

The Boleskine Bulletin

Issue 65 December 2013

Email: boleskine_bulletin@hotmail.co.uk

**Best Wishes
for
Christmas
and the
New Year**



A MID-WIFE CRISIS

A Christmas Play

Wednesday 18th December

At 7pm at Foyers PS

Tea / Coffee afterwards

All welcome Free Entry
Christmas Raffle

The First Stratherrick Rainbows, Brownies
and Guides Units

Christmas Fete

Saturday 7th December

Stratherrick Hall, Gorthleck 2 - 4pm

More details inside

Community Children's

Christmas Party

Saturday

14th December

2.00pm - 4.30pm

Stratherrick Hall

(all children aged 3 to P7 welcome)

More details inside

Community Christmas Carol Service

Saturday 21st December

2pm at Stratherrick Hall

Led by Rev. Stewart Jeffrey

Tea/coffee, Juice, Mince pies and chocolate afterwards

All ages VERY welcome

Rev. Stewart Jeffrey will be taking a

Carol Service

Boleskine Church

**Sunday 22nd December
at 10 am**

STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Community Council Christmas Meeting

Come along to our December Meeting and meet your Community Councillors

17th December 7.30pm

being held at the Craigdarroch House Hotel

Mulled Wine, Mince Pies and a very informal Meeting

Affordable Housing - Gorthleck 2014

Register your interest A.S.A.P.

The Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust and Albyn Housing

hope to move this project forward but they need people to register interest in getting a house or in Self Build plots. Initial loans may be available. (see Sept. CC minutes).

Contact : Susan Hunter on **01463 233549** (susan.hunter@hscht.co.uk) or

Ronnie MacRae on **01463 233549** (info@hscht.co.uk)

5 Ardross Terrace, Inverness. IV3 5NQ

Alternatively please contact any Community Councillor for help with this. Their details can be found in the Boleskine Bulletin or on the community website www.stratherrick.net

Community Care

Soup and Ideas Day

Saturday 1st February

Need Help? – Can you offer help?

Boleskine Community Care - a new steering group set up by the Community Council - hopes to be able to create new assistance for the community and to put pressure on existing care services. Day Care, visiting groups, handyman help, filling in forms, housing, transport, logs, snow clearance, the list can go on....and on. This open day is an opportunity to give some direction to the group and there will be the appropriate Highland Council and NHS representatives present to hear our concerns and ideas for the future.

Are you able to help with some of these things ? Do you, or might you , need help ?

Whether you see yourself as a helper or someone in need of help come along to Stratherrick Hall on Saturday 1st February between 11.30 and 3pm . Soup, sandwiches, tea and more.

Contact Geri Stocks in Foyers 486487 or Jane O'Donovan in Gorthleck 486355 if you would like a lift.

“discuss the care of our community – that’s you and me – over a bowl of soup”

STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

HIGHLAND COUNCIL - WINTER RESILIENCE SCHEME 2013/14

Highland Council is offering support to local volunteers to assist with the clearing of footpaths this winter.

Highland Council is offering:

- Provision of salt bins - locations have been agreed.
- Provision of snow shovels and snow pushers.
- Provision of gloves and high-visibility vests.
- Health & Safety advice to volunteers.
- Public liability and personal injury insurance to volunteers who have pre-registered through the Community Council and are working on its behalf.

Volunteers will be expected to provide their own warm clothing, suitable footwear, transport and refreshments.

Mrs Morag Cameron has volunteered to act as liaison person. We currently have 22 volunteers but would appreciate more. We plan to take this project a step further and offer to help clear paths to homes and to get shopping for those who can't get out on snowy days.

If you are able to volunteer for the scheme, or if you have requests regarding paths to be cleared, please get in touch with Morag or any CC member. The more willing and able volunteers we can recruit the better. Help is at hand when needed so please use the service.

Mrs Morag Cameron: Phone - 01456 486475 Email - alimoglenliafarm@aol.com

You can contact any member of the Community Council who will pass the information on to Mrs. Cameron. Contact details for all members can be found below and on www.stratherrick.net

Community Dinner - Inverness Town House

The dinner was hosted by the Provost and Members of the City of Inverness Area Committee on Saturday, 16th November and was to recognise the contribution made by local people in differing ways to the communities in which they live or work.

When I received my invitation I did wonder what contribution I had made. I could think of more than a few people who had made a much greater contribution to my community life in Foyers and Glenlia. I found the whole experience very humbling.

The people I met there were on the whole awe inspiring, not just for what they did for their own communities but for the wider community and the length of time they had been doing it. For example the community representatives of Torgormack and Kilmorack who have been in the front line for the Beaully – Denny pylon line and the noise generated by the Kilmorack Power Station after its upgrade. Not only are they fighting for their own community but they are very much aware of other communities where the very same issues are beginning to be raised.

