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## *The Quality of Life*

What is meant by that oft-banded phrase, the "Quality of Life"? It's a matter of individual interpretation and personal taste and interest - as so it should in a free democratic society. But what no one will dispute is that there is a close link between the "quality of life", whatever it means, and care for the appearance of our physical environment. And among the many things which contribute towards the scarring of our landscape - some completely beyond our control, some unavoidable if mankind is not only to survive but endure - one is the careless disposal of litter.

Another vital ingredient in the "quality of life" is the preservation and upkeep of those objects which remind us physically and visually of our historical heritage.

These are two of the areas of "life" which will become

increasingly important as the micro-processor, the "chip", revolutionises - too soon perhaps - our society.

Throughout the past months we have been indicating that we would be prepared to allocate part of our funds to making some kind of award available - annually if possible - for what we broadly called acts of "Young Citizenship". Two such acts have been done within our knowledge; the efforts of the pupils of Invermoriston School in gathering litter and the work of the Church of Scotland Manse Youth Group in and around St. Columba's Well.

Accordingly a sum of money will be allocated so the pupils of Invermoriston School will receive a book token and the members of the Youth Group a record token.

# editorial

Our apologies for being somewhat late in getting this issue of "Moriston Matters" out. These words, or words like them, must have a familiar ring by now; but this issue, the Summer one, does present difficulties because of holiday arrangements and visitors, and there have been other unavoidable circumstances.

We draw attention to the section called "Young Reportage", and we commend Paul Tomlin and his fellows for their enterprise in reporting (not forgetting their mentors and encouragers). We will continue to give space to young people's reporting, for the "Moriston Matters" needs is one or two more "staff" reporters, persons who will take on an assignment, get to the scene of action, observe and write his or her report quickly. Thus we hope some of these young people will play a part in producing "Moriston Matters" in the future.

The future....Yes. Young men are allowed visions and old men dreams - why should middle-aged men not be allowed to temper visions with what is possible so that one day they may sleep dreamlessly? We see no reason whatsoever why at some time in the future there should not be in Glenmoriston a "Moriston Matters" Office even if at first within a house or existing institution (such as the Manse at present), manned when need be by enthusiastic and reliable volunteers, a place to serve not only as the means of producing the magazine but also as a focal point of what it endeavours to achieve.

We welcome, as always, contributions from home, the U.K. and overseas.

## GLENMORISTON GOLD & SILVER SMITHS.

It is almost a year now since I last wrote for "Moriston Matters" at which time I found it difficult to write and explain to other people just what Glenmoriston Gold & Silversmiths are, as at that moment, I was not quite sure myself. From that time, how to design the jewellery began to take on a completely new aspect, a completely new range of jewellery original to the known market. Would we make it traditional, modern, what sort of dimensions would we use, large, intricate, or would we use a totally new aspect in using the beautiful Highland scenery surrounding us at Invermoriston, the trees, the rock formation, the flora and fauna indigenous to this Highland landscape? At this time, Bill Bedford and myself found ourselves with a mutual love of trees and especially wood with varied textures and colours. This made up our minds for us; we decided to produce a small range of silver and wood jewellery. The wood we used was the silver birch from the hillsides surrounding our homes. We found that this wood proved to be very popular not only in our own showroom, but with other shops we deal with throughout Britain, and not only the British market warmed to our Highland jewellery, but the French and Belgian markets as well. The wood combined well with our jewellery range of owls, dragonflies, mice, grouse, pheasant, stags and woodland scenes.

Our jewellery summer school is also gaining momentum. Our students particularly enjoy being able to work alongside

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 4.]

# T. V. CLUB

As published in a previous issue a large sum of money is needed to provide colour T.V. The Committee held a dance in the Village Hall on June 22nd, realising a profit of £50.00.

