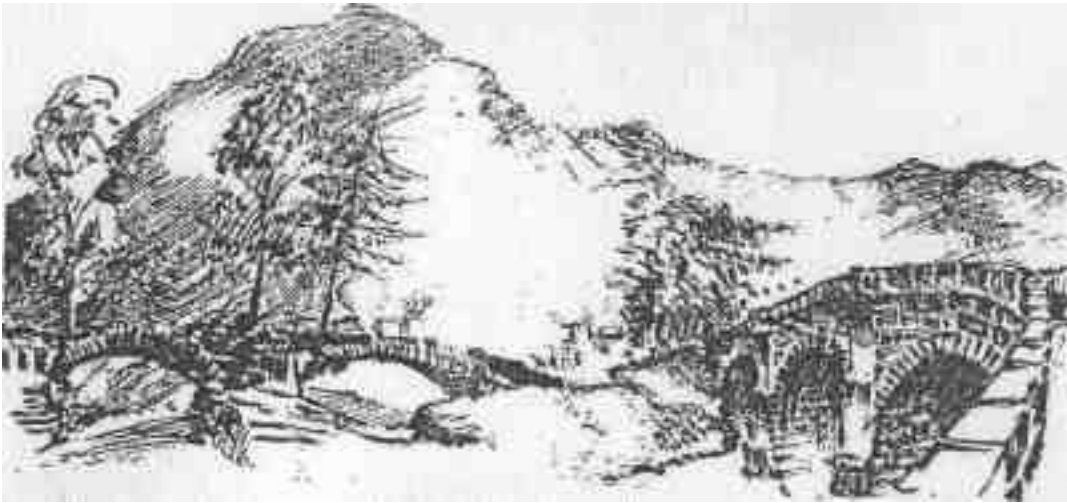


# *Moriston Matters Summer 98*



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

*No 62*

**40p**

# *Editorial*

Please accept my apologies for the delay in arrival of the summer edition. I always find this deadline almost impossible to meet - too many other distractions at this time of year.

Invermoriston is looking blooming lovely just now with the vast increase in floral arrangements supplied by the Highland Council. We have on display 12 hanging baskets, 4 troughs; 2 at the toilets and 2 at the war memorial, and 10 tubs. Simon and Sheila MacLellan have sole responsibility for the watering of these flowers and although they are perfectly happy to carry on, they would very much like some assistance from someone with a car, a tow-ball (on the car) and one evening a week to spare. The trailer and the other equipment needed will be supplied. If anyone is interested in helping with this task then please contact Simon on 351279.

I think the Hall Committee deserve a hearty vote of thanks, a pat on the back and a stiff dram for not cracking up under the strain imposed upon them over the new Hall. Read on and you'll see!

If anyone you know deserves a hearty vote of thanks or a pat on the back or even a stiff dram (but don't expect me to pay !) then please let me know at;

The Editor, "The Old Well", Dalchreichart, Glenmoriston, Inverness-shire. IV3 6YJ. Tel: 01320 340205

Annual subscriptions to the magazine can be obtained by sending your name and address along with £ 2.50 to the Editor at the above address. Every copy sold will help community funds - Thank You.

## ***Glenmoriston Millennium Hall***

In the last edition of the magazine, optimism about the new Hall was high: tender documents were out and we expected a contract to be awarded shortly, followed by immediate work on site. Nearly three months on we find ourselves back in very much the same situation we were in then but having weathered a great deal of hassle, heartache and hard work and with less optimism that all will be plain sailing.

How has this come about ? Firstly, when tenders were opened, the lowest of seven was £307,000, more than 50% above cost estimates. Since the MAXIMUM we can have available for everything is £246,000, this was a devastating blow.

Secondly, we realised that percolation tests for the proposed

soakaway under the car park had not been carried out and the area was found to be unsuitable. Thirdly, Protective Services, (who had approached us a year ago with the request that public toilets be incorporated within the fabric of the Hall, to the financial advantage of both Glenmoriston Hall funds and the public purse), made it known that they were having difficulty in getting a definite sum earmarked for that purpose and that, in any event, it would be less than originally anticipated.

Hopefully all these matters have been resolved, at least partially.

