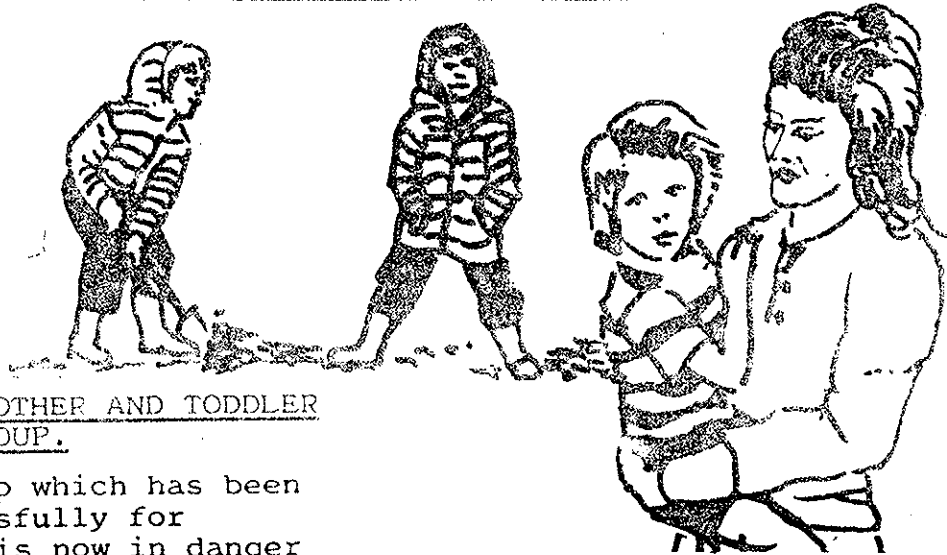




RICE 10p

NO 15 OCTOBER 1979



GLENMORISTON MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP.

The above group which has been running successfully for several years is now in danger of closing down. This is due entirely to lack of support. We have a varied selection of toys and books and ample funds, but are now down to three or four regular members.

The children benefit from mixing with the others and the eventual break from the family confines is not so traumatic if they are used to coming to playschool. Any suggestions from those of you who don't come, which would make it more attractive for you to attend would be welcome. Please let any of the following people know: Margaret Girvan, Catherine Grange, Nancy MacLeod or Wendy Tomlin.

Our problem seems to be that we only have "up the Glen" people attending. Is this because Dalchreichart School is too far from the village? On the other hand, it seems unfair to expect our "up the Glen" support to travel up to sixteen miles each way when they are the only ones who attend. Dundreggan is half way along the Glen and Dalchreichart three miles west of that. Another alternative is Bhlaraidh Shoot hut, which is three miles from the village. The Village Hall we know needs support and is another alternative.

It's up to you!

W.T.

# editorial

The next issue of "Moriston Matters" is the Christmas one, and while every other issue can be afforded a certain amount of leeway in date of issue, the Christmas issue cannot: it must be issued before the festive activities are well underway.

So may we please have contributions as soon as possible, before almost the ink on this issue, late again, has dried? Before November 24th would be acceptable.

Regarding the criticism of some aspects of recent issues, let us say that our policy - our underlying, 'raison d'être' policy - has been stated over and over again. Which is to reflect the community. Glenmoriston in particular, but, no community "being an island", pertinent aspects of neighbouring communities as well. To reflect through history, through recent events and through current activities and preoccupations.

So to say that "Moriston Matters" of late might as well be called "Grants Matters" is perhaps a shade unfair. In the first place: can it be denied that the Clan Grant of Glenmoriston has played some part in the history of Glenmoriston; can it be denied that Glenmoriston "Old Farm" is an enterprise of some local note? But the real problem is that because of the sheer practicalities of things we have to reflect the community - as events occur, of course - but also as contributions and publications come to hand.

This inevitably leads to apparent overemphasis. Perhaps a long look backwards over the series of issues published so far would demonstrate that no undue partiality is shown to any one sector.

The prizes in this issue are awarded to three young persons. The prize for creative writing has once again been shared; the prize for "young reportage" has been awarded so because in reporting on such an event the recipient showed initiative. There is ample scope in the Glen for such reporting.

The next prize for creative writing will be for an assigned topic - a poem or piece of prose or story beginning with these words: "Happiness is...."

Finally, it is coming near the time when what we might call the next phase of "Moriston Matters" should be decided. Perhaps a meeting for all those interested in its future might be arranged during the Christmas holidays.

