

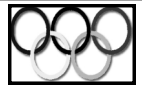
The Boleskine Bulletin

Issue 59 June 2012

Email: boleskine_bulletin@hotmail.co.uk



THE DIAMOND JUBILEE AND 2012 OLYMPICS



10 local events to celebrate the **2012 Olympics** and a **Family Jubilee Party and Jubilee Tea Dance** (see pages 2-4). **There are still 3 events to go:**

16th June FISHING EVENT - biggest catch to shinty pitch by 5.30pm wins. Prizes for all taking part. Contact James to register 486775

24th June CYCLE EVENT - Whitebridge to Loch Killin and back - 12 miles. 16+ or under 16 if accompanied by an adult. Contact Alistair Colquhoun 486369

21st July WHEEL BARROW RACE - for over 18 year olds. 6 p.m. Around Glenlia - about 1.5 miles. Fancy Dress. Contact Morag 486475. Small fee may apply.

GIANT WIND FARM DEVELOPMENT IN THE HEART OF THE MONADLIATH MOUNTAINS

83 Turbines to be built on 3,300 hectares of wildland at an altitude of 2,000ft. Along with the Dunmaglass and Corriegarth Wind Farms over 130 turbines will soon be built in one of Scotland's last remaining wild mountain areas.

Is this a price too far?

(See page 5)

OLYMPIC TORCH ARRIVES

IN FORT AUGUSTUS

Great excitement on a sunny afternoon Saturday 9th June in Fort Augustus as



hundreds of people gathered to welcome the Olympic Torch - an event probably never to be seen again in our lifetime. The torch was welcomed by a huge cheer and lots of flag waving. The torch was escorted by a long line of back-up coaches, lots of police motorcycles, fire engines with their lights flashing and horns blaring. A fantastic experience. The Torch then progressed to Inverness, taking a detour by boat over Loch Ness to visit the 20,000 people attending Rock Ness.

FOYERS AND STRATHERRICK CELEBRATE 2012 OLYMPICS

BADMINTON AND TABLE TENNIS

12TH MAY 2012

The Badminton event in Gorthleck hall was a very busy and fantastic day. It went on from 12 pm until about 10pm. Thank you very much to Edd and Lea for lending us their table tennis table, also to Fraser Ross for helping out on the day. Big thanks to all who supported the event and of course thanks to Alex Sutherland for organising. Morag Cameron



Foyers – Inverfarigaig – Foyers Walk

Saturday 19th May 2012



There were 11 on the walk plus dog, starting out from Foyers shop and incorporating part of the South Loch Ness Trail. The first pleasant surprise was the newly **upgraded hill walk**, (red route), where we met a Group of walkers from Aviemore doing the walk from the opposite end. Leaving the hill we continued through **deer pasture** to Easter Boleskine where we detoured slightly to **view Loch Ness** before descending to Forest centre and comfort break.

The walk then continued through Inverfarigaig down to Farigaig and followed shore path, stopping on shore, before continuing up to Hydro access road. The path left road and went through Boleskine wood, meeting **Aviemore group** again, to come out at Foyers Lodge before taking path up to Falls car park and Cafe. The walk took approximately 4 hours including break. Sally MacGuire

Sponsored by Highland Council



Walk up Dun Deardail Sunday 20th May



There was a terrific turn out for the walk up Dun Deardail on Sunday 20th. The glorious sunshine was very welcome and really put everyone in a positive frame of mind for the difficult climb ahead – not for the faint hearted! Notably, there was a wide age range amongst the participants. This added to the experience and indeed, there was much good humour, laughter and storytelling which helped on the most testing parts of the walk. With lots of encouraging, but often repeated, phrases such as, “That’s the worst bit over” and “We’re nearly there” everyone made it to the top. The resulting views across Loch Ness from the

summit were absolutely breathtaking and made all the aches and pains worthwhile. To mark the occasion a tree was planted which we hope will be visited and enjoyed by future generations. The bacon rolls and cups of tea at the end of the walk were particularly appreciated! Susan Denoon

Stratherrick Clay Target Club

24th May 2012

On Thursday 24 May the club opened their doors to all who were interested in shooting and possibly becoming an Olympic hopeful. It was very busy with over 50 people shooting on a beautiful sunny evening. Everyone had a great time and hats



off to the members of the club who remained patient and calm dealing with so many inexperienced shooters. Special thanks to Eddie Fraser who took the time to come to our Olympic/jubilee committee meetings, also Mag for the lovely hospitality and company. Big thanks to Iain Hepburn for just being so great at what he does and did on the night! Also James Matheson, Brian Ainsworth and Ali, Thanks to James Matheson for lending the trap. Willy Fraser and Lewis Fraser for letting us use their Air Rifles. Also thanks to Gregor MacLeod of Tain for the use of 2 shot guns.

