

The Boleskine Bulletin

Issue 68 September 2014

Email: boleskine_bulletin@hotmail.co.uk

ANOTHER ROAD TO BE BULLDOZED INTO THE HILLS

The Dell Windfarm proposal, which is essentially an extension of the Stronelaig scheme, involves building a huge new road into the hills. The road will be excavated straight up the hill from the B862 and will be visible from all directions. The Community Council have yet to make a decision on whether they will object or not. The respected Mountaineering Council of Scotland have objected to this new road on the grounds that they should be using the existing Glendoe/Stronelaig road system.

The approved Stronelaig scheme will be on a big area of wild land soon to be lost forever— The Scottish Government made this decision despite many objections nationally. Stratherrick and Foyers will benefit through community payments from the developers SSE. Using the existing access tracks driven into the hills for the Glendoe scheme (also SSE), the developers argued that the site could no longer be considered 'wild'. Scottish Natural Heritage disagreed but as a result of the decision they have been forced to remove most of the Monadhlaith from the SNH Core Wildland Map.

The Torness Substation is still to be approved although work continues on the upgrading of the Foyers power line with new roads being built to every pylon along the side of the B862. This summer work to clear trees from the line in Glenlia is almost finished.

Pilot Scheme Begins

For home care

Starting soon will be a new scheme piloted here in Stratherrick & Foyers to provide home care. After many years of inadequate provision a solution has been found. In consultation with NHS Highland, Boleskine Community Care has formed an agreement with Highland Home Carers (a registered care provider) to meet the increasing demand in the area. This will be a working arrangement with no financial involvement.

Boleskine Community Care is delighted with the progress made since forming the group in October of last year and is pleased to be in partnership with Highland Home Carers. Highland Home Carers, is an employee owned company and has been providing care in the Inverness area since 1994.

The scheme starting here is probably the first of its kind to bring a professional care provider and a local community group together in a rural area such as ours. In response to an article in the previous issue of the BB four individuals from the area have applied to become home carers and it is hoped the scheme will be up and running by the end of September.

Boleskine Community Care is now a registered charity and has over 60 'Friends' within the community who have signed up with their support. See more page 3.

Medical News



Drs Gregor and Lesley Mackintosh, Foyers Medical Centre

There have been a few changes to the immunisation program. This year, flu vaccine will be offered to all children from age 2 to 11. It is expected that secondary school children, in their first year in 2015 and those in first and second year in 2016, will be offered flu vaccine depending on Scottish Government resources.

Shingles vaccine should again be available from October and we will be sending out invitations to 70 year olds and 78 and 79 year olds. We had an excellent take up of the vaccine last year, almost 100%.

Last year **Rotavirus immunisation** was started for infants age 2 months old and compared to the previous 5 years there has been a dramatic drop in the number of laboratory confirmed cases of rotavirus which causes vomiting and diarrhoea in infants. So that's pretty good news for infants.

Each year we see a few cases of people with prolonged bouts of diarrhoea, often with abdominal pains and sometimes blood in their stools. It often turns out to be due to a bug called campylobacter. Raw poultry is often contaminated with campylobacter, so eating undercooked chicken or ready to eat foods that have been in contact with raw chicken are common sources of infection. So take care when cooking or preparing chicken.

Flu Clinics

Tuesday the 7th & Thursday 9th October

We have ordered our flu vaccines and expect them to arrive in the first week of October. We have provisionally set our open days for giving flu vaccines as the 7th and 9th of October for anyone over the age of 65 and for anyone under 65's in the at risk groups. Please look out for our website www.foyersmedicalcentre.co.uk or posters in the Medical Centre and Foyers shop to confirm these dates nearer the time. For these open days no appointment is

needed, just arrive and have a seat in the waiting room and you shouldn't have long to wait to get your flu vaccine.



This year, flu vaccine will be offered to all children from age 2 to 11. It is a nasal spray which offers better immunity to children than the injection. It should be available in October. We will send an invitation for children between 2 and 5 who are not at school, to let parents know when to take their children for the vaccine. Children at primary school will be given the vaccine at their school.

For more information please go to www.immunisationscotland.org.uk or speak to Drs Gregor or Lesley Mackintosh at Foyers Medical Centre.

ROSE

It is with great sadness that the BB announces the recent death of Rose Fortune.

Rose died peacefully at Raigmore on Sunday 17th August. She had moved to Inverness in recent years after the death of her husband Fergus.

Rose was the district nurse here for many years. The BB hope to include a full Obituary in the December issue of the BB as so many people will have many memories of Rose which we would like to include.

Two local groups get help from the roads:

The Foyers Coffee Club and Boleskine Community Care have both received £350 from RJ McLeod, the local contractor working on the roads in the area. The fund, specifically for local groups, is put forward by those men and women working here while upgrading the roads. Both groups will be able to use the money for ongoing projects.

BOLESKINE COMMUNITY CARE

SC04499

The partnership between Boleskine Community Care and Highland Home Carers aims to bring an easier and more effective home care service to the area.

Every person in Scotland is entitled to free personal care; that is things like help with dressing, washing, getting meals and personal hygiene. The care need is assessed by a social worker but, although NHS Highland is responsible for providing that requirement, at the present time it is unable to provide carers in this area. The provision of care workers is now the responsibility of Highland Home Carers.