Alternatively we would be open to receive suggestions for this next phase during the holiday period.

The Dr. Buchanan Memorial Projector is now available for use. For lack of space the arrangements for borrowing it have been held over till the next issue.

# Local Government.

at home and abroad.

## THE GERMAN CONNECTION.

One of the possible disadvantages envisaged with the reorganisation of local government was that smaller communities might be engulfed by larger ones. Whether this actually happens or not remains to be seen, but an unexpected bonus for Glenmoriston and other landward areas, now part of Inverness District, was the visit in September of the Oberburgermeister (Lord Provost) of Augsburg in Bavaria - a town that was twinned with the town of Inverness as long ago as 1956. The idea behind town-twinning is that towns of similar character from opposite sides of what twice in this century has been a line of hostilities should take a special interest in each other with exchange visits and other conscious efforts to establish a friendship that will make a positive contribution to the stability of Europe.

To this end the Oberburgermeister, Herr Hans Breuer, and other representative citizens interested in tourism, commerce, etc., spent five days in Inverness and were shown many aspects of life in and around the Highland capital. At the same time a party of Youth leaders from Augsburg was here, and a group of about a dozen cyclists who had covered the 1250 mile journey in eight days, advertising Inverness at each place where they stopped for the night. As Provost Fraser quoted in his speech of welcome, "life

begins at forty" - for their ages ranged from forty to fifty-one! The Youth Leaders visited Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston one afternoon and were keenly interested in the Scottish counterparts of the organisations they represented - Scouts, Boys' Brigade, etc - and they are preparing to welcome a party of Inverness young people to a camp next summer.

The District Council and the wives were hosts to these visitors at a dinner in the Station Hotel when the menu included Scotch Broth and Haggis, neeps and tatties with a dram. Provost Fraser in his speech referred to his visit to Augsburg earlier this year and the very kind welcome he had received, and Herr Breuer, whose translator, Frau Rutsche, spoke in perfect English, graciously replied, mentioning possible exchange visits by tourist parties, by school children and youth groups, by teachers and others, and stressed how important he felt it to be to hand on a tradition of friendship to the generations to come. He ended with a few sentences in English in which he referred to Robert Burns and quoted "My heart's in the Highlands".

To be part of an effort of this kind is a worthwhile experience and the evening was a memorable one if not indeed historic.

M.E.F.

# Community Council.

The following is a report on the 20.9.79 meeting of the Fort Augustus/Glenmoriston Community Council as concerning matters Glenmoriston.

## OLD CEANNACROC BRIDGE.

The secretary reported that the Dept. of Roads and Transport were trying to ascertain whose responsibility the bridge was.

It was suggested that if nothing was forthcoming, a band of local stalwarts be recruited to carry out the repairs. Another suggestion was that the Leisure and Recreation Job Creation Scheme may be able to organise something.

## THE TELEPHONE SERVICE.

The G.P.O. reported that improvements had been carried out on the Inverness Exchange which would improve the service here.

## INVERMORISTON CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA.

In reply to a letter from the secretary to the District Council asking for infant equipment for the play area, they replied that there were no funds available this year, but it would be considered in next year's estimates. They also reported that the grass would be cut very soon. This sparked off some heated comments about the grass not being cut properly this summer, with reports that an elephant could be hidden in the field. It was asked that the Council ensure that grass-cutting be done on a regular basis.

## GLENMORISTON FOOTPRINTS.

There was an attempt made at repairing the damage done to the footprints. This work was later undone by some over-zealous person who sent an anonymous phone call to the superintendent of the Parks Department saying that he would destroy any future work done, as he considered this a desecration of holy ground.

It was unanimously agreed that the Council would support repair work still tried by the Parks Department.

N. MacL.



The footprints as they looked about 30 years ago.

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From the newsletter, "Craigellachie", which we  
reviewed in our last issue.

'A Report by Seumas Mor Grant,  
Director of the Speyside Institute  
for Non-Essential Studies  
(S.I.N.S.)

It has been noted many times that whenever Scots meet, whether at Clan Gatherings, or in one-to-one blathering fests, there exists among them an unique cordiality, unlike anything experienced by any other group of people. In making their inquiry into this phenomenon, the S.I.N.S. researchers found that Scottish inter-relationships were not always characterised by peace and joy, but at times got downright "kinky".

