



## Foyers Fools Triathlon 2008



On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November, anyone out and about around Foyers would have noticed some unusual activity on the loch. Strange lycra-clad fools, bursting with fitness and fired by competition, were to be seen haring about in all directions and on both sides of the loch. What on earth was going on?!

Well, these were fools indeed, “Foyers Fools” to be precise, because Saturday saw the launch of the inaugural “**Foyers Fools Triathlon**”, a 25 mile adventure racing extravaganza of biking, kayaking, mountain running and bacon buttie eating.

Competitors had to mountain bike the rough trail from Allt na Goibhre to Lower Foyers, ditch the bikes, leap into their shiny colourful kayaks and paddle like demons across the Loch. Once on the north side they donned their safety packs, waded the culvert under

### Inside this issue:

Letters from a Large Loch	3
Post Office Apology	5
Farraline Wedding	6
Boleskine Wetland Project	7
Stratherrick Primary School	9
Council Minutes	10
Christian comment	16
BB accounts	18
Bus Time Tables	19
Wade Bridge Update	20
Adverts	21-24

the A82 and then bust a gut to run to the summit of Meall Fuar-mhonaidh, 700m up in the sky. The return trip to the finish, body depleted of energy and legs racked with cramp, was a true test of survival of the fittest. Organisers were mindful of the masochistic preferences of competitors such as these and therefore set the finish line back at the top of the Allt na Goibhre hill.....this is known as an Alpine finish. Having sacrificed everything to the glory of competition, the athletes collapsed exhausted over the line and were slowly revived by copious quantities of tea and bacon butties.....lifesavers.



This photograph is at the start of the race. The photograph on the front page shows competitors running back down Meall Fuar-mhonaidh

**Foyers Fools Triathlon** event organisers, Ed and Leah Ley-Wilson from Allt na Goibhre, were delighted with the turnout for this first, invitation-only event. “There were some class acts in the race line-up,” says Ed, “with some top endurance athletes from around the Highlands including two Stratherrick locals taking part as well.” Ed, who has long experience of living and working on both west coast and Loch Ness waters, also praises his seven strong safety team. “The safety of our competitors was paramount and we had a safety team second to none. Loch Ness can be brutal, with strong winds, cold water and long fetches. It’s not a place to mess about unprepared and local boatman Rob Mullen and both kayak and shore-based safety personnel ensured competitors were properly kitted out and felt looked after. Their calm presence made the day the success it was.”

The winning time was an astonishing 3 hours and 7 minutes by Ade Pottinger from the Black Isle. First local man was Karl Bins in 3 hours and 15 minutes and first lady was Katy Boocock in 4 hours and 8 minutes.

All Foyers Fools competitors agreed that the bacon butties were the best ever.

If you want to become a **Foyers Fool** next year, make sure you can bike, kayak and mountain run to a good level, then call Ed and Leah on 01456 486642.

Next year's Foyers Fools Triathlon will be held slightly earlier in the year but that won't make it any easier.....you've been warned!

## Letters from a Large Loch

Dear Dad,

Life by the loch moves along apace and, as always, contains something new and interesting for the eyes of an incomer. Just as the land of my birth recently had a seminal moment of historical resonance (did you stay up to watch the election returns?), so too, did I, in a much smaller way, participate in an event that had wonderful cultural resonance here near Loch Ness. I played for, and if it can be said, had a great time at, a funeral.

As you know, I've played many funerals but this one was special. It was different from any I've ever played but very like so many I've only read about and seen photos of in the highlands. This one seemed to me to be a genuine expression of a deeply rooted cultural heritage.

Tradition can sometimes be little more than one man repeating the previous man's mistakes; but not always and certainly not in this case. HOW we do something defines WHO we are. How this service was performed seemed a sincere expression of the family's cultural identity. It was genuine; the participants weren't trying to be anything other than what they seemed to be and this ceremony defined them as that - as Highlanders.

The day of the funeral could only be described as dreich. Think miserable, wet, cold, gloomy, overcast, sunless, sodden, soaked, dull, dismal, damp, drizzly, drab and you'll get the idea. Did I say rainy? Add that. Ach weel, at least I get to test out my new heavier Inverness cape. That's the long, usually black and layered cape pipers wear so they can play in the rain and keep the bag and themselves reasonably dry. The church where the service was to take place is a small Catholic church in Stratherrick, the next strath over the ridge from the lochside. I arrived about fifteen minutes before the start of the service only to find the church already packed. There were three priests waiting to enter and Angus Grant, a brilliant and extremely well known fiddler, was seated at the back. There was a line of people standing beneath the trees outside and there were speakers set up outdoors for them to hear the service. I had been told her name but for whom, really, I wondered, was I playing?

The departed was Ishbel McNally, a local woman born in Killiechoilum, a small settlement in Stratherrick. Listening to the eulogies I wish that, in my as yet brief time here, I had had the chance to meet her or even to get to know her. One of the stories in her eulogy was an incident that took place when she left the Highlands to attend secondary school in Edinburgh. She was confronted in that august and serious town by a sign (probably in Princes Street Gardens) that read "keep off the grass". Imagine how ridiculous that must have seemed to a Highland girl. But being a law abiding young lass, and a Highlander who, perhaps not in an angry, ranting, noisy manner but with subtlety and wit, would point out the silliness of such a rule by following the letter of it. She kept off the grass by scaling Castle Rock. It was not long before she was noticed by one of Edinburgh's finest who threatened to report her to another member of Edinburgh's finest.-

her brother. She descended and that, it was said, was her only known brush with the law. Listening to the stories about her made it easy to admire a woman I never had the good fortune to know.

As the service finished, Angus Grant played Ishbel's coffin out of the church. Once outside, it was hoisted by the pall bearers the old fashioned way, onto their shoulders as they linked arms over the necks of the fellow opposite. I then began playing the procession from the church to the road. Ishbel must have had connections for the rain began to let up. The tune I chose was "Lord Lovat's Lament". One of Ishbel's daughters had told me that the church had in fact been given to the people of Stratherrick by Lord Lovat.

Our destination was the cemetery down the road and across it and up a slight hill. One of the members who helped lead the way wondered about the traffic on the road to which I replied "We have the kilts, we have the pipes and we have the coffin. They can wait for us." And they did.

Such was the number of friends and relatives wishing to carry Ishbel to her final resting place that I needed to stop three times to allow pallbearers to change. At one changeover I looked back while playing and the scene was indistinguishable from photographs I've seen of funerals of great pipers from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The coffin was on the shoulders, arms were linked around necks, the pallbearers were wearing either kilts or plus fours, the procession, joined by the clerics, was led by a piper. A fine tradition in its purest form.

I made my way up the slight hill and through the stone pillared iron gates of the walled cemetery where I saw, silhouetted against the sky, four Celtic crosses - silent sentinels of stone standing in testimony of lives that once were.

Still playing as I neared the top of the hill and the far wall, I turned to view our procession making its way up the slope against the backdrop of the surrounding strath. I noticed patches of smoke-like mist rising from among the scattered glens and contrasting a stark and ghostly white against a dark green background of conifers. After a few words by the graveside, Ishbel's family lowered her to her final resting place. The grave was filled in, not by council workers or other strangers with little or no connection to the whole process, but by family. Men and boys clad in kilts or plus fours, heavy boots and wellies filled in the grave and covered it with turf and flowers. Angus Grant suggested a departing tune so I played the slow air "The Fair Maid of Barra" which delighted Angus as he told me that Ishbel, whom he had known since the days of their youth, had been called Ishbel Bàn; Fair Ishbel. After the final pieces of turf were laid on and the flowers put in place, we shared the "dram at the gate" and gave the last of it to Ishbel.

One needs to participate in life not just show up. The way Ishbel's family conducted her funeral was true participation. It was a strong statement of cultural heritage. I hope the younger members of her family remember this as the way things should be done. I was honored, deeply touched and felt privileged to be asked to take part in a proper Highland send-off for a proper Highland lady.