Without impairing the size or functioning of the Hall, we have identified ways in which specifications could be reduced. Tenders have gone out again with a revised bill of quantities and to six new contractors, in addition to any of the original who wished to retender. We keep our fingers crossed until the 27th July.

An acceptable site for a soakaway has been identified behind the new building but this will necessitate the inclusion of a pumping station. In case anyone is wondering why an existing soakaway from the old Hall or public toilets is not being used, the answer is that none ever existed !

On July 6th, Protective Services were able to confirm that £18,300 is now available for public toilets within the Hall. This must be excellent news for Invermoriston, as we now know we will not be among those communities which are to lose these facilities but it still presents us with a funding headache. Because this figure is £8,000 less than estimated when the Millennium grant application was submitted, and that grant will not fund more than 50% of the total project, we are now in danger of losing £8,000 from the Millennium grant.

To sum up: the Millennium Commission are supportive and very much want to see this Hall built; all the elements are in place for a successful retender, a start of building by the end of August and a new Hall by the end of February. However, with recent experiences and some problems still to be resolved, the Committee is not feeling euphoric. Some of you may know that the need to go back to the drawing board at a time when we were expecting to sign the building contract has led to the resignation of one member whose input had been of immense significance. If this latest effort is less than successful, is there anyone out there with the energy to carry on ?

# *Thank you*

I would just like to tell everyone how overwhelmed I felt at all the cards I received when I had to have my operation in May. It cheered me up, although I nearly ran out of room beside my bed ! As everyone has probably gathered it was a success and I am now on the road to a full recovery. Sometimes I do forget I've had the operation until I sneeze! That can be painful !

However, on a lighter note, I'd like to say 'thankyou' for all the cards and presents I was sent on my 21st birthday from all the people in the Glen. I guess Mum, Dad and Kirsteen have never been to Norwich so many times as in the last three months !

I will be home again for 5 days on the 5th August so I'll hopefully see everyone then.

Thanks again and best wishes, Michelle Smith.

## *Local Successes*

Fort Augustus Police Section held their annual Inter-Primary School five-a-side football competition back in June. There were five schools represented - Invergarry, Fort Augustus, Foyers, Stratherrick and Aldourie - with a total of 11 teams competing. The winners were a team from Kilchuimen Primary in Fort Augustus, who defeated Invergarry Primary in a penalty shoot-out in the final.

The competition was again sponsored by Hydro Electric, F.A., The Lock Inn, F.A. and Glenmoriston Stores, Invermoriston.

The standard of football was excellent, all teams seemingly having picked up tips from the abundance of football on the box, and the competition was played in glorious sunshine, making for a tremendous day's entertainment enjoyed by all.

The winning team was Andrew Gilchrist, Eoghan Farmer (both F.A.) Simon MacLellan, Alistair Levings (capt) and Nicola Curley (all Invermoriston)

The photo shows the winning team of Simon (back middle), Nicola and Alistair (front middle) with Brian MacDonald (Player of the Tournament - F.A.) and top goal scorer Andrew Ferguson from Invergarry.



## *Glengarry Ladies Shinty*

Glengarry Ladies Shinty Team once again proved themselves to be the best in Scotland when they won their inaugural tournament held in Fort William back in May. Eight teams took part with the teams split into two leagues consisting of established ones and "only just got going" ones. Kingussie, Kincaig, Glenurquhart, Invergarry 2nds and St. Andrews made up the latter league with Kingussie emerging as winners, proving the women are just as good at it as the men.

In the "we're supposed to know what we're doing" league the three old timers teams (only called thus due to the length of time they have been playing and not to the length of their teeth !) of Oban, Dunadd (Lochgilphead) and Invergarry battled it out for a lovely silver trophy donated for the occasion by the local contractors, Johnstones of Invergarry. With a win against Dunadd and a draw with Oban to their names, Invergarry strolled off with the trophy amidst cheers from local supporters. However the main achievement of the tournament, apart from Invergarry showing a fair amount of leg as well as how good they are, was to encourage new teams into the sport and to show them just how much fun can be gained from it. Judging by the smiles on the majority of players faces, this aim was achieved, (it can't have been from anything else as the bar wasn't open!)

