



# Morision Matters Reference 47

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## MARTIN GIRVAN LOCAL INTERNATIONALIST

an interview by Karen Tomlin

How did you break into clay-pigeon shooting?

My father started me off.

How much time do you devote to practice - 15 min?

About one day in the week now, but it used to be two days.

Do you get as much time to practise as you need?

Yes, ample.

How do you practise?

When I train I shoot at the same targets as I would in a competition, or as near as possible.

It must be an expensive sport - How expensive is it?

It's costing me about £200 per shoot. (I shoot every fortnight, so about £100 per week).

It was said that during the last Great War RAF pilots ate carrots to improve their night vision! Do you eat any special foodstuffs, etc., to develop your skills?

It doesn't make a lot of difference. I try to stick to my normal diet. Alcohol is completely out.

Any special exercises?

Not really, no, I only keep fitting my gun often to relax the arm muscles which are used for shooting.

Is there such a thing as a 'natural' shot?



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# The Historical Glen Bhlaraidh tombstone

On the north side of the A882 about three quarters of a mile west of Bhlaraidh is a tombstone now, since the realignment of the road, little noticed. If one proceeds to the first parking bay (as distinct from the loop of old road) on the south side of the road past Bhlaraidh and then takes forty to forty-five paces further west and turns right the stone can be seen among the trees about twelve feet from the edge of the road which was raised at the last realigning about ten years ago and moved nearer the river. For many years the stone stood two or three feet from the edge of the smooth grassy verge level with the road. It is a slab about eighteen inches wide and standing about eighteen inches out of the ground of the moine schist so common in Glenmoriston. There is no inscription on it and accounts of how it came to be there vary in detail.

All however agree that it marks the grave of a woman over whose final resting place there was a difference of opinion. In "Story and Song from Loch Ness-side" by Alexander Macdonald he relates that she was of no fixed abode and died at the top of the Glen. The people there, however, decided not to bury her in the local cemetery but to carry the remains to Clachan Cholum-chille at Invermoriston. The Invermoriston people, however, objected to this and set out to resist, meeting the funeral party in the middle of the Glen. Argument (no doubt heightened by the refreshment necessary on such an occasion) followed, some say to the point of blows, and finally the old woman was buried on the spot, the grave marked by the slab of stone.

But another version has it that the old woman came from the croft on the other side of the river on the east side of the Allt a Ghadaiche. Some twenty years ago the outline of this croft could still be seen in the young forest on the slopes of Carn nan Duth Lochan - whether because it had been planted later or because the trees grew differently on the land that had once been cultivated, but there is little to distinguish it from the surrounding brocks now. The boundary wall of the croft, however, is still clearly traceable under the trees along with several heaps of stones indicating where the buildings stood. Access to it was by the ford just above the Pool

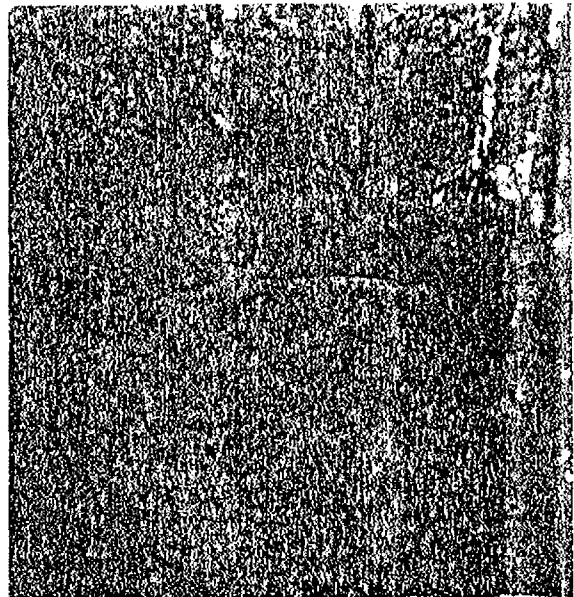


Photo: M.G.

of the Twenty. Whether the old woman was the one who lured the cattle raiders returning south with their spoils to their deaths in the pool by telling them that the ice was bearing and deliberately misdirecting them in the dark from the ford is a matter of conjecture. This might have been the reason for her unpopularity so that neither community wanted her. On the other hand the writer has heard a version which says she was so beloved that the dispute was the result of both parties craving her. At any rate her stone still stands as it has done for centuries - a memorial to the old woman if not to her deeds.

M.E.F.