CANOEING ON LOCH NESS

26th May 2012

The Canoeing event on Saturday 26th was also a great success with many wanting to make it a regular event, we had 50 plus booked in with more turning up on the day. The youngest taking part was 2 and the oldest 70 something. We had a fantastic day but as the loch was choppy we held the event on the river,



finished off by a BBQ on the shinty pitch. All the events have really brought the community together. Big thanks to Adrian at Boots n Paddles for being a great guide also to South Loch Ness tourist group who along with Highland Council sponsored this event.

Morag Cameron

Cycle Run - Olympic Celebration

(STILL TO TAKE PLACE)

Sunday 24th June - 10am Start

As part of the Glenlia Residents Community Association contribution to the Olympic celebration, Alistair Colquhoun and Tony Williams are planning a 12 mile cycle fun run from Whitebridge Hotel to Loch Killin and back to Whitebridge.

All levels of fitness are welcome but youngsters under the age of sixteen should be accompanied an adult. If a youngster would like to come along but does not have a supporting adult please contact me.

If requested we can pick up bikes and take them by trailer to Whitebridge for the start. We can also return bikes to the original pick up points

A trailer will pick up any cyclist struggling with the uphill run to Killin. If you feel that the whole uphill cycle may be too energetic we can take you up to Killin for the return journey.

Free refreshments and bites are available to participants when they reach Loch Killin.

Look out for our notice nearer the event.

**Contact Alistair: 01456 486369 or email
alistaircolquhoun369@btinternet.com**



**Watch out on notice
boards for more Olympic/
Jubilee events.**

Huge Thanks to the following for
funding the events.

The Highland Council

**The Foyers and Stratherrick
Community Trust**

South Loch Ness Tourist Group

Aspenwood-Ray & Lynn Cooper

Also thanks to all in the community for the
support.

Olympic/Jubilee Committee

Family Jubilee Party

2nd June 2012



A fun family party was held in Stratherrick Hall to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee.

Around 120 attended all bringing party food to share and dancing.

Ernest Randall and Davie Shand kindly played for us earlier in the evening followed by a disco by Big Alfie's Disco.

The Whitebridge Hotel provided the bar and Jan & Simon (Foyers Stores) kindly helped with the funding to decorating the hall.

We had a fun community evening and thanks to all who played, donated and attended.

We should do this kind of thing more often!



JUBILEE TEA DANCE



More than 60 people came to celebrate the Queens Jubilee on Tuesday 5th June at a spectacular Tea/Dance in Stratherrick Hall. Helped by many around the strath who provided home baking, flowers, and music. Foyers shop was able to secure donations of food from suppliers and the Craigdarroch Hotel made a huge cake decorated by some of the school children. Highland Council provided a commemorative box of short-bread for each person to take away. Music was provided by Alistair Colquhoun, Ros Rowell, Ernie Randall & Davie Shand. Her Majesty was able to look on with satisfaction as the National Anthem was sung to end the proceedings.

Glenlia Playpark

Opening Day event 17th June 2012 2.30 PM

After 3 exciting years of fundraising and organising, the Glenlia Playpark has been developed. We would like to thank the following who financially supported this project: Stratherrick and Foyers Trust, Highland Council, Highland Leader, Albyn Housing Society. We would also like to thank the members of the community who participated in or attended events which helped us fundraise for this project.

Glenlia Playpark is for the enjoyment of the whole community, for children as well as adults. There is a wide range of equipment for all ages including adult equipment in it so please make the best use of it.

Fun for all the family - Face Painting, Races, Refreshments, Prizes and Gifts

Something for everyone

Glenlia Residents Community Association

Stronelaig Wind Turbine Development

At a recent open day in Stratherrick Hall Scottish and Southern Energy announced that they are currently in the process of preparing the planning application for the Stronelaig wind farm. This proposed site is located to the east of the Glendoe Hydro Electric scheme on the Garrogie Estate owned by Mr Charles Connell. It is intended to submit the planning application to the Scottish Ministers over the coming weeks. The community council will be notified of its progress. This large industrial development, (83 turbines reduced from 140), will extend to about 3,300 hectares (8,000 acres) into the heart of the Monadliath Mountains at an altitude of over 2,000ft. SSE will use the new access road constructed to the Glendoe scheme. However, up to 70 kilometres of new roads will also have to be built. The application when submitted will have the normal 28 day response time for individuals to have their say. More details about the project can be found on the project website at www.sse.com/stronelaig. Alternatively, for any further information contact the Project Liaison Manager, Marianne Townsley, on 01463 728069 or by e-mail to marianne.townsley@sse.com.

If you would like to be informed as to when the application is submitted send your email address to the BB.

Community Benefit – How is it spent?

The Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust is responsible for handling the financial community benefit provided by renewable energy schemes. Along with existing funds from Glendoe and from the proposed future developments this will amount to a considerable sum. At their monthly meetings the Trustees discuss how this money is to be allocated within the community. The meetings are closed but information regarding the Trust and how the funds are managed can be found on the Stratherrick web site. The last meeting recorded was 2nd May where information regarding the possible community housing at the Errogie Smiddy corner was discussed.

