

TheBoleskineBulletin

September 2011

Issue 57

Stratherrick Clay Target Club Shooters' Success



Congratulations to Iain Hepburn and Gordon Duguid for their outstanding achievements in the D.T.L British Championships held in Northern Ireland on the 16th July. From a field of 360, both faced seriously stiff competition.

After a three-way tie, Iain became runner up to the British champion, having lost the title by only one point. Iain was also high gun for the Scottish Senior team returning a score of 300 x 300.

Gordon, competing in the Veterans' Section won the high gun for the Scottish Veterans' team. Gordon also achieved fifth place in The British Open Veterans' Competition and second place in Class B British Open Championships, returning a score of 292 x 300. Records show that Stratherrick Glass Ball

Club, as it was then called, existed in 1890. Over its long history the Club has produced several International shots. Funding from Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust three years ago, along with much local support, enabled Club Members to carry out much needed refurbishment.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone – from business companies and private individuals alike – many of whom have never lifted a shotgun, for their help and support over the years.

Eddie Fraser(Secy.)

Flu Vaccine

The flu vaccine is expected into the medical centre at the end of September. Notices will be posted in shop and notice boards once dates of the flu clinics are finalised. Look out for notices advising the clinic dates or check the medical centre website at end of September for information on dates.

Contents

Title	Page
Community Trust	2
Road closure	4
Obituary	5
Letters	6
Stratherrick Hall	8
New Lunch Club	11
Community Council Minutes	12
Christian Comment	16
Gardening on the edge	17
BB AGM	19
Adverts	19-24

Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust – News Update.

Please read this – It may affect you!

White Goods Offer.

This will close on the 1st. of October. If you have had a letter from SSE and have not yet taken it up you should do so by this date.

Energy Efficiency Phase 3 Grants.

All private households in the area will have recently received a letter from the Community Trust detailing how the Glendoe Energy Efficiency monies are being spent. With the level of interest already shown the money currently available under phase 3 is unlikely to fund more than 10 applications at the present time. However the Directors would like to maintain the energy efficiency initiative so when further funds come on stream there is a good likelihood that grant applications can again be considered. Application forms can be obtained from the Secretary.

The following will be eligible in privately owned dwelling houses:

PV and Solar Thermal panels.

Wood, bio mass and wood pellet fuelled heating systems.

Ground and air source heat pumps.

Water and wind turbines.

Single to double glazing.

Excluded – replacement double glazing and new build installations.

Foyers Public Convenience

Many of you will already be aware that Highland Council have decided to close this facility despite there being more than 50,000 visitors to the Falls of Foyers each year. Ownership and running costs are likely to be taken over by the Community Trust and the Community Council before the end of the year.

Renewable Energy Awareness Course Inverness College UHI SEAM Centre.

Earlier in the year the Trust met the cost of sending 6 members of the Community on a two day course dealing with all of the technical aspects of the many new devices and installations which have become available. Everyone agreed that it was very worthwhile. The course is being repeated on the 15th. and 16th. of November and on the 14th. and 15th. of December. Anyone who may wish to attend should contact the Trust's Secretary.

The Trust has 8 Directors plus 2 co-opted committee members and meets at approximately 6 week intervals or more frequently if necessary and full minutes are posted on the Community web site. Enquiries welcome. A. Sutherland, Secretary, Aultnagoire, Errogie.

The Highland Council Aird & Loch Ness Ward Forum Stratherrick Hall - Gorthleck Thursday 22nd September - 7.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. (Doors open at 6.30 p.m.)

The Ward Forum will enable people to raise issues of local concern; scrutinise local council service delivery and performance; and promote or encourage all aspects of Community Safety. The Forum will be convened by the Council, will last for approx. one and a half hours, and will provide an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions about any matter during a 20 minute session at the end of the meeting.

The theme of the Forum will be **Timber Extraction and Transport**. Julian Fryer, Forestry Commission Scotland, will make a presentation regarding current and pending harvest arrangements as well as future plans. Mike Stephens, Highland Council TEC Services, will also be available to answer questions regarding the Council's responsibilities in relation to timber extraction and transport.

Solar Power comes to Edinuanagan Croft, Torness.

Our house at Edinuanagan Croft, Torness, is very old, probably initially being one of the original "black houses" of the strath. We have lived here since the early eighties and when we moved in there was no running water or plumbing in the house, and electricity had only recently been installed. The house is wooden lined with walls nearly a metre thick and has a low pitched corrugated iron roof.

We love this house and haven't done a lot really to change its character, but over the years have altered and added on as our needs changed and now have a proper kitchen, living room, bathroom, shower room, porch and extra bedrooms.

Earlier this year we heard that the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust were starting a scheme whereby households in the area would be eligible for a grant of £3000 towards energy saving improvements and we started thinking about how we could improve our energy usage and become a bit "greener".

We thoroughly researched our options and had a couple of meetings with an Energy Savings Scotland advisor and decided that a solar thermal panel made sense for us as it would cut down our reliance on oil, by helping to heat the water, when our wood burning stove was not on and to save putting the oil boiler on.

Initially we had installed a wood burning stove to heat the water and as a later addition, an oil fired central heating system. The central heating system was supposed to have a hot feed from the stove but this had never worked properly. We needed a heating engineer to remedy it so we met up with a local specialised solar energy installer who came up with an amazingly complex system of "remedial plumbing" to link up the new solar thermal panel to our existing system and also to make our existing two systems much more energy efficient.

The installers we chose did a great job, crawling about in confined spaces with a lot of hi-tech equipment and our attic now looks like the boiler room of a ship! We now have a solar thermal panel on the roof. It helps to heat the water, any excess now going into the central heating. This suits us as our house can be very cold inside in the Summer, due to the thick walls and little windows. Our woodburning stove is now properly linked into the central heating and the water no longer boils off in the tank. We have a lot of thermostats that all "talk to" each other to ensure we don't waste energy, and consequently we now rarely have to use oil. The weather has been awful this summer but it is surprising how much heat we do get from the solar thermal panel and each degree is one degree we don't need oil for.

This system was ideal for us as Alan gets a lot of wood for the stove, as he works in forestry, so heating the water in the winter wasn't a problem. We needed something to help heat the water and house in the summer when we don't necessarily have the stove on. We also needed to maximise the heat from the stove and now that it is properly linked into the central heating we rarely need to put the the oil boiler on.

We are the first household to receive a grant under the scheme and we are very grateful to the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust for their help. We would advise anyone else interested in the scheme to research all options as all houses and households are different. The solar thermal panel suits us but may not be the best choice for everyone. Consulting with an Energy Savings Scotland advisor is essential too. We would also recommend getting as many quotes as possible as there was a big difference in quotes- the local company being the cheapest and also the most experienced.

OPEN DAY

Anyone interested in talking to us and coming to see the house and new solar thermal panel are welcome- we've set aside Saturday 1st October 11-5pm- tea/coffee and biscuits and a blether. All welcome.

The Art Studio will be open too for anyone interested.

If this date doesn't suit, and you want to see the new system, just phone us on 01463751314.

Ros and Alan



Solar Panel fitted to roof at Edinuanagan Croft

Inverfarigaig Pass Road Closure

Forestry Commission Scotland has arranged a road closure with the Highland Council's TecServices Department for the locality known as the Inverfarigaig pass. This note is intended to inform the local community of the closure, which has been put in place to allow for the completion of the tree felling operation. The road is to be closed for a maximum period of ten weeks commencing on Monday the 5th of September, running through until the 11th of November. The emergency services and the health clinic will also receive notification.

The road closure will permit the completion of the tree felling within the pass and also facilitate the removal of trees within the same area that have repeatedly caused issues in blocking the road during the winter period. We seek the Communities forbearance on this matter and apologise for any further disruption this may cause.

The felling operation in the Pass has proven to be more technically challenging than first thought. The unfortunate accident on the site made all of the parties concerned cautious in considering their next steps. After a significant period of planning and discussion with contractor sources, we now have a safe solution for this site, which will complete the operation. We are confident that the work in the Pass will be completed to a high standard and within the stated timeframe.

Can we please stress that this closure is due to the risk of material being dislodged from above, which can then only fall onto the road below. It is of paramount importance that the signage is obeyed, as there will be a real risk to personal safety if it is not.

