens on Foot

Have you ever wanted to know more about the wonderful walks and paths that are ready and waiting to be explored on our doorstep?



In April members of the local community, Connecting in Communities, Local Initiatives in New Galloway, New Galloway community engagement worker and Louise Coupar from Stewartry Active Sports came together for training and to plan a range of walking opportunities around our local community.

Ideas were shared and now we are pleased to announce a Community and Family Walk on Sunday 2 June at 3pm. A social walk that is suitable for all (accompanied children and well-behaved dogs on leads welcome) starting and finishing in New Galloway. There will be well earned refreshments at the end.

A Place-Name Walk on Sunday 28 July at 2pm,

What is a place-name walk? It is a walk through past and present, through landscape and language. It is an attempt to see the modern environment through the eyes of the people who gave it the names which we still use today, taking the names themselves as our guides'.

Details and date for a Stroll in the Park are to be confirmed. This will be a low level walk ideal for anyone who is new to exercise, living with or recovering from a long term illness or who would like to walk with others. We hope to develop this Community project and welcome ideas, volunteers and information on local walks.

If you would like more information please contact Sam Rushton, community engagement worker, on samCEW@newgallowaycommunity.shop or pop into New Galloway Shop.

THE GARDEN SPOT

The flower borders are looking very untidy now but I am resisting the temptation to get rid of all the foliage from the spring bulbs until mid-June, or six weeks from the flowers finishing.

They also need a sprinkling of chicken manure (if you are organic) or 'growmore' if not. This should see the bulbs build their strength for a good display next year.

In the veg plot, successional sowings are the order of the day. No point in planting a whole row of lettuces when you only want one or two a week. Seeds sown at the same time will generally be ready at the same time. I try and sow about two-foot long rows of radishes, lettuce, rocket and dwarf beans about every two weeks (and I must do better at keeping up the watering when it is dry).

On the subject of watering, it is generally agreed that 'little and often' is the worst thing you can do; this only wets the surface of the soil and encourages surface roots, plants need deep roots. Far

better to give a really thorough watering and leave at least 5 – 7 days. Not true for the hanging baskets of course, I reckon they need about 1cm of water per day (half an inch in old money). I have been known to water mine whilst carrying an umbrella if it is raining, much to the amusement of passers-by! Rain alone is never enough.

If you have apple or pear trees, you will notice that some of the fruits will start to fall off in the next few weeks. Nothing to worry about, this is called the 'June drop' and is nature's way of removing excess fruits that the tree cannot sustain. In fact, a good idea towards late June/early July is to help it along; remove any fruits that look damaged, misshapen or are in an awkward place, reduce each cluster to two fruits (max) and then stand back and look. Do you need a crop of 100 on this small garden tree? Or 50? Better to reduce the number to 25 or 30 so you get bigger, better quality fruits.

If you have never taken your own softwood cuttings from fuchsia, penstemon etc, then now is the perfect time to try. There is plenty of guidance online or on

gardening programs on how to do this. One tip that I can give is to cut a 2-litre plastic bottle in half and use each as a mini greenhouse for your cuttings – you just need to find a suitable pot, any old compost and just stick them in. Some things grow so fast at this time of year, I'm sure they should come with a warning – 'plant and stand well back'.

I'm hoping that I have not bitten off more than I can chew by trying to grow wasabi for the first time. Expensive to buy, fiddly to grow, two years before you get a crop and mine have already been attacked by slugs – oh well, if it fails, then at least I will have something to measure my successes against.

The Intrepid Gardener



The wasabi experiment...

Air Crashes in the Glenkens

Previous articles have told the stories of air crashes on Corserine, around Loch Doon and to the north of Carsphairn – issues 89, 95 and 100 (available online).

This article covers the final three local air crashes, all in the eastern side of the Glenkens.