At the Community Trust A.G.M. in March of this year the following Trustees were appointed:

Helen Grainger (Chair), William Ewen Fraser (Vice-Chair), Alexander Sutherland (Secretary), Andy Holt, Fraser Ross, Justin Sharp, Sharon Ferguson, Lyn Forbes, Antony Williams.

Frank Ellam, who has been the Trust accountant since the formation of the Trust has decided to step down following the recent June meeting. See advertisement below.

Job Vacancy

Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust

There is a vacancy for an Accountant/Book Keeper on the Trust.

The Trust meets monthly for approximately 2 hours with a further variable 1 to 2 hours per week to deal with grant applications etc. The work is paid at the rate of £12 per hour and volume may rise as further funds accumulate to the Trust.

Apply in the first instance to A. Sutherland, 1 Alltnagoire, Errogie with a brief C.V. and for any further details.

STRATHERRICK MUSIC CLUB

We meet once a fortnight in Stratherrick Hall and anyone, of any age or musical interest, is very welcome to come along. So far we've been having a great time learning lots and having fun. We try and have some sessions of tuition as well as playing tunes and songs together. The club isn't just for traditional music players - it's for anyone - singers as well. Between us we have several spare instruments and can help get you started playing.

At the moment we are meeting every second Wednesday at the hall, 7.30-9.30pm. For further details telephone Ros or Alan on 01463 751314 or email Ros on artist@highlandart.com



Singing for Fun

New singing group in Stratherrick

If you ever have the desire to break out into song - in the shower, in the car, maybe at your favourite Pub's infamous karaoke night – the new Stratherrick singing group could be just what you are looking for.

I am an experienced musical conductor who has recently moved here and would like to invite people of all ages to join a singing group in my home in Gorthleck.

If you want to: - explore your own voice

- get to know sing-along-songs from all over the world, which you then can sing with your children and/or family
- surprise your partner or your family with a new skill
- experience the enjoyment of a group achievement
- have fun with friendly like-minded people

Then this is the perfect way to spend an evening every two weeks

Everyone is welcome. No musical experience is necessary. It is free for everyone.

Contact Christiane Hinz on 01456 486403 or send an email: maketodaycount@web.de

Heritage Group Field Day, Inverfarigaig,

Saturday 7th July, 10am – 3pm



Led by Graeme Ambrose, this is a good opportunity to visit a number of historical sites around Inverfarigaig and also to enjoy the varied natural landscape of the area. The day will start with a visit to the Black Rock and then we will walk up the Corkscrew as far as Balchraggan.

Meet 10am, Forestry car park, Inverfarigaig. Bring a packed lunch and be sure to wear good walking boots!

Those interested should contact Graeme on 01456 486717 or alternatively

e mail : Graeme.ambrose@btinternet.com

Community Buying Club

The idea is in the early stages of the planning.

The aims are to deliver cost savings to the community by increasing buying power as a group.

The first and most obvious is an oil club also known as oil-syndicate buying groups or co-operatives. The Club would not be limited to oil but it is obvious to start with. The Club, if successful, could include group purchases or anything that would have a commercial saving by increasing buyer power e.g. chimney sweep, oil boiler servicing, window cleaning, slate/roof repairs, or anything that the community as a group could benefit from.

The plan is

- (1) Introduce CBC Idea to Community;
- (2) Gauge level of support for CBC in community;
- (3) Research CBC in other communities;
- (4) Explore synergy with H&IE and Highland Council;
- (5) Summarise the findings of the CBC.

Depending on whether there was suitable interest the next stage would be to develop a structure for CBC; explore options for aligning CBC with other community groups in the area.

Please contact tony.williams354@tiscali.co.uk to register an interest.

Tony Williams

Glendoe Power Station Open Day

To mark the return to service of the Glendoe Power Station this summer, SSE will be inviting local people to a tour of the station on Saturday 22 September. Planning for the event is still at an early stage but it is likely that a booking system will be in operation to take visitors by minibus to the underground power station. Staff will also be on hand to answer any questions and a freephone booking number will be advertised nearer the time.

However, if you would like to register your interest in the meantime, please contact Susan Scobie on susan.scobie@sse.com.

HOLIDAY CLUB 2012

The annual Holiday Club will take place this year from Monday 30th July to Friday 3rd August in Gorthleck Hall. As in previous years, it is open to all primary school pupils in the area and will run daily from 2p.m. to 3.45p.m.

For further information, please contact Ishbel MacLure on 01456 486435.

New community web site....

The Stratherrick Voice

We believe that the community should have somewhere to air their views and engage in debate. Our aim is to promote openness and give a platform for all including those who are not able to attend Community Council Meetings. We do not receive or seek any funding from the Trust, Council or other body.

Please register and join - start a debate.