Again, Forestry Commission Scotland apologises for any inconvenience caused as a result of this further road closure.

Camping and Caravanning Park in Lower Foyers: Update

TEC Services, in their capacity as the Local Roads Authority, have now released their initial consultation response. They are asking the applicants to provide further information regarding:-

- the junction of the B852/Lower Foyers Road: geometry of the junction, visibility
- the Lower Foyers Road itself: provision of passing places and general suitability
- access to the development: space for manoeuvring, visibility, exit/entry arrangements
- pedestrian/cyclist accessibility (footpath link from the Bailey Bridge): The response recognises that 'footpath connections are important for existing residents in achieving Safer Routes to School initiatives and also for the development's customers in accessing local amenities'. However, the design of footpaths is complicated by the fact that it is unclear when the Bailey Bridge will be replaced and where the new bridge will be located.

Concerns about the suitability of the B852 from its junction with the B862 to Foyers had already been raised at the pre-application stage. To quote from the response: 'It's likely that a significant amount of work would be required in bringing this road up to an acceptable level although the extent of work required has not been established by the developer or by TECS.' The response by TECS suggests that Members of the Planning Committee will have to determine the level of improvements and also who will carry the cost for these.

What will happen next?

Once TECS have received the relevant information from the applicants they will issue a further response to the Planning Department. The case manager at Planning will then make a recommendation for either approval or refusal of the development. This, in turn, will be passed on to the Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey Planning Committee. Two of our Ward Councillors, Margaret Davidson and Hamish Wood are members of this Committee.

Isabella Sarah Hipkin {nee Munro}

1918 – 2011

Sadie was born at 38 Glenlia, Foyers. She lived there with her Mum and Dad, brothers Dan and Willie and sister Grace.

When Sadie was very young there was no bus service and very few car owners. To visit her Granny in Inverness her family had to board the paddle steamer, the “Gondolier”, disembark at Aldourie pier and travel the rest of the way by horse and carriage. Even a trip to Inverfarigaig meant taking the “Gondolier”.

Sadie left school at the age of fifteen and worked at Knockie Lodge looking after the Campbell children, then on to Brin House, Strathnairn.

She married Jack in Foyers Church when she was 22 years old, in June 1940. They celebrated their Golden Wedding in 1990. Sadly, Jack died in April 1991.

Sadie worked in Woolworths for over thirty years and then in the canteen at the Hydro-electric, scheme in Foyers. She and Jack lived at Park Terrace from 1966. She enjoyed life to the full and was full of fun. She was President of the W.R.I. for 20 years and Treasurer of the Women’s Guild. She sang in the Foyers Church choir for over 50 years. She enjoyed playing darts, whist drives and Scottish dancing at the Foyers Club.

Sadie made several trips abroad to Canada and America and went twice a year to Kent to be with her daughter, Alison and husband, Derek. She was very proud of her grand-daughters, Amanda and Heather, and her great-grandchildren, Isobel, Will, Daisy and Naomi.

Sadie had many dear friends, neighbours and carers and without their help and the care of Drs. Lesley and Gregor Mackintosh and staff, she would not have been able to stay in her own home for so long. Sadie went into hospital on 16th March where she enjoyed the chat and latest gossip with her many visitors. She loved chatting about old times and was a source of village information both past and present. She will be sadly missed by everyone.

Alison, Derek and family would like to thank all for their expressions of sympathy at this sad time.



Our friendship with Sadie, which began with our arrival at Foyers Manse in 1993, was one which Ann and myself cherished, and I felt greatly privileged to have been asked by her family to conduct the funeral service at Boleskine Church on the 9th June. It was good to see so many gathered there. The singing of the opening Psalm (the 23rd) was deeply moving.

Sadie had a life-long connection with the Church. She and her late husband Jack married in Foyers Church in 1940; she was a member of the choir and was very active over a long period with what used to be called ‘The Church of Scotland Women’s Guild’. The Guild motto was ‘Whose we are, Whom we serve’. Recently, I heard a speaker describe that motto as ‘a gift from God’. He was right! It is! The ‘Whose’ and ‘Whom’ referred to, is the Lord Jesus Christ. Christians belong to Him and serve Him. So Sadie’s devotion was not to ‘the church’ but to Jesus, and so I shall always remember Sadie as one who lived her life in and for Christ, and it showed, in every aspect of it.

It is a sad time when we come together to give thanks for someone we knew and loved, and rightly and naturally want to show that, as also our thankfulness when we also want to remember, a long and happy life. *(Rev) J. Christie*

Letters to the editor

Dear Editor

While surfing the internet I came across Stratherrick & Foyers Community website and was suitably impressed. I thought that as this was a community site it was a voluntary thing and was surprised to see a payment for £4192 to Mr. A. Holt for this service in the CC minutes. Looking back through the minutes I can find no mention of the CC putting this work out to tender. I think it is especially important to seek other quotes when a member of the Community Trust is tendering for the work. Would it be possible to let me know if other quotes were sought for this and if so, were they advertised, or tell me how you decided on whom to approach for those quotes?

Glenmoriston and Fort Augustus Community Council are having completely new website, this will be a much larger CMS website than Stratherrick & Foyers Community website. They have sought about 6 quotes, the highest being £1500 and two were around £600.

Why did our CC pay so much?

Eric Law

Dear Editor

Michelle Macdonald would like to thank all her family and friends for their support and sponsorship during her charity cycle around Loch Ness on the 4th of June 2011. I was joined by two close friends from Aberdeen Kay Henney cycling for Macmillian Cancer Research and Gillian Renilson cycling for Celiac UK. We undertook the 67 mile challenge in memory of my uncle Jim Chisholm who passed away on the 4th of January 2011 from a heart attack at his home in Gorthleck. I therefore chose Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland as my selected charity and raised over £400. I would like to say a personal thank you to my parents Catherine and Ewen Macdonald who acted as a support vehicle during the day keeping us motivated and supplied with food and drinks.

The cycle consisted of around 10 hours of cycling and went relatively smoothly despite one puncture and the long climb home back up the Foyers hill. A challenge I am proud to achieve to honour my uncles memory, but not one I will be revisiting anytime soon.

Thanks once again for your support.

Michelle Macdonald

Dear Editor

At the beginning of July another young member of the community and myself, bored with the lack of activities on offer at the hall, sent a questionnaire round the community. Over 250 forms were delivered through letter boxes, put in post boxes or shoved under a variety of comedy gnomes. The intent was to use the feedback to get more things started and gear up people with common interests to start clubs. Two pick up points were given along with an email address should you be too busy to drop them off be hand. So imagine the frustration we felt when only 30 responses were received out of a community consisting of 400 plus households.

If you look at Invermoriston and Fort Augustus community halls they have lots on – from craft clubs to Zumba, indoor bowls to W.R.I. It really puts us to shame. Toddler group, karate, and badminton with Scottish Country dancing in winter are all we have.

The feedback we did receive was all positive, and I received many comments from people who echo our own feelings that nothing gets organised and there is a lack of participation if something is. So, can those who didn't reply to the questionnaire please get in touch. Even if you may just go to the events occasionally when there's nothing on T.V. It'll only take a minute. It won't take the time it took to drive round the Strath delivering them. You won't have to deal with mad dogs. You won't have to ponder why people don't have letter boxes in their doors. You won't score "Post man" off your possible list of future careers. You WILL however, be helping provide support to those trying to set up events in the community hall, and even have an option of something to do on winter nights, or somewhere to send the kids to when they're bored. So get those forms in or email ionam92@hotmail.com . If you've binned the form write what you want down and hand it in to Foyers shop or Whitebridge hotel.

The results of the survey so far and what we're going to do with them are detailed further on in this issue. On a side note, with the community council elections coming up and with each candidate singing their support and interest in the community, maybe they might all like to respond, as each got a form, (we made sure of that!).