The solution here will be to use a system of finance called SDS (Self Directed Support). This entitles each individual to access the care he or she needs by using the money provided by the NHS. The individual can do this in two ways.

- They can set up a separate bank account for the fund and employ carers directly.
- The fund can be managed by a third party (in our case Highland Home Carers). Each individual's fund is placed in his/her own account. The fund pays for the care requirement that has been assessed for that individual. Highland Home Carers employs the carers and provides training, supervision and professional guidance. The carers are recruited through Boleskine Community Care and will be local people working locally.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO WORK AS A HOME CARER OR
WOULD LIKE TO KNOW ANYTHING FURTHER ABOUT
BOLESKINE COMMUNITY CARE. PLEASE GET IN TOUCH
WITH THE SECRETARY**

JANE O'DONOVAN 01456 486355

Boleskine Community Care has charitable status as a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation). There are six trustees and to date, sixty people have signed up to become 'Friends of Boleskine Care.' As a 'friend' please come along to the AGM in November. This will be a chance to nominate and elect Trustees.

Saturday November 1st

2.30pm A.G.M. followed by Tea Dance

(tea and cakes and dancing)

An AGM is an opportunity to find out more, chat over a cup of tea and possibly join in the dancing! A get together to talk and try to solve some of the problems facing our community. Boleskine Community Care would like to start a voluntary car scheme and a befriending group. Please come along. Its for everyone! So is the renamed '**Broth and Blether**' every **third Monday** of the month at the church hall, Whitebridge. Playing cards, going for a walk or whatever you like. Just £1 for the soup.

Meanwhile..... **Handy Men!**

We are now in a position to begin a handyman scheme.

There are eight volunteers with a range of skills who are ready to give assistance to those who require help. The scheme is not intended to replace the help of a neighbour or the service of a tradesperson. At the outset the range of tasks is still unclear but we envisage things like changing a light bulb, changing a gas cylinder or emergency disconnection of water or electricity if it is not of a scale requiring a professional. The service will be free but materials used will be charged at cost. We can also assist in obtaining and assessing quotes from tradespeople for more substantial work. No need to struggle just phone for help. Jane on 486 355 or Bob on 486 317 leave a message if no-one is in.

HYGIENE COURSE

SATURDAY 8TH NOVEMBER

£10 for registration—Phone 486 355

Boleskine Community Care Trustees : Johanna Schuster, Catriona Fraser, Morag Cameron, Bob Main, Carolyn Grant, Jane O'Donovan (secretary).

These names will go forward for election at the AGM along with any other nominations received.



The Strath's Last Blacksmith

Sixty-six years ago the days of the blacksmith in the Strath came sadly to an end when Simon Macdonald moved to Inverness. Most local folks now would not have known him, but like another Simon we wrote about in previous B B's he was a stalwart always ready to go the extra mile for all in need of help. A great asset especially to the crofting and farming community made difficult during the war years when iron was near impossible to acquire-a case of 'make do and mend', and Simon was never beat.

As a young lad well I remember taking horses for shoeing and collecting repaired implement parts. Simon was also expert at repairing our bikes, a broken chain or faulty brakes, it was soon mended and no charge. I am grateful to Simon's son Sam for the following fascinating insight into his Dad's work as a blacksmith. "My Dad, Sime moved to Errogie in 1934 from Inverness where he had been working with his brother Charlie at the smiddy in Eastgate Inverness. He was one of 6 brothers, all of whom were blacksmiths, as was their father, Simon at Culduthel, Charlie at Eastgate; Hugh at Inshes; Jock at Culduthel; Simon at Errogie; Alan at Strathpeffer and Alec at the Gasworks in Inverness and the Railway workshops Sime, as he was known, so as to be different from his own father,

Simon, soon found lots of work among the farms and crofts of the Strath and from the many surrounding estates, and so kept busy shoeing the horses and ponies. Often he would have a pair of heavy horses in the smiddy and another pair waiting outside. Each of these animals had to have their hooves measured, the shoes made to suit from iron bar of varying weight and then fitted while red hot so that the hoof could be pared down, and then the shoe now cooled was nailed on making sure that the nails were driven through the hoof away from the frog in the center where the nerve endings gathered.

Then there were plough socks to be laid (extra iron forge welded on and shaped as new) coulters to be sharpened, harrows to be repaired and all kinds of farm tools to be mended or sharpened. Gates to mend, gate hinges to be made and many branding irons from individual farms or estates. A tricky job which he liked to do, was cutting marking irons for sheeps' horns. The letters were cut in mirror image with hacksaw and drill (by hand no electricity then) and tested by branding the result on the smiddy door.[an amazing variety for visitors to see]

A specially busy day took place maybe once a year, when the cart wheels which had lost their iron rim or tyre, were repaired. That needed 2 forges to be heated to get the iron tyre red hot, the wheel was measured, the tyre was cut to have a bit added or removed, then the red hot rim tyre was taken to the ringing stance where the wheel was waiting and the ring was placed and adjusted to its correct position and finally drenched with cold water. As it cooled, it contracted to a tight fit. Hard work indeed, and a lucky day if some one passing would lend a hand!!"

