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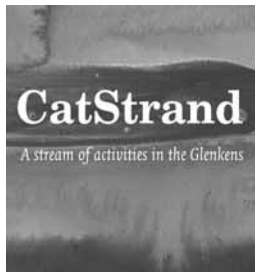
will close on

Wednesday 25th February

and reopen in Watson's Grocers

as an outreach service on

Thursday 26th February.



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**Theatre Film Music Dance Exhibitions Workshops
February/March 2009**

A Valentine's Evening of Romantic Music
With Alex McQuiston (Cello) accompanied by Maxine Windsor
Saturday 14 February, 7.30pm, £8.00 / £6.00

Rapture Theatre presents Last of the Red Hot Lovers
by Neil Simon
Friday 20 February, 7.30pm, £8.00 / £6.00

Gilmore Productions presents
The Blank Album: Live music, comedy and dance
Saturday 21 February, 7.30pm, £5.00 (£3.00 under 18s)

Stand Up Comedy and Magic with Jerry Sadowitz
Tuesday 10 March, 7.30pm, £12.00

Dick Gaughan
Thursday 12 March, 8.00pm, £10.00 / £8.00

Traditional Music Weekend
With the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama
Friday 20 to Sunday 22 March

New website launch

www.moniaive.org.uk

In November the new 'all singing, all dancing' Moniaive website was launched with an open invitation to Glencairn residents to attend the event, comment on and a chance to use the site. This was followed by a short concert by Wing and a Prayer to launch their new CD.

Web creator Tim Jones opened the proceedings by explaining the site, the ideas behind it and how it was a tool for both locals and visitors. Sue Grant, producer of the original Moniaive site, then stressed the importance of the community usage and input. The site was formally opened by MSP Alasdair Morgan. A number of local residents then surfed the site and a few ideas were thrown up about improving it. Since it has been online a number of comments have been received via the feedback form which include:



Photo: Sue Grant

"Well done to everyone in getting Moniaive back on the web. I missed the old site, and the new one looks even better; bright, colourful, excellent content, and reflects the wonderful community that Moniaive and Glencairn is. Again I am impressed with the amount of quality, and quantity, events in the community. This can only come about through committed, and caring, members of the community – if only every community was like Glencairn!"
Rolf Buwert

"Congratulations on producing this excellent website. We are sorry we couldn't attend your 'launch' due to illness but we are very impressed with the layout and content. Brilliant job – well done!" *Joe and Evelyn Boyes*

"Firstly just want to say well done on the new Website, it's really good. The only thing I miss on it that I think would be cool is a Gallery of the area. Once again, well done!" *Andy Baxter*

"Moniaive is the best place ever. I like the new web page."
Susan Conway

Anyone wishing to have an entry on the site can contact us by the feedback form. The site is found at www.moniaive.org.uk.

Afterwards the free concert by Wing and a Prayer was most enjoyable, they played a number of tracks from their new CD. Finally everyone moved to the Craigdarroch Arms for refreshments and further music.

Sue Grant

Jock's Walk 2008



Photo © Dave McFadzean

Eighteen intrepid hikers caught Wattie's bus for Jock's Hogmanay stravaig through the hills. Jock always comes up with interesting routes and the 2008 walk started with a transfer from Wattie's bus into a tractor-pulled trailer that kindly ferried us up to West Skelston road end. From the next road end we daunerred up the road past East Skelston Cottage and another holiday cottage. We popped out of the trees near an ancient homestead where there are six large, elongated, stells (walled enclosures) on the high knolls. Anyone who knows what these might have been for please contact me. We pushed on through boggy ground and forest plantation to link up with a track in Dalmacallan Forest.

Dalmacallan means Macallan's field but who he or she was is lost in time. Another interesting feature of this immediate area is House of Joseph which sits above our route on the forest brae face. If anybody has information on this as well I would be pleased to hear from them. Was this some kind of preaching place or church or was it used as a conventicle site in the times of the Covenanters? It is certainly remote enough and in pre-forestry days the commanding view would have made it a grand place for surreptitious religious service. The track led us on down past Dalmacallan to a second house where a Rottweiler growled and other assorted hounds barked at our motley contingent dogs.

Turning left from here we skirted the edge of the forest and followed the track to



Photo © Dave McFadzean

the ruins of Girharrow. We had lunch here and Joe passed the whisky bottle round then we headed on to the end of the road. Where the track fizzled out a fire break took us out of the trees and on to open hill ground. From here some bog hopping and dyke jumping led us onto a track that took us down past Harold and Christine's at Twomerkland. From there it was a simple pad back down the road back to Moniaive and a welcome heat from the roaring stove in The George. Here we had soup and filled rolls kindly supplied by Janet and Wattie Yule. Another good one this year Jock, and it even stayed dry for us. **Dave McFadzean**

Hackers Day Out

Craigdarroch Hackers Association had a golfing day outing at Wigtownshire County Club, Glenluce. We travelled in luxury and warmth thanks to Yules bus of Moniaive, thanks Wattie!

We held a sweep; winners were Mark Lancaster, Mark Coltart, John Martin and Geordie Logan (ongoing stewards enquiry about the winners). Runners up were; Bill Brown, Rab Laidlaw and Dubs.

Thanks all for taking part.

Rab Neill

'Credit Crunch' hits Glencairn

Many of us are having to cut back in this economic climate. We are making do and mending more than ever, colouring our own hair, foregoing meals out and putting off repairs. All understandable but of course it has a knock-on effect on local businesses and tradespeople.

One Moniaive business has already succumbed – Julie's Hair and Beauty Salon in Moniaive is closing at the end of January.

"Last year business wasn't very good and I was advised in September to think about closing up," said Julie. "Christmas time wasn't as good as hoped. Many of our 'high-end' treatments, that the salon prided itself on, were down."

With overheads, insurance, electricity and wages to pay some weeks the salon has only been breaking even. This all adds up and Julie, not one to admit defeat, has continued for as long as possible in this worsening economic climate. However, drastic steps had to be taken.

All three staff members, Kimberley Mindham, Liz Laidlaw and Julie herself will be going 'mobile'. "We will visit clients in their own homes or they can arrange to come to my house," explained Julie. "We will be offering the same services as before but it is hoped that, without the costs of running the salon, things will improve with a view to re-opening the salon one day."

Having to take time off last year due to family commitments Julie hopes to rebuild the client base. "I am now in a position to focus more on the business," she said.

"Without the support, commitment and understanding of Liz and Kimberley things would have been so much more difficult and I owe them a huge vote of thanks," she added.

Julie also wants to thank Liz and Stuart Hall. "They helped me get started by allowing me to have a room in their house for a salon," she explained. "Thanks also to Graham and Elaine Watson who gave me first refusal on the old shop's storeroom to build the salon."

The new mobile service can be accessed by calling: Kimberley 01848 200001/07599235928; Liz 01848 200529/07713899159 or Julie 01848 200257/07944593947.

Other businesses in the parish are feeling the effects too. Catherine Braid of the Green Tea House explained her mechanism for coping. "I'm lucky in that my business is very diverse. If I had to depend on the Tea House alone it would be difficult as although lunch time is popular we have very few people in through the door in the afternoons. Thankfully my other work as Organic Country Cook helps supplement the Tea House allowing me to remain open."

Jackie Goddard of Hotchpotch said, "Christmas trading was disappointing. Although I had fantastic support from the community the lack of visitors took its toll. As a new business this is a worry and I am finding it hard to cover costs and source new suppliers without a guaranteed client base. With banks unwilling to lend to established businesses I am finding it extremely hard to access any financial support. Let's hope things improve shortly and Glencairn doesn't lose any more businesses.

Writer Alan Grant's work has also been affected by the downturn. The full-length animated movie he's been working on for the past year has been indefinitely delayed as the German producers had their funding withdrawn by their bank.

Graham and Elaine Watson said: "As with all your other contributors we are also feeling the effects of the economic downturn. We are very lucky that our customer base is constant and more importantly loyal, food items are not a luxury however, but a necessity. We too are having to make savings, the newspaper deliveries and accounts is a case in point we are carrying over 100 newspaper accounts which is no longer tenable. It is the mess that the Banks have got themselves in which is having the biggest effect on our business – the lack of support and pressure being put on us by the banks is a constant worry. We will survive but will have to make cut backs in all areas of our business to do so!"

Many others from small tradesmen to larger companies are feeling the pinch in our area. Let's try and support local business when we can and keep Glencairn as vibrant and varied as possible.

Sue Grant

Dangleberries and New Year's Day Ceilidh

This issue is so full there is little room to do justice to the fantastic performance by the Dangleberries at the Craigdarroch's Hogmanay Party. Suffice to say they were brilliant and a good Hogmanay was had by locals and visitors alike. The Gala's ceilidh on January 1st was one of the best ever. The ceilidh band seemed organic and grew and grew as the evening went on! Thanks to all the musicians who played non-stop and for longer than planned and to Jackie who 'called' every dance and was hoarse at the end of the evening. Thanks also to all who supported this event.

New Footpath News

After further fundraising by Glencairn Community Council and Dumfries and Galloway Council the footpath from the new footbridge at the bottom park is due to be completed and we hope it will be open for use (weather dependant) by late February with an official opening in March.

We are also looking to name the footbridge and to date we have a very relevant name, Bobby's Bridge, suggested by Aileen Shipton, but if you have any ideas it is not too late to let Glencairn Community Council know.

This path will complete a circular route round the Cairn Pool and incorporate a safe route to school for children from Dunreggan giving their parents an alternative option to use when they feel weather is suitable to do so. The old station yard is also being improved to create a safer pavement area for children leaving the school and getting on and off school buses. We would like to take this chance to remind people to follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code and keep your dog on the lead when walking the path as the fields will contain sheep expecting lambs.

Once the path is complete there will be an opportunity to raise additional funds to consider screening of the footpath for those properties directly over-looked by the path (if landowners agree and if residents affected want this).

Our thanks again go to Robert and Alison Wilson, Dumfries and Galloway Council, SNH, Breathing Places, Scottish Water and Solway Heritage for their help with this project.

