

Reference copy

Moriston Matters



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FEET FIRST AGAIN

(With apologies to Sir Stanley Matthews).

In this issue we FEATURE (oops! - sorry!) FEATURE prominently a projected FEET (Again!!) FEAT (the difficulty, readers, is that in writing this FEATURE it is hard not to think of FEET (Getting it right now - let's start again).

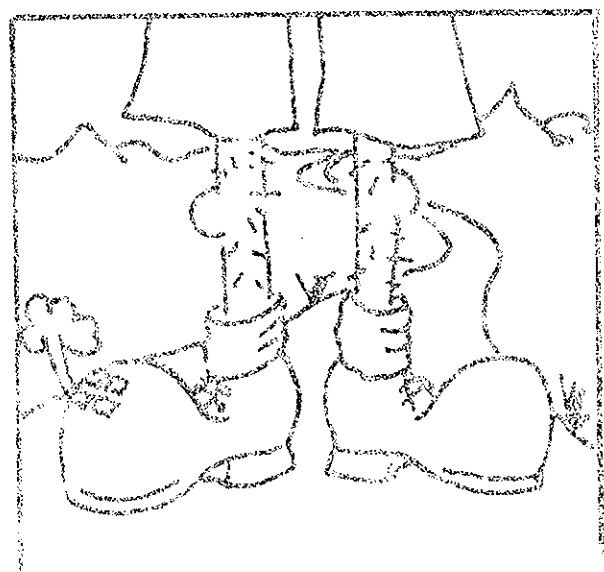
And so the FEAT (of FEET) we are FEATURING is a major sponsored walk ... from KYLE OF LOONAHAN to INVERMORISTON, a total distance of 52 miles. The date:

23rd September, 1978.

In this issue we prominently a projected FEAT (Phew!) by FEET (Ah!) in aid of Glenmoriston Village Hall. This Hall has served its community long and well. Many will remember that, for instance, it has seen some of the friendliest and happiest dancing evenings in this area. It was, we believe, the last hall in this area to discontinue the old ceilidh-type practice of serving tea communally during an interval ... BUT times have changed and now the Hall must be renovated and extended to meet the future needs of the community. Appropriate machinery has seen the awarding of grants towards realising this end BUT in order to have the Hall fully viable and operational a shortfall of over £1,000 must be raised by the community as soon as possible. And so the FEET (Sorry - a slight lapse, that!) ...

The following have undertaken to attempt this FEAT:

- MARGARET SMART, 7 Riverside Park
- ALLAN NAIRN, The Pier
- DUNCAN MacDONALD, 4 Riverside Park.



FEET FIRST AGAIN (CTD.)

MARGARET FERGUSON, Torgoyle, has also indicated her willingness to take part, provided she has no other commitments.

The Hall Committee has been approached and has given the project its blessing. It is to form a small ad hoc committee. The main purpose of this committee is to approach the various local firms and interests for support, and already the GLEN SURVEY has offered £40, provided of course the walk takes place and is wholly or substantially completed.

The individual walkers will be responsible for getting as many sponsors as possible and for collecting the cash. The sub-committee will scrutinise all returns, etc., etc.

If anyone is not contacted in person and wishes to sponsor the project, forms are available at the following focal points:

The INVER SERVICE FILLING STATION
The GLENMORISTON VILLAGE SHOP
The GLENMORISTON ARMS PUB.
etc.

Donations also (to the Hall funds) will be gratefully accepted - perhaps those who have left the district, to whom "MORISTON MATTERS" finds its way may be interested.

The Hall Committee and the walkers call on the whole Glen to support them - emotionally, morally and there was something else - oh yes - FINANCIALLY (but not, of course, physically!)

We refer to a recent FEAT when two men earned about £2,000 by jumping off Connel Ferry in aid of a community project. Walking from Kyle to Invermoriston is not, of course, a FEAT on the same scale, BUT still it is no mean FEAT (Dash!) FEAT. Let's make, then, the 23rd Sept. a CARNIVAL DAY IN GLENMORISTON (with a alimastic dance in the Hall in the evening - in aid of Hall funds).

Note The walkers will walk at their own risk. Persons under the age of 16 on the 23rd Sept., 1978 will not be covered in any official way. Bearing that in mind, others are invited to join in and walk the whole way or any distance of the way they feel they can do.

editorial

Welcome to the second year of "Moriston Matters", and what may be detected on reading this issue we think will be agreed, is a ring of confidence. We have no doubt this will consolidate itself inevitably.

The first thing to be dealt with is the new masthead. It was drawn (extremely imaginatively) by Mike Tomlin. The basis idea is that of Shona Robertson, for which she is awarded a book token of £1.

CTD. P.3.

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Correspondence to:-
Invermoriston Manse,
Glenmoriston,
Inverness-shire.

Mrs. Morris's retirement provides us with a chance of continuing the "Village Dominie" series, and rather than have one of these official reports we have allowed her own comprehensive report and some 'democratic' tributes to speak for themselves. Already we have commissioned, so to speak, a personal memory of the late Miss Macdonald - we trust that the person approached will, as they say across the Atlantic, "deliver the goods".