Sally McGuire – Secretary Community Council

Contact Details for your Community Councillors :

Ian Brown (Chairperson) - whitebridge@uwclub.net - 01456 486 714

Sally McGuire (Secretary) - sally.mcguire@sky.com - 01456 486 606

Liam MacNally (Treasurer) liammacnally@ymail.com - 01456 486 605

Ian Bateman - ian@ardochy.co.uk - 01456 486 646

Morag Cameron - alimoglenliafarm@aol.com - 01456 486 475

Martin Donnelly - info@hotel-loch-ness.co.uk - 01456 486 400

Catriona Fraser - catrionafraser@tinyworld.co.uk - 01456 486 287

Ros Rowell - artist@highlandart.com - 01463 751 314

Foyers Primary School News

Foyers PS has once again been a busy place these past few weeks. On Saturday 21st September we held a sponsored walk from Foyers Waterfall café to Whitebridge Hotel. Many thanks to Sarah and David Murray for having juice and sandwiches waiting to revive us. £400 was raised through sponsorship so many thanks to everyone who sponsored a pupil for this event - your generosity is much appreciated.

We held a coffee morning for Macmillan Cancer charity on Tuesday 24th September. It was lovely to be able to welcome the South Loch Ness Nursery and meet the children who may be attending Foyers PS in future years. A very warm thank you to all who attended. A terrific £190 was raised.



On October 31st we had a fun afternoon for Halloween. The children all came to school with a dressing up costume and entertained each other with jokes, dances and poems before playing a variety of Halloween themed games.



Luke Pering and Raine MacGruer have been exceptionally busy these past few weeks along with the P7's from Stratherrick, Farr and Aldourie PS's. They have all worked together to stage a performance of Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream as part of the Shakespeare in Schools Festival. The culmination of this work was a performance at Eden Court in the Jim Love Theatre on Monday 4th November. All the children worked very well together and positive relationships were established. The children are all being invited to Rollerbowl on Friday 22nd November as a thank you for their hard work.

An excellent evening was enjoyed at Foyers PS when Tukta Thomson ably assisted by Katie Ellam cooked three gorgeous Thai meals. We all enjoyed a glass of wine and Tom Yum Kung, Chicken Fried Rice and Masaman. Recipe cards were handed out and I am determined to try them out myself at home as they were so scrummy! While the food was being prepared there was a wide variety of sales tables where you could start your Christmas shopping. Many thanks to Dee, Gemma, Lynsey and Lorraine for giving up your time to join us. Our thanks must also go to Eleanor and Martin Donnelly of the Craigdarroch House Hotel, Sarah and David Murray of the Whitebridge Hotel, and also to a number of parents who donated wine for the evening. These events would not be the success that they are without the kindness of a wide range of people. My thanks to the Parent Council for their time organising this event where we raised an impressive £204.

Louise Robertson , Acting Head Teacher



A MID-WIFE CRISIS

A Christmas Play

Wednesday 18th December

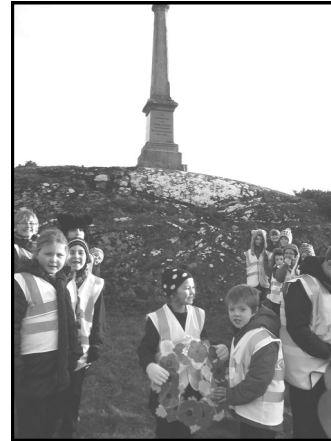
At 7pm at Foyers PS

Tea / Coffee afterwards

**All welcome Free Entry
Christmas Raffle**

STRATHERRICK SCHOOL

Stratherrick Primary p7's recently at Eden Court where they took to the stage to do a Shakespeare production along with Pupils from Foyers, Farr & Aldourie.



Stratherrick Primary School - went to the war memorial where the youngest members of the School, Pippa Ferguson & Fraser Tulloch, laid a poppy wreath that they had made at School.

ROXY CLIMBS TO THE TOP

Roxy Elgar, aged 10, and a pupil at Stratherrick Primary School, achieved both the Scottish Championship and 1st place in the UK Speed Climbing Championship held at the Edinburgh International Climbing Arena, an event run by the Mountaineering Council of Scotland in November 2013.

This has been a good year for Roxy having achieved a place in The North of Scotland Climbing Team.

This latest achievement has brought her year to a wonderful end.

Congratulations. (Submitted by her Mum and Dad)



Community Children's Christmas Party

Saturday 14th December

2.00pm - 4.30pm

Stratherrick Hall

(all children aged 3 to P7 welcome)

Games, food, lots of fun and a special visit from Santa.

Please make sure you RSVP your child's invitation to their school or nursery

*Many thanks to the 1st Stratherrick Girl Guides' helpers and to
the Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust for the funding.*

LETTERS/POSTS

Dear Editor,

Foyers Camp Site

The article in the last BB gives glowing reports on the effect the Camp Site has had on the local community. It has certainly given business to the local pub and shop which is commendable. However, the eight jobs promised for locals (reported in the Courier in Spring 2012) have not so far materialised and the manager's job has gone to someone outside the area.