Hopefully next time Sam will tell us how Sime travelled many miles by bike to shoe horses carrying tools and horse shoes on his back, also his time in the Home Guard and how he was badly injured.

Sandy Fraser

**ALL THE PUPILS AND PARENTS OF
FOYERS PRIMARY SCHOOL WOULD LIKE
TO CONGRATULATE MRS LOUISE
ROBERTSON ON HER APPOINTMENT AS
THE NEW PERMANENT HEAD TEACHER.**



The Parent Council would also like to thank all those individuals and local businesses who kindly donated Items to the Auction night held in May.

A special thank you to Martin and Elinor at The Craigdarroch Inn for providing the venue and hospitality and to Garry Page and Louise Roberston for being such entertaining Auctioneers! It was a great, fun night that was supported by many and we raised just over £1000 for school funds which was amazing.

Paula Page

Parent Council Chair Person

BAXTERS LOCH NESS MARATHON

ROADS CLOSED

SUNDAY 28th SEPTEMBER

B862 Suidhe—Dalrag	7.00-10.30
B852 Dalrag—Glenlia road	9.45-11.30
B852 Foyers— Inverfarigaig	10.15-12.00
B852 Inverfarigaig—Dores	10.30-1.30
B862 Dores— Inverness	10.15-4.00

Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust 'Newsflash'.....first Apprentice starts work.

Jake Macmillan has become the first young person in the community to take up an Apprenticeship through the Community Trust Apprenticeship Scheme. The scheme, financed by the Trust is managed in partnership with Fort Augustus and Glengarry Community Companies and is part of the 'Legacy' grant system. Legacy grants are designed to help create a long term and lasting effect on the lives of local residents and help support our young people to build themselves a career.

Jake is starting work as an Apprentice Gamekeeper and, as well as learning skills on the job, he will also be attending a two year course at Thurso college to gain the qualifications required to build a career.

If any other employers or young people are interested in the scheme, please contact Sharon Ferguson on 01456 486771 ctdir-sharon@stratherrickcommunity.co.uk

PARENT & TODDLER GROUP

NEW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

IF YOU HAVE YOUNG CHILDREN

contact Elinor on 01456 486400



Millie Ferguson, age 12 from Whitebridge, has just qualified to compete at the Horse of the Year Show, which takes place at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham in October. There are only 16 qualifiers from the whole of Great Britain. Millie is over the moon about qualifying & excited about taking her pony Magic down to Birmingham.
Sharon Ferguson

Commonwealth Games, Glasgow

SSE Judo Final - Ticket Winners

Geri, Andrew, Duncan and myself headed down to Glasgow by train, very excited about attending the Judo Finals and looking forward to enjoying the buzz of the city. Wow what a fabulous time we had! SSE's organisation was excellent. Hospitality provided was excellent and as for the Judo! **3 GOLDS for SCOTLAND !**

Having very little knowledge on Judo, we did not really know what to expect, but it was certainly one of the most exciting sporting events I have ever been to, an evening that I will never forget. Hot, sweaty, exhausted and hoarse – (not the competitors) ME ! Stomping, clapping, shouting and singing (those who know me know I shouldn't sing, but it was ok, too much noise, no one heard !) ☺ I loved every second of it! Lucky for us the following morning the marathon events were about to start. Helicopters buzzing overhead, camera crews around and the roads closed, but this made for a great walk along the route of the marathon to the railway station. Hundreds of people lined the route, stopping to cheer and clap as runners came along. Then back on the train to Inverness after having the best experience.

Thank you SSE, thank you CC and CT and thank you
Glasgow 2014 ☺ Lesley McAdam



WW I Scotland Remembers.

On Sunday 10th August I attended the Drumhead Service at Edinburgh Castle to mark the outbreak of World War I. The event - using drums as an altar - heralded the start of the Scottish commemorations programme covering eight significant points in the conflict.

When the Military contingents were all present the drums were placed and Regimental Colours were laid on top of them. The Drumhead Service replicated those held on the frontline 100 years ago where neatly piled drums was used in place of an altar. I found the whole service very moving and humbling. Being a member of the forces for 3 years 50 years ago I was immediately taken back to attending church parades. I did not expect that to happen but I was aware that all the veterans there must have been having the same feelings.

Following the service, military bands paraded down the Royal Mile and the congregation was invited to follow in a procession to a replica Commonwealth graveyard at Holyrood Park. We took our place "on Parade". The Highland region representatives were one of the first to leave the castle, stopping only to collect a band to march behind. After a few minutes I found that I was not walking but marching in time to the band. From then on all I could think about were the thousands of young men and boys, for many of them were still boys, who had marched down the Royal Mile in 1914 who never returned.

There were more than 100 headstones representing the names recorded in the Rolls of Honour at the Scottish National War Memorial. It was a very sober and reflective person who arrived at the replica Commonwealth graveyard. Although it was raining heavily throughout the day, it did not lessen or take away anything from the occasion.