During the 14th century, the Scots had just fought a war of independence, and, with the exception of a little bad blood between the Highlanders and Lowlanders, things were pretty good. Under King Robert employment was up, the G.N.P. was growing, and inflation was tolerable, even though King Robert complained about whale-oil moguis "ripping the people off". Nevertheless, in keeping with the inexorable destiny of man, Robert "bought the farm" in 1329. That is when things began to get rotten.

Robert was succeeded by several flakey kings who did not know from zilch about "kinging". Soon mischief became the national pastime which developed rapidly into world-class vandalism for those who would train hard. One of the worst was one king's own son, Alexander, Earl of Buchan, known as the "Wolf of Badenoch".

He was called Wolf - not for hanging out at the drive-in, whistling at girls, but for sacking the towns of Elgin and Forres. He also burned the Cathedral of Moray which was definitely a big fat No-No. The Cathedral was not your ordinary Sunday-Go-To-Meeting Church. To the clergy it was to bingo what Wimbledon is to tennis.

As a father Alex was no prize winner either. He taught his son the manly art of pillaging at an early age. With other vandals, he plundered Glenisla, sending the local Sheriff to boot-hill with a spear through his spleen. A Latin scholar who witnessed the killing was heard to say, "Sic pilum iactum est", or words to that effect.

After too many years of evil and crime, clan chiefs finally gave this type of entertainment an "R" rating and decided to close the show. They decided to round up all the miscreants, read them their rights, string them up, and if that didn't work....they would try something drastic. As a consequence, one morning in 1434, Sir Duncan of Freuchie got up, donned his kilt, argyles, and hush-puppies, kissed his lady "good-bye" and said, "I'm off to Craigellachie, and I won't be back until things get better!" From that day on things around Strathspey began to get better.

Addendum: S.I.N.S. realizes that some readers might find

cont. from previous page.

this report difficult to believe. They are reminded that the thrust of the investigation was on the Scots' cordiality - not their veracity. One definitive fact was revealed however. The literal translation of "Sic pilum iactum est" is "Thus the spear is thrown," or as more freely translated by an ancient Roman policeman, "That's why a cop is never around when you need one!"

Note: We remind our readers of the comment, quoted in the last issue of "Moriston Matters", which one of Seumas Mor Grant's previous reports earned: "My worst fears were realized upon reading the effort of Seumas Mor...in the last issue. ...His portrayal of true fact is questionable, but nevertheless, he is one of us...much to our collective consternation".

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ANOTHER VERSION OF THE 23RD PSALM.

"THE LORD IS MY PILOT".

Exactly 100 years ago, John Roberts, a seafaring man, who was also a God-fearing one, sat down and wrote his own version of the 23rd Psalm, "The Lord's My Shepherd".

In nautical language, he began with "The Lord is my Pilot".

This is what Captain Roberts wrote in 1874:

The Lord is my pilot, I shall not drift.  
He lighteth me across the dark waters,  
He steereth me in deep channels,  
He keepeth my log.  
He guideth me by the star of Holiness for his name's sake.  
Yet though I sail 'mid the thunders and tempests of life,  
I will dread no danger, for Thou art near me,  
Thy love and Thy care they shelter me,  
Thou preparest a harbour before me  
In the homeland of eternity.  
Thou anointest the waters with oil,  
My ship rideth calmly,  
Surely sunlight and starlight shall favour me  
On the voyage I take,  
And I shall rest in the port of the Lord for ever.

From: THE PEOPLES JOURNAL.

# Schools

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The September meeting of Glenurquhart Secondary School Council was held at Dalchreichart School, very nicely hosted by Mrs. M. Grant. The Council visits all feeder schools in rotation for its meetings, thus getting a little local flavour and knowledge into its bones. Two important new members were introduced at this meeting, the new Assistant Divisional Education Officer, Mr Donald MacDonald, and the new Headmaster of Glenurquhart, Mr Alan Maxwell. Amongst other business of an administrative nature, two interesting items were discussed, one, the lack of visiting specialist teachers in the area for Music, Art and P.E.: the other a resolution recommending the formation of a Parent-Teacher Association for the school.

Mr Maxwell, previously Assistant Head at Fortrose Academy, and a science specialist, is very interested in the role that "smaller" schools have to play in our society. It is a fact that the huge backing the parents gave the school in its fight to exist and the obvious local need made the post which Mr Maxwell has taken all the more desirable to him. He says that the only way ahead is with the parents' involvement and within a community that cares. In many ways he feels small schools have more to offer on an individual basis and are undervalued in the general educational trends of today.