We look forward to the promised landscaping, sorely needed beside the Riverside houses and by our village graveyard. We have lost the naturalness of the riverside walk with its brambles, native bushes and trees. Now it is a very town like road widened to take two vehicles. Traffic over the Bailey bridge has markedly increased making it hazardous for pedestrians (especially children). Light pollution at night is an unwelcome effect with the vast numbers of blue lights. Is there no way of down-lighting to protect the night sky?

Many people in Foyers chose the village because it was a quiet and tranquil place to live. Fortunately, now that winter has come, the field is green and peaceful as before.

Buddy MacDougall and Susan Faller - Foyers

Dear Editor,

Foyers Camp Site

We found the article by Mr and Mrs Forbes about the new caravan site in Foyers very interesting – not so much because of what it said but because of what it did NOT say (see last issue of the BB).

Local residents may have been curious to find out what happened to the 'new community buildings' (also described as 'wet-weather facility') which have to date not been built. These buildings had been much emphasised during both the planning and appeal stage as one of the reasons why this particular development should be viewed favourably by Highland Council (and the Government, respectively).

Also, to our knowledge, local residents never received any apology for the inconvenience, noise, and pollution they had to put up with during the construction period. The article by Mr and Mrs Forbes would have been an excellent opportunity to express their regrets.

On a different note: the newly laid-out access road to the campsite can easily be mistaken to be leading to the caravan site only. Hopefully a public footpath sign will be erected soon so that visitors to the area do not feel deterred from a stroll to the Loch on what is one of the very few easy-access routes to the shore. **Johanna Schuster and Brian D Yates**



FOYERS STORES & WATERFALL CAFÉ WISH EVERYONE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

FESTIVE OPENING TIMES:

Christmas Eve – 9am - 3pm

Christmas Day – Closed

Boxing Day - 10am - 1pm

New Years' Eve - 9am - 3pm

New Years' Day – Closed

January 2nd - 10am - 1pm

Thank you for your custom and support

Glenview Green Play Park Project

It is with great delight that I would like to inform the community that the Glenlia Green Play Park Project has received the final LEADER payment (the main funders) and the play park is officially 'signed off'! On behalf of GRCA I thank all the committee members past and present and all in the community who have supported us over the last few years to complete the Play Park. Particularly Geri Stocks for her tireless perseverance at completing all the paperwork over this last year.

GRCA would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Warmest wishes, Garry Page
Chairperson , **Glenlia Residents Community Association**

HERE 2 THERE

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Many thanks to you all for the good wishes, cards, and gifts that you sent wishing me a speedy recovery.

Thank you .

Stewart Goodwin

DUNCAN CAMERON OF FOYERS

It is with great sadness that the BB has learnt that Duncan Cameron from Foyers died on Sunday, 10TH November in Raigmore Hospital.

The local postman for many years, and a Foyers man all his life, Duncan will be greatly missed in the area. Our condolences and sympathies go to his wife Chrissie and to their sons, Donald and Angus.

The funeral service was conducted by the Reverend Jim Christie at the Inverness Crematorium on Monday, 18TH November.



BAXTERS LOCH NESS MARATHON

This year the weather was fantastic, not just for the runners but also the spectators, road marshals and helpers at the Water Stations.

Morag Cameron finished her 7th Marathon, running this year for the Breast Cancer Care Centre at Raigmore. She has raised £550 so far but hopes that once all sponsorship has been collected the final total will be a very commendable £600. Morag would like to say a big thank you to all those who sponsored her on what will be her last Marathon for a while!



Well done also to Wendy Bellaris and her son Todd for completing another marathon.

The first local residents to finish the Marathon and the 10k will be acknowledged



Wendy and Todd

this year at the next Community Council meeting on the 17th December.

In conjunction with Baxters, the Community Council will be presenting awards to Marie Ann Nicol for the Marathon and to Alex Sutherland for the 10k.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers who turned out helping to make the event such a resounding success; Foyers School, The Guides, Brownies & Rainbows, South Loch Ness Nursery, Glenlia Residents Association and Boleskine Shinty Club. Money raised has been distributed to the above organisations, Erskine Hospital and WRVS.



Morag

HIGHLAND COUNCIL CONTACTS

Our Highland Council Ward is Ward 13 - Aird and Loch Ness

Helen Carmichael Tel: (01463) 782555 E.mail:helen.carmichael@highland.gov.uk

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

Drew Hendry Tel: (01463) 811480 E.mail:drew.hendry@highland.gov.uk

Hamish Wood Tel: (01463) 712530 E.mail:Cllr Hamish.Wood@highland.gov.uk

Ward manager is Charles Stephen Tel: 01463 724246 Email: Charles.Stephen@highland.gov.uk

THE COMMUNITY TRUST

Directors:

Willie Fraser (Chair);

Lyn Forbes (Vice Chair)

Graeme Ambrose; Morag Cameron (CC)

Sharon Ferguson; Sally McGuire (CC)

Ros Rowell (CC); Justin Sharp

Chimney fires

'Tis the season to be jolly and, as we settle into the winter and light up our home fires, your Foyers Fire & Rescue team will be busy with regular 'call outs' to one particular type of emergency.....the dreaded **chimney fire**.