Brian Yates

### **World's Biggest Coffee Morning**

The Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning that was held at Foyers Bay House on 26th September 2008. Kate would like to thank all the people who helped and came along to support the event. A sum of £185.00 was raised and we intend to organise another coffee morning next year.

The date for your diary is **Friday 25th September 2009**

## **Apology to the Post Office**

In the last edition we published an article stating that the Post Office was to close. The editor would like to apologise to the owners of the Post Office as it appears that the information was incorrect. The piece was received from a member of the Community Council and was taken at face value, which was a mistake. Although the same facts are minuted in the Community Council minutes published in this issue with a correction in the following months minutes (23rd August / 26th September respectively)

Editor

### **Duke of Edinburgh award scheme (Bronze)**

The crew from Foyers Fire Station are running a Duke of Edinburgh award scheme (bronze) on fire safety. This is open to persons in the 12-16 year age group who are attending the Inverness Royal Academy. It is a 5 week course with 5 x 2hr sessions which will be held in Stratherrick village hall. Any interested parties should contact myself on 01456 486283. Places are limited to a max. of 8 per course and anyone showing an interest will be allocated a place on this or the next course.

**Neil Kirkland**

**Watch Manager Foyers Station.**

## **CHILDREN'S COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**SATURDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2008. 2-4 PM.**

**NURSERY & P1 TO P7 ALL WELCOME**

**STRATHERRICK HALL  
SNACKS ,GAMES ,MUSIC**

**AND MAYBE A VISIT FROM A SPECIAL MAN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

-----

A big thank you to everyone who donated raffle prizes for the children's community Christmas party and to all who bought tickets and made the Halloween party at the Whitbridge hotel such a great night. Thanks to Russell for the great music, Sarah and David for snacks and the use of the hotel some of the donations were from, Foyers shop, Bothy, Mackveins, Chalkey, Great Glen trading centre, Rockvill b&b, Whitebridge hotel. Thanks to Norman Stoddart for his donation and Lesley MacGregor for all her help.

We raised £268.00 thanks again to everyone

-----

Morag Cameron completed her 4th Loch Ness marathon and raised £235.50 for the local fire brigade (keep up the good work boys & Fiona) .she would like to thank all who sponsored her and for all the support along the way especially from Ali, Verity, Ishy and Andrew .

## Farraline Wedding by Isobel Fraser

In 2002, as many of you will already know, Mr. & Mrs. David Houston of Bedford Park. London bought Farraline Estate from Mrs. Barbara Sewell. It was very fitting therefore, that Victoria, the Houston's youngest daughter, wanted to have her wedding here in the Highlands especially as so much refurbishment has been carried out on Farraline House. It is probably the first wedding from the house in many years and almost certainly the first where the bride left by car and not by horse and carriage.

On September 20<sup>th</sup> 2008 it proved that we could get lovely autumn sunshine after several days of heavy rain. It gave Victoria a splendid day for her marriage to James Burrage of Cadleigh, Devon. The ceremony was conducted by Rev. E. Peter Mosley at St. Pauls Episcopal Church, Croachy. Victoria looked stunning in an Edwardian style beaded lace dress, with James a handsome groom in his kilt. The bridesmaids, Lucy James and Sophie Johnson, friends from Bristol University, wore deep cream taffeta dresses. The best man, Guy Jotcham, was a school friend.



The piper, Sandie Christie, a friend of both Houston girls, welcomed all as we arrived back at Farraline for a champagne and canape reception on the lawn and in the house where the cutting of the cake and speeches took place followed by dinner and dancing in a marquee.

The next day, a large company of family and friends flew back to London on Easy-Jet. On arrival at the airport, it was discovered that James did not have his passport; it had been left at Gorthleck. After a mad rush, the passport was retrieved and the flight was able to leave "running late". When all were on board, the pilot congratulated the happy couple and a cheer went up from the passengers when they realised that they had newly-weds on the flight.

We now wish Victoria and James every blessing for the future after a safe return from honeymoon in Tanzania. They will continue to live and work in London but, as they are a country loving couple, we hope to see a lot of them at Farraline when work permits.



## **Boleskine Wetland Project**

The excavations of the main pond commenced just as the September Bulletin was distributed. The main contractor for this stage of the works, Angus Fraser of Gorthleck, was on site for about two weeks during which time the shape of the main pond had to be altered to accommodate the actual conditions found. In particular it was found that the water table was much lower this year than in 2007 with the result that the main pond had to be dug deeper and therefore wider than initially planned in order to ensure that there will be sufficient water in the summer to sustain the hoped for aquatic biodiversity. However, there is still a marsh area to the south of the pond and enough land to add a smaller pond in the future.



Angus Fraser's digger at work

A significant amount of water immediately came into the pond but it was anticipated that the main filling would be in January or February when this field traditionally floods. However, shortly after the digging had been completed, we had torrential rain for days on end. The burn coming down the forest had been running into a stone dyke placed there many years ago, possibly a hundred or more years ago, to drain the field for grazing, the field having once been a pond. We had improved the culvert and opened up the drain and the rains soon filled the burn which, in turn, then filled the pond before the excess water continued on its usual way down to Loch Ness.

Now what is needed is six months for the site to settle down and then, next spring, we should see the greenery reappearing.

Two community days are planned for next spring under the banner of the BBC "Do One Thing For Nature Day" programme. The main day will be a Forestry Commission led event to put in some selective plantings of local trees and aquatic plants. We prefer to let as much as possible happen naturally but the experts feel that a gentle kick-start will be good for the site and it is a great opportunity to get community involvement. The day will be aimed primarily at children but parents and non-parents alike will be more than welcome. The second day, which will probably precede the plantings day, will be to create a disabled access to the site. It will be a "Bring your own wheelbarrow, shovel and rake day" to create the disabled access from Easter Boleskine House (where there is to be disabled parking access by prior

arrangement) down to the pondside. A large quantity of scalplings/path surfacing material will be delivered to the site and will need to be barrowed along the path and raked over. Further details will be in the March Bulletin.

A website is now up and running including three galleries of photographs taken before, during and after the excavations. The address is [www.boleskinewetland.co.uk](http://www.boleskinewetland.co.uk).

We would hope to be add many more photographs and wildlife sightings over the coming years. We have already had offers from volunteers to participate but would love to hear from and include anyone else. Please contact us through the website or on 01456 486691 asking for Katie.



An Autumn evening at the pond

## **Stratherrick & Foyers Parent & Toddler Group News**

Stratherrick & Foyers Parent & Toddler Group would like to thank all the community for purchasing Winter Raffle tickets in aid of the group's Christmas party on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December (last session of 2008). All under 5s are invited; please bring a party food contribution and a small gift for your child (max.value £5) as we will be having a very 'Special Visitor' from the North Pole.

We were fortunate to receive kind donations of prizes from Cruise Loch Ness, David at the Whitebridge Hotel, Sarah from Loch Ness Therapy, Bogbain Adventure and Heritage Farm and Simpson's Garden Centre and would like to take this opportunity to wish them and all members of the community a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Toddler Group is also organising a 1 ½ hour FREE First Aid session for parents of babies and children run by the British Red Cross on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 10.30am in the Stratherrick Public Hall. If you are interested, please contact Siobhan on 486255 or Paula on 486731.

The first group session of 2009 will be on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January, normal time 10.30am – 12.30pm, feel free to drop in for a play, a cuppa and a chat.



# Stratherrick Primary School

"At Stratherrick Primary we are learning together in a friendly, fun, happy and healthy environment"

Hi, we are the Pupil Council at Stratherrick Primary School. This is our first ever page in the Boleskine Bulletin. We hope that you enjoy finding out about what we have been doing. We have had a really busy year so far and we have been doing lots of things.