The first of these losses was on Beninner, a hill about a mile south-east of Cairnsmore of Carsphairn. On 8 November 1939, Bristol Blenheim IV serial P4848 was on a ferry flight from RAF Perth, Scone to RAF St Athan, Cardiff along with three other Blenheims and a Fairey Battle. The Battle landed at Blackpool due to poor weather, three Blenheims arrived safely at St Athan but this one was reported overdue and was not found until more than a week later. This twin engine light bomber was normally operated by a three-man crew but this was a ferry flight so the pilot (Flt Lt Kenneth Norman Masters Eyres) was the only one on board. His body was found in the wreckage and he is buried at Stranraer Glebe cemetery. The Blenheim was known to have problems with icing in cold weather and the flight



Blenheim



Dornier Do 217



Lysander

instruments were mostly obscured by the control yoke, so probably a difficult aircraft to be in during poor weather conditions. The plane was part of the Special Duties Flight which was testing radio and radar equipment for the Air Ministry so there must have been some relief when the plane with its secret equipment was found.

The second crash in this area was the only enemy aircraft to crash in the Glenkens. On 25 March 1943, a Dornier 217 (serial U5-JR) twin engine bomber with a crew of four, suffered engine failure during a bombing mission near Edinburgh. It crashed at Cornharrow, about six miles east of Carsphairn, although what it was doing this far south-west is anyone's guess. Three of the crew bailed out and were captured and held as prisoners of war. The body of the fourth crew member was found in the wreckage of the aircraft. The prisoners of war were taken initially to Dalry police station. One of the

prisoners had lost a boot in the bog where he landed and, on arriving at the police station, he handed his remaining boot to Police Sergeant Hugh Harvie as it would be no further use to him. Apparently the boot stayed on the windowsill

of the police station for several years afterwards. Sgt Harvie's wife received some mild criticism for feeding the prisoners before they were taken away, but she explained "they were just wee boys".

The final crash in this area occurred on 25 February 1942 beside the Ken Bridge Hotel. A Westland Lysander, serial V 9472 of 309 (Polish) Squadron was involved in practice dive-bombing attacks on a gun position. The pilot was Fly Off Piotr Dunin and also on board was Fly Off Jerzy Homan. The plane failed to pull out of the dive and crashed in the road killing both men.

An investigation showed that a system malfunction was the cause of the crash. The Lysander is better known as the plane used to smuggle members of the French resistance into and out of occupied France.

I should also point out the Ministry of Defence statement: "The remains of all aircraft which crashed while in military service, whether on land or at sea, are protected by the Protection of Military Remains Act 1968. It is an offence under this act to tamper with, damage, move or unearth remains unless the Secretary of State has issued a Licence authorising such things to be done, and they are done in accordance with the conditions of the Licence."

That concludes this irregular series of articles on the Air Crashes of the Glenkens. However, there are a few other interesting crash sites nearby...

Paul Goodwin



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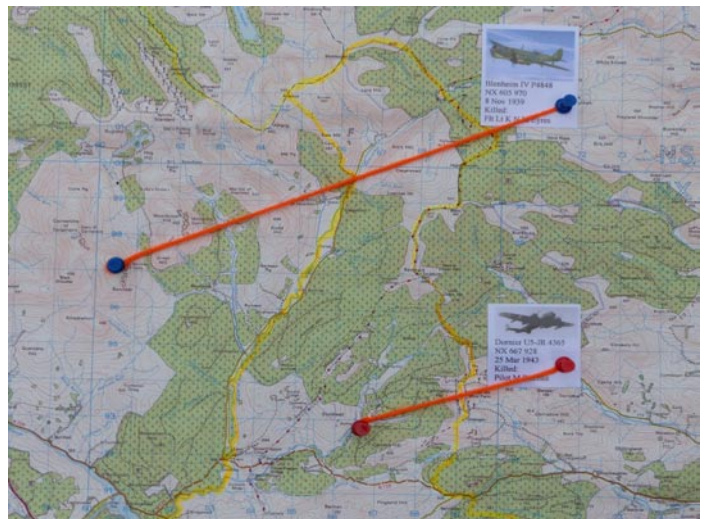
For bookings and info:

Duncan Kennedy

07860 474001

dk@passcan.co.uk

www.passcan.co.uk



Top: The three types of aircraft which crashed. Above: the locations of the first two planes, the third, which crashed beside the Ken Bridge Hotel, being self-explanatory.

LOCAL HISTORY with TED COWAN

Poets of the Glenkens

Dorothy Paulin, a wise woman who edited *The Gallovidian Annual* in the 1930s, once requested that her contributors would submit more poetry and less verse for publication.