BUT.....WAIT.....

At the beginning of July, Oban Camanachers held their annual tournament for the Ossian's shield, which attracted only the three aforementioned Premier League teams along with a scratch team made up from various players from all three teams. This event proved to be Invergarry's Culloden. Having played a tough match against Kingussie the evening previous as a finale to the 'Garry Games and spent the rest of the night and much of the next morning at the marquee dance, some of the players were not quite in tip-top condition.

Some felt, unfairly, that at times there was more than one ball on the park. Others complained of the goals moving. There was even mention of sabotage of the players boots by filling them with lead 1 Invergarrys first game was a nightmare and they were soundly beaten 3-1 by Dunadd who hadn't played the night before nor gone to any dances nor filled up with copious amounts of intoxicating liquor. This gave them the edge they required in order to beat the reigning champions. The Glengarry team did manage to raise their game and win their other two matches leaving them as runners-up to Dunadd. A silver medal amongst all their previous golds but this is what happens to teams at the top - there's only one way they can go - and that's down! The photo shows the team after their win at Fort William.



# *Dulchreichard School*

On Monday the 8th June we went on a school trip to Kyle to go swimming and we had fun at Kyle. Then we went to Plockton to see the seals then we got to drive the boat and we got a teddy and we called him Callum and he is at the school for good. We went to see the Danish people before we went to see the seals then we played a game with them. We went in pairs to play the game. We had fun with them and we bought an ice-cream. We were lucky. The weather was quite good. It was raining but it was good.

Kirsteen Smith P.6

(I suppose, going by this years standards, if it was just "raining" then the weather probably was quite good !! - ED)

Cassie and I went to the North of Scotland Athletics Championships in Inverness Sports Centre. Cassie and I were in the relay team with two girls called Ashley and Donna from Fort Augustus. Donna ran first, Ashley ran second, Cassie ran third and I ran last. We came in fourth and that was good for no practice.

Isla Bisset P.6

On Tuesday at the end of May we joined Kilchuimen Academy for our school sports. Cassie, Isla and myself entered the athletics which included long jump, 800m, 100m, cricket ball throw and shot putt. We were against Ashley Paterson and Donna Dempster from Fort Augustus, and Nicola Curley and Triona, both from Invermoriston. We were full of success when we all won a medal - myself third, Cassie second equal with Ashley and Isla first. There was also boys athletics and Alistair Levings won a silver medal. Then there was original races which Amy, Kirsteen, Kerri, Sarah and Joe were in. The weather was horrible, wet and cold but we still went on with it.

Vickie Common P.6

On Fridays, primaries 6 and 7 from Dulchreichard Primary School go swimming with Kilchuimen Primary. There are three different classes, bronze, silver and gold. Fortunately I'm in the third group and have learned a great deal. For one thing I'm a lot better diver (and can dive through a hoop). I can do tumble turns and treading water with no hands and waving. The other pupils who go swimming from my school are Amy and Vickie who are in the 2nd group and Kirsteen and Isla who are in the first. My favourite strokes are front crawl and breast stroke. I enjoy it very much.

Cassie McEwan P.6

MY 7 YEARS AT DULCHREICHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL Way back in August 1990 I started Dulchreichard Primary School. As the years passed I learnt more from different subjects and teachers. Right from the beginning of P.1 I learnt how to count from 1-10 then P.2 10 - 100 right up to P.7. I have enjoyed all my years at Primary School and learning all the different subjects and meeting different people. I will miss some of my friends at Primary School but now I am taking a big step in P.7 and I am going to Glenurquhart High School after the summer holidays. I am looking forward to the years ahead of me at High School and meeting new people. I'd like to thank all the teachers who taught me through my years at Primary School.

Amy Bisset P.7

#### TIE DYEING

You need cotton, red dye, blue dye, elastic bands, 2 pots, rubbers gloves, a few stones and scissors.

1. Put the square of cotton into a fan shape.
2. Get the elastic bands and put one in the middle and get the other two and put them on the outside.
3. Get the dye and put the shape into the dye. Leave it for a night. In the morning take it out and use the scissors to cut the elastic bands and find out what it is.