Iona Rule

Stratherrick Hall Questionnaire Feedback

Here's what the people who did return forms want to get up and running. All suggestions produced interest, but I'm just going to give the most popular. (Obviously this may change when the other 90% get in touch)

- **Dances and ceilidhs**- had the summer dance whose profits will be used to help fund another at Christmas.
- **Choir**- local woman with past experience in choir conducting has offered her expertise to set up a local choir. All ages welcome.
- **Movie nights**- very popular in other communities. Will need a committee to be formed to look at grants, licences and equipment. Will first arrange a premier night to gauge interest.
- **Flower and produce show**- used to have these in past years. It can be tied in with other clubs with members showing their handiwork, and child entries. Will need a lot of organising and helpful people as well as a wide range of entries. Another committee needed.
- **Exercise classes**- Zumba classes will be starting soon along with a Legs, Bums and Tums class, with the option of an over 60's exercise, circuits or flex and stretch class. Also had an offer of hip hop and street dance classes.
- **Quiz nights**- monthly or even quarterly. I'm happy to set this up will want teams of four. Children welcome.
- **Stitch and natter**- Easy to organise, interested parties can take a look at the Stitch and Bitch website. Bring along sewing and knitting and put the world to right over a cuppa. All those interested can email me so I can get you all in touch with one another to arrange days.
- **Classes**- wide range of ideas for this but languages and IT were most popular. Looking to find tutors so if anyone who has a skill or knows someone please contact me.
- **W.R.I.**- ladies who are interested can email me so can set up times and register our group if we have 10 or more members. Don't be put off by the old lady image, any age can join and it's not all jam and Jerusalem.
- **Gardening club**- HUGE interest for this, and if the local gardens are any judge we have many green fingered people in our community. Idea is to have a taster meeting for those interested and then decide what people want out of it and choose days/dates.
- **Photography club**- as above minus the gardens. I recommend the same course of action with a taster session. No offers to help organise, URGENTLY need people to help.
- **Craft club**- Have two ladies interested in organising this one with good new ideas. Sewing, knitting and textiles will be incorporated along with an interesting suggestion of wool spinning. Kids classes could be organised.
- **Book club**- it was brought to my attention that there may be a couple of small book clubs locally but I personally haven't seen them advertised. One held in the hall could group the smaller clubs together along with new members. This would allow more varied feedback and discussion. Interested in any of the above? Can lend a hand? Email Iona at:-
ionam92@hotmail.com or ring 01456 486280.

Let's get it sorted!!!

I'm trying to get lots of email addresses together so when an event is organised a group email can be sent so everyone is informed.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

STRATHERRICK HALL EVENTS

September 2011 – December 2011

Thursday 22nd September at 7.00 p.m. - Highland Council Aird & Loch Ness Ward Public Forum

The theme will be Timber Extraction and Transport, but members of the public will be able to raise issues of local concern, scrutinise council service delivery and performance, and the promotion and encouragement of all aspects of community safety.

Saturday 24th September at 7.30 p.m. - South Loch Ness Talent Show

See the latest undiscovered talent from our area in a fun and enjoyable evening.

Friday 14th October at 7.30 p.m. - Singing Far Into The Night (Drama By Mull Theatre)

New drama set in 1931 based on real events in Scotland and Russia including the infamous Invergordon Mutiny.

Saturday 29th October at 3.00 p.m. - Books, CD & DVD Swap

£3.00 per person, £2.00 under 16's. For further information contact Leah Ley-Wilson on 01456 486642.

Monday 14th November at 7.30 p.m. - Boleskine Bulletin AGM



Regular Groups Using The Stratherrick Hall

- Wednesdays** - **Parent, Baby & Toddler Group** 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
Contact Susan Denoon 01456 486411
- Wednesdays** - **Scottish Country Dancing** 7.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.
Contact Judith Borup 01456 486464
- Thursdays** - **Badminton** 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.
Contact Fraser Ross 01456 486707
- Fridays** - **Youth Club (P5's – P7's)** 7.00 p.m. – 8.30 p.m.
Contact Sandy or Ishbel MacLure 01456 486435
- Saturdays** - **Karate** 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.
Contact Nicholas Walker 01456 486205

If you would like your Hall event listed in the Boleskine Bulletin then please call Leah on 486642. If you would like to book the Hall then please call Hugh Nicol on 486350.



Books, CD & DVD Swap

SATURDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2011 START TIME 3.00pm

VENUE: STRATHERRICK HALL IN GORTHLECK

The simple idea being you can exchange your unwanted books, CD's and DVD's with someone else's. Swap your way to a new read, movie or music at little cost to you or the environment!

- Step 1. Go through your bookshelves, CD and DVD racks and dig out your unwanted items, in good condition.
- Step 2. Bring along a minimum of 2 swaps (ideally heaps more if you can) to the event at 3.00pm on Sat 29th October.
- Step 3. As you enter the hall, hand over your goodies to the organisers and enjoy the refreshment whilst socialising.
- Step 4. Whilst you are enjoying a blether your goods will be being sorted.
- Step 5. The Swap begins and you can choose up to the same number of items that you brought in or less – but not more or we will run out.

Please remember how many items you have brought in. Any items left over will be donated to the Highland Hospice Shop in Inverness.

The perfect way to spend a leisurely, sociable Saturday afternoon. You may even succeed in making a start to your Christmas shopping.

Entrance to the Swap is a snip at **£3** and **£2** for under 16's. All proceeds will be donated to the running and maintenance of the Hall.

So scan your bookshelves, CD and movie racks. Please ensure that all items are clean and in good condition in order to swap them for equal quality.

BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY, EVERYONE WELCOME.....

THE MORE THE MERRIER



Old Post card from Inverfarigaig

At Inverfarigaig there was a bobbin mill somewhere close to Island Cottage, about 100 yards from the river mouth, in the 1800s. The bobbins were made from local birch and were for the textile trade; Clark & Co. of the Paisley thread mills, and later a succession of other operators, worked the mill until 1926, when a fire destroyed it.



After that, the Forestry Commission, set up in 1919, purchased land in 1946 in the lower Farigaig valley and a sawmill was built on the site of the bobbin mill with a small group of houses for forestry workers. The tree trunks were sent down from a lay-by on the road above on a chute. Once sawn, the cords of timber were sent by rail - narrow gauge - possibly horse drawn - to the pier, about 400 yards away, for loading onto boats to go down to Inverness and maybe beyond.

The original Telford pier, built around 1810, was extended at about this time, using railway lines as piles. (The above information was obtained from the South Loch Ness Heritage website)

THE LAST ONE.....



On the 25th June 2011 a group of 35 friends and relatives gathered at the Rowardennen Hotel to help Peter celebrate the climbing of his 283rd Munro, Ben Lomond. What a day! The cloud came down, it rained, the midge came out in force but nothing seemed to dampen the spirits of the 27 people who made it to the summit to share the moment with Peter.

After the celebrations at the top came the celebrations at the bottom, an evening to be remembered!

Peter Westrick and friends at the top of Ben Lomond

Although Peter started climbing the Munro's many years ago it wasn't until 2005 that he seriously got the "bug" and decided he wanted to do them all. It's a tremendous achievement, well done!

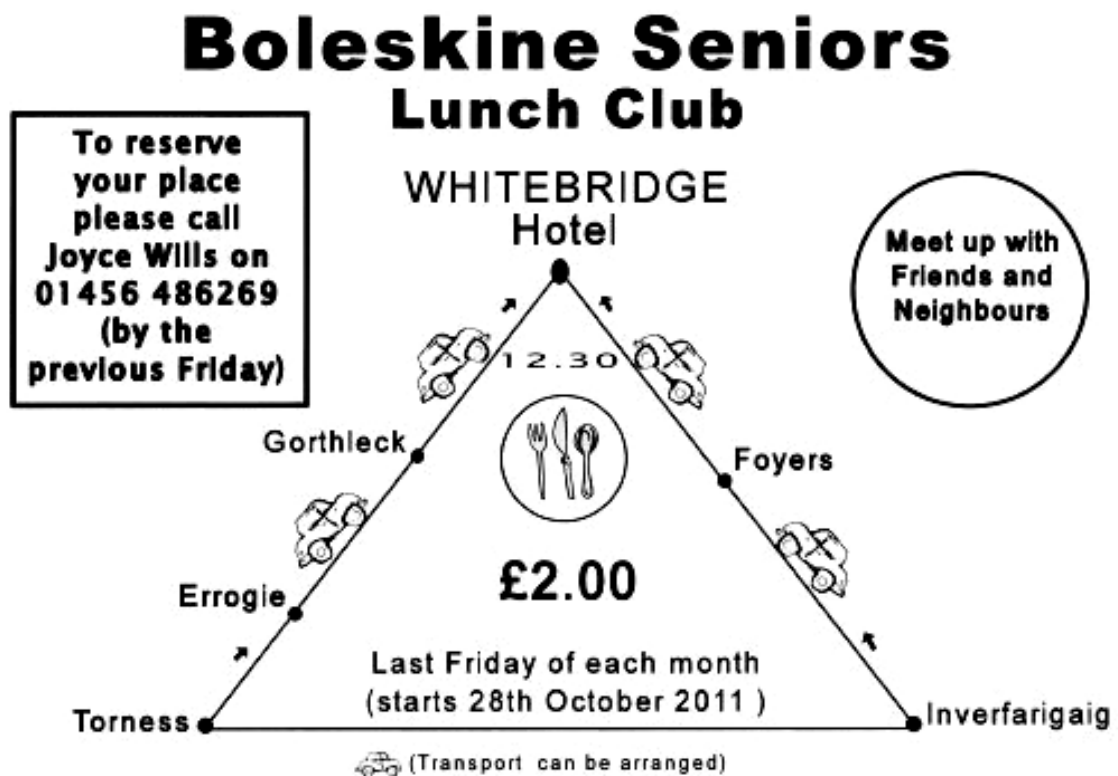
Community Trust and the Whitebridge Hotel Support the.....