Those gathered in the park were invited to lay wreaths or markers to reflect the sacrifice made by so many. I obtained 3 markers and wrote on the back "Foyers and Stratherrick Fallen 1914-1918" on 2 and 1 for a Family member who died in France. I placed 2 by the headstone while the Last Post was being played. I then went to the main Memorial and again was lost in the moment. It was not until I sat in the tram at Princes Street to return to the Park and Ride that I realised I was soaked to the skin and frozen, just like all those young men in the trenches. I also found I had blisters from walking with soaking wet feet. I knew I should have worn my boots.

As a non-native of Foyers and Stratherrick I brought a Marker home for someone who has family or neighbours and will be attending the memorial service at Gorthleck.

Sally McGuire

HERE'S SOMETHING

"WE COULD PUT IT IN THE BB"

BUT

"OH NO YOU CAN'T—NOT AFTER DECEMBER"

THE B.B.

STILL NO SOLUTION FOUND

"The Boleskine Bulletin will cease publication after the December Issue. No. 69."

BOLESKINE BULLETIN AGM

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 22ND—4.00PM

STRATHERRICK PUBLIC HALL—GORTHLECK

Maybe we don't need it any more?

We cannot rely solely on a web site 'specially for elderly folk, so there is a need for a simple accessible newsletter too. Is it time to employ someone to do it? i.e. Could the Community Council access a grant from the Community Trust to employ someone for both the minutes and a bulletin? What do you think?

boleskine_bulletin@hotmail.co.uk

If you have an interest in producing a local newsletter please get in touch.

New Community Website

The new community website went on line on 07 July 2014 www.stratherrick.net It is the first site of what will become a community network of local sites.

If you are a non-profit project or organisation, local resident group or project and would like a free site on the community network, please contact any community councillor or me at info@stratherrick.net

New features on the site are:

- Event calendar – groups can have direct access to edit the calendar.
- Twitter feed – follow us on Twitter and keep up to date!
- Classified ads and recycling – a place to buy and sell or recycle.
- Subscribe to newsletter.
- Responsive design – optimised for PC, tablet or smart phone.
- Text sizing option
- Membership – Join and contribute to our site.
- Online polls - Survey monkey integrated account.
- Online forms for groups' pages – join, volunteer, apply for help.

Please let me know of any features you would like to see on the site. Eric Law - Administrator

Community website: www.stratherrick.net

Inland, Upland and Cold – Gardening on the Edge

For the first time ever, I decided this year to grow some dahlias. I read in the gardening press that these old fashioned flowers are coming back into favour so I thought I would have a go and bought 5 tubers of the cactus type which my late father used to grow. Following instructions I potted them up separately in John Innes compost No 2 and placed them on 1st April in a greenhouse that wasn't heated until the end of the month. At the Horticultural Society I was advised to pinch out the main shoots. This worked and they made good sturdy well branched plants.

At the beginning of June I planted the dahlias outside in containers using a mixture of peat-free compost, garden soil, John Innes No 3 and manure. They were watered once a fortnight with liquid tomato feed. The first flower appeared just after the middle of July – a cerise cactus dahlia with lots of buds still to open. Buds take a while to show any colour then they push out tentative spiky petals on one side. In a few days they open fully. Three and a half months seemed a long time to wait for a flower and one tuber grew into a smaller decorative dahlia. For specific colours and reliability one could buy from a specialist grower. I have learned that it takes oodles of patience to grow dahlias. However, they may provide late summer colour before the frosts.

This was a new kind of growing experience for me. Was it worth it? I'll decide that after they have all flowered. It should be possible to store the tubers and start new plants from cuttings next season. Now is the time for you to start planning to grow something different next year. Good luck! Wee Gairdner

LETTERS/POSTS

Highland Values

Are they becoming lost among the wind farms ?

My family has been visiting the Highlands for many years now and we have always gone home with heavy hearts. Living among the craziness of the south we were so envious of your close-knit and caring communities; your absolutely glorious scenery; the amazing landscape and wild-life; the courteous drivers and the friendly welcome which greeted us wherever we went.

After this year we regret we may not be back - the welcome from friendly folk is still wonderful and much appreciated, your eagles continue to amaze us - but everything else has changed so much.

We always tried to read the Bulletin on our stays and witnessed the beginning of problems a few years back with rumblings of problems between the “powers-to-be”. The Council and Trust fell into the same trap as experienced the world over - the dreadful mix of money and power. You seemed to live in a much happier place before the temptation of the big energy companies. They just move in, ruin everything, and then move on. Making huge profits in the process and leaving behind disrupted and broken communities in their wake.

What has happened to South Loch Ness is such a shame. The scenery and landscape is being destroyed, there are huge road junctions which belong in cities or on motorways – not in beautiful Highland Glens like yours. The heather-clad hills are scarred by ugly, wide gravel paths which appear to lead way up to the tops of the high wild mountains and then disappear beyond our view. Why so many? Where do they all go?

Where are all those polite drivers?—the cheery folk who waved and smiled to us from passing places whilst waiting patiently for us to pass by were not seen this year. The wider faster roads are hardly wide enough for two vehicles to pass by each other and yet the cars, and wood lorries, sped past us so fast we did not have the chance to wave – far too busy hanging onto the wheel in the desperate hope of avoiding the potholes and the ditch!