Kerri McEwan P.2

## *Pony Club*

Back at the beginning of June, Leslie Bisset's mare, Megan, safely gave birth to a lovely colt foal called Kyle. Both mother and son will be making their debut appearance at the Black Isle show at the beginning of August.

Sheila MacLellan gave back Midnight, the horse she had on loan and replaced him with a Highland youngster called Angus.

We had to finally admit that Katie had pretty well out grown all the small ponies that we have, now that she can wrap her legs around their bellies at least twice ! And so we took a trip down to the stud where our own pony, Casey, originated from in Fife and came home with a distant relation of hers called Forret Mooncracker or just "Cracker" for short. He is a beautiful big bay gelding and we have very high hopes for him although it will take some time as he is still very much a "baby" just now at only four.

Both Katie and Vickie had a good start to the season with good Hunter trial results and early season showing wins culminating in an extremely good 2nd place at the Highland Show where we beat



many professionally produced ponies. The next couple of months will be hectic with the start of the County shows beginning with Dornoch.

During August Katie will take part in the Pony Club Inter-branch competitions to be held at the Moray and Nairn Pony Club and which is open to all clubs north of the Forth/Clyde valley. She was chosen for the intermediate team riding her friends big horse, TeeJay, on which she has been competing all year. She was highly delighted to be picked and is really looking forward to the event.

Poor Vickie may well be out of action for at least a couple of weeks after falling off one of the ponies and breaking her arm yet again! That's three breaks now although only two have been through falling off.

## *Letters to the Editor*

18 East Main Avenue,  
Aberdeen,  
AB16 6UX.  
20 April 1998

Dear Mrs Common,

Thankyou for the latest issue of "Moriston Matters", always a pleasure to receive. I'm enclosing a wee bit of "nostalgia" which you can use if you want a corner filled! I don't know if wedding receptions were frequently held in the hall, but someone might be able to tell you.

OLD HALL MEMORIES

While reading the nostalgic articles in "Moriston Matters" I was reminded of a delightful event I was fortunate enough to attend. It was a wedding reception in the early fifties. If my memory serves me well the catering was done by the hotel. That day the hall looked unfamiliar with flowers for decoration and the odd rug or two on the floor. The bride was a bonnie Shetland lassie and the groom came all the way from Southampton. How did they meet ? Both were working in the Forestry in Invermoriston and Cupid did the rest. The bride and groom are Mr. and Mrs. Ted Saunders who now retired and live in Fetlar, Shetland.

It is now nearly two years since we have been in the Glen ( health ) but hopefully it will not be long till we return. Hope you have enjoyed this wonderful winter. What a joy it has been to see the spring flowers without their usual covering of snow !

Hope you, your husband and family are all well. Yours sincerley, . Mrs Jessie S. Baxter.

# ***Witty Ditty's***

This is a guide to Employee performance. Which category do you fall into ? !!

Area of Performance - QUANTITY Degree of Performance

OUTSTANDING.....Leaps tall buildings with a  
single bound ABOVE STANDARD.....Leaps tall  
buildings with a  
running start STANDARD.....Can leap  
short buildings.

SOMEWHAT BELOW.....Bumps into buildings

STANDARD

FAR BELOW STANDARD...Cannot recognize buildings

Area of Performance - QUALITY Degree of Performance

OUTSTANDING.....Walks on water

ABOVE STANDARD.....Keeps head above water under

stress STANDARD.....Washes with water

SOMEWHAT BELOW.....Drinks water

STANDARD

FAR BELOW STANDARD...Passes water in emergencies

Area of performance - REPORTING HABITS Degree of Performance

OUTSTANDING.....Is faster than a speeding

bullet ABOVE STANDARD.....Is as fast as a

speeding bullet

STANDARD.....Would you believe a slow bullet

SOMEWHAT BELOW.....Misfires frequently

STANDARD

FAR BELOW STANDARD...Wounds self when handling gun

Area of Performance - ABILITY TO DEAL WITH

WORK SITUATIONS

Degree of Performance

OUTSTANDING..... Is stronger than a locomotive

ABOVE STANDARD.....Is as strong as a bull elephant

STANDARD.....Almost as strong as a bull

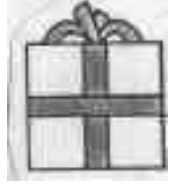
SOMEWHAT BELOW.....Shoots the bull

STANDARD

FAR BELOW STANDARD...Smells like a bull

Area of Performance - PERSONAL RELATIONS Degree of Performance  
OUTSTANDING.....Talks with God  
ABOVE STANDARD.....Talks with the angels  
STANDARD.....Talks to himself  
SOMEWHAT BELOW.....Argues with himself  
STANDARD  
FAR BELOW STANDARD... Looses arguments with himself

GOOD ! BETTER ! BEST !1 Let us never rest Till our good  
is better And our better is best.