BOLESKINE SENIORS LUNCH CLUB

The Community Trust is supporting a monthly lunch club for senior residents. The Trust is making £2,000 available to kick-start the project. The Lunch Club starting in October will be known as the Boleskine Seniors and will take place initially at the Whitebridge Hotel. The owners David and Sarah are keen to provide the venue and assist with the lunch along with several volunteers who are willing to test their culinary skills!

To this end the Trust is also funding a hygiene course for twelve local residents that will take place in early September. Those taking the course are mainly volunteers who will help with the lunch. Others are involved in preparing and serving food locally including a young local man who wishes to make a career in catering.

If you feel that you would like to come along to the lunch, see the details below and make a call so that you can be counted in..... and if you do not consider yourself a 'senior' but would like to help please give a call also.



STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Alex Sutherland (Chairman) AS 486711; Elizabeth Merther EM (Secretary) 486382; Katherine Grant KG (Treasurer) 486221; Donald Forbes DF 486333; Kenneth Fraser KF 486220; Julie Hunt 486324; Stephen Hunt SH 486324; Alexander MacPherson AMacP 01463 751213; Fraser Ross FR 486707; Justin Sharp JS 486644; Mark Houston MH 01463 751757

1. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 26th April 2011 were adopted as a true record.

Proposed: Mrs K. Grant Seconded: Mr J. Sharp

2. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Key Worker/Affordable Housing — Cllr. Davidson had arranged a meeting with Albyn Housing and the Highland Small Communities Housing Trust in Inverness on 1st June to discuss the best way forward with the housing projects at Gorthleck and Inverfarigaig. The Chairman and Secretary will attend.

Broadband Provision — A copy of the 'Community Broadband Toolkit' was passed to Mr Paul Higham, who had agreed to look into this matter. Mr Stephen mentioned the Tooway Direct satellite broadband system. The Secretary reported that she has this system and finds it very reliable. While not superfast, it is

certainly faster than the very poor landline service she was getting previously. Cllr. Davidson reported that Graeme Ambrose of Destination Loch Ness is in contact with HIE regarding provision of a better broadband service around Loch Ness.

Care in Strathnairn — Mrs Grant has a meeting arranged with Paul Davies, the Co-ordinator, on Friday. Cllr. Davidson advised that some extra funds may be available if needed to extend the scheme to this area.

Drumtemple Cemetery Gate — Mr Sharp reported that there is some damage to the gate, but it is not known if this pre-dates the work which has been done. However, the gate will now open and close properly and will latch.

Public Toilets - Foyers — Mr Stephen attended the meeting to report on this matter. He said that a Committee decision had been taken to close the toilets, partly because they are sub-standard. However, in view of the large number of visitors to the area, and lack of other suitable facilities, a special dispensation

had been obtained to keep the toilets open, initially for this season. The only other toilet available is in the Foyers Cafe, and this is not adequate for the number of visitors. Mr Hargreaves of the shop and cafe is looking after the toilets meantime, and it was noted that they are now spotlessly clean. There was some discussion on the possibility of some sort of community take-over. Cllr. Davidson warned that there are potential difficulties in the CC taking ownership, so the various options will be investigated. The Chairman reported that he had received agreement from the Scottish Communities Foundation that Community Trust money could be used for this project. Cllr. Davidson indicated that the Ward Budget might help towards the cost of installing hot water. In the meantime the CC will register an interest in a community buy-out, and in the HC Comfort Scheme, and Mr Stephen will start the necessary paperwork. The Chairman thanked Mr Stephen for coming along to advise us on this matter.

Bottle Banks - Foyers — Cllr. Davidson had spoken to Mr KcKinnie about this and he will arrange for the area to be cleaned up.

3. Correspondence

Highland Council Correspondence

Notices - City Forum 14th May & Rural Ward Forum 7th June 2011 (circulated)

Other Correspondence & Circulars received

Notice re NHS Highland Newsletter (circulated)

Information on Energyshare Fund

SSE Renewables - Feedback from exhibitions on Balmcaan

and Stronelaing windfarm proposals

Further notice on application to open Pharmacy at Great Glen Trading Centre

Information on Associations of Community Councils (circulated)

Inverness Area CC Forum - Committee paper (circulated)

Renewal notice - Data Protection Registration

Invoice from Boleskine Bulletin

4. Treasurer's Report

Account balances were reported as follows:

Ordinary A/c - £1594.85 (including £362 in grant money for Fraser Monument)

Cheques for £250.00 for the Boleskine Bulletin and £35.00 for Data Protection Registration renewal were written at the meeting.

Project A/c - £13094.48.

Cheques totalling £8255.00 had been written since the last meeting to: Linda Cameron for rent; Fettes sawmill; Highland Industrial Supplies; Project Manager.

5. Planning Matters

(a) New applications:

Forestry access points and loading bays by Abersky, Torness (Mr MacPherson declared an interest)

Replacement porch rear of Farraline, Errogie (Mr Fraser declared an interest)

Two semi-detached bungalows - Smithy Cottage, Errogie (Cllr. Davidson declared an interest in view of her connection with the Highland Housing Alliance. The Chairman and Mr Houston both declared an interest as sponsors of this project on behalf of the Community Trust.)

Temporary siting of static caravan - Druim-an-Ault, Inverfarigaig

Forestry Consultation - South Loch Ness, Erchite

Members studied the documentation for these applications and there were no objections.

6. Policing Matters

PC Mathieson reported that there had been a number of break-ins in Fort Augustus. Police are hopeful of solving this shortly. He also reported that successful enforcement action had been taken in relation to a problem reported in Gorthleck.

7. Roads and Signage

(a) Outstanding Matters

Roadside tree clearance - It was reported that the gales over the past 24 hours had left a number of trees hanging' dangerously along the Foyers to Dores road. Cllr. Davidson will request that these are dealt with.

The Chairman reported that work on the Inverfarigaig pass road had still not been completed, despite the six week closure. A further four week closure had been agreed, and it was

felt that this should be ample time for the necessary work to be done. The Chairman reported that ditches are choked and need clearing; there is still debris on slopes which is likely to fall into the road and needs removing; the damage to bridge parapets is still to be repaired, and ideally arrangements should be made for this to be done while the road is closed. Cllr. Davidson will arrange a site meeting to review the situation.

Bus shelter Lower Foyers - The Secretary reported that the CC had been advised of yet another delay until possibly July/August for this installation. A new bus shelter had been ordered, although we were advised that a suitable shelter was available in the TECS yard. The Secretary will contact Neil Young to express our disappointment and find out why it has been necessary to wait for a new shelter.

Run-offs on Torness brae - Mr MacPherson reported that these have been cleared.

Pot-holes Ardoch road - PC Mathieson was recently along this road and thinks they have been repaired.

Timber lorries on Trinloist road - Mrs Grant reported that the road had been quieter, but the severe damage to some areas of the road was still an issue.

Bridge parapet at Boleskine - Enquiries will be made as to when this work will be done.

