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## GETTING INTO PRINT

A very interesting conference/seminar was held in Inverness on the 24th and 25th of March, 1982. Called "Getting Into Print", it covered the entire spread of matters connected with community newspapers (such as "Moriston Matters") produced and printed in the Highlands and Islands. It was organised by the Federation of Highlands and Islands Councils of Social Service and the Scottish Council of Social Service. The topics ranged from the philosophy which lies behind the idea of a community newspaper to the bread and butter practicalities and nitty gritty of "Getting (it) Into Print". The delegates, among whom was Mrs Fraser of "Moriston Matters" who adds her own comments to this report, were able to learn about the histories of other newspapers, exchange views and hear the first hand know-how of a number of expert speakers.

"Moriston Matters" has no less than twenty five siblings, twenty five sister publications. They range, geographically from the Outer Hebrides through Glenmoriston to Elgin, from the Shetlands and Orkneys through Glenmoriston to Bute and they range in "finish" from the polished professionally produced "Nort About" of a big community like Shetland to the more homespun, but no less valid, "Moriston Matters" of a small community like Glenmoriston.

It is encouraging that such a conference could be held, showing such healthy expressions of community life and spirit. And it is

perhaps opportune for "Moriston Matters", for it puts the spotlight on us. We are still at the crossroads. So where do we go?

One of the aspects dealt with at the conference was financing community papers. So: do we attempt to be self-financing, or do we apply for assistance?

Related to this is format. It is essential that any publication finds a settled, familiar format (although experimenting is important, too). This time we are going to try a combination of photocopy and gestetner (Mrs Fraser's suggestion emanating from the conference). This seems feasible and could well be an answer.

Another problem to be overcome is regularity of issue, and perhaps frequency of issue (although six a year seems about right for us). But it is better that it should be regularly issued.

Mrs Fraser's comments on the "Getting Into Print" conference:-

The conference was very helpful. Community newspapers and magazines are springing up all over the country in many different shapes and sizes, and it was interesting to see how each in its own situation is grappling with the same problems - amateur production, a shoe-string budget, deadlines to be met, public response and so on. Many and varied ideas were set in front of us, although, of course, not all were equally applicable to all the

publications. The Council of Social Service and the Highlands & Islands Development Board are very interested in this recent manifestation of community awareness, seeing in it a valuable contribution to social history, and everyone present felt that their effort in staging the conference had been well worth while. One of the speakers pointed out that you never hear of a local paper collapsing - so take heart, and keep sending in the contributions!

#### EDITORIAL.

This editorial should be considered along with the report on the recent conference on community newspapers in Inverness (see front page).

The editor of "Moriston Matters" has to say that he is obliged to discontinue the editorship. He does so with considerable reluctance and regret. There are two reasons.

First, it is unrealistic that the editor of a magazine that serves a community should not live in the place. Until recently, when he was coming to the Glen quite often and staying there for some time, his being editor was realistic, or reasonably so. But now (it is not practicable, for some time at least, that he can come so often nor stay for so long.

It is better that at this time a new editor should take over, one who is on the spot, or near the spot, who is in touch with the readers, who is in the position of being sensitive to the community. The present editor is not now in this position.

The second reason is pressure of work and lack of time. He has become involved in the kind of extra-curricular activities that, having been built up, have to be developed. For some time now in fact he has been finding it more difficult to deal with the demands of the magazine. The trouble about doing too much is that you end up by not doing justice to anything.

The present editor, therefore, can undertake one more issue, but not any more.

He is completely confident, however, that "Moriston Matters" can carry on. There is a good team in Invermoriston, and Mrs Fraser, whose work on the magazine has been nothing short of prodigious, lives nearby.

He is also willing of course to help in any way in the future - in advice (such as it's worth) and in contributing.

A few more remarks will be made in the next, his last editorial.

#### ADVERTISING.

"Moriston Matters" has decided to open up its pages to adverts. We have been doing so already, but not to any great extent.

All "community announcements" will be free. This includes display ads (for functions, etc.) should any organisation, club, etc, wish one.

SMALL ADS. 5p per word, 50p minimum.

BOXED ADS. 10p per word, £1 minimum.

DISPLAY ADS Full page - £7.50  
Half page - £4.00  
Qtr. page - £2.50  
Series rates - every third, free.

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Can anyone give a home to an old piano? Not perfect, but suitable perhaps for child/learner.

Call Invermoriston School (51259)

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REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS.COUNCILLOR MACKENZIE....