Here is what we have been up to:

## 1. Star Assembly:

At our assemblies we have Star workers that explain why they were the Star for that week. Our parents are invited and we have lots of them there.

## 2. Big Coffee Afternoon:

After one of our Star Assemblies we had a small coffee afternoon where there was lots of tea, coffee, fruit, biscuits, cheese and other nibbles. We invited our friends and family and we involved them in a quiz. The questions were really hard and they struggled a lot!



## 3. Spider Play

In October the Infant Class performed a play to everyone at one of our Assemblies. The play was based on a poem called Incy Wincy Spider and a play called The Spider and the Ladybird. The infants were amazing and performed brilliantly.

## 4. Hallowe'en Disco

The Parent Council organised our Hallowe'en Disco. There were prizes for the best pupil costume and other prizes for the best adult costume. The effort put in by everyone was amazing.



Contact details:

Pupil Council  
Stratherrick Primary School  
Gorthleck  
01456486630



## 5. Young Leaders Awards Scheme

This is a course organised by our Active Schools Co-Ordinator (Sarah Liebnitz). She is teaching us how to teach other pupils games and activities. It is really good fun and very challenging.



## 6. Garden Tidy Up

At Stratherrick we have beautiful gardens, but in the autumn it can get quite messy. So the Parent Council organised a Garden Tidy up. The Pupil Council gave them a list of things to do. Our Parents and some of us came in on Saturday to clean the place up. We did a great job! Well done!!

We hope that you have enjoyed finding out about what we have been up to.

Take care,

Stratherrick Primary Pupil Council

## COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mark Houston (Chairman), Whitebridge 486729    Liz Merther (Secretary), Foyers 486382  
Katherine Grant (Treasurer), Gorthleck 486221    Martyn Bateman, Whitebridge 486273  
Kenny Fraser, Gorthleck 486220    Paul Higham, Foyers 486633  
Lesley MacGregor, Whitebridge 486404    Sandy MacPherson, Torness 01463 751213  
Alex Nicol 486307    Alex Sutherland, Errogie 486711

### MINUTES OF MEETING ON 24th JUNE 2008

Members present:

Mr M. Houston (Chairman) Mrs E. Merther (Secretary) Mrs K. Grant (Treasurer) Mr M. Bateman  
Mr K. Fraser Mr A. MacPherson Mr A. Nicol Mr A. Sutherland

Also present: Mr H. Wood (Ward Councillor)

Apologies received: Mr P. Higham Mrs L. MacGregor

### Correspondence

- (a) Inverness Area CC Forum - Minutes of Meeting 3rd June 2008, & Information for Community Councillors.
- (b) Letter from Rhoda Grant, MSP - Acknowledgement of our letter regarding provision of Broadband.
- (c) NHS Highland - Questionnaire: Public Involvement Actions 2008.
- (d) Notification of Military Flying Exercise 23rd June to 3rd July 2008.
- (e) War Memorials Trust - Grants available for conservation and repair.
- (f) Council for Voluntary Services Inverness - local 'surgeries' proposed.
- (g) The Scottish Government - Meeting re Commonwealth Games 2014.
- (h) Highland Council - Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005
- (i) Highland Council - Highland Archaeology Fortnight 4th - 19th October 2008. Mr Bateman will enquire whether BEN would be interested in contributing to this.
- (j) Newsletter - Highland & Islands Local Food Network.

### Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that she has now received the new cheque book and other paperwork from the Bank. She will request more frequent Statements from them.

Balances are: Project account - £3859.18p. Ordinary account - £742.83p.

### Planning

- (a) It was agreed that the Council should seek clarification on its course of action over planning matters where Councillors themselves are directly involved. Cllr. Wood suggested that David Haas should be able to advise on this. A letter will be written.
- (b) Amendent to planning application Aultnagoire, Errogie - A site visit had been undertaken, and no objections submitted.
- (c) Three houses at Errogie - No further feedback has been received.
- (d) New applications:
  - House at Norbu, Gorthleck - Detailed
  - Two houses at Cnoc an t-Sionnach, Whitebridge - Outline
  - House & garage SW of Cuil-na-Sith, Gorthleck - Outline(The Chairman & Mr K. Fraser declared a vested interest in this application and left the room during the discussion.) Site visits will be made for these three applications.
- Extend 33KV line at Wester Drummond, Whitebridge - It was felt that further information was needed regarding this application. Mr Bateman will make enquiries with local residents to see if they have been informed of the precise plans.
- (e) Dunmaglass Wind Farm - Mr Alan Macintyre of Renewable Energy Systems had presented information on the amended proposals to a special meeting of the CC. Following this a flyer was enclosed in the Boleskine Bulletin asking for public comments/objections for the June CC meeting. The CC has received six objections. Members of the public present at the meeting, some of whom had submitted objections to the scheme, repeated their concerns. Despite the consultation via the Boleskine Bulletin they urged that a further public meeting should be held to present the amended proposals to the community. This was approved by a vote of 4 in favour to 3 against, with one abstention. The Chairman will contact Mr Alan Macintyre to see if it is possible for him to attend.

### Roads & Signage

- (a) A letter from Mr Taylor in response to specific problems raised:
  - Corkscrew Road above Inverfarigaig - Maintenance patching programmed to take place this month.
  - Vegetation removal - Inverfarigaig pass junction with B862 - programmed for this month.
  - Bailey bridge Lower Foyers - repairs to decking plates programmed. No date given for this so further enquiries will be made.
  - Road to Lower Foyers - Edge and passing place repairs programmed. It was noted that repairs with loose fill material have been done, which will not last. This matter will be raised further.
  - Access to Park Terrace - New street name sign ordered and will be sited.
  - Road behind Glenlia - Mr Taylor indicates this road is not adopted, and is therefore not the responsibility of the Roads Authority. Further enquiries will be made.
  - Still outstanding - Repairs to the road around Newlands; repair near the B851/B862 junction where a collapsing culvert under the road is becoming a serious hazard. These matters will be raised again.
- (b) It was reported that the approach to Park Terrace, behind Clubfield House, has been left with some bad pot holes, possibly following the work by Scottish Water. Enquiries will be made.
- (c) It was reported that there is a dangerous section of road near Loch Ceoglaish where the road narrows, and warning signs are needed. Cllr.

Wood will raise this with the Roads Department.

(d) Cllr. Davidson has arranged a meeting for 10th July with members of our own CC, Dores CC, and the Roads Department, to discuss work required on the Dores to Foyers Road.

(e) A meeting on site has been arranged for 10.00 a.m. on 22nd July with Cllr. Davidson, Fiona Duffy (Ward Manager), and the Roads Department to discuss the old bridge/footbridge in Lower Foyers, and various community works issues. Interested members of the community will be welcome to attend.

### **Community Project**

A meeting is scheduled for next week. There are continuing problems in accessing funds, and an approach may be made to the Trust for assistance in moving things forward. It was reported that a member of the community had contacted a member of the CC to indicate that she has experience in accessing suitable funds for this type of project, and would be willing to try to help. The Community Project Committee will make contact with her.

### **Renewable Energy & Community Benefit**

A Trust meeting was held last week. Mr Sutherland reported that there is a lot of procedural detail involved in accessing funds through the Scottish Communities Foundation, but funds are starting to become available. Two schemes have been approved: Improved access to Migo-vie area (drainage work on tracks); Easter Boleskine Wetlands project. It was noted that private applications for energy efficiency projects will need to be channelled to the Glendoe energy efficiency fund.

### **Any Other Competent Business**

(a) Stratherrick Primary School - Cllr. Davidson has notified us that Allan Graham has been appointed as acting head teacher for a year. Interviews are also proceeding for a new full time post for the second classroom. It was again noted that much of the difficulty in attracting applicants is due to lack of housing.

(b) Data Protection Act - Information has been received from Highland Council indicating that registration of the CC is necessary. This has been done.

