

*For Moriston
Matters*



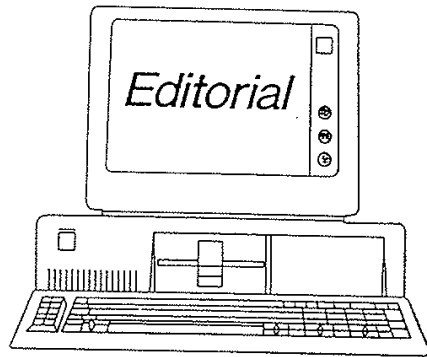
Summer 94



*A Community newsletter
serving the Residents & Visitors
of Invermoriston and Glenmoriston*

No 46

35p



I must apologise for the extreme tardiness of this summer issue of the magazine. I actually blame the good weather !! I'm afraid when it lovely and sunny outside I just can't bring myself to sit inside banging away at a typewriter !!

In this issue we pay tribute to Mrs. Margaret Fraser who was one of the Glen's most popular residents before leaving for Kiltarlity.

The residents of Dalchreichart have been jostled by JCB's, dodged by dumpers and trampled by trucks but they are well on their way to having a finished pavement and an improved road.

We are always on the lookout for interesting stories or articles to publish. If you have been anywhere interesting for your summer holidays or if you have had success in sport, education or whatever then please let us know about it. We would love any old (or new) pictures of the Glen and also any children's work.

Please send it to;

The Editor, The Old Well
Dalchreichart, Glenmoriston,
Inverness-shire. IV3 6YJ.
Tel: 0320 340205

Local Success

The annual garden competition, organised by the Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council was sponsored this year by The Waterways Board, Muirton Locks, Inverness.

Judging took place in early August with categories for Best Flower Garden, Best Vegetable Garden, Best Children's Garden, Best Newcomer (to the competition) and Best Garden Overall. There were ten entries altogether but two had to withdraw leaving eight to fight it out !

The winners were:-

Best Flower Garden : Jimmy Paterson, F.A.

Best Vegetable Garden : Hamish Sherriffs, F.A.

Best Children's Garden : Katie & Vickie Common

Best Newcomer : Duncan & Judy Poore, Dalchreichart

Best Garden Overall : Lesley Common, Dalchreichart

Congratulations to all prizewinners, especially to those in Dalchreichart !!

Dulchreichard School

Back in June the pupils of Dulchreichard School held their sports in an over-flowing daisy-filled Riverside Park with the help of their P.E. teacher, Miss Horsburgh. The 11 pupils had a great afternoon's racing with the three elder children, Caroline, Katie and Amy being handicapped at the start to try to 'even things up' with the wee ones. There was a pre-school race, a parents (and anyone else who happened to be there) race, in which we very nearly needed the services of Neil Robertson (ace paramedic) for Michael Curley who made the error of standing at the finish of the parents race. Several of the racers narrowly missed mowing him down with their great speed (ha ha !!). There was also a tug-o-war with the ladies versus the boys, sorry, men with the latter failing miserably to overcome their opponents !!

The rain managed to just about stay off until the end and everyone went home with a smile on their faces after delving into the sweetie bag !

Tribute to Mrs Fraser

It was with very great sadness that we learnt of Margaret Fraser's death, just months after she lost her husband, Peter. She was one of the instigators of "Moriston Matters" and was, for years, its chief reporter. In fact that the magazine actually came into being is entirely due to Mrs Fraser - it was her idea, to start a community newsletter of some sort. That it survived and thrived was due to her enthusiasm, her driving force and her industry. Her tireless newsgathering ensured each copy was full of interesting articles and up-to-the-minute stories. The fact that the magazine was published every two months instead of every quarter makes her effort even more outstanding.

It wasn't just the magazine that she was involved in. There was hardly a social event or gathering that she didn't attend or have some part in its organisation. She was president of the S.W.R.I for 13 years having been Vice-president for several years and secretary for 3 years previous to that, after which she became Secretary again. She regularly attended conferences in Edinburgh spending countless hours and travelling many miles on representing and organising the group's interests. She was also an active member of the women's guild. She taught many of the school children to enjoy one of her most favourite pastimes, Scottish Country Dancing. I met her only last year at a dance in Beaulie and she was still enjoying every minute of it.