So, can these fires be prevented? Absolutely "yes"see below. And how do they happen?.....read on.

When wood or coal burn they release toxic gases (smoke) which rise up and out of the chimney. However, within the gases are wood resins and small pieces of soot which stick to the sides of the chimney. These deposits build up and WILL eventually themselves catch fire.....and then you have a problem. One sign of this build-up is when a puff of smoke comes from your fireplace if you quickly close the door in that room.

And chimney fires can spread!! From the hearth or from the chimney itself, the fire can burn its way into the woodwork of the house. Loose chimney stones and facing, cracked hearths and poor joinery such as joists protruding through the chimney can all result in a small isolated chimney fire quickly growing into something that can destroy your house.

So what to do? Well, there is one simple rule to help you prevent a chimney fire...**KEEP YOUR CHIMNEY WELL SWEPT** (note: every six months for wood burning and once a year for coal)

Over and above this, **have your chimney and hearth inspected** - for cracks or gaps or protruding joists and put these right.

If you do have a chimney fire, call us out straight away. We will quickly douse the fire in the hearth and shovel out the hot embers. We will then push a 'stirrup' pump up the chimney and pump small amounts of water directly onto the flames. We use mirrors to look up the chimney to see if the fire is out and the whole process may take us a few minutes or an hour or more before we are happy that the danger is past.

But that's not the end of it of course, because the heat from the fire in the chimney and possibly the fire itself may have spread elsewhere in the building. We will therefore check through your house to look for signs of fire spread before packing everything away and leaving you with a recommendation to.....**PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHIMNEY WELL SWEPT, THANK YOU.**

The consequences of a chimney fire can be dire. So, as winter approaches and you start to settle by your fires, be they open or in a wood burning stove, please stay safe and get your chimneys inspected for any cracks and then **GET THEM SWEPT.**

If you do have a chimney fire, please don't delay but call out your Fire Service straight away. Stay safe.

Your Foyers Fire & Rescue Team

We hope our articles will persuade you to look around your own properties and make sure that you are 'fire safe'. We can help with this and.....for a FREE Home Fire Safety Check from our team call FREEphone 08000 12 13 12 or, for more information, visit www.hifrs.org and click on the "Community Safety" page link on the left hand side



COMMUNITY FIREWORKS

The Fireworks Night this year was attended by over 120 people. There was a magnificent aerial display with a multitude of colours and bangs which shook the windows of the village hall where supper was served after the event. With soup, hotdogs or burgers in our hands, we were entertained by local artists Ernie Randall, Alex Sutherland and on the pipes Alan Beith.

Thanks go to the Community Trust for funding the fireworks, the Foyers Fire crew for organising the event, Linda for the use of the field, Ernie, Alex and Alan for entertaining us, the girls in the kitchen who cooked the food and a big thanks to the Fireworks team.

Donations on the night covered the hall costs and food and a donation went to the Guides who helped with the Raffle. Thanks to all for supporting this event.

Neil Kirkland – Foyers Fire Crew

Many Strath folks kept bees to produce some honey for themselves and to give away.

Donald MacPherson, from Inverfarigaig, was a first class beekeeper - a joiner to trade he made his own hives, quite a number as many as twenty. Along with his cousin Willie Boyd, they built their own home. Every autumn during and after the war years, Donald would cycle to Migovie (over five miles), a long distance for an old man. On his back he carried a game bag with a crate of 24lbs of heather honey sections. On the left side of the rear axle was a step which he mounted and away he cycled home.



Duncan Shaw, Tomvoit later at Foyers, was another keen bee man. Dunc as he was known was living with his mother at Tomvoit when during the war a twin seat R.A.F plane force landed east of his house and although landing safely, skidded on the wet grass and nosedived half over the dyke below his home. Thankfully the two crew escaped unscathed. Dunc kept 4 hives at Achnabat and five in the unused quarry at Errogie once worked by Alex Fraser Contractor. In June 2005, he phoned me and asked if I could have a look at his old apiary up in the old quarry as he was now not fit. It was many years since he was near them. Ten days later on a nice afternoon, my wife and I attempted to locate his old apiary but failed due to the overgrowth of birch saplings. Three days later after more info on the location along with hedge loppers we cut our way in and eventually found the site guided by the bees flying in. The hives were covered with young trees and whins and only one had active bees entering the hive by an opening under the roof. Before leaving we cleared a flight path. 4 years later in August 2009 and with a bee man, bee veils and a pair of loppers, we cut our way into the old apiary, the bees were still busy. We raised up the roof to which the large colony was attached. We replaced it and left. When we returned 2 years later they had died out, probably due to two hard winters being buried in the snow.