Some time ago we were given by Jimmy MacEwan, Inverness, a little book entitled "The Great Venture" or "Fort Augustus in Verse". This is a collection of poems written by Father Romuald Alexander, a parish priest of Fort Augustus in the nineteen twenties. The book was published in aid of the Invergarry Sanatorium Comforts Fund. Happily such a fund is no longer needed. We print a collection of poems marking some Glenmoriston Institutions.

See p. 5.

EDITORIAL.

As the retiring editor of "Moriston Matters" put his last issue together he could not but reflect, "What a healthy, vigorous specimen this is!" ("This" is the whole magazine, the venture as a whole). This issue does indeed illustrate and exemplify how thriving it is. Just consider what has been contributed: an excellent report in depth from Constable Diamond, a feature on local history, extracts from a volume which bring back to life persons and 'institutions' of the past, the conclusion of a series, a tribute to the Glen from a visitor (in verse!), an effort by a city-dweller which is the result of his experience in working in the Glen (in verse too!), a lively interview of a local personality by a young schoolgirl, a very fine poem by a young schoolboy..... and the usual reports by faithful contributors. And there is a cluster of ads in this issue. Further, the 'new' combination of photocopier and gestetner seems neatly to have solved a thorny problem.

So, the retiring editor is confident that the venture will - not just continue - but go from strength to strength

This opportunity is taken of paying tribute to all those whose valuable efforts have kept "Moriston Matters" going - Mrs Fraser, Margaret Gillies, Christine MacDonald, Mary Macdonell, Lynda and Allan Nairn, Mike Tomlin, the readers, the buyers, those who supply the exiles and the contributors.

Now for the 30th issue.....

Ed.

We have decided to award the prize for Young Civic Effort to Donald MacDonald and Neil Robertson for their work in running the Youth Club during the past session.  
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GUILD.

Clear skies and summer temperatures contributed towards the enjoyment of the Guild outing on May 15th which marked the close of the 1981/82 session.

Loch Insh and the Church, which is beautifully situated on the edge of the loch, was the first stop, followed by a visit to the Cairngorm Ski Slope where some members exchanged a seat in the coach for a seat on the chair lift.

The tour continued through the Boat of Garten area and called at Grantown-on-Spey for tea before returning.

The opening meeting of the next session will be held in Kilmichael Hall on Monday, October 18th when old and new members will be welcome.

N.N.B.

Yesterday my wife and I, along with parents and friends, attended the Prize Giving at Invermoriston School. Today we go to Dalchreichart Prize Giving. There is such a happy air of festivity about these occasions. The Glen is dressed in its summer-best. The children are so bright and enthusiastic and full of expectancy. It all signals holiday-time. At least for the children. But ironically, in a Glen like ours, where tourism is so important, Prize Giving doesn't signal holiday-time but business and work for most, many people coming and going (we hope!), so much so that you may not even have time to eat.

I was reading recently of a very able man in his early thirties who with a staff of about a dozen had to handle hundreds of people every day. There were so many people coming and going that they didn't even have time to eat. So he said to them "Let's get out of here and go off by ourselves to some place where we will be alone and you can rest for a while"

That same man said, "Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. For the yoke I will give you is easy, and the load I will put on you is light".

Continued on p. 4

INVERMORISTON.

ESCAPE!

(INVER - MOR - ESON : ON THE BANK

AT THE BIG WATERFALL)

There is much to remember,  
Much to recall

On the days that we spent  
By the great waterfall.

Sron na Muic behind us,  
The River close by,  
Yet I ne'er had my hands  
On a rod or a fly!

We climbed to the top  
(Tailor's Croft on the right,)  
Then up a bit further  
MacDonald's in sight.

Dalcattaig we saw  
As the sun dippit low,  
The wee kirk on the far side  
Fair basked in its glow.

The lads and the lasses  
We met by and by -  
Too many to list  
But I'll have a wee try.

There was Jerry and Sandy,  
And Hamish and Rab.  
When I think on't, that last one  
Has the gift o' the gab.

There was Betty and Heather,  
Meg, Alison, June,  
And Willie the Box  
Who played a fine tune.

And whiles we're on music,  
I do like a rant -  
And that gie's me a chance  
To bring in Mr Grant!

To Arbroath we return,  
But this you believe,  
Bithidh mi 'gur faicinn  
Beannachd Liebh.

I. McC.  
(ARBROATH)

(Author's Note:

The above doggerel can be sung,  
more or less, to the tune of "Bonnie  
Dundee". Two or three Old Farms will  
assist the singer.)

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From p.3.