It is not my place to comment really, I do not live here (but always wanted to) but my grandparents were from the Highlands and so I just wanted to say that it

breaks my heart to see the terrible things happening to everything they held so dear. I am truly sorry that my own grand-children will never be able to experience the true wild beauty of this part of the Highlands.

Some estate owners may be a lot richer after all of this but fear that everyone else will feel a lot poorer - in the things that really matter the most.

Mrs Sarah Tompkins, Bath
(If anyone knows of Mrs Tompkins please let the BB know so that we can thank Sarah and send her a copy of this BB - Ed)

'Foyers tenants & residents association'

What on earth is going on?

I have just received a document purporting to be minutes of the 'Foyers tenants and residents association'. This is the first I have heard of such an association which, in my opinion, is totally unnecessary and divisive. There is no information about who is behind this or what their contact details might be. Who is it supposed to represent? Leaving aside my own views about the necessity or otherwise of such an association, the whole community it wishes to represent should have been asked whether it actually wants another residents' association. The target community should also have been given detailed information about the proposed aims behind the setting up of an association, so that community members could make an informed judgement. I trust that the individuals behind this realise that they are unelected by the community, and that anything they wish to pursue will require the approval of the whole community before they take it forward under the auspices of a residents' association.

Liz Merther, Lower Foyers sent 21st August, 2014

(N.B. See C.C. minutes 10th June— ed.)

Stratherrick Catholic Church Whitebridge

Parish Sale—2nd August 2014

The parishioners of Stratherrick would like to thank all those who contributed to the success of the annual sale. Those who gave donations, helped with setting up of stalls, gave their time freely and in general helped made the day a fun day. We would particularly like to thank all those who braved the weather and came and spent their money contributing to nearly £600. Everything donated which did not sell will be going down to Fort Augustus parish for their sale. Again a big thank you.

Sally McGuire

Stratherrick Hall



**Bookings phone Pam on
01456 486 364**

Mondays 7.30 pm	-	KEEP FIT
Contact		Jan 486 233
Tuesdays 7.30 pm	-	BALLROOM / SEQUENCE DANCING
Contact		Anne 07977 876338
Wednesdays 7.30	-	Country Dancing
Contact		Hugh 486 350
Thursdays 3.45-7.00 pm	-	GUIDES/BROWNIES/ RAINBOWS
Contact		Jane 486 738
Thursday 7.30 pm	-	TAI CHI
Contact		Rebecca 486 583

The Hall is for hire at very reasonable rates, it is well equipped - ideal for family parties, group bookings, meetings etc. There is sporting equipment in the hall ; Badminton ,Carpet Bowls, Snooker table, Cards /Card tables, Skittles. And is available for short hourly lets for any groups/individuals to have a game of any of the above. For further information and bookings please contact Pam Simpson, Beechwood, Gorthleck. 01456 486364. Emergency keyholder- Kathy Stoddart 01456

Every 3rd Monday

'Broth & Blether at the Steading'

Church Hall—Whitebridge (Soup £1)

Sept 15th; Oct 20th; Nov 17th; Dec 15th
Boleskine Community Care—phone 486 355 if you
would like a lift.

FOYERS and STRATHERICK

COFFEE CLUB

Held **2ND THURSDAY** of the month
starting October

The Waterfall Café, Foyers

10am - 12 noon All Welcome

BOLESKINE LUNCH CLUB

All Welcome

Held on the **last Friday** of the month

12.30 pm £2.00 each

To reserve your place telephone Joyce Wills
01456 486 269

by the previous Friday

Next 3 Lunches:-

26th SEPTEMBER - STRATHERICK HALL

31st OCTOBER - WHITEBRIDGE HOTEL

28th NOVEMBER - WHITEBRIDGE HOTEL

Meet for a chat with old friends or get to know new ones over a
glass of sherry . If you need a lift. Let Joyce know



GUIDES

CALLING ALL GIRLS

GIRLS AGED FROM 5-7 YEAR OLDS.

GIRLS AGED FROM 7-10 ½.

GIRLS AGED FROM 10 ½ - 14

**MEET ON THURSDAY NIGHT IN STRATHERICK 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.**

KEEP FIT

STRATHERICK 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 Council

Minutes - (abridged)

Full minutes can be found on

Community website:
www.stratherrick.net

Community Council Members May 2014

Sally McGuire (Secretary)	486 606	sally.mcguire@sky.com
Iain Brown (Chair)	486 714	whitebridge@uwclub.net
Liam MacNally (treasurer)	486 605	liammacnally@ymail.com
Ian Bateman	486 646	ian@ardochy.co.uk
Martin Donnelly	486 400	Info@hotel-loch-ness.co.uk
Morag Cameron	486 475	alimoglenliafarm@aol.com
Catriona Fraser	486 287	catrionafraser@tinyworld.co.uk
Katie Ellam	486 691	katie.easterboleskine@virgin.net

STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CC Meeting 27th May 2014

- Aberader Wind Farm. RES plans 12 turbines adjacent to Dunmaglass site using the same access, quarries and to use the same cabling for the grid connection. Community Benefit shared between Strathnairn, Stratherrick & Strathdearn; split between a cash payment and some form of local electricity discount scheme. CC requested that the entire project be presented so its impact can be assessed as one (i.e. turbines, substation, cabling & grid connection), and that RES confirm that benefit payments are index linked.
- Affordable Housing – Albyn application to build on the Gorthleck site, HSCHT are submitting their matching application for the project.
- Firewood SSE offered firewood from the Inverfarigaig Felling – KE and LM to identify a suitable storage site with space for processing etc.
- Foyers campsite. Issues regarding laundry, washing lines, use of footpath, and campsite traffic around Riverside. CC to write to Lyn and Donald Forbes for clarification, and to ask John Taylor (THC) to liaise with Lyn and Donald Forbes re clearer signage.
- Use of Community recycling facilities by businesses. Because of the lack of business recycling facilities (in particular no bottle collection) THC had advised that businesses use the Community bins. MDa to ask for statement on this policy from TECs.