A second dance was held on July 20th, which was thoroughly enjoyed by about 140. The free gift scheme raffle was drawn. Prizes were won by:

- |                                       |                              |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Dinner at Glenmoriston Arms Hotel. | - Mrs. Finlay, Fife.         |
| 2. 2 bottles whisky                   | - Robin Mackie.              |
| 3. Salmon                             | - M. McLean, Shiel.          |
| 4. 2 bags of coal                     | - Isobel, Redpark.           |
| 5. £5 Gift voucher                    | - Jimmy Service.             |
| 6. Icelandic Sweater                  | - Dave McAdams, Ceannacroc.  |
| 7. Bottle Whisky                      | - J. Geddes, Road Squad.     |
| 8. £5 note                            | - Peggy McNicol, Spean.      |
| 9. 200 cigarettes                     | - Josie Smeaton.             |
| 10. Bottle of whisky                  | - Yvette Kilcomb, Strontian. |
| 11. Bottle of whisky                  | - June Curson, Dundreggan.   |
| 12. Bottle of whisky                  | - D. Jappy, Dores.           |
| 13. 2 pairs Harris socks              | - Mr Wood, Blackpool.        |
| 14. Box of chocolates                 | - Ian Campbell, Shiel.       |
| 15. Pair of gloves                    | - A. Vickers, Fort Augustus. |
| 16. Box of chocolates                 | - A. Girvan, Fort Augustus.  |

Profits from the dance and raffle plus cash donations were £188.25.

Thanks to all who generously donated prizes and cash, we are now £260.00 nearer our colour T.V.

We hope to have another DANCE on AUGUST 24TH - The BUCKBOARDS again. COME ALONG - They are GREAT for YOUNG and OLD.....and if you are not DEAF NOW, YOU WILL BE THEN!!

M. SMART.  
M. JOHNSON.

4.

A 20TH CENTURY PARAPHRASING  
OF THE 23RD PSALM.

The Union is my Shepherd, I shall not work,  
It makes me to lie down on the job,  
It leadeth me beside stilled Factories  
And restoreth my fringe Benefits,  
It leadeth me in the paths of disruption, for its own sake,  
Yea, though I walk through the Valley of the shadow of dismissal;  
I will fear no victimisation, for the Union is with me,  
Its restrictive practices and go-slows they comfort me.  
It prepareth a strike Committee before me in the presence of my  
Employers,  
It annointeth my head with Pay rises  
And my Bank balance runneth over.  
Surely, Shop Stewards and Union dues shall follow me  
All the days of my membership,  
And I shall dwell in a Social Work subsidised house forever!

Anon

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NOTE: The above was contributed by a person who wishes to remain anonymous, but whose identity is know to "Moriston Matters!" As usual, space will be provided for opposing views.

ED.



JEWELLERS CONTINUED

production jewellers. They like meeting local people and seeing the Highland beauty. The jewellery craft courses have also been a success abroad with applications from France and Holland and even as far away as Africa.

I feel confident in saying that Glenmoriston Gold & Silversmiths have made a name for themselves in the jewellery trade after only sixteen months of actual trading. I am sure that we can expect better and bigger things to happen in the next few years. I would also like to acknowledge the participation of local people who buy our jewellery and then bring their friends back to see what their local jewellery company can do.

R.M.

# The Moriston Matters

## prize for young reportage

### EXCURSION TO CANNA.

On the 25th May, a group of 25 boys of our school Bird Club and two parent helpers led by Mr Swan went to the Isle of Canna to do some ornithological research for the British Trust of Ornithology.

The journey is 1½ hours by boat (about 27 miles west of Mallaig). Canna is about 5 miles long and 3 wide.

The Bird Club members from the Glen (James, Shaun and myself) were met at the Village Shop by 2 cars and a trailer, packed high with every conceivable item of equipment. We got into our respective cars (I was allocated to a Vauxhall Victor running on only 3 cylinders). The car began to overheat a little going through Glengarry and we stopped to top up with water. This we continued to do at shorter intervals until at one point we had to push it plus trailer up a hill. The other cars decided to go on ahead in the hopes that they could return and unload some of our luggage, but by the time all the luggage was unpacked our car spluttered, heaved and stopped just at the harbour.

We boarded the boat at 11.00 and put our luggage (everything from traps to margarine and fish hooks) in the lounge. The "Arran" (our boat) is a MacBraynes motor-ferry brought from the Clyde because our last boat, the "Loch Arkaig", sank at Portree. We decided to try and sleep in the lounge, but this proved impossible

with rucksacks being dragged over you, the noise of the generators and the crew's footsteps.

We departed from Mallaig at 6.00 the next morning. The sea was smooth and tranquil. We arrived at the quay provided by the laird, and Packie awaited us on his tractor and trailer in which we and our luggage would be transported to our future base for the best part of a week. We stayed in a small stone bothy and 5 tents which we erected on arrival.