At long last we have got round to continuing the "Local Personality" series, in, as announced, the shape of Pat the Pier (Peer). This, we realise, is more historical than personal, but lack of space prevented both and the historical emphasis is preferred meantime. The next 'local personality' will be, in fairness, a person who has come to live in the glen.

Lastly, if we have a platform it is the essential welfare of the community and "Moriston Matters" endorses the efforts of the "Walkateers" to raise money for the Hall extension project. Any community which earns money for itself earns also enormous official goodwill when required. There is tremendous scope in this lovely glen for all sections and age-groups in the community. Is it too "Pie-in-the-Sky" to envisage a community hall alive with a variety of indoor activities (badminton has been long-based, but there are table tennis, five-a-side football etc.) integrally linked, in a spirit of adventure and initiative, to 'outward bound activities' (fishing, canoeing, hill-walking, orienteering

come easily to mind in an area so geographically advantageous)?

GAMES - Continued from Page 15

However, they won second prize, a set of Parker pens. This promising team hopes, under their inspiring coach, Peter Stoddart, to do even better at the Drum games at the end of August and we wish them well. The members of the team are: Margaret Smart, Morag Ferguson, Muriel MacDonald, Gillian Kerr, Margaret Ferguson, Mollie MacMillan, Alison Pollock and Collette O'Boyle.

The men's team pulled valiantly but failed to pull a well-concerted Garry team. The Glenmoriston team is: Bob Watson, Dick Halliday, Allan Macdonell (B), Alan McDonell (F) Gordon Steele, John Rule, Peter Stoddart and John Thomson.

LEGnote: Connie MacDonald and Morag Ferguson entered for and came a commendable 3rd in the 3-legged race.

SHINTY.

The Invergarry Shinty Club has had their best season yet, which resulted in them being runners-up in the Cameron and MacTavish Leagues (both in the under 17 age group) and winners of the Robertson Cup which is in the under 14 age group.

In the Cameron League Cup final we played against Newtonmore at Spean Bridge. The opening minutes of the game were exciting but the Newtonmore experience started to show through, leaving the final score at 8 - 2. We all received a runners-up medal. In the MacTavish league Cup final we again played Newtonmore but this time at Inverness. The

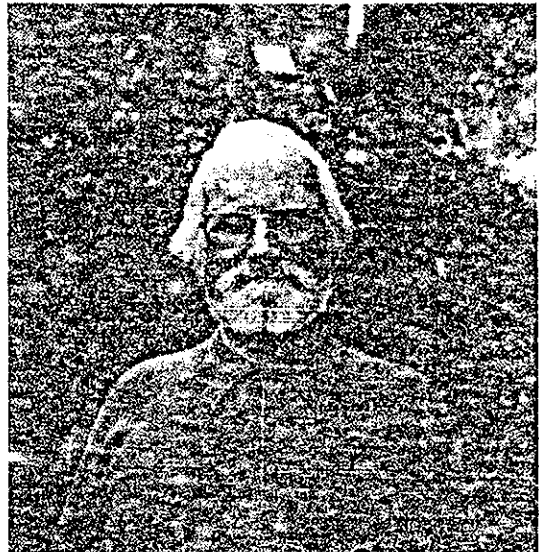
Local Personality No. 2
Pat the Pier

NINETY YEARS OF ESSO - NINETY YEARS WITH ESSO.

"De Esso Sign Means Happy Motoring" goes a modern jingle, but historically these 90 years past in Glenmoriston "De Esso Sign" has also meant the vital business of wheels and communications. This year, 1978, Esso is celebrating 90 years of its existence, and 1978 too sees 90 years of Esso's dealings with Peter MacDonald & Sons of Glenmoriston. And, of course, the present physical embodiment of Peter MacDonald & Sons is Pat the Pier.

Pat the Pier is one of the Glen's most well-known and popular personalities. More than that, he is one of these genuine characters, well-endowed with a sharp wit and turn of phrase to match, beneath which there lurks a keen brain (Pat is a Dux of Glenurquhart S.S. School).

Pat belongs to one of Glenmoriston's oldest families of MacDonalds, of which the Hamishes, the Drovers and the Archies are blood branches. Many will remember with affection Pat's father, Danny the Pier, who along with his brother, Ronnie the Pier, delivered men, goods and mails up and down the Glen, H.M. Royal Mails being delivered at first to Dalchreichart and Ceannacroc, and then from the 1920's as far as Cluanie. A few of the older inhabitants will recall Pat's grandfather, Peter the Pier, Peter Ruadh as he was known (on account of his great red beard), who founded, over 90 years ago, the



