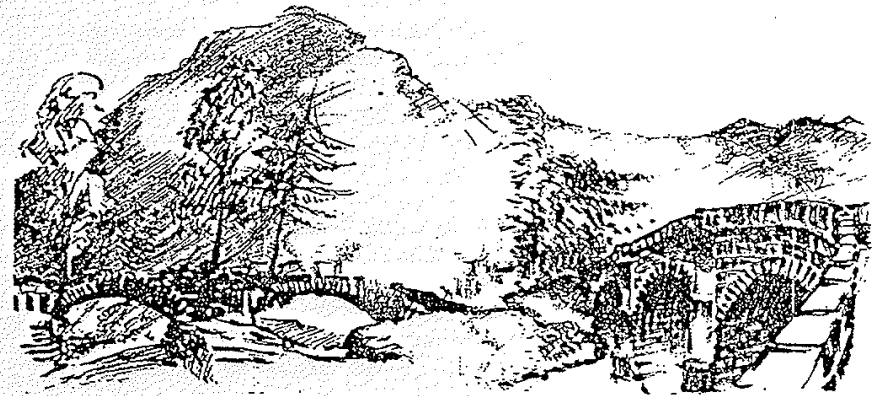


Or
M*riston*
Matters



Winter 95



*A Community newsletter
serving the residents & visitors
of Invermoriston and Glenmoriston*

No 52

35p

Editorial

A very Happy and Prosperous 1996 to you all !!

What a start to the winter ! A lovely picture postcard white Christmas followed by the excruciatingly cold snap which brought with it the horrors of burst pipes and flooding. Very few houses escaped unscathed and each has its own story to tell.

As I mentioned in the last issue David Andrews has indeed hung up his magazine production hat but we are still very much indebted to him for the use of his facilities which enable me to continue to produce the magazine at no cost to the community. Our grateful thanks indeed.

This issue is, as always, jam packed full of reports from all the festive activities. Also creeping in seems to be rather a large percentage of material appertaining to our lovely old folks or senior citizens as they prefer to be known. I hope they do not take offence to any of it as none is intended !!

If you have any non-libellous material not likely to cause offence then please send it to:

The Editor, "Moriston Matters",
The Old Well, Dalchreichart,
Glenmoriston, Inverness-shire.
IV3 6YJ. Tel. or Fax. 01320 340205.



Glenmoriston S.W.R.I.

This winter's session got off with a bring and Buy Auction in the Glenmoriston Arms Hotel in October. November found us having a tour of the costume department at Eden Court theatre followed by high tea there. Jennifer Thompson gave us a talk and exhibited some of her work on Cross-Stich in December. Our New Year's Dinner will be held in the hotel on January 30th.

An open night is being held on Tuesday 5th February at 7.30pm in the Tavern. This will be a talk and demonstration given by our local ambulance crew on "Accidents in the Home" and "What to do in an Emergency" with tea/coffee afterwards. Everybody is welcome to come along to this informative evening.

Our congratulations to our treasurer, Kirsty MacKenzie and her husband on the birth of a son, Matthew Ian back in October.

Isabel Anthony - SWRI President

St. Valentine

St. Valentine is another one of those saints we don't know much about - but his special day is probably the best known.

Tradition tells of a priest or Bishop of Termi who was put to death for his faith in the reign of the Roman Emperor Claudius II. There was a rule that soldiers shouldn't marry but Valentine performed marriage services in secret. When he was finally arrested he was thrown into jail, and the story goes that he fell in love with the jailer's daughter.

On the day that he was led out to his death, he left a little note in his cell addressed to her. It was signed "Your Valentine".

In Victorian times printed Valentines were the most popular cards of the whole year - more cards were sent for the 14th February than at Christmas.