I am offering myself for re-election to the Highland Regional Council on Thursday 6th May 1982 because I think I may still be of some service to the people of our Division.

I have lived in the Division (Fort Augustus, Glenmoriston, Glen Urquhart, Abriachan and West Inverness) practically all my life, and should by now know its problems.

Parts of our area are still deficient in basic services such as water, drainage and adequate access roads, and most of our schools were built last century.

Regular employment is still a need for many of our people - too many depend on seasonal work in tourism or construction contracts, and our wage levels are well below the national average. Our young people have still to leave the glens to get jobs compatible with their talents and education.

Our roads - such as our main artery from Fort William to Inverness, the A82 - are unsuitable for the 1980s. Our village services such as post office, grocer's shop, filling station and garage, are always under pressure to close down. Our 'bus services' are too expensive and infrequent to be of real value to our people.

Since 1974 we have had one top-tier council for the Highlands to place our needs and problems before Central Government, instead of the several county and town councils of the past, who often spent more time disagreeing with each other rather than presenting a united front.

I would like to serve on the Highland Regional Council for another term if the electorate feel sufficient confidence in me.

(Sgd) A.W.MacKenzie,  
Blairbeg,  
Drumnadrochit.

COUNCILLOR PATERSON.....

Hello,

My name is Pat Paterson. With your help I can be your new Regional Councillor.

I'm a 48-year-old Highlander, born in Sutherland and educated at Dingwall Academy. I'm married with three children still at school and have lived in the Great Glen for 20 years.

My working life has been in the construction industry and this type of work has brought me into contact with people from all walks of life and has given me an insight into people's problems and priorities.

This experience led me to join Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council - and the urge to get things done led me to become an Inverness District Councillor two years ago.

The Regional Council has consistently ignored the wishes of the people of this area over a wide range of issues and this is why I put myself forward for your consideration. The kind of issues I want are -

Better Planning - Easing of restrictions in housebuilding, home extensions and new development - and a cash injection to revitalise the development of the smaller, neglected communities.

Better Transport - More maintenance on existing roads and a speedier start to major roadworks - a transport policy reflecting the wishes of the community and no cuts or changes in bus timetables or service.

Better Social Aid - More cash to help the care of the elderly and the sick.

Better Education - No school to be closed against the wishes of the local community - and the swift implementation of the Parents Charter.

Better Tourism - A more imaginative and comprehensive attitude to the vital tourist industry - and the preservation of the environment of the area by measures such as the speeding-up of sewage reception stations on the Caledonian Canal.

Better Leisure and Recreation - Improved and enhanced facilities for all ages.

My strong views on these and other issues have made me feel that a change is required. New ideas, a new approach and new enthusiasm are needed - and, with your support on 6th May, these objectives can be achieved.

Thank you, Braevar,  
PAT PATERSON, Fort Augustus

COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

The following is a report of the Community Council Meeting held in December and on Tuesday, March 30th, when the following matters were debated:-

1. Invermoriston water supply - when the Council heard from the authorities how they dealt with water shortages as they occurred in the village, Local councillors, Bob Watson and Pat MacDonald, made the meeting aware of the extent of the taste pollution caused by the gas intended for purification. It seemed unlikely that an alternative water supply would or could be sought.
2. Road Hazards. Mr Ewen Grant drew the attention of the meeting to the hazards evident on two stretches of road. One, a protruding boulder in Glenmoriston which easily precipitates unsuspecting vehicles into the ditch, and the other, the Allt'saigh - Fasach stretch, which is a project apparently left in abeyance by the SDD at the moment. Mr Grant claimed that many stretches of the A82 south of Drumnadrochit are dangerous for commercial vehicles, forcing them to take to the middle of the road in order to avoid overhanging trees and branches. (There was some difference of opinion between Mr Grant and Mr Girvan regarding commercial vehicles and the A82 which was conducted in a good-humoured way.)
3. Christmas trees. Mr.P.MacDonald asked if the villages could choose to have a tree or a sum of money for the village's use. Mr Paddy Paterson (District Councillor) indicated that the money had been allocated for trees and would, for this year at least, be so spent. At a hand show the meeting decided it wanted to maintain its trees. The Invermoriston councillors made it clear that they supported the idea of a tree but had wondered at the cost and had hoped to encourage debate as to how that money might be used.

out on a notable double victory by the closest of margins. Grateful thanks from the author to all who provided refreshments at such short notice!  
The club has now closed for the summer, but it is hoped to recommence sometime in October. T.R.F.