A married man, living in Fortrose, he has 3 children, one on the way to University this term, 2 others in 1st and 5th years at Fortrose Academy, and a wife who is a radiologist locally.

We all wish Mr Maxwell success, and I'm sure I speak for all parents with children at his school from this glen when I say that we will give him our utmost support to uphold and improve the school of Glenurquhart.

M.A.T.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS.

The Autumn Term School Council Meeting was held at Fort Augustus Secondary School on Tuesday, Sept. 18th with Mr Murray officiating for the last time due to his recent promotion to Regional Education Officer.

Representatives from Fort Augustus, Invermoriston and Invergarry were present.

Early in the meeting it was proposed that Mrs Nicholson, head teacher of Invermoriston School, should be co-opted onto the Council and that Mr Alexander, head teacher of Invergarry School, should replace the recently retired Mrs Gregory. This proposal received unanimous agreement.

The two main matters for discussion at the meeting were the proposed School Calendar for 1980/81 and corporal punishment in our schools today.

The Council put forward the recommendation for a calendar which proposed a slightly longer Easter holiday with 2 casual holidays for allocation during session.

The very general discussion on corporal punishment confirmed the Highland Region's policy of retaining the belt for use only in the most extreme cases of violation of school rules and for it

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to be used very rarely in Junior schools. Mr Murray reminded us that it was against the Region's policy to use it in cases of poor work or late attendance at school.

There followed a very interesting talk by Mr McIntyre, the Art Adviser for the Highland Region.

Mr Woolley, the Chairman, thanked all those attending that evening and Mr.P.Fraser closed the meeting with a prayer.

L.N.

#### INVERMORISTON SCHOOL.

The new session opened with a roll of 9 pupils. Once again Mrs Alison MacDonald will be our visiting teacher of Art on alternate Tuesday afternoons, and in addition we are pleased to welcome Miss Jennifer Thomson for needlework instruction.

We would like to thank all who contributed to our 'Sunny Smiles' collection, which raised £8.35 for the National Children's Homes.

We would also thank everyone who supported the Coffee Evening and Sale held in the school on Monday, 24th Sept., which realized the sum of £55.58. It was particularly gratifying to know that so many former pupils were willing to help us out.

M.L.N.

#### SUMMER SCHOOL - AUG.7th - 28th.

There were 20 students in all from five countries, Belgium, France, West Germany, Switzerland and Spain. Actually one was from West Berlin, and it was interesting to hear her speak of the underlying tension that was in the city all the time, because of the presence of the Russians. It was not considered good policy to show any sign of tension, or even to speak of it.

The students enjoyed their stay, especially sailing on Loch Ness, and some hill-walking. The weather was extremely bad, but this did not seem to affect their enjoyment very much - although they could only use the swimming pool once. They had excursions to Aviemore, Cawdor Castle, exhibition of Highland Dancing from Mrs Henderson's School of Dancing, lecture on the Loch Ness Monster from Tim Dinsdale, a wonderful show of slides from Bill Owen and a Harp and Violin recital from Mrs MacKenzie, Sacha and Jaimie.

The senior students also spent a weekend on Skye, which they appreciated very much.

There will be a Day of Renewal on Saturday, October 20th, in Fort Augustus Secondary School, beginning at 10 a.m. and ending about 4 p.m. All are welcome.

Father Andrew.



# Freedom

## FREEDOM.

Freedom is a great thing, enjoyed by young and old,  
To walk out o'er the hillside, or by the river rushing bold,  
To stalk the red deer roaming all across the glen,  
To be watching for the vixen, high up in its den.

Can these things that I've mentioned be enjoyed by one and all,  
Or are they guarded jealously by a rich man, slim and tall?

Freedom is a great thing, for folks like you and me,  
To walk about the country, enjoying all there is to see,  
To come upon a lochan, full of trout, at break of day,  
To wander in the evening, to smell the new-mown hay.

But are those things for us, the likes of me and you,  
Or are they kept exclusively for just the noble few?

Freedom is a great thing, a gift from God to man,  
So please let us enjoy it as long as e'er we can.  
Let those who try to own us open up their hearts,  
Let us wander freely in long forgotten parts.

Surely all the rich men know, nature is for all,  
For the giants of this world, and also for the small.