It is probably true that most of us cannot tell the difference between the two. The world famous popular poet Robert Service once remarked that in his family anything that rhymed was poetry. Dorothy indicated that Galloway perhaps offered too much inspiration, suggesting that writers concentrate less on scenery and more on 'homely subjects' such as 'the dance of a dragon-fly or the song of a burn', the smell of wood-smoke from a farmhouse as the porridge-pot is placed on a pile of sticks. Poets, she argued, were usually remembered by a line or phrase rather than by a lengthy composition. 'Then is inspiration born again; then does the mind Quicken and the heart lift, and Infinity retreat before the pleasures and thrilling possibilities of the finite present. 'The pen is taken up and perhaps an immortal line, or fragment, or sonnet, is written'.

The Glenkens is remarkable for the astonishing number of poets it has produced. The nature of poetry and the ways in which it differed from prose was among many subjects to which Robert Heron of New Galloway turned his mind. I have banged on about Heron's unrecognised achievements on many occasions in print and 'speak' in efforts to have his contributions recognised. A true son of the Scottish Enlightenment, among his many accomplishments, he was a talented historian who remarked that public transactions were only half of history. He believed that while there were few historical events that embraced the common interests of everybody, it was private life that exhibited 'the most interesting and most instructive scenes'. The experience of the people was as worthy of commemoration as the wars. The best and most perfect history would be that in which the historian sought, 'with the art of the Epic

Poet, [to] intermingle the history of manners with that of policy, so as to work them up together into one beautiful and orderly whole'.

He was also convinced that William Wallace and Robert Bruce, together with the poets who commemorated them, spoke and wrote Lallans, which had survived as the Scottish leid or language until his own day and incidentally to ours also. No English person can instantly comprehend the works of Chaucer without tuition, while the Scottish conceit, however misguided, is that Scots have all been able to understand one another for over 600 years, a notion that contributes effectively to the national mythos. The classics of Scottish poetry thus preserve a validity and inspiration for the present. Eton-educated Alexander Clark Kennedy of Knockgray invited his readers to:

*Wi me praise thae ancient days
O Scotlan aye sae glorious!
An, if like men, we fecht again,
We'll be like Bruce victorious.*

Samuel Wilson of Crossmichael told the sad tale of the Gaberlunzie man, 'fraise and auld,/An his haffetlocks were bleached wi eild' who drowned in the swollen Garpel when he was refused shelter from a fierce storm. More recently James Trotter celebrated 'The Clachan Fair':

*Aye dog it Tam, I'll tak a dram,
To clear the vapours by, man;
Carsphairn inn keeps famous gin,
The thocht o't maks me dry man.
And yet I think, I shouldna drink,
The day is unco young man;
But as for you, ye're geylie fou,
Gude-faith ye're fairly sprung man.*

We are indebted to Hilda McAdam for publishing in her great collection, *Dalry Reminiscences*, Sanny Hunter's amusing and cautionary ballad about the unfortunate Jamie who paid a visit to Hell when he was killed while working on Clatteringshaws Dam for the Hydro in the 1930s:

*I saw the dismal coal seams
An the reed het hissing bings
An the special heated corner
For Poets, Peers and Kings.*

Alexander Hunter neatly captured the grind of composition:

*I often think when readin oot the
poetry in the Press,
It is a type o' rhyming lore that's
faur ayont my cless;*

I've seen me sit an study it a hauf

*oor at a
time,
An aye
the mair I
looked at it, the queerer grew the
rhyme.*

*He was the only rhymester I ken
to immortalise the streets of New
Galloway.*

*Whit's come ower ye, New Galloway,
Your Charter boast an a that?*

*There's holes an sheuchs in a your
streets,
Like ploomen draw an a that!*

*They're like to bump a body aff,
Juist brek the shears an a that;
Like wayward sinner, ye'll be
damned,
Sae mend your ways an a that!*

There are plenty more. Still the poems and verses keep coming, preserving memories for the future if anybody has the time and patience to read or listen. The Glenkens dialect is dying, the language of Galloway almost gone in the same way that Gaelic disappeared in this region half a millennium ago, leaving traces only in the place names.