(c) Payphone Consultation - It was noted that two payphones will be removed from the area: beside the bridge in Lower Foyers; junction of the Torness/Erroglie roads.

(d) Notice Boards - The Chairman expects to receive a quotation for installation shortly. Once this is received then an application can be made for funds for their purchase and installation. It was suggested that an application to the Trust might be appropriate.

(e) Community Web Site - It was agreed that we should proceed with the idea of a community web site. Quotations will be obtained. It was agreed that it is important that the site is easy to use. It was suggested that an application to the Trust for funds would be appropriate.

(f) Foyers Cemetery - Mr Fridge has been to look at the Cemetery. He will have discussions with Tec Services to see about improvements to the road. He states that the problem of deer getting into cemeteries occurs in all the rural areas, and even in town. He will look at what can be done about it.

(g) South Loch Ness Cycle Route - Cllr. Wood reported that Sustrans have indicated this will come up for consultation in September.

(h) It was reported that a caravan appears to have been abandoned beside Loch Ceoglaish. The Chairman will make enquiries with Mr Iain Cameron as it is probably on his land.

(i) Rock Ness - One or two concerns were raised, principally the litter lying alongside the road, which does not seem to be dealt with, and also the road access restrictions on local people during the festival. Cllr. Wood suggested that someone from the CC should be present at the debriefing meeting to raise these matters.

### **MINUTES OF MEETING ON 26th AUGUST 2008**

Members present:

Mr M. Houston (Chairman) Mrs E. Merther (Secretary) Mr M. Bateman Mr K. Fraser

Mrs L. MacGregor Mr A. MacPherson Mr A. Nicol Mr A. Sutherland

Also present: Mrs M. Davidson (Ward Councillor) Mr D. Lockhart, Albyn Housing

Apologies received: Mrs K. Grant Mr P. Higham

### **Discussion with Mr Donald Lockhart of Albyn Housing**

Discussions had taken place between Mr Sutherland on behalf of the Community Trust, and Mr Lockhart regarding the possible provision of key worker housing. Following this Mr Lockhart reported that there had now been further discussion within Albyn regarding the affordable housing scheme at Gorthleck. This has been held up due to previous difficulty over provision of water supply, but it seems that this is no longer a problem. He reported that recent changes in Government regulations have led to some uncertainties about funding, but he was hopeful that detailed planning can now be applied for, with a view to tendering taking place in early 2009. All going well then the project may be on site by late summer 2009.

Under their remit for social enterprise activity Mr Lockhart felt that it should be possible to earmark one property for key worker housing, if this is an agreed local priority. If the Trust is able to provide some funds towards the costs this will reduce the grant element involved, and may speed things up. There will need to be considerable discussion to decide on the conditions attached to the rental of any such property.

It was noted that land had also been bought at Inverfarigaig by the Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust ten years ago. Mr Lockhart is making enquiries about this. He also briefly outlined how the system works for allocating rented properties, and how the shared equity (part ownership) system works at present.

### **Correspondence**

(a) Registration Documents - Confirmation of the Council's registration under the Data Protection Act.

(b) Scottish Government Consultation - "Safeguarding our Rural Schools and Improving School Consultation Procedures"

(c) Rhoda Grant, MSP - Information regarding provision of broadband to 'out of reach' premises.

(d) Inverness Area Community Councils Forum - Minutes of Annual General Meeting and Meeting, both held on 12th August, and Income & Expenditure Accounts.

(e) NHS Highland - Notice of Annual Review meeting on 27th August 2008

(f) Scottish Government Consultation on Marches & Parades

(g) Questionnaire on racial equality

(h) Leaflets: Housing Options in the Highlands

Kilbraur Wind Energy Co-operative Ltd.

Glasdon UK Ltd. - Products for Local Councils

### **Planning**

(a) 3 House Plots at Errogie Following the Council's objection this will be discussed by the Planning Committee on 2nd September 2008.

(b) 33 kv power line at West Drummond Mr Bateman has made enquiries. Residents have been notified and have no objections.

(c) Dunmaglass Wind Farm Acknowledgement of the Council's letter of objection has been received. Following the difficulties in obtaining maximum community feedback on this matter (largely due to time constraints on this occasion), it was proposed that issues with possible major implications for the local community should, in future, be put to a postal vote. Some concern was expressed about the cost of this. A vote was taken and the proposal carried: five in favour, two against. Enquiries will be made about probable costs.

(d) Matters involving conflict of interest

Advice had been requested from Mr David Haas on this matter. He has advised that in any such situation the Council member concerned may take part in discussions if they so wish, but their presence at the meeting and the relevant conflict of interest must be minuted. He indicated that the Council had not acted incorrectly in the matter in question, but had more discretion in their proceedings than they had thought. The Chairman apologised that Mr Sutherland had not been

invited to the site visit concerned. It was agreed that all Council members will be notified of any future site visits.

(e) New applications

House, garden ground Birchwood, Errogie - Detailed (reserved matters) There were no objections.

### **Fire Brigade Report**

Mr Kirkland reported that money had been set aside for home safety checks following the fire in Foyers, but there had not been a big take-up. The extra money has now been re-allocated, but the advisory service is still available on request. It has been well publicised.

### **Policing Issues**

Constable Mathieson had no new issues to report. Officers generally have been very busy due to staff shortages in some areas. Work at Glen-doe is coming towards a conclusion and workers are beginning to leave. He reported that there have been no major policing problems from the scheme.

### **Roads and Signage**

(a) The state of the Dores/Foyers road had been reviewed on 10th July 2008. Those involved were Cllr. Margaret Davidson, Ella MacRae (Dores CC), Liz Merther, John Taylor (Highland Council Tec Services), Steve Smith (Forestry Commission), and Graeme Ambrose representing Visit Loch Ness. The following matters were agreed as requiring action: clearance of vegetation and shrubs beside the road; clearing run-offs and ditches; repairs to damaged road edges;

the formalising of some 'unofficial' passing places, and replacing/refurbishing passing place signs; provision of more signs advising use of passing places to permit overtaking; clearance of vegetation at lay-bys to open up access and views; an ongoing programme of litter clearance at lay-bys. Mr Taylor also reported that a section of road north of Inverfarigaig is in poor condition and is due for resurfacing. Mr Smith reported that the Forestry Commission currently has more resources to undertake clearing of lay-bys.

(b) A 'walkabout' in Foyers was undertaken on 22nd July 2008. Those involved were Cllr. Margaret Davidson, Nikki Gilbert (Highland Council), John Taylor, Liz Merther. The following matters were identified for action: urgent inspection and possible refurbishment of footbridge in Lower Foyers; problems with drainage on road to Lower Foyers down as far as footbridge; ongoing problem with loose plates on bailey bridge Lower Foyers; repairs/?replacement of bus shelter Lower Foyers; re-marking of white lines on road adjacent to bus shelter; Mr & Mrs Forsyth offered to keep the recycling bins clean if provided with cleaning materials; large pothole at Glenlia turning beside bus shelter; replacement of fencing around play park at Glenlia and possible provision of more benches and play equipment; some cutting back of vegetation on right of way between Lower and Upper Foyers. Large potholes in the Park Terrace road had been mentioned as a concern, as a possible risk for elderly residents. The land owner had concerns about speeding traffic on the road. The possibility of repairing the potholes and provision of some speed bumps will be looked at, subject to the land owner's agreement.

(c) It was reported that repairs to the road around Newlands have still not been carried out. Also the collapsing culvert near the junction of the B851 and B862 is becoming more dangerous. These matters will be raised again.

(d) Cllr. Davidson reported that she is awaiting the report on the Wade's Bridge at Whitebridge. She is also going to press for funding for work on the B862 which she feels is in urgent need of attention.

(e) It was reported that the exit from the Medical Centre in Lower Foyers is dangerous due to vegetation obscuring vision to the left. Enquiries will be made about this.