Another beekeeper was **Ian Fraser**. A school master at Merkinch school, he had thirty hives at one time kept at his mother's house at Midlyne and at Torness. He was very knacky and built a mobile hive holding 6 colonies. A convenient way to move bees to and from the heather moors. One season he wondered why his colonies at Midlyne were going down in numbers. But on walking along the shore of Loch Mhor he saw thousands of dead bees. Flying home from the heather against a strong head wind they had dropped exhausted into the loch. Other beekeepers were **Joe Brown** and **Archie MacMillan**. Those were the days before the blood sucking varroa mites arrived in Scotland in the nineties.

Sandy Fraser, Beekeeper, Inverness

BOLESKINE ENVIRONMENTAL RECORDING GROUP

BEN continues to take records of plants, animals and birds which are seen in the area. This year the breeding wader survey showed that our curlews, oystercatchers, lapwing and common sandpiper have done better this year. However snipe and redshank have not been so successful. The two moth traps belonging to the group were in action throughout the spring & summer. (Remember that log piles and fallen wood in the garden make the perfect winter home for many creatures so tidy gardens are out!). Squirrel monitoring transects are checked four times a year and we are always pleased to receive sightings of squirrels for our records. These we send on to add to data collected for the Highland Save the Red Squirrel Project. You would need to give us a grid reference of where you saw the squirrel. For more information about the group contact Rosemary Holt 486631 or Jane O'Donovan 486355

FORESTRY COMMISSION UPDATE

At the end of August, we provided an update on activities at a drop in session at the Gorthleck Hall and later that evening to a very well attended Community Council meeting. The presentation and discussion included an overview of this year's harvesting programme, a timber transport strategy, tree diseases and our proposals for felling opportunities that will be available due to the Foyers powerline upgrade by SSE. The annual harvesting programme on F. C. ground is progressing steadily. Over the last few months this has equated to approximately four lorry loads per day being hauled along the B851. We are continuing to work closely with SSE in relation to the Foyers Line Upgrade and will update to the community at a Community Council meeting in the near future. The revision of the South Loch Ness Forest Plan is in the early stages and we will be arranging a drop in session and other opportunities to work with the community this winter. Doug Earle-Mitchell, Planning Manager F.C. doug.mitchell@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Remember if you see any dead or dying juniper anywhere please contact Giles Brockman, F.C., Smithton, Inverness. IV1 7NL 01463 791575 preferably with a grid reference.

* **Inland, Upland and Cold – Gardening on the Edge** *
* I'm a great believer in using mulch and ground cover plants to cut down on weeding and for plants' protection. *
* Unfortunately my garden does not reflect the theory but I'm working on it. After I planted round the pond I mulched with *
* bark chips and this has been successful in preventing weeds. In this same area I planted *Arabis procurrens*, a small, *
* evergreen, spreading plant with white spring flowers. It spreads fairly quickly, so far has no bad habits and is always a *
* pleasing green patch.. *
* In another area I had hoped to cover the ground in ivy through which would have appeared flowers in due season. This got *
* off to a bad start because I planted it before going on holiday and yes you've guessed it – dry the whole time I was away – *
* result, ivy death and endless weeding since. *
* It is recorded that Americans like their *Tiarellas* (foam flowers) . Mine has light green leaves and is creeping quite nicely *
* under some shrubs. Related to *Tiarellas* are *Heucheras*. I'm not sure how fond I am of these. Certainly they are evergreen *
* but look ragged after winter. They are grown for their coloured leaves. I imagine that a border of mounds of *Heucheras* in *
* several colours could look quite attractive but remain to be convinced. *
* Hollies would seem tough plants but I have often lost them to severe winters here. Now I put a thick mulch round them in *
* autumn –e.g. spent compost from summer flower containers. Holly is quite shallow rooted as they found to their cost at *
* Cawdor Castle where the holly maze could not cope with people walking on its roots; a warning to all who aspire to *
* amaze!?? Mulch your tender plants and let not the winter worry you. **Wee Gairdner** *

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR MOBILE LIBRARY →

Have you ever used the mobile library van? Did you even know we have a mobile library service? I learned the other day that the service is being reviewed and, by the time you read this, details will have been taken over a three week period of numbers of users and books taken out and returned. What does it mean ?

My first encounter with the mobile library came nearly 15 years ago when the driver, Susan, rang the doorbell and asked to use our loo!. I was pleased she'd chosen us for a comfort break as I had no idea about the mobile library service, it marked the start of a long and rewarding relationship as a regular user. I was happy to see the range of books and DVDs on offer, and the fact that just about anything not on the shelves could be ordered.

Later on, when my duties as a carer resulted in my becoming housebound, I looked forward to the library van's arrival as a chance to get a re-load of essential reading and catch up with gossip from my neighbours. On more than one occasion, when I was too busy to meet the van, Susan arrived on my doorstep with an armful of books which she had chosen for me. I was hugely grateful and it reinforced my high opinion of the service.