On 7 September there will be a conference in the CatStrand on *The Speak of Galloway* with the support of the Saltire Society. The event will explore the history of Galwegian, the people who spoke it and still speak it and the culture which it supported.

Speakers include Professor Jeremy Smith, *Language and History in south-west Scotland*; Margaret Ferguson, *Haud yir tongue and mind yir language: a sociolinguistic study of the distinctive accent of south-west Scotland*; Derrick McClure, *John Mactaggart's Scottish Gallovidian Encyclopedia*; Chris Rollie, *Bird Names of Galloway*; and the inimitable Rab Wilson, *Poet and 'Lad o' Pairs'*, *Scots Language and Cormilligan: Today and Tomorrow*. The day will conclude with *Speakers of Galloway Speak: A Symposium - What Has Happened to our Language, and Does Anybody Care?* Light lunch included.

All very welcome. Tickets are available from the Catstrand - hoping to see you there!

Ted Cowan





Upland

Pennies From Heaven?
11th May - 29th June 2019

An exhibition of work created through the *Energise* residency project - exploring the history and legacy of the Galloway hydro electric scheme.

Gracefield Arts Centre, 28 Edinburgh Road, Dumfries
Open Tues - Sat 10am-5pm & over Spring Fling weekend
www.weareupland.com

Image: Morag Paterson



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help with housing in the Glenkens

Affordable housing for people living or working in the Glenkens whose circumstances would benefit from the provision of reduced rent.

Tenancy applications welcome from anyone, young or old, single or with a family, who qualifies under the terms of the Trust.



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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Hair by Jayne

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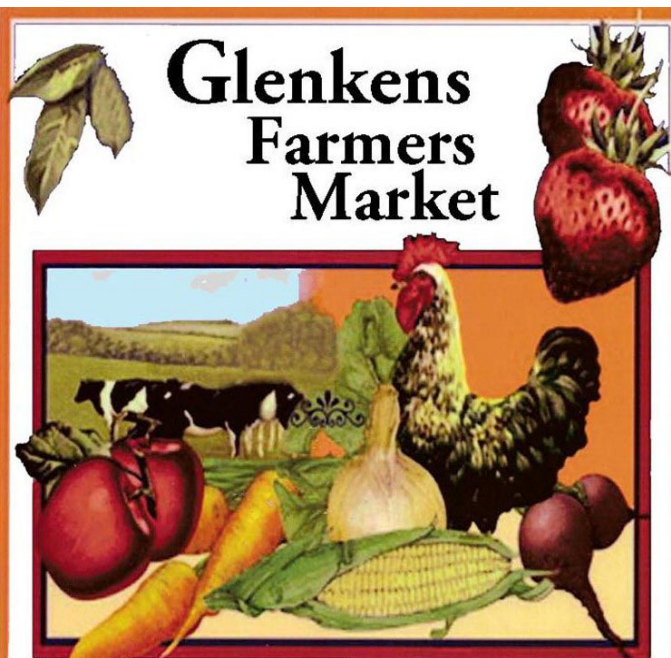
We stock an extensive range of hand-made Wild Olive soaps, and also Wild Olive products such as bath melts, shampoo bars and doggie shampoo bars.

The salon also houses massage practitioner Blair Templeton (07795 170 927) and Patricia Lavelle, Minding Feet, with foot health and holistic foot therapies on Wednesdays only (07789 246 833).

Sponsored dog walk coming soon in aid of Dalry School - watch out for posters!

A big thankyou to Ross Hardman of Dalry who makes lovely cards to sell in the Salon. All the proceeds go to the Dalry Community Charity Shop.

Thank you to all our lovely clients old and new for their continued business, support and friendship.



Glenkens Farmers Market

2nd Saturday Monthly
8th June
13th July
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

Photo of the Issue *Sponsored by the Ken Bridge Hotel*



This issue's winner is Eric Broadhurst with *Tranquility on Kendoon Loch*.

Eric wins a meal for two at the Ken Bridge Hotel's Sunday carvery. Competition judges Dave and Sue said: "Some lovely pictures again this issue, but we've settled on the tranquil loch - if someone said it was a Canadian scene you wouldn't question it; absolutely stunning."

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

If you are a winner the Gazette will send you out a voucher - please call the Ken Bridge to book your meal, and make sure to take your winner's voucher along with you.



