

Glencairn Gazette

Issue 58

June/July 2009

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National Lottery and Post Office... One good result

Two different companies and one village shop. It's not easy living in a rural community but Moniaive has managed better than most and, with local support, has kept its shops and services.

Until now that is. When Moniaive Post Office closed its doors we all breathed a little easier when it was announced that Watson's Stores were hosting a Post Office outreach service. However, after giving up lucrative coffee shop space for the new Post Office counter, proprietor Graham Watson had little idea of the impact the outreach service would have on his business.

"When we agreed to take on the PO we were led to believe that we would also get the lottery outlet," said Graham. "There were no guarantees, but no one who spoke to us led us to think it wouldn't happen."

Graham was then told he had to apply to Camelot directly for a lottery terminal, he did but was seemingly refused a terminal.

"People who travel to Thornhill or Dumfries to play the lottery are, quite understandably, also doing their shopping there," explained Graham, "and this is having an adverse effect on the village economy."

When the Gazette contacted Camelot to find out why he had been refused a spokesman said: "Just to clear up any confusion over whether an initial application was submitted and refused, the

form that was initially submitted on Mr Watson's behalf was in respect of adding his outlet to our database of around 100,000 potential retailers who meet our basic eligibility criteria. This database is not a waiting list, but rather a pool from which we can draw our retail estate. As such, this was not a formal selection application and, as a result, there was no refusal by Camelot. Naturally we're sorry if Mr Watson was under the mistaken impression that, by adding his details to our database of eligible retailers, he had formally applied for a lottery terminal.

"As operators of the National Lottery, Camelot's objective is to maximise returns for 'good causes'. Work with over 27,500 retailers throughout the UK, with independent outlets making up the majority. Our retailers have played a pivotal role in helping to raise over £22 billion and counting for the good causes. We will continue to work closely with them to build on this amazing achievement."

There appears to have been a breakdown in communication as Graham is adamant that a full application was tendered to Camelot the first time but he agreed to resubmit an application which Camelot agreed to consider.

Cllr Gill Dykes and Alex Fergusson MSP had supported Graham's application and written to Camelot with their concerns.

A phone call from Camelot on Thursday 21st gave good news: "Good to speak to you and update you on the good news – we're delighted that the community of Moniaive will have access to a National Lottery terminal in the very near future."

Excellent news indeed for the community and for Watson's shop.

Cllr Gill Dykes said: "I am delighted that after a bit of pressure on the Chief Executive they have changed their mind

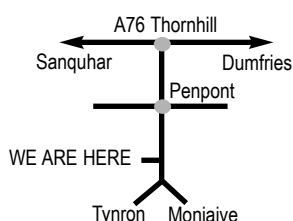
Continued on page 3

Folk Festival report and pictures centre spread



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Life imitating Art!

I was pleased with my April Fools Day story 'Lights for Lambs' in the last issue but somewhat amazed to see a feature on Border News a week or so later. A group of Cumbrian farmers had fitted their sheep with lights and, using dogs, had herded them into shapes to make patterns on the hillsides at night. The piece was even set to music!

Sue Grant

Bomb story follow-up

The "Unexploded Bomb" story in the last issue got Jim Wilson and Sam Todd thinking and they have come up with a possible answer to the mystery as to how a Navy flare ended up in Moniaive.

"A Norwegian seaman called Hans Solberg married Jessie Martin who lived in Martour just after the war. They had a daughter Jane, who I think now lives in Australia with her husband, a doctor." Jim explained. "Hans retired from the Navy and after his death Jessie remarried."

"He was a purser in the Merchant Navy," added Sam Todd. "He was also a whaler," said Jim. "I remember him telling me that when we worked together. So it's possible that the flare came from Hans who maybe kept it as a souvenir."

Jim Wilson/Sam Todd

Competition Sponsors

A big thank you to Michael Forteath, painter and decorator for agreeing to sponsor the Crossword in the Gazette for the next year. Also Catherine Braid of the Green Tea House for sponsoring the Caption Competition and for her generous donation to the Gazette. Without local support like this the competition prizes would have had to be scrapped.

Nithsdale Licensing Forum

Would all licencees, and those who apply for provisional licences, please note that your representative on the forum is Sue Grant (01848 200331). If you have any concerns or questions please let her know. The next forum meeting is planned for June.

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New business in Moniaive



'Chapel Street Chocolatiers' is the brainchild of Liz Hall, who was recently awarded the Valedictorian at the Ecole Chocolat, Vancouver, Canada.

Liz makes delicious chocolates by hand. Using only fresh, organic, seasonal and fairly traded ingredients, she produces quality, individual, great tasting chocolates.

Her first batch went on sale over the Folk Festival weekend. "I did a roaring trade," she said. "People thought they were delicious and even stopped me on the street to buy them when I was delivering to the various outlets!"

For the festival, Liz produced a selection of over 600 dark, milk and white chocolates, including a selection of chocolate bars. "I'm happy to take orders for special occasions, including dinner parties, birthdays, weddings, corporate events, etc." she said. "As fruits come into season, the fruit fillings I make will vary throughout the year."

Liz is currently working on a range of chocolates for local hotels, restaurants and shops. "I'm designing signature chocolates specifically for each local venue, so you will not find the same chocolate in every establishment," she explained.

Liz would like to thank everyone, especially Debbie Trower and Sue Grant, who have given their support and helped to launch this new venture.

Chapel Street Chocolates can currently be purchased from The Green Tea House or directly from Liz by calling 01848 200 125. Her chocolates will soon be available in retail outlets in Moniaive, Thornhill and New Galloway.

Local harpist releases new recording

'Hinterlands', the new CD from Wendy Stewart and radio presenter and academic, Gary West, pairs two of Scotland's finest players on two of Scotland's oldest instruments - the harp and the bagpipes. Wendy and Gary deliver a unique blend of song and melody performed with subtlety, skill and panache. They have been playing together since they met in the 1980s in the Scottish folk group Ceolbeg, one of the leaders in the celtic revival. While they used highland pipes and electro harp in the band, on 'Hinterlands' they explore arrangements using small pipes, acoustic harp, whistles and concertina. Not only do their instruments blend well, but their voices do too. Many fans, used to hearing Wendy and Gary primarily as instrumentalists, will be unaware of their vocal talents.

"West has a warm way with a song... while Stewart gives us a new melodic setting of Burns' 'Ae Fond Kiss' and relishes the harmonic possibilities of his 'Slave's Lament'. The instrumental work is everywhere excellent." Scotland on Sunday

"magisterial echoes... Highland pipes and harp sounding eloquently together" The Scotsman

"Subtle instrumentals, dreamy vocals. West and Stewart pipes/clarsach combo Hinterlands is a lovely rich new sound for the two ancient instruments." Fiona Ritchie, The Thistle and the Shamrock, NPR Radio.

The album is available locally from The Green Tea House, Hotchpotch, Barnstorm in Dumfries or directly from Wendy on 01387 820 241 wendyharp@hotmail.com.

Continued from cover

and we will see a machine in the shop shortly.”

However not such good news on the Post Office side. Graham said, “The Post Office outreach service has had a negative impact on the business as it is running at a loss. We receive a percentage of transactions taken over the counter and to date these have not covered our extra staffing costs.”

Because of this Graham has decided that the only way forward is to reduce the number of hours the PO will be open. He is trying to find the right balance between staffing costs and payments received.

The Post Office have issued a leaflet with the revised opening times – 9am to 1pm Monday to Saturday. They plan to hold a public consultation during which the public can submit their views on these changes. Some have already contacted the Gazette, the main concern being that with the post not arriving until 11.30am (at the earliest) there is little time to reply to letters and catch the post the same day. The morning opening hours are also of concern to those who work to deadlines. “11am-3pm would be a better opening time for businesses,” suggested one reader.

Another issue within the village is the size of the new postbox sited by the cherry tree. The Community Council has written to the Post Office asking for a larger pillar type box to be installed.

Cllr Andrew Woods has also written to the Post Office: “As one of the elected members for this ward, I write to you on behalf of the whole community, regarding the very disappointing and unacceptable postal service that Moniaive is now expected to tolerate in the quest of Post Office Ltd, to save some money.

“Moniaive was assured throughout the whole consultation that the service provided would not be compromised... ..I have received

many complaints about the inadequate mini-postbox, fitted beside the telephone box. This postbox is continually overflowing and, when full, people can access letters that are posted, as they sit stuffed in the mouth of the box. I suggest a full sized pillar box would be the only solution, or the re-opening of a full time post office.”

Hopefully these and other concerns can be addressed at the public consultation which hopefully will be better publicised and run than the PO closure consultation debacle.

With proposals for a Post Bank now being mooted at Government level it seems a real shame that this proposal wasn't brought up before the decision to close so many rural Post Offices. Rural areas are the very areas that would benefit the most from Post Banks yet once again it seems they may miss out.

We urgently need some joined up thinking by big business when it comes to rural economies.

Sue Grant

Russell Brown MP

for Dumfries & Galloway Constituency



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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.

Blackcraig Windfarm – no end in sight

A second pre-inquiry meeting was held in Dalry on 22nd April to set a date for restarting the Blackcraig Public Inquiry. It had been ‘sisted’ (suspended) last April to allow the developers S&SE time to discuss possible mitigation of the problems with radars that caused NATS-NERL (air traffic safety) to object to the erection of the windfarm as long ago as September 2006.

In the meantime the Ministry of Defence have recommended the installation of omni-directional red lights to indicate the size of the windfarm ‘in the interests of air traffic safety’ since Blackcraig ridge is in a low flying area.

A report in the Scotsman of Friday 7th May 2009 indicated that there have been talks going on between the Scottish Government, the MoD and windfarm applicants, North British Wind, who have an application in for Margree (opposite Corridoo on the A702) which is also held up by the same radar problems. These talks were, following an inquiry into a proposed windfarm in the Borders which was opposed by the MoD on radar grounds. This led to claims in the media that the Scottish Government was trying to negotiate with the MoD so that the Fallago Rig windfarm could go ahead despite local opposition from the Council and residents and to set a regional solution.

Interestingly an S&SE spokesperson noted at the Dalry meeting that “S&SE and the Scottish Government are seeking a regional solution to radar problems and in May 2009 another technical assessment meeting is taking place. This will take two to three months to complete and then the MOD will need to be brought in for consultation.” And so it was argued that Autumn would be the earliest time the inquiry could reconvene.

I would argue that this ‘regional solution’ should be discussed in the public arena at the public inquiry and not in a private meeting between the applicants and Scottish Government.