Any enquiries please contact Glencairn Community Council or Stewart Cameron at Dumfries and Galloway Council on 01387 260 145.

Glencairn Community Council

Wind Farm Fund – Your views needed

The Wether Hill Community Wind Farm Fund for the benefit of Glencairn parish received £31,824.09 in the year 2007/2008 and since the fund started, has to date allocated funds to 17 local projects.

The fund will receive monies from Scottish Power for about the next 24 years and although not index linked, there is ultimately going to be the opportunity for well over half a million pounds (£500,000) to be invested in our community.

Two important questions come to mind:

Firstly: Should the money that Glencairn is receiving be used to leverage additional funding? It is common for funding bodies to "match fund" monies into a project. Glencairn could therefore use the Wind Farm Fund money to draw in additional funding, perhaps in the order of another half a million pounds (£500,000) or more, that would give the potential for over a million pounds worth of local investment. Match funding maximises the community benefit whether projects are large or small.

Secondly: Rather than spending this huge sum of money just on numerous small projects, that might easily be forgotten, should we also discuss the possibility of several larger projects that would otherwise be unlikely?

The Glencairn Community Council are open to suggestions and project proposals that are substantially larger than have been received so far.

Shouldn't we all now be taking the decisions to ensure that

the Wind Farm Fund leaves a lasting beneficial legacy for our parish?

Contact any member of the community council or leave your thoughts in the Glencairn Community Council box in Watson's Grocers.

Scott McMillan 01848 200640 scott.mcmillan72@tiscali.co.uk

Robin McIvor 01848 200412

member@woodlea43.freeserve.co.uk

Val McNeil 01848 200301 v.mcneil@btopenworld.com

William Glencorse 01848 200420 glencorse@supanet.com

Sue Grant 01848 200331 sue@badpress.demon.co.uk

Robert (Rab) Neill 01848 200699 rneill57@yahoo.co.uk

Sarah Keast 01848 200 526 skeast@blairbell.demon.co.uk

Duncan Saunderson 01848 200327 duncansa@supanet.com

Peter Charlesworth 07939 635313

petercharlesworth@replaylearning.com

Robert Hall 01848 200165

roberthall@falklandwoolgrowers.co.uk

John Wilson 01848 200536 wilson369@btinternet.com

Dean Goddard 01848 200322 dean.goddard@hotmail.co.uk

The next allocation meeting will take place on March 31st and applications are required by the end of February. Application forms and guidelines are available printed out or as pdf or word file from Sue Grant.

Glencairn Community Council



Excellent, affordable cuisine, sourced from fresh, local produce. Diners may also choose from our extensive pizza and pasta range.

We have an extensive wine and spirits list to suit all palates.

Everyone is welcome at the three glens and our staff will be happy to meet individual, party and family needs and any special diets.

Meals served:

Tuesday to Saturday from 5.30pm

Saturday lunch 12.30-2.30pm

Food served all day Sunday from 12.30pm
(includes Sunday roast in wood fired oven.)

Book early to avoid disappointment.

three glens restaurant

High Street, Moniaive

Email: threeglens@googlemail.com

Tel: 01848 200057

LUCKY MEAL TICKET!

ONE lucky reader will find, within the pages of this issue, a ticket for a meal for two from the pizza and pasta menu at the *three glens restaurant* in Moniaive.

To claim your prize and book a table call 01848 200057 and present your ticket to the restaurant. *Drinks and starters not included.*

Thanks to the three glens restaurant for sponsoring this item which will be a regular feature in the Gazette.

Scottish Green Energy Awards 2008



At the recent awards ceremony Stuart Hall of Natural Power (and Moniaive) was awarded the 'Outstanding Contribution to the Industry Winner 2008'.

Stuart was instrumental in the development and construction of Scotland's first wind farm in 1994. Following this was the creation of a consultancy with over 100 staff across the world and a multimillion pound turnover. The consultancy develops many different types of renewable projects for their clients with now over 2 giga watts worth of consents as part of the portfolio with a 100% track record. Stuart, not only interested in



developing renewable projects, has been the driving force behind a number of products and tools to assist developers.

Congratulations Stuart and all at Natural Power.

INTRODUCTION TO WATERCOLOUR PAINTING

by self-taught watercolour painter Alastair Davies



Have you ever wanted to be able to paint a watercolour like this? Well it may be possible....

Come along and hear Alastair give a FREE talk and demonstration in Tynron Village Hall on **Wednesday 25th March at 7pm.**

Find out about the equipment and materials you need to paint your own watercolour.

Limited number of places and booking is necessary.

To book call 200774.

16 years old and over.

School helpers party

The staff and children of Moniaive Primary School excelled themselves at this years 'helpers' party.

We were greeted by the children acting as our hosts and shown to beautifully decorated tables, complete with handmade gifts for all. The pupils then ensured we had plenty of tea, coffee, mince pies and biscuits. A very enjoyable afternoon. So from all the 'helpers' thank you.

Sue Grant



Photo: Sue Grant

An apple a day...

Surgery Opening Hours

	Dunscore	Moniaive	Dumfries
Mon/Tue/Wed/Fri	9.00 – 10.15am 3.45 – 5.45pm	9.00 – 10.15am 4.45 – 5.45pm	11.00 – 1.00pm
Thursday	9.00 – 10.15am 3.45 – 5.45pm	9.00 – 10.15am Closed from 1pm	11.00 – 1.00pm
Saturday/Sunday	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

EMERGENCY CALL ARRANGEMENTS 01387 820266

There is a leaflet available detailing all services. Please ask for one at the surgery.

SURGERIES

Kirkgate, Dunscore 01387 820266

Rosevale, Chapel St, Moniaive
01848 200244

7 Buccleuch St, Dumfries 01387 262012

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Letters to the Editor

Our Community Council

Is it working for you? I am sorry to say that in the past couple of weeks we have found not for us, or our neighbours.

On Thursday the 8th January workmen were on the river flood bank at the back of our house; when asked why they told us it was for the new footpath on top of the banking to the school. The first we knew of it.

Photo courtesy George Leech



Since this new path is overlooking our garden, lounge, dining room, kitchen and conservatory we thought we would have been informed by planning, but apparently planning was not needed and the Community Council, who have been funding and planning this path, did not contact us either.

A phone call to Chairman Scott McMillan followed, he told us the path was indeed to go along the back of us and along the back of the sewerage works, but he was not sure if it would be on top of the banking and to contact Sarah Keast for full details.

We phoned Sarah who confirmed the path was to be on top of the bank and was surprised that we were so upset that we would be losing all of our privacy, though she did apologise. When asked why we were not contacted as an adjoining property Sarah informed us she was not sure if planning permission would be required. But even if planning permission wasn't needed surely, out of common courtesy, someone from the Community Council could have contacted us and our neighbours to inform us of this footpath that so overlooks our properties – or is it a case of 'as long as it is not in my back garden'? It seems that we were supposed to approach the Community Council to find out what was happening.

At the Community Council meeting on Monday 12th January which was attended by a member from Dumfries Council we were told that they did not need to contact adjoining properties as the pathway is carried out under section 30 where planning permission is not required. This seems a way of the Council having the right to do what they want regardless. At the meeting they agreed to contact Robert Wilson, the land owner, to request the path be at the back of the banking, but we had little hope of this as the project was so far advanced before any one knew and had been started that morning with just three weeks to complete. It was agreed that there could be some planting to relieve the impact. It was pointed out to us that a

mention was given to the pathway, but not the route of it, in the Gazette almost a year ago. Do we have to read the Gazette cover to cover to find out what they are doing? Unfortunately we missed the article. As for the path on top of the banking in dry weather it is a fall of six feet onto stones, the burn in spate is six feet of fast flowing water. This with no fencing is the preferred safe route for children to the primary school? When raised at the Community Council meeting the Dumfries Council Member said health and safety is not an issue with footpath planning and it is up to parents to look after their children.

Having lived in Dunreggan for 20 years we have come to value our privacy and the stunning views across the fields. Now thanks to an ill thought out project we are to be overlooked day and night by those using this unsightly tarmac footpath. We are horrified that such an eyesore can be inflicted upon this community by stealth. We understand that a number of other paths are being proposed in the Moniaive area and ask that this time the community are kept informed before more of our rural idyll is taken away from us.

So thanks again to the Community Council for looking after our privacy and also the wellbeing of the infants who are to use the pathway on their way to school.

George and Mary Leech, Mrs Henderson, Dunreggan

Tearcraft Sale

I would like to update you on the Tearcraft Sale which Catherine Braid and I put on (21st November 2008), and maybe you could pass on my gratitude to the good folks of Moniaive, and further afield, who supported Tearcraft so generously. Yet again Cath kindly opened the Green Tea House, and provided a warm and bright welcome to everyone, with quality snacks, mince pies and mulled wine. Despite the economic downturn, people maximised their purchasing power by buying quality items, at great prices, secure in the knowledge that Tearcraft exists to benefit skilled craftspeople from some of the world's poorest communities. Every order extends the opportunities that come with the dignity of employment, fair wages and the hope of a brighter future. Each purchase has helped bring transformation and fresh hope to people living in poverty. This year's Green Tea House sale was our best ever, with over £500 worth of Tearcraft items being sold. I love the Moniaive sale, not just because I love Moniaive (or that it is traditionally our last sale of the season) but because the good people of Moniaive are more generous and caring than most. As the community of Glencairn have given gifts of Tearcraft to their friend and loved ones, they have also given long lasting gifts of education, medical help, food, shelter, and life itself, to people in communities far away. On behalf of these people we thank you all.

Rolf and Rosemary Buwert

Alex and the Guides

I have just started a new job and I can no longer give the Guides the commitment it needs so a new Guider needs to be found. They are a great bunch of girls and they've made the past 12 months truly memorable for me! I hope someone can be found to take over, it is hard work but very rewarding and I'm sorry to be leaving. They've just had their Christmas party and are not due to start back until the new year, that's if a new Guider can be found!