(b) Other Roads Matters — Cllr. Davidson reported that there is some money in the Capital Programme for minor roads, and there is a bid in for South Loch Ness. She had been told that the wind farm money for roads will not be available until 2013, and not all areas will qualify. She thought there might be a Ward Forum meeting in this area on road improvements, and this would include people involved in negotiating remedial work on roads following timber extraction which, it was agreed, had been a major problem over many years. Cllr. Davidson also reported that a lot of timber is due to be taken out of a number of areas due to the spread of a disease in the trees.

8. Community Project - Gorthleck — Equipment is currently being purchased. The Project Manager has posted notices requesting volunteers to help with setting up the project.

9. Renewable Energy and Community Benefit

Cllr. Davidson reported that she had been very disappointed with the offer made by RES and had advised them of this. RES now wish to have a further meeting, and Charles Stephen is arranging a further meeting with representatives of the three Community Trusts to negotiate further. It was noted that various benefits had been arranged through the Glendoe scheme, such as a bursary scheme for young engineers. A wildlife Ranger was provided through the Dunmaglass scheme. PC Mathieson, who is the local wildlife protection officer, was keen to meet with the Ranger, and Cllr. Davidson will forward contact details.

10. Members' Resignations — The resignations of Mr Steve Hunt and Mrs Julie Hunt were noted.

It was agreed that Mr Houston should now be co-opted as a full, voting member, and also that Mr Paul Higham be co-opted as a full member, bringing the CC to full membership.

Proposed: Mr A. Sutherland Seconded: Mr D. Forbes

11. Adoption of New Constitution, Standing Orders and Code of Conduct — The new models provided by Highland

Council, having previously been circulated to members, were formally adopted by the CC. Proposed: Mr A. Sutherland Seconded: Mrs E. Merther

12. Any Other Competent Business — Mr Forbes reported that there is an ongoing problem with water lying on the road at Ness-side

due to leaf litter blocking the drainage. Cllr. Davidson will pass this on to one of the Councillors responsible for that area.

Mrs Grant had received enquiries about the availability of firewood from the clearance being done by SSE, and also whether some might be delivered to pensioners. Enquiries will be made.

Mr Houston expressed concern about the hazard posed by cars parked at the junction of the Foyers road in Dores during busy times. PC Mathieson will investigate this problem.

Mr Sharp reported a number of large pot-holes on the Garthbeg road. A report will be sent.

Mrs Ellam of Easter Boleskine was present at the meeting and again expressed dissatisfaction at the way the CC had handled the planning application for a caravan/camping site in Lower Foyers.

Once again the Chairman explained the CC role within the planning process, that the CC had behaved correctly throughout, and that the CC had gone far beyond what is required of it to provide information to the community and obtain feedback.

13. Date of Next Meeting — The next meeting will be on Tuesday 28th June 2011 at the Stratherrick Hall in Gorthleck.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 28th JUNE 2011

Members present: Mr A. Sutherland (Chairman), Mrs E. Merther (Secretary), Mrs K. Grant (Treasurer), Mr D. Forbes, Mr M. Houston, Mr F. Ross, Mr J. Sharp **Also present:** Councillor M. Davidson, Police Constable A. Mathieson, Mr Paul Owen (SSE), Mr David O'Brien (Morgan Sindall-SSE) Apologies received: Mr P. Higham, Councillor D. Hendry, Mr N. Kirkland

1. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 24th May 2011 were adopted as a true record.

Proposed: Mr D. Forbes Seconded: Mrs K. Grant

2. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Key Worker/Affordable Housing — The Chairman and Secretary had attended a meeting with representatives of Albyn Housing and the Highland Small Communities Housing Trust regarding the land held by them at Gorthleck and Inverfarigaig. It had been agreed that in view of the extremely long delays with the development at Gorthleck, efforts should be made to take this forward first. In the present difficult economic climate it was felt that the first step should be to release some affordable plots for self-build projects and that, at a later stage, the income from these should help to fund building of other types of housing needed. Cllr. Davidson advised that when plots become available, a mailing to all households in the area could be carried out, and that Highland Council would cover any costs. It was felt that informa-

tion on the proposed schedule for provision of the different types of housing should be included. Cllr. Davidson also advised that people wishing to be considered for property in the Gorthleck scheme should be encouraged to get their names on the Housing Register. It was noted that a fairly recent housing needs survey has been carried out in the area.

Care in Strathnairn — Mrs Grant has been in contact with Paul Davies, the Co-ordinator, and a meeting is to be arranged. It was noted that some local volunteers will be needed. Cllr. Davidson advised that Highland Council may provide additional funding if the area covered by Care in Strathnairn is extended. Mrs Grant reported that a senior citizens' Lunch Group is being set up in Gorthleck, and the Community Trust is providing funds to assist with the set up. Bottle Banks - Whitebridge — A possible site at the junction of the B862 and the Dalcrag road was suggested. Enquiries will be made with Mr Alan McKinnie at Highland Council as to whether this is a suitable position.

Public Toilets - Foyers — Mr Charles Stephen had reported that enquiries are ongoing as to the best way to pass responsibility to the community. In the meantime temporary arrangements for Mr & Mrs Hargreaves of the Foyers Shop and Cafe to look after the toilets have been formalised. These arrangements are in place until 31st October 2011.

3. Foyers Falls Recovery Project — Mr Paul Owen of SSE reported that the work is progressing well. After a slight delay the crossing of the Lower Foyers road is now under way and is expected to be completed in the two days (28th & 29th June). A diversion route past the power station is in place, and the Lower Foyers road is expected to re-open on 30th June. Mr Dave O'Brien of contractors Morgan Sindall explained the plans and showed a diagram of the proposals for crossing the road to Upper Foyers. There will be no complete closure of the road. A diversion for the footpath and a single traffic lane will be created, and traffic-light control will be in place. It is hoped to carry out this section of the work in early August, but information will be provided when more detail on the timing is known. As much warning as possible will be given. The Chairman enquired about the situation with firewood from the cleared areas. Mr Owen confirmed that this has been available for people approaching the Site Manager. The question of the old right of way path behind the factory was raised. This is not the direct concern of the current contractors, and the CC understands that this should be raised with SSE Estates Department. The Chairman confirmed that this had definitely been a right of way. Mr Forbes offered to contact the Estates Department to show them the route of the old path.

4. Correspondence

Highland Council Correspondence:

Notice of Ward Forums - Planning for Integration (circulated)

New Constitution duly signed by David Haas and returned

Other Correspondence and Circulars received:

Confirmation of Renewal of Data Protection Registration

Highland Funding Information - Spring 2011 (from Cllr. Hendry)

Letter from CKD Galbraith - Permission for refurbishment work on old right of way between Migovie and Corriegarth Forestry Commission - Notification of possible sale of part of National Forest Estate

5. Treasurer's Report

Account balances were reported as follows:

Ordinary A/c - £744.85 (including £362 in grant money for Fraser Monument)

Project A/c - £19,749.48

6. Planning Matters

(a) New applications:

Guest annexe - The Coach House, Foyers (Full)

Two house plots - Coillie Beag, Easter Drummond, Whitebridge (PIP) Members were familiar with the proposed sites and studied the documentation relating to these applications. There were no objections.

(b) Any Other Planning Matter

The Chairman had received a report from Mr Kirkland about heavy construction traffic using Stratherrick for access to the Beaully - Denny power line site. It was agreed that accurate identification of the vehicles concerned is needed by taking note of registration numbers, and any names on the vehicles, to make sure these are not accessing the Glendoe site. Cllr. Davidson will enquire about the conditions in the access statement for the contract.

7. Policing Matters

Constable Mathieson reported that it looks increasingly likely that all Police control in Scotland will come under one force. Members agreed this is very unlikely to be beneficial to rural communities.

8. Roads and Signage

(a) Outstanding matters

Roadside tree clearance - On-site meetings took place on 20th and 27th June with all the agencies involved in the Inverfarigaig pass contract. The first was attended by Mr Houston and the second by the Chairman. It was agreed that the community has been badly let down by the handling of this contract. The original planned four week closure of the road finally stretched out to 13 weeks, causing problems for local residents, patients attending the Medical Centre, and potentially serious problems for the local Fire Brigade. Contractors are now talking about a further closure in the Autumn. Cllr. Davidson felt that a very poor job has been done on this contract, and that no-one was keeping control of the contractors. A further site meeting is planned for late July, and a member of the CC will attend. There are plans for further clearance along the Glenlia road. It was agreed that much more stringent controls are required in any future contract.