<http://www.stratherrick.org.uk/> Eric Law

Inland,Upland and Cold – Gardening on the Edge

Is your garden surviving the cold, the wet and the storms? At the week-end (and this is mid May) I had flying cloches that needed anchored with stones, soil and canes. Previously, I have not had to secure them other than with a cane and a roof tile at each end.

Last time I wrote about some vegetables that I grow, so here are notes about the rest:-

Cabbages do well here and fast growing, pointed 'Greyhound' produces sweet leaves in summer. For winter, purple and green kales will survive the severest weather but all the brassicas grow better under enviromesh that also protects them from caterpillars but not, alas, from slugs. Don't be seduced by black 'designer' kales like 'Nero di Toscana'. They may look beautiful but they don't like our frosts. I have had varying success with Brussels sprouts. Calabrese that the supermarkets insist on calling broccoli can be grown here as can proper purple sprouting broccoli, again with varying success. Kohl rabi, swede and radish – all quite easy – complete the list.

Fail safe leafy crops that sprout again in spring and can be eaten until they bolt are the leafy greens: Swiss chard and perpetual spinach are mostly trouble free. The leaf stalks of chard can be cooked separately from the green part as an unusual vegetable. Chard also comes in a rainbow version with red, purple and yellow stalks to cheer up your vegetable plot. Beetroot likes a sprinkling of seaweed meal. I can recommend 'Boltardy' and 'Moneta'.

Usually in May, carrot seeds mixed with silver sand to give an even sowing go under an enviromesh 'cage' to keep out carrot fly. If I need to thin them I cut mint stems and lay these around to confuse the wretched flies. It seems to work but choose a still day. Parsnips are sown in the open garden. They don't always germinate if it is cold and wet. A second sowing is often necessary.

Annual flowers and flowers for drying are grown among the vegetables and soft fruit to attract beneficial insects; besides they are pretty – soil *and* soul !

Wee Gairdner

I normally envy those who have blackbird song around them in the spring but have been enchanted by the choruses this spring – my favourite birdsong. I had a very loud thrush singing earlier on and a blackcap has turned up for its usual spring visit. Sadly the sound of hosts of oystercatchers in Foyers has faded to one or two pairs – too many predatory hoodie crows I fear!

Where can I hear skylarks? Their spring songs used to be heard at Boleskine Church. I also am informed that curlews are decreasing in numbers in the Strath. We are not privileged to hear the cuckoo down here in Foyers for some reason. Please tell me where is the best place to hear its call?

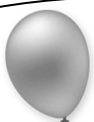
Buddy MacDougall

LITTER PICK

The annual **South Loch Ness Litter Pick** up was held on Sunday 25th March. In past years we have covered the 10 miles from Foyers to Dores but pleased to say that the route was extended to include Whitebridge to Foyers this year. Many thanks to the folks from Whitebridge who took part and to all the other volunteers, many of whom are now regular faces. A special thanks to Morag Cameron for organising her Glenlia crew.

As always a huge amount of litter was picked up from the grass verges and from the laybys and in the main they are looking really good, especially now the primroses are in full bloom.

Fiona Ambrose



Happy Birthday Morag,

Hope you have a fantastic day.

All my very best wishes. P x

Update from the Forestry Commission

Felling

Felling workings along the Inver Farigaig pass are complete. We apologise for the road closure period, but we had to ensure that the operation was undertaken in a safe manner, which required the use of specialist tools and equipment. The operation will be ongoing until the end of June. This year there are two scheduled felling operations at Trinloist and Knockie. The exact timing of these operations has yet to be finalised. Small scale works may take place in the area over the next 12 months, such as tree planting and tree maintenance. These operations are generally of low impact.

Tree Health

Some of the forests within this area could suffer from a plant health issue, known as Dothistroma Needle Blight. It is a fungal air borne disease that affects a range of coniferous tree species (mainly Pine). It can be dormant in a tree for many years, but when active can kill trees within three years. Pine is a commonly planted species in the FC forests of the South Loch Ness area and although current tree health surveys have not highlighted a significant issue, it is likely some of the trees will suffer. Due to this early felling works may be scheduled. The planned operation at Knockie will include the removal of affected trees.

Native Woodlands

Quite a lot of the forest land in the Boleskine area is of ancient woodland origin and the long term intention is gradually restore, or enhance this habitat type over successive generations. A strong grove of aspen is located at the top of Fasnagruig hill above the Farigaig visitor centre and this is being targeted for early work to stabilise it and give it the opportunity to expand, by removing some of the non-native trees from around it. Aspen is a very important component of Scottish native woods and it is hoped that it will respond well to treatment.

Rhododendron

FCS has launched a programme to eradicate rhododendron from the National Forest Estate over the next 10 years. This is a significant task and will include forest land in and around the Inverfarigaig and Foyers localities. This is driven by the national determination to deal with highly invasive non-native plants that can colonise rapidly at the expense of native flora and fauna. (Scottish Government Wildlife & Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011). Japanese knotweed at Foyers is also to be treated. The Environment team needs to know where rhododendron is, and whilst we do undertake surveys, bushes keep turning up in unexpected places. Please let us know where rhododendron bushes are lurking.