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JUNE - JULY 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) 1130;

New Galloway (Town Hall) 1140, (CatStrand) 1142

Return Pickup Newton Stewart (Aldi Car Park) 1330

Return Fare £3.00 Booking required.

MONTHLY

Glenkens to Ayr Return

Saturdays: Jun 19, Aug 31, Oct 26, Dec 21

Pickups

New Galloway (CatStrand) 0930,

Dalry (Underhill) 0940, Carsphairn (1000)

Leaves Ayr 1500

Fare (each way) £3.50/ Concessions £3.00

Booking required.

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or call 01644 420374

EXCURSIONS

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

See GTI website for more details

June 16, Sunday

Gardens of Excellence – The Machars Gardens

Craichaw Garden, Kirkcowan

A formal garden with herbaceous borders, water garden, newly-planted arboretum, walks round the loch. Meet the owners. Partly accessible. Admission £4

Woodfall Garden, Glasserton

A lovely, 3 acre, 18th century walled garden. Meet the owners and discover its history. Plants for sale.

Refreshments available. Accessible. Admission £5.

Pickups: Dalry (Underhill) 0900; New Galloway (CatStrand)

0910; Crossmichael (Shop) 0925, Castle Douglas (British

Legion, Market Hill) 0935.

Fare £7. Concessions £6.

June 29, Saturday

Woolfest 2019 Cockermouth, Cumbria

Celebrating the best of wool and wool crafts. Meet makers and designers, learn about British wool and rare native breeds. Stalls and demos. Admission £10.

Pickups: Dalry (Underhill) 0900, New Galloway (CatStrand)

0910, Crossmichael (Shop) 0920, Castle Douglas (Market Hill)

0930. Fare £7. Concessions £6

July 7, Sunday

Samye Ling Buddhist Monastery, Eskdalemuir

Enjoy a peaceful day at the Monastery. Stroll around the peace gardens and grounds and visit the temple. Listen to prayers if they wish. You can relax in the Tibetan Tea Rooms where drinks and light snacks are available.

Pickups: New Galloway (CatStrand) 0900, Dalry (Bank Bus

Stop) 0910, Crossmichael (Shop) 0920, Castle Douglas (Market

Hill) 0930. Fare £7. Concessions £6

July 14, Sunday

Isle of Arran (by the 0945 ferry)

Pickups: New Galloway (CatStrand) 0800, Dalry (Bank Bus

Stop) 0810, Carsphairn (Shop) 0825.

Fare £8. Conc £7. The ferry foot passenger return fare is £8.

July 24, Wednesday

Gardens of Excellence – The Borders Gardens

Kailzie Gardens, Peebles. Admission £5

25 acres, breathtaking views of Tweed Valley, walled garden, summer colour, fine fountain, woodland walks. Refreshments available. Wheelchair accessible.

Portmore Garden, Eddleston

1.5 acre walled garden. Impressive selection of colours.

Tender plant glasshouses, Italianate grotto, rose beds, borders and water garden. Plants for sale. Refreshments available. Wheelchair accessible. Admission £6

Pickups: Dalry (Underhill) 0900; New Galloway (CatStrand)

0910; Crossmichael (Shop) 0925, Castle Douglas (British

Legion, Market Hill) 0935.

Fare £10. Concessions £9.

RNLI Bumper Lifeboat Fundraiser

The Glenkens fundraising committee of the RNLI held their annual coffee evening in May and are delighted to report that over £925 was raised – a bumper year.

Speaking on behalf of the committee, Nicolette Wise said: "We are so grateful to everyone who supported our coffee evening in Dalry Town Hall and it was nice to see so many people enjoying themselves. The stalls were all busy and the cake stall was so popular that they ran out of baking before the end!

"The event also gave us an opportunity to thank Elizabeth Thompson who has stood down from the committee after over 30



President of the Stewartry RNLI fundraising group, May Brown, presenting Elizabeth Thompson with gifts and a certificate to mark over 30 years fundraising for the Lifeboats.

years, most of them as secretary." Such commitment to the Lifeboats was also appreciated by RNLI Head Office in Perth as Elizabeth was presented with gifts and a certificate at the recent AGM of the Stewartry RNLI.