(f) A member asked whether any more lay bys are to be made on the B851, or if the work is complete. Cllr. Davidson will make enquiries.

### **Water and Sewerage**

No further problems with water supply have been reported. Cllr. Davidson asked to be notified if anyone is refused a supply.

### **Any Other Competent Business**

(a) Notification has been received about this year's Loch Ness Marathon on Sunday 5th October. The Chairman will make enquiries about the siting of toilets this year. It was emphasised that as many volunteers as possible are required.

(b) Large items of rubbish have been dumped at Glenlia, apparently without a request being made to the Council for collection. A Glenlia resident dealt with this. A notice will be put in the Boleskine Bulletin advising people how to go about getting large items uplifted by the Council.

(c) Community Web Site - The Chairman is awaiting quotations from two companies.

(d) Caravan at Loch Ceoglais - Enquiries have been made, and the caravan is not abandoned. The owner apparently has permission for it to

be there for the summer.

(e) Rock Ness - The Chairman has arranged that members of our CC will be involved in next year's preliminary meetings on organisation of the festival.

(f) An application has been made to the Discretionary Budget for funds for notice boards. The Secretary has confirmed in the application that most of the funds currently in the CC accounts are already allocated for other purposes.

(g) Cllr. Davidson enquired whether the Strathnairn 'Handy Person' scheme extended into our area, which it does not. She will enquire whether it might be possible for this to be arranged, as some Council funding is now to be put into the scheme.

(h) It was reported that some of the lettering on the War Memorial at Gorthleck is becoming very faded. The recent circular offering funding for maintenance will be followed up.

(i) Mr McCormack at the Foyers Shop has indicated that he is giving up the Post Office in January 2009. It was unanimously agreed that it is most important to maintain our local Post Office. Enquiries will be made as to whether it is intended to advertise for someone to run a local Post Office, and a notice will be placed in the Boleskine Bulletin alerting residents to the situation.

#### **MINUTES OF MEETING ON 23rd SEPTEMBER 2008**

Members present:

Mr M. Houston (Chairman) Mrs E. Merther (Secretary) Mrs K. Grant (Treasurer) Mr M. Bateman

Mr K. Fraser Mr P. Higham Mr A. MacPherson Mr A. Nicol Mr A. Sutherland

Also present: Police Constable A. Mathieson

Apologies received: Mrs L. MacGregor Councillor M. Davidson Councillor H. Wood Councillor H. Carmichael

#### **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

(a) Key Worker Housing Mr Sutherland reported that there is ongoing discussion with Albyn Housing and the Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust. It was agreed that much discussion will be needed on a number of issues related to the proposal: priorities for key workers; detail and conditions for any tenancies; the financial details of ownership and rental. Mr Tom Hainey of HSCHT hopes to attend the next CC meeting for further discussion.

(b) Foyers Post Office

The CC were very pleased to hear that Tim and Aggie McCormack have been able to resolve their difficulties with the Post Office over getting holiday time away, and the Foyers Post Office is not now closing.

(c) Notice Boards

The Secretary reported that the CC has received an award from the Highland Council Discretionary Budget of £1680.10p for replacement of notice boards in the area. With the £500 already in the account for this purpose, it is now possible to go ahead with the purchase and installation of the boards.

(d) Community Web Site

The Chairman had obtained several quotations for this, with a very wide variation in costs - up to £7000. The CC favoured the local quotation from Mr Andy Holt (£2,300 for the set up plus £130 per annum hosting). The Chairman will approach the Community Trust regarding funding for the setting up. It was felt that the cost of the annual hosting fee should be met from the CC budget. It was noted that someone would have to be responsible for maintaining the site. The possibility of advertising for someone locally who would be willing to do this was suggested. This will be discussed further.

(e) Gorthleck War Memorial Guidance notes and application form have been obtained from the War Memorials Trust. Ownership of the Memorial will need to be established, and quotations

obtained for the work. Mr Bateman agreed to follow this up. He also reminded the CC that for the past two years the remembrance wreath had been purchased by the CC and placed on the Memorial. It was agreed that this should continue.

(f) Loch Ness Marathon 5.10.08

Mr Bateman reported that he has been approached for permission regarding the siting of temporary toilets. No further information has been received about additional toilet provision this year, or about improved marshalling at the start. The Chairman will make enquiries.

#### **Correspondence**

Highland Council Correspondence

Licensing applications (conversion of existing Licenses - new regulations): Foyers House

Foyers Bay House (further information at: [www.highland.gov.uk/business information/ licensing/liquorlicensing/](http://www.highland.gov.uk/business%20information/licensing/liquorlicensing/))

Scottish Government Informal Consultation: Town Centres & Local High Streets - Meeting on 26.09.08

Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance: Houses in Multiple Occupation (document & questionnaire at [www.highland.gov.uk/yourenvironment/ planning/developmentplans/](http://www.highland.gov.uk/yourenvironment/planning/developmentplans/))

Newsletter - A96 Growth Corridor Framework Update (available at: [www.highland.gov.uk/business information/economic development/ regeneration/a96-corridor-masterplan.htm](http://www.highland.gov.uk/business%20information/economic%20development/regeneration/a96-corridor-masterplan.htm))

Appointment of Licensing Standards Officer - Mr Ian Cox

Leaflets - Highland Archaeology Festival 4th to 19th October 2008

Other Correspondence & Circulars Received

Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust - Notice of AGM on 13.09.08 (audited accounts available at: [www.hscht.co.uk](http://www.hscht.co.uk))

Inverness Community Council Forum - email re Local Authority payment for Data Protection Registration

Services available from Information Commissioner's Office Postwatch Scotland

Highland & Islands Local Food Network

Highland Community Planning Partnership - Equality & Diversity Newsletter The Chairman had received the following correspondence:

A request from Mr Graeme Ambrose of Destination Loch Ness for an informal meeting to update the CC on recent changes in the organisation. He will liaise with Mr Ambrose to fix a date.

A letter from Digital UK with information on the switchover to digital television.

Information on the options for the provision of broadband for people who have registered an interest, where they are currently unable to get a broadband service. He reported that it is still possible to register, and has information for anyone needing it.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer reported account balances as follows:

Project Account - £3861.30p. Ordinary Account - £1336.19p.

The CC grant for the year has been received from Highland Council: £968.69p.

#### **Planning**

House & Stables, Land at Lyne Cottage, Gorthleck

Notification of grant of outline planning permission.

#### **Policing Matters**

Constable Mathieson reported that he had spoken to the owner of the caravan at Loch Ceoglais, and it will be removed within the next two weeks. He also reported that there has been a lot of work for the Police in relation to the recent fatality at Glendoe.

#### **Roads and Signage**

(a) It was reported that more lay-bys are planned for the B851, subject to discussions with the relevant land owners. Some damaged sections are also awaiting repair/tarring, and it is planned to carry out all the work at the same time.

(b) The road around Newlands is still needing repair, and the Chairman reported that a cattle grid on this road is in a very poor state. A further letter will be sent.

(c) Lower Foyers: There has been no further action on the bailey bridge; the footbridge; leaves etc. blocking drains, and the poor drainage situation from below the entrance to Foyers Bay House down to the footbridge. It was noted that the Roads Department may be able to cut back vegetation which is obscuring vision at the Medical Centre access road, as some of this is out over the road. A letter will be sent about these matters.

(d) It was noted that a large section of rock face below the Manse, on the road to Upper Foyers, has now been netted and made safe. The very large pot hole in the road beside the bus shelter at Glenlia has also been repaired, and the roof of the bus shelter in Lower Foyers has been repaired.

#### **Renewable Energy and Community Benefit**

It was reported that planning for a wind farm at Corriegarth seems to be continuing, as a resident at Errogie corner had been approached with a view to allowing her garden to be used for a re-aligned road.