Peter MacDonald & Sons business at the Pier, men and goods being then delivered by wagonette. (Pat's house at the Pier, incidentally, was designed (in 1908) by an architect who belonged to another of Glenmoriston's old families, the Greys). But no one now will remember Pat's great grandfather, Donald. He, a joiner to trade, lived somewhere in Invermoriston (Fasach? Achnacoran?) and he too - in a pre-Esso age - delivered men and goods to the old pier at the Pier. He was known as Donald the Carrier. Beyond that swirl the mists of unrecorded local history, although it is known that there were MacDonalds in Glenmoriston during the '45 and their Jacobite exploits are well documented. It does, however, seem reasonable to speculate that Pat's forbears may have been descended from refugees from the Glencoe Massacre, access from Glencoe to Glenmoriston being relatively easy and there being in existence the legend of the

PAT THE PIER (CTD).

baby materialising in the Glen in the wake of the massacre. (But this legend is common to other glens). A branch of this family of MacDonalds emigrated to Canada in the latter half of last century, where their descendants still live.

They have been making attempts to trace the line further back but unsuccessfully so far.

Over the years Pat the Pier has been connected with many aspects of the afore-mentioned wheels and communications - mails, of course, but also school dinners and pupils, coal, sand and grit for icy roads, timber, ferrying men from the outposts of Hydro Scheme camps to the bright lights of the Highland capital and the young at heart from the Glen to neighbouring dances, and a garage business (the first Peter MacDonald & Sons garage being built from the previous village Hall, the Comrades' Hall, situated below Jimmy Steele's house but having been blown down in a great gale of 1927 or 28).

A notable 'first' in Pat's entrepreneurial career - the acquisition and bringing to the Glen of a real taxi - has already been referred to in "Moriston Matters". But another 'first' may not be so fresh in memories - the bringing to the Pier of a motor launch, and some will recall the interesting and eventful cruises the "Vigilant" made furth of the Pier into Loch Ness. But to call this a 'first' is perhaps mis-lead for many years ago Peter MacDonald & Sons operated a ferry between the Pier and Knockie.

Pat's nerve-centre now is the Inver Service Filling Station situated near the summit of the Churchyard Brae. This is indeed a far cry from the time when Esso delivered paraffin, the fuel vehicles consumed then, to the Pier, where the first petrol pump was installed in 1920. It was at the Filling Station that "Moriston Matters" bearded Pat, where amidst the scurrying of summer season vehicular and human traffic he kindly made himself available. It is here, too, that his young family, the twins, Colin and Ruaraidh, Donald and Connie may be seen assisting operations. Mrs. Pat MacDonald, Donella, formerly taught at Invermoriston School and is now on the staff of Fort Augustus Secondary. She has an account of her four-generation New Zealand forebears, which "Moriston Matters" hopes to publish in due course.



PAT AND DONELLA
MORISTON MATTERS

LAST REPORT -

MRS. MORRIS BOWS OUT.

The School year beginning last August has been fraught with changes. After a series of late holidays we reached the Autumn Holiday and began thinking of the Annual Nativity Play and the school sale. Alas, in December we were beset by mumps, which made the effort for the Sale with only five children somewhat difficult and meant that we had to postpone the Play till January.

At the end of January we produced the Nativity Play. That evening we were surprised to see snow. By the following week we were snowed under, and most children could not get to school at all! Gradually we were able to move about once again, but the cold weather brought in its wake colds and coughs and sneezes and we had still more snow a few weeks later.

At the beginning of the Summer Term, our numbers depleted by the departure in the Autumn of Marie and Aileen Sandilands, and later, in March, the departure of James and Rebecca Rodger for Ainess, all seemed fair at last. Apart from one or two reports of whooping cough, all went well. We enjoyed entering our effort for the concert, but were once again troubled by having to rewrite the song. Our numbers were increased by two, and this made a difference to the verses. Meanwhile Mrs. Fraser's country dancing was coming along well, and the children were able to perform some of these for the concert. In April we joined Dalchreicht in a trip to Eden Court to see the "Wizard of Oz". This proved a costly

expedition and we were in need of more funds to provide the books for the Prize-giving and to finance our Summer Outing to Kyle of Lochalsh.

For three weeks we sold plants, cakes and candy, and surplus books and magazines each evening and realised a gross amount of £25.

Then came the great day, when with parents and friends, Mrs. M. Grant and Dalchreicht School, we set off for Eilean Donan Castle and Kyle of Lochalsh. Despite a cool, cloudy morning the weather was kind, and we were most interested to hear of the history of the castle and its re-building. So on to Kyle, where the weather, though windy, remained dry. We broke up into small groups for the afternoon, leaving at about 4 p.m. The rain came when we were about half-way home.

The last week of term was eventful once again because of illness. Several children succumbed to German measles. The Sports, were held on the Wednesday, in a field kindly loaned by Mr. Madonell, and the day was saved by Mrs. I. Grant, who found us some sacks at the last moment. The Sports cup was won by Patricia Stoddart and the Peter MacMillan Shield jointly by Alec Cameron and Keith Melvin, who hold it for six months each.