Mrs.B.Murray informed those present that Highland Helpcall had now raised £756. Her wish was that the money would soon be working for the benefit of the community.

Petrol price differentials was an item on the agenda which clearly exasperated councillors. In an area dependent on petrol some price differences seemed beyond explanation. The meeting heard that Colonsay motorists have to pay £2 for a gallon, and was informed of the near economic impossibility of a tanker from an Inverness depot supplying this Glen's petrol more cheaply (to its residents).

Continuing on the theme of nationwide pricing, Mr Ian Grant, Glenmoriston drew the meeting's attention to beer prices which are averaged in order that a pint in Central London is no cheaper than the same measure in the Isle of Skye.

A television club to serve the 'very top' of Glenmoriston has applied, through the Council, for a grant from the HADB, which will enable six houses to receive television transmissions.

Glenmoriston councillors were also anxious that the footpath promised to its inhabitants should be expeditiously provided at what is a main road leading from a busy junction.

Accounts were presented for examination by the Treasurer, Mr Peter Woolley.

The next meeting is to be in June.

BADMINTON CLUB.

On Tuesday 20th April, in the Hall, Glenmoriston and Stratherrick Badminton Clubs took to the court to do battle, and when the dust settled at the end of the match, lo and behold, Glenmoriston had clocked up a resounding victory of 11 - 3. Thanks to our opponents for a lively and sporting match and we look forward to the return later in the year.

To all members of the team, well done, especially our two juniors, Tricia and Kirsteen whose games were probably the most absorbing of the whole evening and who missed

THE FORESTRY COMMISSION.

(Sung to "The British Grenadiers")

Some people talk of Mitchells,\*  
Of all the deeds they've done,  
And others sing of Logans  
And glory they have won.  
But Britain's greatest workers  
For solid, sound tradition,  
And skill so rare that none can compare,  
Are the Forestry Commission.

With OFFICER\* and FRASER\*  
MACKENZIE\* of Torgoyle,  
Trees burst forth in full splendour,  
Give but one grain of soil.  
When you're so tired that you're half dead  
And fall down on the floor,  
They've skill so rare that none can compare,  
To make you plant some more.

The marksmen of the Nation  
At Bisley had their fling;  
They met in full formation  
To shoot before the King.  
MACMILLAN was the last man out,  
To take up his position,  
So sharp he shot that he beat the lot  
For the Forestry Commission.

When'er there's any mention  
Of new progressive skill,  
And wonderful invention  
For wood, or bog, or hill,  
To make the trees fall down like rain  
Without the least collision,  
They clap their hands for SANDILANDS\*  
Of the Forestry Commission.

In deserts of Arabia  
Is many a famous steed,  
But what's the use of Asia  
When comes your hour of need!  
There's none for me that can surpass,  
For man and horse, one blend,\*  
The skill on the hill of MR VASS\*  
And the strength of JOHN LOCHEND.

I must not keep you over long,  
Time flies away so fleet,  
I'd tell of Donald\*, Angus\* strong,  
And Willie of the Street\*,  
But now you know beyond all doubt  
They toil without remission,  
And with skill so rare that none can compare,  
In the Forestry Commission.

P.F.

EXPLANATORY NOTES TO SONG:

Mitchells', Logans' - main 'hydro'  
scheme contractors, the former at  
Bunloyne, the latter Dundreggan.  
Fraser is Tommy. He, Officer and  
MacKenzie were Foresters in charge  
of Craig-nan-eun, Port Clair and  
Torgoyle respectively.  
MacMillan - Alec ('wayward plus fours')  
Sandilands - John - a 'character'  
whom Arkle can expand on.

John Vass - until recently at Dal-  
cattaig.  
John Lochend (MacDonald) used to  
stay in the Forestry huts at Port  
Clair.  
Willie of the Street - Willie Fraser.  
Angus - Angus Campbell.  
Donald - Donnie Maisie.

Continued on page 6.

SCHOOLS.THE TOP OF THE FORM COMPETITION.

Wednesday 24th of February was just another working day for some people in Glenmoriston for Dalchreichart and Invermoriston schools it was an important day. It was the day of the 'Top of the Form' competition. The whole thing was organised by the police and was to take place at Raigbeg Primary School in Tomatir at 2.00 p.m.

At 12.45 the minibus came to Dalchreichart and collected John, Marlene, Tina, Fiona, Mrs Grant and myself.