#### **Any Other Competent Business**

(a) Mr Higham asked whether we might get improved passing place signs on the Dores-Foyers road. Signs of the type seen elsewhere in the Highlands, with simple diagrammatic instructions about how to use passing places are needed. The Secretary reported that this had been requested at the July meeting about the road. She will mention the matter in her next letter to the Roads Department.

(b) Mr Nicol had received a letter from a gentleman in West Lothian about siting of a public observatory in the area. The Secretary will pass this on to the local astronomy society in Inverness, and will let him know that his letter has been forwarded.

## **LOVAT ARMS**

Hotel Bar Restaurant

### **Christmas Day Dinner**

5 courses at £45.00

Booking Essential

1:00pm-5:00pm

### **Boxing Day**

Live music by

## **WONDERLAND**

All welcome on the night

9:00pm-1:00am

### **The Supper, 24th January 2009**

In memory of Robert Burns

6:30pm until late

Pre Dinner Cocktails Traditional dinner, toasts & speakers

Live Highland Dancing & Ceilidh

**0845 450 1100**

[www.lovatarms-hotel.com](http://www.lovatarms-hotel.com)

[info@lovatarms-hotel.com](mailto:info@lovatarms-hotel.com)

## **CHILDREN COMMUNITY**

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

ON

SATURDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2008.

2-4 PM.

NURSERY & P1 TO P7

ALL WELCOME

STRATHERRICK HALL.

SNACKS ,GAMES ,MUSIC.

AND MAYBE A VISIT FROM A

SPECIAL MAN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



## Biannual Progress Report from Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust

as at November 7<sup>th</sup> 2008.

Composition of Board as at 6<sup>th</sup> November 2008

Helen Grainger	Chair
Rev. Martyn Henry Bateman	Vice-chair
Alex Sutherland	Secretary
Mark Houston	
William Ewen Fraser	
John Paul Higham	
Andy Holt	
Frank Ellam	(Treasurer and non Board member)

Directors must have been resident in the area for a minimum of eight years. The Board is composed of 7 volunteers of whom one third are obliged to resign at each Annual General Meeting but may offer themselves for re-election. The Board governs the Company, establishes policy, sets priorities and has responsibility for final grant decisions. Please take advance notice that if you wish to stand for the Trust you should contact the secretary at least one week before the AGM on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

**Financial Position** - The Trust currently holds £31,782 in its deposit account and £77,083 in its Glendoe fund which is managed for us by the Scottish Community Foundation. The Trust is also a party to the distribution of £135,000 of Energy Efficiency money from Scottish and Southern Energy's Glendoe scheme.

**Activity during the year.** Since the AGM on the 25<sup>th</sup> March the Trust has held 3 meetings to consider Grant applications and has now approved grants of £24,247 within the Community since its formation in 2006. These have been:

Stratherrick Community Project	Stratherrick Clay Target Club
Stratherrick Parent and Toddler Group	Mrs. G. Stock
The Boleskine Bulletin	Boleskine Wetland Project

**Community Profile.** During 2007 the Trust collaborated with the Scottish Community Foundation to produce a Community Profile and list of Community ambitions. Many ideas came forward and we have listed these in an earlier report. We also made it clear that it would be up to individuals to lead on these projects. Some of these are making progress such as better broadband provision and a Community website and heritage map, others have moved forward more slowly.

**Home Energy Audit.** Included in this edition of the Bulletin is a self-explanatory returnable questionnaire for a possible home energy audit. This is an ongoing subject about which there will be further information in due course.

**Future Investments.** Together with the Community Council and Albyn Housing Association we are currently examining ways to invest in housing for key workers. This could be a good use of funds with a possibility of some income and capital appreciation. There is also the prospect of further funds from wind farms and hydro projects subject of course to planning permissions being granted.

Alex. Sutherland

Errogie

Secretary of Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust

## **Christian Comment**

Early in November, the people who gathered in the Stratherrick Community Hall for the dramatic presentation of Robert Louis Stevenson's novel, "The Strange case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde", were given a most splendid performance by two exceptionally able actors. Robert Louis Stevenson, best known for his novel "Treasure Island", grew up in Edinburgh in the last half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, where he would have experienced the contrasting life styles of that city, between the outward appearance of respectability and the hidden evils of the night time – something sadly true of many places in our own generation. The author was aware, in his own lifetime, of a similar conflict, dramatically demonstrated by the kind manor of Dr. Jekyll and the vile attitude of his other self, Mr Hyde, which he encouraged by the use (or misuse) of drugs. The American writer F. W. Wadsworth, comments that, "As a psychological inquiry into the nature of evil that exists in all mankind, the novel brilliantly anticipates much modern fiction and is one of the most fascinating horror stories ever written." The play concludes with Dr. Jekyll gasping out words from the Lord's Prayer, "deliver us from evil".

As we approach the wonderful Christmas Festival, we remember how an angel prepared Joseph for the birth of the Jewish Messiah, by saying to him, "You shall call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins." At our Carol Service we say the familiar words,

"O Holy Child of Bethlehem

Descend to us we pray,

Cast out our sins and enter in,

Be born in us today."

This is a prayer for every one of us today

Martyn Bateman

## **Christian Aid**

Our thanks to those who arranged an informal tea party for Christian Aid in the autumn, which raised £330 for the relief of many needy people in other parts of the world. Our thanks also to those who arranged the Harvest Supper, attended by forty-eight people in the Stratherrick Hall, which raised £312 for the work of the Mission Aviation Fellowship, that enables relief workers to fly into those areas of need which otherwise would take a long time to reach.

The **Community Carol Service**, that has proved so popular, is planned for **Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00 p.m. in the Stratherrick Hall**, to which every one is warmly invited. All donations will be given to the work of the Biblelands Hope School in Bethlehem, providing education, hot meals and a warm bed for children who have no other place to go.

## **Church Meetings**

### **Church of Scotland**

Sunday: Boleskine 10.00a.m., Dores 11.30a.m.

Mr. Ian King 01463 751293

### **N.B. The Church of Scotland United Services for Boleskine and Dores**

Are now at 11.00 a.m. on the last Sunday of each month at alternate venues

### **Episcopal Church**

Sunday: 11.00a.m. Croachy.

Rev. Peter Mosley 01808 521397

### **Free Church**

Sunday: 6.00 p.m. Errogie.

Mr. J. Campbell 01456 486240

Sunday: 10.30a.m. & 4.15p.m. Dores. Wednesday: 7.30p.m.

Mr. D. Fraser 01456 486408

### **Free Presbyterian Church**

Sunday: 12 Noon Farr, every second Sunday: 7.00p.m. Gorthleck.

Mr. E. Fraser 01456 486282

### **Roman Catholic Church:**

12.00 noon, alternate Sundays Whitebridge.