Juniper

One of the Forestry Commission's target species for conservation work is juniper. Another important component of native woodlands and a surprisingly long lived species in some circumstances. The local team ran a study on a couple of colonies in Strathspey and near Tomatin last year and the oldest bush in that study was found to be 163 years old; set in 1848. Again, a plea for knowledge, if you know where there are any bushes in your locality, do please let us know; grid reference if possible and the number of bushes. At present the only bushes we have on record in this area are under the powerlines, close to the field edge above Easter Boleskine.

If you can help with either Rhododendron or Juniper information please contact Giles Brockman at the Smithton Office txt: giles.brockman@forestry.gsi.gov.uk tel: 01463 791575

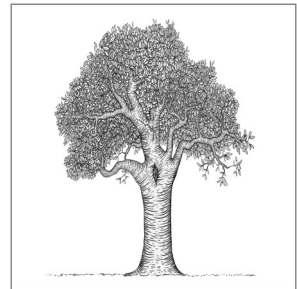
Doug Mitchell – Planning Manager

The Forestry Commission has donated hard wood trees to the community to commemorate the Jubilee/Olympics. Every household should get one !!

Morag Cameron is distributing them in the community as best she can - with a little help from her friends.

If you have not received your tree yet but would like one, please contact Morag on 01456 486475.

Many thanks go to Kenny Hay at FCS for helping to organise this project



Shinty Pavilion moves to new location

In early November Stratherrick & Foyers Community Council approached Scottish and Southern Energy with a view to getting the Shinty Pavilion at Foyers demolished. The reason being the Pavilion was no longer in use, constantly subject to vandalism and public safety grounds. Late in December the matter was brought to the attention of Boleskine Shinty Club, the current lessee, and by that time it had been already agreed that the pavilion would be demolished. As the person running the Shinty Club web site I was dismayed by this decision but the dice was cast. I related the fate of the pavilion to a former resident of the district, Teep Macdonald now in his late eighties. Teep reiterated that it was an absolute disgrace that something so intrinsically associated within the memory of locals should be destroyed. It should be preserved for posterity and relocated in somewhere like the Highland Folk Museum at Newtonmore. I concurred fully with this suggestion and contacted former Shinty Association President John Mackenzie, who worked in the museum. The museum Curator, Bob Powel, said they would be delighted to accommodate the pavilion as it would fit in perfectly with a project 'Shinty Heritage in Badenoch' and house the exhibition. They were in the process of laying out a sports park at the museum where the pavilion could be erected. Bob then approached the S&SE manager at Foyers, Mike Cruickshank. The S&SE were happy to agree that the Pavillion would not now be demolished but relocated in Newtonmore. The dismantling of the pavilion will be done by construction apprentices of the Highland Small Communities Housing Trust



under supervision of the museum staff. So, though no longer in the area, the future sympathetically restored Pavilion can continue to be utilised for sporting events as the BA company intended. Former users of the Pavilion can take a stroll down memory lane as they will be able to visit it at its new location.

If you have any photos of the pavilion in olden times, please give me a call on

01463 715713

by Alister Chisholm

Boleskine Camanachd Club

This season Boleskine have started their league campaign well and are currently sitting in joint second place, a point behind the leaders Beaully, with high hopes to improve their standing by the end of the year. In the cups: the Sutherland, after beating Col-Glen 3-1 away in the west of Argyll at Colintrive, they lost to Caberfeidh narrowly at home. In the Strathdearn we beat Inverness at home after extra time and face Fort William away in the next round.

U 12 Shinty training is on a Wed night at 7-8pm at Smith Park. U14 & U17 are along with the adults at 7pm the same evening.

Any one interested in playing shinty or becoming a member of our monthly draw club, contact club secretary Liz Macdonald on 01463 791955

The Club play their home games at Smith Park Inverarnie. Matches commence at 2:30pm generally but check local press for details of any changes. The club website at <http://www.boleskinecamanachdclub.com/> will give updates in Fixtures & Results section. Also details of any events organised by the club in the Club News section.

Fixtures:

9 June - STRATHGLASS v **BOLESKINE**

7 July - **BOLESKINE** v CABERFEIDH

16 June - **BOLESKINE** v STRATHSPEY

14 July - KILMALLIE v **BOLESKINE**

23 June - FORT WILLIAM v BOLESKINE

21 July - BEAULY v BOLESKINE

11 Aug - **BOLESKINE** v LOCHBROOM BOLESKINE v BEAULY & LEWIS v BOLESKINE games still to be allocated dates

BOLESKINE v BEAULY & LEWIS v BOLESKINE games still to be allocated dates

Caravan Site gets Approval

Mr and Mrs Forbes have received the go ahead from H.C. planning department for their caravan site development in Lower Foyers.

