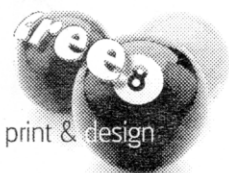


# THE GLENFARG DEC 2003 NEWSLETTER



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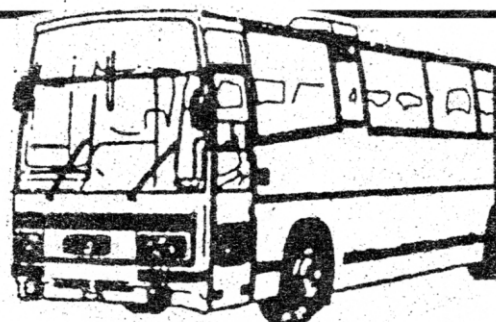
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<b>Distribution</b>	<b>: Mr. G. Smith, Post Office</b>	<b>830201</b>

### **ORGANISATIONS IN GLENFARG**

<b>Community Council</b>	<b>Chair: Brig. D. Cameron, The Old Manse</b>	<b>830394</b>
	<b>Secretary: Mr. B. Patterson, 18 Elm Row</b>	<b>830555</b>
<b>Perth &amp; Kinross Councillor</b>	<b>Mrs. Kathleen Baird, Easter Clunie, Newburgh KY14 6EJ</b>	<b>01337 840218</b>
<b>Rev.K.Anderson</b>	<b>The Manse, Abernethy</b>	<b>01738 850607</b>
<b>Session Clerk</b>	<b>Mrs. H. Clark, 7 Elm Row</b>	<b>830410</b>
<b>Arngask School</b>	<b>Mr. R. Simpson, Headmaster</b>	<b>830263</b>
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	<b>J. R. Cheape, Letham Farm</b>	<b>830215</b>
Accordion & Fiddle Club	Mr. R. Robertson, "The Neuk", Drunzie	830642
Angling Club	Mr. R. Robertson, "The Neuk", Drunzie	830642
Baby & Toddlers Group		
Babysitting Circle	Ms. W. Brown, Beechwood	830814
Badminton Club	Mr. A. Clark, 3 Hayfield Rd.	830246
Beavers	Mrs. H. Deas, Greenbank Road	830251
Bowling Club	Mrs. C. Hayward, 3 Lomond Bank	830387
Bridge Club	Mrs.. J. Ross, School House	830212
Brownies	Mrs. A. Wall, 20 Greenbank Road	830460
Cubs	Mrs. C. Morton, Folda, Church Brae	830210
Curling - Men's	Mr. L. Findlay, Struan Bank, Hayfield Road	830441
Curling - Women's	Mrs. I. Findlay, Struan Bank, Hayfield Road	830441
Dancing	Mrs.N. Matthew, Wellsdide Ho., Milnathort	861516
District Nursing Assn.	Mr. G. Ross, School House	830212
Folk Club	Mr. G. Brotherston (or Glenfarg Hotel)	01337 831116
Meals on Wheels	Mrs. Ogilvie, The Crest, Main Street	830512
Old Folks' Association	Mrs. J. Kirkland, 7 Birch Lane	830514
Over 60s	Mrs. M. Cumming, Duncruevie	830736
Playschool	Mrs. J. Ingram, Belmont, Greenbank Road	830353
Pre-school Music Group	Ms. T. Winterton, The Old Bakehouse, Main St.	830879
Rainbows	Mrs. V. Gourlay, 2 Greenbank Crescent	830617
Red Cross	Lady Maclean, Arngask House	830311
Riding for the Disabled	Miss A. Stocks, Smiddyhill	830262
Scouts	Mr. R. Morton, Folda, Church Brae	830210
Sunday School	Mrs. L. Kinnaird, Greenbank Road	830337
Tennis Club	Mrs. A. Imrie, Greenbank Road	830378
The Guild	Mrs. Jean Connolly, 4 Lomond Bank	830200
Village Hall	Mrs. E. Coventry, 7 Greenbank Cres.	830529
Wine Club	Mr. S. Mee, Westdean, Hayfield Road	830395
W.R.I.	Mrs. H. Quartermaine, Sentosa	830356

## *Cover*

The cover photo of a pheasant in the snow in Glenfarg was supplied by Mr S. Smith, Montana, Ladeside.

## *Editorial*

I'd like to thank Willie Reid for sending me the article with a little bit of village history. I'm sure there will be folks mentioned in the article that are known by some village residents and I would be very pleased to hear from anyone who has any information to add. Thank you also to Jean Connolly for supplying the article about the Old Kirk of Amgask.

Please take a moment to fill in the village hall questionnaire, it's the usual story ..... the more opinions that are heard the easier it will be for the village hall committee to come to a conclusion. Other than that I hope the run up to Christmas is not too hectic and best wishes from the newsletter team for Christmas and the year ahead.

## *Letters to the Editor*

**Dear editor,**

I would like to thank Cllr McHardy for his contribution to the wind farm debate. This issue is gathering momentum not only in our area but also throughout Scotland. I believe it is important that there should be a properly informed public debate on this particular subject as soon as possible.

There is a growing awareness of the need for a national debate on energy production as a whole, including the part renewable energy schemes such as those producing energy from wind, tidal, wave, biomass etc have to play.