CC Meeting 10th June 2014

- Gorthleck Housing Project Update
Albyn Housing and Highland Small Community Housing Trust (HSCHT) gave progress. The tender for the Infrastructure (road, Sewage, lights...) is out and will be let within the next couple of months, with the work being completed by next spring in time for the house building start date. The CC requested they be involved in the design process to help ensure the houses fit with local aspirations. Albyn intend to build 6 houses (2 Amenity bungalows suitable for people with mobility issues, 2 medium sized and 2 family houses). These will be panel section houses as this speeds up on site construction and provide better energy efficiency. Tenders are invited for design and construction of these houses which is being run through the Public Contracts Portal. They wish to use local businesses wherever possible and anyone that is interested in tendering for aspects of the work to register

with the portal, a simple 10 minute exercise. Tenant selection is driven by the Highland Housing Register; those with the highest point score are selected. Points are awarded on a needs basis, a recent amendment of this is for local families to be awarded an additional 20 points. N.B. highest points count comes first. HSCHT intend to build two houses which will be operated under their rent to buy scheme, if additional interest comes forward additional construction may occur. They are open to options such as a house swap to enable people to down size, also move into a house with design modifications to suit them, the larger house then being rented to a family. Tenant selection process can be set up to better enable local needs to be met, rather than provision to family's from outside the SFCC area. HSCHT advised if the community were interested in sheltered housing to look into the NHS change fund which may be able to provide funding for such a project. The Inverfarigaig project is on hold until the Gorthleck project has been fully completed.

- Hearing Loop – Written confirmation of the Trust non approval of this application was received contrary to previous understanding they have requested that the Hall committee apply for funding for the fixed infrastructure and the CC for the mobile equipment. Two trust grant applications to be submitted, **AP Chair CC** mobile equipment ~£350, Hall committee for the fixed infrastructure ~£36
- Notice boards – Written confirmation of rejection by Trust requesting quotes, these to be provided. MD advised the cycle club are to put up a notice board in the shop garden to provide information on cycle routes in the area.
- Foyers Tenants and Residents Association first meeting of was held and it was agreed this association was to cover all of Foyers. Officer bearers selected, Chair Alfie Taylor, Secretary Rosie Taylor, Treasurer Amy Whittingham, and Vice Chair Stuart Goodwin. They are now working with/ on a model Constitution for adoption at their next meeting,
- Foyers campsite. It was confirmed that the campsite does not issue washing lines and they would talk to campers not to use fences for this purpose. Anyone wishing to make a formal complaint regarding non-compliance with planning consent/conditions must contact the planning department

and follow the correct formal procedure, i.e. establish non-compliance and follow procedure thereafter.

Cc meeting 24th JUNE 2014

- **Road signs advertising businesses**

A meeting had been held by a group of businesses to clarify the situation, explain the planning regulations and find a way forward. It was suggested that the relevant planning regulations be posted on the Community website. One suggestion was to establish clusters of business signs at key locations – e.g. Chapel Bridge junction. THC advised that it was best for the SFCC to apply for permission for such clusters as the fee would be half that applied to individuals. It was requested that any further meeting of the signage group be better advertised – notice in BB etc. and that all local businesses must be included.

- **Community Website:** Eric Law has offered to host site for £100 per annum. This included setting Host site with up to 25 sites, unlimited, and pages/sites for all community groups. Andy Holt's projected annual cost was £1,500 for present site. Ed Ley-Wilson's was quoted £100 plus for unlimited email addresses only. To be asked to consider Eric's design as an option for SFCT. It was proposed that the CC offer the contract to Eric Law. Proposed Iain Brown Seconded Katie Ellam. An offer of said contract to be written to Eric Law and to express our thanks for his tender and website mock-up. Andy Holt had submitted an invoice for the current website (£80) which SFCC would invite SFCT to pay.

- **Dumnaglass** – SSE Community at Heart volunteers are lined up to do work at the Gorthleck Play Park – and possibly around the Hall. Other suggestions welcome.

- **Corriegarth** -During a discussion of a meeting between North British Windpower and CT Peter Faye said he had accompanied Graeme Ambrose represented the CT to said meeting. North British Windpower will fund the "straightening" of Smiddy Corner at Errogie and gave some information regarding discussion. While discussion was taking place Alex Sutherland had suggested and Colin Ross agreed that the trees felled in the work be donated as firewood to the community. Alex Sutherland then intimated that he been at a meeting where a developer had tried to offset Planning Gain with increased Community Benefit Gain. The chair confirmed that the Errogie improvement would be a planning gain should the Extension Planning Application be consented. Ian McGillivray advised that SFCC write to THC to request white lines and passing places to ensure that the work gets included in planning and the awkward bend at Brin to be sorted soon.