When she and her husband, the Rev. Peter Fraser, left the Glen in 1980, it lost one of its most helpful and encouraging members. She was a pillar of society and an integral part of the backbone of the glen. She will be very sorely missed by all who knew her - She was one in a million.

Tribute to Mrs Fraser

This letter was published in the April 1980 edition of the magazine.....

As you all probably know Mr and Mrs Fraser are leaving us. I think it is very sad as Mr and Mrs Fraser have been very kind and helpful always: Mr Fraser coming to the village school every Friday to give us religious knowledge, and giving the teenagers a youth club every Thursday, Mrs Fraser giving us dancing lessons and arranging parties every year. I think that if every minister and wife are like Mr and Mrs Fraser they must be very nice. Honestly, I don't know what the village will do without them. They were always willing to lend a hand.

Yvonne Service (Invermoriston School)

The following was the tribute paid to Mr and Mrs Fraser by the children of Dulchreicard School.

M is for manse where we once saw a witch
Riding her broomstick in a cloak black as pitch.

A is for album with stamps of each kind.
Need to exchange some? She doesn't mind.
D is for dancing, at which she excels,

Music, and writing, and acting as well.
R is for Reverend, who writes a good rhyme,
Super at sack race, wins all the time!

F is for friendship at parties and trips,
Ready for help with praise on their lips.
A 's for appreciate all they have done,
So three hearty cheers from everyone!
Each capital letter that starts every line
Rounds off the riddle. Your guess is mine?

Caption Competition

I came across this picture and thought it would be a great subject for a caption competition. Whoever can come up with the wittiest caption will win a prize of great value !

How about -:

"It didn't look like this on Blue Peter"

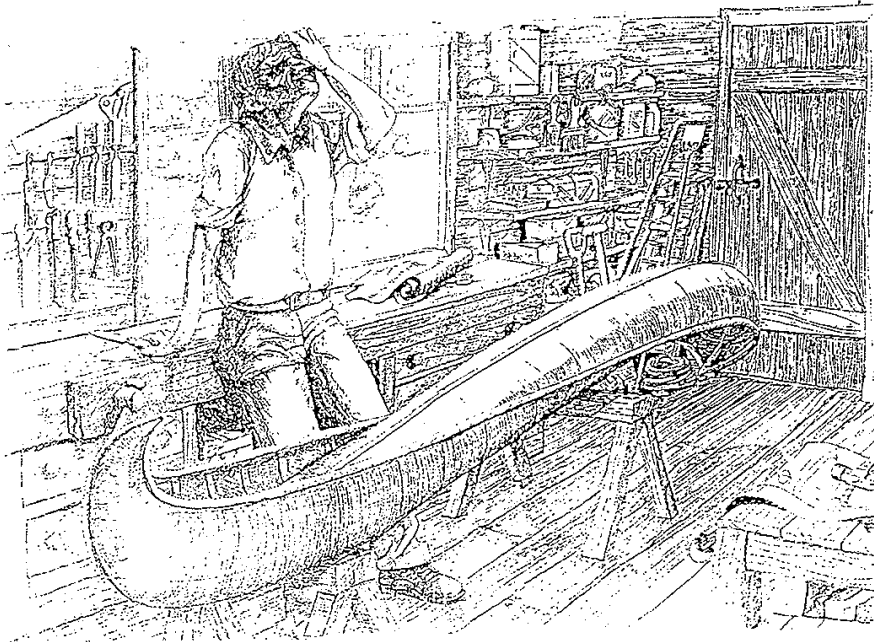
OR

"This is what happens when you have to turn the instructions round half way through construction"

OR

"All I need now is an orchestra playing 'Air on a G string' and a Hamlet cigar"

CAN YOU DO ANY BETTER ?