We were indebted to Mrs. Stoddart Sen. and Mrs. P. Stoddart for the excellent tea afterwards and to all those who contributed sandwiches and biscuits and squash. Our thanks are also due to those ladies who acted as judges and to Mr. P. Fraser who acted as starter. We would gladly have held the Sports earlier in the term had we been able to find a suitable field, but unfortunately we were not successful in this.

On 30th June the school closing was held in the hall, where Mr. J.E. Grant presented the Prizes and Mr. P. Fraser acted as chairman. The dux pupil and winner of the Glenmoriston Prize was Shona Robertson, who leaves us for Fort Augustus Secondary School. We wish her every success and a happy future.

cont'd. at foot of Page 8.

MRS MORRIS (ad)

Former pupils of Invermoriston School and neighbours and friends gathered in the canteen one evening when John Thomson and Marion Gillies on their behalf, with a few well-chosen words, presented Mrs. Morris

with a tea-set, two posy bowls, a brooch and a bouquet. In expressing her thanks Mrs. Morris said she had much enjoyed her ten years at the school. Then some of the ladies, led by Meggie, served tea; and afterwards the following ballad was recited:-

B E U L A H

She grew up in England, she was not to blame,
But all of us here just like her the same,
For England, they say, is not much of a Nation,
But one thing - they gave her a good education.

So let us join in this chorus,
There's no other teacher like Mrs. MacMorris.

Her good education she brought up to us
And proceeded to teach it without any fuss.
There was nothing to daunt her, and nothing she feared -
She'd provided a man with a kilt and a beard. (Chorus)

In her school was a welcome for all who would come,
In each function one felt just completely at home,
A Baby new-born and just freshly alive
To Senior Citizens past ninety-five. (Chorus)

One exception of course was at holiday time,
One finds it so hard to express it in rhyme,
So solemn she'd look and declare like a shout,
"Remember till I'm back, you all must keep out" (Chorus)

There was nothing she could not produce with her hands,
Beasts and birds and the produce of all sorts of lands,
A Witch and a Waterhorse, terror to stir,
And caskets of Gold and Frankincense and Myrrh. (Chorus)

We knew that things couldn't be always just so
And that some time she'd just have to pack up and go.
And what is the cause of this thing that we feared?
It's that big kindly man with the kilt and the beard.

So let us join, in this chorus,
There's no other teacher like Mrs. MacMorris.

P.F.

MRS. MORRIS (Cont'd.)

Mrs. Morris, Invermoriston School, has left after teaching in the school for ten years.

I have worked alongside her for almost six years, which I have enjoyed, I have learned a lot from her. She is a very talented person. Her handwork was most remarkable. She could do anything, and also anything musical, singing, playing the piano and dancing.

To me she was the kindest and most understanding person I have known. I have never seen her bad-tempered or even cross. She was always smiling, and if you ever felt down Mrs. Morris was always there to lift you up, and she always found time to listen to anybody's troubles. Work is drudgery, they say, but to me it was a pleasure to go to work because Mrs. Morris always greeted one with a smile. I shall miss her very much for all her help.

MEGGIE.

Mrs. Morris has taught me for five years. She was a good teacher to me. If I was needing help she would give me some. On sunny days she took us walks. She was good at making things and teaching us to do it as well. At the Christmas holidays we always got a present, and at Easter too. We all loved her very much and we will miss her very much.

PATRICIA.

Cont'd. from Page 6.

This year the children gave a performance of "The Laughing Bird", a musical story about a Baby Kookaburra, and in spite of a week of absences due to German Measles put up a good performance.

In closing I should like to thank old pupils and friends for their kind presentation to me on the evening of 29th June, and the children of Invermoriston School for their charming farewell gift of a table lighter and also for the sweeties that accompanied

it. I am very grateful for these kind reminders and will always remember Invermoriston for the co-operation and kindness I received whenever it was needed.

G.A.B. Morris.

"This is to thank you for being such a kind and loving teacher" - Shona (on presenting Mrs. Morris with a gift from her pupils.)

INVERMORISTON SCHOOL - PRIZE LIST

- Pr. 1 Brodie Nairn
Robert Flavell
Catherine Steele
- Pr. 3 Alec Cameron
Iona Grant
- Pr. 4 Yvonne Service
Keith Melvin
- Pr. 5 Kirsteen Douglas
Cameron Johnson
Gary Robertson
- Pr. 6 Patricia Stoddart
Colin MacDonald
Ruairaidh MacDonald
Ann Cameron
- Pr. 7 Shona Robertson

SPECIAL PRIZES

GLENMORISTON MEMORIAL PRIZE - Shona
Robertson

ART - Ruairaidh MacDonald

HANDWORK - Colin MacDonald

S.S.P.C.A. Essay Prize - Kirsteen Douglas

BIBLE Prize - Kirsteen Douglas

farming

Having spent a few days at the Royal Highland Show and seen the highly-priced new farming machinery and the many breeds of livestock and especially cattle, I've come to the conclusion that farmers of today need to be financial wizards and quick to note what breed of cattle and sheep has the quickest weight gain and is most suitable to his particular type of farm to be a success in the business.