If we are to avoid blackouts in the future due to the failure of our electricity supplies our Parliaments must debate these matters on a long term basis not as short time fixes to satisfy some political aims.

At all costs we must not be pressurised into quick fix schemes and other short term measures which could threaten our quality of life or despoil our beautiful countryside for the sake of saving the reputations of some politicians.

The public have a right to be told the true facts of any scheme proposed; so also do our elected members of Parliament and local councillors. The developers should not be allowed to use the so called Kyoto deadline dates in order to push into being uneconomic and environmentally damaging renewable energy schemes in order that a quick profit may be made from ill conceived Government subsidies and grants.

Yours faithfully,

**Ronald Quartermaine**

**C.Eng. Sentosa Glenfarg Perth PH2 9QQ**

**Dear editor,**

The Autumn leaves have now fallen, the trees have been quite magnificent and I have enjoyed the drive from Abernethy to Glenfarg, we tend not to appreciate the beauty of the countryside which is on our doorstep. This is the time of year when we tend to reflect on the year that is drawing to a close, we think of friends who are no longer with us and all the happy memories, we think of those who are suffering for whatever reason and we think of our new friends, people who have moved into the area. To those who are spending their first Christmas in Glenfarg, I am sure you will be pleased that you chose to live in this beautiful area. During the year there have been several issues which have led to lots of discussion within the village and beyond and as the local councillor I have been involved in some of it. I was pleased that the Tennis Club had the enthusiasm to take on the challenge of renovating the facilities in the park. I wish them well with this project and I do hope that everyone will look after the new facility. The village hall has been on the agenda for some time and it is difficult to make changes, I hope in the year ahead that a decision can be made, I am happy to support whatever the decision is whether new build, or continue to upgrade the existing village hall. The major item for discussion has been and will be Windfarms, at the moment there are no applications to consider, if an application is lodged the residents will be consulted.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the readers of the newsletter a Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy New Year.

**Councillor Kathleen Baird.**



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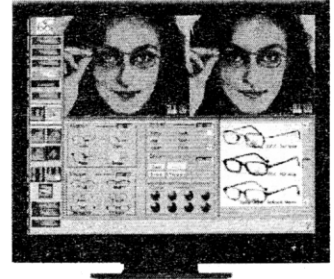
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## *Community Council*

### **Glenfarg Community Council**

The following is an extract from the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 3rd November 2003.

**Present** Cllr D.Cameron (Chairman), Cllr C.Campbell, Cllr A.Curtis, Cllr L.Godsell, Cllr C.Meldrum, Cllr C.Murison (Treasurer), Cllr T.Nicol, Cllr B.Patterson (Secretary), Cllr J.Sutherland Cllr J.Stake.

**Apologies** Cllr K.Baird, Cllr S.Reid, Cllr J.McHardy.

**By Invitation** Sgt. Graham, PC. Pederson, J. Croft, F. Whalley, Grant Smith.

**Members of the public** 1 member of the public was present.

### **Previous Minutes**

Previous minutes accepted as accurate by Cllr J. Sutherland and seconded by Cllr C. Campbell

### **Matters Arising.**

#### **Calor Scottish Community of the Year Awards**

The Chairman thanked Councillor John Sutherland for his assistance in amending Glenfarg's entry for this current year, however advised the meeting that nothing further had been heard to date.

#### **Wallace Park Facilities I Water Charges**

There was nothing further to report on this matter at present.

#### **Door Repair at Arngask Farm**

There was nothing further to report on this matter at present.

#### **Reservoir**

It was noted that Councillor Baird had been assured by SEPA that there was no danger following the report of pollution to the 'Farg' and that the situation was being monitored.

#### **Binn Landfill**

The Community Council had not written to the operators of the Landfill as had been intended. It was noted however that whilst some vehicles were not discharging litter, there were still a number of apparently older vehicles which were continuing to cause a problem. The members were advised to take a note of the registration numbers of the perpetrators.

#### **Bein Inn**

The Chairman reported that he had written to Mr Mundell to congratulate him on winning the award of Music Pub 2003.

### **Windfarms**

The matter was discussed briefly and it was noted that the Community Council was not in a position to comment on any Windfarm projects as no plans had been lodged.

### **Police Report**

Sgt. Graham advised that there was nothing to report since the last meeting.

### **Treasurers Report**

Cllr Murison updated the meeting on income and expenditure since the last meeting.

### **Recycling**

There was nothing further to report on this matter at present.

### **TRACKS**

Mrs Janet Croft and Mr Fred Whalley updated the Community Council members on their proposals for the landscape features to the south end of Glenfarg and reported that they had been in preliminary discussions with the Directors of Stephen's the builders. Incorporated within the plans would be a bridle path which would run parallel to Duncruevie Road, a footpath heading down to the main road, a sun dial, seating area, information point and bridge over the burn into Wallace park. The Community Council members were generally in favour of the plans. At this stage it was felt that wider consultation should be sought from the village community and it was recommended that TRACKS draft an explanation of their plans and design for insertion into the newsletter, asking for comments from the community if they felt it was appropriate. Mrs Croft advised that the next stages would involve further discussions with Stephens and eventual planning application. The anticipated time scale for conclusion of the project was expected to be 2005.