At Invermoriston we collected Alan, Brodie and Catherine. Fiona, John, Alan and myself were in the team, the rest were reserves. As I was the oldest I went team captain. When we eventually got there (we had lost our way twice) the other policemen (a cadet and a sergeant who had also lost their way) were just setting up the equipment. It consisted of a panel with buttons and when you pressed it, the sergeant twiddled some buttons and your light came on.

We waited in the seats meant for the audience. I think Fiona was a bit nervous. The only onlookers there from Glenmoriston were Mrs MacRae and my Granny MacLeod. At last everything was ready and we were all set to play. The audience came in and we met our opponents. I'm afraid we lost and at the end the captain of Raigbeg School team stood up and made a speech to thank us for coming. When it all ended the two teams and the reserves had orange juice and biscuits in their canteen. The boys played football and we cheered our boys on. We all had good fun and all hope to go again.

JULIA GRANT.

WINS PRIZE FOR "YOUNG REPORTAGE".  
(Julia's 'manuscript' was very neat.)

The Whist Drive in aid of the National Lifeboat Institute realized £32 and we would like to thank everyone for their support and generous donations.

HIGHLAND HELP CALL.

Highland Help Call or H.H.C. was developed to help the old people living in the Highlands who were living on their own to get help easily if they were injured or ill. The plan is to give the people a small electronic gadget, like a watch which is strapped to your wrist. When you need help you press a button on the gadget. One system costs £120. Invermoriston School raised £50, but for every pound raised by people for H.H.C. the Highlands & Islands Development Board will donate another pound. So far £800 has been raised by Invermoriston and Fort Augustus for H.H.C.

ALAN MCLEAN.

SPRING.

Spring is here,  
Hurrah! Hurrah!  
No snowball fights,  
It will soon be May.

The snow is gone  
For this year I hope.  
It won't come back,  
Even with the Pope.

JOHN MCDONELL.

THIS WINS THE PRIZE FOR 'CREATIVE WRITING'.

from page 5.

This song was written as a companion piece for something similar in honour of the workers on our Hydro-Electric Schemes and both were sung at the concerts given by the children of Glenmoriston and their friends. There was no knowledge of the previous effort by David Hendry.

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(Part 2 - Post-war years)GLENMORISTON W.R.I.50 YEARS

After the war in 1947 - under the auspices of Miss Jean Alexander of the Hotel the Institute was reopened with 30 - 40 members and met in the comfort of the Hotel. The organizer for the Highlands, who at that time came from Perth, reports that she found it bright and anxious to reopen. But after a visit a few years later the report reads, "Hall cold and draughty".

When Miss Alexander had served her term of office there was some difficulty in finding a successor, and the arrival of Mrs John Grant in the Glen was eagerly awaited. She agreed to become president and in two spells of office served the Institute willingly for ten years between 1953 and 1965, and the membership rose quickly from 9 - 30 and then to 47 when meetings were once again held alternately in Invermoriston and Dalchreichart. Transport, as so often in rural communities, was the evergreen problem. One of Pat the Pier's buses collected the members from one end or the other and took them home again afterwards. The fare was a shilling and a bring and buy stall at the meetings and fund-raising events, often dances, were held to cover the rest of the concession charge. This was the time when the Glen was busy with the Hydro-Electric schemes, every house in Torgoyle Crescent produced a member and four ladies came from Torgoyle itself. Mrs John Grant brought to the Institute her interest in dress-making and sewing, and also in drama. On two occasions a dressmaking class was held, and under Mrs Grant's directions some of the ladies made the door curtains to match the stage curtains in the Hall. The interest in drama began with a tableau arranged by her depicting a scene from the history of the Glen - St. Columba blessing the well now called by his name - contributed to a Group rally, and continued for many years. A feature of the programmes at this period was the number of firms who offered to come with a demonstrator or a film on the use of their product, and when it was a food firm (Oxo, Cadbury's, Robertson's Jam, Wall's Ice Cream, Stork margarine, among others) the members could count on an interesting tasting session as well! Drummondhill College of Agriculture

regularly opened its doors to a one-day school for members from all the Institutes and these were very informative. Cars were not so plentiful in those days and the summer trip was eagerly planned. Aberdeen, Oban, Wick, Dundee, Elgin and Ullapool were all visited, and nearer home, Loch Ness was explored on two interesting, if somewhat chilly, sails from Muirtown to Fort Augustus.

(To be continued)

M.E.F.

At the March Meeting of the S.W.R.I. Mr.A.Sellar (Provost) gave us a very interesting and amusing talk about health foods, advising us on what foods to eat and which to avoid. Afterwards a few of us were to be found ladling the sugar into our tea in secret, and thinking about giving it up - some time. The competition - oatcakes was won by Mrs.A.MacKintosh.