Owing to the long dry spell in May and June the local hay crop is not as heavy as usual and turnips were very slow to show growth, but

some hay has already been secured in excellent order. Sheep-shearing is in progress and by now a full assessment of winter losses will have been made.

In the 'horse world' Anabel Grant with her pony Whirlwind is at Summer camp with Inverness Pony Club and the Highland colt, 'Iain of Glenmoriston' took 2nd in his class at the R.H.S. and has been sold to an English stud.

(Congratulations to Jimmy Innes whose skill at breeding brought such distinction to the Highlands and the Glen.

Eds)

Reproduced in honour of Iain of Glenmoriston his breeder, his dam and their background.

CAITHNESS

Silver and Gold, Silver and Gold,
Were our Caithness holiday to be told,
On hearing the Northern call.
Silver the sweep of the rolling plain,
The waving grass and the swelling grain,
And Gold at Toftingall.

Silver the grandeur of the hills,
The music of the peat-brown rills
Where Morven stabs the sky,
Silver the long, long rollers of Reay
And the pigeon's coo at the break of day
And Gold at the farm in by.

Silver the hard eternal rocks
Resisting the mighty ocean's shocks
And Camster's ancient Cairns;
The wind off the heath on Causeymire
And Gold in the fold and barn and byre
And the loving care of the bairns.

Silver the wonder of Dounreay's Sphere,
The end of the road so far from here
And things too old to be told,
The dignified calm of village and town,
Of Royal Castle and Cottage brown.
And Toftingall - beaten Gold!

P.F.

schools

10

EDUCATIONAL TOUR

Invermoriston and Dalchreichart Schools joined forces once again to visit Eilean Donan Castle, Kyle of Lochalsh and Kyleakin. A brief stop was made at the site of the Battle of Glen-shiel. An interesting tour of the castle was enlivened by the informative commentaries of the two guides. At Kyle we enjoyed a picnic lunch, though some crossed the ferry to partake of theirs. The company, which included a

large number of mothers, relatives and friends, were then free to explore, or lighten their purses in the local shops. A dry sunny day added to the enjoyment of our first trip to the West Coast.

M. C. GRANT

Commendably Mrs Grant has let her pupils voice their experience of the trip - So:

SOME JUNIOR VIEWS

We went to a castle by the sea. It was made of stone. We had a pick-^ock on a beech. And we went to a shop for some tablet.

Tina Grant (extract)

We went on a trip to a castle, and we went on a ferry boat which took buses and cars. We went over the sea to Skye like bony Prince Charlee. I was scared at first looking down into the deep water.

John Mc Donnell (extract)

When I was in the bus I was excited. The castle was fabulous. There was a old helmet with beautiful white feathers that Colonel John MacRae wore when he went to visit the Queen. There was also a banqueting hall with a glass case with a piece of Bonnie Prince Charlie's hair in it. I thought it was great at Skye. And all the things I thought about, going home!

Julia Grant (extract)

Yesterday we went on a school trip to Eilean Donan Castle. It was dark in the castle and we went into lots of passages which led to exciting places. We had come in a coach and had taken packed lunches. We spent about half-an-hour there, including going into the gift shop. In the castle there was a man to tell you something about the first room, and a lady to say something about the second room. When we got back to the bus we had our lunch and then we set off for Kyle.

We finally stopped by the sea and got our things together and went on to the ferry. It was good going round the shops on Skye. I went with Lorraine and Elizabeth. When we got back to Kyle Mrs Grant told us we would have three hours to do what we liked and go round the shops. I went to the play park and played on the slide and the roundabout.

When we had to go back to the bus it started to rain. The bit I liked best was on the ferry and at the castle.

JUDITH WATSON

DALCHREICHART SCH. (CTD).

FUND-RAISING EFFORTS

On Wed. 7th June, a sale of Cake, Candy, Produce etc was held in Dalchreichart School. There was an excellent turnout of eager buyers who quickly cleared the stalls of their goodies. The very gratifying sum of £103.08 was raised for school funds, and the school would like to thank most sincerely the parents and friends who, by their generosity and effort made such a magnificent sum possible.

AN ALTERNATIVE ACCOUNT

On 7th June we had a sale to raise School Funds. It was a great success, and the amount realised was £103.08. There were seven stalls, tea in the kitchen, and Julia collecting the entry money. It was 20p to get in. I was on the produce stall and I was very busy! The place was crowded with people and, as Amanda said, our customers were nearly getting tea down their backs. After every one had gone the teacher said that we could get as many of the left-overs as we wanted, so it turned out to be great fun!

Judith Watson

Solution to BRAIN-TEASER

- Jamés.....RB
- Parks.....RH
- Dale.....OL
- Smith.....CF
- Swift.....G
- Burns.....LB
- Gardiner.....CH
- Jones.....OR
- Rakes.....LH
- Evans.....IL
- Robinson.....IR

SCHOOL CLOSING

Dalchreichart School Sports Programme took place on the afternoon of 29th June, but rain stopped play! The sports were followed by the prize-giving, when a good number of parents and friends attended. A special guest was Father Mark Dilworth. Some of the children contributed musical items. Tea was served to the adults, and ice-cream, jelly, squash, etc to the children. Mr James Ewen Grant presented the prizes.