There are now two new issues which can be discussed when the inquiry reconvenes.. One is the proposal to put lights on top of the turbines. The MoD Safeguarding letter to the Scottish Government stated: “in the interests of air safety, the perimeter/corner turbines and a selection of inner turbines be lit with 24 candela omni-directional red lighting at the highest practical point. Sufficient turbines should be lit to indicate the size of the wind farm.” This could mean twenty three turbines lit up along a ridge, two and half miles long and 1,500 feet high which would light up what is currently one of the darkest skies in Europe and a candidate for recognition as a Dark Sky Park in

this International Year of Astronomy. Presumably this is another of the risk assessment issues currently being discussed behind closed doors while the people who live in the area wait for the Public Inquiry to restart.

Plans have now been put forward by SP Transmission for a second grid connection route since the original route was turned down on appeal. Now the proposal is to build an overhead grid connection to run from a substation by Loch Howie in Corridoo serving Blackcraig, to join up with a substation serving Margree windfarm, over to Kendoon where a new, larger overhead connection would be made along a slightly different route to Meikle Hill at Dalmellington, where it would connect to the newly proposed South Scotland Grid Connection Project.

The route has been chosen as ‘there is not sufficient capacity within the existing transmission network closer to the windfarms.’ Interestingly Margree Windfarm has not proceeded to planning yet because of the same radar problems but perhaps the ‘admission’ within the grid connection consultation document that by constructing this new, and partly upgraded, line there will be excess capacity might allow for further windfarm developments.

Moniaive and Glencairn Community Council (GCC) were not included on the list of people to receive or display the grid connection consultation document and GCC were only alerted to its existence by an email from a concerned resident and this despite Moniaive being mentioned twice early in the document... “It [Blackcraig windfarm] is located to the south of the A702 between New Galloway and Moniaive..... The windfarm [Margree] is located to the north of the A702 between New Galloway and Moniaive.” Deadline for objections or support of the proposed grid connection was set as May 23rd but the consultation document was only produced in April and on display in Dalmellington and Carsphairn for only two days. Glencairn Community Council prepared a rushed response objecting to the proposed route and the use of overhead cables on both wooden poles and pylons. When the Blackcraig Public Inquiry restarts it is hoped this can be discussed along with the issue of lights or other ‘solutions’ the applicant, NATS-NERL, the MoD and the Scottish Government propose.

The inquiry reporter, Malcolm Mahoney, suggested that written applications/objections should be submitted where possible to reduce the time witnesses were called to speak. Dumfries and Galloway Council are still opposing the Blackcraig windfarm and noted there were no changes to their development plan. The Forestry Commission still have no agreement with S&SE with regard to the land in question or the creation of a Black Grouse mitigation scheme and there remains the issue of lights raised by Defence Estates.

The Reporter confirmed that any evidence submitted must be new and not touch upon topics already covered by the inquiry. I, on behalf of Glencairn Community Council, asked to speak on the issue of lights and on the planned grid connection from Blackcraig and Margree windfarms as these are new issues that have only recently come to light. I also asked that Craigdarroch Fishing Club be allowed to give evidence on the same points. This was agreed and written submissions are required by 29th September.

It was finally agreed that the inquiry will reconvene on 27th October and run for approximately three days, dependent on cross-examination of witnesses. After this, the Reporter will write his report with his verdict and this will then go to the Scottish Government for a decision, which is unlikely until at least 2010.

Sue Grant

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Gala plans new events



With the promise of a long hot summer it's hoped this year's 'new style' gala will have something for everyone.

We want to make it a real community event with everyone taking part – Thursday 16th-Saturday 18th July.

On Thursday evening we're holding the Car Treasure Hunt, Moniaive World Cream Cracker Eating competition and Bingo.

Friday evening we'll have the Five-a-side football, Pet Show and a family night for everyone, including younger children. We're hoping for a better turn out on the Friday night than the past few years. The family night starts with a new show starring you! It's the TV show 'Mr and Mrs' with a twist. Teams of parents (or grandparents) and their children (any age) are needed. In our version it's the kids who get asked questions about their parents and the parents who have to guess what the kids said. Teams should register by July 16th on sheets to be found in Watson's Stores from June 25th. Following this will be a DJ competition where the number of dancers your music encourages onto the floor will win a prize. Later in the evening we're holding a 'Yard of Ale' competition.

Saturday is Gala day and we'd like to increase the number of floats and fancy dress entrants and we have a new category 'Best dressed wheelbarrow' You can decorate your wheelbarrow anyway you see fit, just remember you'll have to push it up the street for the parade!

After the crowning of the Queen and opening the arena events this year will again be a community event. We're planning an Obstacle Course/It's a Knockout style event including a family course for younger children. Entries on the day or put your name down at Watson's Grocers by July 16th.

The committee are looking for straw bales, tyres, a greasy pole, waterproof sheeting, wheelbarrows, wellies, flowerpots, traffic cones and bamboo poles. If you can help with any of these please let Sue 200331 or Scott 200640 know.

The arena events will be followed by the lorry pull and tug of war and the evening gala dance will then round off the festivities.

We're also looking for new members or people who can help on the day stewarding the parade and helping to run events etc. If you can help please let Sue know as soon as possible.

Moniaive Gala Committee

Sin Bin

One of the first casualties of Dumfries and Galloway Council's new wheelie bin 'closed lid' policy was Liz McMillan whose bin lid wasn't fully closed and so wasn't emptied. The new rules are to deter vermin climbing into wheelie bins. Vermin with ladders or proficient high jumpers?



Cartoon: Bernard Walker

Sizzling Sausages and the Brownies

1st Cairn Valley Brownies enjoyed a 'Sausage Sizzle' and camp fire with Thornhill and Dunscore Brownies.

Due to the weather this was held in Thornhill Community Centre. Tina and Karen helped to organise games and Nan helped to cook the sausages. The Brownies had been practising Camp Fire Songs – 'Camp fire's burning', 'We went down to the Animal Fair', 'I like my eggs nice and brown' and lots more. Despite the weather the Brownies had a great time.

Tina and Karen are working for their Adult Leadership Qualification and thank the parents for their support.

'Change the World Challenge' - All Guides and Brownies have been asked to adopt a charity and the Brownies have chosen 'Asthma' and are having a sponsored walk to raise money for this. They will also learn about asthma sufferers.

They have chosen to do their 'Entertainment' badge and are all very excited about this – Lots to do and lots of fun.

Nan Tait

An apple a day...

Surgery Opening Hours

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Saturday/Sunday	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

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George Hotel Restaurant reopens

Photos: Sue Grant



Stunning is the only word to describe the total refurbishment of the George Hotel's 'function room'. Now the room is warm, airy and furnished with flair and style.

The new restaurant has been busy since opening. The blonde wood tables and chairs sit by the new windows giving diners glorious views of the hills behind Moniaive. Grouped round the new log burner are comfortable settees, perfect for that pre-dinner drink.

The food is reasonably priced and chef Jason Taylor, ably assisted by Pete Tagg, has kept the menu small but still with plenty of choice. Scottish favourites appear along with dishes of

a more eclectic flavour.

The wine list has a number of interesting selections and there should be something to suit every taste.

Jade Goddard has been appointed Manageress of the restaurant and is pleased at the way things have been going. "We were very busy during the folk festival weekend," she said, "but have been delighted with the local support we've received."

Deidre said, "I'd like to thank all the waiting staff who have been absolutely brilliant, especially all the village youngsters."

Congratulations to Robin and Deidre for all their hard work.

The restaurant is closed Mondays and Tuesdays. The Sunday Carvery runs from 12-3pm followed by the regular menu 3.30-8pm.



Moniaive Horse Show

This year's Horse Show will be held on Sunday 26th July at the Station Fields, Chapel Street starting at 9am.

There is an entry fee of £5 per class. There are 105 classes in the showing section, eight jumping classes and seven dog classes – with over 50 trophies to be won. New this year is a Show Hunter Pony Section with three classes, also combined Hunter Championship, Champion of Working Hunter, Ridden Hunter and In hand Hunter, this is sponsored by Camplebridge Riding School. Schedules are available from J. Ewart, 7 North Street, Moniaive. Please enclose a SAE.

Judges for this years show

Supreme Championship & Heavy Horse Championship and Combined Hunter Championship: Mrs Brooks, Kelso. *In-hand &*

Ridden Hunters: Mrs Williamson/ Mr Housby, Cumbria. *Connemara and Mountain & Moorland:* Mrs Cameron, Melrose. *Clydesdales:* Mrs Jackson, Biggar. *Shetlands:* Mrs Spence, Aberdeenshire. *Highland:* Mrs Dykes, Peebles. *Coloured, Arab & Palomino:* Mrs McLaughlin, Wigtown. *Fell:* Miss Bell, Cumbria. *Working Hunter:* Mrs Metcalf, Cumbria. *In-hand & Ridden Ponies:* Mrs Clifford, Ayrshire. *Veterans:* Mrs Flatman, Appleby in Westmorland. *Turnout & Show Hunter Ponies:* Mrs McTurk, Dalry. *Handy Horse or Pony & Family Pony:* Mrs White, Dumfries. *Young Handlers:* tbc. *Jumping:* Mrs Jardine, Ruthwell/Mrs Mckinnel, Dumfries. *Dogs:* Mrs Lord, Beeswing.

The Society would like to thank everyone who is sponsoring the Show.

J. Ewart



ALEX FERGUSSON MSP FOR GALLOWAY AND UPPER NITHSDALE

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Letters to the Editor

What the performers thought of the Folk Festival...

Just a quick wee message to say I had a great time coming up to Moniaive. Great weekend! I think you've done well to get such a friendly and relaxed atmosphere there, and with loads going on. I really enjoyed playing, and it seemed to go down well (got a couple of bookings out of it and shifted quite a few cds, which is always nice!), so ta for having me along. I'd be happy to perform and teach even more at next year's festival - so just let me know how things go!

Ewan

I can't thank you enough for putting me in the festival. I truly enjoyed myself. I may be a 'go to bed early' old poop but I still enjoyed singing and the response I got. I had forgotten how much I enjoy it. I am so glad the younger ones enjoyed it as well. While I have no desire to go on the road and go from club to club in either folk or jazz I would be willing to come back to your festival once in a while. I'll even try and get a new album together.

Marilyn Middleton Pollock

Enjoyed the festival. The concert tent is not an easy place to get good photos but some of mine are OK. I thought that the Childrens Concert was great. If you can pass this link on to anybody - but particularly the childrens parents who might appreciate copies of the photos. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/peteheywood/sets/72157617962636838> The festival seemed to have coped well with weather conditions that could have really hurt festivals less well prepared.