Glenmoriston Village Hall

The AGM of the Glenmoriston Village Hall was held on 4th December 1995 and the following office bearers were elected:

Chairperson : Jeff Dymond
Secretary : David Andrews
Treasurer : Simon MacLellan

Committee Members : Ian Common, Mairi Dymond,
Tommy Girvan, Tony Johnstone,
Elma Johnstone, Gordon Jones,
Clare Levings, Pat MacDonald,
Dave McEwan, Janet Robertson,
Paddy Paterson
(Regional Councillor)

Matters arising from this and subsequent meetings:-

A proposal was made to invite 100 people to commit themselves to a "100" club raffle where for a pound a month members take part in a monthly raffle with a prize of £25. This proposal was modified to a six monthly commitment.

Tony Johnstone is inviting contributions from local people of their favourite recipes. If enough response is generated it is then proposed to publish them in simple book form for sale locally with profits going to the Hall funds. All recipes should be sent to Tony at Ar Dhachaidh, Dalcattaig, Invermorison Tel. 351203.

The Village Hall Committee propose running a Garden Stall, Cake and Candy and Afternoon Teas in the Hall on Saturday June 8th 1996. For details contact Clare Levings at the Chalet park, Invermoriston on 351254

Local News

GRAND EASTER DAY EXTRAVAGANZA

at 2.00 pm



Sunday 7th April 1996

Riverside Park, Invermoriston



GRAND FOOTBALL MATCH

Ladies of the Glen V the Stags



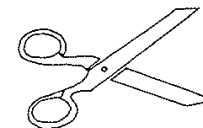
River Moriston Duck Race

Car Boot Sale at £5 per car entry fee

Children's Easter Egg Painting Competition
followed by an egg rolling event



BARBEQUE



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by DOREEN

Tel 01320 340214

Ladies, Gents
and Children

Dulchreichard School

Now that the new term is well under way, the Autumn term seems a dim and distant memory but we will cast our minds back briefly;

Our two P.1 pupils, Iona Greer and Kerri McEwan, settled in very quickly and are now very much a part of our "team".

Katie (and her Dad too) took part in a musical day at Charleston Academy in Inverness when instrument players from various parts of the Highlands gathered together for a musical workshop.

P5. and P6. spent an energetic morning at Inverness Sports Centre taking part, along with other primary school pupils, in indoor athletics.

The School sale of Work in November was both enjoyable and successful, boosting school funds by over £300. Many thanks to all those who were involved in that.

December arrived and the school was buzzing with all the usual activities in the lead up to Christmas. Read the children's articles for greater details on these activities !

I always say this coming term is a "good working term" and thats just what we are all looking forward to over the next few weeks.....

D.M. MacDonald

On Thursday 14th December we held a carol singing in Invermoriston at the hotel to raise money for the old people's party. We raised about £62. We sang 12 songs. It was cold but Mr and Mrs Scott kindly let us use the front of the hotel. It was very successful and thank you for the donations.

Amy Bisset P.5

Dulchreichard School

On Thursday all of our school went carol singing at the hotel. It was a clear dry night. All our mums and dads came and watched us. We were all standing outside the hotel. We also collected money for the old peoples party. We sang Jingle Bells and most other Christmas songs. We had a good time. Afterwards Mrs Scott gave us sweets. Thank you very much ! I wish you a very happy new year.

Cassie McEwan P.4

On Wednesday 13th December we all set off for Glenurquhart High School. We were going to see "Joseph". P.C. MacDonald took us in the mini-bus. There were a lot of people there. The music was excellent. You could hear it from the very back of the hall. I thought the signing was the best. I knew one of the songs. It is called "Any dream will do" And maybe when I go to secondary school I might get to do something like that.

Katie Common P.6

We went to see Joseph. Joseph sang very loud. I nearly had to cover my ears on the last song. Joseph burst out laughing. It was good. I enjoyed it.

Michael Curley P.2

The school play was on a Tuesday and it was very well done by Dulchreichard. It was about Jesus being born.

Duncan Greer P.3

It took a very long time to practise the play. I think the play was very good. We practised it two times at the hall. We practised a lot at school. Everyone knew their lines very well. My part was Gabriel. I had to learn a lot but I still did it. I thought my part was very good. I think everybody did too.