Libraries all over the UK are being closed as councils cut back on their services under financial pressure. I've no evidence that this is going to happen here, but you never know, and wouldn't it be a crying shame to lose such a wonderful service?.

Please pass the word around and encourage anyone who likes a good read to give the mobile library a try? We may be moving steadily towards paper-free reading, but I for one still enjoy the sensation of turning pages without the aid of electricity and I'd like to carry on doing it for as long as possible!

Bob How

SERVICE 16 INVERNESS-FOYERS	MONDAY TO FRIDAYS						SATURDAYS	
	Sch.	NSch.						
Upper Foyers	07.55	08.04	09.55	11.55	13.55	16.20	09.00	13.30
Lower Foyers	08.00	08.09	10.00	12.00	14.00	-----	09.05	13.35
Inverfarigaig	08.07	08.16	10.07	12.07	14.07	16.27	09.12	13.42
City Centre	08.45	08.54	10.45	12.45	14.45	17.05	09.50	14.20
				Sch.	NSch.			
City Centre	09.00	11.00	13.00	15.15	15.30	17.50	12.30	18.10
Inverfarigaig	09.38	11.38	13.38	16.08	16.08	18.28	13.08	18.48
Lower Foyers	09.45	11.45	13.45	16.15	16.15	18.35	13.15	18.55
Upper Foyers	09.50	11.50	13.50	16.20	16.20	18.40	13.20	19.00

Bus Timetables and Mobile Library

SERVICE 18/114 WHITEBRIDGE - INVERNESS	MONDAY TO FRIDAYS When schools are open							MONDAY TO FRIDAYS When schools are closed					SATURDAYS	
	114	114	118	18	18	114	18	114	18	18	18	18	18	18
Raigmore Hospital				13.35						13.35				
Retail Park Tesco				13.45						13.45				
Inverness Bus Station	06.34	06.43	08.05	13.50	15.10	15.10	17.50	06.19	08.10	13.50	15.10	17.50	10.00	16.20
Inverness Royal Acad.			08.14		15.35	15.35							10.10	16.30
Dores Inn	06.55	07.04				15.51		06.40						
Dunmaglas road end			08.40	14.25	16.05		18.30		08.50	14.25	15.45	18.30		
Torness – Coulanour Jct.									08.55				10.47	17.07
Torness	07.07	07.16	08.50	14.35		16.03		06.52		14.35	15.55			
Torness – Coulanour Jct	07.13	07.22	08.55	14.40	16.12	16.09		06.58	08.55	14.40	16.00			
Errogie	07.18	07.27	09.00	14.44		16.14		07.03	09.00	14.44	16.04		10.51	17.11
Gorthleck Primary Sch.			09.05											
Gorthleck	07.22	07.31		14.48		16.18		07.07	09.05	14.48	16.08		10.55	17.15
Whitebridge	07.29	07.38	09.12	14.55		16.25		07.14	09.12	14.55	16.15		11.05	17.25
Knockie Road End		07.43	09.17	15.00		16.30		07.19	09.17	15.00	16.20			
Knockie Road End		07.46	09.17	15.00		16.31		07.25	09.17	15.00	16.20			
Whitebridge	7.30	07.51	09.22	15.05		16.36		07.30	09.22	15.05	16.25		11.10	
Gorthleck	7.40	07.58	09.30			16.43		07.38	09.30	15.13	16.32		11.20	
Gorthleck Primary Sch.				15.20										
Errogie	7.44	08.02	09.35	15.25		16.47		07.43	09.35	15.18	16.36		11.24	
Torness – Coulanour Jct.	7.48	08.07	09.40	15.30		16.52		07.48	09.40	15.23	16.41			
Torness	7.53	08.12	09.45	15.35	16.12	16.57		07.53	09.45	15.28	16.46		11.28	
Torness – Coulanour Jct.	7.58													
Dunmaglas road end	08.03		10.00	15.50	16.17			08.08	10.00	15.43				
Dores		08.24				17.09					16.58			
Inverness Royal Acad.	08.40	08.40		16.16									12.05	
Inverness Bus Station	08.53		10.35	16.25	16.52	17.30		08.45	10.35	16.19	17.19		12.15	
Retail Park Tesco			10.45						10.45					
Raigmore Hospital			10.50						10.50					

MOBILE LIBRARY	Visits every third week
Route 12 – Gorthleck -Whitebridge – Errogie <u>THURSDAYS</u> (Next date: Dec 5th) Stratherrick Public Hall 12.00 -12.15 Stratherrick Primary School 13.15 – 13.55 Whitebridge Old Post Office 14.00 -14.25 Errogie Bridge before ‘Ark’ 15.00 – 15.35	Route 3 – Torness – Errogie –Foyers – Inverfarigaig <u>WEDNESDAYS</u> (Next date: Dec 11th) Torness 10.30 – 10.40 ; Errogie Church 11.00 – 11.15 Lower Foyers Riverside 11.40 – 12.20 Park Terrace H/B 13.20 – 13.30 Glenlia Road 13.30 – 13.55; Primary School 14.05 – 14.40 Coach House 14.50 – 15.05 ; Inverfarigaig 15.15 – 15.40
The Moray Firth Mobile Library comes every 3 weeks and carries a range of adult fiction and non-fiction in standard and large print, children's' books and talking books and DVDs”	

CHRISTIAN COMMENT

CHRISTMAS QUIZ How many people can you remember from the Christmas story? Which one are you most like? Are you a shepherd running excitedly down the hill or the innkeeper quietly doing his bit in the back ground?