Pete Heywood

Proprietor and Editor of Living Tradition Magazine

It was Moniaive folk festival at the weekend. Moniaive has, along with the folk festival, a bluegrass, a blues and a guitar festival. We played at the guitar festival last year, so were looking forward to the folk festival. On the drive down from Glasgow it didn't look too good as heavy rain, high winds and even sleet buffeted the car. Incredibly though, Moniaive was swathed in bright sunshine, which although pleasant to look

at must have been that new kind of freezing cold sun that you seem to get a lot in Scotland these days. We got the tent up fast to get to our first gig of the day in the local cafe. The place was packed to the gunnels and very pleasant it was too with folk sitting around drinking tea/coffee/fruit infusions the whole thing had a nice intimacy. Our night time show was in the Memorial Hall which was great as the old hall was turned into a club for the night and the sound by Soundsense was excellent. After we went to see if we could get in any of the pub sessions. Moniaive has been called the 'coolest village in Scotland' and the realisation set in at about 11o'clock that it certainly was. This was confirmed by a thermometer that showed the temperature was just above freezing, and given we were camping, there was only one thing for it. Get drunk enough to not feel the cold. Although it was freeing when we retired, a few short hours later we woke up due to the tent being like an oven. A quick guitar workshop later we hosted the open mic afternoon of which the standard of musicianship and songs was fantastic and then had to leave far too soon as the town looked like it was gearing up for another great night of music. Roll on the next one!

Doghouse Roses

Just a quick note to say a big thank you for inviting us to the wonderful Moniaive festival. It was a real treat to hear so many talented young people... and local too... must be something in the water!

Hilary and Simon

Just a short note to say thank you very much for the opportunity to perform and lead guitar workshops/masterclasses at the Festival. I have to say that I've been to quite a few Folk Festivals in the past and Moniaive is without doubt one of the friendliest and enjoyable I have ever attended - in fact I was perhaps guilty of enjoying myself a bit too much on the Saturday night - I was literally playing slide guitar until my fingers bled... hence my slightly late arrival to the masterclass on Sunday I met a lot of wonderful people and musicians at the Festival, some familiar to me and a few

old friends, but many more new to me. My girlfriend also thoroughly enjoyed the weekend (and she doesn't always enjoy these events, I can assure you!) - she comes from Sligo and was at school with Brian McDonagh's son but had never seen them live - how ironic that she finally sees them for the first time in Moniaive! They were absolutely fantastic! We had the good fortune to win a copy of their album in the raffle, and have been playing it ever since! I'd love to come back next year with the full band and of course, I'm really looking forward to the Guitar Festival at the end of August - fingers crossed it's good weather for camping!

Simon Kempston

I had the most wonderful weekend in Moniaive and the best birthday in a long while. I now have the post Moniaive Festival blues! What a village and what a festival and I have a new fanclub. I have been booked for Carlisle Folk Club and also for Dundonald Folk Festival 2010. I won't make the Bogle fest as I am booked up but would love to come back again to Moniaive and play with my band next time if you'll have me.

Mary Kathleen Burke

And from a visitor...

Just to say 'Thanks' for introducing us to the Moniaive Festival. We thoroughly enjoyed it and hope it might become an annual You'll no doubt be looking for a few days rest after all your hard work - well done you tho - it was worth it. I really enjoyed popping into the different venues and getting a flavour of the performers and performances and thought, in general, it was high. Loved Dervish.

Frances (McLennan)

**Kilnhouse Carpet Bowling Club
would like to thank the people who
gave prizes and donations for
season 20 2008-2009.**

**Secretary S. McMillan
01848 200568**

Moniaive Spring Clean

Photos: Michael Cunniff



Saturday the 16 May saw the Moniaive Primary School Eco-Committee and Glencairn Community Council team up with volunteers from the community to take part in a litter pick and village spring clean.

As well as litter on the streets, the new footpath, folk festival camp site and old station yard were targeted. In two hours we filled a skip then retreated to the school for well earned tea and biscuits. Thanks to all who came along and helped out and to Peter Clingan, DGC for his help.

Let's keep the village looking good for the rest of the summer – the judging for Scotland in Bloom takes place in July and weeding, litter picking and tidying front gardens in the run up to the judges visit will increase our chances of another win!

Sarah Keast



Above: Moira McCrossan, Val McNeil and Sarah Keast at the Station Yard and Alma and Poppy with the full skip of litter.

Below: Sunny Riddell picking up a cigarette butt with giant pickers outside the school



Photo: Sarah Keast

NEW WORKSHOP IN JULY! Study the Model in Clay

Workshop with Lucianne Lassalle.
17th, 18th, 19th, July 10am - 4pm
Cost : £150 for Tutoring, life model and lunch
Modelling stands & tools provided
Clay £10 a bag (or bring your own)
At: Wallaceton Village Hall
Wallaceton, Dunscore Dumfries

To book please send a cheque to Lassalle Art & Design Ltd. Laurieston House Pottery, Wallaceton, Dunscore, Dumfries DG2 0TG

There are a couple of spaces still available for the August 19th - 23rd class for details 01387820472

The workshops will be focused and look at basic structure and proportion. We will work directly in clay, making clay sketches from the model and then working on a longer pose for more in depth study.

Please check website for future courses
www.luciannelassalle.co.uk/workshops.htm

Community Council AGM

At the AGM on Monday 4th May Chairman Scott McMillan's speech highlighted the work of the Community Council over the past year.

"It has been a busy year with wind farms high on the agenda. The windfarm fund has held two more allocation meetings with 12 organisations benefiting. Blackcraig wind farm is still at the public inquiry stage and we have been involved in meetings about the community fund for Whiteside Hill wind farm. The footpath from the bottom park to the school has been finished. The village had a good showing in Scotland in Bloom and we won Nithsdale in Bloom thanks to hard work by Moniaive in Flower and Sharon Henshall. Refurbishing the cherry tree and the area around it has started. Plans for a parking area in North Street are underway. The Council has repaired the clock after it stopped chiming properly and there have been discussions about who is responsible if another fault occurs. Dumfries & Galloway Small Communities Housing Trust conducted a survey on housing needs in Glencairn. New passing places have been made on the back road. There have been discussions about the closure of the Post Office and also the failure to re-site the lottery machine in the shop. Work has been carried out to improve disabled access to the public toilets and also to get lights. Problems with the Council's lack of gritting in the village have been discussed. We held a party for the older people in the

community. Can I take this opportunity to thank all those involved. The Community Council made donations this year for clock winding, to Moniaive Primary School, the Glencairn Gazette and the Playgroup."

Office bearers then stood down and elections held. Everyone stayed in the same position. Chair: Scott McMillan; Vice-chair: Robert Hall; Treasurer: William Glencorse; Secretary: Robin McIver; Assistant Secretary: Sue Grant; Minute Secretary: Val McNeil.

Afterward the general May meeting was held. Sue Grant reported on the Blackcraig Windfarm Public Inquiry she had attended. It was agreed she would draft an objection to the planned overhead grid connection to Blackcraig and Margree windfarms and an objection to the planned lights on the Blackcraig turbines. Graham Watson asked the community council for their support to regain the lottery and support for reducing the hours the PO would be open. Sarah Keast reported on the new footpath, the state of funding, the planned official opening and the work the schoolchildren had been doing on planting, cleaning and building bird boxes. Robin McIver brought everyone up to date with work in progress within the parish and the request for a handrail or smaller gate at the entrance to the new cemetery at Kirkland. The existing large gate is currently causing problems for visitors to the site. A full set of the minutes can be found on the website and in the village shops.

Glencairn Community Council

Cairnhead Carnival – Striding March to Striding Arch

A free family day out is being planned to celebrate midsummer in Cairnhead as part of Dumfries & Galloway Arts Association's 'Homecoming on your Doorstep' programme.

The event on Saturday 20 June, is free but ticketed, with tickets available from Watson's shop in Moniaive. Everyone, adults and schoolchildren alike, must get a ticket to get their place on the free bus which will leave Moniaive Primary School playground from 11.45am up to Striding Arches Byre.

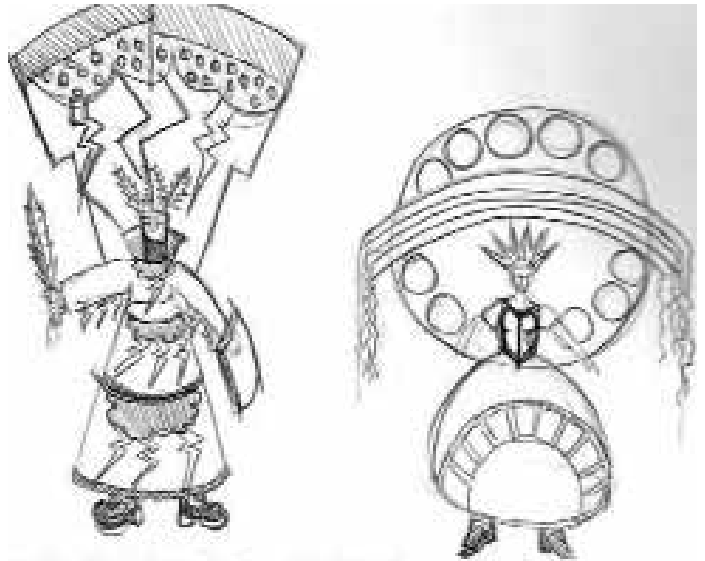
At the Byre there will be information, artistic and environment stalls and the Forestry Commission will lead short walks around Cairnhead to discover the landscape and its wildlife, or help the kids to build a den!

There will be music and song with two performances of newly composed music for harp, whistle, pipes and cello by internationally respected harp player Wendy Stewart, including 'Where Three Glens Meet', the final section of which is called 'Striding March'.

Then a Carnival parade of Moniaive schoolchildren, grown-ups and a giant King and Queen, all in fantastical carnival costumes, will wind its way down the glen, gathering musicians as it goes. When this midsummer community Carnival reaches Bail Wood Lochan picnic site, families can spread out picnic rugs, and enjoy a spectacular performance reflecting the life of the river. The King and Queen have been designed by Alex Rigg of Leatrigg - www.leatrigg.com and the carnival costumes by Alex Rigg and P3, P4 and P5 of Moniaive Primary School. You'll be able to buy barbecue food, and Green Tea House light refreshments at both Bail Wood Lochan picnic site and at Striding Arches Byre.