Vickie Common P.4

Dulchreichard School

At the concert there were a lot of people. It was funny when the innkeepers went, "Don't go knocking here, Don't go knocking there". They did their actions well when they were talking to Mary. Everybody got shortbread and mince pies.

Isla Bisset P.4

For Christmas dinner we had turkey and green beans. It was lovely. We all had some. We were very lucky.

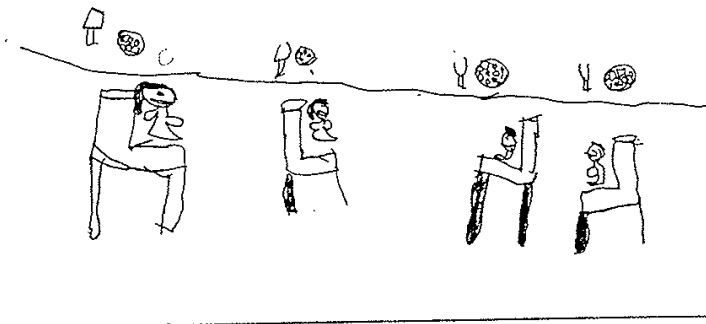
Stewart Atkins P.2

At the end of the term we had a Christmas party in the school. We played musical statues, musical arms, pass the parcel and strip the willow. It was fun. Afterwards we had some party food. When it was time to go home Ms MacDonald gave us a bag and some sweeties.

Nicola Curley P.4

At the school party Ms MacDonald was serving the food to us. We went to the canteen to play pass the parcel and musical arms. At the end we went home. I liked the party.

Kirsteen Smith P.4



At the party we all had food.

Kerri McEwan P.1

Thank You

For the teenagers trip to the cinema this year we went to see Goldeneye. First we all met up in Safeways car park to make sure everybody was there. We then went to the cinema. We went in about 7.30pm and came out about 9.45pm. The film was a typical Bond film, overdramatised and unrealistic. Despite the film not being very good I think that everybody enjoyed themselves one way or another. On behalf of everyone I would like to thank the Children's Committee for organising it all.

Darren McEwan (14)

Senior Citizens Party

On Friday 5th January the senior citizens of the Glen were treated to an evening of food, laughter and song. Over 50 guests both young and the not so young enjoyed a delicious meal then were entertained by some excellent local talent.

The community is very lucky to be capable of providing a complete evenings entertainment by drawing purely on local residents. The youngest artist was Anne MacLellan who demonstrated her prowess at Highland Dancing. Derek MacFarland gave a varied selection on the pipes whilst Neil and Shona Robertson along with Brian Bisset delighted with both guitar and song. Inbetween times John Grant kept the toes tapping and the dances flowing with his lively accordian playing.

Derek MacFarland gave a vote of thanks to the Hotel staff and entertainers and I'm sure everyone who was present would like to express their thanks to all concerned including the organisers, Christine McDonald and Anne Girvan. A fine night was had by all the revellers.

Christmas in the 1920's

(The following was sent in by Molly and Ray Common who live in Kent. Perhaps it may bring back memories to our elder statesmen and women)

The cakes are in ! The news heralded the coming of Christmas more surely than the Angels.

Today, many of the children might well have been classed as deprived, but in the twenties it would have been hotly denied by the proud, hard working mothers in our small town. Many were widowed or had husbands handicapped from injuries in the recent war. But they all cooked and the Christmas Cake was the reward for all the years baking. This was the occasion when the larger and poorer family was to be envied, since it would have used the most flour, and if they used most flour, they would have collected most labels.

The grocer bought his supply from across the county border and on each bag was the suppliers name. No flash "money off" labels in those days, all you had to do was cut off the name and on the number collected by the end of November, depended the size of your cake.