When God sent Jesus these people all had their part to play and each had a different, yet important relationship with Jesus as a vulnerable baby. Jesus is no longer a vulnerable baby but He still wants to have a relationship with each one of us.

You may be like Zechariah who doubted God but God knows our doubts and helps us understand the amazing mysteries of God and His immeasurable love for ALL people. Our part is to accept His love and speak to Him in whatever way we can.

John 3 v16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

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 4.30pm 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. Contact : 01463 232136



CALLING ALL GIRLS

RAINBOWS IS FOR GIRLS AGED FROM 5-7 YEAR OLDS.

BROWNIES IS FOR GIRLS AGED FROM 7-10 ½.

GUIDES IS FOR GIRLS AGED FROM 10 ½ - 14.



GUIDES

NEW TO STRATHERRICK - STRATHERRICK IS GAINING THREE GIRL GUIDING UNITS WHICH ALL MEET ON THURSDAY NIGHT IN STRATHERRICK HALL, GORTHLECK.

RAINBOWS, BROWNIES AND GUIDES ALL HAVE FUN. THEY PLAY GAMES, MAKE FOOD, CRAFT, WORK TOWARDS BADGES, LEARN NEW SKILLS, MEET NEW FRIENDS AND GO ON TRIPS.

IF YOU HAVE A DAUGHTER WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN JOINING EITHER OF THE ABOVE GIRL GUIDING GROUPS THEN PLEASE RING JANE ON 01456 486738 FOR MORE DETAILS

PLEASE HELP US MAKE THESE GROUPS SUCCESSFUL FOR OUR AREA.

REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS



2013/2014	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH
GREEN BIN	11th, <u>SAT 21st</u>	8th, 22nd	5th, 19th	5th, 19th
BLUE BIN	4th, 18th, <u>SAT 28th</u>	15th, 29th	12th, 26th	12th, 26th



Community website: www.stratherrick.net

South Loch Ness Heritage Group

The Group has had its final meeting of 2013. We started our year with a lively and well-attended talk on Highland Droving by ex-Highland Councillor David Henderson, with slides and many interesting questions and answers. In June we had a most interesting visit to the Highland Archive Centre at the Bught seeing the impressive modern storage facilities as well as a display of archive material relating to South Loch Ness.

Finally in October we had a fascinating illustrated talk from Bob Powell of the Highland Folk Museum at Newtonmore, tracing the history and development of the museum over many decades, and finishing with hot-off-the-press views taken on the morning of his talk! It was great to see the Boleskine Shinty Pavilion safely installed in its new home. The font from Foyers Church has also been delivered to the Museum. Bob's talk was preceded by a brief AGM of the Heritage Group, at which we were pleased to welcome our new Secretary, Carol Jones.

Following the success of Alister Chisholm's heritage calendars for 2013, he is bringing out a 2014 Stratherrick and Foyers one – hopefully you've got your order in! Our other publications are still available – *A Country called Stratherrick* by Alan Lawson (£7) and *South Loch Ness*, our heritage guide to the area (£3).

For your diary, the Group's 2014 season will start with **an illustrated talk at Stratherrick Hall on Tuesday 18th March at 7.30, by Stuart Benn of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB).** He will be giving a presentation on the huge and colourful variety of birds in our part of the World. We hope to see you there!

Alan Findlay 01463 751258. www.southlochnessheritage.co.uk

BOLESKINE BULLETIN - AGM REPORT

The BB AGM took place on Monday 16th December and was gratifyingly well attended. This stimulated a lively debate about the future of the BB, which took place after the official business. The existing committee agreed to continue for the coming year but advised they would be standing down at the next AGM. The committee were keen for the Community Council to be aware of this.

The BB at present is in good heart with finances healthy and sustainable through the advertising revenue; procedures were running smoothly. In the past year a computer had been purchased along with publishing software. The editorial team maintain the policy of reporting objectively, and refusing any article or letter which may be seen to be libellous to any individual in the community.

If anyone in the community would be keen to take on the task of producing a Community Newsletter please get in touch with the current chairman and editor Jane O'Donovan - details on the back page.