Mrs. Therese Finley 01456 486747

### **Inter- denominational Bible Study**

Rev. Martyn Bateman 01456 486273

Alternate Thursdays, 10.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon

## **Accounts for the Boleskine Bulletin**

At the last Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.) of the Boleskine Bulletin it was agreed that the accounts should be published annually after they had been agreed at the A.G.M. So below is the spreadsheet showing the income and expenditure for the year ending 30th September 2008. Editor

<b><u>BOLESKINE BULLETIN</u></b>			
<b><u>INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</u></b>			
<b><u>FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2008</u></b>			
	<u>y/e 30.09.07</u>		
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>INCOME</b>		
913	Advertising	1,143.50	
250	Community Council Minutes	250.00	
0	Community Trust Information	250.00	
88	Subscriptions and Donations	132.50	
<u>1,251</u>			<u>1,776.00</u>
	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
1,324	Printing and Photocopying	1,374.50	
88	Postage and Stationery	133.94	
3	Hire of Hall	6.00	
<u>1,415</u>			<u>1,514.44</u>
(164)	<b>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD</b>		261.56
1,956	<b>BALANCE IN HAND</b> brought forward		1,792.27
<u>£ 1,792</u>	<b>BALANCE IN HAND</b> carried forward	<u>£</u>	<u>2,053.83</u>
	Frank Ellam - Treasurer 22.10.08		
	Independently reviewed by		
	Judith Borup 27.10.08		

INVERNESS - GORTHLECK SERVICE 303									
	SD	SH	MWF	TTH		MWF	TTH	SD	SH
Inshes Retail Park	-----	-----	1355D	1355D	Gorthleck	0932	0920	1504	1515
Raigmore Hospital	-----	-----	1400D	1400D	Stratherrick Pri- mary School	-----	-----	1520	-----
Inverness Bus Station	0810	0830	1410	1410	Upper Foyers	-----	0930	- -----	-----
Dores Post Office	-----	0845	1425	1425	Lower Foyers	-----	0934	-----	-----
Farr Shop	0825	-----	-----	-----	Inverfarigaig	-----	0941	-----	-----
The Steadings	0835	-----	-----	-----	Errogie Telephone Kiosk	0937	-----	1525	1525
Dumnaglass Road End	0845	-----	-----	-----	Torness	0947	-----	1535	1535
Abersky	0850	-----	-----	-----	Abersky	0952D	-----	1544	-----
Torness	0855	0900	1435	-----	Dumnaglass Road End	0957D	-----	1549	-----
Errogie Telephone Ki- osk	0905	0910	1445	-----	The Steadings	-----	-----	1559	-----
Inverfarigaig	-----	-----	-----	1442	Farr Shop	-----	-----	1610	1610
Lower Foyers	-----	-----	-----	1449	Dores Post Office	0957	0958	-----	1545
Upper Foyer	-----	-----	-----	1453	Inverness Bus Sta- tion	1012	1012	1624	1600
Stratherrick Primary School	0910	-----	-----	-----	Raigmore Hospital	1022D	1022D	-----	-----
Gorthleck	0920	0920	1451	1504	Inshes Retail Park	1025D	1025D	-----	-----
MWF - Monday, Wednesday & Friday.									
TTH - Tuesday & Thursday.									
SD - Monday - Friday when schools are open.									
SH - Monday - Friday when schools are closed.									
D - Operates via these points on request. Passengers must telephone 01463 222444 by 1700 on last working day before travel									

INVERNESS - WHITEBRIDGE SERVICE 301				FOYERS - INVERNESS SERVICE 302			
	Mon to Friday		Sat		Monday to Friday		Saturday
Knockie Lodge Road End	0730	1225	-----	1225	Upper Foyers	0755 0755 1310 1623	0900 1320
Whitebridge Bus Shelter	0735	1230	-----	1230	Lower Foyers	0800 0800 1315	----- 0905 1325
Gorthleck Old Shop	0745	1240	-----	1240	Inverfarigaig Ctgs	0807 0807 1322 1630	0912 1332
Errogie Telephone Kiosk	0749	1244	-----	1244	Dores Inn	0824 0824 1339 1647	0929 1349
Torness	0758	1253r	-----	1253r	Scaniport	0831 0831 1346 1654	0936 1356
Coulanour Junction	0803	1248	-----	1248	Royal Academy	0840	-----
Croachy	0815	1300 1815		1300	Holm Park Road End	0844 0835 1350 1658	0940 1400
Farr Post Office	0825	1310 1825		1310	Inverness Bus Station	0852 0845 1400 1708	0950 1410
Inverness Royal Academy	0840	1325 1840		1325	Inverness Bus Station	1215 1515 1515 1743	1230 1743
Inverness Bus Station	0850	1335 1850		1335	Holm Park Road End	1225 1525 1525 1753	1240 1753
Inverness Bus Station	1030	1515 1740		1725	Royal Academy	-----	----- 1535
Inverness Royal Academy	1040	1535 1750		1740	Scaniport	1229 1529 1544 1757	1244 1757
Farr School	1055	1550 1805		1750	Dores Inn	1236 1536 1551 1804	1251 1804
Croachy	1105	1600 1815		1800	Inverfarigaig Ctgs	1253 1553 1608 1821	1308 1821
Coulanour Junction	1117	1612	-----	1812	Lower Foyers	1300 1600 1615 1828	1315 1828
Torness	-----	1617B	-----	-----	Upper Foyers	1305 1605 1620 1833	1320 1833
Errogie Telephone Kiosk	1121	1616	-----	1816	The bus service only stops at the Royal Academy during term times and only school start and finish.		
Gorthleck Old Shop	1125	1620	-----	1820			
Whitebridge Bus Shelter	1135	1630	-----	1830			
Knockie Lodge Road End	1140	1635	-----	1835			

## Whitebridge: Wade Bridge Update

A meeting was convened at the Town House, Inverness, by our Highland Councilor, Margaret Davidson, on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November to discover what progress had been made towards seeing to the repair of this splendid example of an historic Wade Bridge. It was suggested that the Foyers and Stratherrick Community Council should arrange a meeting of all interested persons early in 2009 in order to make a local request to Historic Scotland seeking financial support for this project, based on the excellent information supplied by Mr John Townshend. This meeting has been provisionally arranged for **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm** in the Whitebridge Hotel. All interested persons are invited to attend.



***Pippa Ferguson***

***born 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2008 at 1.36am to Neil & Sharon Ferguson, Whitebridge.***

***Sister to Millie and Daisy Ferguson.***

***Many thanks to everyone for all their good wishes***

### **The following are the names of the committee members for the Stratherrick Hall**

Hugh Nicol - Chairman - 486350 / 01463 224781	Julie Talbot - Secretary - 486782
Johanna Schuster - Treasurer - 486628	Judith Borup - Bookings - 486464
Steve Tay - Maintenance - 486763	David Bradwell, Jill Cooper - 486377
Janet Sutherland - 486711	Sylvia Young - 486434

#### **LOVAT ARMS**

Hotel Bar Restaurant

#### **Dinner every night**

6:00pm-9:00pm

**Internet access & Wi-Fi**

**Coffees & home baking**

Served until 6:00

**For all enquiries contact**

**Lovat Arms team**

0845 450 1100

info@lovatarms-hotel.com

www.lovatarms-hotel.co

#### **Aberchaldar Plumbing**

#### **Services**

Bathroom design & installation

Showers supplied & fitted

Wetwall Panels, Tiling

All plumbing work carried out

No job too small

Free estimates

contact

Neil Kirkland

01456 486283 / 07799 170640

#### **Gorthleck Hall Dance**

Friday 2nd January .

Admission £5.00

stovies, piper ,

and the

Ernie Randall accordion band will be keeping us all up dancing.

Remember it is a bring your own bottle event

Children under 10 go free.



# Foyers Bay Country House

Lower Foyers  
01456 486624

## Conservatory Restaurant

### Dinner

7-00pm to 8-00pm (not Sun)

### Lunch by the Loch

Tues & Wed 1-00pm

### Sunday Lunch

1-00pm

### Bar Basket Suppers

Fri & Sat only 8-00pm till 8-30pm.

### Bookings Essential

Also available for private functions and Weddings  
Tel for details



### Fully Qualified Electrician

Over 15 years experience

- Domestic/Commercial/Industrial
- Electrical design
- Lighting design
- Energy saving solutions
- Installation and maintenance
- Testing and Inspection
- Portable Appliance Testing
- Security Alarms
- Installation & Certificates to BS7671 17<sup>th</sup> ed

Free estimates & friendly advice.  
We can also perform other small domestic jobs

- Just ask & we'll tell you if we can

Phone Rob on: 01456 486 291

Or mobile: 07712 589 626

[www.greensparks.com](http://www.greensparks.com)



## Danny Alexander MP

INVERNESS, NAIRN, BADENOCH & STRATHSPEY



I hold regular advice surgeries across our area - look out for details in the local press. At all other times, you can get in touch using any of the details below.