### **Glenfarg Post Office**

Mr Grant Smith addressed the meeting and advised the attendees that unfortunately he was proposing to make changes to the Post Office opening hours.

The current opening times which amounted to thirty-seven and a half hours per week had become unrealistic and required the resources of two members of staff, resulting in a net effect whereby the income derived was insufficient to cover the costs. Additionally, changes with the ways in which a number of benefits were now paid meant that there was less requirement for counter payments.

In light of these and the potential closure of a significant number of Post Offices Mr. Smith advised that he felt that the best way with which to retain the Glenfarg facility was to reduce the opening hours to 'mornings only' from Monday through to Friday with closure on a Saturday morning. He advised that a situation might arise at a later date whereby a combi-counter facility may allow for extension of hours but at this point in time he was unable to give any firm commitment.

#### **Any Other Business**

#### **Community Council Elections**

Five Community Councillors are due to retire by rotation in 2004. It was noted that thought should be given to the situation of potential vacancies and suitable candidates from within the community who may wish to put their names forward for nomination.

#### **Dates of Community Council meetings for 2004**

(All Mondays)

5th January

1st March

22nd March (AGM)

10th May

28th June

6th September

7th November

#### **Next Meeting**

Monday 5th January 2004 7.30pm at the Church Hall.

### ***Congratulations***

Congratulations to Alan and Helen Macfarlane on the birth of their third daughter, Lindsay Sarah, in Perth, Western Australia. Another granddaughter for Bill and Jan Macpherson.

### ***Thank you***

John and Kate Armstrong, Culmore recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary and at their "Pennies not Pressies" party they raised £340! This has been donated to their favoured charities Macmillan Cancer Care and M.A.G.( Mine Advisory Group ).

## ***Playschool***

### **GLENFARG VILLAGE PLAYSCHOOL**

The Playschool had their annual Care Commission Inspection on 17th September, with no recommendations for development, in fact it was very positive and complimentary. Extracts from the Inspection Report:

"..... Staff warmly welcomed children into the playschool setting. There was plentiful interaction between the playleaders and children within an atmosphere, which was felt to be relaxing and friendly. Staff knew individual children well and entered into meaningful dialogue with each child as they entered the playroom..." A big thank you to our Playleaders for their hard work and support throughout the year.

Glenfarg Village Playschool is delighted to have been awarded £922 from "Awards for All" for new play equipment and craft material, supporting our Action Plan as a Partner Provider with Perth & Kinross Council.

#### **Forthcoming Events**

Wednesday 17th of December - Christmas Party with a special visitor!!!

Saturday 20th of December - Christmas Play and Coffee Morning with Christmas Raffle and stalls from 10.00am to midday. The children will be staging a very simple nativity play called ' THE CHRISTMAS STORY' and will sing some of their favourite songs while mums, dads, grannies, granddads, brothers, sisters, next door neighbours... enjoy a cuppa and mincemeat pie.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

### ***Babies & toddlers***

Due to low numbers attending the group we have cancelled sessions until after Christmas. In the New Year we will have one session per month with guest speaker, coffee, play and chat. This will be on the last Thursday of every month starting from Thursday 29th January. Please contact Tara on 830879 for further information.



**A.K.E.**

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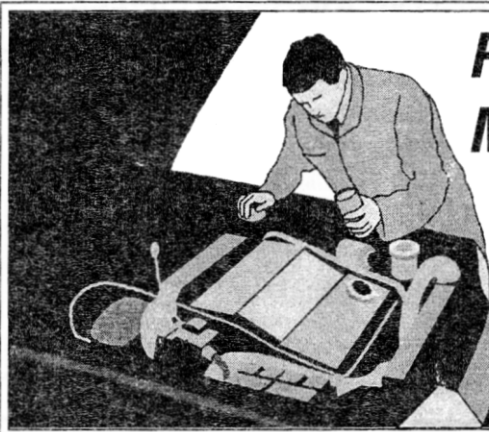


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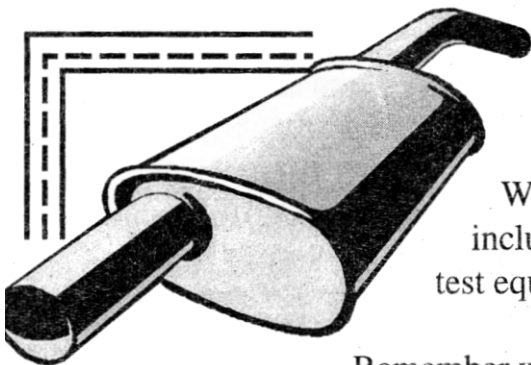
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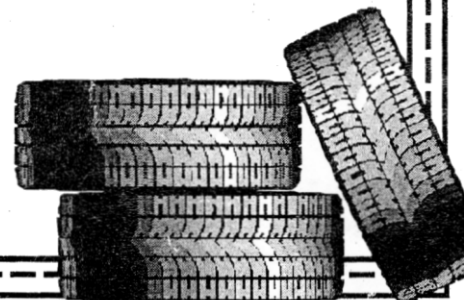
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## *WRI*

### **GLENFARG SWRI**

(Press Secretary Ursula Stewart, Newtoft, Path of Condie, by Forgandenny, Perthshire PH2 9DP)

Mrs Helen Quartermaine presided at the October meeting and introduced Mr Bob Learmonth of Longforgan who gave a delightful account of his life and times- and the making of Orkney chairs.