Alex McMillan, Ayr Street

A friend to all the community – Sharon Henshall

Photos courtesy of Paul Henshall and family



When Sharon died 7th January, hundreds of cards and letters flooded into the home she shared with husband Paul and daughters Hannah and Harriet. They paid tribute to a very special woman who had meant so much to so many people in and around Moniaive. In the fifteen years that she and Paul have run the post office, she had become what Minister Reverend Christine Sime described as ‘the very glue of the community’.

“The letters told stories of how Sharon had helped so many people on a day to day basis – all the little things that meant so much to those concerned,” said Paul, “many of these things she did quietly and even I was unaware of them.” Her 83 year old mother Phyllis from Rochdale added, “I didn’t realise how much she was loved, I am overwhelmed by the number of people who have come to pay their respects.”

These ‘little things’ included gifts of home baking for elderly people in the village; potting up plants to leave on people’s doorsteps; welcoming newcomers to the community with a pack of information about what services were available and who did what; making special foods for people whose health required particular diets; lending an ear to people in distress; running a loan service of baby equipment for local people and her long-term involvement with running the Institute. And who will ever forget

those hundreds of gala teas she turned out without apparent effort?

But Sharon’s biggest single talent, apart from being a wonderful communicator and great fun to boot, was being the repository of a mass of local information and having the skill to match up requests for help. Being the ebullient, friendly person that she was, she listened and remembered all the things that people shared with her. The result was that if anyone needed any item or any service of any kind – Sharon could usually deliver. So much so that she became the automatic port of call for answers. As recently as three weeks before she died I was ringing round the village for something. Everyone I spoke to said ‘Sharon would know.’

Local people at the funeral had so many stories to tell of Sharon’s generosity and kindness. Campbell McIntyre said: “She was always there for us if we had something to sort out. She was good to Johnny – giving him work to do. She kept the young ones busy and working away.” Lorna Irvine was one youngster who Sharon took under her wing when she first went to work at the Post Office. “She was like a second Mum to me,” she said.

Local youngsters were not the only people to find themselves willy-nilly conscripted in the nicest possible ways into Sharon’s schemes. I have memories of helping to decorate the Institute, and serving teas at the gala without really

being aware of how either thing had happened. Hugh Taylor agrees. “You’d find her sweeping the front of your house to make it look nice for the Scotland in Bloom judges or else bullying you into doing the same. I think she was a triplet – there were three of her. I couldn’t figure out how she could be everywhere at once. She was totally and utterly wicked. A lot of the stuff she did was low key – like doing ‘guess the number of sweets in the jar’ to raise a few pounds for some local group. Even the most demented of people couldn’t have done what she did – all the many wee jobs.”

“When Hannah and Harriet were little,” recalled Laura Dykes, “she always had a house full of kids. Sharon couldn’t throw anything away. She always found ways to recycle things. In the summer she would make up wee activity packs for the children. She also used to run coffee mornings and she made the best, best hot cross buns in the world. Gorgeous!”

Liz Laidlaw remembers Halloweens, “All the kids gathered at her house and got done up by Sharon. One year there were twenty-six of them. And then she took them guising up and down Dunreggan and the brae.” “She even gave us fair advanced warning that they were coming,” laughed Diane Hinton.

Sharon’s cooking and baking skills were legendary – she trained as a professional pastry cook, and worked in hospitals and with the army, so bulk catering came naturally to her. Bernard Walker said, “What I shall miss about Sharon, apart from her smile and obvious zest for life, will be her heavenly bread, buns and scones. Boy could that girl bake.” When the Green Tea House opened she made all the bread and rolls for several years. Later when Paul O’Keefe and David Cripps were thinking of setting up a bakery, they told Sharon about it and expressed concern about whether or not there was a market for bakery products in the village. Sharon set about proving that there was by running a weekend when she baked and sold bread, rolls, quiches and pizzas from her front garden. “She said to us ‘look you can sell bread in the community’ – she was doing it for us,” said Paul.

The spare freezer behind the counter in the Post Office was where she kept her



surplus baking – and customers were apt to find themselves departing with offerings . “She used to slip me items of food sometimes – a batch of rolls or something. And she gave me household tips – and they really worked,” said Jo Hodges. “And every time I visited her when she ill, I came back with a bit of her garden.” Tricia Brown added, “She always made me feel hungry – talking about food. And I was always amazed at the fact that she could talk continuously without appearing to breathe at all!”

Sharon not only recycled everything in sight, she also had an effective but highly unorthodox system of bartering goods and services. One man who mowed the grass in the Post Office Garden used to get paid in food. I also remember grumbling once in the Post Office about being about to start decorating my kitchen, a job that I disliked. Half an hour later there was a knock on my door and Bob Martin stood there. “Sharon has sent me to decorate your kitchen,” he said. I remember protesting that I was not in a position to pay anyone, but it wasn't expected. It was part of the bartering scheme. Bob owed Sharon a favour and she had passed it on to me – as simple as that. “She didn't see all this as acts of generosity,” says Paul. “It was just her.”

Sue Grant said, “Sharon made the Post Office a social networking site to rival anything that Facebook or Friends Reunited could offer. If you... needed help finding a workman; needed an item or replacement part for something; wanted to sell tickets for an event; wanted advice; wanted to leave

anything for the Gazette; wanted information spread far and wide; wanted posters put up; gifts wrapped; collection boxes displayed; petitions signed. Those of us on village committees know how much Sharon contributed to *every* local event that happened.”

There are many stories about helping people to rewrap parcels in the Post Office – like the Christmas one that I wanted to send to family in Singapore. It would have cost £28. But Sharon got down on the floor, helped me to unpack it, take out one or two heavy items and repack it before posting it off.

At the funeral reception a number of people laughingly mentioned the tale of the Kenwood chefs. Catherine Braid from the Green Tea House needed a smaller Kenwood Chef food processor. “She was a very, very special person who always went a million miles to get something for you – she'd a heart of gold,” said Catherine. “When I mentioned the Kenwood, Sharon went round the village and we ended up with about nine of them.” Not all of them were in good working order and some were cannibalised to fix others, and a new search for mixing parts was launched. “She would call with a bunch of flowers,” laughed Andy Brown, “and go away with a piece of a Kenwood mixer,” and Alan Grant added that there were probably about eight Kenwood Mixers out there somewhere still looking for a home. During her illness he kept Sharon supplied with comics, which she loved, “Not just my own, which she made me sign for her. She was especially fond of Alice in Sunderland,” he said.

Sharon's love of gardening led her to start the Moniaive in Flower project. She bought a load of tubs and asked people in the village to sponsor them at strategic points in the main streets, with her providing all the compost and plants, and it grew from there. “My abiding memory of Sharon,” said Gavin Kilgour, “is finding her on summer nights at the end of the footbridge in a baggy pair of shorts watering all the plants. If it was raining, she'd be out there too – kitted out in a sou'wester and long raincoat”.

Early risers might also have seen her on summer mornings some years ago, in her nightie and wellies, using a broom to chase mink away from the newly arrived ducks on the burn. Paul recalls coming home from work one day to find that Sharon had bought him a Black and Decker workbench. “We've got ducks,” she said, “and they'll need somewhere to stay.”

Sharon's generosity and kindness continued through her illness. Until a few weeks ago she was still baking and leaving little presents on doorsteps and arranging things for people. “She gave me a little greenhouse.” said Jane Carson, “and she said ‘Plant your seeds in the spring and think of me.’”

We will all be thinking of her next spring when the tubs bloom once again.

Carol Godridge

<p>Iain Howat Electrical Contractor Whitedyke Farm, Dunscore, Dumfries Home: 01387 820330 Mobile: 07710 779994</p>
--

Ian Henderson 1948-2008

Ian was born and raised in Moniaive and although he lived in Southwick for a few years he was always at heart a Moniaive man and was very pleased when eventually he came back home to live here.



From an early age he showed an interest in all things mechanical, starting with meccano sets and moving on as he got older to model aeroplane engines and motor bikes. For Ian it wasn't enough that something worked, he had to know how and why it worked, so it was no surprise that when he left school he became a motor mechanic with Corries in Dumfries.

He liked cars and over the years he had a succession of different makes and models, all kept in near perfect condition and culminating with his beloved MG's. He was a good mechanic and many folk in the village often had reason to be grateful for this as he coaxed life into reluctant engines after breakdowns and on cold winter mornings. He also liked

attending steam rallies and had a passion for canals and canal boats and spent a few holidays on the Lancaster canal.

The Volkswagen caravanette he and Gladys had was another pride and joy and they travelled the length and breadth of Britain in it on holidays. Mostly though, the van was a regular fixture at folk festivals at places as far apart as Otley and Orkney where Ian took a very active part in another of his great loves – music.

He was a staunch supporter of the local Moniaive Folk Festival and liked nothing better than to sit in a music session with his guitar and on his day could be a pretty good player. He'd a good singing voice too, although the effect was somewhat spoiled by his tendency not to bother too much about learning the complete set of words to a song! Strange, in someone who was a near perfectionist in almost everything else he did. He'll be sadly missed at the next festival in May but there's little doubt that his many friends who'll be there will spare a thought or two for him come the time.

During his illness he was always grateful to the friends and neighbours from the village and elsewhere who came to visit him. Gladys and his family would like to thank all of them for their kind support.

Doose Henderson



This photograph was taken at Moniaive Primary School. Can anyone tell me what year in the 50s this was?

Also can any reader name the teacher and fill in the missing names that I can't remember?

Back row: Hugh Clinton, Robert Wilson, Joe Thomson, Raymond Todd, Jim Ferguson, ?, ?.

Next row: John Kirkwood, ?, Cynthia Anderson, ?, Maureen Hinslewood, Frances Arnold, Margaret Redpath, ?

Next row: Lesley McCulloch, Sheila Edgar, Pam Hastings, Sheila Henderson, Joyce Nicholl, ?, ?, Catherine Black.

Front row: ?, ?, John McMichael, ? McMillan, ?, Maurice Kennedy, ?

You can email me on cynthiaradband@btinternet.com. I look forward to seeing this in the Gazette.

Cynthia Radband, Southampton

Alice in Wonderland

After the Christmas break rehearsals have restarted on the next Moniaive Musical Theatre group's performance. Over 70 talented adults and children are taking part this year and Julie has had her work cut out finding parts for them all.