Trees have already been felled along the river at Lower Foyers. The trees were taken down soon after the planning consent was received. Residents were concerned that some of the work took place on a Sunday. A condition of planning control for the development had been that no building work should take place on a Sunday. However, tree felling is considered to be site preparation not building work and so is permitted to take place on a Sunday.



Archaeology and Heritage of Stratherrick - open meeting

Highland community archaeology group, ARCH, held an open meeting at Stratherrick Public Hall recently. The evening gave people the chance to meet and share information about local heritage, and to suggest possible areas of interest for future courses and events.

As a result of funding from The Heritage Lottery Fund, European Community Highland LEADER and with support from The Highland Council and ScotRail, ARCH has been able to work across Highland for the last two years, running classes, field work outings, lectures and visits to museums and archive centres to explore the heritage features of the Highlands. Now ARCH is planning ahead for how they might be able to deliver this mix of community learning to the Stratherrick area. Susan Kruse, ARCH Project Officer commented, "There are some fascinating sites around Stratherrick, including the well-known Whitebridge built as part of General Wade's military road in 1732, and the remains of a Wade Change House, which was an inn where travellers along the military road could get food and drink, and change horses and carter's. Boswell and Johnson stayed here during their tour of the Highlands.

"There are also much older sites in the area, such as the hill fort at Carn Na Dreamaig and the late iron age barrow cemetery at Whitebridge, once thought to have been the remains of an eighteenth century military camp, but now recognised to contain a dozen or more barrows. We're interested to learn about such things as buildings that might have changed or disappeared, about traditional routeways between communities, and interesting lumps and bumps in the landscape that they may have noticed. There is so much to discover, and the people living in the communities can often offer new light on the landscape and its history.

Bear Grylls Meets Local Scouts



Survival expert and Chief Scout, Bear Grylls, surprised hundreds of Scouts at this year's District Camp held at Dores in May. Bear arrived by helicopter to the camp where he helped to pick up litter on Dores beach and was photographed with local boy Brodie Bell (bottom right) who was attending the camp with fellow Whitebridge scouts Ben and Ruaridh Macdonald.

New Tracksuits and Sportswear for Foyers School Children

We raised money for our tracksuits by having a festive fun run - Verity P7.

We went to the cross country in Inverness and looked very smart in our new tracksuits - Ishy P6.

I am looking forward to the races at sports day - Andrew P3.

We are having a joint Olympic sports day with Stratherrick school and attending the inter-school sports at the end of this month in Inverness.

Watch out for our **red tracksuits** whizzing past when we are having an Olympic Torch procession on the **16th and 17th June** in and around community.

Project at the school - Olympics - we are finding out about other countries taking part.

Also we are planting our own fruit and veg at the school.



Stratherrick Primary School at the Rugby competition in Inverness



Photograph shows the pupils wearing their new tracksuits for the 1st time! Huge thank you to the Whitebridge Hotel for their very generous donation that helped us to buy the tracksuits.

We have been very busy this term at Stratherrick Primary School, our P5-P7's along with Foyers Primary School have just returned from a week long residential trip to Glencoe outdoor centre, which the kids loved. This was kindly made possible with help from the Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust and hard work from the children and parents. Fundraising made it possible that all children could go if they wanted to. The whole school has been attending swimming lessons this term too. We are looking forward to our Olympic themed sports day which we are having with Foyers Primary School.

A word from our P5-7 customers regarding activities we do

Swimming by Kayleigh p6 - Every Friday the whole school goes to swimming lessons. We have an early lunch then get on the bus and go to the Inverness Aquadome. We had a test on the first day and we had to swim backwards half the pool then forwards the rest. We do lots of different activities such as jumping into the deep end. I learnt how to do a handstand under the water. I also learned how to swim under the water better.

English by Millie p6 - In English every week we do proof reading. This is when you get a piece of writing and correct the mistakes in it. I enjoyed making my own paragraph with mistakes in it for a friend. I learnt to look at my work more carefully just in case there is a mistake.

Rugby Festival by Roxy p5 - This year some of our school went to a rugby festival in Inverness. The whole of P5-7 came. The festival was held at Highland Rugby Club which is near the Inverness Leisure Centre. I really enjoyed the rugby festival because I got to run with the ball a lot and scored a few tries.