Mrs U. Stewart proposed the vote of thanks.

#### **Competition winners:**

<b>Cushion:</b>	1. Mrs Margot Moran	2. Mrs Helen Quartermaine	3. Miss Jean Grigg
<b>Girdle Score:</b>	1. Mrs Ursula Stewart	2. Mrs Allison Messenger	3. Mrs Margot Moran
<b>Flower of the Month:</b>	1. Mrs Margot Moran	2. Mrs Helen Quartermaine	3. Mrs Liz Yull

Vice-President Mrs Helen Mair presided at the November meeting and welcomed Mrs Helen Gardiner "The Farmer's Wife" who delighted members and guests with her stories, poems and songs.

Mrs U. Stewart proposed the vote of thanks.

#### **Competition winners:**

<b>Limerick:</b>	1. Helen Mair	2. Catherine Fairweather	3. Allison Messenger
<b>Scotch Egg:</b>	1. Margot Moran	2. Allison Messenger	3. Jean Grigg
<b>Flower of the Month:</b>	1. Sheila Harley	2. Edith Oswald	3. Allison Messenger

The "Rural" enjoyed having so many guests at this meeting and hope that the ladies of the village feel free to join any meeting that interests them. The December meeting will be our member's Christmas Party but in January Euna Scott from "Perth in Bloom" will be talking about her work and in February Mrs McVey from Thornton's Chocolates will be helping us to forget counting the calories and to cheer us through the dark days of winter!

Visitors are most welcome. The meetings start at 7.30 but visitors may come at 8pm.

For further information, please phone Mrs Edith Oswald 865731 who will be happy to help you.

### *Red Cross*

#### **BRITISH RED CROSS - GLENFARG CENTRE**

##### **Coffee Morning**

Following another successful Coffee Morning, Sale and Raffle on Saturday November 1st the sum of £820 was raised after expenses. We are indebted to Debbie Duncan, British Red Cross Fundraiser for Mid Scotland & Argyll who opened the Sale and contributed throughout the morning by helping out and finally drawing the raffles and prizes.

Many thanks to our supporters and all those who helped out on the day-we could not function without this additional help and the generous donations we receive. The funds raised will go a long way to assisting the work of the Red Cross 'at home and abroad.

### *Scouts*

#### **Scout Ceilidh, Village Hall, 29th December 2003.**

Looking for the ultimate exercise to burn off those unwanted extra pounds (kilos) that you've put on over Christmas? Why not come and dance the night away at the Scout Ceilidh. Tickets priced at adults £6.00 and children £3.00. So if you feel you've watched enough films, eaten enough turkey and sat in that sofa long enough, come along and support your local Scout Group. Tickets available from Christine and Robert Morton, Robin Lambie and Jean Andrew. Looking forward to seeing you there.

## *Folk Club*

### **GLENFARG VILLAGE FOLK CLUB**

Congratulations to local folkie Jim Douglas who won this year's Sandy Watt Quaich singing competition. Jim sang a hilarious new song on the night called The Bug Hut which was full of reminiscences of his youth and his experiences in one of Fife's many dance halls The Bug Hut.

A big thank you to Fiona Forbes for the difficult job of judging a competition with so many good entries.

#### **Guest List**

1st Dec	Bob Davidson	Perthshire based singer/songwriter and zany humourist
5th Dec	Friday Night Ceilidh	Village Hall 8.00pm BYOB
8th Dec	Tich Frier	A great Glenfarg favourite, with great guitar work and again another outrageous sense of humour
15th Dec	Leslie Milnathort	Definitely a Fifer .. worth the trip as all proceeds will go to Cancer research
22nd Dec	Festival Session	Seasonal songs and free mince pies
29th Dec	Singaround	To get you in the mood for Hogmanay
5th Jan	New Year session night	to shake off the cobwebs
12th Jan	Jim Reid	Classic singer/songwriter from Angus .. a gentle night of traditional music
19th Jan	John Malcolm	West coast singer/songwriter
26th Jan	Burns Night Session	A day late but Rabble wouldn't mind

The Glenfarg Village Folk Club meet every Monday night at 8.30pm in the Terrace Bar, Glenfarg Hotel.

## *RDA*

### **GLENFARG GROUP**

(Riding for Disabled Association.

(Charity No. SC007850)

Over 400 delegates from groups throughout Britain attended the RDA national conference at Gleneagles Equestrian Centre on Nov. 12th. Glenfarg group was asked to perform a study to music on ponies, 'The gingerbread man'. Riders were from Oakbank school, Perth who ride with us on Mondays.

The story begins with the gingerbread man coming out of the oven and mounting his pony, and riding down a line of baskets in which he put the newly baked gingerbread men. He was then chased by a duck, a mouse, a farmer, (all hungry), and he chased him over jumps at trot, and finally down to the river Farg, where a fox was waiting to eat him up. They all pursued him down the Farg, but the gingerbread man escaped and trotted around the arena triumphantly.