Why don't you slip away from the press  
and rush of what you are doing, or, if  
you can't, get your guests to do it  
for you and come and worship with us  
in Glenmoriston Church every Sunday  
at 12.15 p.m. except the first Sunday  
of the month, when the service is  
held at Dalchreichart School at 3 p.m.

Happy Holidays!

REV. F. B. BUELL.

I am a trout  
Sleek and graceful,  
A small torpedo.  
I hunt the waters.  
I am a trout.

A may-fly passes overhead,  
and alights on the water.  
THUMP!  
The fly disappears  
in a flurry of spray.  
Another may-fly overhead,  
THUMP!.....

Something's wrong!  
A line comes out of my mouth  
to restrict my freedom!  
I slash the surface,  
I bore deep,  
but all in vain!

The net stretches towards me,  
a few more minutes and I'll be caught  
But suddenly the hook loosens,  
I shake it free  
And swim away:

The hunter of the waters once again.

ALAN MCLEAN.

WINNER OF THE PRIZE FOR CREATIVITY.

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We welcome to the Riverside  
Community two old friends Sheila  
Grant with Julia and Tina and  
Alec Grant with Nan and Sandy,  
Leonard and Nicola.....

.....and David Malir who has  
now taken up residence in the  
Old Manse.

Congratulations and best wishes  
to Allan Macdonell and Mairearaid  
MacLean who were married on June  
5th and are making their home at  
Inverwick.....

.....and to Paddy Paterson  
on being elected as Regional  
Councillor for the area.

CLUANIE INN (Mr and Mrs J. MacDonald).

Quoth the piper - "I mind it and when  
It was naught but a wee 'butt and ben!"  
And now, as you see,  
It's well worthy to be  
The resort of sportswomen and men!  
If splendid mountain scenery,  
Which to ignore were sin;  
If gracious summer's greenery  
And Autumn's wistful "gleanery"  
Can woo the heart and win,  
Then come to Cluanie Inn.  
If lochs and rivers full of fish,  
And sport of every kind;  
If joys that echo every wish,  
And Mrs M's most dainty dish  
Can captivate the mind,  
Then here you surely find  
What must indeed be next of kin  
To Paradise - Sweet Cluanie Inn!

INVERMORISTON HOTEL (Mr and Mrs Kydd).

The brave "Men of Glenmoriston"  
Are famous men in history,  
And it will be no mystery  
If only you will list a wee;  
The Men of Invermoriston  
In council or consistery,  
In rough work or artistry,  
Alike excel, as facts will spell,  
If you but come and see.  
Two seasons are the cause of it,  
Or you may say the laws of it;  
Two things - just two there be -  
Their St Columba's Well  
And this superb Hotel.

INVERMORISTON SMITHY  
(D. & D. Macdonald Bros)

"Under the spreading chestnut tree  
The Village Smithy stands."  
In point of fact they're two of them,  
With hard and grimy hands.  
Just come and take a view of them,  
And see the iron bands  
Upon each brawny arm of them,  
And you will think no harm of them,  
For what can be the hurt,  
When horses all day long you shoe,  
And all those "blacksmith" wonders" do,  
(And they are first-rate dancers too!)  
What, say I, is the hurt  
Of a bit of honest dirt?

THE GARAGE, PIER HEAD, INVERMORISTON.  
(Cars on hire - Pratt's Spirit - Licensed to Sell Beer.  
Macdonald Brothers).

Ronald and Donald are men of good cheer  
(Both of them "lads" without any fads).  
Good spirit, high spirits, and jolly good beer  
(Which a licence allows 'em to sell on the Pier).  
They deal with alike, and your car will just jump  
After taking a drink from the bright Golden Pump.  
Now these three things they mix, so at least I should say  
Which accounts for the highly remarkable way  
Your car shows of doing a side-step or sway.

'Tis no wonder, I say, if it's merry and gay,  
 For you'll catch a man's spirits from five minutes' chat,  
 And Beer is good cheer, and Pratt makes you fat.  
 Look at Ronald and Donald and cry "That is that!"

NOTES:

Mr and Mrs J. MacDonald - parents of Hamish MacDonald, Fort Augustus.

Mr and Mrs Kydd - proprietors of the now Glenmoriston Arms before the last war.

D & D Macdonald Bros. - Willak and Dunk.

Ronald and Donald Macdonald Brothers - Pat the Pier's uncle, Ronnie the Pier, and father, Danny the Pier, respectively.

Our thanks to J. MacEwan.

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Continued from front page.

Yes, I would say I was a 'natural'. You could be trained, though.