PRIZE LIST

- Pr.1Marlene MacRae
- Pr.2.....1. John Mc Donell
2. Fiona MacAdams
3. Tina Grant
4. Andrew Gordon
- Pr.3.....1. Julia Grant
2. Michael Smurthwaite
- Pr.4.....Judith Watson.
- Pr.6.....1. Amanda Grange
2. Karen Tomlin
- Pr.7.....Elizabeth Watson

SPECIAL PRIZES

- Glenmoriston Memorial Prize - Elizabeth Watson.
- S.S.P.C.A. Prize- Amanda Grange.
- Rev. P. Fraser's Bible-Karen Tomlin
- 'Bookworm' Prize - Julia Grant

Aid Flower Collection - Elizabeth Watson.

Sports Champion - Amanda Grange

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Every Church Service is an event. But the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is unique. "With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer" we were delighted that the Rev. John Campbell, M.A., our great friend of Urquhart Congregation, saw his way to be with us all day on Sunday, July 9th, when he delivered an excellent and inspired address on the origins and eternal significance of this Christian celebration. By the time of our next issue, John Campbell is expected to have demitted his charge in Urquhart, although he is to continue to live there with Mrs. Campbell, and to carry on his ministry at Craig Dunain Hospital. Theirs has been a famous ministry in Urquhart, reaching to many other places. Together in his and her own way they have fulfilled the New Testament Commission to "speak the Truth in love", which when all is said and done is the only way to do it.

A conspicuous miss in the congregation is Mrs Agnes McNab who, as has been reported before, has gone to Dornoch, there in the first instance to live with her daughter, and later, it is expected, to occupy a place in Oversteps Eventide Home run by the Church of Scotland. Our loss will be their gain. We miss her sunny personality and constant presence very much. Our children will miss her music. P.F.

W.R.I.

On Monday, 19th June, the Glenmoriston W.R.I. met for an informal evening at the Manse. The meeting commenced with general chat, and then a very nice tea was served by Miss MacDonald, Mrs Robertson, Mrs Service, Mrs Sey, Mrs Tilford and Mrs Watson.

FREE CHURCH

The Free Church held their Communion Season in Glenmoriston from Thursday, 6th July, to Monday, 10th July. The preacher on Thursday was the Rev. Alasdair Gollan, Greenock, whose services were much enjoyed. The Friday service was taken by the minister. On Saturday, Sabbath and Monday, the Rev. John MacLeod, Senior Minister of Gairloch, gave able and faithful messages at each of the services. Hospitality was provided in the Free Church Manse, Glenmoriston, and as the Rev. A. Gollan was accompanied by his wife she also was able to join in the services in the Church and the fellowship in the Manse. Mr. Donald MacDonald, elder from Fort William, gave assistance at the Communion Service on the Sabbath. Mrs. Fraser was assisted by her sister, Mrs. Munro, who was staying in the Manse at the time

J.F.

after tea the main event of the evening took place - on behalf of the members of the W.R.I. the following presentations were made: - Firstly, Mrs Fraser was presented with a week-end bag and robe by Mrs Sey as a 'Thank-you' for 13 years as President of the Institute. Secondly Mrs Morris was presented by Mrs K. Stoddart with a handbag and umbrella to wish her well in her retirement. Mrs Morris has been secretary for three years and is now going to live permanently in her house at Alligin. Lastly, Mrs MacKenzie was presented with a vase by Miss Campbell to help her to remember us in her new home at Lochaline. Mrs MacKenzie was lately Press Secretary and stood in as Secretary whenever required. The W.R.I. would like to thank Mrs Morris and Mrs MacKenzie for all the work they have done in the past few years and wish them all the very best in their new homes. J.T.

concerts

Invermoriston

Friday, June 9th, saw the Hall filled to its present (somewhat inadequate) seating capacity for a concert in aid of Children's Committee funds. It had been proposed for some time, but various snags, foreseeable and unforeseeable, had dogged its progress and even on the morning of the 9th, German measles claimed one of the performers. However, the artistes who sustained the programme gave of their best and there were several notable first stage appearances - Marlene Grant from Foyers who shyly but competently showed her skill in the Highland Fling and the Tap Dance; Mr Robert Wilson from Kirkhill, who has delighted us previously with his accordion, was this time graciously accompanied by his wife on her electric organ; our own David Tracy, who as a result of a chance remark about being interested in drama found himself roped into a part and thrust in at the deep end where he survived with credit; and Lorraine Service who was keen to 'have a go' and made a very good job of it. We were grateful, too, to Mrs Jan Bell of Drumnadrochit and Mr Ferguson of Balnain with his guitar, both of whom sang well-known songs in which the audience could join. Then there were the pupils of Invermoriston School who sang about the school and performed two Scottish Country dances very acceptably. We were sorry that Dalchreichart pupils were prevented by whooping cough from taking part, but John Grant, Dalchreichart Schoolhouse, made a special effort to arrive from Glasgow in time to give us some stirring music on his accordion, before the end. Many of the mothers kindly made tablet to sell at the interval and this helped to swell the funds to almost £45.