We had great applause and enthusiasm from the delegates which made all the effort worthwhile and thanks to all our helpers and to Dave Watt and Mia,

who composed and sang the music. The riders were presented with rosettes by Jane Holderness-Roddam our national chairman.

On the second day the conference moved to Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh where our president, HRH Princess Royal presented long service awards to Mrs Morag Reid and Mrs Joan Bowden.

We would like to thank our helpers (and ponies) for the success of the Glenfarg Group.

## *Beavers*

### **GLENFARG BEAVER GROUP**

In August, after several years service, Pierette Melville and Helen Deas relinquished their roles as leaders of the Glenfarg Beaver Group. On behalf of former and current Beavers and their parents, the new leaders extend their thanks and gratitude for Pierette and Helen's commitment and hard work.

## *Primary School*

### **ARNGASK PRIMARY SCHOOL**

#### **Junior Road Safety Officers**

Scott Andrew and Catriona Sutherland of Primary 6 recently attended a training morning and launch of a new scheme to introduce Junior Road Safety Officers into all primary schools. They returned with resources and ideas to assist them in promoting road safety to the school and local community.

We now have a Road Safety notice board and this will be regularly up-dated to introduce competitions and reminders of these important issues. There is also a web-site available for pupils to log on to for more ideas and details of national competition.

The plan is for this to become an annual event with Junior Road Safety Officers and their adult assistant serving a one year term and being involved in enlisting those who will take over their role for the following year. Mrs Jean Andrew has volunteered to be the "Adult Assistant" for this year.

#### **Class Shield Winners - Effort and Progress**

Shields were awarded for the month of October to the following pupils;

P. 1-2, Heather Sturgeon, P. 3, Anna Gordon, P. 4-5, George Brown,  
P. 6, Jordan Cummings, P. 7, Amy Peacock

#### **Dog Fouling**

Members of the school Pupil Council have raised concerns over the problem of dog fouling on the school playing field. Mrs Gordon wondered how big a problem this was so Hannah McLeish and Sarah Wall conducted a survey around the school. Their results showed that 22 out of 91 pupils said that they had either seen it or stood in it. This does seem a rather high number and they would like us to do something about it.

The Pupil Council will now write to Perth and Kinross Dog Warden /Environmental Health asking for their support in this matter. In particular we need new signs reminding dog owners of their responsibilities, (the last ones were vandalised and last seen being used as ramps by skateboarders).

We would also ask all village dog owners to please remember that the playing field is a children's play area and any dog mess could easily become a serious health problem.

## *Wine Club*

As promised in the last edition of the Newsletter, here is the next exciting news update from the Wine Club.

Our exclusive wine correspondent said that this article would try and offer some tips. Well, we're now close to Christmas and a lot of people, who don't usually drink much wine, might try a bottle or two. How much should you pay to get something decent? Well, of course, there are no hard and fast rules. You could pay a lot for something that you don't like. What each of us like is very much a matter of personal taste. However, there you can make some general assumptions from price.

Before you get to the actual cost of the wine in the bottle, you need to remember that the first £2.70 or so, is taken up with other costs, such as the bottle, the labels, shipping, excise duty, etc. So, if you pay £3.00 for your bottle of wine you're only getting about 30p worth of wine. On the other hand, if you pay £5.00 for your wine, you're getting about £2.30 worth of wine. And so it goes on. The argument goes that if you are paying more for the actual liquid in the bottle, then the quality is likely to be better.

However, once you get to about over £50 a bottle, you're just starting to pay for names and status, although the people get silly money for their wine would probably disagree!

Anyway, back to the Wine Club.

30th November saw the club having a wonderful night with 'Quaff my Bluff' (remember the programme on the telly, 'Call my Bluff'). Yes, it was a twist on that. Tom Hughes of Waverley Vintners, making his third visit to the club, hosted the evening. As always, Tom was wonderfully informative and entertaining. Wine club members have learned a great deal from him.

If you didn't manage to make it along at the end of November then why not make Burns Night (25th January) a night at the Wine Club. Burns and Wine!

It's got to add up to a good night out all for just £5.00.

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## *Village Hall*

### **GLENFARG VILLAGE HALL**

Update on developments, November 2003

The Glenfarg Public Hall Association committee are carrying out a feasibility study on the options to meet the demands of the community. This will be funded by outside sources specifically for a feasibility study covering initial architect's fees, household surveys and other related expenses.

The critical question is whether we go for a new hall or the improvement and extension of the existing hall.

There will be more detailed questionnaires to organisations and for a house-to-house survey in the next few months. The committee would appreciate it if you would complete and return this questionnaire.

1. Which activities do you think it is important for the hall to offer?

---

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2. Which facilities do you think it important for the hall to offer? Please tick.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled access/toilets                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-use hall   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Catering facilities (safe serving)      | <input type="checkbox"/> Parking          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alternative meeting spaces              | <input type="checkbox"/> One level access |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prop room and changing facilities       | <input type="checkbox"/> Good acoustics   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to stage from both sides         | <input type="checkbox"/> Sprung floor     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Larger venue (current capacity 80 -120) |   |

3. Are there any activities which you would like to see take place in the village hall that do not happen now? Please tick.