COMMUNITY PC THANKS

Our Community Police Officer Thomas Dingwall will be leaving his role in the Glenkens.

Tom would like to take this opportunity to say a few words to the people of the Glenkens. "I was in the CID for years before and had the option to return, which I have taken. There will be a new Community Officer allocated very shortly and until then Chloe Ellis will be standing in.

"Thank you to everyone I have met over the last year - I have really enjoyed my time as the Glenkens Community Officer and it was a pleasure serving such a great wee community. I'm sure the incoming Community Officer will fill my shoes no problem, and get round to meeting everyone in the near future. I am sorry my time was short in the Glenkens but it's certainly made my last year in the Police very enjoyable."

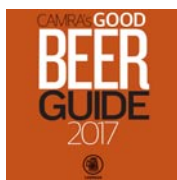


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JUNE & JULY

JUNE

runs until 29 June, Pennies from Heaven Exhibition, Gracefield Arts Centre, Dumfries, see p22

Sat 1, Coig, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Sun 2, David Scheel, 2.30pm, CatStrand

Sun 2, Community & Family Walk, 3pm, New Galloway, see p19

Mon 3, Blackcraig Community Windfarm Fund Drop-in Session, 6-8pm, Balmacellan Village Hall

Fri 7, Dark Sky Jazz: Norman Wilmore Quintet, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Fri 7, Dalry Police Station Drop-in, 6-7.30pm

Sat 8, The Eric Bell Trio, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Sat 8, Blackcraig Community Windfarm Fund Drop-in Session, 10am-2pm, Dalry Town Hall

Sat 8, Glenkens Farmers' Market, 10am-12.30pm, Dalry Town Hall, see p22

Wed 12, Blackcraig Community Windfarm Fund Drop-in Session, 6-8pm, 6-8pm, Parton Village Hall

Fri 14, CatStrand Youth Players:

A Night of Comedy, 7.30pm, CatStrand, see p9

Sat 15, Gremlins Recorder Day, 11am-4pm, includes lunch & performance at 3pm, CatStrand

Sat 15, Blackcraig Community Windfarm Fund Drop-in Session, 12noon-2pm, Corsock Village Hall

Sun 16, Family Piano Day, 2.30pm, CatStrand

Tue 18, Eos: Van Gogh & Japan, 7.30pm, CatStrand

Fri 21, Elisabeth Schilling: Felt, 7pm, CatStrand

Sat 22, Theatre: Call To Nature, 11am/ 1pm/3pm, Garroch Estate, Dalry (performances start on bus from CatStrand)

Sat 22, Celebrate & Share, 6-8.30pm, New Galloway Town Hall, see p6

Sun 23, Arndarroch Open Garden, 1-5pm, B7000 between Dalry and Carsphairn, see back page

Fri 28, Ken Words: Mid Summer Poetry Walk with Mary Smith & Keith Kirk, 7.30pm, Threave Castle Estate (only 12 places available so booking is essential)

JULY

Fri 5, Dalry Police Station Drop-in, 9-10.30am

Sat 13, Glenkens Farmers' Market, 10am-12.30pm, Dalry Town Hall, see p22

Mon 15, Youth Open Stage, 7.30pm, CatStrand, see p9

Sun 28, Place Name Walk, 2pm, New Galloway, see p19

GLENKENS MEDICAL PRACTICE

General Medical & Dispensing Services

*The Surgery
High Street
New Galloway*

FOR APPOINTMENTS CALL

01644 420234

LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS

Glenkens Community Shop: Contact Shirley McNaught on 07955 743 022 or drop by the charity shop on Main Street, Dalry

Local Initiatives in New Galloway (LING): Contact Ros Hill on ros.hill@rathanhouse.co.uk

Dalry Communities Properties Trust (DCPT): Contact Andi Holmes on andiholmes@hotmail.com or 07729 292 126
Dalry Town Hall: Contact Jim Reid on 01644 430231

New Galloway Community Enterprises (NGCE): Contact Sam Rushton on 07741 656601 or samCEW@newgallowaycommunity.shop or pop into New Galloway Community Shop

Balmacellan Community Trust: Contact Julia Higgins

on julia.higgins55@outlook.com

CatStrand: Contact Chris Jowsey at chris@catstrand.com 01644 420 374 or pop in to the CatStrand

Schools: Pop into the school office or call Carsphairn on 01644 460 269, Dalry on 01644 430 105 (for Nursery, Primary & Secondary) or Kells on 01644 420 340

Bright Stars - Glenkens Community Nursery: Contact glenkenscommunitynursery@gmail.com

Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership (GGLP): Contact McNabb Laurie on mcnabb.laurie@dumgal.gov.uk

If you would like to add your community organisation to this list please get in touch with the Gazette - contact details are on the back page.