- **Foyers Toilets** – the lease was awaiting signatures (Katie Ellam). Toilet cleaning – agreed that current cleaner be retained (Proposed Iain Brown seconded Morag Cameron)

- **Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust**

Community Benefit Negotiation – During discussion The CT directors present agreed that the procedure needed clarified. It was that the CBN's were CC only and that the selecting of a second CBN from trust was important to keep a good flow of information on how negotiations were proceeding. The SFCC sign off the negotiated figures and only then does SFCT take it from there. It was agreed that Chair would write to SFCT chair proposing that Frank Ellam and Graeme Ambrose continue their work as negotiators.

(These minutes have be abridged by the BB)

Community Council Meetings 2014

<u>Venue</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Foyers School	30 th September	7:30pm
Stratherrick Hall	28 th October	7:30pm
Foyers School	25 th November	7:30pm

Cllr Margaret Davidson

August 2014

I have seen a good few of you over the summer and am moving forward with three key strands of work and ask for your help in taking them forward.

- **Sports development**

There is hardly any space or equipment for sports participation in the Strath and I would like to get things moving with the help of the Commonwealth Games Legacy funding and ideas. There will be a drop in session this Autumn to see what ideas and energy there is in the community to deliver on a programme of action. This is one for the schools to be at the heart of. ***What I need is names and expressions of interest.***

- **Access**

Similarly I have been speaking with some experienced outdoor people about improving access in the Strath and around the Loch side. This is everything from new paths to improving the existing one and major vegetation cut back sessions. Again there are plans for a drop in session, probably in late September/October on priorities and to draw up a work plan. We will have the help of the Access officer and Council rangers to think this one through. Again ***What I need is names and expressions of interest***

- **Community Transport**

Please get in touch if you are interested in widening the conversation around Community Transport

All this activity! It is because we have a rare chance with lottery money just now and European funding next year. We need to be ready to make the best of the chances alongside the money from community benefit.

Cllr Margaret Davidson

Margaret.davidson@highland.gov.uk

01463861424 mobile07818015689

SOUTH LOCH NESS HERITAGE GROUP

"Joseph and his amazing black-and-white Pictures"

STRATHERRICK HALL, GORTHLECK

Tuesday 30th September 2014 at 7.30pm

David Henderson is an Invernessian, an economist and an ex-Highland Councillor. A couple of years ago he gave us a most interesting and entertaining talk on Highland Droving. This time he will be showing us slides of examples from the fascinating Joseph Cook Collection of photographs of Inverness in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, with an informative commentary.

David's show will be preceded by a brief AGM

Singing for Fun Start of Winter Season

The winter season of the Stratherrick singing group will start on 06.10.2014 at 7 pm. New singers are very welcome. 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 first and third Monday of the month 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. Contact Christiane on 01456 486649 or email: maketodaycount@web.de

FOR SALE

Camping Equipment: phone **Peter 486464**
Vango Venture 500 House Tent Sleeps 4 , only used 3
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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 11am

Free Church: Sunday 4.30pm Errogie. Mr S. McLure,
01456 486435

Free Church Continuing: Sunday 11.00am & 6.30pm,
Wednesday 7.30pm. Dores Mrs I. Fraser 01456486408

Free Presbyterian Church: 12 noon or 6pm Gorthleck,
Mrs E. Fraser 01456 486282

Roman Catholic Church: 12.30 pm every Sunday at
Whitebridge. Father Andrew Harden 01320 366451

JUNE GRANT

June died in Raigmore Hospital
on 25th July - aged 86 years.



June moved to Foyers about 20
years ago and enjoyed her stay
in one of the Albyn flats at

Glenlia. Latterly, when she needed extra care, June
moved to the Telford Centre in Fort Augustus where
she was very well looked after. For all of her life June's
Christian faith had been very strong and her worship in
Boleskine Church and at the Bible Studies (conducted
by the late Canon Martyn Bateman) meant a great
deal to her. May she Rest In Peace.

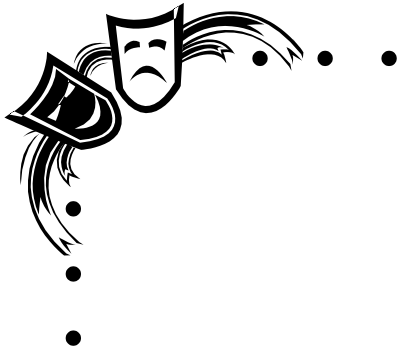
Iain King.... Recently I was having trouble getting to
sleep, mind working overtime on situations, feelings,
possible outcomes - and because it was night they
were all slightly distorted from reality. I then realised
that the best thing to do was to pray for God's help
and presence with me. Lying in the dark for a
while nothing seemed to really change, no sudden
flash of inspiration that solved everything and not
even a calm flooding of peace that I had hoped for. It
was only after a while of asking for God's help that it
came into my mind that God is everywhere whether
we feel that he is or not. He is in every nook
and cranny - no matter how dark and lonely, in the
middle of the desert, amongst the furthest stars and
right beside me where ever I am. We don't always
feel His presence but we know for a fact that He is
there. This realisation didn't change anything or give
quick fix answers but it gave the reassurance that I am
not alone in any of the dilemmas that were keeping
me awake. *Jeremiah 23 v24 "Am I not a God near at hand
and not a God far off? Can anyone hide out in a corner
where I can't see him? Am I not present everywhere,
whether seen or unseen?" declares the Lord.*

LOCH NESS LUVVIES

Not long now

Dah'lings, dah'lings, it's almost time! Only a few months to go until our next production and we are all so excited (it's hard to sleep with all the excitement).