Community Council

At the last two meetings of the Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council held in Kilchuimen Academy on Thursday 26th May and Dulchreichard School on 30th June the main points of interest were--:

- a) Work on the new car park has been deferred till Spring 1995.
- b) Mr R. Murchison is to investigate possible improvements to Columba's Well.
- c) Invermoriston Playing Field - The District Council wished to acquire this ground but Glenmoriston Estate was unwilling to sell. The field was well used by the community and it was felt that it should continue to be available.
- d) Dulchreichard Notice board - Allan Common has been asked to paint and tidy the board up.
- e) Street cleaning - Invermoriston - Mr MacKenzie (Regional Councillor) is to take up this matter.
- f) Council to be approached with the suggestion that some work might be carried out on the access to Dalchreichart Cemetery while contractors were on site in the area.
- g) The Chairman was to investigate the attention required by the footpath at Invermoriston and the problem of large puddles at the Hall and toilet areas.
- h) Many residents of the Torgoyle/Dulchreichard Road expressed their wish to have a speed limit imposed on this road and a petition was presented to the Community Council stating their reasons for this. The petition is to be sent to Highland Regional Council Dept. of Roads and Transport and a request is also to be made for temporary improvements at the junction of the A887 and for a No Through Road sign to be erected.

Copies of the full minutes are on display in both Fort Augustus and Invermoriston Post Offices. The next and last meeting of the present Community Council is on Thursday 25th September at 7.30pm in Kilchuimen Academy, Fort Augustus and a warm welcome is extended to everyone.

PRIMARY SCHOOL FOOTBALL 1993/1994

Just before the end of 1993 a coaching night was set up in Fort Augustus school. The coaching was aimed at kids from 5 - 12 years and was run by Duncan MacCormack and assisted by Dave McEwan. Both Duncan and Dave had attended an S.F.A. 'D' Development course in football coaching in November 1993. The nights involve all sorts of skills and routines which are not just for boys. We have a couple of girls participating fairly regularly. The Friday sessions have been very well attended each week with over 20 turning up. Generally we start around 5.30pm and end just after 7.00pm. We have managed to enter the kids in a competition in Fort William along with playing a couple of games against Lochyside and Banavie schools. The tournament was a great occasion for the kids and although they didn't win the tournament they did give a good account of themselves. The game against Lochyside ended in a penalty shootout after a 4-4 draw (Lochyside won 4-3). The game against Banavie ended in a 7-6 defeat. The games are good for the kids in terms of trying out what has been taught them. The final scores are irrelevant although some players do take things a bit seriously.

To raise funds we held a sponsored 'keepie-up' which was overseen by ex-professional Ross Jack who is the new development officer for the Highlands replacing Eric Black of ex Aberdeen fame. The children performed wonders and have raised probably 250 - 300. Any kids wishing to attend, come along on Friday 25th August. D. McEwan.



Pony Club

The season is well and truly in full swing now. Both girls have been in the ribbons at the shows. Katie attempted her first dressage test and was placed first. She was highly delighted. She also attended Pony Club summer camp back in July and was 7th out of 38 in the overall individual turnout which was a real achievement as she is still classed as one of the "weenies". Her best result though, was winning the First Ridden class at the Black Isle Show then going on to take the reserve championship. However she was a little upset when the papers managed to print every other champion and reserve but omitted Katie! She is now looking forward to competing in her first one day event (which consists of dressage, cross country then showjumping) in September. Vickie has done well too including competing at the Black Isle show with a broken arm (unbeknown to us at the time !!) The Shetland pony community has increased by 100% by the arrival of "Tom" and "Jerry" who belong to Alan Draper. He has promised though that he will leave the riding strictly to the grand children !!

Dulchreichard School

The new term at Dulchreichard Primary School has seen an intake of 5 new pupils and a loss of one. Simon MacLellan has gone to Fort Augustus. Michael Curley, Bhlaraidh, Vincent Tait, Levishie and Stuart Atkins, also Bhlaraidh have all started in Primary 1, John Thompson, Dalchreichart joins Amy in Primary 4 whilst Graham Taylor, Redburn joins Caroline in Primary 7. This has put the number of pupils up to 15 which entitles the school to a part time teacher - Mrs Margaret Allen, Dalcattaig.