Yesterday is history,

Tomorrow is mystery.  
Enjoy today; it is a gift.  
That's why it is called the present

If at first you don't succeed don't take any more stupid chances !  
To be upset over what you don't have is to waste what you do  
have.  
If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door !

## *A Trip to Denmark*

A group of the ten best fiddlers and three staff from Glenurquhart High School in Drumnadrochit travelled to Denmark in early June as the guests of Falsters Lilleskole near Nykobing (about 90 minutes south of Copenhagen). Katie Common was one of those fiddlers.

The fiddle group were the guests of honour at a huge small-schools music festival in which over 600 students from all over Europe took part in a two-day extravaganza of music. The event was hosted by Falsters Lilleskole (Falsters Little School) as part of their 25th anniversary celebrations of the opening of the school. The musicians from Drum were asked to play and take part in various ways and, in return, the Danes met all the costs and provided them with hospitality, accommodation and a warm welcome. The group, led by Olivia Ross, visiting strings teacher for this area, and Sheila Bruce, music teacher at Drum school, performed for an hour on Tuesday 16th June. Mr Broadley, headmaster of the school, who also went on the trip, ably assisted by all members of the group, attempted to teach 300 Danes the Gay Gordons and even Strip the Willow in the afternoon. A great time was had by all in a hectic and crammed programme of events over the eight

day excursion which included visits to Copenhagen, the Tivoli Gardens and Rock Music concerts.

The visitors were accommodated by Danish families, who had taken part in an exchange with the school back in April, for the first few days and then, over the duration of the festival, sleeping arrangements were by way of a tented village which was desperately trying to stay put in the strong winds !

The group from Glenurquhart High School were magnificent ambassadors for the school and were congratulated on their behavior and high quality of their fiddle music. The local Director of Education (Denmark) was so impressed that he has promised to welcome them again in the year 2000, making a Danish exchange a possibility once every two years.

## *Local News*

On a sunny Saturday in May (was there one ?) Hugh and Caren Minne, who live at Aultsigh, set out with their spades, intent on doing a cleaning-up job at the ancient site of Saint Columba's well, near the Glenmoriston Stores. At the same time, Mike Alien and I, not wishing to be upstaged by their magnificent efforts, decided to do a bit of "Wombling". At the end of two hours we had filled half a dozen black dustbin bags with all kinds of "goodies", such as crisp packets, drinks cans and bottles, chewing gum and chocolate wrappers, lolly sticks, as well as plastic carrier bags, lengths of plastic tubing, crabs (dead ones I presume), discarded hub-caps etc. etc., and had, temporarily at least, restored the area between the Old Smithy and the Well to it's uncluttered pristine glory. During this period the Diggers had miraculously removed about a tonne of unspeakable muddy gunge, revealing the outline of the Well and unblocking it's original water inlets and outlets. We discussed future maintenance of the Well and agreed that, at a moderate cost, it could be surrounded by a small rock garden and/or a modest plantation of flowers and shrubs, so that, instead of being an eyesore, it could become a pleasant focus of historical interest for visitors and residents alike.

If anyone is interested in taking part in this project, or can offer any help or advice, please 'phone me on 351326. Mave Ersu.



## *The Moriston Movers*

No, this is not a local removal firm, but what the Glenmoriston walking group calls itself !

Ten of us enjoyed the walks on 26th April (as described in the Spring issue of the magazine), the same number that on May 10th made the 6 mile circuit of Loch Lundie.