"Alice in Wonderland is well suited to a teenage cast," said Julie, "which is great as I wanted to focus on this age group this year."

"It's not originally a musical but we've turned it into one!" she added.

Songs include Queen's 'Don't Stop Me Now' and 'What are we waiting for?' from Gwen Stephani.

Even the Moniaive Singers Group are taking part with a rendition of 'Lonely Girl', sung to comfort Alice when she's lost and all alone!

Young Anya, from the newly formed Moniaive Primary School 'The Reporters' (see page 20), will be writing a review for the next issue of the Gazette. As a cast member she'll know all about the hard work Julie has put into this production.

This sounds like an ambitious and entertaining production details of which can be found on the diary pages.

Sue Grant



GLENCAIRN COMMUNITY HOUSING SURVEY & SURGERIES

DO YOU HAVE A HOUSING PROBLEM?

CAN'T FIND A SUITABLE HOME TO RENT?

WOULD LIKE TO BUY BUT CAN'T AFFORD LOCAL PRICES?

LIVING WITH FAMILY BUT WOULD LIKE A HOME OF YOUR OWN?

NEED MORE SECURITY THAN A SHORT TERM TENANCY?

INTERESTED IN BUILDING YOUR OWN HOUSE?

If any of the above problems apply to you or a member of your family please complete the following form and/or come to the housing surgeries and discuss your situation in confidence with our staff at:

THE GLENCAIRN MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

Thursday February 5th 2.30-7.30pm

Thursday February 12th 2.30-7.30pm

or

Monday February 16th 2.30-7.30pm

Glencairn Confidential Housing Needs and Options Survey

This survey is being conducted by the Dumfries and Galloway Small Communities Housing Trust at the request of the Glencairn Community Council. The purpose of the survey is to discover the level of housing need amongst local people. Once the level and type of need is known the DGSCHT will work with the Community Council to find the most suitable way of meeting the demand. The survey will look at all sectors including housing for rent and sale.

The survey is for everyone living in the Moniaive and surrounding area, or anyone who has a local connection and wishes to return. The types of housing we seek to provide are explained at the end of the form.

PLEASE NOTE: All details provided will be treated in the utmost confidence. Personal identifiable data will only be viewed by Trust staff and will not be released to any third party. It will not be possible to identify individuals from the survey report. You do not have to provide your name but it will allow the Trust to contact you later if housing becomes available.

We would be pleased to receive as many completed surveys as possible. For help filling in this form please call our office on 01556-612331 or email miriam.owen@dgscht.co.uk

If you cannot attend the surgery please return your completed form to:

Freepost RRZK SRYT XYCL, Dumfries & Galloway Small Communities Housing Trust,
77 High Street, Dalbeattie, DG5 4HA

1. Name (of interested party) contact phone no:
 Address email:
 postcode

2. Are you, or someone in your family or household, in housing need?

i.e. Do you need a home or to change your current home. Please tick the appropriate box.
 Yes - now. Yes - within 3 years
 Yes - within 12 months Yes - within 5 years
 No

3. Make-up of household requiring new house (please give number where appropriate)

Age	0-4	5-15	16-44	45-59	60+
you					
partner					
Children: Male					
Female					
Other dependents					

4. Existing accommodation

Home owner	Housing Association	Private rented	Living with parents	Tied house	Other (please specify at and of form)

Please use this space to provide any other relevant information on your current accommodation

5. Condition and size of existing housing

please delete as appropriate – more than one choice possible

Too Big	Too Small	General Condition	Dampness	Adequate Heating	Adequate Insulation	Security of tenancy
Yes/No	Yes/No	Good/Bad	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Secure/insecure

6. Employment

	Retired	Full time employed	Part time employed	Self employed	Unemployed	Seasonal employment
you						
partner						

7. Approximate Household Income (before tax)

Less than 12k	12-20k	20-30k	30k+

8. Length of residence:

- How long have you lived in the Glencairn area?years/months
- How long have you lived in Nithsdale?years/months
- How long have you lived in Dumfries and Galloway?years/months

9. Housing preference * see over (Please indicate your preference – 1st, 2nd, 3rd below)

Affordable rented (via housing association)	Rental Via Community Owned Housing Trust	Private/ market rental	Shared equity low cost home ownership	Trust or community provided RHOG self build plot

10. Type of housing required ** (see over)

House (please indicate number of bed rooms)	Single person accommodation (flat/bedsit)	Housing on one level/ disabled adapted housing	Supported housing	Sheltered housing

11. Would you consider becoming involved in a community self build project? YES/NO

(If yes please provide contact details above)

12. Where locally would you prefer to live?

In Moniaive	Elsewhere in the community council area (specify) First choice	Elsewhere in the community council area (specify) Second choice

13. Are you on a housing association waiting list? YES/NO

If yes, which one(s) and for how long?years/months

HOUSING PREFERENCES

Affordable rented – Social housing is provided by Housing Associations such as DGHIP or Forebun Housing Association. Each provider requires that you complete an application form to apply.

Community Owned Housing Trust: - Rented accommodation owned by a community run organisation. This would involve a community owned trust building (or buildings) to be rented to local people at less than open market rates.

Private rental: Rented accommodation provided at an open market rent or near open market rents.

Shared equity low cost home ownership –In some cases new housing developments built by the housing associations offer shared equity housing (or Homestake). The homeowner can purchase from 60 – 80%, by way of a mortgage (sometimes up to 100% if in a regeneration area). The title and the maintenance of the property are the responsibility of the homeowner and no rent is payable to the association. On the sale of the property, the “golden share” of equity must be paid back to the association and the homeowner would gain any profits or losses made. Another form of shared equity may be possible through a private developer where the equity share (usually in the region of 20%) is held by the Trust. Conditions would be placed on future sales requiring you to sell back to the Trust. We would buy back your share of the equity at the current rate, giving you a fair return on your investment. This would allow the resale of the house to another local person in housing need. Depending on personal circumstances it may also be possible to get RHOG grant assistance (see below).

Trust or community provided RHOG self build plot– Rural Home Ownership Grants are provided by the Scottish Government, to people in a certain income bracket wishing to build their own home. The grant bridges the gap between the actual project costs and the amount the homeowner can afford by way of mortgage, savings, parental gifts or ‘sweat’ equity. If the property is sold within 10 years the full grant must be paid back.

The Trust may be able to provide plots to be sold to local people at an affordable price (between £20k and £40k).. Usually, the plots would be purchased by RHOG applicants. However, the Trust may also sell some plots to those who do not meet all criteria, depending on the circumstances. The Trust will work with Community Councils and other representative groups to identify the needs in their area. Should you buy a Trust RHOG plot the Trust would retain a share of the equity in the plot and place conditions on resale requiring you to sell back to the Trust. We would buy back your share of the equity at the current rate, giving you a fair return on your investment. This would allow the resale of the house to another local person in housing need.

Community self build: A method in which a group of people come together to work cooperatively to build a small number of houses for themselves. The Trust is interested in bringing together interested people and helping establish self build groups across the region.

Single person accommodation: - This would normally comprise a single bedroom flat/house, a studio flat or bedsit intended for single or younger people.

Housing on one level / disabled adapted housing: Housing suitable for older people or people with mobility problems capable of independent living. No support would be provided.

Supported housing: Housing as above but with some element of support (home help etc)

Sheltered housing: Housing within a group of buildings sharing full time warden support.

Please add any relevant comments relating to your personal circumstances below or on a separate sheet.

Please either put the complete form in a sealed envelope and send to the address below or fold along the dotted line, seal with tape and post to us - no stamp required!



Freepost RRZK-SRYT-XYEL
DGSCHT
77 High Street
Dalbeattie
DG5 4HA



Grey Squirrel Watch – A Red Alert

It was with trepidation and dismay that I read in the last issue of the Gazette of the possible sighting of yet another grey squirrel in Moniaive. The iconic red squirrel has one of its strongholds in Glencairn and Shinnel and it would be a shame to see this lovely mammal wiped out by the intrusion of that larger, totally alien, incomer the American grey squirrel.

There was a grey squirrel killed at Caitloch two summers ago but tests on that carcass showed that it did not have the Squirrelpox virus that attacks the resident reds with a deadly effect (it's almost a myxomatosis for red squirrels). Since then there have been occasional but unconfirmed sightings of greys throughout the area.

Just over the Clone in Nithsdale, at

Drumlanrig, things have taken a decided turn for the worse. Outbreaks of the deadly virus have been killing off reds at various locations on the estate. It usually takes a little over two weeks for the squirrels to die from the disease. For that reason the estate has stopped leaving out food for the native reds at several feeding stations. That ensures there is less likelihood of reds coming in feeding contact with the infected greys. Grey squirrel control officers have been busy trying to halt the three-pronged invasion from Cumbria, The Borders and down the Nith Valley from Ayrshire. Dumfries and Galloway holds about 20% of the Scottish red population and only determined eradication of incoming greys will solve this problem.

While some readers might find this pest control rather barbaric, as far as I am concerned the issue is quite straightforward. We either get tough on the entirely foreign greys or lose our reds to a dreadful and devastating disease. I for one want to see the reds survive here as they have done for many hundreds of years.

There are ways locals can help to monitor this problem: if you see a grey squirrel you can report it immediately to www.redsquirrels.org.uk or telephone Stephanie Meyer-Gleaves on: 01556 610051. Stop feeding red squirrels if you spot a grey in the area. With a concerted effort we might just keep this problem at bay.

Dave McFadzean



Traffic v Squirrels

Six red squirrels have been killed on the Dalwhat road between Moniaive and Caitloch in the past two months. Temporary warning signs have been erected but we would ask everyone to be alert when driving this road.

JOHN STOTT
JOINER
01848 200325
THE DOMINIES HOUSE
AYR STREET
MONIAIVE
Great care is taken
in all work

Older People's Party

Photos Sue Grant



November saw the annual party organised by the Community Council for older residents in the Parish. Held in the Masonic Hall it was a fun night with good food, excellent entertainment, Santa and a games party pack for each table.

Nan Tait, Maureen McIntyre, Margaret Thompson and helpers provided an excellent selection of soup, sandwiches and cakes, all helped down with a wee dram.