- |  |                                     |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drama               | <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch club | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth club |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibitions         | <input type="checkbox"/> Education  | <input type="checkbox"/> Music      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise for Adults | Other(please state)                 | _____                               |

Can you offer to lead any activities and if so, what? \_\_\_\_\_

(Please give your name and telephone number)

4. Would your needs be best served by:

- a purpose-built hall                       improvement/extension to existing hall?

5. Where do you live? Please circle

Glenfarg              Duncrievie              Arngask              Path of Condie              Other outlying area

**PLEASE HELP THE COMMITTEE BY COMPLETING AND RETURNING YOUR FORM TO THE POST OFFICE OR VILLAGE HALL BY 15TH JANUARY 2004.**

The next village hall meeting is on Wednesday 21st January 2004, hall lets will be discussed.

## *The Guild*

### **ARNGASK GUILD**

Programme till August 2004

21st January	7.30pm	AGM	Biblical Quiz
3rd February	7.30pm	Plants from the Bible	Speaker:Mrs Renton
10th February	2.00pm	Spring Meeting	Auchterarder Parish Church Hall
17th February	7.30pm	Mr Don Williams	Fair City Speakers Club
2nd March	7.30pm	Tracing Your Family History	Speaker:Mrs Sheila Hay
5th March	7.30pm	World Day of Prayer	Abernethy Church
16th March	7.30pm	Church of Scotland in Europe	Speaker:Rev. Ray Gaston
19th March	2.00pm	Annual Council Meeting	St Matthew's Church Hall
			Speaker:Mrs Alison Twaddle
			Guild General Secretary
27th March	10.00-11.30am	Guild Sale and Coffee Morning	Church Hall
3rd April	10.00-11.30am	Coffee Morning	Scone New Church Hall
6th April	7.30pm	Closing Meeting Countdown	
	Summer Outing - To be arranged		
3rd June	7.30pm	Summer Meeting	Dunbarney Church, Bridge of Earn
			Speaker:Rev Albert Bogle-Church without Walls
12th August	7.00pm	Garden Party Gask	Church Hall

The Team Leaders would like to take this opportunity to wish all Guild members, past and present, and their families, every blessing for Christmas and the New Year and to thank them for all their support during the past session.

## *The Church*

### **ARNGASK CHURCH**

Here are some dates for your diary:

Friday 5th December	6.30 - 7.30pm	Songs of Praise	
Saturday 6th December	4.00 - 5.30pm	Sunday School Party	Church hall
Sunday 7th December	9.30am	Gift Sunday	
Sunday 21st December	9.30am	Nativity Service	
Sunday 21st December	6.30pm	Carol Service with Christingles	
Wednesday 24th December	4.00 - 5.00pm	Birthday Party for Jesus	Church hall
Christmas Eve Service	11.00pm		
Thursday 25th December	9.30am	Christmas Day service	

The Songs of Praise will be at Arngask Parish Church on Friday 5th December from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. The Sunday School would like to invite you to this evening singing your favourite hymns, chosen by you. The evening is to continue to support the work carried out at the Embagweni Hospital in Malawi, particularly to relieve the suffering of Aids patients. A retiring collection will be taken and there will be cup of tea afterwards to revitalise the vocal chords.


Further information and hymn choice sheets are available from David Watt on 830345 or Jean Andrew on 830870.

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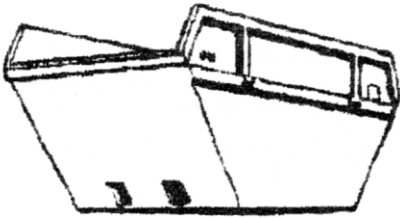


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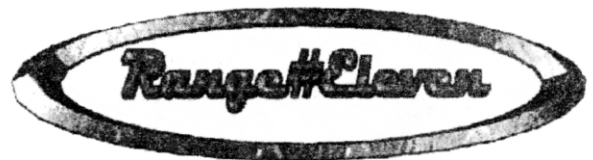
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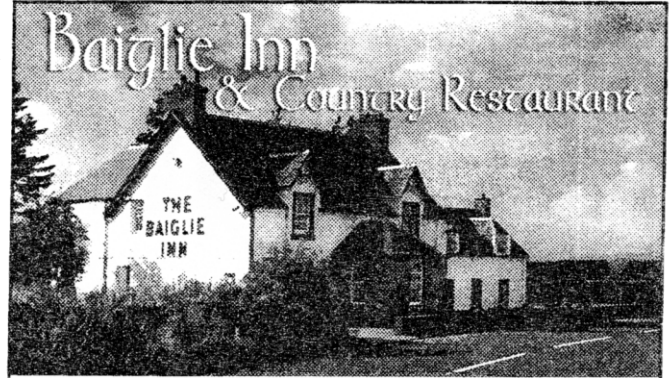
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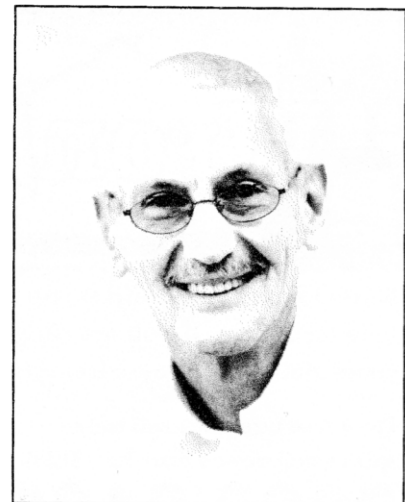
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## **A chance encounter with a postcard!**