Despite not sleeping the previous night we made a trip around Sanday, an adjoining island to Canna, looking for the eggs and nests of eiders, gulls, oystercatchers and many other birds. We ate our packed lunch at the Sanday lighthouse, but we had yet another five miles back to the bothy to walk.

Just as we were about to cross the bridge joining Canna to Sanday we heard a corncake, a rare bird only found on the Hebridean islands, having migrated from Africa. It is a fast-running bird with a call like a comb on a matchbox, has a grey underside and cheek patch, but its top half is various browns and black giving it excellent camouflage in long grass. We returned to the bothy and prepared tea.

### DAY 2.

Some of the boys went to the north cliffs and saw a pair of rare seaeagles. They caught shags, eiders, razorbills and

fulmars for ringing. The rest of us worked either a clap net or traps or mist nets and we caught a variety of birds from willow warblers and sparrows to doves and oystercatchers.

#### DAY 3.

Today we went swimming on Sanday beach and if anyone tells you the Atlantic is warm, you can tell them otherwise - it is very cold, even on a day like the 28th May when Scotland were 1 - 0 up at half-time, at which point Donald's radio batteries ran out!

#### DAY 4.

We all went to the Nunnery, which has a hazardous track down to it with a 600 to 800 feet drop on to rocks or the sea! The Nunnery itself is an old ruin, probably built around the birth of Christianity in Britain. It is at the bottom of a scree slope and I just wondered what may be buried in the Nunnery. Nuns perhaps! At the Nunnery we caught shags and razorbills - savage little creatures with malevolent emerald eyes and vicious beaks. Several of us had our hands ripped at and Shaun got his cheek ripped open.

The shags are careless birds and all over the nest sites is just white with guano, and when you approach you often are confronted with a

pungent smelling fencer's foil just waiting for a juicy hand to appear in the mouth of their burrow - then they snap and honk, a most grating warning noise. The razorbills, though, do not go in for all this noise, they just take a chunk out of your hand! We have overcome this problem with a shag-hook! A long pole or stick with a wire on the end for hooking around the shags' necks.

#### DAY 5.

A small party of boys went to Garrisdale after shags and fulmars while we worked the clap nets and mist nets. Later on, we packed our equipment and tents and left for the quay on Packie's tractor and trailer, where we said goodbye to Canna for yet another year.

Bearing in mind the severity of the winter, it is encouraging to report an increase in the eider and the shearwater population, but sad to say the corncrakes and shags are down in numbers.

PAUL TOMLIN.

NOTE: This is the first time a secondary pupil has been awarded the prize for "Young Reportage". We point out the merits in Paul Tomlin's report: vivid scene-setting; good use of incident and detail; and a lively, vigorous, "personal" style.

ED.

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# The Moriston Matters

## Prize for creative writing

### A TOWN DOG'S HOLIDAY IN THE COUNTRY.

Cecil hopped into the back of the car. "I wonder where we are going this time", he thought. Cecil's owner opened the window to let the fresh air in. Then he drove off. Cecil popped his nose out of the window. He counted the cars going past. He soon got bored and fell asleep. The car stopped and Cecil woke up. He was in the country.

He hopped out of the car. He was on a hill with land spread out below him. Behind him was a cottage. He went into it. The only warm room in the cottage was crowded with people. So Cecil decided to go back outside. There he heard a dog bark. He looked round. There was a dog standing near him. "Hello", said the dog. "Who are you?" said Cecil. "My name is Bread". "And mine is Cecil", said Cecil. "What is it like living in the country?" he continued. "Oh, it's quite nice really", said Bread. "I mostly just run around the countryside", he added. "Run around the countryside!" Cecil exclaimed. "My master would never let me do that". "You seem to live in the town", said Bread. "Yes, I do", replied Cecil. "Then what is it like living in the town?" he asked. "Oh, it's quite nice really, except there's not much space to run around in. Only your back garden. Of course, you've got the park, but even there you have to stay on a lead". "Oh well", said Bread, "I think the best kind of exercise is chasing sheep".

"Why, that's outrageous", said Cecil. "Oh no, it isn't" said Bread. "Look over there - there's a sheep coming and I'm going to chase it". "You're not going to catch it!" said Cecil. "No, I'm going to chase it", he shouted. And before Cecil could do anything, Bread was chasing the sheep. Just as he was about to bite one of the sheep's legs, someone appeared over the hill. He had a shotgun slung under his arm. He fired. Instantly Bread darted back to Cecil. "I told you not to chase it", said Cecil. "You're right, I'm never going to chase a sheep after this". "Cecil" someone called. "Who's that?" said Bread "Oh, it must be my owner", replied Cecil... "Well, I'd be going later but my owner seems to want me now". "Goodbye", said Bread. "Goodbye", said Cecil and went to the car. He jumped into the back of the car. He took a last look at the cottage and then fell asleep.