In my mind, the ingredients for these cakes were not only the peel and currants, the raisons and the dark brown sugar, it was also the flour. But this flour embraced the roly poly puddings, the pancakes, the apple pies and the seedy cake. The piece of dough, kneaded by little fingers until black as the "kitchener" in which it was baked. Also the jam tarts and sausage rools proudly carried from the Cookery Hut as we were urged to remember to bring tuppence and a pie dish to our next class.

About a week before the arrival of the cakes, the shop window would be cleared of its cardboard cut-outs; the old man in his bath chair, out-pacing the raging bull, thereby proving the sustaining quality of the brand of beef extract in his hand or perhaps the old lady in bonnet and shawl enjoying her Mazawattee ? These were replaced by a sheet of white paper and a card announcing the day of arrival.

The scene was set. There was speculation and excitement.

"Ours is certain to be the biggest" would claim the spokesman for a large family.

"No, ours, 'cos Gran gave us all hers".

"Ah, but our mum does more cooking than yours", and so it would continue until in its turn the card had been removed and the window filled.

The days routine of tables and sums, spelling and history, needlework and drawing were but steps on the long road to the grocer. Then, there they were. No two alike, wheels of colour filling the window. Icing varied in colour and design, each topped by seasonal ornaments and encircled with fringed paper. The cakes were boldly labelled with the residents name and once spotted it was "your" cake and indisputably the best !

Obituary

On the 14th December 1995 Joan Dorean Gunn lost her brave and long fight against cancer. She was 78. Joan came to live at Torgoyle Crescent, Dalchreichart, three years ago with her daughter Doreen and son-in-law Terry. She was a regular visitor to the Telford Centre in Fort Augustus. Along with her great friend and companion, Norman Bullock, (84), from Aultsigh, she shared a passion for music of all types. This mutual love of music was beautifully expressed at the funeral when Norman, full of emotion and battling against the cold in the church, gave a lovely and very moving rendition of Danny Boy on the flute, one of Joan's favourite pieces. It was a touching and very sentimental moment and one which the family will always cherish.

Terry and Doreen would like to thank all their friends for their kindness and generous donations which will go towards the building of a new conservatory at the Telford Centre.

You Know You Are Getting Old When.....

Everything hurts. What doesn't hurt, doesn't work.

The gleam in your eye is the sun shining on your bifocals.

You feel like the morning after, but you haven't been anywhere.

Your children begin to look middle aged.

You join a health club but don't go.

A dripping tap causes an uncontrollable urge.

You have all the answers but no one asks you the question.

You look forward to a dull evening.

You need glasses to find your glasses.

You turn out the light for economy - instead of romance.

You sit in a rocking chair and can't make it go.

Your knees buckle but your belt won't.

Your back goes out more than you do.

You put your bra on back to front and it fits better.

Your house is too big and your medicine cabinet isn't big enough.

You sink your teeth into a steak and they stay there.

Your birthday cake collapses from the weight of the candles.

You just want to live long enough to be a problem to your kids.

Did you know that old folks are worth a fortune ?
Silver in their hair, gold in their teeth, stones in
their kidneys, lead in their feet and gas in their
stomachs !!

* * * * *

I have become a little older since I saw you last. A few changes have come into my life. Frankly, I have become a frivolous old girl. I am seeing at least six gentlemen every day. As soon as I wake up Will Power helps me out of bed. Then I visit John. Next it is time for Mr Kellogg, followed by the refreshing company of Mr. Tetley, or my other friend I just call by his initials P.G. Then comes someone I do not like, Arthur Ritus. He knows he is not welcome but he insists and what is more, he stays for the rest of the day. He does not like to stay in one place at a time so he takes me from joint to joint. After such a busy day, I am really tired and glad to go to bed with Johnny Walker. What a life ! Oh yes, I nearly forgot, I also occasionally flirt with Al Zeimer.