My name is Willie Reid and I spent the first 22 years of my life between 1949 -1971 at Folda in Glenfarg. In December 2002 I signed up as a member of Ebay the internet auction house - and through its search engine I found that a 1907 postcard from Glenfarg was being sold by someone in Ayrshire. In order to find out how the website operated I bought this PC and about 10 days later it duly arrived. It was written from Bountree Hall by Peggy Deas to a girl in London on Feb 1 1907 and the Glenfarg postmark showed the same date.

The day after the PC arrived I was out cycling when I suddenly remembered that my father had told me that at one time Folda had been known as Bountree Hall many years before. Incredibly then this chance encounter with this PC threw up the possibility that it was written in the same house where I had been brought up. I just had to find out.

My first foray into detective work was to look at the 1881, 1891 and 1901 censuses for Glenfarg and there I found that William Deas occupied Bountree Hall in Smiddyhill Road. He was married to Eliza and he was a mason employing 4 men and 2 boys in 1881. By 1901 his family had grown to 5 children including Peggy, the youngest aged 8, the writer of the P C, who attended the village school.

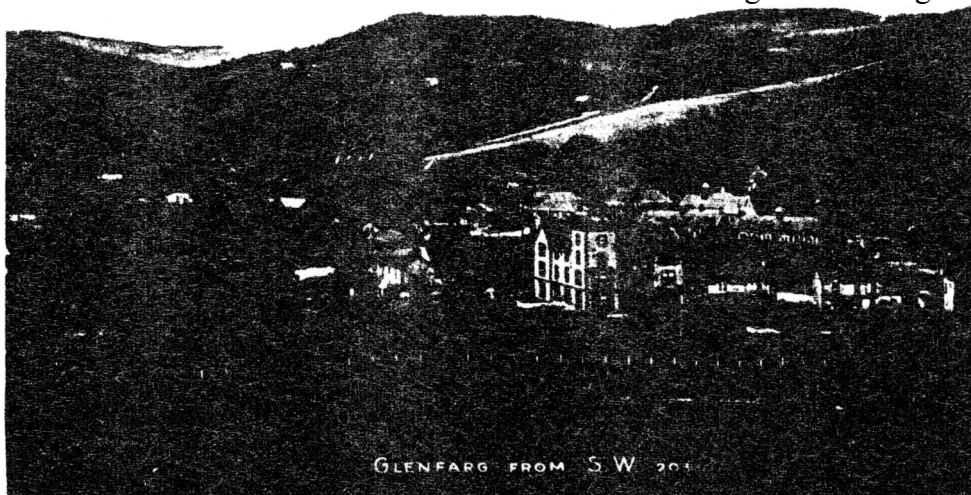
So Bountree Hall existed at the time the PC was written but was it the same house as at present up

Church Brae next to two similarly built houses, Ochilree and Culmore.

My next effort was to contact the Register of Sasines in Edinburgh where all property transactions are registered. But this surprisingly led nowhere as William Deas seemingly built all the houses between the present Earnside Coaches and Smiddyhill Farm in the early 1900's and only rented them out. So there were no property sales to be recorded.

However, surely the answer had to lie in visiting Mr Lambie, the present owner of Bountree Hall, to ask if he could check his title deeds which should surely give a date as to when Bountree was built. Alas another negative and in fact he had also been trying to find out when Bountree had been built. But this visit did have one compensation - I was able to look at Mrs Lambie's superb collection of old Glenfarg postcards. And then incredibly 2 days later Mr Lambie received a visit from a lady from S Africa who just happened to be the niece of Peggy Deas who wrote the PC.

From her he discovered that part of the Deas family had emigrated to S Africa to find a kinder climate after one of its members had been severely gassed during the First World War. And this lady was also able to confirm that when the present Bountree was built it was known as New Bountree Hall and Folda became known as Old Bountree Hall. So I was not following a red herring.



*Front of postcard*



*Back of postcard*

I next considered if there was such a thing as rates or council taxes that might have been payable by house occupiers in the early 1900's. On phoning the council offices in Perth to check this out they pointed me in the direction of the A K Bell Library in Perth where the old Valuation Rolls were kept which assessed all properties for rental values.

There I found the whole Deas estate of properties mentioned above which interestingly were all moved from Kinross-shire to Perthshire in 1909. But although all the Deas houses were there all of them were un-named (except for Ochilree which was first recorded in 1905). Every house named William Deas as proprietor with different people named as occupiers except for the one lived in by the Deas family. And all the properties had different rental values.

New valuation rolls were completed annually and as the 20th century progressed house names slowly began to appear and by 1938/39 all the Deas houses were named individually.

So using this 1938/39 Valuation Roll I thought I could perhaps work back to 1907 using the occupiers and rental values to guide me as to which house was which.

This took some time but peeling back the years was really exciting even though I knew that the chances of linking the PC to Folda were probably remote as Ochilree had been built by 1905.