What else could a dog do in a car?

COLIN MACDONALD (1)

### AND ANOTHER LITTLE ANIMAL STOP

Our wee cat called Patch went for a walk and got lost. After looking all over the place for him, there he was, right under our noses, under a small bush in Dad's garden. And we were so glad to find him.

ROBERT.

"CRAIGELLACHIE" - A REVIEW.

Just recently there came to us from the U.S.A. a most interesting, fascinating - to us Scots and Highlanders - publication. This is "Craigellachie", the official newsletter of the Clan Grant Society of North America.

The particular complimentary copy sent to us is the June edition of 1979, which is No.2 of Volume II.

The main purpose of the newsletter is, of course, to serve as a forum for news and information concerning the members of the Clan Grant of North America. However, the area of coverage is to be extended: we may quote from the first part of "From the Editor" (James H. Grant, Jr. from Atlanta, Georgia, who signs himself off by "Hank"):

Since the last issue of "Craigellachie", I have received letters from Grants in Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand. Future issues of the newsletter will include information which they have been kind enough to furnish. More complimentary copies of the newsletter are being sent with the hope that the recipients will respond and share their experiences and family histories with their American cousins.

The newsletter contains an application form for membership of the Clan Grant Society, and the copy of the newsletter we received will be available in the house, Invermoriston, for those who are particularly or generally interested.

The coverage of the newsletter has indeed been extended, for of particular local interest in this issue, from historical

information supplied by James Ewen Grant, present Laird of Glenmoriston, and using a manuscript compiled by May Grant, is a four-page feature on the Grants of Glenmoriston. This consists firstly of a short introduction by the editor, from which we quote the following:

"Regardless of personal motivation, Glenmoriston is one of the most beautiful and awesome areas in all the Highlands and a visit there will never be forgotten".

The feature goes on to show and give a description of The Arms of Grant of Glenmoriston, to provide a chronological "tree" of the Lairds of Glenmoriston and ends in a short historical account of the Glenmoriston branch family of this great clan. Parts of this feature will be reproduced in a future edition of "Moriston Matters" if the Editor of the newsletter gives his consent.

To us in Scotland the most illuminating part of the newsletter is that entitled "Conventer's Corner". This is devoted to "mini-newsletters" from branches of the Clan Grant Society from all over North America. We take the liberty of reproducing a couple of these. The first, entitled "THE SAVANNAH GAMES : And the rains came!" was "mailed" by an appealing Elsie Grant French:

The reception Friday was very nice and many clans were represented. We put up the tent that afternoon because of the weather forecast - 60% chance of rain for Saturday.



Well, the rain came as predicted. The dancers were moved to the Ramada Inn and the pipers went into the fort for their competitions...

It did clear up enough to have the Parade of the Tartans, and I carried the flag for the Clan. Of course, when the rain stopped, the bugs moved in and the men in their kilts were quite miserable. Nevertheless, we all had a good time. When we arrived home on Sunday, I had to dry all the flags and the tent. The neighbors didn't know what was going on. Ha! Ha!

We won't be able to come to Grandfather Mountain, but hope to see everyone at Charleston this September.

Sincerely, Elsie.

The second is "From the East" and is by George Grant.

Since our last issue of "Craigellachie" many things have happened. John C. Grant of Stone Mountain, Georgia, has volunteered to be our Treasurer, and Shirley Grant Smith of West Chester, Pennsylvania, has offered to become our Membership Chairman. I know you will all co-operate with them as you have with me so that we can be proud of our successful Clan Society.

I have heard from only one person concerning accommodation for the Grandfather Mountain Games. Please let me know as soon as possible if rooms are needed.

The first scholarship winner sponsored by the Society is Steve Pohl who will be attending the piping school at Grandfather Mountain. His wife, Diane,

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is grateful to us since any improvement will make her life much easier. I might mention that the rest of the tuition is being contributed by their neighbors.