“A house by lots of names” – Pat Bell

“I grudge you my house” was the greeting to us by the previous tenant of our house! (**Connie MacCallum**)

The house has been known by a few names:- The Web, The Rubber House, The Sluice Keepers Cottage, The Dam Cottage and latterly as Craigview. **The Web**, due to the intricate structure of the roof. The foreman (**Angus McGruer-Alan McGruer’s Dad**) from the smelter came and helped the joiners build the roof as they could not fathom the plans. **The Rubber House**; used to take in bed/breakfast and hitch hikers. We were told they even slept up in the loft (ugh!). The tenants slept in a caravan. **The Sluice Keepers’ Cottage**, built for a British Aluminium employee, **Jock Cameron**, he opened the Sluice Gates at Foyers Power Station Intake. **Sadie Chisholm** at the Old Post Office, at the Dam Intake, told us it faced Creag Bheag, and was called **Craigview**. Her late husband, **Alistair**, cleaned the chimney when we first moved (the pinholes for his sheet was still at the corners of the fireplace from the last cleaning).



We arrived on a cold December evening (1985). We had two young (3 & 4) children and a dog (Snoopy) who had been sedated (she got very stressed) but would not lie down to it. We arrived and our children, **Arron & Sarah** said they did not want to live here as the grass was not green! The house had been empty for 18 mths. We turned on the water and had numerous water leaks, **Sandy Steel and Frank MacAdam** saved the day and helped the removal men and ourselves, building beds and stopping leaks. Everyone left. Snoopy lay down and slept till late the next day. We slept without curtains and had never known anything so dark (we were used to street lights after all). Oh how we slept!!!!

The house had been built in 1935. It was built from stones carried from surrounding derelict croft houses. They were transported by the late **Robin Fraser** (Rose Cottage) in his lorry. The late **Frank Grant** brought Jock up to see the trees he had planted come down. The Hydro replanted. We have taken them down again. This was planned as during another high wind, trees fell on either side of the garage. The Hydro felled the trees that were endangering the line. They sculpted a toadstool from a stump, as their trade mark. Every year I paint this, with wood preserver. We managed to persuade **Ian Cameron** (Whitebridge) to help us take the rest down.

The workmen, (including Angus) whilst building the house, left a legacy for us, by signing a piece of wood and placing it in the soffits. We found this recently whilst doing some work. We duly replaced it and put one from ourselves and the workmen (**Lee Cooper & Staff**). **Fred Reat (roofer)** has helped us on numerous occasions, with the task of repairing/maintaining the roof. Fred now drives past fast in case we haul him in to do more work.

We had no TV for the first weeks due to the signal requiring a Masthead amplifier, then a 10 metre booster, then a 1 metre booster to receive a picture (of sorts) on the TV, but only if the aerial was pointed at Fenecreich’s gable end. This was how we met the previous tenants; they offered us, their masthead amplifier. We can understand now, what Connie meant by her comment, but it really hurt then! During a storm, the tree holding the aerial came down blocking the road. Stephen got a (very heavy and long) scaffolding pole and put the aerial at the top and bolted it to our garage. All now replaced by a dish on the side of the house.

When we were bringing the garden and grass up to the standard that our children required (green grass) we found numerous objects, Land Rover springs, a ladder, paint tins (half full) and a door with safety glass in the grass. **Kenny MacCallum** used to fix cars and would lift engines out stringing it between two trees. He told us, of a winter’s storm and how he got into his Land Rover. The engine started but the Land Rover would not move. The snow had been blown underneath the Land Rover and had frozen, lifting the Land Rover’s wheels up.

When Kenny retired, Stephen was appointed to his post as Shift Fitter/Driver in Foyers Power Station. Connie left the school canteen, I got her post. When we first moved, the Dam turret had power. The poles ran the length of the path and the meter came into our house. Any maintenance work could be done in the dark by the Hydro. It also allowed us to go sledging at the bottom of the path. (Don’t tell the Hydro).

Wonderful Memories!!!

We hope we feel the same as Connie did, we do now anyway.

CHRISTIAN COMMENT

SUMMER TIME

"The Kingdom of heaven is like this. A man takes a mustard seed and sows it in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it grows up, it is the biggest of all plants."

It is great to be outside with plants growing and shooting up, fed by sun, rain and ground. Jesus speaks of the Kingdom of Heaven being like a tiny seed that when planted grows into a huge sheltering tree. We may look at the church here and think it as a tiny seed, looking insignificant. Looking to places like China we see that

God has brought the church there, from appearing destroyed by Communist restrictions, to a flourishing mass of people who have had only God to trust in and found Him to give life and strength and growth. Maybe our own faith seems so tiny that we daren't think about God or Jesus because we realise how feeble our faith is, but it is never too small for God. He is thrilled when we come to Him with our tiny seed of faith and ask Him to water it, feed it and make it grow until it is the size of a tree. It is not us that makes our faith grow, it is all Him. If you are fortunate enough to be sitting under a tree for 5 minutes, take the risk of allowing time with God and He can take your trust in Him and make it like the tree you are under.

Iain King

Church Meetings

Church of Scotland: Sunday - Boleskine 10.00am, Dores 11.30am. Mr I. King 01463 751293

United Services for Boleskine & Dores are at 11.00 a.m. on last Sunday of each month at alternate venues.

Episcopal Church: St Paul's Strathnairn – Sunday 11.00am.