This outdoor musical experience and community celebration is for families and friends. Due to limitations on transport, once up at Cairnhead, you will be there until the buses return to Moniaive at the end of the afternoon. Use of bicycles and horsepower are encouraged but please do not use your private car. You might like to ensure you have with you: Picnic and rug; waterproofs; umbrella;

suncream; midge repellent and sensible shoes. The free buses will take everyone back down to Moniaive at the end of the afternoon.



CARNIVAL - IDEAS

Midsummer Concert

On Sunday 21 June, there will be a special Midsummer Concert at 7.30pm at Moniaive Institute, featuring music from Wendy Stewart and piper Gary West's new CD, with Christine Hanson on cello, and traditional music celebrating the links between Scotland and Canada. Tickets £7 full, £5 concessions and £15 family.

Striding Music is part of Homecoming on your Doorstep, Dumfries & Galloway Celebrates, which is sponsored by AMD Contract Services of Moniaive - www.dykesplanthire.co.uk.

For further information contact Jean Atkin, Dumfries & Galloway Arts Association on 01387 253383 or email jean@dga.net or see www.homecomingonyourdoorstep.com

The Green Tea House Bistro now open



The ever popular Green Tea House Bistro has reopened for the summer.

Open Monday to Friday from 6pm-9pm with a menu which changes weekly. Remember there is no corkage charge so bring your own bottle.

Sample menu for Bistro

Starters: Homemade soup of the day £3.55. Local, hot smoked salmon with avocado salsa £5.85. Fried mozzarella with pancetta £5.85. Fresh fig tartlets with melted gorgonzola £5.85. Lemon potato cakes with ginger and avocado dressing £4.85
Mains: Local 10oz rib-eye steak with garlic butter £14.95. Smoked haddock and asparagus lasagne £10.55. Spinach and

gruyere tart £7.85. Sweet potato and cashew nut tatin £8.55. Creamy lemon chicken and rice £9.85. Grilled scallops with sweet chilli sauce £12.75 – all served with a choice of salad or vegetables

Desserts: Rhubarb and orange crumble £4. Chocolate and raspberry mousse £4. Mocha hazelnut mess £4.

Catherine is also hosting another theme night on Saturday June 27th. Bookings: Catherine on 07752099193.

Gala Barn Dance

Attendance at the Gala Barn Dance was very disappointing, particularly as this is traditionally one of the Gala's best fundraisers.

We changed date from the last weekend in May to accommodate the 'Burns 'n Bogle' three day event, only to find the Arts Council were putting on musicians in the village on the same night. The Gala is now struggling for both funds and members to help.

The band – The Bandidos – were brilliant and those who did attend had a great night and the gala committee would like to thank them for their support.

Moniaive Gala Committee

Moniaive Reporter's Fun Events

On the weekend of the Folk Festival the Reporters held different events including a raffle.

I was going to hold a 'Penalty Shoot-out' but because of the weather it had to be called off. I would like to thank Rose Hall for letting us use her tent. The tent had sofas, chocolate, music, a projector and many more entertainments and luxuries. I would also like to thank my colleagues Amelia, Anya, Tilda, Josie, Caitlin and Jessica and a big thanks to Sue Grant. I would like to thank Ben Wicks and David Kilgour for hoping with the raffle. We raised a total amount of £51.13 it is going into the school fund and the Reporters will be deciding what it is spent on.

Sean Wicks

Raffle success

On the 9th of May Moniaive Primary School 'Reporters' held an event in Rose's tent at the Folk Festival.

I did the raffle. Sean along with Amelia and Anya did face painting. We did it to raise money for the community and Moniaive Primary School. We raised £51.13. Then we had a cake but I preferred the home made chocolate. Sue helped to show me how to rip a raffle ticket and helped everyone else.

Tilda Borrowes



Face painting

Our face painting stall did well and we had fun painting different designs including a flower and heart on Sue!

We practiced on our classmates in the weeks leading up to the event and were pleased with the results.

Amelia Snape

The Sausage Sizzle

The Cairn Valley Brownies went to Thornhill Community Centre on Saturday 9th May.

There was Eilidh, Freya, Olivia, Poppy and Cailin. When we got there we were put into groups. The first group was a girl from Dunscore called Olivia, Caitlin, Freya, Chloe, Shauna and Morvern, the other group was Poppy and other girls and the third group was Olivia and Eilidh. We played games – hoops and other things and as a whole pack played parachute.

Then we eventually had a sausage and roll. Then it was time to sing campfire songs and then it was time to go home. It was very, very much fun!!!

Caitlin Harvey

The Reporters

The idea of holding an event to raise funds came from the children in the Reporters group and they did all the planning.

I was very impressed by their organisational skills, their advertising of the event and their sheer enthusiasm.

Having agreed to be on hand to help out during their hour long event I was surprised on arrival to see they had already brought chairs, tables etc from the school, had made badges for themselves and were already busy painting faces. They were enthusiastic about selling raffle tickets and set off round the village to sell as many as possible. They delivered all the prizes to the winners and returned everything they'd borrowed to the school without prompting. Sadly Sean's penalty shoot-out was cancelled but his posters and certificates were brilliant.

After the event we spent our next session writing and making thank you notes and working on the reports on this page. A great group of kids who worked hard for their £51.13 - well done all of you.

Sue Grant

Josie's Book Review



The Game

Hayley is just a normal kid under her grandmas thumb-until she meets Flute and Fiddle. They take her into the forbidden mythosphere - the world of myths. When Grandma finds out she is so angry she sends Hayley away to her cousins house where they introduce her to the Game. A game which takes them into the mythosphere itself. In it Hayley learns about all her family and its history and becomes a comet.

Fact file

Page number 199

UK cost £6.99

Author: Diana Wynne Jones

Extras: More than a story book with extra bits

Age: 9 plus

I found this book very good, especially with the 'extra bits'

Josie Fairley-Keast

8th Moniaive Folk Festival

Photo © Pete Heywood



The audience at the Children's Concert clearly enjoyed themselves. The children were the stars putting on a great show. Moniaive isn't short of talent and we'll be seeing more of these youngsters in the future.

This years Folk Festival, our eighth, was the biggest and best yet with approximately 2,000 visitors packing out the pubs and eating places.

The weather was grim on Saturday and we very nearly came unstuck when the caravans couldn't get into the camp site. Fortunately Stevie Forteath came to the rescue with his tractor and spent his weekend pulling people on and off site. Without him we would have had a disaster, so thanks Steven.

Expanded events included a full programme for children, a well attended piping competition and an extra concert in the Institute.

Rose Hall and her army set up an amazing venue for kids with workshops and events in a vintage marquee which doubled as a session venue late at night, it came complete with a cinema and sofas to relax on.

Giles Dearden expanded the alternative venue, the Institute, turning it into the Festival Club with a bar, a stack of excellent live bands and DJ's playing into the night.

A rolling programme of live music all day long kept the Green Tea House packed, two fabulous open mic concerts had some very talented musicians queuing up to take part and on Sunday when the rain stopped and the sun came out the Applejacks Appalachian Dancers set up their dance floor underneath the Cherry Tree and took turns with Absolutely Legless Irish Dancers to entertain the entire village.

The concerts were well attended and the performers phenomenal. Session musicians filled the pubs with a wide variety of instruments and song styles.

Photo: Sue Grant



Above: Session musicians packed the Craigdarroch.

Below: The Applejacks, Appalachian dancers brought the crowds out onto the street when they danced, in sunshine, beneath the cherry tree on Sunday.

Photo © Pete Heywood



Photo: Sue Grant





Headline act Dervish on stage on Saturday night.

The workshops went extremely well with those running them impressed by the standard of the participants.

It was another trouble free weekend according to the Police but I've had a couple of complaints about noise and I apologise to those affected. Next year we'll talk to you before the event and see what we can do to minimise the disruption.

The Folk Festival generates much needed income for local businesses and helps keep two pubs, four restaurants, the village shop and a craft shop running.

It's come a long way from the wee festival Sue Grant and I started in the aftermath of Foot and Mouth Disease. We're both still involved but now with a committee of hard working volunteers.



At the Children's Concert on Saturday afternoon in the Marquee Josie (left), Lauren (above), Izzy & Flo (bottom left) and Chloe (front cover) gave performances that belied their ages. Well done everyone.



Above/below and facing page: Session musicians (and their audiences) enjoyed the craic in both hotels and the Green Tea House. All bars were full and the music varied from quiet harp music to fiddles, drums, guitars and mandolins.





Left top: The streets were busy when the sun came out.

Left: Absolutely Legless dance to Dervish at the main concert.

Bottom: Jack leading a procession of cars down Chapel Street.



Many of the community groups and local businesses are involved in one way or another in delivering this festival but one other person deserves a special mention for without him it would not have been the weekend it was. Robert Wilson of Marwhim Farm moved his sheep out his field behind the hotels so we could use it as the main campsite. It ties all of our venues together in one campus and visitors tell us that's part of what attracts them to Moniaive.

Thanks also to Scotty who made his field in North Street available for the quiet campsite after the electricity company dug up the field we planned to use.

I hope you enjoyed the festival weekend. There is an online survey you can fill in on the website and suggestions for next year's festival are welcome.

Read what others thought of the Festival on www.moniaive.org.uk

Hugh Taylor and Folk Festival Committee



Allan Davidson
Fencing Contractor

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Folk Festival Piping Competition

Hugh and Sandra Drysdale organised and ran this years competition. Sandra said: "Hugh and I are very much indebted to all the Stewards who helped on the day - we couldn't run this competition without them.

"McCallum Bagpipes Ltd. of Kilmarnock kindly donated a range of piping accessories which enabled us to give extra prizes to the first three winners in each class and we are very much indebted to them for this. They also gave a Baseball Cap to every youngster in the two Chanter classes."

The two judges for the day were Pipe Major Robert Mathieson and Barry Donaldson who then gave a short Recital at the end of the event coupled with a few words of advice and encouragement for all the competitors

The event was very well attended with lots of competitors and a large audience for all events. It was good to see so many youngsters taking part.