A. and H.G.

# Environment

I think that we should keep  
the river clean because of  
the fish and because not many  
glens in Britain have such a  
good river. It is good to  
know that our Community Coun-  
cil is helping to look after  
our historical old bridges.  
If you look at the Invermor-  
iston Old Bridge you can see  
that the stonework is rapidly  
disappearing. It's not just  
the tourists, it's the people  
from the towns around. I  
think that we should look  
after our bridges.

CAMERON.

All the creatures in the wood,  
Rabbits, foxes, squirrels and  
birds

Flying, playing,  
Having fun.  
Some trees are big,  
Some trees are small,  
And at night  
The moon shines bright,  
Wild animals jumping high,  
Flowers grow small,  
Rabbits play in their holes,  
Playing with acorn balls  
And throwing berries to the  
sky.

FIONA MACADAMS.

# CHURCH NEWS

## CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

This year brings the retiral of our missionary partner, Dr. Winifred Bailey of N.M.Wadia Hospital, North India. Herself a daughter of famous missionaries to India, Dr. Bailey early in her career was struck by polio. Nevertheless, with Christian heroism she persevered, to become one of the most notable medical missionaries of the twentieth century. Having served since 1946, at the General Assembly of 1979 she was received with the sustained acclaim of all present and thanked by the Moderator for her great work.

Hopefully, with the appointment of our new missionary partner, Miss Marion Martin, R.G.N., the first bright tidings of the new period into which we are now moving, come. Miss Martin has been posted to the Family Life Centre, Madras, South India. Already on September 9th, she has seized a holiday opportunity at Church and Sunday School to pay us an impressive visit.

Our final visit from Dr. Bailey is planned to take place on Sunday, October 21st. Remembering the command of the King and Head of the Church to "go into all the world", can we in our own ways emulate the General Assembly of 1979? That would be most richly deserved and an inspiration to all.

P.F.

## WOMAN'S GUILD.

The ladies of the Woman's Guild arranged another Flower Festival in the Church at the beginning of August, depicting this year some of the stories of the Old Testament - Moses and the burning bush, Joseph

and his coat of many colours, Ruth in the cornfield, David and Goliath and Solomon in all his glory. As the Old Testament looks forward to the New so the visitor's thoughts were carried on by a series of illuminated texts round a floral cross at the front of the church to the fullness of 'I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end'. Many old friends as well as holiday-makers from all over the world came to the festival and saw the beauty of the flowers (almost all grown locally in spite of the apparent lack of summer weather) recalling the old stories in a fresh way. Teas were served and at the end of three days church funds had benefitted by over £200. On the following day, Sunday, August 5th, the morning service was held in the still decorated church, providing a fitting climax to the ladies' efforts.

M.E.F.

## A SUNDAY SCHOOL TRIP.

The 25th of August was a bright sunny morning when our Sunday School went on a walk which was a very good opportunity to get together. We were going to go up the mountain, Wee Binnilidh, and have a picnic half way up. A week previously Mr and Mrs Fraser and their daughter Helen, Tricia, Gary, Cameron, Robbie, Karen Cowie, Claire, Amanda and myself decided we would climb up Wee Binnilidh.

We all met at the chalet at half past one and had a chat. Then we set off at 2 o'clock with no Amanda. Helen stayed behind and waited for her at

the gate while the rest of us started off up the mountain. We stopped at a marsh and watched the ants in a column climbing up the trees. Then we heard voices and Helen and Amanda arrived. We continued as a party up the mountain and we stopped at 4 o'clock and ate our picnic. We were all very pleased with the drinks we had brought, and crisps were very tasty. We had at least half-an-hour's rest, but then Mr Fraser remembered he had put his stick somewhere. He came back after quite a while, having not found it, but very hot. We then went up the mountain. A few more stops were necessary because (a) it was raining, (b) the little ones were getting tired. We got half way up when Claire and Robbie were too tired to go on, so they, and Mrs Fraser, headed for home. By this time we were all rather weary, but Tricia, Brodie, Cameron and myself went via the rocks, followed by Gary, while Amanda, Helen, Karen Cowie and Mr Fraser went up the shoulder of the mountain, and we all arrived on the top very wet but pleased.

I immediately got out my hot tea. And all of us, including Mr Fraser's party, had a refreshing drink before setting off down to the bottom. We all got home safely but NOT HOME AND DRY, BUT HOME AND WET!!