My worst fears were realized upon reading the effort of Seamus Mor an Tuim (of the hill, or the famous freebooter) in the last issue of the newsletter. His portrayal of true fact is questionable, but nevertheless, he is one of us... much to our collective consternation.

See you at the games or in Chattanooga when you are in the area.

Yours aye,

George.

Seamus Mor Grant, the Director of Speyside Institute for Non-Essential Studies (S.I.N.S.), is a person who seems to have begun contributing highly irreverent but also highly amusing articles on Scottish History. His latest report, in the newsletter under review, "When Times Were Rotten" will be reproduced in the next issue of "Moriston Matters" if the editor of "Craigellachie" grants permission.

Meantime, we trust the Editor will not mind if we end the review by giving our readers the benefit of a recipe the newsletter contains. This, a whisky cake, has been, as the contributor, Linda Grant, acknowledges, adapted from Ena Baxter's Scottish Cookbook. We have adapted it slightly further.

(Cont next page.)

## 10. WHISKY CAKE.

One cup raisins  
One and one-third cup water  
One-half cup butter  
Three-fourths cup brown sugar  
One egg  
Two tablespoons whisky (Glen Fiddich or Grant's or preferably Glenmoriston Old Farm)  
One and one-half cup all-purpose flour  
One teaspoon bicarbonate of soda  
One-fourth teaspoon salt  
One-half teaspoon nutmeg  
One tablespoon lemon juice  
Two and one-half ounces finely chopped walnuts.

Simmer raisins in water for 15 minutes. Cream the butter

# Gun Club

## OLD FARM WHISKY SHOOT.

The lure of around sixty bottles of Glenmoriston Old Farm Whisky plus driven pheasant shooting for eight guns was enough to attract a record entry of 110 competitors from all over Scotland to Loch Ness Gun Club's recent, 50 bird, down-the-line shoot at Bhlaraidh.

The prizes, which were donated by Ian Grant, proprietor of the Old Farm brand, were on a scale never before seen at a clay shoot in Scotland, and were reckoned to be worth a total of £2,500.

Several local club members started shooting in fine form, and at the half way mark looked to be well in the running for a day's sport in December, or at least a few bottles of the hard stuff. Alas, the thought of all that whisky was too much for most of them, and eventually it was left to Eddie Grant, Stroneview, to uphold the honour of the Glen by winning

and sugar in another bowl. Beat in one egg. Stir in the flour, bicarbonate of soda, salt and nutmeg, with about two tablespoons of liquid from the raisins. Stir in raisins (drained), lemon juice, walnuts and whisky. Pour into two prepared cake tins and bake for thirty minutes at 350 degrees.

## ICING.

One-fourth cup butter  
One cup confectioner's sugar  
Two tablespoons lemon juice  
One teaspoon whisky

Cream butter and sugar until smooth. Add the lemon and whisky and beat until smooth. Ice when the cake cools.

Class A with the fine score of 149 points ex 150, winning for himself a day's pheasant shooting. Accompanying Eddie on the pheasant shoot will be another committee member of the club, George Grant of Lewiston. George finished with a score of 144 points and so won Class C.

The shoot overall was won, with a possible score of 150 points, by Ian MacIntosh of Forres, who won pheasant shooting for himself and three guests of his choice. There were prizes of whisky to 10th place in each class; the leading lady, Mrs Galbraith from Aberdeen, went home with six bottles.

Mr Nicol Manson of Manson Fine Lines Ltd., distributor of Old Farm Whisky, has expressed himself as extremely satisfied with the running of the shoot, and the publicity generated by it towards this blend of whisky.  
J.M. (TOMDOWN)

Mr Ian Girvan has now become a qualified coach and the Gun Club hope to hold an afternoon's coaching for beginners in the near future.

# SCHOOLS

## INVERMORISTON.

The Summer term drew to a close on Friday 29th June with a prize-giving ceremony in the school. The Rev.P.Fraser was in the chair and Mrs Fraser graciously presented the prizes. Mr James Grant of Glenmoriston was also a guest.