Moniaive Folk Festival Piping Competition results

Class 1 Chanter 10 years and under

1. Euan Leslie, Dumfries; 2. Bethany Hanley, Dumfries; 3. Erin Ruddick, Dumfries; 4. Samuel Johnstone, Lochfoot

Class 2 Chanter 12 years and under

1. Cory Skilling, Dumfries; 2. Euan Davies, Dumfries; 3. Kirsty Pickering, Kirkcudbright; 4. Andrew Smith, Dumfries; 5. Tara Copeland, Sanquhar; 6. Scott White, Kirkcudbright

Class 3 Piping 14 years and under

1. Christopher Gray, Lockerbie; 2. Billy Millar, Annan; 3. Fraser Hogg, Dumfries; 4. Paul Mills, Dumfries; 5. Sean Grantham, Dumfries; 6. Coll Marshall, Kirkcudbright

Class 4 Piping 18 years and under

1. Christopher Gray, Lockerbie; 2. Calum Todd, Kilmarnock; 3. Billy Millar, Annan; 4. Paul Matthews, Dumfries; 5. Steven Gray, Lockerbie; 6. Billy Burgess, Kirkcudbright

Class 5 Piping Open

1. Callum Moffat, Lockerbie; 2. Steven Gray, Lockerbie; 3. Christopher Gray, Lockerbie

Photos courtesy D&G Standard



Glencairn S.W.R.I

This year, being our 85th birthday, we decided to start it by entering a float in the gala, 'twenties style', and we were fortunate to win 1st prize.

We enjoyed it so much, we decided to enter again this year, so look out Moniaive.

Our programme for this year has been varied as usual. Mr David Graham started by giving us a recital of short stories and poetry, which proved both amusing and interesting. He was followed by Lisa Johnstone, who gave us a taste of Christmas, by showing, and then letting us, make cards.

We celebrated our 85th with a finger buffet for members and invited guests. Entertainment was provided by Cheryl Easton and Mrs Renwick kindly gave a small speech, before cutting the cake.

We enjoyed our Christmas dinner at The Craigdarroch Arms, which set the mood for the forthcoming festivities.

Mr David Hale began 2009 with an informative talk on Western Acupuncture, with more food in February, when we sampled and swapped more of our favourite recipes.

This being the 250th Anniversary of Robbie Burns birthday, the Dumfries Historical Dance Society, transported us back to a more genteel time, expertly performing dances of the period. After which, some of us had a go.

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Our year finally ended with a trip to Kagyu Samye Ling Tibetan Buddhist Monastery. The weather was once again kind to us, the atmosphere tranquil and the scenery breathtaking. An excellent High Tea at the Buccleugh Arms, Moffat, rounded off a perfect day. Thanks again to Hamish, who drove the bus for us.

We are now closing for our summer break, but rest assured your committee will be working on putting together next years' syllabus.

We are always looking for new members and fresh ideas, so if you would like to join us, after our summer break, we would be pleased to see you. We meet in St. Ninians Church, the third Wednesday of every month, starting 16th September 2009, at 7.30pm.

I wish you all happy, sunny holidays, and look forward to seeing you in September.

Linda Stott, Secretary (01848 200325)

Sad Farewell

Donna and David Russell would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes on their move to Dumfries.

"We are very sad to be going," said Donna, "we have made lots of friends here in Moniaive."

Hopefully they will be back to visit often.

Fundraising Concert for Zambia



On March 28th we held a fundraising concert for Glencairn & Dunscore's partner kirk in Lubuto, Zambia.

The following artists gave of their time and talent; Moniaive's own Hugh Taylor and Dave McFadzean; Nithsdale's 'Uisge Bheatha' and 'Clatto Junction' from Fife. The sound was handled by Blackie and Nicola who did an excellent job. The sum of £405 will be winging its way to Zambia to assist our friends to complete their little school and to serve the local community in whatever way they see fit. A little money goes a long way in Zambia and thanks to all who kindly contributed to



Photos: Paul Lyttle

the evening either by playing, selling crisps and juice or by feeding the bands. We will keep you informed of progress in future. Thank you and God bless.

Paul Lyttle

Iain Howat
Electrical Contractor
 Whitedyke Farm, Dunscore, Dumfries
Home: 01387 820330
Mobile: 07710 779994

Arts Association News and Competition

Moniaive and District Arts Association are sponsoring a 'Best Painting of Cairnhead or Dalwhat Glen' competition to encourage interest in the beautiful landscape around Moniaive. If popular it will become an annual event. Please see booking form below.

The Association held their AGM in May following a most interesting talk by David Gulland on 'The story of working sundials'. Melville Brotherston, President, welcomed members and in his report thanked committee and association members for their continued support. He paid tribute to the late Jean Ansell a former Treasurer who died in 2008. Thanks also given

to two retiring members, Rab Nocher and David Carwardine for their hard work particularly during the Annual Exhibition. The present officer bearers were re-elected en-bloc. Two new committee members were appointed: Dr Jack McGuinness and Mrs Anne Maxwell. It was noted that last year's syllabus covered some excellent lectures and topics and that the Annual Exhibition had proved popular and showed a high standard of work. The sale of pictures was down considerably on past years, reflecting the state of the economic climate.

A new and exciting syllabus for 2009/10 has now been completed. Application forms for membership are available from the Secretary, Nan Tait on 01848 200403.

Nan Tait

Moniaive & District Arts Association
Best Paintings of 'Cairnhead or Dalwhat Glen' Open Painting Competition

Name:
 Address:

 Tel no:

Declaration:
 I confirm that the item submitted is original work completed by me, the undersigned and that no photocopies or colour laser copies are included. I also confirm that, as the artist of the work, I am the owner of the copyright in this work.

Signature:
 Date:

Details of work submitted *Note: Only one entry to be submitted by any one entrant*

Item	Medium	Title	Value	For official use

Medium: Any
Entry: Free
Size: Adults - no larger than A3 (excluding frame) - framed
 Children (Primary school) - no larger than A4 - mounted only
 Children (Secondary school) - no larger than A4 - mounted only
Labels: All work to have label securely fastened to artwork
Prizes: 1st, 2nd and 3rd in all three categories

Forms to be returned to Nan Tait, Beechbank, Ayr Street, Moniaive by **10th July 2009**.
All artwork handed in to St Ninian's Church, Moniaive on **17th July 2009** 6pm-7.30pm.
All entries to be displayed in the Green Tea House. Winners displayed at Annual Exhibition.



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POLICE MATTERS...

We have just finished another Moniaive Folk Festival and once again I have to congratulate the organising committee for all their efforts as once again the weekend passed without incident.

The event was well attended, despite the downpours, the pubs were busy as was the campsite. I managed to attend and, at one point, came across two young females who had had too much to drink and were soaked. Locals took them in, got them dried off and they sobered up. Just when I was doubting kindness in this world it was there to be seen in abundance, so well done to the village.

The break in at Nethertack is still rumbling on. The owners have been back to the house and have discovered other items have been stolen. Outdoor jackets, walking shoes and boots, bottles of booze in presentation cannisters, a set of steak knives, a large coffee jug and even an electric shaver all carried off in a large rucksack. Sounds like a list of items on a conveyer belt but have you been offered any of these items? The owners are putting up a reward. Do you have information, please contact us at the numbers or address at the bottom of this entry.

I got an excellent response from readers about the anti social behaviour by some people just off the path leading to Bardennoch. My choice of wording upset one or two law abiding walkers who took exception of being put in the same sentence as the anti social persons that caused the inconvenience, and quite rightly so. It is hoped in my response to the individuals who took their valuable time to contact me that this was never meant to be the case and I hope everyone continues to enjoy the fantastic land about your village without this worry on your minds, and for those youngsters who do wish to go out and cause problems – we will catch up with you sooner or later.

What a great effort Moira McCrossan and her staff put into putting together the play area on the grass at the rear of the school playground. Moira was most upset at the thought that young persons have scribed obscenities, in words and pictures, on the paintwork. Two young persons took ownership of it but perhaps others were involved – if your children are playing there after school, or at weekends, I'm sure they can do it well without using stones, pens and other sharp objects that cause damage.

So hopefully summer is coming, make sure windows and doors are secured at night and those of your neighbours, we don't want any more houses entered by unwanted visitors.

Finally Sgt Ian Harkness, a local to Moniaive and formerly based at Thornhill hangs up his baton and handcuffs this Friday after 30 years Police Service. I am sure we all wish Ian all the best in his retirement.

If you have any comments to make to me or reports to make to the Police you can contact us on 0845 6005701 or call free to Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 or send me an email to robert.mchenry@dg.pnn.police.uk.

Evergreens on Holiday

The Evergreens Club is now on its summer break and will restart on Tuesday 1st September in the Craighdarroch Arms Hotel.

New members are being sought. Why not join us for refreshments, whist, dominoes and a good chat on a Tuesdays and trips out on the community bus.
Jean Stewart

Beyond the March Dyke

By Foreign Correspondent Doug Milne

On the Weekend

Australia has a well earned reputation as the land of the long weekend, all weekends are sacred here, especially those with a public holiday attached.

Some are shared with the UK, but some are particular to Australia. The long school summer holidays include Australia Day as well as Christmas and New Year. Recently I heard Eric Bogle on ABC radio pointing out that while the UK has a two minute silence for its fallen on Remembrance Sunday on the 11th of the 11th, Australia devotes a whole day to theirs on ANZAC day and has a public holiday. Melbourne Cup day (the horse race) at the beginning of November is not a public holiday but might it as well be, most of the country takes a long lunch around race time. Surprisingly the Australians make a long weekend out of Her Majesties birthday on the 2nd Monday in June, except in WA when it is celebrated on the last Monday in September.

Soon after arriving in Albany WA almost a couple of years ago, I was intrigued by an announcement in the local paper which read 'multinova locations' followed by a list of streets in Albany then in bold print 'Queens birthday - double demerit points apply' a brief investigation followed. The multinova is a large mobile camera on a tripod, usually hidden out of sight on the roadside, the local police use it to catch speeding motorists, with no warning apart from the list of streets in the local paper.

Speeding is only one of many offences which, on top of a fine, may add demerit points to your driving licence. Australia operates a similar points system to the UK, gather up 12 points or more and you may have your licence suspended. Anti-social driving is a serious problem in WA, at weekends, evenings in Albany are punctuated with the roar of V8 engines followed closely by the screeching of tyres. The first street we lived on was near a hot spot, at times you would have thought the Lord Humungus and his clan from Mad Max 2 were gathering outside. Hooning is the name of the crime, offend on a long weekend and the penalties are doubled.

Australia Day, the national day is celebrated in every state on January 26, the date when the first fleet arrived, although some call it invasion day and would prefer

the date changed. Citizenship ceremonies take place, the Prime Minister addresses the nation and announces the Australian of the Year. Everyone has a day off, usually spent on the beach or by the pool enjoying the outdoors.

The open air swimming pool is perhaps the most iconic symbol of outdoor living, more so here in the sub-tropics than the temperate south west. It is hard to think of a town here that has not got a 50 metre outdoor pool, often they are the memorial baths, something like the Memorial Institute. Seeing how well used they are explains something of Australia's success at the sport, although the American swimmer Michael Phelps is popular around Nimbin.