Jane O'Donovan, Chair/Editor



Stratherrick Hall - Regular Groups

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Mondays | - After School Sports Club 3.15 p.m. - 4.15 p.m. Morag 01456 486475 /Sharon 486771 |
| | - Keep Fit 7.30 pm Contact Jan 01456 486233. (Starting up again after New Year) |
| Wednesdays | - Stratherrick and Foyers Playgroup 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. Elinor 01456 486400 |
| Wednesdays | - Scottish Country Dancing Contact J Borup 01456 486464 |
| Thursdays | - Guides/Brownies/Rainbows Contact Jane 01456 486738 for details |
| Saturdays | - Karate 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. Contact Nicholas Walker 01456 486205 |

The Hall is available for hire at very reasonable rates. It is well equipped and ideal for a family party, group bookings, meetings etc. For further information and bookings please contact Pam Simpson, Beechwood, Gorthleck. 01456 486364. Emergency keyholder. Kathy Stoddart 01456 486329

Parent and Toddler Group

For all pre-school and nursery children and babies

The playgroup meets every Wednesday

in Gorthleck Hall 10.30am to 12.30

during school term time

£2 per family

Fun with toys, games, books



Xmas outing to Eden Court on Wednesday 18th December -
please contact Elinor for info 01456 486400

BOLESKINE LUNCH CLUB

All Welcome

Held on the last Friday of the month

WHITEBRIDGE HOTEL

12.30 pm

£2.00 each

To reserve your place telephone Joyce Wills

01456 486 269

Next 3 Lunches:-

31st January; 28th February

28th March

ALL WELCOME BUT TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT
PLEASE BOOK AS NUMBERS ARE LIMITED

Singing for Fun

Get ready for Christmas

The Stratherrick Singing Group came into existence in June 2012. We are a group of mixed ages who enjoy the pleasure to be found in singing in a relaxed welcoming and friendly atmosphere and meet every second Monday at 7 pm. We sing mostly traditional songs mixed with modern folk songs and encourage members to bring along their favourite songs to expand our repertoire. New singers are very welcome.

Contact Christiane on 01456 486649 or
send an email: maketodaycount@web.de

FOYERS and STRATHERRICK

COFFEE CLUB

Held **2ND THURSDAY** of the month

The Waterfall Café, Foyers

10am - 12 noon

All Welcome

SOUTH LOCH NESS HERITAGE GROUP

An illustrated talk by

Stuart Benn

of

**The Royal Society for the
Protection of Birds (RSPB)**

Stratherrick Hall

Tuesday 18th March at 7.30 pm

KEEP FIT

(STARTING UP AGAIN AFTER NEW YEAR)



STRATHERRICK HALL

Every Monday at 7:30

We have a projector, large screen and dance/keep fit DVD's. Come along and enjoy a fun, relaxed evening while making use of those dusty DVD's and doing a bit of exercise.

Cost: £2 or £3 a session, depending on numbers.

For more information contact Jan
on 01456 486233.

Community Website: www.stratherrick.net

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CHRISTMAS FETE

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Christmas Fete

Saturday 7th December

Gorthleck Hall 2 - 4pm

Festive stalls, meet Santa, yummy cakes,
decorations, refreshments and lots, lots more



If you would like to have a table and sell
Gifts/festive items, bric-a-brac,etc. please
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email : gpwombles@btinternet.com

We hope to see you there!



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PLANNING MATTERS

TORNESS SUB-STATION and PROPOSED DELL WIND FARM

There is no further information on the
applications for **Torness Sub Station** or
the **Dell Wind Farm** at the time of the
BB going to print.

If you wish to object to these then keep
an eye out in the Inverness Courier as
they could come through at any time.

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The Café has local artists' works, photography and crafts on display and for sale.

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(See letters page for Festive opening hours)

Foyers Stores and Post Office is also open daily and offers a traditional Village Store that is well stocked with all your household needs at competitive prices. We also stock Daily Newspapers, Souvenirs, Fishing Tackle and our Off Licence has a good selection of wine and beers. There are regular deliveries of Fruit & Vegetables and good quality meats from 'Grants of Speyside'; an ordering facility is available for these products. We use local companies and suppliers wherever possible.

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Shop	Mon-Sat	9.00 am – 5.30 pm
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Café	Mon-Thurs	9.00 am – 5.30 pm
	Fri/Sat	9.00 am – 8.00 pm
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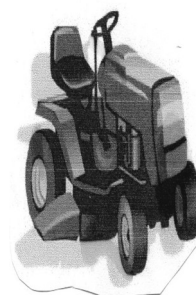
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NEXT ISSUE - MARCH 2014
DEADLINE - 15th February 2014

For articles, adverts or items to be included within
 the Boleskine Bulletin please send to :
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OR

Contact Jane : 01456 486355
Advertising Charges per issue:
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ITEMS FOR INCLUSION

Please send all text as a Word Document (250 - 300 words max) and photos/adverts/posters etc. as a JPEG if possible..

We will always seek permission to shorten articles if space is limited and will check the final draft with you before printing. Articles submitted to the BB will bear the author's name.

We are of course happy to receive photos, typed text and hand-written words in paper form too!

Continued thanks to our loyal Advertisers and everyone who continue to contribute articles, stories, photos etc.

BB Team

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