After a review of the year's activities, when thanks was once again expressed to all who have supported these throughout the year, the children gave short programme of songs and verse. The prize list was as follows:-

### Primary 2:

Merit: Catherine Steel  
Progress: Robert Flavell  
Brodie Nairn

### Stoddart Cup for P.1 - 3:

Catherine Steel

### Primary 4:

Merit: Alexander Cameron  
Progress: Iona Grant  
Alexander MacLennan

### Primary 5:

Merit: Yvonne Service

### Primary 6:

Merit: Kirsteen Douglas  
Progress: Cameron Johnson  
Gary Robertson

### Primary 7:

Merit: Ann Cameron  
Patricia Stoddart  
Colin MacDonald  
Ruairaidh MacDonald

### Cycling Proficiency Certificates and Badges:

Yvonne Service  
Patricia Stoddart

### Religious Knowledge:

Yvonne Service

### S.S.P.C.A. Essay Prize:

Colin MacDonald

### Needlework and Art:

Ann Cameron

### Margaret Grant Memorial Prize:

Ruairaidh MacDonald

### Glenmoriston Memorial Prize:

Patricia Stoddart

### Cup for Sports Champion:

Patricia Stoddart

### Peter MacMillan Shield:

Alexander Cameron

Patricia Stoddart thanked Mrs Fraser for presenting the prizes, and Mr Grant thanked the children for their entertainment.

M.L.N.

### DALCHREICHART.

At the school closing ceremony on 29th June, at which a good number of parents and friends were present, Mrs.P.Fraser presented the prizes and addressed the children. Other speakers included Rev.P.Fraser, Mr James Ewen Grant of Glenmoriston and Mr Mike Tomlin. The children sang songs of an international flavour, and were served with jelly, ice-cream and lemonade, while the adults enjoyed a welcome cup of tea on a rather cold blustery day. The uncertain weather, however, did not dampen the enthusiasm of the children at the sports meeting earlier.

In her remarks Mrs Grant said it was expected that the school roll of 14 would be maintained, and traced the activities of the school during the year, with special mention of the annual sale, which realised the splendid sum of £102.55.

M.C.G.

(SCHOOLS - CTD, NEXT PAGE)

## SCHOOLS (CTD.)

### FORT AUGUSTUS.

On June 17th we held our annual sports. Invermoriston School joined us for the afternoon and appeared to do very well judging from the number of badges they were wearing by the end of the day. Charlie Thomson won the Boys' Championship Medal.

We had two football matches this term. The first, against the Abbey School, was won by us; the second, against Glenurquhart, ended in a draw.

The term ended with a concert on the Wednesday afternoon and our annual Corrieallack walk on the Thursday.

This year our fourth year pupils transferred to Inverness High School as soon as they had finished their 'O'-grade exams in May. They stay at Hedgefield Hostel which nowadays serves the four secondary schools in Inverness.

D.MacD.

## SOME YOUNG REPORTAGE.

### ROYAL OCCASION.

#### GLENURQUHART.

Pupils from Glenurquhart Secondary and Primary Schools visited Borlum Farm Indoor Riding School for the Disabled on June 18th. The occasion was a special display of the riding skills of handicapped people - in the presence of Princess Anne. Some of the participants showed great ingenuity in overcoming their disabilities, and a lot of credit must go to the voluntary helpers who lead the horses and generally help. Many of these <sup>are</sup> pupils of the school. Princess Anne, attractively dressed in an emerald green suit, smiled her way through the event, and later presented badges to the riders. She also spoke to many others present - including me!

F.G.

#### PRINCESS ANNE VISITS BORLUM.

On June 18th, Princess Anne visited Borlum Farm at Drumadrochit. The Princess was given a display by horses, riders and helpers. The display was held in the indoor riding school, which was crammed with spectators. Mrs Haig of Borlum made the announcements over a loudspeaker system. The Princess was presented with a rose, a small horseshoe and a Loch Ness Monster toy. After the display the Princess presented rosettes to the disabled riders and helpers. After talking to Mrs Haig and the riding instructor the Princess left in a Rover with a Police Escort.

S.G.

SOME MORE JUNIOR REPORTS NEXT PAGE

INVERMORISTON.

On Wednesday, 30th May, we went to the hall to entertain some people from Craig Dunain. The first person to sing sang two Gaelic songs and after that we sang "If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands" and "Mr Noah built an ark", and we also did a dance called "The Cumberland Reel". After we had done our part of the entertainment, we had some tea and biscuits.

RUARAI DH.

SCHOOL TRIP - WILDLIFE PARK.

On Thursday, 14th June Invermoriston and Dalchreichart Schools went to Kincaig Wildlife Park. When we got there we had to drive around to see the deer, Highland cattle and bisons. Then we went to the car park.