DEE & GLENKENS WARD

Councillor Dougie Campbell

is available for consultation on any Council/Public Service matter.

Please phone 07388 956558 or email dougie.campbell@dumgal.gov.uk for an appointment.

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is available for consultation on any Council or Public Service matter.

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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 (starts 12 Feb then fortnightly)

Gentle Tai Chi: Wed 10am

Wendletrap Tai Chi, Wed 2-3.30pm

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, Tues 6.30-7.30pm & Thurs 9.15-10.45am

Learn the Whistle, (starts 28 Feb; 8-week block. Ages 4-12 - 3.45-4.30pm; Age 12+ & Adults - 5-6.30pm). Contact chris@catstrand.com to find out more

Zumba Gold, Fri (term-time) 9.30-10.30am, CatStrand, 16+

Glenkens Community Centre, Dalry:

Paint & Art, Mon 2-4pm (*moving to NG Town Hall from end April*)

GCC Playgroup, Tues, Wed & Thurs 9.15-11.45am

Guides, Tues 6-8pm

Yoga, Wed 7.30-8.45pm, for info call Carylann on 07817 400 287

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:

Paint & Art Group, Mon 2-4pm (*moving from Glenkens*

Community Centre to NG Town Hall at end April)

LING Eleveses & Lunches, Tues 11am-2pm

Fast Broadband Access, Tues 11am-2pm

Table Tennis & Carpet Bowls, Tues 7-9pm

Circuits, Tues 5.30-6.30pm

Zumba, Wed 7.30-8.30pm, 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

A Chat, A Cuppa & A Cake, Wed 10am-2.30pm, Balmaclellan Village Hall

Dalry School Community Choir, Wed 3.30-4.30pm, Dalry Secondary School

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

Youth Writing, 1st Thurs each month (during term time) 3.30-5pm, ages 10-15, Dalry Library

Kettlebells, Balmaclellan Village Hall, Thurs 6-7pm

Carsphairn SWI, 3rd Thurs of the month, Lagwyne Hall, Carsphairn, for further info call Christine on 01644 460 577

Coffee & Craft, Fri 9am-12noon, Lagwyne Hall

Folk Music Session, 4th Fri each month 7.30/8pm till closing, Ken Bridge Hotel

Scouts, Thu 7-8.30pm, New Galloway Scout Hut

Dru Yoga, Thu 12.30-2pm, Laurieston Village Hall

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, New Galloway Golf Course, 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.

Dalry Library

Tuesdays 10.30am-2pm

Fridays 11am-4.30pm

For further information contact Castle Douglas library on 01556 502 643

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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(Jun). Balmaclellan 10am: 1st(Jul). Carsphairn 11.15am: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th. Dalry 9.45am: 2nd(Jun), 4th(Jun). Dalry 10am: 2nd(Jul), 4th(Jul). Dalry 10.30am: 5th(Jun). Kells 9.45am: 3rd(Jun). Kells 10am: 3rd(Jul). **Special Services/Events**: Family Service,

9 Jun, 9.45am, Dalry Church. United Service with Choir, 30 Jun, 10.30am, Dalry Church. Pet Blessing Service, 30 June, 3pm, Balmaghie Church.

Communion Service: 7 July, 11.15am, Carsphairn Church (using central table)

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.