Poets Corner

If you have never had your own land or livestock then you may still pass farms, crofts and fields and wonder at the temporary repairs that seem to become permanent. Old sugar beet bags, bits of pallets and string seem to be the main essential building materials. Here is an ode to that most relied-on piece of the farmers equipment !!

Whaur wid the Scottish fermer be
Wi'oot his baler twine
Fur hauding up 'is troosers
An' makking safe 'is kine ?

His jaikit wid flee open
An' fences a fa' doon;
The gateswid a' hing aff the latch
An' yowes wid rin tae toon.

An' when it comes tae motors,
There's naething quite sae fine
Fur daeing a' the wee repairs
As a bit o' baler twine.

It hauds the doors an' bunnet shut,
Keeps manifolds aff the grun'
If it wisnae fur the baler twine
the damnt things widnae run.

Oor 4x4 it goes like new
An' could be the smertest seen,
If only they would make the twine
in British Racing Green.

(That poem appeared in the Scottish Farmer Magazine)

Poets Corner

I noticed the following in a church magazine and thought it most appropriate.

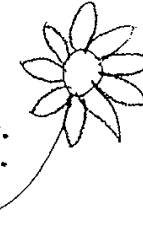
There are four people named EVERYBODY, SOMEBODY, ANYBODY and NOBODY.

An important job needs to be done.

EVERYBODY was asked to do it ! EVERYBODY was sure SOMEBODY would do it. ANYBODY could have done it but NOBODY did it. SOMEBODY got angry about that because it's EVERYBODY'S job. EVERYBODY thought that ANYBODY could do it but NOBODY realised that SOMEBODY wouldn't do it. It ended up by EVERYBODY blaming SOMEBODY when NOBODY did what ANYBODY could easily have done.

My Daisy

My Daisy was a special one.
My Daisy was a yellow one.
My Daisy was a gentle one.
My Daisy bloomed every year.
My Daisy never got stood on.
My Daisy was a happy one.
My Daisy was LOVELY.



Katie Common (9).



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Gala Day

For the first time in three years the 5th Annual Glenmoriston Gala Day was blessed with good weather. It was a lovely sunny day which drew spectators and made the day all the more enjoyable. Attractions this year included superb mock battles and displays of weaponry from the Clan Heritage Society, Highland Dancing from Mrs Everett's pupils, sheep shearing, children's races, Glenmoriston Gladiators (obstacle races for kids based on the TV show), cross-cut saws and other heavy events, duck race, side shows, pony rides, barbeque and tug o' war.

This years Gala Queen, chosen at a dance back in July, was Marion Service from Invergarry. She did a great job selling raffle tickets and drawing the raffle.

The day was rounded off with a dance in the hall to Hector MacFadyen from Oban.

The Gala committee wish to express their thanks to everybody who played a part in making this years Gala such a success, especially to those who helped out on the day. Special thanks must go to Derek MacFarland who, along with his trusty pipes, stepped in at the eleventh hour to replace the pipe band who cancelled at the last minute - a replacement band were not able to be found due to the World Pipe Band Championships being held on the same day ! Also thanks go to all those who helped with the tents etc. before and after the day, to all those who donated raffle prizes and to Christina Smith for acting out the role of "The Duck" with such ease !

The ammount raised this year was in excess of £1,300 which brings the grand total of funds to go towards building a new village hall to over £13,000.

Prize winners were :-

Duck Race : 1st - Margaret Allen, Dalcattaig.
2nd - Ronald MacDonald, Invergarry.
3rd - Heather Boyd, Invergarry.

Cross-Cut Saw - Brian Bisset and Geoff Mudditt.

Throwing the Weight - Brian Bisset.

Shot Putt - Neil Robertson.