The Community Singers sang a selection of Christmas Carols and Jane Carson and Dave entertained with a selection of rousing tunes.

Santa (also known as Councillor Andrew Woods) gave out gifts and said: "I really enjoyed being 'Santa' and am sorry I had to leave so early for another engagement."

The party packs contained 'body parts' of all the community councillors which each table had to make into the most interesting councillor and an alternative Queen's speech based on Moniaive



Left: Santa makes his rounds.

Above: The Singers group entertain.


Right: The 'new, improved' alternative community councillor as suggested by Mary Stewart-Shields and friends!



landmarks and residents. The prize for the best 'community councillor' went to Mary Stewart-Shields table and the prize for the best speech to Edwina Fletcher's table.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Audrey Wilson for the community councillors, the community bus and driver Carol Godridge and those who prepared the food.

Sue Grant



Study The Life Model In Clay

Informal classes with local sculptor Lucianne Lassalle

For beginners and the more experienced.

For anyone interested in working with clay and exploring basic anatomy, proportion and the human form

Classes are at Wallaceton Village Hall, Nr Dunscore on Wednesdays
18th and 25th March; 1st and 8th April.
10.00am - 4.00pm.
Cost £35 per day plus clay

Please call Lucianne for more info and to book a place on 01387 820472 or email@luciannelassalle.co.uk www.luciannelassalle.co.uk

Moniaive Memories...

James McNaught, Shoemaker

James McNaught was a shoemaker in the High Street. Jimmy, a single man, a genial old chap stayed with his sister Jessie in the house next door to the shop (Watson's).

Jimmy had a great selection of boots and shoes, all made from first class leather, he also employed a man, Tommy Beggs, to repair all footwear. I watched him many times sitting working with the 'last' mounted on a block between his knees. He could sole and heel a pair of shoes in no time, a very fast and excellent tradesman.

Old Jimmy liked a drop of the 'hard stuff' and usually kept many half bottles in stock but sometimes forgot what shoe boxes he had put them in and could make the odd bloomer. One day a young lady came into the shop to enquire if she could see and try on a pair of brown brogues, size 6. Jimmy, ever obliging, pulls down a box from a top shelf and whips off the lid, pulls back the tissue paper and to his horror finds a half bottle of 'Johnnie Walker' was in there. He swiftly replaced the lid with the excuse that the pair had been ordered for a Lady in the Big Hoose up the Glen. Just a pity Jimmy did not have a marker pen!

After Jimmy died his sister who owned the house next door let out the shop for various trades. When Miss McNaught died the property was sold, house and shop, it latterly became a village grocers but closed some time ago.

Jim Black, Sawmill Green

POLICE MATTERS... BREAK-IN AT NETHERTACK

If I had written this piece in the Police Station yesterday I would have had little to write about in relation to crime in Moniaive and would have noted what a beautiful and safe part of the world it is. However, I have just returned from a report of a house having been broken into at Nethertack which is located just up past the school and over the bridge first right, and located on the right hand side.

A house where the owners work most of the year in the Lincoln area and have made it into a beautiful house to retire to, but unfortunately some person(s) have smashed their way into the kitchen window and gained access to the house. After leaving muddy footprints over the beige carpets (one particular footprint was huge), a small television was taken from the kitchen and after bagging it was left in the garage, which had been opened by true key. A quantity of alcohol from the wine rack had been consumed but the bottles had been left behind. Scenes of Crime Officers have spent sometime collecting evidence so it is hoped through finger/palm/footprint matching or DNA the culprits will be caught and made an example of.

The property was intact on Saturday 17 January, 2009 and discovered violated about midday on Tuesday 20 January, 2009. However with the dry muddy footprints within the house, the house could have been entered at the weekend. Did someone break in and open the door for their friends, did they drink all the alcohol and stay there for the night and leave in the morning? Do you know anyone from your house that was at a local party on Saturday night that came home on Sunday that could have been at this house? Did you see a group of persons on this road on Sunday/Monday morning that could have been at this house? Any information, no matter how trivial you feel it is, might help, so give us a call, even anonymously would be greatly appreciated. You just would not want your house to be next.

As this horrible weather continues, floods one day then hard frost the next, we can only ask everyone to be so careful on the rural roads. We seemed to have dealt with a lot of tragedies, all over the force area, since the turn of the year and let's all hope there will be no more. If everyone can do their bit by checking their cars regularly to ensure tyres, wipers, lights etc are all in good working order. We have been doing static checks recently offering free winter advice for yourselves and your vehicles so if we all take heed of it I am sure we can all stay safe. Pop into your local garage to get your vehicle checked over if you're not sure.

We have not had many complaints recently about inconsiderate parking which is good and long may it continue and the issue of tickets appears to have dried up at the moment. So let's hope the message has got through.

With regard to the housebreaking we are hoping this is a one off incident. However, if you don't feel particularly safe within your home, which should never be the case, and you wish free advice on security about your house give me a call and I can make an arrangement with you to call and see you and put your mind at rest.

Just a reminder of our telephone numbers, 0845 600 5701 or free to Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 or send me an email in confidence at robert.mchenry@dg.pnn.police.uk.

Rab McHenry

Cairnhead Community Forest Trust Ltd

Highlights from Chairman's Report to AGM, 27th November 2008

Work of the Trust in the last year has continued under considerable pressure and aiming particularly to the launch of 'Striding Arches'.

The full range of the Trust's work has continued through the strong working partnership between Cairnhead Community Forest Trust (CCFT), Dumfries and Galloway Arts Association (DGAA), The Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS), Solway Heritage (SH), Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and our various donors, including the Scottish Arts Council and Lottery Arts Council, Leader+ and several others. The joint energies of these partners combined with the work of Trustees and Advisers is vital to all aspects of our work.

The formal launch of Striding Arches took place on Sunday 28th September '08. The completion was within the projected timescale. All four Arches were in place, at the Byre, Colt Hill, Benbrack and Bail Hill. Very high quality Interpretation Panels designed very beautifully by Nic Coombey of Solway Heritage were installed at the beginning of the forest road. The panels contain a recording of the poem by Alec Finlay, "Hill of Streams", maps and information. The stone letter carvings by Pip Hall, in the gateway by the Byre, in a stone seat, and in a plaque at the end of the rill of water were in place. Many supportive comments have been received in relation to the completed project. The launch day saw around 140 invited guests, funders, trustees, representatives from the community. Local buses were used to transport guests and others to and from the Byre.

As Chairman I welcomed guests and others, Andy Goldsworthy talked about his concept for Striding Arches, Mike Russell, Scottish Minister for the Environment, officially opened the Project and Dr Jan Hogarth, Public Arts Manager Dumfries and Galloway Arts Association, proposed a vote of thanks. Prior to the ceremony a group of fell runners ran between all the arches and arrived back at the Byre in time for the launch. It is hoped to have a similar fell-run each summer and this is currently being negotiated. After the launch a celebration was held in the Institute at which children from Moniaive Primary School performed a joint reading of 'Hill of Streams' and Wendy Stewart played part of a new piece which she had composed called 'Striding March'. The "Striding Arches" website www.stridingarches.com then went on line. Further signage including some from the Southern Upland Way is planned. The planned book on the Arches is being progressed. Efforts will be made to find potential sources of funding for two additional arches. The use of the Cairnhead Cottage for development for community and educational use will also be visited. Numbers of visitors are being monitored. I would like to thank all partners, funders, trustees and advisers for their support and hard work in bringing Striding Arches to launch stage. Involvement with Moniaive Primary School and seen further development in 'Den building', 'Fish release', 'Wee beastie expeditions', 'Tree planting' and 'Art in the forest'. I would like to thank all involved in this.

Regular grass cutting is now undertaken at the Picnic Area, Quarry, the Byre and Office area.

The annual picnic in August was cancelled in view of torrential rain and was finally held on Sunday 5th October when we were blessed by brilliant sunshine. Some 17-20 individuals attended and enjoyed the culinary expertise of Robin McIver, ably assisted by Molly Glencorse. There were many visitors visiting the Byre and Arches and a good opportunity was taken to gain their reaction while some also participated in the picnic.

Melville Brotherston

The Post



The arrival of the post is an interesting diversion in the daily routine of many households, but in the 19th century a visit by the postman, particularly in outlying areas, would have been quite a noteworthy event. Not only did he deliver letters, but he would take letters to the Post Office. In addition, he was a purveyor of news

– part of the local community communications network.

John Corrie, who was himself a Postmaster, as was his father before him, wrote in his history of the parish “No institution can show such a record of steady progress as the Post Office. The earliest postmaster of Moniaive of whom we have been able to find any notice of Robert Davidson... who held office in 1768. It appears, however, that there was a post to Moniaive in 1705, for in the Glencairn Kirk Session Records of that year we find one Jane Hiddlestone, who had been charged with drinking to excess in George Ritchie’s house, pleading in extenuation that her errand there was ‘to wait for the post.’”

In 1804 mails were despatched on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturday mornings at 8 o’clock when William Smith was postmaster.

Moniaive was one of the nine post towns in Dumfriesshire in 1825.

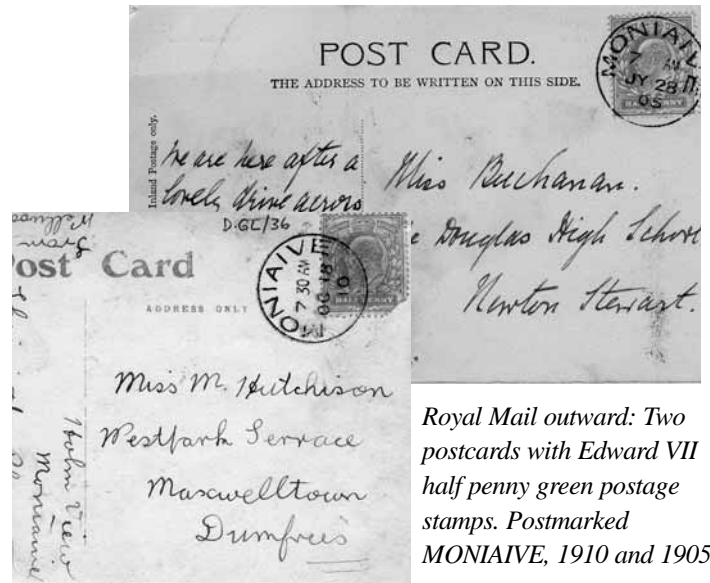
In 1836 Moniaive was served by a foot post from Thornhill arriving daily at 3.0 pm with the return leaving at 4.0 pm.