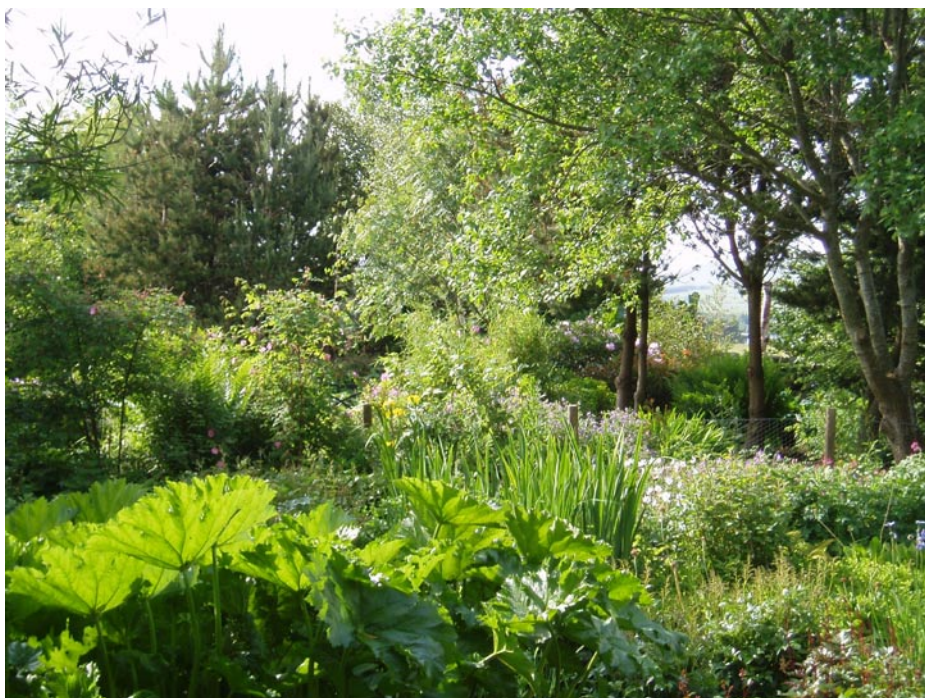
ARNDARROCH OPEN GARDEN

Arndarroch, situated on the B7000 five miles outside Dalry, commands views of Kendoon Loch and Cairnsmore of Carsphairn.

In 1990 the present garden was a bare hillside with thin, rocky soils. This challenge was compounded by rabbits, nettles, docks, thistles and strong winds. The birds were few. Undaunted, owner Annikki Lindsay used the natural features to create a very special garden full of surprises that blend in with the natural surroundings.

The Woodland Garden, the Bog Garden and the Bamboozelam are main features. Flowering, colourful perennials and shrubs have been added over the years and encouraged to spread naturally.

Today the garden and the predators exist harmoniously. The hostas are no longer at the mercy of slugs that are controlled naturally by frogs, toads, birds and hedgehogs. Rabbit-proof cultivars have been chosen and the rabbits, still numerous, do not cause the devastation they once did. Many birds choose to make the garden their home or visit it seasonally, including barn owls, house martins and swallows. There are natural nesting sites and food as well as



Arndarroch garden.

nesting boxes.

Many plants will be flowering in June. Macleaya Kelway's coral plume, filipendula, rheum, astilbe, euphorbia griffithii, primulas and geum at their best. In the Bog Garden the large darmera peltata towers among smaller plants like irises. Variety of trees and shrubs are now well established throughout the garden.

Development of the garden has taken 30 years and what is seen now is not what owner envisaged the result to be. She has learnt that the best outcome can be achieved by working with nature

and not against it, resulting in a unique garden to wander around and sit in to contemplate the magnificent views and to focus on individual aspects of the garden.

At the Open Garden there will also be a display and sale of craft items made by Annikki over the winter months, as well as a plant stall.

Arndarroch Garden Open Day: 23 June, 1-5pm, entry £3.50, teas £2.50, children under 16 free, dogs on leads welcome.

Self-Service Public Laundry



NOW OPEN!

Mon-Sat 8-5 Last wash 4pm Sun 9-4 Last wash 3pm	9kg wash £5 14kg wash £8 8kg drier £5 10kg drier £8
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Community Shop, New Galloway
01644 420620

Glenkens Agricultural Society Annual Show

Saturday 17th August 2019

Newfield Farm, Dalry

Cattle, Sheep, Goats, Poultry, Horses, Show Jumping, Fancy Dress Pony, Pets & Dogs, Crookmaking, Refreshments,

Schedules from Judith Cowie on 07743 004 189 or judith_2006@hotmail.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 glenkengazette@hotmail.co.uk

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