Bus shelter Lower Foyers - Mr Neil Young has confirmed that a new shelter will definitely be installed in late July/early August this year.

Bridge parapets - Boleskine and Inverfarigaig pass. The Chairman reported that the parapets on the pass road have been repaired. TEC Services has informed that the Secretary that Boleskine bridge parapet and road is being monitored.

At present the repair work is planned for the Autumn.

Damage to Trinloist road by timber lorries - Cllr. Davidson informed the meeting that a report is being prepared on the work required.

Pot-holes on Garthbeg road - The Secretary has been told that TEC Services are aware of this problem and that repairs will be done.

(b) Other Roads Items — The Chairman noted that road narrowing warnings have been provided at the Torness side on the road by Loch Ceoglaig, but warnings are needed at the other end of this stretch of road. A request will be sent. It was noted that the traffic priorities at the Calanour junc-

tion have still not been reconfigured. It was minuted in September 2009 that this would be carried out, at the latest, in Spring 2010. Cllr. Davidson will enquire about this.

Mr Houston reported that the Torness road damaged a Chisholm's lorry early this year has still not been properly repaired. Some tar and chips were put into the damaged area today, but this is not sufficient. A report will be sent.

The Secretary reported that road drains in Lower Foyers between the old bridge and Riverside were completely blocked, causing water to flood down to the bailey bridge, eroding a deep gully beside the road. She had reported this, and the drains have now been cleared.

9. Community Project - Gorthleck — It was noted that some play equipment is now on site. There is further work to be done and volunteers will be needed. Mrs Grant and Mr Houston are due to meet with the Project Manager to take things forward. The question of public liability insurance will need to be checked.

10. Renewable Energy and Community Benefit

The Chairman reported that the Trust is on the verge of an agreement with regard to the Dunmaglass scheme. An improved capital sum has been offered.

11. Any Other Competent Business — The Chairman reported that the Forestry Commission are intending to develop two small scale hydro-electric projects in the area. It was noted that communities may have a share in such projects, and we have already registered an interest. Mr & Mrs Hargreaves had mentioned to the Secretary that they suffer a major loss of trade during the week-end of Rock Ness. She had passed this information to Mrs MacRae in Dores, who is in contact with the organisers, and raised the possibility of some sort of compensation for next year. It was noted that this will need to be raised again in time for next year's festival. There had also been some reports of marshalls turning traffic away from the Foyers road at Dores, and marshalls should be better briefed next year to prevent any misunderstandings.

The Secretary had received a report that changes are to be made to local arrangements for the home carer service, and considerable concern had been expressed about what the arrangements are to be in future. Cllr. Davidson will provide the contact details of the person in charge and the Secretary will write for clarification.

Mr Forbes had noticed that once again bottle banks at Foyers were full and that bottles had been

left around the banks. He wondered about a notice asking people not to leave bottles if the banks were full. The possibility of more frequent emptying is also being pursued.

Mr Forbes also noted the very poor state of the second stretch of the cemetery road in Lower Foyers. The first section as far as the gate has had some surfacing work and is not too bad, but the section beyond the gate has deep, muddy ruts, and is very unpleasant for people walking to the cemetery. Cllr.

Davidson will raise this matter. Mr Ross raised the matter of damage to the fence around the children's play area in Upper Foyers. Cllr. Davidson reported that the Glenlia Residents Association have a bid in for funding for new fencing, so this should be dealt with before too long.

Mr Houston requested that the firework display this year should be organised under the auspices of the CC, so that it is covered by their public liability insurance. He has covered this himself in the past, but is now finding the cost to himself as an individual prohibitive. Cllr. Davidson believes that CC

insurance may cover an event of this type, but the Secretary will make enquiries.

Mrs Grant reported that Stratherrick School has lost a full-time teacher, who now has a job in Inverness. Again travelling problems have been an issue. There was some discussion on local housing issues. It was noted that the Foyers Schoolhouse is empty. Cllr. Davidson will enquire about this, and also about the likely length of time before a new teacher can be appointed.

Mrs Ellam was present at the meeting and enquired which newspaper had been used to advertise the public presentation of paperwork in relation to the planning application for the camping and caravan site in Lower Foyers. She was advised that advertising had been done locally, as there was not time to place newspaper advertisements.

Mrs MacDougall was present at the meeting and expressed concern about speeding traffic on the Foyers road. A notice has already been put in the Boleskine Bulletin. There was discussion on possible ways of dealing with this, and Constable Mathieson noted that the worst offenders in these situations are often local drivers. If people report registration numbers of offenders to the Police, they can be visited and given a warning. This can be done anonymously.

12. Date of Next Meeting — The next meeting will be on Tuesday 23rd August 2011 at the Primary School in Foyers.

LOCAL ELECTION....

Your Community Council Needs You!

Nomination papers for the new Community Council will be available from its parent body Highland Council between the 19th September and the 4th October. This time there will be vacancies for only 8 members instead of the previous 10 and if there are more than 8 candidates there will be an election on the 16th November.

Some important issues have arisen during the life of the current Council and there is more to come from problems with our roads, to wind farms, community benefit monies and cut backs in public services. I hope that there will be sufficient interest from within the Community to generate an election. Please do not be backward about coming forward!

Alex. Sutherland (Chairman Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council)

Christian Comment

The chemical process that produces the glorious autumn colours at this time of the year is quite complex: a process which we may well not understand – but nevertheless provides us with much delight. Many readers of this Boleskine Bulletin are in the autumn of their lives. It seems that we are living longer which is causing considerable problems with pensions and welfare organisations – but can it be said that the autumn of our lives is delightful?

A very pleasant lady that I know used to give talks to groups of people entitled 'Growing old gracefully' - producing the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. What is the secret of this process? An answer may be found in the Bible where the apostle Paul writes to the people of the Greek city of Corinth (not far from the venue of the original Olympic Games). He says that we are being changed by the Holy Spirit of God from glory unto glory (2 Corinthians 3 v18). In the natural world we see this happening every year. Christian people may welcome this process of spiritual growth as we look forward to new life with our Lord Jesus in Heaven – the final 'Harvest Home' as the writer Henry Alford expresses in the well-known hymn 'Come ye thankful people come' that we sing at Harvest Festival.

Martyn Bateman

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: — St Pauls Strathnairn: Sunday: 11.00a.m. The Very Reverend Gerald Stranraer -Mull 01463 870986

Free Church: Sunday: 6.00 p.m. Errozie. Mr. S McLurel 01456 486435

Sunday: 11.00a.m. & 6.30p.m. Wednesday: 7.30p.m. Dores Mr. D. Fraser 01456 486408

Free Presbyterian Church: 6.00pm Gorthleck every 4th Sunday. Mr. E. Fraser 01456 486282

Roman Catholic Church: 12.30 pm, 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

Remembrance Sunday

A short service will be held at the Stratherrick War Memorial on 13th November at 3.00pm to which everyone is invited. **Contact: Martyn Bateman 01456 486273**

THE KNOCKIE TRUST FUND

At a meeting held on the 16th August 2011 the Trustees of the Knockie Trust Fund agreed to standardise the Christmas Gifts for Senior Citizen Households. The effect of this is that the Christmas Gifts will consist of a £30 M & S Voucher per eligible household. The reason this decision was taken was because of the problems of getting coal prices from a supplier last Christmas.

Those eligible must be aged 65 and lived in the community for 4 years.

Inland Upland and Cold – Gardening on the Edge

This is a tale of woe. I'm talking about wood mice and bank voles. If you keep a dog or a cat you won't have a problem. Perhaps the ways in which I solved the difficulties will be of use to someone or you can just laugh at the lengths I went to.

Last autumn I sowed seeds of the common field poppy, *Papaver rhoeas*. The plants were carefully nurtured through the winter in a cold greenhouse then planted in trays and hardened off. They made good sturdy plants. The idea was to plant them among ox-eye daisies, *Leucanthemum vulgare* and cornflowers, *Centaurea cyanus* – the usual 'farmers' nightmare' combination. So I planted out the poppies and cornflowers and bank voles ate them, every one. The holes of their tunnels were clearly visible at each plant.