When we stopped some of us got out to look at the animals in the walk-around and some stayed in the bus to have their packed lunch. At twenty past twelve, Mrs Johnson, Se... .., my Mum, Yvonne, Cameron, Gary, Alec and myself went into the ... .. for lunch.

We went to see the polecat, pinemarten, heron, foxes, bears, roe deer, badgers, snowy owl, buzzard (which was called Betsy), sea eagle, golden eagle, eagle owl, lynx, wolves, reindeer, wild goat, wild boars, otters, arctic fox, ducks, swans, geese, capercaillie, red grouse, black grouse, wild cat.

We had to be back at the bus at half past two because we were going to Kingussie to do some shopping. I got a present for my granny, Mum and Dad.

KIRSTEEN.

FORT AUGUSTUS SPORTS.

On Tuesday, 19th of June, Invermoriston School went to Fort Augustus School Sports. There were three girls in my class and so I only had to race them. I got third in the three-legged and second in the obstacle. I was in the 80 metres, and egg-and-spoon as well. I enjoyed myself, but it was a rather hot day, and my arms and face were sunburnt. I was glad to have an ice lolly afterwards.

YVONNE.

OUR SCHOOL SPORTS.

On Friday, the 22nd of June, we had our school sports. There was a sun out but it was very windy. In the morning we had to go down to the field and set out our courses. Then we went back to school. When it was time to go to the sports we got ready to do all these races:-

80m, Egg-and-Spoon, Skipping, Sack, Three-legged, Wheelbarrow, Long distance, Obstacle.

The infants did:-

the 80m, Egg-and-Spoon, Doggie, Sack, Backwards, Obstacle.

Then there was a Mothers' Race.

Here is a list of the things I came in:-

80 m. - 4th, Egg-and-Spoon - 2nd, Skipping - 2nd, Sack - 2nd, Three-legged - 1st, Wheelbarrow - 1st, Long distance - 4th and Obstacle - 4th.

When the sports were finished we came back to school for some juice and biscuits and the adults had tea and biscuits.

ANN.

# From The Churches

## CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

The months of June and July have produced more visitors than last year at this time. Our most recent morning service at time of writing had representatives from Scotland, England, Northern Ireland, France, Holland and Norway. Just too late for the service arrived a young lady from Denmark. All visitors are very welcome, but none can make up for those in the Glen for whom the Church is here to minister, and to whom visitors can come.

For our Summer Service of Holy Communion, which we are under the Highest orders to keep, that it might be an act of witness in the community and the world, we were visited by the Rev. James B. Torrance, Professor of Systematic Theology and Dean of the Faculty of Divinity at the University of Aberdeen. It might be remembered that at this year's General Assembly the office of Professor of Theology produced considerable controversy. At his evening service Professor Torrance shed some light upon this theme. We were charmed with his personality.

It is pleasant to report that the Manse Youth Group took up the challenge of Invermoriston School and went down and tidied up and cleaned out St. Columba's Well. It is pleasant too to recall lines written by the great poet, Samuel Taylor Coleridge:

"To walk together to the kirk  
And all together pray,  
While each to his great Father  
                        bends,  
Old men and babes and loving  
                        friends,  
And youths and maidens gay".

P.F.

## CHURCH NEWS & FREE CHURCH.

The Free Church in Glenmoriston had their Communion season from the 19th to 23rd of July. The date of the Communion had to be changed this year on account of the difficulty in finding visiting preachers during the holiday season.

On Thursday the services were conducted by Rev. George Dunnett, M.A. minister of Knockbain, who was here some years ago. The service on Friday was taken by the minister.

On Saturday, the preacher was Rev. Hugh Ferrier, minister of the Free North Church, Inverness. Mr Ferrier also preached on Sabbath and on Monday. The messages given were very solemn and heart-searching, and yet there was a note of rejoicing for those who were faithful.

The weather was quite favourable and representatives from the three congregations managed to attend the services, which were much enjoyed. J.F.

## ABBHEY CHURCH.

Father Andrew MacKillop sent us this news item. Fort Augustus Abbey are more than half-way towards their centenary project appeal target of £250,000. £140,000 has been received since the appeal was started by Lord Lovat last October and, it is hoped, that by June next year when the centenary celebrations commence our target should be reached.

The centenary project includes rebuilding the apse in the abbey church. Work has already commenced and should be completed by July 1981.

The Bryceson's historic organ is being remodelled and modernised and it should be returned and installed on the choir gallery by Christmas.