The April meeting, an open one was given by Sgt.K.MacKenzie who gave us a talk and slide show on the Mountain Rescue.

The above meetings were both interesting and informative, but both suffered by poor attendance. Our last meeting is on May 10th - a demonstration on deer fur flowers, and if you are interested in keeping the institute alive please come. It would be a shame if it went into abeyance after 50 years.

W.T.WOMAN'S GUILD.

The speaker at the January meeting of the Guild was Miss Moira Campbell from the West Church, Inverness, who is a missionary with the Paiwanese Tribal Church in Taiwan.

Dressed in one of the beautiful, handmade traditional garments, she described how her work is concerned with the welfare of the tribal people, mainly mothers and children, who are temporary city-dwellers for the period of their families' education.

The February meeting (15th) in Kil-michael Hall was a Bible study evening led by Mrs Murchison of Inverness. Following the theme for this session of "Vision Unlimited" the passage studied was Ephesians Chapter 1. Mrs Murchison explained in detail how these words are as relevant in the twentieth century as they were in the first.

N.N.B.

GLENURQUHART AND GLENMORISTON  
WOMAN'S GUILD.

The Annual General Meeting of the Guild, which was held at Kilmichael Hall on March 15th, was followed by "A Matter of Opinion", a most enjoyable question time.

The panel consisted of Miss.R.MacLeod, Mrs.P.Sutherland, Mr Robert MacIntyre and Mr John MacLeod, and opinions were expressed on subjects which ranged from the Loch Ness Monster to capital punishment.

The Devotional evening of this session was held on Monday, April 19th, when our Minister, Mr Buell, continued the "Vision Unlimited" theme and spoke in a challenging manner about "The Vision and my response".

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.

Glenmoriston Church held an afternoon service on the World Day of Prayer, Friday March 5th, when readers from the Glen contributed to the Service and the address was given by Mrs Buell.

N.N.B.

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Just beside the stone standing behind the Manse here in Drumna-drochit there is a clump of golden daffodils. They seemed to burst into bloom almost overnight from nowhere. That flaming fresh yellow! What a treat to eyes <sup>weary</sup> from the sight of Winter's long barrenness. It's almost as though Spring has hoisted these eye-catching flags everywhere to signal her arrival and the abolition or destruction of Winter Eighty-two which left a wake of burst pipes and colossal fuel bills.

The coming of Spring reminds me of the coming of the King of Life and Immortality - Jesus Christ. He Himself died for us and rose destroying Death so that He might come to the long barren Winter of our lives and hoist the flag of His arrival there. Happy Easter!

F.B.B.

COOKING TIP.

FRUIT SLICE.

Pastry: 9 ozs. pl. flour  
7 ozs. margarine (hard block straight from fridge)  
1 tsp. caster sugar  
Cold water to mix.

Grate margarine coarsely into flour, add sugar and with a knife mix roughly together. Add enough water to make a pliable dough. This will be sufficient pastry for a sandwich tin 11" x 7".

Filling: Put in a saucepan:  
12 ozs currants  
1 cooking apple  
1 tblsp. syrup  
1 tblsp. gran. sugar  
(spices if liked)  
and enough water to just cover.

Bring to the boil and when currants and apple are cooked, take off heat and add just enough flour to slightly thicken mixture. Leave to cool a little before putting on pastry base. Prick pastry top and glaze with milk and dust with caster sugar.

Oven 425° for ½ hr. or until cooked.

J.I.

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We offer congratulations and best wishes to Jacqueline MacKenzie and Philip Black who are making their home in Inverness after their marriage on April 2nd...

....and to June Girvan and Hugh Laing who are making their home near Hawick after their marriage on April 30th....

....and a warm welcome to Callum Grant, the newest member of the community at Bhlaraidh.

We say goodbye to John Urquhart and wish him well as he goes to follow in his father's footsteps at Lochluichart.

....and to Jerry and Sheila Johnson as they leave the shop after their pleasant and friendly service there. ....and we welcome Hamish and Sheila MacDonald with Hannah, as they take over there.....

....also Mr David Malin who has now taken up residence in the Manse.

We would like to extend thanks and appreciation on behalf of the community to R.J.McLeod (Contractors) Ltd, for their generous donation of £200 which was shared between the Senior Citizens' Committee and the Children's Committee, and for the excellent job they left behind them.