The next plants to go were calabrese. Gaps appeared in newly planted rows of peas. This was too much! I found some small meshed chicken wire to protect kohlrabi seedlings. I put plastic bell cloches over curly kale plants. One of the critters tunnelled into a bell cloche and nipped off the kale. It seemed that everything newly planted was at risk. I also had new campanulas, *Campanula persicifolia* 'George Chiswell' - two good tall stems with lots of buds. I was looking forward to seeing the flowers. A vole nipped off one of the stems. Disheartening! I left the cut stem to see what would happen. (It was chopped into small pieces and taken away). I surrounded the remaining stem with cut thistles. Success! It flowered. Why had I not remembered that this was how I had protected plants previously? After the winter I had plenty of dead holly so I surrounded the peas with bits of that and yet more thistles. Bank voles are averse to having their wee feet and noses prickled. The peas survived.

Gaps appeared in a tray of annual poppies, *Papaver commutatum*, 'Ladybird'. Trays of other seedlings were untouched. One morning I disturbed a wood mouse in the act of eating a poppy. What is it with these critters and poppies? Do they get high on them? Next day it nipped off some pea seedlings that had been destined to fill gaps in the rows. Fortunately I had sown plenty so when I planted them out I made sure that they were well protected by holly and thistles.

Two years ago I lost all the strawberries to mice and voles. Since then I have surrounded the strawberries with polycarbonate sheeting. Perhaps the voles and mice can't see or smell the berries. This has been successful.

Where are the tawny owls, weasels and pine martens when I need them? They always turn up late in the season. Certainly they have now reduced the population of voles and mice but I'm going to cut more thistles soon to protect the beetroot, just in case.

Wee Gairdner

An Unusual Sighting

Wendy Bellaris of Upper Foyers was walking the Glenlia road recently when she saw a red squirrel with something large in its mouth. She stopped and watched it for a few minutes and saw that the object was a baby squirrel. The mother came down one tree trunk carefully carrying its baby, ran across the ground, then climbed another tree disappearing into the foliage. Was she removing it from danger?

Appeal for volunteers Help stop an invasive predator Mink are on the increase.

Introduced for the fur trade in 1938, American mink escaped and by 1962 were breeding in the wild. Now widespread, their presence in the Scottish countryside is recognised as a big problem for many of our native wildlife and game species. Mink are effective predators and eat anything they can catch and overpower. Their diet includes water voles, fish, ground nesting birds and even chickens!

The **Scottish Mink Initiative** has been set up to help communities to protect their local wildlife by providing specially designed floating rafts to monitor mink movements, which helps target trapping effort. If you would like to find out more about the impact of mink or monitoring a mink raft, please contact Cat Robinson on either 07825 185 178 or cat@rafts.org.uk

INVERNESS - GORTHLECK SERVICE 303									
	SD	SH	MWF	TTH		MWF	TTH	SD	SH
Inshes Retail Park	-----	-----	1355D	1355 D	Gorthleck	0932	0920	1504	1515
Raigmore Hospital	-----	-----	1400D	1400 D	Stratherrick Pri- mary School	-----	-----	1520	-----
Inverness Bus Sta- tion	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 Tele- phone 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 Kiosk	0905	0910	1445	-----	The Steadings	-----	-----	1559	-----
Inverfarigaig	-----	-----	-----	1442	Farr Shop	-----	-----	1610	1610
Lower Foyers	-----	-----	-----	1449	Dores Post Of- fice	0957	0958	-----	1545
Upper Foyer	-----	-----	-----	1453	Inverness Bus Station	1012	1012	1624	1600
Stratherrick Primary School	0910	-----	-----	-----	Raigmore Hospi- tal	1022D	1022 D	-----	-----
Gorthleck	0920	0920	1451	1504	Inshes Retail Park	1025D	1025 D	-----	-----
MWF - Monday, Wednesday & Friday.					SD - Monday - Friday when schools are open.				
TTH - Tuesday & Thursday.					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	844	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	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					

FOYERS STORE & POST OFFICE

**Foyers, Inverness. IV2 6XU
01456 486233**

Foyers Stores and sub post office offer a traditional Village Store that supplies a wide selection of goods from freshly baked bread to the humble toothbrush and daily newspapers. The shop is well stocked using local suppliers where-ever possible. We have a twice weekly delivery of fresh fruit & veg from Williamson's of Inverness; also a weekly delivery of well priced quality meats supplied by the award winning butcher 'Stuart Grant' of Grantown on Spey; an ordering facility is available for both of these products.

Other goods available include: Chilled & Frozen foods, Confectionery, Off Licence, Fishing Tackle, Souvenirs, Postcards, over the counter Medicines, Toiletries and household cleaning products. We can't compete with the 'big boys' but we do offer a friendly, welcoming local shop that might just surprise you with prices and variety.

OPENING HOURS

**Monday to Saturday - 9am to 5.30pm
Sunday - 10am to 1.30pm**

WATERFALL CAFÉ

**Foyers, Inverness. IV2 6XU
01456 486233**

The café is open daily and offers a wide selection of teas, coffees, cakes, freshly baked Danish Pastries, sandwiches, baguettes and panini's. Breakfast is served 9 - 11.30am; Cooked lunches served 12 - 3pm. Home-made cakes, soups and lunch specials & vegetarian options. There is freshly ground and brewed Italian coffee from invigorating Espresso to creamy Cappuccino all prepared using a traditional Espresso machine (all shiny and hissing steam).

Orders taken by phone.

All items available for take away.

On Friday and Saturday there is a Fish and Chip take away service available from 5.30 to 8pm.

OPENING HOURS

**Monday to Saturday - 9am to 5.00pm
(4pm Nov - April)
Sunday - 10am to 1.30pm**

New Editor Needed

After a good run as Editor of the Boleskine Bulletin I have decided that the time has come to hand the reigns over to another volunteer.

As the people involved in producing the Bulletin know I have been finding it hard recently to give the time and attention needed to produce a good (I hope) publication. The bulletin at present is produced in Microsoft Publisher and I will do the best I can to hand the files over to whoever takes over in a format they prefer.

If any one is interested then please feel free to contact me for more information,.

BOLESKINE BULLETIN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MONDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2011 at 7.30PM STRATHERRICK HALL

The Boleskine Bulletin hope that you enjoy receiving the quarterly newsletter; posted through the letterbox of your home. Many of the existing Committee have held office for many years now and it would be lovely to have a few new faces becoming involved. The help we need is just for a few hours every 3 months. - Do you think you could possibly help? - if so please come to the AGM.



Inverfarigaig

Plumbing & Heating

Fully qualified heating engineer, 26 years experience

All types of plumbing and heating work undertaken.

Oil boilers maintained and serviced (OFRT/101).

Natural Gas service.

Landlord certification.

Maintenance and servicing.

System repairs and alterations.

General building maintenance undertaken.

Very reliable - Reasonable rates - Free Estimates

Phone Andy on 01456 486343 or mobile 07761 932417

*** Special Offer - Boiler service only £75 ***



Fully Qualified Experienced
Electrician



Domestic/Commercial/Industrial/Farms/Estates/Holiday Lets
Electrical design + Lighting design
Renewable and Alternative energy solutions
Installation and maintenance
Testing and Inspection + PAT testing
Fire Detection Systems + Security Systems
Installation + Certificates to IEE Regs BS7671, 17th Edition

NICEIC registered for your peace of mind.

Free estimates + friendly advice over 20 years in the trade!

We can also perform other small domestic jobs.

We also offer a local vehicle recovery service and we can deliver emergency supplies to you in adverse weather using our winch equipped Land-Rover 4x4.

- just phone, ask, and we'll tell you if we can!

Phone Rob on: 01456 486 291

Or mobile: 07712 589 626

www.greensparks.com



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**

www.scottishfuels.co.uk

Abercharder 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



.....reconnecting Mind, Body & Spirit
Massage

Aromatherapy
Reflexology ^{*new}

Reiki

Hour and Half hour appointments
& Taster sessions available.