Royal Mail inward: Envelope with Victorian postage stamp, one penny lilac, postmarked 1898

The first letter carrier in Moniaive is said to have been Mrs Austin née Jean Kirkpatrick who was unpaid but accepted small gifts, usually in kind.

In the 1841 census Margaret Collow is listed as postmistress. This was the year in which adhesive postage stamps were introduced and the penny brown superceded the famous penny black of 1840. Everyone in Glencairn could now send a letter to any part of the country for one penny. Margaret Collow must have retired by 1851 despite the entry in Slaters for 1852, as James Wallace, a widower living in the High Street was now postmaster.



Royal Mail outward: Two postcards with Edward VII half penny green postage stamps. Postmarked MONIAIVE, 1910 and 1905

Another James Wallace, probably his son from North Street was the Post Office Runner. Ten years earlier both men living in the same house were woollen handloom weavers. Runners made the journey from town to town. On the more important routes there was a ‘riding post’ delivering mail which had been brought by mail coaches which had been introduced in the 1780s.

As the railway network spread so did the speed and efficiency of the postal system. Additional responsibilities were given to postmasters – Savings Banks, licences, money orders, telegrams, pensions and the telephone system, so Postmasters became increasingly important members of the business community.

Early in the 20th century there were five full time postmen; four delivered mail to the landward areas and one in Moniaive.

Jim Black described Moniaive Post Office from the 1930’s, in the last issue of the Gazette.

Three verses of Alasdair Reynolds poem, in the same issue, could have been dedicated to Tom Todd, late of Glenayre, Ayr Street, who pedalled up to Craighlearn on six mornings a week and waded the burn to the next farm.

***I propped my bike agin the byre
And strode across a field;
Then climbed the style and crossed the burn
To get to Auchestroan.***

Sources:

- Pigot and Co’s Directory 1837-38*
- Slater’s Directory 1852*
- The Dumfries Post Office 1642-1910*
- A Record of Progress and Development, J. M. Corrie*
- D. and G. N. H. A. S. N.S. Vol. XXIV*
- The Annals of Glencairn, John Corrie 1910*

Note: The illustrations have been kindly lent by Mrs. Jane Heald, Mrs. Rosalind Hall and Dumfries Museum.

A. B. Hall

Bail Hill Arch

Photos © Dave McFadzean



We are back in glorious Glencairn for this wee walk. Not everybody is fortunate enough to have an internationally acclaimed series of artworks set right on their doorstep. Here in Moniaive we are exceptionally lucky in having the Striding Arches sited high on the hilltops above the headwaters of the upper Dalwhat. These four metre high arches may not be to everybody's taste but they are certainly here to stay.

Built from Dumfriesshire red sandstone each hill arch gives a view to another away on the distant skyline. For our walk we will take in the arch nearest to Moniaive on Bail Hill. Ironically we start at Bail Wood Quarry where there is plenty of local Glencairn whinstone that could have been used for the arch project. Whinstone is obviously a lot harder to work and the logistics of hewing this stone probably ruled out its use.

There is plenty of parking near the lochan at the disused quarry. Skirt northwards over tussocky ground until you reach a stile in the forest fence. This will lead you into a firebreak going north-easterly up through the forestry. The way is steep from here, up through even more tussocks, to a rickety gate at the top of the trees. From the top edge of the forest it is only short climb to the sandstone arch on Bail Hill.

From the arch the views are extensive up towards Cairnhead and the hills around the Southern Upland Way. The Cairnmore Hills and the Rhinns of Kells bristle to the west and to the south past Criffel the hills of the northern Lake District can be seen sparkling on clear day. The giant turbines on Wether Hill birl

Photos © Dave McFadzean



away sedately closer at hand on the other side of the valley.

From Bail Hill it is a straightforward hill walk along to Glenskelly Hill and down the ridge to the ancient fort on Castle Hill. From here a steep and sometimes stony descent takes you back to the tarred road. Watch out for stonechats here and in the summer wheatears flit among the bouldery screes. The river is home to dippers and in autumn salmon spawn in these head waters. Buzzards are common around here and most likely you will see one wheeling in the skies as you head back up the quiet road to your car.

Distance: just over 3 miles. Ascent: 1,100ft. Map: OS Landranger Sheet 77.

Dave McFadzean

Striding Arches:

Correction of distances to Arches

There was an error in the October Gazette of the distances to the Arches which were confusing and with some being inadvertently doubled. Leaflets distributed in the parish quote distances for the return journey.

Distances are as follows:

Colt Hill Arch 6 miles in total.

Benbrack Arch 9 miles in total.

Bail Hill Arch at present has no defined forest path and it is only accessible by experienced walkers prepared to find their own way with the help of a map and compass. Access is best obtained just north of the quarry opposite the picnic area and lochan. Just under 2 miles for the return journey but over difficult and steep terrain.

It is understood that sizeable numbers of people are visiting the arches and surrounding countryside on their walks and numbers are being monitored over the next months.

Melville Brotherston, Chair, Cairnhead Community Forest Trust

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MINISTER'S MUSINGS

2009 has been named the year of homecoming. Sometimes that 'event' cannot be set to a date or a time, but a real homecoming is dependant on what happens around us and within us.

To come home to a place, or a family, or a faith is not something over which we have complete control. Even less so when it is someone else's homecoming. What happens when someone arrives back in our lives ready to start again, ready to return to their old haunts. Are we able to accept them? Remember in the parable of the prodigal son, the father welcomed his son with open arms; the elder son was not at all ready to welcome his brother back – and it was he who lost out. His inability to forgive, to start again meant he was the one missing out on the fun. His life was the one in which the gnawing of 'holding on to the past' made an unhappy difference.

If we can let go our anger, if we can forgive – and try to trust again – then we free ourselves to live to the full. If we don't we let a.n. other rule us.

Coming back, especially if we have left under a cloud, or if we have left a long time ago, can be hard – a difficult decision. When others help make it easier then the way is cleared. Homecoming to families, to homes, to church, to faith – should be to a place, a people

where we can feel safe, feel accepted, and forgiven. That will often depend on us and how we react. Forgiveness, acceptance, making positives out of negatives – new starts, fresh pages. Life is too short to nurse wrath, to bear grudges. No matter the past it is the present that matters most.

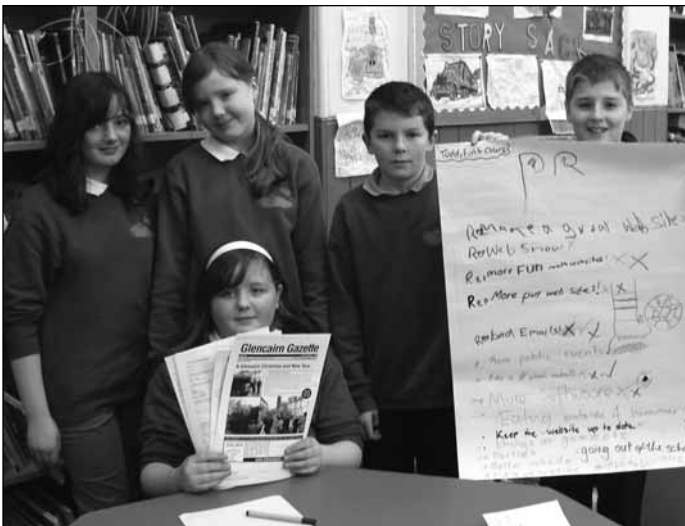
Which brings me to.....

Homecomings, returns are not always about us, or on our conditions. Two weeks before Christmas I posted a parcel to Glasgow – my niece's Christmas present. It never turned up and could not be traced. So I arranged we would simply 're-do' Christmas, and I would go to Glasgow, meet her and take with me her 'Christmas'. A few days before I went, I shopped and went home ready to dig out the Christmas paper and wrap her pressies. I got home, the postman had been – and there in my porch was the returned parcel which had been to Glasgow and made its way 'home'.

Response? See the funny side! We had a 'double' Christmas celebration in January; and 'grown-up' as she may be, my niece enjoyed her double Christmas. I just wonder what her younger sister feels about this!!!

Christine

Photo: Sue Grant



Reporters on the loose!

Moniaive Primary School pupils have started a new PR group called 'The Reporters'.

The groups currently has five members, Shaun, David, Amelia, Tilda and Anya. "We will be reporting on events in the school and the village where stories involve younger people," they told the Gazette.

"We plan to expand by taking on trainees," said Amelia.

David and Shaun explained: "We're going to make a brand new, exciting website which we promise to update regularly."

Amelia plans to concentrate on reporting on the Guides of which she is a keen member. Tilda will cover and promote new campaigns and will investigate leads on any new stories. Anya, a cast member of the Alice in Wonderland show, will cover the production for the Gazette.

Sue Grant who is helping the children to start up their group said, "I was surprised and pleased with the enthusiasm shown and the ideas which came forward from the first meeting – watch out for great things from this group of youngsters."

The Reporters

Glencairn History Group

The History Group's new year begins in February with David Duncan, Senior Guide at the Mining Museum, giving a talk on 'Lead Mining at Wanlockhead'. David brings the subject to life in a very entertaining presentation.

It is time for our Annual General Meeting on March 5th at 7.30pm in the Memorial Institute. This is an opportunity to find out what we do, make suggestions for the coming year and to become a member. Subscriptions are £5 single and £8 group/family.

The Oral History Project is now under way, with our first volunteers set to take part. We are keen to talk to people about their experiences of living and working in the Parish. It doesn't matter what age you are or how long you have been here. With the right equipment, this is a project that could grow to include recordings of events, such as the Gala. We are assessing the requirements for a basic kit, to work out the cost. If anyone could offer advice on equipment and/or sponsorship we would be very grateful.