### PLAYGROUP OUTING.

A party of six mothers and about fifteen children set off in three cars about 11 a.m. on Friday, 13th July, to Glenelg for a picnic. The view from the top of Mam Ratagan was inspiring to the mums, if not to the children whose sights were set on the goodies they knew were to be consumed when the appointed spot was reached. The weather was grey and breezy and the food was eaten in record time behind the cars where there was some shelter from the on-shore wind, and the children then rushed down to the beach with buckets and spades. Their attention was much taken up with jellyfish stranded by the out-going tide. The wind was good too for flying a kite, but about half-past three the mums felt that they had endured the chilliness for long enough and, with the threat of rain in the air, they packed up and drove home with their lively cargo who seemed quite undaunted by any deficiencies of the weather.

### W.R.I.

On Monday, June 11th, about 20 members and friends had their annual outing to Inverness. We began our evening by being served a most enjoyable High Tea in the Tryst Restaurant. Afterwards we went to the Cummings Hotel Cabaret and thoroughly enjoyed being entertained by The Mariettes, Johnnie Egan, Colin Stuart, etc.

NOTE: The first meeting of next session is on Monday, Oct. 15th at 7.45 p.m. in the Hall, when Mr Kemp will be the speaker, and new members will be very welcome.

### L.H.S.

## FARMING

Hay-making is in progress as I write and the crops are good and heavy, and it is to be hoped can be secured in good order. All crops promise well - turnips in good leaf and barley coming away well. Grass is now plentiful and livestock thriving with all traces of the rigorous winter gone; unless perhaps the count of lambs is down. Store cattle are making the highest prices ever recorded and at the June sales Inverwick was well to the fore. Pony clubs are again in full swing and Amabel, Miranda and Iona Grant, with their ponies, are at summer camp at Dochfour. Again there is a Highland Col for Antombuic

### J.I.

# in brief

We...were pleased to learn of the birth of a daughter, Mairi Rhona, to John and Marion Rule (née McDonell) on 9th June ...and a son, Mark Donaldson, to Roy and Dorothy Marr on 6th July. We offer our best wishes to the families...

...and our congratulations to Norman and Nancy MacLeod on the birth of their son, Barry John, on 26th July, and welcome to the new youngest member of the community.

...At the Glengarry Games, held on 21st July, the Glenmoriston Ladies again entered a team, but in spite of hard training (on several occasions they pulled teams of disgraced local men) they were unable to hold a Glengarry Ladies team who, it seems, had an exceptionally "on" day.

...The Coast to Coast expedition has had to be postponed until next summer. Details nearer the time....

....the last meeting of the Fort Augustus/Glenmoriston Community Council took place on Tuesday, 26th June. Of those matters discussed, the main ones relating to Glenmoriston were: the footpath from the Pier to the Shop, progress on which is under way; the street lighting at Riverside Park, which will be in service in due course - hopefully by the winter; and the further mooting of a public telephone facility at Riverside Park.

A full report on the recent work of the Council will appear in the next issue of "Moriston Matters".

We have more goodbyes than usual to say in this issue. Jonathan Greene has left for London where he is taking a course in pottery; Ian and Kate Ferguson with Richard and Theresa are going to Tornagrain; Bob and Jill Tilford with Rachael and Martin are going to Inverness and Mrs Sclater is leaving for Norfolk where she will be near her sister. We will miss them all and we wish them Godspeed and a happy settling-in<sup>in</sup> their new homes.

## And Somewhat More Than 'In Brief'

In this issue, which makes special reference to the Clan Grant, it is interesting that the Grants of Dalchreichart Schoolhouse deserve particular mention. John has graduated from Glasgow University with a B.Sc. (first class honours) degree in Civil Engineering; Una won a special prize in Gaelic, also at Glasgow University (and is at present continuing her Gaelic studies practically while working in Isle Ornsay Hotel, the proprietor of which, the well-known Iain Noble, insists that his staff speak Gaelic); and Fiona was dux of Glenurquhart Secondary School. Congratulations to all three!

MR BRADSHAW, C/O TORGROYLE LODGE, GLENMORISTON would like to acquire articles that were used in the Glen, or elsewhere in the Highlands, e.g. cascrom, rutter and hack, cauldrons, small lamps, flat irons and other agricultural or household items, for a museum of bygone days in Nottingham. He would welcome donations or loans, or is willing to purchase.