Could you transfer the same degree of success to a pistol or rifle?

To a rifle, yes, but I have never tried the pistol.

What is the 'life' of a clay-pigeon shooter?

From about the age of 15 and as old as 55.

Do you take a part in the organisational side of the sport?

Yes, a major part.

Every sport has its thrills and satisfaction. What are these in your sport?

Winning, whatever you shoot. Achieving what you aim for.

Have you any other hobbies or pastimes which you enjoy?

Not really, but I used to swim when I was in school and then I packed it in.

The best moment so far in your career?

Getting to the Commonwealth Games - this is a major achievement.

What is the funniest thing that has happened to you?

I came home from a big shoot and was phoned up and told that I had left my gun and had to go all the way back to collect it. There have been many funny things, but this one stuck out in my mind.

What are your ambitions?

My ambition is to get to the Commonwealth Games, and then to shoot for Great Britain.

What advice would you give to a young person about to take up the sport?

I would advise them to get some coaching, which will save them a lot of time and money, also always to use your own gun and not to borrow one as it will feel different and you will not shoot as well.

How would you rate yourself in

- a) this area
- b) Scotland
- c) Britain
- d) The world?

- a) The best, without real competition.
- b) No.2
- c) About 9th
- d) in the top hundred.

Are girls/women any good at the sport?

Yes, but there are not as many as men. But they could be as good or better than men.

I would like to thank Mr and Mrs Girvan for their hospitality and time.

AND WE ALL HOPE MARTIN WILL GET TO BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA, FOR THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES IN SEPTEMBER.

THIS WINS THE YOUNG REPORTAGE PRIZE.

As we go to press we have learned that Martin has, in fact, been chosen to shoot for Great Britain at Brisbane.

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DARTS.

With the kind co-operation of Mr Robert Shepherd the finals of the Glen Albyn League Darts Competition were held in the Moriston Arms Hotel on Friday, March 19th. The winners of the League Championship Shield were - once again - The Swan and Cygnets, with Whitebridge Hotel the

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## OUTREACH CENTRE: FOYERS.

At 4 p.m. on Friday 9th April, 1982, a single deck bus arrived at the car park in Fort Augustus. The bus, blue and white in colour, had travelled from Inverness to uplift a most unusual group of passengers who had gathered in the car park, from Invergarry, Invermoriston and Fort Augustus. These passengers were all dressed in a similar fashion of jeans, trousers, boots, stout shoes and anoraks, each person carrying a rucksack or satchel. None was under 12 years of age and none was over 16 years and all had paid £4 for the "bus trip" and return.

The driver of the bus was silent except to say, "Are they all here, Jimmy?" and "See you there".

"There" was the Outreach Centre in Foyers; a place where teenagers could enjoy a weekend working and playing together, teenagers from the spectrum of social backgrounds, teenagers of both sexes, where girls cooked the food and boys washed the dishes and vice versa: a place for outdoor activities such as canoeing, football, "murder" ball, hill walking; a place for indoor activities such as table tennis, pool, unihoc, disco dancing, darts, T.V. games. In all, a place where the kids got to know "Jimmy" and Jimmy got to know them as parents never really do. (That applies equally to "Jimmy" as a parent.)

This was the idea when the Chief Constable of the Northern Constabulary opened the Outreach Centre in Foyers to be run by the policemen from all over the Highland Region for teenagers from the Youth Clubs of the Highlands.

The Centre has been so successful that to acquire a weekend for a Youth Club it has to be booked about a year in advance.

The bus which collects the teenagers is also owned by the police who pay the running costs purely by subscription and fund raising organised by the Community Involvement Department, Inverness.

The fee paid by each person of £4) attending the centre for a weekend is used to purchase food. For example, "Our" trip consumed 12 dozen bread rolls, 2 dozen loaves, 3 sacks of chipped potatoes, ½ stone of bacon/ham, 7 lbs. of sausages, 6 dozen pies, only 2 dozen eggs (in sandwiches), 6 packets of cereal, and yet the list goes on in milk, sugar, tea, coffee, vegetables and fruit. If any money is left over from the food bill, it is put to the Centre Fund to help with electricity and maintenance costs.

The accommodation has three dormitories which can accommodate 9 girls at one end of the Centre and 16 boys at the other, or vice versa, with rubber foam mattresses on bunk beds where the occupants can sleep in sleeping bags. A central kitchen is used for cooking and dining with various store rooms and cupboards for kitchen and cleaning equipment. There is an adjacent room used for table games - drafts, chess, dominoes and darts. At the north end of the building is the hall, large enough to match a badminton court where table tennis and pool can be played. It is also used for disco dances.