On our return we had a lovely hot cup of tea which we all appreciated. All of us had a good playtime. Then it was time to go home. It was an exciting day, and such a glorious morning to get us all going! I enjoyed it, I hope everyone else did.

KAREN TOMLIN.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL WALK.

Glenmoriston and Invermoriston Sunday Schools met at the Tomlins for they were going up the hill behind. There were about eleven people. The youngest was Karen Cowie, who is only four years old. They all had some food and some drink and the weather was fine. On the way up we found some white heather and a few of us took a little for luck. There were only three people who didn't get up, Claire Tomlin and Robbie Cowie and Mrs Fraser, who was looking after them. When we got down we were all very tired and I had wet trousers because I was sliding down the hill on my raincoat because Karen Cowie's legs were sore, so I gave her a lift.

A.G.

## The Historical Glen.

Dalchreichart Sub Post Office, after more than half a century of existence, ceased to operate on the 6th of October, 1978. It was closed by the Head Post Office in Inverness when the then Sub Postmaster, Mrs Nancy MacLeod, moved to Tor Aluinn and, as the Post Office considered the new location would not be a suitable site for a Sub Office, resigned the post.

Dalchreichart Post Office was set up in the early 1920's as a postal delivery Office, and became a post office because in those days such had to be established wherever a postman was based. And so now Hamish has added "Dalchreichart Sub Postmaster" to his multifarious duties as Glen postman.

Some of the older inhabitants of the Glen will remember the early incumbents of Dalchreichart Sub Post Office in its various locations throughout the years, and of course the recent ones still live in the community. The earliest Sub Postmaster was Archie MacPherson, from, as far as can be ascertained from "unofficial" records, the early 1920's to the 1930's. There follow then two lengthy spells: Mr MacPhee from the '30's until 1947 and Mrs Margaret Warren from April 1947 to March 1959. Mrs Jean Watson, wife of the then Torgoyle Forester, served until November 1962. Then in succession came Mrs Margaret McDonnell (62-69), Mrs Christina MacLeod (69-72), Norman MacLeod (72-75) and, as said, Mrs Nancy MacLeod until it was closed.

The Postmen (the men and women "on the beat", so to speak), who covered the "Up the Glen" round from Ivy Cottage to Tomchrasky (including Inverwick, and Inchmore when the Post Office was situated there) are also well-known. When Willie MacPhee became Postmaster on the death of Archie MacPherson, he still did the postman's round, leaving his wife to look after the Office. During his last illness Peggy Fraser from Ivy Cottage did the round for a few months. When Mrs Warren took over the Post Office in 1947 Jimmy became postman and carried on for about 14 years, until he joined the Hydro Board. Then Rebecca MacDonald delivered the mails, using her own moped to help her cover the miles latterly, until on May 1st, 1970, Hamish was supplied with a van and covered the whole Glen to Cluanie.

The Office was located variously throughout the years. When Archie MacPherson kept the

Post Office it was an annexe to the house now occupied by Prof. and Mrs Edwardes (Old Post Office House) between the house and the road. Mr MacPhee conducted business from his house - the east end of Lizart Cottage now occupied by Mr and Mrs Curley. Then the Post Office operated as follows: from the back of Dalchreichart Farm House (Mrs Warren); from the back of Torgoyle Lodge (Mrs Watson); from the porch of Inchmore (Mrs McDonnell); from Dalchreichart Farm House again (Mrs MacLeod); from Inchmore again (Norman MacLeod); and latterly from Nancy's caravan at Dalchreichart.

In deciding to close Dalchreichart Sub Post Office the Head Post Office took into account the volume of business and some of the statistics may interest readers:-

Retirement pensions	
cashed	- 5 a week.
Family allowances	
cashed	- 9 a week.
Postage stamps sold	
(including those put	
on parcels, etc -	£10 a week.
the average cost	
per parcel - £1)	
Postal orders	
issued	- 7 a week.
Postal orders	
paid	- 6 a year.

But, of wider interest, the Post Office emphasised that "the amount of business transacted" was "not by any means the sole criterion for keeping a Post Office open", that "the adverse impact closures would have on the public" was also taken into account.

(We are indebted for information supplied by the Head Post Office, Inverness, Mrs Kay Grant, wife of Mr Willie Grant and formerly Kay Warren, and others).