We had a good response to our recent quiz. From the number of correct entries it is obvious that the parish has a lot of general knowledge at its fingertips. I owe everyone an apology for the 'deliberate mistake' in Question 24 - and my thanks to those who pointed it out. Robert I (the Bruce) was king in 1307, but his coronation was, of course, in 1306. Mea culpa. The prizes will be delivered to the three winners as soon as possible.

Answers: 1. Solent, 2. Napoleon, 3. Bath, 4. Chris Hoy, 5. Noah, 6. 20, 7. 16, 8. Hop, 9. Sea of Tranquility, 10. Edward I of England, 11. New Orleans, 12. Churchill, 13. Dolly the Sheep, 14. K, 15. Song Thrush, 16. Gordon Brown, 17. Cold Comfort Farm, 18. Lithium, 19. Sir Christopher Wren, 20. Homer Simpson, 21. Lithuania, 22. One, 23. Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker, 24. Robert the Bruce, 25. John Constable. **Winners are** 1st Edwina and Jack Fletcher, Moniaive; 2nd Carol Godridge, Moniaive; 3rd Julian Fletcher, Essex.

For further information about Glencairn History Group, or to volunteer for the Oral History Project, write to: Bob Martin, Stables Cottage, Barjarg Tower, Auldirth DG2 0TN. Tel: 07772 877 443 or email: bob23martin@yahoo.com.

COUNCILLOR GILL DYKES

Homecoming 2009

I wanted to start this year with a very big congratulations to anybody who took part in the Burns Light Lantern procession in Dumfries last weekend. As a spectator I thought it was absolutely fantastic. There was lots of entertainment, music, speeches as well as local bands and choirs, but for me the lantern parade was spectacular - amazing, lots of brilliant lanterns; mice, boats, horses, planes, churches plus lots of characters which symbolised Burns as well as much, much more. There must have been a crowd of around 15,000 people at one point, filling the Whitesands from Buccleuch Street Bridge to the Royal Bank and beyond. The finale was the burning of a wicker built statue which was situated on the river Nith, the structure had been designed and built by local artists and was a spectacular sight... I only hope my photos come out as it was certainly a day to remember.

Still on the subject of Homecoming, I am delighted to be attending the Wallace Hall Academy Homecoming Burns Supper this Friday. I am really looking forward to hearing the former pupils who have very kindly agreed to speak... no twisting of arms, honest! It should be a good night and some very talented pupils will be entertaining the audience.

Hens

Now for all you hen lovers out there - the feathered kind that is! Hens, well Bantams actually, are not really my forte - in fact I am embarrassed to admit I am scared of birds, however before you all think I have gone mad let me explain. My daughter has become a lover of hens and along with her boyfriend was showing some Black Orpington Bantams at the Scottish National Poultry Show in Perth last Saturday, and as a dutiful mother I agreed to go and watch as this was the first time they had actually taken part in a show. I had no idea there were so many kinds of hens out there, all shapes sizes and colours, not to mention the number of people who were exhibiting. I was amazed at how early they got up - Hannah and Richie that is not the birds - by the time Trev and I met them for breakfast they had been to the show to feed and believe it or not polish the hens legs with baby oil. They even wash and blow-dry the chickens before the show! Their effort was rewarded by a first prize in the Black Orpington Pullet class and I managed to survive, as thankfully all the birds were in cages... what you do for your children.

Thornhill Station

On the 12th of January I was invited to attend a meeting called by Alex Fergusson MSP at Thornhill Station, this was to meet with the Minister of Transport who had been invited to look at the site following calls for the reopening of the station. It was an interesting meeting and I am pleased that this proposal seems to be gathering momentum. It is over a year now since I met the Minister in Holyrood as part of a SWESTRANS/Council delegation and I believe that it was very useful for him to see for himself the possibilities at Thornhill. I echo the sentiments of many local politicians who feel that a new station at Thornhill would prove a tremendous advantage to Mid Nithsdale.

Finally, a big thank you to the pupils at Moniaive Primary who fed me mince pies and served me tea at the 'helpers tea party'

Gill Dykes



Councillor Gill Dykes

You can contact me on 07736 255423
or email Gill.Dykes@dumgal.gov.uk

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COUNCILLOR ANDREW WOODS

Leasing of Forestry

At the last meeting of the Glencairn Community Council, the subject of Leasing Forestry land, presently serviced by the Commission, was discussed and I feel it only right to outline what the Scottish Government position is.

The proposal is part of a consultation on the role of Scotland's forestry. There are issues within the climate change bill – the *Stern Report on Climate Change* which talked about the need for early investment. One contribution Scotland could make to the ambitious 80% cut in greenhouse gasses the SNP propose by 2050 is to plant trees, but to do that we need early investment. As a cash limited government we cannot borrow (even though councils can – a ridiculous state of affairs) so need to resource planting from within forestry itself. The present target for Scotland is the planting of 10,000 hectares a year, currently this not being met with only 4,000 hectares planted last year.

Our National Forest Estate is worth about £850 million. The proposed leasing of the most commercial, but least publicly used, part (around 25%) would gain £200 million or so for climate change purposes; primarily planting new trees but also supporting wood biomass and joint ventures in renewable energy.

The Scottish Government has made an absolute guarantee of no compulsory redundancies, complete protection by TUPE (Transfer of Undertakings) and the Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) has said that it would try and move affected individuals into other jobs within the Commission. The number of employees likely to be affected is probably below 200 out of the 1,000 working for the Commission and 10,000 in Forestry. It should be remembered that the spending of £200 million would create many new jobs in rural areas as well! There is also the guarantee that no land will be sold off – this is about making use of an asset for the benefit of all. The present access and environment legislation would guarantee at the very least current access and biodiversity in all areas. In fact in places where such leases have been entered into (such as Alberta, Canada) the standard of the leased forest is now higher than that of the state forest

If others object to this plan it is incumbent upon them to

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suggest alternatives to allow for increased planting and an increased role for forestry in climate change.

In summary I feel this is a win-win proposal with new jobs being created and existing jobs kept, a contribution to cutting greenhouse gases all with no sale of public land.

Homecoming 2009

I was recently invited to the launch of the 'Homecoming' celebrations, held at the Aston Hotel, which was officially opened by Linda Fabiani MSP (Minister for Culture). The 'Homecoming' is an excellent opportunity for our area to take advantage of the excellent connections that we have with the Bard and it is hoped we will reap the benefit for many years to come. I am sure that many local residents are aware of this national event that will encourage large numbers of our friends, family and expatriates to return to Scotland for the celebration of the 250th anniversary of Robert Burns.

Dumfries and Galloway Council, in conjunction with the Scottish Arts Council, are working closely to deliver an impressive calendar of events aimed at making this, the first ever Homecoming year for Scotland and our region, a success. I would strongly recommend all to acquire the 'Homecoming on your Doorstep' brochure which gives an excellent overview of the activities and events that are happening throughout our region in 2009, alternatively visit www.homecomingonyourdoorstep.com.

My ancestor was Robert Burns' landlord

In 1791, my ancestor John Morin (of Birkbush, Killyleoch, Bessiewalla and Laggan) increased his holdings by buying Ellisland Farm. When he bought it, it had a sitting tenant, Robert Burns.

Burns was in the process of leaving – often a difficult period in a landlord-tenant relationship! Morin quarrelled with Burns about various things: the state of the fences, the state of the outbuildings and, above all, the value of the manure-heap.

Burns had worked hard to create the farm out of wasteland. He had spent several years, a lot of money and a great deal of stress getting the farmhouse built. He was infuriated by Morin's petty fussing about dung.

While he was living at Ellisland, Burns had engraved some of his poems on the windowpanes with a diamond. The day he left, he paid someone to go back and smash all the windows that he'd engraved – he wasn't going to leave them for Morin to profit from.

That wasn't the only punishment he inflicted on Morin. He also wrote the following rude poem about him:

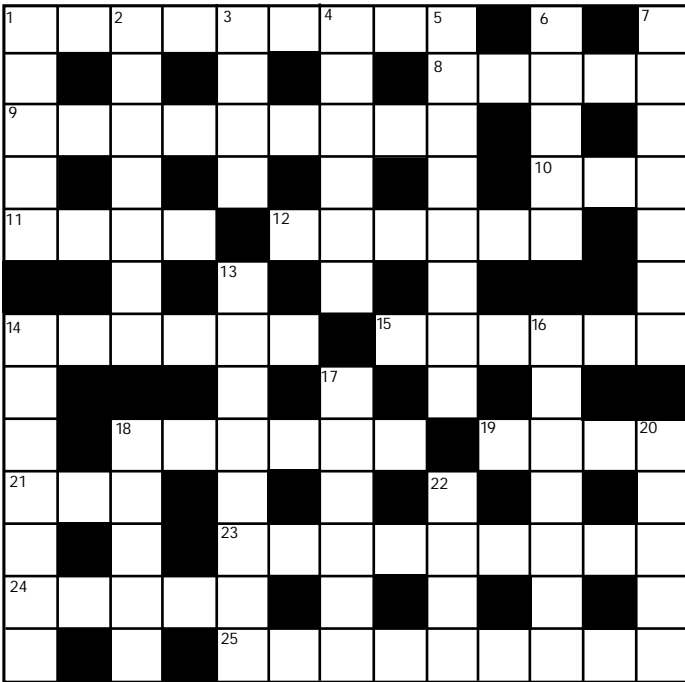
*When Morin, deceased, to the Devil went down,
'Twas nothing would serve him but Satan's own crown.
"Thy fool's head," quote Satan, "that crown shall wear never;
I grant thou'rt as wicked - but not quite so clever."*

Unfortunately, our family can't claim that Burns wrote a poem especially about one of us, because this is Burns' recyclable rude poem. He used it more than once, simply inserting the name of whoever he wanted to insult at the time.