Starting at Invergarry, the walk began with a gentle climb alongside the wooded Aldernaig burn, soon emerging onto open moorland with lovely views of Loch Lundie and the hills beyond. Allan Dubh (black Allan), the leader of the MacDonalds in the early 1600s, was reputed to have lived for some time on an island in the loch.

After reaching the far side of the loch, a pleasant grassy spot beside Allt Lundie provided the ideal setting for our picnic lunch. Replete, the party continued to the top of the rise, waved farewell to Loch Lundie, then tramped the long downhill track to the cars.

The next outing took place on June 14th when six of the group parked at Foyers, walked through pleasant wood and farmland to Whitebridge where a good pub lunch and a pint or two fortified us for returning by the same route. We then descended to the falls viewing platforms and were rewarded by the sight of a substantial volume of water cascading down the 90ft drop.

Only five intrepid members started out on 28th June intending to do the ten mile circuit of Loch Affric; however, by mutual consent, with all the party soaked to the skin and no sign of any let up in the rain, we turned back after about 2 miles or so. After all, the purpose of these walks is to enjoy ourselves, not plod on implacably like drowned rats !

No date has been set for the next walk, but anyone interested should look for a notice at the shop, or phone me on 340265.

Peter Giddy

# *Glenmoriston Camera Group*

One of the many groups to form as a result of the interest generated by the new hall is the Glenmoriston Camera Group. Meeting every month or so, we currently have seven members with a wide variety of interest and experience but we are looking for more members to join us.

So what can we offer to you ?

1) How to take better photographs.

Constructive criticism of members work is an important part of our meetings where we can all learn from a second, third or even fourth opinion. Advice on composition and how to deal with particular subjects follows on from this.

2) How to get the best from your camera.

Amongst our members we can probably answer most problems you are likely to encounter in using your camera. Learning how to use your camera properly allows you to get more enjoyment from your photography as well as better photographs.

3) Learn new skills. There are too many to mention. Every meeting we try to cover some topic that is new to some of our members.

4) Try something new. Each meeting a photographic challenge is set to encourage members to get out and improve their skills through practice.

So whether you wish to learn, pass on your experience and enthusiasm to others or simply meet and talk cameras with others who share your interest, come and join us. Everyone is welcome.

If you are interested contact the secretary - David Webster (01320 351201) - for more information.

# *Glenmoriston Village Hall 1979*

The second part of the ceilidh held in Glenmoriston Public Hall on the evening of the 31st March 1979 to mark the re-opening of the Hall took the form of a "This is Your Life" of the Hall itself. It was, of course, modelled on the television programme, but only loosely so. However, there was nothing 'loose' about the way in which the presenter of the programme, Mr. Hamish MacDonald, Fort Augustus (but of strong Glenmoriston connection) admirably handled the material, letting history slip back and rolling it forwards again.

The purpose of this programme was, in a modest way, to give some idea of the history of the Hall's half-century or so of existence, featuring, as far as possible, personalities. It was

stressed that of course those who very kindly consented to taking part were representative, for many and various were they who, over the years, played parts in the Hall's continued functioning as a focal point in the community.

In calling forwards Pat MacDonald, The Pier, Jimmy MacEwan, Inverness, formerly of Port Clair and The Pier, and Stanley Grant, Inverness and once of Craighan, Hamish MacDonald explained the link between past and present, for they are the sons of three of the Hall's founder-members, Donald MacDonald (Danny the Pier), Jimmy MacEwan, Forester and A.D. Grant, Factor, respectively. These three imparted their own interesting and diverting memories of different aspects of Hall life.

Since the Hall began it's life, Mr. MacDonald went on, it had been famed for it's cheerfulness and hospitality; and to represent all those who had provided this last, the many "tea ladies", he called on Kate Stoddart, Riverside Park, who, as she was escorted towards the stage, was heard to say protestingly that she had to 'see to the tea' for this very evening. But forwards she came, and explained how these early tea ladies had to be literally "drawers of water", for they had to go to St. Columba's Well for it.