Junior Gladiators : Champion - Carl Morrison
Runner-up - Steven Curley.

Senior Gladiators : Champion - Michelle Webster
Runner-up - Steven Smith.

There were literally dozens of raffle prizes, too many to mention here but congratulations to all winners especially to our own technical advisor of the magazine, David Andrews, Dalchreichart who won the top prize of £100. (All begging letters accepted but ignored !!)



Aren't you glad you weren't waiting for a bus at Invermoriston that day !!

Dulchreichard School

On Thursday we went for our school trip. We went on the cable car. I went with Mrs Girvan. We all had our lunch at the top. When we were finished I bought a pair of binoculars. It was good good fun.

Amy Bisset P.3

On my school trip we went to Little Marco's. The thing I liked best was the ball swamp. Then we went on the gondola. It was a great view from there. We had a picnic at the top. After we went for a walk. At the top you could nearly see the whole world. Everyone ran back down. Then we went back in the gondola.

Cassie McEwan P.2

It was very good in the gondola and the gondola was stopping all the time.

Simon MacLellan P,2

Yesterday the whole school went on the school trip. We went to Little Marco's and next we went up the gondola. Then I was tired and went home.

Vickie Common P.2

When we took off we had to take our lunches. Simon forgot his sandwiches.

Isla Bisset P.2

When we went up the ski-lift I liked the height and the heather. Then we went to little Marco's. It was a nice time and I liked jumping in the balls.

Nicola Curley P.2

Dulchreichard School

On Thursday we went on our school trip. At 9.30 we went in a mini-bus to little Marco's in Fort William. There were slides, bouncy castles and tunnels. When we were half through our time I was really hot. At the end we got some juice. Then we went out to the bus. After we went to Aonach Mor. We went in the gondola and we got a beautiful view. When we had got to the top we had our lunch. Then we went for a walk up the hill. When we got to the top there was a magnificent view of Fort William. Caroline and I put a stone on the cairn. All of us ran down and got there before the teachers. When we went down in the gondola we saw some people walking. To make the day longer Mummy, Vickie and I went swimming and dancing. I enjoyed the day.

Katie Common P.4

(P.S. from Mummy - The day really was long as Vickie managed to arrive at the bus at the end of the day minus her lunchbox. We returned to the gondola and sat at the bottom waiting for one to appear with a pink lunchbox in it. We sat and waited and waited until all the gondolas had gone through and there was still no sign of it - each gondola takes nearly half an hour to make the round trip - whereupon we discovered Vickie had not left the offending lunchbox in a gondola at all but in the shop - at the top of the hill !!

So we had to wait until somebody from the shop put the lunchbox into a gondola and that said gondola made its slow but purposeful trip to the bottom of the hill and deposited its contents into Vickies tired, grubby, little waiting hands.

A fun day was had by all except me !!)

Local News

WELCOME to Tony and Elma Johnston who, along with Elma's mother, Marion, have come to live at Wildfell, Dalcattaig.

WELCOME to Ian and Barbara Taylor and their sons, Jamie, Richard and Graham who have recently moved into the chalet at Redburn.

WELCOME to Ted and Sheila Lumb who have taken up residence in the new house at Torgoyle Bridge.

KEEP FIT (Circuit Training) - Every Thursday evening in the hall from 7.30pm. For more information contact Jeff Dymond Tel. 0320 351267

CONGRATULATIONS to James MacDonell, Dalcattaig who married Joan Paterson of Carnoch, Errogie recently.

CONGRATULATIONS to Fiona McAdams, Ceannacroc who graduated from Robert Gordon's University in Aberdeen with a BSc in Applied Sciences.

CONGRATULATIONS to Joanna and Andrew Ferguson, Riverside Park on the birth of their second child, Craig, a brother for Anna.

BEST WISHES for a speedy recovery to Mrs Gunn, Torgoyle after her recent stay in hospital.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY : Dulchreichard Primary School Board are holding a Sale of Work on Friday 23rd September in the village hall. All donations are most welcome. For further information contact Christina Smith (340277)