Parents are invited to visit the Centre at any time, but experience has shown that the children discourage this as it cramps their exuberance.

A weekend at Foyers is an experience for the supervisors who are normally made up of Police Officers (male and female) and youth club leaders.

The main affliction for the supervisors, from experience, would seem to be lack of sleep. As one person said, "We have only been here 24 hours, but it seems like 4 days".

I would endorse that statement by saying that about a week's activities are crammed into a weekend of 48 hours. There is no day or night as the children would appear to be on the go at all hours. Some can't sleep with excitement, some with toothache, some with stomach pains. They slept in shifts which meant at least one adult was awake all of the time.

After all has been said and done, the weekend drew to a close all too soon, when the bus arrived at 4 p.m. on Sunday 11th April 1982, to return the children to their families and it is with pride that the writer can say that he could take these children from our area, anywhere, as their behaviour and manners were of a high standard.

J.D.  
(FORT AUGUSTUS)

GLENMORISTON S.W.R.I.

Part 3 - Conclusion - Modern times.

By the sixties the Glen population had dropped again - this, of course, being reflected in W.R.I. numbers and in reports of Organizers' visits which read "Low attendance", "a muddled Institute", "Institute always vague but seems to keep going". A secretary's report reads that the Institute ought to make more impact on the community. An attempt was made to revitalise it and entertainment was added to each month's programme (One wonders how everything reported in the minutes was carried through so that "the meeting ended about 10.15 p.m.") and a country dancing class ran for several sessions. Whist drives in aid of a chosen charity were held each year, and several bulb shows were held with varying response from the public, who were invited to join in. Several successful Burns Suppers were held and a most enjoyable party with the Aird Young Farmers' Club as guests who brought Bothy style entertainment with them. With fewer people to use it subsidised transport had come to an end and since more people now had cars and fewer were attracted by a summer trip they disappeared from the syllabus. Indeed, with the advent of the Bed and Breakfast trade many ladies found that they had no time in the summer. And so one of the monthly meetings took the form of a visit to somewhere of interest locally, and the Holm Mills, the Fire Station, the new Telephone Exchange, the G.P.O., Burnett's Bakery, a distillery, the Belford and Craig Phadrig Hospitals, Landmark and the new Police Headquarters all provided informative evenings, with Craig Phadrig possibly proving the most worthwhile of all. This face-lift did not immediately bring a rise in membership, but it earned from an Organizer's visit the comment, "well-run Institute and members friendly". During this period the national W.R.I. Jubilee was celebrated, and Glenmoriston marked the occasion by planting two forsythia bushes at the Hall. The Queen's Silver Wedding was marked nationally in the S.W.R.I. by the making of tapestry stool covers for use in the Palace of Holyroodhouse and every member in Glenmoriston put in at least one stitch in the section allotted to the Institute!

The seventies brought newcomers to settle in the Glen and they made a welcome addition to the population. There were more people to share the responsibilities and more people to contribute ideas. With inflation rearing its ugly head firms no longer offered to put on expensive demonstrations involving travelling to small

groups, although they now organised competitions using their products, and it became increasingly difficult to find speakers. As at the beginning we find members' names again figuring on the syllabus, often in connection with Arts and Crafts subjects - an indication perhaps of the broad interpretation now being given to "women's sphere of life - homemaking". Members began to produce more entries for competitions and for the biennial Arts & Crafts Exhibitions - and with some success. With the Institute's first prize money they bought linen and made a tablecloth for use at meetings. In the Inter-Institute Quiz they held the cup for two years. S.W.R.I. interests now embraced curling, golf, speechmaking and many other things outwith the old 'jam and knitting' image, and in Glenmoriston's case the interest in drama, fostered through sketches and plays since Mrs Grant's tableau, blossomed in 1974 into an entry for the Anstruther Gray competition when the team reached the finals which were held in Wick. The send-off for the players, complete with costumes and scenery in two cars from Riverside Park on a beautiful early summer day, the satisfaction of a good performance (although not the winning one) and the journey home in the early morning through a thick North Sea haar will long be remembered by those who experienced them. Another development was the visits of the members of kindred organisations in other countries and ladies from Ireland, Somerset and Holland have been our guests bringing with them their own culture and charm. In Glenmoriston the WRI were one of the first sections of the community to raise money for a Senior Citizen's Fund. Their interest in the Hall was stimulated when they were given a place on the Committee in 1955 and they were privileged to be asked to advise on the planning of the renovated kitchen a few years ago and glad to be able to supply the cups now in use.