Mrs Mary Kennedy, Kiltarlity, the Rev. Peter Fraser's sister, was asked by Hamish to be the next representative. Those whom she represented were, and continue to be, an essential part of Glenmoriston community life, the persons who come into the place and who, if they do not stay, yet sojourn to contribute a great deal. Mary Kennedy was sure, she revealed, that she must have attended the opening dance in the Hall back in 1928, for then she had been helping Mrs MacDonald, The Pier, (at a time when Pat was "then a good little boy). And she recounted how Ronnie would give her 2/- to go to a dance (it was 2/- then for ladies and 2/6 for men!) and how Danny, who was "on the door" would wave her in. So she had her 2/- and her dance.

But the Hall was not, of course, used for dances alone. As the years rolled on various activities were catered for. In 1931, a Glenmoriston Social Club was formed. It had to provide its own coal and paraffin. In that year too the Fort Augustus Branch of the Bank of Scotland started using the Hall for the convenience of its customers, and the W.R.I, was formed. In 1934, the Women's Guild began to make use of the Hall, and the Roman Catholic Church introduced worship. A choral class was meeting once a week in 1937... At this point Mr MacDonald interrupted his narrative to convey the good wishes to the Hall and all concerned of Mr Jack MacKenzie and to hand over a personal message from him to Pat the Pier. Jack MacKenzie, now in Liberton Hospital, Edinburgh, is the son of a former headmistress of Invermoriston School, a previous Headmaster of which, Mr Pollock had been one

of the Hall's founding members.

Then, the narrative being resumed, came the outbreak of World War 2, and the Hall was in action in another way. From 1940 onwards it was used by the Home Guard and the Barrier Guard as a base for excercises. Then there broke out the "great fire" that ravaged the plantations of Sron-na-Muic - and there came a "voice" from the past.

This was the recorded voice of the Rev. Duncan M. Turner, the Rev. Peter Fraser's predecessor. Mr Turner on being contacted was delighted to renew his association with the Glen by sending a taped message, which, in a highly entertaining and instructive way, dwelt mainly on the part played in fighting the forest fire. A dance, Petronella, brought this first part of the programme to an end.

An account of the second half of the "This is your Life" of the Hall will appear in the next edition of "Moriston Matters".

The following extract appeared in the February 1978 edition (No.5) of the magazine.

"The dance held in Glenmoriston Hall on Friday 20th January 1978, in aid of our Hall funds realised £13.00. Dances in Invermoriston usually swing along to a pleasant tune, but alas this was not the case and it ended up with about £12.00 worth of damage being done. All dance notices will now be billed with RIGHT OF ADMISSION RESERVED".

Another, and this time slightly more successful, fundraising event was held on Saturday 23rd September 1978. It was midnight exactly when four walkers, Margaret Ferguson, Duncan MacDonald, Allan Nairn and Margaret Smart dipped ritualistic feet into the waves of the Atlantic at Kyle of Lochalsh; it was 7.10 pm when they arrived, to the accompaniment of the music of the pipes and a welcoming Glen, into the Hotel for a more traditional "dipping".

This fantastic effort raised £819.53 which allowed the renovations and new extentions to the hall to be completed. Perhaps the 'Moriston Movers' might like to try that walk sometime I



# Church News

Holiday time is here again - hooray ! Most people like holidays. I'm sure we were created with an inbuilt need for relaxation, and holidays are part of many people's relaxation. Now, here's the question : If you live in one of the world's most beautiful countries, where would you choose to spend your holidays ? Many people will try to go somewhere with guaranteed sunshine. The odd thing is that an increasing number of people are wary of the sun's harmful rays - skin cancer etc., yet the number of summer-sun holidays increases year by year.

Other people will choose activity holidays - walking, cycling, castles, fauna or flora. Enthusiasts will travel any distance to attend the Volkswagen Beetle rallies. Some holidays will leave people more tired than when they arrived. Other holidays are undertaken out of a sense of duty - visiting relatives at a distance.

Part of our need for holidays is a dis-satisfaction even with our most beautiful surroundings - we are looking for something more. Yet few of us would choose to live on the island of Majorca - it would seem even less satisfying.

This inner longing for something more - or something better - is not necessarily a bad thing. Indeed it is quite natural. There is an inner longing, whether acknowledged or not, in human beings, for something more than our present existence.