For further information, or
to book appointment

Tel: 01456 486291

or 0790 3357761

www.lochnesstherapy.com



FHT
Federation
of Holistic
Therapists

MEMBER

Sarah Hartley, MIGHT, Inverfarigaig

ABRIACHAN NURSERIES

www.lochnessgarden.com

Tel. 01463 861232

25 Years of Local Quality &
Great Value



Dark leaved Dahlias

3 types: Moonfire, Fascination &
Bishop of Landaff - £2.50 each

Ladybird Poppies - £1 each

Excellent Range of Basket & Tub
plants including Surfinias

Fresh Vegetable & Herb Plants

The Fantastic Chocolate scented

Cosmos - £3.00 each

Huge range of Quality Hardy Garden
Perennials

Open EveryDay 9am - 7pm

9miles SW on A82 (on north side of Loch)

HERE 2 THERE

HOME DELIVERIES
SERVICE

A PICK UP AND
DELIVERY SERVICE

MAN AND VAN FOR
HIRE

STEWART
07548 865 886

STOP PRESS

Builders Rubbish dumped in
the Pass of Inverfarigaig.

Have you had a tradesman/builder who has taken away some white internal doors, underlay and other bits and pieces for they've ended up below the road approximately 300 metres up-stream from the Allt Circe (lower) bridge. Every year the community organises a tidy up of the loch side shore and finds debris that has probably come from local houses and has simply been heaved out of some Inverness bound van.

Please ask your contractors how they get rid of their waste and let me have any information about this latest event so we can track down the culprit.
Alex. Sutherland Errogie

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, Errogie

Phone/fax: 486381

Mobile: 07711 700677

PAINTING CLASSES

Highland Art Studio, Torness

Fun and Friendly. All levels welcome.

Experienced Teacher. Materials supplied.

Day or Evening.

For details phone

Ros Rowell

01463 751314

Also- Painting Sessions and Workshops

Holiday painting courses

Paintings and Prints for Sale

Studio and Gallery Open all year

www.highlandart.com

D HENDERSON PAINTER AND

DECORATOR

FARR, INVERNESS

TEL 01808 521323

MOBILE 0796 8631094

WILD BIRD FOOD AND POULTRY FOOD

DELIVERED

DIRECT TO YOUR DOOR

WHOLESALE RATES

PHONE 01456 486 639

www.wildbirdfoodscotland.co.uk

Acupuncture & Chinese Herbal Medicine

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

HIGHLAND ACUPUNCTURE

Johanna Schuster

MAOM, Lic.Ac., MATCM

Riverside, Lower Foyers

01456 486628

(House visits available)

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

Scrap Metal

Free uplift from your garden,

garage, shed etc. Rusty
roof sheets, w/machines,
engines, mowers, cable,
wire, car batteries, taps,
tanks, cars etc.

Call Albert - Foyers

01456 486779

"Meat at McDougalls"

D J MacDOUGALL
BUTCHERS

Canalside

Fort Augustus

01320 366214

Quality Meat, Fish, Poultry
and Game

UPHOLSTERY

Give your furniture
a new lease of life!

re-upholstery
loose covers and cushions

Lorna MacDougall

01456 486 366

call for free estimates

GEORGE HENDERSON JOINERY

JOINERY CONTRACTOR
INVERNESS

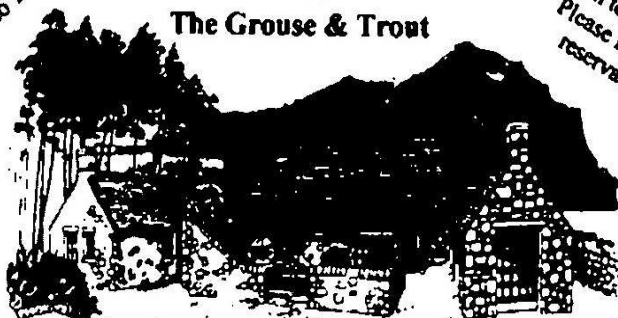
TEL 07590 503675

'QUALITY YOU CAN TRUST'

Attractive
Lounge Bar
6pm to 11pm

The Steadings at The Grouse & Trout

Superb
Restaurant Meals
6.30pm to 8 pm daily
Please make a
reservation



Contact David or Mary
Tel 01808 521314 email david@steadingshotel.co.uk
www.steadingshotel.co.uk



firework

PROFESSIONAL
CHIMNEY SWEEPING
POWER-SWEEP SPECIALIST
MEMBER OF GUILD OF MASTER-SWEEPS

CONTACT JASON ROSS
01463 811 818 / 07790545 036

www.firework-sweep.co.uk
contactfirework@gmail.com



WOULD YOU LIKE HELP WITH
YOUR GARDEN?

GARDENING WORK
UNDERTAKEN

Grass cutting Strimming
Fencing

ALL GARDEN WORK
CONSIDERED

CALL STEWART
07548 865 886

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

MOBILE DOG GROOMER

Home Visits
Coat Clipping, Thinning
Nail Trimming,
Bathing

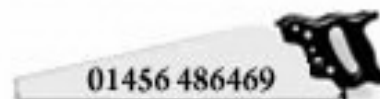
SHARON
CHALMERS
01456 486430

CC
DOMESTIC
ELECTRICAL
&
PLUMBING
SERVICES

Telephone
01456 486430

You
Could be
Advertising
Here

Carpentry & Joinery



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

Eric Law, Heatherly, Errogie
www.caor.co.uk

<p><i>To Advertise.....</i></p> <p>Contact Jane On 486355 Trade Directory £12 per year</p> <p>Charges per issue:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Full Page advert</td> <td>£60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Half Page advert</td> <td>£30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Quarter page advert</td> <td>£15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 inch box advert</td> <td>£ 6</td> </tr> </table> <p>Small ads. Are free</p>	Full Page advert	£60	Half Page advert	£30	Quarter page advert	£15	2 inch box advert	£ 6	<p>Next Issue December Deadline 15th November</p> <p>Items for inclusion to</p> <p>Peter Craven West Drummond Cottage Whitebridge IV2 6UP Mark Envelope "BB" Email address boleskine_bulletin@hotmail.co.uk</p>	<p><u>TRADE DIRECTORY</u> <u>CONTRACTORS</u> Angus C. Fraser — 486650</p> <p><u>FENCING—GARDEN & ESTATE SERVICE</u> D J Drummond—01456 486657 & 07881 456627</p> <p><u>PLUMBING / HEATING</u> D. Matheson & Son Ltd — 01463 716477</p> <p><u>WINDOW CLEANER</u> Stuart Marston — 01456 4862237</p>
Full Page advert	£60									
Half Page advert	£30									
Quarter page advert	£15									
2 inch box advert	£ 6									
<p><u>NHS 24</u> 08454 242424</p> <p><u>Doctor</u> 486224</p> <p><u>Police</u> 01320 366222</p>	<p>Extra copies of BB £1.50 incl. Postage</p> <p>Phone 486366 Buddy MacDougall Coach House Foyers</p>	<p><u>BATHROOM INSTALLATIONS AND PLUMBING SERVICES</u> Aberchelder Plumbing Services — 01456 486283 & 07799 170640</p> <p><u>PICTURE FRAMING</u> Hugh Nicoll — 01456 486350</p> <p><u>ELECTRICIAN</u> Rob Mullen (Greensparkes) see advert for further details. — 01456 486291 or 07712 589626</p> <p><u>CHIMNEY SWEEP</u> Jason Ross (firework) see advert for further details.— 01463 811818 or 07790545036</p>								

Remember

Remember.....

Flu Vaccine

The flu vaccine is expected into the medical centre at the end of September. Notices will be posted in shop and notice boards once dates of the flu clinics are finalised.

Look out for notices advising the clinic dates or check the medical centre website at end of September for information on dates.

Notes for contributors

For submissions to the BB an A4 page has about 400-500 words, half a page has about 200. Pieces should be of no more than one page. Obviously the Community Council Minutes need to be longer. As a rule an article of approximately 200/250 words is ideal as smaller pieces are easier to fit in when page setting. As editor I may need to shorten any article sent or, if it lends itself to splitting, use it over two quarters. This has to be at my discretion but I would contact you to inform you of what I intended to do. The BB cannot go beyond 24 pages due to cost and time sensitive pieces will go in first. I will always give the authors name for pieces used if desired, pieces should not be offensive and the editor retains the right to refuse to use any piece submitted. Anonymous letters to the editor cannot be accepted.

Photographs can be submitted in colour or black and white and will be converted to grey scale prior to printing as this seems to give the best reproduction results.

Thank you

**The Boleskine Bulletin accepts no legal liability for
adverts or the personal views expressed by contributors**