We acknowledge the help of husbands and others who keep the children, supply transport and help in many other ways to let us go to the meetings. We like to think of our "sphere of life - homemaking" not as cutting us off but as an integral and vital part of the community life so that through many and varied channels we may live out the W.R.I. motto 'For Home and Country'.

May Glenmoriston W.R.I. go from strength to strength through the next fifty years!

M.E.F.



INVERMORISTON SCHOOL.

The annual prize-giving was held on Wednesday 30th June. There was a large attendance of parents and friends, and a special welcome for all our guests including Mr James Grant of Glenmoriston, Rev. and Mrs Buell, and Rev. and Mrs Peter Fraser.

After a brief review of the year's activities, recalling outings and various fund-raising efforts - in particular the children's sponsored Read and Spell which raised £45.95 for Highland Help Call - thanks was expressed to the many people who gave help and support throughout the year. Reference was made to the value of the excellent co-operation received from colleagues in neighbouring schools, especially Fort Augustus and Dalchreichart Schools.

The children then gave a short musical programme before receiving their prizes from Mrs Buell. Mr James Grant proposed a vote of thanks and Mr Buell also spoke to the children before closing the proceedings with a prayer. Tea was served afterwards and many thanks are due to Meggie Stoddart and Margaret Gillies and Madgie for their tremendous help in donating, preparing and serving refreshments on Sports Day as well as on this occasion.

PRIZE WINNERS 1982.

M.L.N.

Merit:

Primary 1:

- Eilidh Nairn
- Heather MacDonald
- John Grant
- Nicola Grant

Primary 2:

- Karen Tracy
- Jennifer MacDonald
- Derek Steele
- Leonard Grant

Primary 3:

- Calum McLean

Primary 5:

- Catherine Steele
- Brodie Nairn
- Sandy Grant

Primary 6:

- Alan McLean
- Lorraine Lamond.

SPECIAL PRIZES:

S.S.P.C.A. Essay Competition - Alan McLean.

Mr Grant's Special Prize - Endeavour and Improvement - Brodie Nairn.

Glenmoriston Memorial Prize - Catherine Steele.

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for all his efforts in organizing and running the league throughout the session.

M.S.

SPORTS:

Infants:

Stoddart Posy Bowl - Nicola Grant.

Junior:

Peter MacMillan Memorial Shield - Calum McLean.

Senior:

Cup - Brodie Nairn.

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INVERMORISTON SPORTS....

We had our School Sports on the 24th June at Riverside Park. There were 11 events altogether including the Pre-school race and the Mothers' race. My mum won the Mothers' race and Daniel Talbot won the pre-school race. Luckily it was a nice day for the sports because last year it rained and everyone got wet. Before the sports I felt a bit nervous, but I was okay after the races began. This year Nicola Grant won the Posy Bowl, Calum McLean won the Shield and Brodie Nairn the cup. Tea and biscuits were served at the school afterwards.

("We went to the Sports today and I won the doggie race" - KAREN (6)).

...AND TRIP

On the 25th June, Invermoriston and Dalchreichart Schools had their annual trip. First we went to Inverness Museum. I liked the glass cases with animals and birds in them, even though there were many other exhibits including a collection of the weapons that a Highlander would have used during the '45 Rebellion. Next we went to Landmark at Carrbridge. There I went up the tree-top trail where you got a great view of the trees. I liked the balancing trail, but I liked the giant woodland maze the best. At Landmark we had our lunch. After Landmark we went to Kingussie, where we played in the park. We went home via Spean Bridge.

ALAN MCLEAN.

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runners-up, and the Moriston Arms team qualifying for the wooden spoon.

In a competition held on that night, however, Invermoriston restored the balance somewhat when, although Invergarry won the Four-man-a-side knock-out, in very exciting single events Judy Mitchell (Whitebridge) was beaten by Maggie Smart 2 - 1 and Robert MacKintosh (Invergarry) lost 2 - 0 to John Smart.

Maggie Smart proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Peter Woolley, the secretary,

The powersaw buzzes, the woodchips fly,  
This tall strong beauty is about to die.  
Planted as a sapling just four inches tall,  
It's lived many a winter, spring, summer and fall.

She's pleasing to look at; a joy to the eye,  
Bending, gently stroking the sunny blue sky.  
The steel teeth bite deeper tearing life from the Pine,  
The wedges are hammered, the sap flows like wine.