The reason we have this inner desire is that we all have an eternal element inside us. An eternal part will not be entirely satisfied with anything temporary - it can only be filled with something eternal. It is this eternal part which we seek to explore in Church every week - maybe, when considering your holidays, you should think about satisfying that deepest longing, and come to Church to see if that can be filled ? 1

We have services at 10.30am and 6.00 pm every Sunday in Drumnadrochit and on the first Sunday of every month in Dulchreichard School at 3.00 pm.

## ***Glenmoriston Youth Club***

An auction and raffle was held on June 27th with all the proceeds raised to go towards the Glenmoriston Youth Club. The objective of the Club is to provide the local children with their own organisation, for their own needs. Many of the local children do not have the facilities to enjoy as those "townies" do. By raising funds, the Youth will be able to have some of their own entertainment and fun, locally. The aim of the Youth Club is to

have a committee of local children who decide democratically which activities they would like to undertake (under supervision of course).

The Auction was held in the Glenmoriston Arms Hotel/Bistro thanks to the support of Carol and Neil Scott and their staff. The Scotts also donated one of the highest paid for "lots".

Local talented musicians collectively known as, "The Doghouse Ceilidh Band", started the evening off and played a great session.

Locally, the support for the auction was great. Ricky was the auctioneer, supported by Debbie, 'the watcher', who was so good at watching, the auction had to re-start three times ! Ricky, for his part, kept the bidding going so well that by the end of the auction, no-one dared move, even to get a sip of their drink for fear of being caught as a bidder ! Even Sgt. Henderson and his wife did not escape him! However, joking apart, we raised £ 224 .50 on the night which, added to the funds raised at the Whist Drive in Fort Augustus Telford Centre organised by Sandy and Isobel Grieg together with the "Bottle" in the shop, has really boosted the funds which was the purpose of the evening. Particular thanks to all the locals who participated in the auction, turned up on the night, or kindly donated funds or "lots" to the Youth Club.

Finally, to all those adults and particularly children who donate their "change" to the "bottle" in the shop, many thanks and just a reminder it is still there and all donations are very welcome.

## *Witty Ditty's*

### GETTING OLD

Everything is further away than it used to be. It's twice as far to the corner and they've added a hill. I've given up running for the bus - it leaves earlier now. They're making stairs steeper than in the old days and have you noticed the smaller print they use in newspapers ? I ran into an old classmate and she's aged so much she didn't recognise me. This morning I glanced at my reflection. Really, they don't even make good mirrors now !

### TO BARRIER OR NOT TO BARRIER

Donald, an old railwayman in charge of a remote Highland line, was roused by an angry motorist waiting at the level crossing. Donald had accidentally left one of the two barriers raised, leaving the other horizontal. Turning to his wife, the driver shouted sarcastically, "The man's a fool. Either a train is expected or not !". Donald, hackles up, replied calmly, "Ah, well,

that's where you are mistaken, sir. You see with snow forecast for later, I'm only half expecting a train.!

GROWING OLDER GRACEFULLY

Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to straighten out everybodies affairs.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details, give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips on my aches and pains.

Keep me reasonably sweet.

I do not want to be a saint, some of them are so hard to live with, but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Give me ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And give me. Lord, the grace to tell them so.

## *Local News*

CONGRATULATIONS to Willie and Tricia Archibald on the birth of their beautiful baby girl, a sister for Stuart, on the 18th May. They have chosen an unusual name, Shaina, which I'm reliably informed is Gaelic for beautiful.

WELCOME to the new residents of the Loch Ness Youth Hostel. They are warden, Vera Cosgrove and her daughter, Valerie, and her assistant, Joy Cleave. Vera, who is French by origin and Joy who hails from London, have been running the Youth Hostel in Broadford on Skye for the last few years.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following Glenurquhart High School pupils on their recent successes.

Richard Taylor, Redburn for gaining 5 Scotvec Certificates for Achievement.

Graham Taylor, Redburn for being 3rd year boys sports runner-up. Katie Common for gaining the John Cameron Certificate for Achievement in Music.

CONGRATULATIONS to Alistair Levings who was the joint runner-up in Kilchuimen Academy's school sports recently. Also to brother. Peter, who was the senior schools sports champion then went on to represent his school in the Inter-School sports championships where he won silver in both the shot and the javelin.