# OOR WULLIE

A MUSICAL COMEDY FOR ALL THE FAMILY

On Monday the 17th September, Mr and Mrs Fraser took the youth group to see Oor Wullie at Eden Court Theatre. The acting was done very well and the sketches were very funny. Transport was provided by Mr Fraser, Mrs Grange and Mrs Service. "Oor Wullie" was enjoyed by all and we would like to thank all those who made it possible for us to go.

L.S.S.

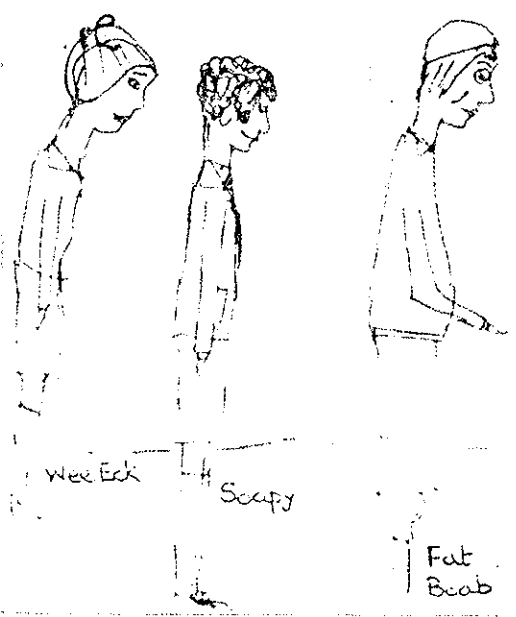
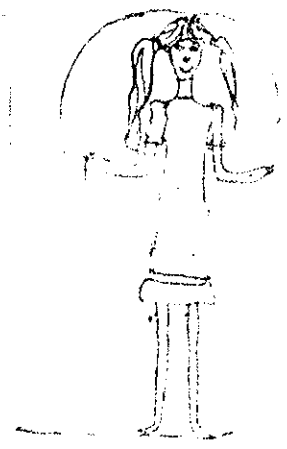
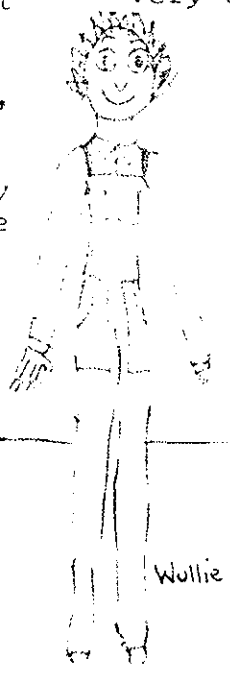
On 17th of September, the Manse Youth Club went to Eden Court to see 'Oor Wullie'. It was good, but I could not keep up with what Wullie said because he spoke so fast. I liked Fat Boab best because I could tell what he said, he had a good voice and he acted very well.

Our transport was Mr and Mrs Fraser's car and Mrs Service car and my mum's caravanette. After the show mum took her load to get some chips. It was a very enjoyable day.

A.G.

On the 17th September, I went to see "Oor Wullie". It was very good. In it were 12 people. Wullie, Ma, Pa, Bob, Soapy, Eck, Primrose, P.C. Murdoch, two Bullies, Basher Bates, Painter. Nearly every one in it had a song. In the last scene Wullie made up a play. It was very good. Of all I liked Wee Eck best. He was played by Claire Dow, and she acted very very well.

YVONNE SERVICE.



# The Moriston Matters

## Prize for creative writing

### COLOURS.

Autumn is a colourful time,  
Golden yellow as well as brown,  
Watch the leaves falling,  
Free landing on fields,  
All red and green.  
Then comes the wind again,  
Blowing the leaves here and  
there  
Like a dancer's golden hair.

GARY.

### AUTUMN COLOURS.

Brown, red, green and yellow.  
The wind is harsh!  
They sit in clumps,  
The wind comes,  
The leaves start to take-off,  
Swirling, whirling all around.  
Up high in the sky  
The wind is slowing down,  
And they fall out of the sky,  
Fluttering, slowly twirling  
round,  
As they fall to the ground  
Making carpet of Autumn Colours  
Brown, red, green and yellow.

CAMERON.

### AND OTHER ENTRIES.

### AUTUMN.

Autumn has come,  
The leaves start to fall,  
All colours,  
Red, yellow, orange, gold.  
People look at the leaves and  
blending heather,  
Children look for fallen  
conkers,  
In the park people kick at  
coloured leaves...  
I like Autumn.