Su Palmer-Jones

£5 PRIZE CROSSWORD

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Across

1. Do they never forget? (9)
- 8, 10, 21 Unwarranted hope (3,2,3,3)
9. Toupee (9)
10. See 8 across (3)
11. Dismiss (4)
12. Gusto (6)
14. Gambling establishment (6)
15. Lithe (6)
18. Become less tight (6)
19. Nail (4)
21. See 8 across (3)
23. The — Man, H.G. Wells (9)
24. Cavity connecting with the nose (5)
25. Indicated danger (9)

Down

1. Fundamental values or spirit (5)
2. Shows clearly (7)
3. It springs eternal (4)
4. Female relatives (6)
5. Deceptively plausible (8)
6. Downward measurement (5)
7. Make very angry (7)
13. Old Conservative (8)
16. N.T. moral story (7)
17. The 'mile high' city (6)
20. Squirrels' homes (5)
22. Continent (4)

Last issues answers:

Across: 1. Bing Crosby; 6. Buff; 9. Never again; 10. Afro; 12. As an additive; 15. Pyromania; 17. Annal; 18. Artis; 19. Distrusts; 20. 'is meal ticket'; 24. Iota; 25. Mistletoes; 26. Nick; 27. Assertions.

Down: 1. Bond; 2. Nave; 3. Christmas Day; 4. Organ; 5. Blind Man's; 7. Unfairness; 8. Flowerless; 11. Disagreement; 13.

Apparition; 14. Arithmetic; 16. No details; 21. Cutie; 22. Solo; 23. Isis. **NO WINNER LAST ISSUE.**

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Caption Competition No 40

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"Just getting into the 'spirit'" Can you come up with a funnier caption? If so, please leave it in the Gazette box in Watson's Stores by March 20th.

The prize is a box of chocolates from the PO courtesy of Julie's Hair and Beauty Salon.



Photo: Sue Grant

Caption Competition No 39 winner

The winning caption from Carol Godridge, Ayr Street is:

"He'll need a handicap for the duck race"

Congratulations Carol your prize is in the Post Office.



Photo: Sue Grant

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FEBRUARY

Sunday 1st Service in St Ninian's at 10am.
Monday 2nd Glencairn Community Council meeting in Memorial Institute, 7.30pm. All welcome. Sue 200331.
Thursday 5th Glencairn History Group Talk: 'Lead Mining In Wanlockhead' by David Duncan. 7.30pm, Moniaive Memorial Institute. Members £1 Non £3. Tea and Biscuits. All welcome.
Thursday 5th Housing Survey Surgery Memorial Institute, 2.30-7.30pm. All welcome. 01556 612331.
Sunday 8th Service in St Ninian's at 10am
Sunday 8th Walk and Soup Tynron Parish Hall Walk 11.30am. Soup and Rolls plus Secondhand Book Stall 12.30pm-2pm Linda 200469.
Thursday 12th Housing Survey Surgery Memorial Institute, 2.30-7.30pm. All welcome. 01556 612331.
Saturday 14th Lunches in St Ninian's from 12 noon.
Sunday 15th Moniaive Gala Annual Duck Race Racing of the ducks from the garages Ayr Street 2pm followed by soup and refreshments in the Institute. Moniaive Gala. Sue 200331.
Sunday 15th Service in St Ninian's at 10am.
Monday 16th Housing Survey Surgery Memorial Institute, 2.30-7.30pm. All welcome. 01556 612331.
Sunday 22nd Service in Glencairn 10am
Monday 23rd Moniaive Primary School Open Day Parents welcome from 9.30am and interested visitors 2-3pm.
Monday 23rd Housing Survey Deadline. 01556 612331.
Wednesday 25th Moniaive Post Office closes.
Thursday 26th Post Office reopens in Watson's Grocers.

MARCH

Sunday 1st Service in St Ninian's at 10am.
Monday 2nd Glencairn Community Council meeting in Memorial Institute, 7.30pm. All welcome. Sue 200331.
Thursday 5th Glencairn History Group AGM 7.30pm, Moniaive Memorial Institute. Refreshments. All welcome.
Friday/Saturday 6-7th Alice in Wonderland in St Ninian's. Watch for posters.
Sunday 8th Service in St Ninian's at 10am.
Friday 13th Silent Auction Tynron Parish Hall 6pm - 9pm Donations welcome - we can collect, please contact Janet 200774.
Friday/Saturday 13-14th Alice in Wonderland in St Ninian's. Watch for posters.
Saturday 14th Lunches in St Ninian's from 12 noon.
Sunday 15th Service in St Ninian's at 10am.
Wednesday 18th Life model in clay classes Wallaceton Village Hall 10am-4pm, Lucianne 01387 820472.
Saturday 21st Equinox Concert/Ceilidh at Wallaceton Hall. Bring nibbles/refreshments to share plus a turn: music, poetry, story? Raffle towards hall funds. Wendy 01387 820241.
Sunday 22nd Communion Service in Glencairn 10am and St Ninian's 6pm.
Wednesday 25th Life model in clay classes

Wallaceton Village Hall 10am-4pm, Lucianne 01387 820472.
Wednesday 25th Introduction to Watercolour Painting with Alastair Davies. 7pm Tynron Village Hall, Free. Booking necessary call 200774.
Saturday 28th Concert to raise funds for Zambia. Artists: Dave McFadzean and Hugh Taylor, Uisge Beatha and all the way from Fife - Clatto Junction. Tickets will be £5 per person. St Ninian's Church.
Tuesday 31st Windfarm Fund Allocation Meeting Memorial Institute 7pm. Glencairn Community Council. All welcome. Sue 200331.

APRIL

Wednesday 1st Life model in clay classes Wallaceton Village Hall 10am-4pm., Lucianne 01387 820472.
Wednesday 8th Life model in clay classes Wallaceton Village Hall 10am-4pm., Lucianne 01387 820472.
Friday 17th - Sunday 19th Book Sale Tynron Parish Hall. Donations welcome, please contact Linda 200469.

MONIAIVE REGULAR EVENTS

Darts Craigdarroch Arms Hotel, Moniaive. Gary 200205.
Carpet Bowls Tuesday evenings George Hotel, Moniaive. Robin 200203.
Pool Competition Thursday evenings George Hotel, Moniaive. Robin 200203.
Book Reading Club Fourth Thursday of month, Craigview, 7.30pm. Muriel Young 200318.
Yoga Wednesdays 7.30pm, Memorial Institute. Carol Godridge 200681.
Bells of St Ninian's Handbell Ringing Mondays meet 7.30pm in St Ninian's Nan Tait 200403.
Kickback Martial Arts Weds 5-7pm Memorial Institute. Ages 5 to adult. Just turn up.
Happy Hour Quiz Every Sunday 5-6pm The George Hotel. £1 per head - winner takes all!
Easy-obics Thursdays Institute 11am-12pm.
Wallaceton Carpet Bowling. Monday 7.30pm. Wallaceton Hall. Bob Graham 01387 820288.
Glencairn Community Council First Monday of month, Memorial Institute 7.30pm. All welcome. Robin McIvor 200412.
Glencairn History Group First Thursday of month, Memorial Institute 7.30pm. Bob Martin 0777 2877443.
Glencairn Memorial Institute Committee Fourth Thursday of month in Institute. All welcome. Sharon Henshall 200201.
Evergreen Club Tuesdays 1.30pm Craigdarroch Hotel. Community bus available to collect. Call Jean Stewart 200599 or Betty McMillan 200453.
Moniaive SWRI Every third Wednesday 7.30pm, St Ninian's. Linda Stott 200325.
Brownies Memorial Institute, every Tues of term. 6-7pm. Marysia Zoltowska 01848 200072.
Episcopal Service Fourth Sunday of every month 9.30am Maxwellton Chapel. Tony Freeman 200150.
Rock Solid Fridays (term-time) Church run Club for 11-14 year olds. Glenriddell Hall, Dunscore 7.30-9pm. Christine Sime 01387 820245.

Gala Duck Race



A chance to win £150, £100 or £50.

Duck race launch 2pm

Garages, Ayr Street on **Sunday 15th February** followed by soup and refreshments and prize giving at the Institute, Chapel Street, Moniaive.

Tickets available from Post Office, Green Tea House, Watson's Grocers, Hotchpotch and both hotels. **£1 ticket/£5 per book.**

Anyone wishing to hold a table top sale in the Institute after the race please call Duncan on 01848 200327.

Toy Library St Ninian's Thursdays of school term 2-3.30pm.

JaM ('Jesus and Me' Kids' club) every Sunday (except school holidays) Redpath Cottage, North Street 11.45-12.45am. Children from 3 years up welcome. Third Sunday of the month is a family service at St. Ninian's. Contact Anja Lyttle 01848 200272.

TYNRON HALL REGULAR EVENTS

Weekly Walks Eunice Laidlaw on 200343.
Tynron Carpet Bowling Club Thursdays 7.30pm. Tynron Hall. Frank Irvine 200355.
Tynron Community Council Last Monday, odd months. George Freeborn on 200439.
Tynron SWRI 1st Monday of the month. Madge Rorison on 200305.
Tai Chi Fridays. Mary Newbold on 200379.
Ceilidh Dancing Classes Every Tuesday 8.00 - 10.00 pm. £3. Mary Newbold on 200379.

BOOKING CONTACTS

Cairn Valley Community Transport Charlie McAllan on 01387 820877.
Glencairn Memorial Institute Elaine Wilson 200725.
Tynron Hall Phil Armstrong 01848 200225 or 07967 049 792.
Wallaceton Hall Wendy Stewart 820241.

DISTRIBUTION

For distribution queries or to be added to mailing list please call Lynda or Perry on 200026.

ADVERTISING

Contact Sue Grant on 01848 200331 or email: sue@badpress.demon.co.uk.

EDITORIAL CONTACTS

We depend on you for news and ideas to fill the Gazette so please help by supplying diary dates, advertisements, articles and letters. These can be handed in at the Post Office or given to any of the people listed below.

Annie Shnapp, Auchencheyne Cottage 200421.
 Sue Grant, Glenluiart, Moniaive 200331/401. sue@badpress.demon.co.uk
 Sandy Hall, Craiglearn, Moniaive 200292.

DEADLINE FOR APRIL/MAY ISSUE IS 20TH MARCH. Layout and editing: Sue Grant.

The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editorial team. The group reserves the right to encourage the expression of a variety of views on subjects of interest to the local community.