Ballina, the antipodean version, is no exception, although their memorial baths has a giant water slide attached, Saturday evening in the summer is bubble night, the management adds something to the splash pool and slide. A frothy stream of children emerges from the splash pool to climb back up the tower and slide once more into the bubbles. Most people associate Ballina with 'the big prawn'- a large fibre glass prawn moulded on top of a fish & chip restaurant. The towns concrete exterior disguises its inner charm, in common with a most towns here it has a network of concrete/tarmac paths, wide enough to walk or cycle on two a breast. Albany has some good ones too, although those near roads tend to be strewn with broken beer bottles, passing hooners like to hurl their empties at the pavement.

Starting at the memorial baths the Kerry Saxby walkway takes you along the estuary over the Richmond river to the Pacific ocean and past a couple of surfing



beaches. In between the giant water slide and the skate park, suburban ospreys seem at home amongst the bustle and play out their everyday dramas, without voyeuristic 24 hour webcams or barbed wire. The ocean swell comes in under the wide, low bridge that connects east and west Ballina, looking down from it it's not unusual to see dolphins playing in the surf below while a few metres away concrete disciples on bikes and boards get air in the skate park.

MONIAIVE MEMORIES...

What happened to the horse after repossession?

Here's the final chapter in the 'Rogue Horse Dealer' story which appeared in the last issue of the Gazette. A happy ending.

The horse was now at Newbridge Stables in the care of an agent I had appointed to look after the welfare of the animal and to find a genuine buyer.

The following week there was an enquiry from 'Riding for the Disabled' at Maryhill Equestrian Centre in Glasgow. They were looking for a safe, reliable animal and came down to Newbridge to see him. He seemed suitable and they wanted to take him away for a two week trial and this was agreed with my agent. The horse proved to be ideal for their purpose and so he went to a good home at a reasonable price.

Jim Black, Sawmill Green

Waterloo Smith



William Smith was born in Moniaive in 1796. His mother's family had lived in the parish since the late 1600's. His great grandparents, who married in 1708, were William Smith (born 1683) and Janet Grierson (born 1687). William was brought up by his mother Margaret Smith, as his father, James Walker, a travelling merchant, had not lingered long enough in

Moniaive to marry Margaret.

Young William may have been under some pressure to enlist in the army, as if unemployed, he might have become a burden on the parish.

As some of William's adventures are described in his obituary, it is reproduced in full:

Death of a Waterloo Veteran

On the 31st ult. there died at Moniaive, aged 79, a soldier named William Smith, who fought at Waterloo. He belonged to the 73rd Regiment of Foot, commanded by Lord Harris, and before the memorable battle that decided the fate of the First Empire, he served at Bergen-op-Zoom and the siege of Antwerp. He well remembered the entrance of the allies into Paris in 1815, and had a distinct recollection of seeing the present Emperor of Germany – then a young prince – forming one of Blucher's staff. On his discharge he was allowed the paltry pension of 6d a day, and he afterwards got a small gratuity from the Kinloch Bequest. Col. Walker of Crawfordton last year applied to the War Office for a small addition to 'Waterloo's' pension, but this could not be granted, and the result was that the gallant Colonel, knowing the poor man's necessities, made a handsome allowance to his pension out of his own pocket, which he continued to receive to the last. The well-known form of Waterloo Smith will long be missed in Glencairn, of which parish he was a native.

The battalion with which William went to Belgium was the 2nd Battalion of the 73rd Regiment of Foot, which had a short but notable history. The men wore the uniform of a regiment of the line as they were no longer a Highland unit. Over half their strength came from Ireland as Richard Leyne of the Kerry Militia brought 400 volunteers over to join the regular army.

Private William Smith was in Captain R. Crawford's company. The 2/73rd was sent to the Quatre Bras crossroads on 16 June 1815, where it put up a stubborn defence but sustained 53 casualties – killed or wounded. Two days later "at Waterloo the 73rd were literally cut to pieces, and at the close of the battle only fifty unwounded men were left out of a total of from 500 to 600 men." The French cavalry had charged their square eleven times which was then pounded by French field guns at close range.

William Smith appears to have survived this terrifying experience and to have remained in the regular army long enough

to qualify as an out-pensioner of Chelsea Hospital.

Returning to Moniaive William worked in agriculture, married Grace McNeil and raised a large family at their home in Throughgate Street/Galloway Street, now Chapel Street. James and Andrew were both apprenticed to a tailor and in 1851 Peter and David were described as errand boys. Thomas and John eventually migrated south to Buckinghamshire.

Mr Smith erected a gravestone in Glencairn churchyard for two daughters, Margaret and Helen, who died very young in 1826. Grace died on 14 September 1870 and William's name was added to the top of the stone – 'William Smith, Pensioner, who died at Moniaive, 31st January 1874, in his 80th year.'



Photo: Sandy Hall

Sources:

Dumfries and Galloway Standard

The Waterloo Medal Roll

The Waterloo Roll Call, Charles Dalton 1904

1841 and 1851 census

The Black Watch – A Brief Story of the Regiment, Lt. Col. J.C. Stewart D.S.O. 1991

REGIMENT – The Black Watch, Issue eleven 1995

Notes:

This article would not have been written but for a chance meeting in Ayr Archives with Anthony A. Smith who revealed that he was descended from a Moniaive soldier who had served in the 73rd Regiment at Waterloo. Very many thanks to Anthony and his wife for sharing this information and for a fine family tree showing eight generations of the Smith family.

The illustration has been very kindly provided by Bob Kerr. It is of an officer's shoulder belt plate after the award of the battle honour – Waterloo.

A.B. Hall

History of Penpont War Memorial and Parish War Memories

This new book by Gladys Cuttle was launched in Penpont on May 21st. It brings together some of Penpont's history covering the 50 men commemorated on the War Memorial along with many Parish war memories. A review of this book by Sandy Hall will appear in the next issue. Available price £7 plus £1.50p&p from the Volunteer Arms Hotel, Penpont or from Gladys 01848 600249.

Holy Linn Walk, near Dalry

Photos © Dave McFadzean



This interesting wee walk starts from the A702 couple of miles east of St John's Town of Dalry, at Grid Ref: NX 653 814. It may not be one of the larger walks but is full of historical interest just the same.

There is ample parking in rough lay by at a high point beside the road. Dalry is on what used to be the sacred pilgrim route to Whithorn and offered lodgings for religious travellers. It was also in Dalry that one of first Covenanter uprisings started. That was when some soldiers threatened to roast a helpless old man over a grid iron to extract money for unpaid religious fines. Robert MacLellan of Barscobie Castle (very near this walk) on seeing this cruelty charged his gun with pieces of an old clay pipe and fired it wounding one of the soldiers attacking the old man. The rebellion that followed this brave act became known

Photos © Dave McFadzean



as the Pentland Rising. That was named after the area around Rullion Green, in the shadow of the Pentland Hills, where the brave rebels were soundly beaten by General Tam Dayell of the Binns.

From the lay by it is only a short signposted walk through a couple of fields to the Holy Linn. Views to the Rhinns of Kells away of to the northwest dominate for a while until the route dips down towards the river. This looks like a place that was fortified in olden times and it was certainly adopted as a secret religious site during the persecution of the Covenanters. It was here by this idyllic series of waterfalls that outed Covenanter preachers held services and baptised the faithful. Today the river is a haven for dippers and the mature woodland a home for birds like the flycatcher. It's such a lovely tranquil spot here. This is just the place to sit for a while and enjoy the view on a sunny afternoon.

It's not hard to imagine those rebellious folk using this secluded nook for a place of refuge during the Killing Times.

After returning to the car it is well worth driving the short distance down into Dalry where the Burning Bush memorial to the Covenanters can be viewed below the school. It has the names of several prominent Covenanters inscribed on it.

This walk is only about a mile long with 150 feet of ascent.

Map: OS Landranger 77

Exploring Dalry and the mid Glenkens can expand this walk considerably.

Dave McFadzean

Institute Celebration Planned

On the Thursday 23rd July at 7.30pm we plan to have a gathering to:

- celebrate the completion of the refurbishment,
- to thank those who have assisted us in many different ways and
- to commemorate Sharon Henshall by naming the new committee room after her.

Please put this in your diary because we would like to have as many people as possible to join us this celebration. Refreshments will be served during the event.

Members are reminded that, for health and safety reasons, children are under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult at all times when using the Institute. Membership is on an annual basis and has to be renewed every year.

Duncan Sanderson 01848 200327



Steaks Galore and more...

The Craigdarroch's Thistles Bistro now incorporates a steak house.

"We are showcasing local breeds," said owner Gary Henry "and have revamped the menu with a number of new dishes which will change regularly. Vegetarians are also being catered for with a menu featuring seasonal vegetables," he added. "With four eating places to choose from in the village, the standard of meals prepared has to be high to tempt people in and encourage return visits."

Perhaps it is good that I am writing this before the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland meet at the end of May. I can only guess at what will be decided, and how the media will present those decisions. I am a Commissioner this year, which means I am involved in the debates and the voting; and I know from experience that some of the outcomes will be as I want them to be, and some will not.

Some will matter to our own parish, others will not. Some will be of paramount importance to one individual and of very little interest to another. Give two people the same set of facts, and there will be at least three different conclusions reached. We are all different. That makes life interesting. It can also make it very difficult. We can accept some people, and some other opinions; but there are those which simply grate on us and annoy us. In life, in faith; in the world and in the church this is simply a fact. But how we react and deal with these variations, especially those with whom we

disagree, determines not only how life around us is lived out, but our own happiness and that of others. Some say we should be tolerant of each other; that can be very hard to do. Jesus goes further and he says we should accept each other. Some will hold to the letter of law, every jot and tittle, to make sure all is fair. Jesus works to the spirit of the law, which means he will welcome each and every one, and help and love each and every one, no matter their past, or their present, or their future.

In one of the many papers we have to read for next week's General Assembly, concerning the call to censure a 'wrong doer' (in their eyes) someone backs their position asking 'What would Jesus do?'; and answers it by saying he believes Jesus would uphold scripture, and the law therein. But Jesus did not do this when he was in this world. Has he changed his mind? The woman caught in adultery, according to scriptural law, should have been stoned to death. Jesus set her free. It was unlawful to work, to heal on the sabbath - yet Jesus did. Untouchables were

to be avoided - yet Jesus went out of his way to meet them and touch them. Because the person was and is more important to Jesus. Religious laws, ecclesiastical rules are there to help individuals, and when they stop doing that, then we need to follow Jesus' example. Look to, for and at the person - and do what we can for them.