KIRSTEEN.

### AUTUMN.

See the Autumn leaves,  
One, two, three,  
All around they form a wall  
Around the lonely tree.  
All around the trees are bare,  
And in the sky the wind does  
howl,  
And all the trees wish it was  
fair.  
The WEATHER, yes, is very foul.

YVONNE.

# The Moriston Matters

## prize for young reportage

### A SHOOT.

There was a Shoot held at Bhlaraidh on Saturday, 15th September. It was sponsored by Famous Grouse Whisky. There were about 60 guns and 80 people. The ball-trap was going as well as down-the-line traps. Most of the local people won prizes. John Morgan was taking photographs of people who won prizes. It was warm till about 3o'clock, then it got chilly. About 5 o'clock, everybody went home.

JOHN MCDONELL.

### SENIOR CITIZENS' OUTING.

On Tuesday, 28th August the young ones sixty and over had their Annual Outing, leaving Invermoriston at approximately 1 p.m. Our first stop was at Beaully where the Rev. Mr Fraser hopped off the bus and left the details of the menu for our evening meal to be partaken on the return journey.

We then journeyed on to Dingwall and had a short spell there window-shopping, etc., then on to Ainess where we were met by Mr and Mrs Rodger formerly of Glenmoriston Shop. After quite a shopping expedition in the Store where Mr Rodger is manager, we said our "Goodbyes" and really felt there was a wistful look and a yearning to be back in the Glen. We then boarded the bus for our return journey, which took us over

the new bridge across the Cromarty Firth - really very pleasant and beautiful scenery. With the usual skill of our driver, Mr Prosser of Fort Augustus, we crossed the Cromarty Firth safely, and proceeded to Beaully, where we had an excellent meal preceded by a 'wee drammie' with the compliments of the Proprietor. Indeed a very nice gesture, for which Mr Smart returned thanks.

On the last lap of our journey we were entertained by singing from Mrs Sey, Mrs. T. Fraser and Rebecca Macdonald.

Our guests, Mrs Swan's friend known to us all as Aunt Lizzie, 92 years old, and Mrs Ross of Whitley Bay, enjoyed the outing immensely.

Altogether a very successful day.

T.G.

# *in brief*

## DARTS.

The Darts Competition held in the Castle Bar in Forres on Saturday, 22nd September was very well attended. Invermoriston Public Bar was represented by Tommy MacKenzie in the Singles and Margaret Smart and Leonard Grant in the Mixed Doubles. Although we lost we were by no means disgraced and hope by the experience to do better the next time we enter.

A LITTLE MORE SUPPORT WOULD GO A LONG WAY.

M.S.

## T.V. CLUB.

A good time was had by over 150 at a dance held in the Village Hall on Friday, 24th August. Music was by the BUCKBOARDS. Profit to the Club funds was £85.00

NEXT DANCE IS ON 16TH NOVEMBER - BUCKBOARDS AGAIN. COME ALONG AND ENJOY YOURSELF.

M.S.

M.R.J.

## W.R.I.

In August, the Committee had their annual Cancer Research Collection, when the grand sum of £62.80 was realised. Many thanks to all who gave so generously.

L.H.S.

## COUNTRY DANCING.

It is proposed to have a Scottish Country Dancing class in the Hall, as was held some years ago. The first meeting is to be on Wednesday, October 17th, at 7.30 p.m. and all will be welcome.

We have several more goodbyes to say in this issue.

.....to Alec and Maureen Hutchison and Stephen who now live in Fort Augustus, and in whose place at the Fish Farm we welcome back to the community Tony and Jane Talbot with Daniel.....

.....to Mr and Mrs Bolam who, having done their stint in the Youth Hostel very pleasantly, have now returned to Yorkshire.....

.....to Neil and Dorothy Bird and Fiona, who have gone to Dochfour....

.....to Kenny and Marie MacLennan and Alexander, who now have a house in Inverness. We wish them all happiness in their new spheres.

We also welcome Mrs Rutherford and her daughter, Rosemary, who have come to The Firs from Essex....

.....Mrs Reeves, who has taken up residence in Laundry Cottage Ceannacroc...

.....and Mike Gilboy who has come to work in Glenmoriston to Gold & Silversmiths.

We hope they will soon feel at home amongst us, and to Georgie Bann and the McDonnell family, now returned to the old home at Redpark, we also offer our best wishes.

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