M.E.F

GLENURQUHART S.S.

What must have been one of the most enjoyable school concerts ever was sustained by the pupils of Glenurquhart Sen. Sec. School in the local hall on the 28th. June.

A very varied programme of singing (in solos, duets and groups), piano recitals, piping, dancing, instrumental items including recorders, guitars, violin, mouth organ and accordion was excellently compered by one of the pupils.

The highlight of the entertainment was the play "Ernie's Incredible Illusions" which was performed with almost professional expertise by a large cast.

With such a wealth of native talent able to provide such a wide-ranging display to delight the eye and the ear of a large appreciative audience, one is tempted to ask "Who needs Eden Court?" And their prices are much, much cheaper!

M.C. GRANT

PLAYGROUP

The Playgroup would like to thank everyone for their generous contributions and donations towards the Coffee Afternoon on July 15th. We were delighted to see so many visitors in spite of competition from the Invergarry Games and are pleased to report a profit of £87 which will go towards more toys, books and equipment for the children. We would like to take this opportunity again to invite all mothers with children under five to come along to the Playgroup which is held every Friday from 2 - 3.30pm at Dalchreichart School (at the Gun Club, Bhlaraids during the holidays). Please contact Catherine Grange or Lynda Nairn if you don't have a car and want to arrange a lift.

L.N.

IN AND OUT OF THE CLASS ROOM.

SCHOOL EXCURSION

During the Easter holidays eleven Pupils from Fort Augustus Secondary School went on a school trip to France, organised by Mrs Pottage, our French teacher, and her husband.

We caught the morning train from Inverness to Glasgow and from there we caught another to London. But our seats had been double-booked to Dover and some of us had to stand. We took hours to get through the Customs and the Channel ferry was packed. We arrived in France the next morning and got a train to Paris, and we saw the Eiffel Tower. Then we took another train to Montélimar, which is 80 miles south of Lyons. There we took a bus to the village we were staying in, Lolevade, which was thirty miles away. We eventually found our chalets at midnight two days after we had started.

We spent the next few days there exploring the village and the countryside around. At first, all the French we said was 'Bonjour' or 'Au revoir', but soon we were having short conversations with the French people.

The village was strung along the main road with the River Ardèche running alongside. There were lots of shops in the village and high hills above the valley and the vegetation was quite Mediterranean. On our eighth day in France we hired a mini-bus and drove to the Pont du Gard, a two thousand year old aqueduct, 165 ft. high. The day after we drove to the Lac d'Issarles, a lake in the crater of an extinct volcano. On the way there we drove through some spectacular mountain passes.

On the tenth day we set off for home again. We spent a few hours in London and arrived at Inverness in the morning. We all enjoyed it very much and thank Mr and Mrs Pottage for making it possible.

D.H.

SHINTY (CTD. FREN P. 3)

whole of this match was exciting and Invergarry managed to hold Newtonmore to a 4 - 2 score for them. Again we got a runners-up medal as well as congratulations on how well we had played. In the Robertson Cup the presentation was held on Saturday 5th August. N.R.

CHILDREN'S WRITING

Nessie

Nessie is some kind of animal. Some people say that he or she is a left-over dinosaur. Others think she is a big eel. I think it is a dinosaur.

Once I thought I saw Nessie, but I was wrong. It was just a wave.

I have been living in Glenmoriston for six years and I have still not seen Nessie. Perhaps one day I will.

Yvonne Service.

The Nurse

The nurse's job is to look after sick people who are ill. The nurse wears a white apron and a blue blouse and grey tights and black shoes, a white cap and a cape. Some poor children have to go around in a wheel chair and will never walk again and some children have to get a plaster on their arm or their leg.

The place where children, adults or old people sleep is called a ward. Some children can get up and walk around but some children have to stay in bed all day and read comics or play with toys.

Kirsteen Douglas

SPORT

INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

At the International Clay Pigeon Down-the-Line Competition held in Carlisle towards the end of July the Scottish team fought hard in a good match and were narrowly defeated by England with Ireland coming a close third and Wales fourth. Martin Girvan won the International Captain's Cup and the International Squad Championship—based on the points won by the five best men in each team—was won by Scotland whose squad included Martin Girvan, and John Morgan from Glengarry. The International High Gun was also a Scot, Alan Bell from Glasgow. Congratulations to all concerned!

H.E.F.