* * * * *

The other day the Minister came to call. He said that at my time of life I should be thinking of the hereafter. I told him I did all the time. Whether I'm in the kitchen or the dining room, the bedroom or the garden, I stop and think " What am I here after ! "

* * * * *

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY
Old age is a privilege.
You cannot buy it.
You cannot sell it.
You cannot earn it.
You cannot inherit it.
You cannot merit it.
So, if you are fortunate enough to have it, for heaven's sake enjoy it; and don't complain about it. Remember, if you were not old -- you would be dead !

Childrens Committee

November 5th dawned bright and fair and a troupe of intrepid bonfire builders made their way towards Riverside Park armed with anything and everything that would burn. We were given literally dozens of unwanted pallets from Bruce Lindsay's coal yard for which we were very grateful. The finished article was huge and what a heat it gave out ! The "guy" enjoyed the last few moments of his paltry life in comfort in an armchair at the top of the bonfire !!

The fireworks were superb. Thanks to Allan Common and Billy Greer for lighting the touch paper. The barbeque was excellent and plentiful, this year being supplemented with hot, home-made soup which was much appreciated. Thanks go to Letterfindlay Game Services for the donation of the burgers. The only slight hiccup was the rolls. They resembled objects that have been subjected to too hot a wash ! I know the burgers shrink somewhat when cooked but even then they still dwarfed the rolls !! Slightly larger ones next time please !! Perhaps next year we will get everything right !! Many thanks to all those who helped out on the night, who supplied generators and lights, the bonfire builders and to all of you who turned out, making the evening a huge success.

On Saturday 23rd December the children of the Glen enjoyed their Christmas party in slightly different surroundings. Because of the condition of the Hall it was decided to hold the party in Fort Augustus hall. However, as luck would have it, even it wasn't immune to problems. We had to cope with a burst pipe which disabled the gents toilets ! Nevertheless a good time was had by all the children. They enjoyed a plentiful supply of food, the usual mixture of fun & games then a visit from Santa. Thankfully he managed to find us in our temporary change of venue ! My thanks to all the parents for supplying the food, to Jean Curley for doing the games, to Santa and his generosity and to all those who helped out in the kitchen. Let's hope that this year we will be able to hold our party in our Glen.

Before I finish I would like to express my very grateful thanks to my very hard working committee of Mary Greer, Jean Curley and Claire McEwan who, between them, organised all the childrens activities. (I just delegated !!) L.C.

Witty Ditty's

The teacher was exploring the children's notion of God. She asked , "Tommy, who is God ?". Six year old Tommy furrowed his brow and thought for a moment or two about the question. Suddenly he brightened, and with a smile said: "I think God is the man who saved the Queen !".

(from a Manchester Parish magazine)

A notice in the Botanical Gardens in Colombo, Sri Lanka reads:

If you with litter will disgrace,
and spoil the beauty of this place,
may indigestion rack your chest
and ants invade your pants and vest.

You can live to be a hundred if you give up all the things that want to make you live to be a hundred.
[Woody Allen]

Few things are more satisfying than seeing your children have teenagers of their own.
[Doug Larson]

Local News

WELCOME to Mr and Mrs Middleton who have come to live permanently at Primrose Bay.

WELCOME to the Watson family and their son, Alexander, who recently bought the house next to the Old Post Office in the village and have named it Glenrowan Lodge.

WELCOME to Mr And Mrs Walker who have taken up residence at Redburn,

BEST WISHES to Patty and Betty MacDonald who have moved from Aultsigh up to Mount View, Achnacran.

BEST WISHES and speedy recoveries to Colin Marshall, Dalcattaig, Mike Webster, Redburn, Alf Timcke, Dundreggan and to Terry Stevens, Inchmore, who haven't been 100% recently.

QUIZ NIGHT - Every Thursday evening in the Tavern at 9pm. Come on your own or bring a team of four. Teams are now battling it out for the Glenmoriston Quaich.

WHIST - Unfortunately due to ill health, lack of facilities and lack of support the Whist Club, which has been going for at least seven years, has now folded but hopefully this is only a temporary measure and is not for good.