And finally.....

Church Notice Boards:

Speak well of your enemies - after all you made them.

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The meek shall inherit the earth - if that's alright with you!

God is perfect - only man makes mistakes.

I don't question your existence. (God)

PS: Some Church Services in June may be in Glencairn rather than St Ninian's due to heating renewal in St Ninian's - sorry for any inconvenience.

Christine

Old Richard and the Squirrels (a tale of leaves for our younger readers)

Old Richard had worked at Drumlanrig Castle for many years, more than just about anyone else. Despite his age he still had lots of red hair which had hardly turned grey at all. Old Richard's job was to look after all the forest, especially the plants and animals, such as frogs, birds, deer, and his very favourite the squirrels.

One sunny, summer morning he took his little bucket of sunflower seeds and headed for the forest, just like he had done for many years, and went to give the squirrels their breakfast treat. All the squirrels knew Old Richard and were waiting for him in the trees, some of the younger ones made impatient chirpy-chatter sounds, and were told off by the older squirrels for getting too excited. "All right, all right, young ones. Your breakfast is coming, no need to get impatient," said old Richard. He always went to the same spot, not far from the castle, where there was a little clearing, and where the sun would stream through the green beech tree leaves. There he put down his bucket and took handfuls of sunflower seeds and threw them in big fan shapes across the forest floor. In his younger days we would then just turn and walk back to the castle to do his next job, but now that he was a wee bit older he had taken to sitting down for a minute and watch the squirrels run down the tree trunks, and come almost to his feet to get the sunflower seeds. They would sit on their back legs, and take a seed in their perfect little front paws and nibble the seeds. There was plenty of good food for the squirrels in the forest, but the sunflower seeds were a special treat - a bit like chocolate is to us, and they loved it.

Richard sat in the sunny clearing and watched the squirrels eat, and play, and he imagined himself to be young again, running round amongst the trees. Then he was running up the trees, and chasing a friend from one branch to another, and from one tree to another, the sun was in his face and the wind in his hair - life was good. He stopped to catch his breath and eat some sunflower seeds. He was imagining being a squirrel! What strong legs he had, and the most perfect little paws, which could grip the tree trunks and pull him from branch to branch all day. And what a lovely big fluffy tail he had, he could flick it from side to side, use it for balance when flying across the big gaps between the branches, and he could wrap it round himself to keep him warm when the cold winds blew. What a lovely warm tail he had. But it sometimes tickled his nose.

Old Richard felt his nose tickle, and was about to flick his tail aside, when he realised it was not his own tail but that of a real squirrel. He had fallen asleep, and was lying in amongst the pine needles and leaves. There was a squirrel sitting right next to his face, and it's tail was swaying gently in the breeze.

"I'd better be getting along now squirrels" he said, and gently got up. He picked up his wee bucket, and slowly walked back down the hill towards Drumlanrig Castle. As he walked away the squirrels watched Old Richard go, and they noticed that his back was almost completely covered in pine needles and leaves, right up to his red hair on his head. As he walked out of the sunny clearing, and through the shadows of the trees he almost looked like a great big squirrel with its red hair and bushy tail. Except that this one was carrying a wee bucket and quietly said "See you again tomorrow squirrels."

©Angus von Stulpnagel jr.

COUNCILLOR GILL DYKES

Thornhill Station

Last edition, I said I was reasonably confident, but not certain that the independent consultants report would support the move to re-open Thornhill Station.

I am delighted to say that this was the case, the report stated: "We conclude that there is a case for a new railway station at Thornhill," and also confirmed that Network Rail had agreed that there was merit in taking the project forward so much so that in Scotland they have approved the formal project proposal for a station to support Thornhill. When this report was put in front of the SWESTRANS board they supported a move to firstly hold discussions with Transport Scotland on how the re-opening might be taken forward. This is very good news for our area, but we must keep the pressure on as it takes so long for projects to move forward in Government circles.

Thank you to everybody who wrote to me, and both Tynron and Glencairn Community Councils who supported me with this proposal - we are not there yet but we are certainly on the right track.

North Street Car Parking

I am pleased to report that the long awaited new parking bay in North Street should be started within the next few weeks. One of the first things that the Community Council asked for following my election in 2007 was the possibility of a parking bay in North Street.

During the same year I managed to secure eight thousand pounds worth of funding through the Area Committee for this project and for the last twelve months there have been several drawings and options put forward. I hope the lay-by parking that has finally been agreed will go some way to alleviate the parking problems in North Street.

Guid Nychburriss Festival

This is the much celebrated festival in Dumfries in mid June, similar to our local gala I suppose but on a much bigger scale. As a child I have very fond memories of being allowed an ice cream and going to watch the horses, the crowning of the queen and the huge parade. It was a very traditional thing to do, Granny and Grandpa Dykes used to take Angus and Hannah to do the same thing years later.

So you can imagine my pleasure when the Provost of Dumfries asked me if I would be a Baillie in this year's celebrations.

It was even more interesting when my instructions for the week arrived in the post - it states the ceremony can be best understood if you consider it as a play:

Scene 1 The presentation of the Charter

Scene 2 The Crowning of the Queen

Scene 3 The Laureation of the Flag.

I had never thought of it like that ever before, but I suppose it makes sense, I only hope I remember my lines.

Festivals

Well another year has passed and the Moniaive Folk Festival is still being talked about - I didn't make any of the evening shows but rumour on the street is that they were excellent. There were certainly plenty of people out and about during the day and everybody appeared to be having a good time, no matter what the age group. I am sure it brought a much needed economic boost to the village.



Councillor Gill Dykes

You can contact me on 07736 255423

or email Gill.Dykes@dumgal.gov.uk

Representing the Mid & Upper Nithsdale ward

I have been out doing some 'Spring Flinging' this weekend and we are so lucky that we have as many talented artists on our doorstep. Yesterday I spent the afternoon on the coast in and around Kippford and Rockcliffe, it was a beautiful day and reminded me why I love this area so much.

Finally.....

I can't not mention the scandalous behaviour of some MP's, from all political parties. I am totally disgusted with the now daily announcements and am pleased that this has now been exposed - it has been going on for far too long. Let's hope Westminster take this opportunity to clean up the system and enter into the real world.

Hope Springs

The new TV drama set in Wanlockhead starts on BBC1 31st May.

Stories required

Do you have a story for Gazette? Want something investigated? Have an idea for a regular column? If so call Sue on 01848 200331

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COUNCILLOR ANDREW WOODS

Upper Nithsdale Business Forum

It is always encouraging to note that some organisations are prepared to step up to the mark in support of their members, and Upper Nithsdale Business Forum certainly did that by organising and manning a stall at Expo 09, held in Glasgow, last month.

I was pleased to support this business initiative that allowed the Forum an international platform to present an informed and enlightening insight as to why tour operators should give our region further consideration as a destination for their clients to experience.

While I was on stand there was a steady stream of interested operators from Europe, America and the Far East, all looking for quality accommodation for coach parties, ranging in size from 20 to 48, on a regular basis throughout the year.

I also had two notes of interest from operators who were looking at bringing motor bike groups who were keen to visit breweries, distilleries, museums, festivals and picturesque landscapes. While I recognise the current damning credit crunch, there are many foreign visitors who see Scotland as the alternative destination, with Dumfries and Galloway as the place that most have never heard of nor visited.

This was very much another success story for Upper Nithsdale Business Forum and applaud them for the tremendous work that they put in over the two day event.

I would also like to thank Solway Heritage, Visit Scotland and Dumfries & Galloway Arts Association for supplying and assisting with material and help.

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by email at
Andrew.woods@
dumgal.gov.uk



Moniaive Folk Festival

It never ceases to amaze me the high standard of skilled musicians and singers that Hugh Taylor and his team manage to bring to our village. This was yet another success, with a good turnout of both local people and those from farther afield, well organised venues and no trouble. Unfortunately, I only managed the Saturday evening and was not disappointed in the performances of that night. Well done and long may it grow in recognition of a quality event, putting Moniaive well and truly on the music map.

Appointment of New Chief Executive

As Dumfries and Galloway Council lurches from one crisis to another, through damning reports, weak political leadership and failure to deliver, there is finally a chink of light that might be starting to shine through.

This may come with the appointment of a new Chief Executive, Gavin Stevenson, from Perth and Kinross Council. I was very impressed with both his focused and direct presentation that was well informed and measured, showing good leadership and communication skills that will be very much in demand if we are to improve from our present position. Clearly it is too early to make any real informed judgment about the new appointment, but I will certainly be giving him my full support and look forward to working with him, for the betterment of our council.

Moniaive School Grand Hall Opening

I was very impressed with all the excellent work that the pupils had put into preparing their stalls and the presentations each one did on the evening. They captured the atmosphere of medieval times, in both costumes, mystic life and handcrafts, which all went hand in hand at that time. I was tempted to have my fortune told, but thought it probably best to wait until the next election!

Thornhill Station

I was disappointed to note the misleading quote from Cllr Dykes, regarding my position on Thornhill Station.

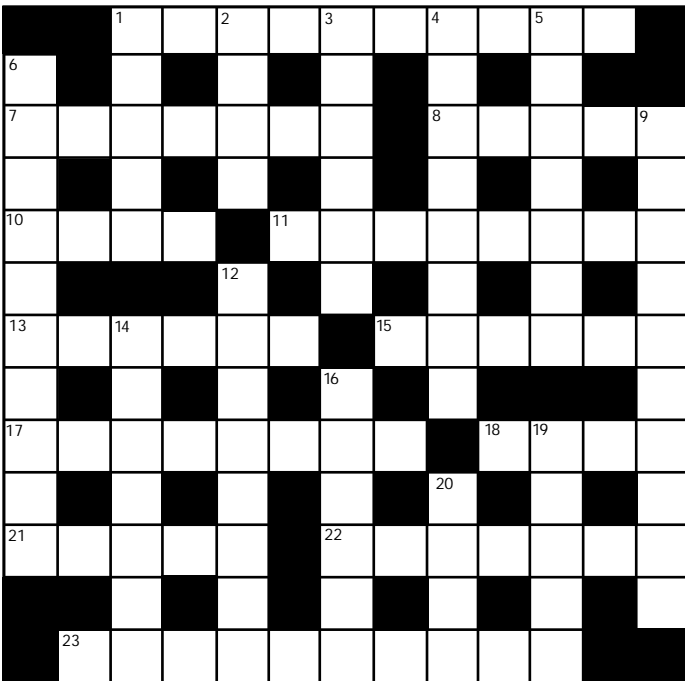
I am on record as having stated that I support a station between Sanquhar and Dumfries, however as a representative of the whole of Mid and Upper Nithsdale, I have to take on board the views of all my constituents and it was brought to my attention by one, that Closeburn should also be considered.