Woodcutter curses the sweat on his brow,  
But works with the one thought of bringing her down.  
The cutting is finished, the wedges drive deep,  
The lever is heaved and the tree starts to creak.  
She slowly tips forward and starts her descent.  
Slamming down, crashes on earth, branches twisted and bent.

As a shelter to wildlife, and a servant to man,  
She'll give fresh air and beauty in the best way she can.  
But when the time comes to be harvested wood,  
She'll be cut down, and raped, chained and dragged from the wood.

R.T. (GLASGOW)

JAMBOREE.

A Great Glen Gala Day is being planned for Saturday, 31st July, by a committee with Constable Diamond as chairman. The centre of activity in the afternoon will be the Abbey grounds in Fort Augustus where a parade of floats from Glenmoriston, Glengarry and Fort Augustus will arrive at 2p.m. The programme will continue throughout the afternoon with a variety of sporting events - races, tug-of-war, pillow fights, shinty - a pet show, terrier races, pony rides, side shows, tombola, teas, cake and candy stall, etc. In the evening there will be a dance in the marquee from 8 - 11.30 p.m. (adm.£1.50) and a disco in the village hall (adm.£1.00). The profit will be donated to various charities including Highland Helpcall. Anyone wishing more information or to offer help should telephone Glenmoriston 51219 or 51241.

ABRIACHAN MUSEUM.

Visitors to, and residents of the Glen may like to know that in Abriachan, up in the hills above Loch Ness, there is a small croft museum, a collection of household gear and field implements, documents and photographs illustrating a way of life which has all but vanished from our world.

The museum was set up as part of a project undertaken by pupils and staff of Inverness High School, as a contribution to the celebration of Conservation Year 1970. A small booklet recording the history of the area and something of its flora, fauna, geology and so on is obtainable at the museum.

Visitors are welcome at almost any time. If coming from a distance it is advisable to ring the curator at Dochgarroch 237 to make sure that entry can be arranged.

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FORT AUGUSTUS TENNIS CLUB.

Visitors welcome to play on tarmacadam court. Key and details from Reception, Lovat Arms Hotel. Very reasonable charges.

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FORT AUGUSTUS GOLF CLUB.

Pleasant nine-hole country course. Standard scratch score 66. Visitors welcome. Tickets available at the Club House or Lovat Arms Hotel. Daily ticket £2.00.

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VISIT THE LEISURE CENTRE

at the

GLEN SERVICE STATION

in

FORT AUGUSTUS

POOL TABLES - VIDEO GAMES -

HOLIDAY SOUVENIRS.

"Rain or shine - Our entertainment's just fine."

MR MRS H. WORTHINGTON-EYRE.PEG CRAWFORD.

The occasion of the memorial service to our parents on Sunday 2nd May in Invermoriston Church was the end of many months of planning. It would not have taken place<sup>but</sup> for the unfailing assistance of the Rev. Peter Fraser and his wife, who tirelessly pursued the making of a bookcase, in matching pale oak, for the many hymnbooks, which was dedicated to the Church in our parents' names, as the attractive plaque depicts.

Although we came to the Tailor's Croft many years ago now, our mother having died in 1970 and our father more recently in 1979, in many ways it seems only yesterday that we were all together, and in creating a permanent place of remembrance in the Church, this makes us very happy.

Roland, Fernando and I thank all who came to the service, and those who helped to make the occasion so memorable.

W.E.CHRISSIE MACDONALD.

Many in the Glen will remember, with appreciation, respect and affection, Miss Chrissie MacDonald of Glenurquhart Secondary School and will regret her death on the 15th June, 1982.

She was educated in Glenurquhart Senior Secondary, as it was then called, and Aberdeen University. After College training she taught in Thurso for five years. Then she spent some time relief teaching in Inverness-shire. In 1930 she joined the staff of Glenurquhart Secondary, where she remained until her retirement in 1962.

She offered English and Geography as well as her main subject, French. Her geography lessons, especially on the Central European countries, were enhanced by her own wide travel. French she taught with vigour and thoroughness - so well did she teach it that it is possible to go on<sup>to</sup> read and appreciate the masters of the French language without further formal training. A teacher of humanity, compassion and humour, she could, however, be stern - a rebuke from Chrissie was something her errant pupils learned to avoid, if possible.

Our condolences to her relations, friends, former colleagues and pupils.