Free Church: Sunday 5.00pm Errogie. Mr S. McLure, 01456 486435

Free Church Continuing: Sunday 11.00am & 6.30pm, Wednesday 7.30pm. Dores Mr D. Fraser 01456 486408

Free Presbyterian Church: 12 noon, Gorthleck, every 4th Sunday. Mrs E. Fraser 01456 486282

Roman Catholic Church: 12.30 pm, alternate Sundays, Whitebridge. Father Stuart Chalmers, 01463 232136

Boleskine Seniors Lunch Club

The lunch club has proved to be successfully and is an enjoyable get together for us senior citizens to enjoy a meal together – so far in the winter months in the Whitebridge Hotel and in the future summer months – the Stratherrick Hall. Many thanks to all the hard working volunteers who have the daunting task of providing food to please everybody and for serving us with friendly smiles. It is an excellent opportunity for us all to meet socially – a big thank you to all.

Foyers and Stratherrick **Coffee Morning**

This is a well-sestablished chance to meet for coffee and delicious cakes provided and served by local volunteers. We all enjoy meeting for a blether and Davie Shand gives us a tune on his accordion – a chance for a sing-a-long and an impromptu dance by his wife Val and Nancy Stoddart. One morning two American couples from the deep south came in and the men gave Val and Nancy a whirl and the couples were delighted with the unexpected entertainment stating that their coffee mornings were dull affairs compared with ours!

Buddy MacDougall

Boleskine Seniors Lunch Club

Held on the last Friday of the month

12.30 pm £2.00 per person

**During the Summer the Lunches are
being held in**

Stratherrick Hall, Gorthleck

Ring Joyce Wills to book (by previous Friday)

01456 486 269

Dates of the next 3 Lunches

Friday 29th June 2012

Friday 27th July 2012

Friday 31st August 2012

REMEMBER TO BOOK YOUR PLACE

Community Website : www.stratherrick.net

Stratherrick Hall



Regular Groups

- Mondays** - **Badminton 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.** Contact Fraser Ross 01456 486707
- Wednesdays** - **Parent, Baby & Toddler Group 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.**
Contact Susan Denoon 01456 486411
- Wednesdays** - **Music Club 7.30 - 9.30**
Contact Ros or Alan 01463 751314 email:artist@highlandart.com
- 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

Country Dancing (Wednesdays) returns in September (J Borup 01456 486464)

HIGHLAND COUNCIL CONTACTS

Our Highland Council Ward is Ward 13 - Aird and Loch Ness and we have four councilors representing us.

Helen Carmichael ☐ Tel: (01463) 782555 ☐ Email helen.carmichael@highland.gov.uk

Margaret Davidson Tel/Fax: (01463) 861424 ☐ Email margaret.davidson@highland.gov.uk

Drew Hendry Tel: (01463) 811480 ☐ Email drew.hendry@highland.gov.uk

Hamish Wood ☐ Tel: (01463) 712530 Email Cllr Hamish.Wood@highland.gov.uk

The ward manager is Charles Stephen Tel: 01463 724246 ☐ Email Charles.Stephen@highland.gov.uk

FOYERS AND STRATHERRICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Next Meeting: 26th June at Foyers School : 7.30 pm Open to All



.....the cyclists - with their
lives? car insurance ? Highland
Council? Stratherrick Community
Council ?

Diana Harding

ROSE FORTUNE wishes to thank all her friends and neighbours who “fed and watered” her and gave practical and prayerful support through the traumatic time of her illness and house move. God Bless You All. Rose

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<p>Acupuncture & Chinese Herbal Medicine</p> <p>If you would like more information or make an appointment please contact:</p> <p>Johanna Schuster</p> <p>MAOM, Lic.Ac., MATCM</p> <p>Riverside, Lower Foyers</p> <p>01456 486628</p> <p>(House visits available)</p>	<p> 01456 486226</p> <p>Whitebridge Hotel</p> <p>Home cooked bar meals</p> <p>Served</p> <p>12-2pm and 6-8.30pm</p> <p>Real Ale</p> <p>www.whitebridgehotel.co.uk</p>	<p>BAGPIPE TUITION</p> <p>BY EXPERIENCED TEACHER</p> <p>Piobaireachd & Light Music</p> <p>All ages welcome</p> <p>Please contact</p> <p>Brian Yates</p> <p>01456 486628</p>

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ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN FUTURE ISSUES -

If possible could all contributors send us text as a Word Document (250 - 300 words max) and photos as JPEG.

For those without computers or the internet then we are of course more than happy to receive photos, typed text and hand-written words in paper form too! Thanks so much to everyone who contributes articles, stories, photos etc - we couldn't do this without you. A very special thanks to all of our loyal Advertisers and also to the Community Trust and Community Council for their continued support. BB Team

COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES

The Community Council Minutes can be found on the centre pages of this Bulletin - these have been separately produced by the Community Council and can easily be taken out and kept for future reference.