When looking at the merits of such a suggestion. I found that it stacked up well with Thornhill on many counts, such as a dedicated bus route, street lighting, speed limit, old station and only one mile further.

I firmly believed that both options should be considered, as it is easy to discount one, but not two. I have contributed this to the public consultation in Thornhill, which begs the question, why three councillors had to jaunt off up to Glasgow for a separate meeting?

£5 PRIZE CROSSWORD

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Painter & Decorator



Across

1. Confused parties on a trial divorce? (10)
7. Turned away (7)
8. Caine's cockney lothario (5)
10. A mathematical irrational quantity (4)
11. Enjoyable (8)
13. Count an anaesthetic (6)
15. Ice-cream between two wafers (6)
17. S. African golfer (5,3)
18. Tibetan Priest (4)
21. _____ cum laude (L.) with greatest distinction (5)
22. A three-leaved clover (7)
23. Out for the count (10)

Down

1. Out and out steep (5)
2. Orange's white inner skin (4)
3. Sieve this puzzle (6)
4. Sit here for light afternoon refreshment (3-5)
5. Casual (7)
6. Bus travellers (10)
9. On the outside (10)
12. Produce – electricity? (8)
14. He's from the Isle of Man (7)
16. Lifts the spirits (6)
19. Over (5)
20. Doing word (4)

Issue 57 Crossword

Answers:

Across: 1. Elephants; 8,10,21. Pie in the sky; 9. Hairpiece; 11. Sack; 12. Relish; 14. Casino; 15. Supple; 18. Loosen; 19. Brad; 23. Invisible; 24. Sinus; 25. Threatens.

Down: 1. Ethos; 2. Evinces; 3. Hope; 4. Nieces; 5. Specious; 6. Depth; 7. Incense; 13. Unionist; 14. Consist; 16. Parable; 17. Denver; 18. Lying; 20. Dreys; 22. Asia.

Winner: Carol Godridge, Ayr Street. Congratulations Carol your prize is in Watson's Grocers.

Issue 58 Crossword

Answers:

Across: 3. Cooperate, 8. Nation, 9. Oscillate, 10. Palate, 13. Aster, 14. Elysium, 15. Aga, 16. Kicking, 17. Lotus, 21. Higher, 23. Gardeners, 24. U-boats, 25. Amber light.

Down: 1. Knapsacks, 2. Athletics, 3. Coot, 4. Onset, 5. Primula, 6. Rely, 7. Tate, 11. Dirt cheap, 12. A musk rose, 14. Egg, 15. Anoints, 18. Shrug, 19. Balm, 20. Idle, 22. ISBN.

Winner: Mrs Saltmarsh, Manse Park. Congratulations your prize is in Watson's Grocers.

Caption Competition No 41

Sponsored by Catherine Braid of The Green Tea House



Photo: Sue Grant

"Bear Gryll meets his long lost brother Char Gryll."

Can you come up with a funnier caption? If so, please leave it in the 'Gazette' box in Watson's Stores by July 20th. The prize is a box of chocolates which can be selected from the shop.

Caption Competition

No 40 winner

Rab McHenry, Community Policeman for "What was I to say again? Oh yes, this is a hold up." Congratulations Rab please collect your chocolates from the shop.



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GLENCAIRN & TYNRON DIARY DATES

JUNE

Saturday 6th Cairn Valley Bus to Wigtown/Whithorn Book Town and visitor centre. 9am. £7. 01387 820877.

Sunday 7th Service at St Ninian's 11.45am

Friday 12th Cairn Valley Bus to Carlisle shopping. 9.15am. £5. 01387 820877.

Sunday 14th Service in Glencairn 11.45am

Saturday 20th "Tea With Clarinda" - St Ninian's Church Moniaive. A one act play written by and starring Scots writer, actor, singer Anna Hilles and local singer Cheryl Anne Easton.

Saturday 20th Cairn Valley Bus to Loch Lomond Shores shopping centre and Luss. 8.30am. £7. 01387 820877.

Saturday 20th Cairnhead Carnival Free (ticketed) bus to Cairnhead from 11.45 Moniaive school playground. Stalls, Music, Carnival parade, Picnic. Call 01387 253383.

Sunday 21st Cairnhead Midsummer Concert Memorial Institute 7.30pm featuring Wendy Stewart and traditional music. £7. Call 01387 253383.

Sunday 21st Service in St Ninian's or Glencairn at 11.45am

Wednesday 24th Craighdarroch Fishing Club Alan Nichol Memorial Trophy at Loch Skay.

Wednesday 24th Craighdarroch Fishing Club Meeting at 7.30pm Craighdarroch Arms Hotel, Moniaive.

Saturday 27th 'Cormilligan and the McCaws' Afternoon walk to Cormilligan followed by evening of poetry, talks and music in Tynron Parish Hall. More details Linda 200469.

Saturday 27th Moniaive Primary School BBQ 7.30-9pm all welcome.

Saturday 27th Green Tea House Bistro Theme Night Southern Spain. Catherine 07752099193.

Sunday 28th Communion Services at 11.45 am in Glencairn and 6pm in St Ninian's

JULY

Saturday 4th Cairn Valley Bus to Bo'ness and Kinneil Railway. 9am. £7. 01387 820877.

Sunday 5th Teas in Tynron Tynron Parish Hall 2pm - 4pm £3 per person

Sunday 5th Service in St Ninians at 10am (time change)

Friday 10th Cairn Valley Bus to Ayr Shopping & Burns Centre Alloway. 9am. £6. 01387 820877.

Friday 10th Moniaive Arts Association Painting Competition. Completed entry forms to Nan Tait, Beechbank, Ayr Street.

Sunday 12th Craighdarroch Fishing Club Jamie Johnstone Memorial Trophy.

Sunday 12th Teas in Tynron Tynron Parish Hall 2pm - 4pm £3 per person

Sunday 12th Service in St Ninians at 10am (time change)

Thursday 16th Moniaive Gala: Car Treasure Hunt, World Cream Cracker Eating Contest, and Bingo. Sue 200331

Friday 17th Moniaive Gala: Pet Show, Five-a-side Football, Yard of Ale Competition, 'Mr & Mrs & Kids' game show, DJ competition. Sue 200331.

Friday 17th Moniaive Arts Association Painting Competition. Completed artwork to St Ninian's between 6-7.30pm.

Saturday 18th Moniaive Gala Day: Family gala day, teas, sideshows and community obstacle/knockout course and games. Evening dance in Marquee with live band and full bar. Sue 200331

Saturday 18th Cairn Valley Bus to Penicuik and Biggar Rosslyn Chapel and Biggar Museum. Moniaive 9am. £7. 01387 820877.

Sunday 19th Teas in Tynron Tynron Parish Hall

2pm - 4pm £3 per person

Sunday 19th Service in St Ninians at 10am (time change)

Thursday 23rd Memorial Institute Celebration 7.30pm. Refreshments served. All welcome. Come along and support the Institute. Duncan 01848 200327.

Saturday 25th Cairn Valley Bus to Flookborough Steam Rally. 8.15am. £7. 01387 820877.

Sunday 26th Moniaive Horse Show. Station Fields. 9am start. 105 showing classes, 8 jumping classes and 7 dog classes plus new classes for this year. Schedule available from J. Ewart, 7 North Street, Moniaive. Please enclose SAE.

Sunday 26th Teas in Tynron Tynron Parish Hall Sunday afternoon Tea 2pm - 4pm £3 per person

Sunday 26th Service in Glencairn 10am.

Monday 27th Midnight Ramblers Bluegrass Band from southwest Virginia Marquee Club 7.30pm - £10.00 Hugh 200474 or tickets from Craighdarroch Arms.

Wednesday 29th Craighdarroch Fishing Club July Shield at Loch Skay.

Wednesday 29th Craighdarroch Fishing Club Meeting at 7.30pm Craighdarroch Arms Hotel.

MONIAIVE REGULAR EVENTS

Kilnhouse Carpet Bowling Club Meets Monday nights October to April 7.30pm-10pm. Scott McMillan 01848 200568.

Cairn Valley Community bus regular service to Castle Douglas. 4 & 18 June, 2, 16 & 20 July. Moniaive 11.15am. Departs CD 3.05pm. £3 return. Bus passes accepted. Under 16 half price. 01387 820877.

Health Walk Meet every Thursday at 2.00pm, Memorial Institute and afterwards for a cuppa. Free. Duncan Sanderson 01848 200327 or Max McKenzie 01848 200068 for details.

Darts Craighdarroch 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. Duncan Sanderson 200327.

Evergreen Club Summer break restarts 1st September. Tuesday 1.30pm Craighdarroch Hotel. Community bus available to collect. Call Jean Stewart 200599 or Betty McMillan 200453.

Moniaive SWRI Currently on summer break. Restarts 16th September. Every third Wednesday 7.30pm, St Ninian's. Linda Stott 200325.

Brownies Memorial Institute, every Tues of term. 6-7pm. Tina Thomson 01848 200323 or Karen Malone 01848 200604.

Guides Guider Diane Ireland 01848 200766.

Episcopal Service Fourth Sunday of every month 9.30am Maxwelton 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.

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.

Skitter Lane Youth Club 7.30 to 9.30pm 2nd and 4th Thurs each month - Dunscore. 1st and 3rd Thurs - Moniaive. Open to 14-18 years olds in Dunscore, Penpont, Moniaive. Dunscore: June 11th and 25th. Moniaive dates tbc. Rona Gunnell 01387 740326 or Dean Goddard 01848 200322.

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.

Masonic Hall, Moniaive John Cowdery 200441.

WANTED

Pine dining table to seat 4-6.

Will take chairs if part of set.

Contact Mrs Bates 01848 200585.

COMING AND GOING

• David and Donna Russell from Moniaive to Dumfries •

DISTRIBUTION

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

EDITORIAL CONTACTS/ADVERTISING

We depend on you for news to fill the Gazette. Please help by supplying dates, advertisements, articles and letters. These can be handed in at the Watson's Grocers.

- Annie Shnapp 01848 200421.
- Sue Grant, Glenluiart, Moniaive 01848 200331/401 sue@badpress.demon.co.uk
- Sandy Hall, Craighdean, Moniaive 200292.

DEADLINE FOR AUGUST/SEPTEMBER ISSUE IS 20TH JULY. 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.