Rehearsals are going well, we are all in 'the zone'. We have managed to quell Peter's exuberance by sending him away for a lie down, he can get a little too excitable and it will all end in tears. Wendy is donning her fishnets for the publicity shots; Raymond is alert for hidden pitfalls; Morag cannot decide on the right hairdo; Janet is getting physical; Simon is ad-libbing (as usual); Graham is contemplating implants; Jan is perfecting her accent; Lorraine is honing her tone; Holly and Francis are guiding us gently (!) in the right direction. Intrigued? Put the dates in your ipads dah'lings and come along to find out what it's all about.



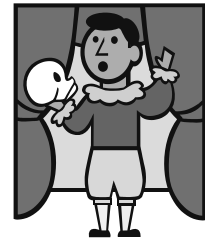
Loch Ness Luvvies present:

"4 for the price of 1"

14th & 15th November

Stratherrick Hall

Curtain up 7.30pm



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It's easy, fun and anyone can do it!

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Post Office	Mon-Sat	9.30 am – 4.30 pm
Café	Mon-Thurs	9.00 am – 5.00 pm
	Fri/Sat	9.00 am – 7.00 pm
	Sunday	10.00 am – 3.00 pm

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AT STRATHERRICK HALL

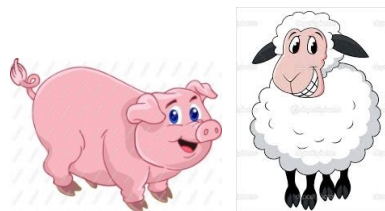
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SERVICE 16 INVERNESS-FOYERS	MONDAY TO FRIDAYS						SATURDAYS	
	Sch.	NSch.						
Upper Foyers	07.55	08.04	09.55	11.55	13.55	16.20	09.00	13.30
Lower Foyers	08.00	08.09	10.00	12.00	14.00	-----	09.05	13.35
Inverfarigaig	08.07	08.16	10.07	12.07	14.07	16.27	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 Mobile Library Refuse Bin Collections

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		
Tomess – Coulanour Jct.									08.55				10.47	17.07
Tomess	07.07	07.16	08.50	14.35		16.03		06.52		14.35	15.55			
Tomess – 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	
Tomess – Coulanour Jct.	7.48	08.07	09.40	15.30		16.52		07.48	09.40	15.23	16.41			
Tomess	7.53	08.12	09.45	15.35	16.12	16.57		07.53	09.45	15.28	16.46		11.28	
Tomess – 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 THURSDAY: Sept 4 & 24, Oct 16, Nov 6, Dec 18. 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 WEDNESDAY: Sept 10, Oct 1 & 22, Nov 12, Dec 3 & 24) 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”	

Community Website
www.stratherrick.net



2014	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
GREEN	3rd, 17th	1st, 15th, 29th	12th, 26th	10th, 24th
BLUE	10th, 24th	8th, 22nd	5th, 19th	3rd, 17th, 31st

Doctor 01456 486224

NHS 24	111
EMERGENCY	999
Police (non-Emergency)	101
Crimestoppers	0900 555 111

FOYERS MEDICAL CENTRE

- OPENING HOURS -

MONDAY - FRIDAY

9.00am - 1.00pm AND 2.00pm - 6.00pm

Consultation by appointment

Wednesday - 6.00pm - 6.30pm

01456 486224

www.foyersmedicalcentre.co.uk

Repeat prescriptions available from our dispensary either in person, by telephone or via the website.



**NEXT ISSUE - DECEMBER
DEADLINE - 15th November**

ITEMS FOR INCLUSION

Please send to : boleskine_bulletin@hotmail.co.uk

OR Contact Jane : 01456 486355

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Adam Mason: 01456 486738 / 07909 441302

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Sharon Chalmers: 01456 486430 / 07881 638464

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Rob Mullen : 01456 486291 / 07712 589626

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D. J. Drummond

01463 718396 / 07881 456627

MOBILE HAIRDRESSER

Marlena MacLaren

01397 700114 / 07474 671047

PICTURE FRAMING

Hugh Nicol: 01456 486350

PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEER

Andy Adamson: 07761 932417

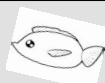
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Stuart Marston: 01456 486237

WINDOWS, DOORS AND TIMBER FRAME HOUSE KITS

Norscot, 20 Carsegate Road, Inverness IV3 8EX

01463 224040



FRESH FISH Delivered locally from Mobile Vans

In the area on Tuesdays and Fridays

Friday Van : John Taylor 07921 864979/ 01261 843106

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