The people of Invermoriston were concerned when one day at the end of March clothing and other personal belongings were still lying on the river bank where they had been seen the previous evening, and their worst fears were realized when two days later police recovered the body of Margaret Ann Crawford an American student on holiday from a course at Trinity College, Carmarthen, Wales, from a pool below the falls. She was the daughter of Mr and Mrs Donald Wayne Crawford of Carol Stream, Illinois, where she had a notable school record.

On Sunday, July 4th, a sympathetic gathering of people assembled on the Falls walk with Mr and Mrs Crawford while Mr Colin Siddeley, a piper from Fort Augustus, played a lament in the background, for the dedication of a seat in her memory. The company sang the 23rd psalm to the accompaniment of the ever present river and the Rev. Peter Fraser led the simple service. Mr and Mrs Crawford expressed their deep appreciation of the warmth they felt around them and for the arrangements made by the Glenmoriston Community Association, and left with the people a silk screen print of a Chic go street scene by James H. Wennersten.

Mr and Mrs Ian Grant kindly provided a cup of tea at the Old Farm before the company finally dispersed.

DALCHREICHART SCHOOL.

The annual Sports and Prize-giving ceremonies took place at Dalchreichart School on 1st July, and the weather clerk relented long enough to let the sports programme proceed without recourse to umbrellas and water-proofs - for a change! Mr James Grant's Sports Champion Cup was won by John McDonell, while Julia Grant as runner-up was the recipient of a new cup presented by Mr. J. Flavell.

Parents and friends later repaired to the classroom where a programme of songs was enacted by the pupils. The prizes were graciously presented by Mrs Buell, who was given a gift by Martin Girvan. Each child received a book, and there were seven attendance prizes, as well as special prizes.

A happy feature of the closing ceremony was the presentation to Mrs J. Innes, who has recently retired to Rosemarkie after 18 years' service as Cook-in-Charge at Dalchreichart. Mrs Grant spoke of Mrs Innes's sterling qualities - as a cook and a good and kind friend of the children and the school. Her remarks were heartily endorsed and added to by the Rev.P.Fraser. Julia Grant, in a neat little speech presented Mrs Innes with a matching set of Caithness glass, and a book token, while her husband, Jimmy, was handed a book by Ann Marie Gillies. Mrs Innes feelingly replied, and said how much she had enjoyed her years at the school. Rev.Mr.Buell closed the proceedings with a prayer and a blessing.

A delicious service of tea, sandwiches, cakes and biscuits with extras for the children in the form of ice-cream and jelly and orange juice, brought a happy afternoon to a conclusion.

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Dalchreichart School Sale on 23rd June realised £166.30. The teacher and pupils are most grateful to the parents and friends who helped them to realise this very satisfactory amount.

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The collection for S.S.P.C.A funds by the children of Dalchreichart School amount to £35.08.

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I WISH.

I wish I could fly,  
Way up in the sky,  
To soar and soar,  
And to glide even more.

I would flap my wings,  
With joy you know  
Pull back my wings,  
And down I'd go.

JOHN MCDONELL.

SHALL I?

Shall I fly away?  
Or shall I stay another day?  
To stay would be too bold  
And I would get cold.  
So today I know that I shall go.  
To Africa and escape the snow.

JULIA GRANT.

EAGLES.

Eagles, soar high away in the sky!  
Fly as fast as you can.  
Through the bright blue sky.  
Snatch up your prey and fly, fly  
away!

Fly as fast as you can.

MARTIN GIRVAN (7)

The swan is white,  
Oh! what a sight,  
You can see him in the night,  
When the moon is bright.

You can see him in the day,  
When the people shout hooray!  
Then he will race,  
To another place.

CLAIRE TOMLIN.

Flying high,  
Up in the sky,  
With the wind I fly;  
I hear the cry,  
Of a bird in the sky.

The seagull did cry,  
Soaring in the sky,  
The fish he did spy;  
Down in a pool,  
Where it was cool.

FIONA MCADAMS (10.)

DARTS.

The final of the local darts competition for the Duncan Grant Shield & The Annie Fraser Trophy took place in the public bar on the night of Sunday 9th May. The competition was battled out over the two previous months with roughly about 32 players at the start. Duncan MacLeod (Cluanie Team) won his way through to both the finals, so the final players for the shield were Duncan MacLeod and Dave McAdams and the trophy players were Duncan MacLeod and Mary Macdonell; the final games were very close, but in the end Dave won the shield and Mary the trophy which were both presented by Robert Shepherd.

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Congratulations to the Glengarry Shinty Team on winning the Glenmore Cup by defeating Strannglass 5 - 2 in the final at Spean Bridge. This was followed up by winning the Inverness Sixes at Inverness a week later.

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