Gun Club

On Sat., 17th June, Loch Ness Gun Club held their open article shoot. 64 guns attended and the high gun for the day was 1st Gordon MacIntosh 50/150. 2nd equal Charles MacTavish and Peter Mackay 50/148. 15 men tied for first place in the Article Competition and after a shoot-off the over-all winner was D. MacKenzie 2nd was W. S. Fraser and 3rd D. MacDonell. In the ball trap re-entry the results were: 1st - D. Turnbull, 2nd P. Mackay and 3rd equal J. Morgan and J.S. White. Mrs Ferguson, Torgoyle presented the prizes. Mrs D. M. Girvan, Mrs Aiken and Mrs L. Grant kept the shooters supplied with refreshments. The weather was, if anything, a little too warm and sunny, but this did not interfere with the very high standard of shooting. I wish on behalf of the Loch Ness Club to thank all those who supported us in any way. D.J.S

FOOTBALL

15

This year, as last, Glen Albyn F.C. have been competing in the Inverness Friendly League which runs during the Summer months.

There are 18 teams in the League and we play each side once, all the games being played in Inverness.

So far we have played eleven, won four, drawn four, lost three and are placed half-way up the League Table.

Most of the teams are more experienced than we are, with many including players from the Inverness Welfare League which is of a higher standard than the Friendly League.

In one particular match, against a team from Smithton, we were in opposition to two former residents of Invermoriston, namely Donald Lamond and Ian Grant, while on our side we had the services of George Grant who also used to live in the Glen.

We are hoping to improve our position in the League in the remaining games and we are looking to our ace goal-scorer 'Tote' Gillies and the evergreen Allan Nairn to inspire us to a few more victories.

C.M.K.

INVERGARRY GAMES.

GLEMMORISTON BEEHIVE CAKE FARE WELL!

On the 15th. July a spirited Invermoriston contingent went into the fastnesses of Invergarry to spectate at and to take part in the Invergarry Games, and it was the performance of the Glemmoriston Ladies' Tug-o-war team that took the biscuit (sorry - the cake - beef, that is). A most varied team it was, ranging from the wiry Margaret (Ferguson), the sinewy Alison, the lissom Colette, the curvaceous Morag to....to...well.... perhaps you had better describe the proportions of the other members of the team yourselves. They pulled first against Invergarry and won decisively and then in the final were somewhat unlucky not to get the better of Ardarsier Ladies. CTD P.3.

in brief

THE VILLAGE HALL

A short history and other relevant details concerning the Hall will appear in the next issue. Meantime, the Hall Committee have much pleasure in thanking Mr. Ian MacKenzie for his period of Secretaryship. They are indebted to his courtesy, industry and endless patience.

P.McD.

Congratulations

...to Ian and Kate Ferguson on the birth of their daughter, Theresa Jane, on 10th June.

...to Jimmy Innes on his success with "Iain of Glenmoriston" at the R.H.S.

...to Invergarry Shinty team where Neil Robertson plays in two teams, the under 14's and under 17's, on their success as reported.

...to Fiona Grant who won first prize in the 3rd year and to Shaun Grange who won 2nd prize in the 1st year at Glenurquhart Sec. School.

...to Duncan MacDonald, our editor, who in spite of the difficulties of producing "Moriston Matters" has been able to complete successfully his degree of B.A. with Honours in English Literature from Strathclyde University.

Welcome to the Community.....

...to Mr. Tony Talbot who has come to work at the Fish Farm and Mrs. Jane Talbot and Daniel.

...and to Mrs. Marion Nicholson, the new headmistress of Invermoriston School, and Mr. George Nicholson, who has already turned his hand to helping the community by typing part of this issue, and their grown-up family, Eleanor, Flora, Alasdair and Catriona.

...and a welcome back to Mr. Arkle Fraser with his wife Barbara, erstwhile of Alltisaigh, and now of Port Clair, and their family, David, Brian and Marlene.

We are grateful to the Highland Regional Council who have enhanced the picnic area at the Old Bridge with an interesting plaque giving a short account of its history... and the street lighting at Riverside Park will also meet a need long felt and expressed by some of the residents.

The ladies of the W.R.I. who collected on behalf of Cancer Research in June are very grateful for the generous response they received and were glad to be able to send £53.53 to the Fund.

FAREWELL.....

and happiness in their new home in Lochaline to Mr. and Mrs. MacKenzie who have been active members of the community here for six years. It's nice to have Iain still with us - no doubt the Football team echo this sentiment....and to Mr. Morling, one of our sprightly senior citizens, whose brightness and cheerfulness endeared him to us. We wish happiness in his new home with Beu and Tony.

A report on the future television service in the area from Mr. Everett, Secretary of the Community Council, was received just too late for inclusion in this issue, but it will appear in the next.

REMINDER!

THE 23RD SEPT. IS THE DATE.

With all this equality around we request ALL YOU PEOPLE to give YOUR FULL SUPPORT to MARGARET, ALLAN AND DUNCAN on the sponsored walk. As near as possible to £1,000 IS THE TARGET. WITH YOUR SUPPORT it can be done (the target) and we can do it (the walk) in aid of OUR HALL.

M.S.