As your local MP, my first duty is to represent you. If you are experiencing a problem, or there is an issue you want to raise, please don't hesitate to contact me. I will always do my best to help.



### How to get in touch

45 Huntly Street,  
Inverness IV3 5HR

Phone: 01463 711280

Fax: 01463 714960

Email: [danny@highlandlibdems.org.uk](mailto:danny@highlandlibdems.org.uk)

KEEP UP-TO-DATE WITH DANNY'S WORK FOR OUR AREA:

**[www.dannyalexander.org.uk](http://www.dannyalexander.org.uk)**

Published and promoted by the Office of Danny Alexander MP  
at 45 Huntly Street, Inverness IV3 5HR.

# ANGUS C FRASER CONTRACTORS GORTHLECK



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

**CONTRACTORS & PLANT HIRE  
CITB REGISTERED  
WHEELED & TRACKED EXCAVATORS  
TIPPER HIRE  
SITE CLEARANCE AND SERVICING  
WATER TRACKS & SEWERAGE WORKS  
CONCRETE WORK & LANDSCAPING  
QUARRY MATERIALS — SUPPLIED & DELIVERED**

**TEL/FAX 01456 486650  
GORTHLECK, INVERNESS, IV2 6UJ**

## THOMAS MUNRO & CO CHARTERED ARCHITECTS



- Survey
- Design
- Restoration
- Project Management

**Tel: 01463 232233**

**Fax: 01463 717613**

**c.munro@thomasmunro.co.uk**

**www.thomas-munro.co.uk**

**62 Academy Street, Inverness IV1 1LP**

**Extra copies of  
BB**

**£1.50 incl. Postage  
Phone 486366**

**Buddy  
MacDougall**

**Coach House  
Foyers**



## SCOTTISH FUELS

**The specialist Fuels & Lubricants  
supplier in your local area**

**Your Local Depot:  
Cromwell Road, Inverness, IV1 1SX**

**Top Quality Fuels & Lubricants  
Reliable Deliveries  
Competitive Prices  
Heating Services  
Planned Delivery  
Budget Payment**

**For more information:**

**Lo-Call: 0845 300 88 44**

**Heating Services: 0845 300 88 66**

**E-mail: [sales@scottishfuels.net](mailto:sales@scottishfuels.net)**

*A warm welcome awaits you*

*at*

**'The Steadings'**

**'The Grouse & Trout Restaurant'**

*Dinner 6.30pm- 8.15pm daily*

*Please make a reservation to avoid disappointment*

*Lounge Bar*

*6pm to 11pm daily.*

**Tel: 01808 521314 Fax : 01808 521741**

**Email [mary@steadingshotel.co.uk](mailto:mary@steadingshotel.co.uk). [www.steadingshotel.co.uk](http://www.steadingshotel.co.uk)**

**Flichity Farr Inverness IV2 6XD**

**[www.scottishfuels.co.uk](http://www.scottishfuels.co.uk)**

# BAGPIPE TUITION

BY EXPERIENCED TEACHER

Piobaireachd & Light Music

All ages welcome

Please contact

**Brian Yates**

01456 486628



## Whitebridge Hotel

Home cooked bar meals

Served

12-2pm and 6-8.30pm

Real Ale

01456 486226

www.whitebridgehotel.co.uk



## Andrew Fraser

**Building Contractor**

Houses - Extensions - Renovations

Stonework

Meall Donn, Erroglie

Phone/fax: 486381

Mobile: 07711 700677

**www.highlandart.com**

Original Paintings

Limited Edition Prints

Available to buy on-line or at Studio

"Watercolour for Fun"

Painting classes

Contact

**Ros Rowell**

Edinuanagan Croft, Torness

01463751314

## THE SCOTS KITCHEN

Fort Augustus

(opposite car park)

Family run business

Home baking/cooking

Breakfast through to dinners

**All year round**

**01320 366361**

## Darnholm Enterprises

For any

Painting & Decorating

Ceramic Tiling

Plumbing

Electrical work

'Darnholm', Gorthleck

Tel 01456 486416

## Acupuncture & Chinese Herbal Medicine

If you would like more  
information or make an  
appointment please contact:

Johanna Schuster

MAOM, Lic.Ac., MATCM

Riverside, Lower Foyers

01456 486628

(House visits available)

## Eric Grant Plant Hire

Lower Cultie, Gorthleck

Ditching/Drainage

Road Construction

Site Clearance

Pond Construction

Lock-Block Paving/Patios

**WHEELED & TRACKED**

**MACHINES**

**Quality work/CITB REGD.**

Tel 01456 486221

Mobile 07802 411090

## GARY FENTIMAN

Plastering,  
Rendering  
And  
Brick Laying

01456 486609

*"Meat at McDougalls"*

**D J MacDOUGALL  
BUTCHERS**

Canalside

Fort Augustus

01320 366214

Quality Meat, Fish, Poultry  
and Game



**PET CARE  
SERVICE**



Out at work  
all day?  
Going on holiday?

We will care for your pet in his own home so  
there's no need to disturb him.

We also offer dog walking and small  
animal boarding.

We care for all kinds of animals...just ask!!

Please phone Jak 'n' Jill  
for trusted and reliable pet care.  
01456 486 348

**JAIN BRAILSFORD**  
petebiteme@aol.com  
**DONE "N" DUSTED**  
Domestic house & window  
cleaning service  
Professional service with a  
personal touch  
01456 486445  
07821 444365

## Trade Directory

### CONTRACTORS

Angus C. Fraser - 486650

### FENCING AND GARDEN- ING SERVICE

D.J. Drummond - 07881 456627  
or 01456 486718

### FUNERAL DIRECTORS

John Fraser & Son 01463  
233366

### GUEST HOUSES

Foyers Bay Country House -  
486624

### PICTURE FRAMING

Hugh Nicol - 486350

### PLASTERING, RENDERING & BRICK LAYING

Gary-01456 486609

### PLUMBING/HEATING

D. Matheson & Son Ltd  
01463 716477

### UPHOLSTERY

Lorna MacDougall - 01456  
486366

### WEB DESIGN

Scotia-Design - [http://  
www.scotia-design.co.uk](http://www.scotia-design.co.uk)

### WINDOW CLEANER

Stuart Marston - 01456  
486237

Next Issue March  
Deadline 15th February

### Items for inclusion to

Peter Craven  
28 Glenlia  
Foyers  
IV2 6XX  
Mark Envelope "BB"

Email address  
boleskine\_bulletin@hotmail.co.uk

## *To Advertise.....*

Contact Frank Ellam  
On 486691

Trade Directory £12 per year

### Charges per issue: .

Full Page advert	£60
Half Page advert	£30
Quarter page advert	£15
2 inch box advert	£ 6

**Small ads. Are free**



## **GP Plumbing & Heating**



CORGI REGISTERED 187105

**GARRY PAGE** Eng Tech MIPHE RP

CRAIGNICHE  
GLENLIA  
FOYERS  
IV2 6YA

PHONE: 01456 486731

MOBILE: 07970872015

FAX: 01456 486731

EMAIL: MARCHWOOD35@AOL.COM

A local, friendly plumbing service, no job too small or  
too big, Boiler servicing and free quotations for all  
plumbing works.

## **Contact Numbers**

**NHS 24**

**08454 242424**

**Doctor**

**486224**

**Police**

**01320 366222**

## *Rainbow Music*

Discos and theme  
night entertainment

01456 486 771

ADD SOME COLOR TO  
YOUR LIFE

## **Carpentry & Joinery**



- \* Conversion
- \* Alterations
- \* Maintenance
- \* Kitchen fitting

Eric Law, Heatherly, Errogie  
[www.caor.co.uk](http://www.caor.co.uk)

The Boleskine Bulletin accepts no legal liability for adverts or  
the views expressed by individual contributors.