Taking the layers off year by year I moved from the 1930's back through the 1920's and into the 1910's and then suddenly there it was - William Deas had taken his family up to the present Bountree Hall around Martinmas 1910 after it had just been built.

And so that meant that unbelievably my serendipity postcard from 1907 had been written in Folda, then named Bountree Hall, in the house I had been brought up in. That really was an exciting discovery!

But the coincidences didn't stop there. Both the postcard (through the Royal Mail) and I (by the Royal Bank) had at different times been sent to London! And also the date on the postcard was Feb 1- the same date as when my father died in 2002.

Finally there is one more claim to fame for Folda. Uniquely its name is captured on the stained glass window in Arngask church which overlooks the house

..... Just another amazing coincidence!

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*The following was taken from issues of The Magazine of Arngask Church of Scotland dating from Summer 1966 Spring 1967 and reproduced with kind permission from Murdo Lain MacDonald.*

## **THE AULD KIRK OF ARNGASK**

**By**

**Iain MacDonald**

*continued from newsletter 148*

Our knowledge of the pre-1806 kirk is extremely limited. Our only clue appears to be that most enigmatic remark in the First Statistical Account where the minister of the time, Lang, makes the comment that, "Part of the church, at least, must have been built before the Reformation, as there is a place in the wall for the font...". Just what are we to make of this statement? Mr Mackie, a most cautious and careful historian, wisely refuses to commit himself. Lang was writing about 1791, a time when not much was understood about the mediaeval styles of architecture. Generally speaking, in Scotland within a mediaeval kirk there was no architecturally defined space to contain a font, such as Lang believes to be the case here. It could be that he is merely describing a holy water stoup, or a piscina, a little stone sink for washing the altar vessels, such as you will see in St. John's Kirk, Perth. There is, however, one other, much more exciting interpretation. It is just conceivable that the "place in the wall for the font" of Lang's description is an apse.

An apse is an extension to the East end of a kirk, rather like a bow window, built usually to contain the High Altar. Now an apse of a kind that could be mistaken by Lang as "a place in the wall for the font" in Scottish mediaeval architecture is a feature only of the Romanesque or Norman period. Our sister nation down south has been celebrating with postage stamps, pageants and television programmes the famous Norman Conquest of England 1066 (rather oddly: after all the English lost!) It was only later that the Scots were to be directly affected by this Norman intrusion, one visible symbol being the building of kirks in an international style closely associated with the Normans. The splendid kirks at Leuchars and Dalmeny are our best examples built under the patronage of the powerful Anglo-Norman family of de Quincy. Mr Mackie has shown how this family owned estates in this area. It is possible to speculate, therefore, that through the example or influence of the de Quincy family, the parish kirk of Arngask might have been a faint echo of the splendours of Leuchars. If this is so then the Kirk that was pulled down and replaced by the present structure may have incorporated the apsidal east end of an earlier Norman structure, and would have been already at least 600 years old.

The money for the building of the kirk would come

mainly from a body of people known as the heritors. These were generally the local landowners, some of whom were absentees. This was fine so long as the heritors were wealthy and generous, for then you would get a fine kirk with all the trimmings. And this is exactly what Arngask did NOT get. Maybe the harvests were bad, maybe there was uncertainty due to the French Wars, maybe the heritors were downright stingy, but nothing is clearer than that the building of the Kirk was scrimped from the start. No tower, no session house, (unless the little roofless structure in the kirkyard served both as a detached session house and a watch-house), no vestibule, no gallery, and even the belfry was second-hand. It was far too wee in any case, since the heritors were forced to build a gallery within 20 years of its completion to accommodate everyone comfortably. Probably, to save money, as many pews as possible would be crammed into the available space, with nasty hard little seats fitted with even nastier, harder, relentlessly unyielding backs.

Simple though this structure might have been, however, several centuries of tradition lay behind its final shape. The completely blank north wall, for instance, occurs commonly in Scotland both before and after the Reformation — Mr. Inglis's old kirk at Carnbee has the same feature. It was as though the kirk had turned its back on the cold north wind and looked towards the south and the sun. Accordingly on the south wall we find two very large windows to light up the whole kirk. Traditionally the pulpit was always placed in the middle of the south wall between the windows so that the sun flooding in would warm the members of the congregation, lighting up their faces before the eyes of the minister. You will notice how the minister here was provided with his own special door which opened, rather surprisingly, from the kirkyard straight into the pulpit. The pulpit no doubt would be provided with a grand sounding-board in the traditional manner, and would probably have a little lectern (the small pulpit, as it was known) in front for the precentor. In the centre of the kirk, too, would be a special pew for the "penitents", those men and women who for a breach of ecclesiastical discipline and of the moral law, had to sit before the face of the whole congregation while rebukes and admonitions poured down on them from above.

The arrangements made for the celebration of the Lord's Supper are also interesting. Communion was celebrated in the traditional Scottish manner with its wonderful emphasis on fellowship, fellowship with God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, fellowship with all the Church in heaven and earth, and fellowship with each other in this act of communion. Accordingly, as the redeemed family of God, they sat as a family round one common table, using a common cup and a common piece of bread. Clearly, however, only a small portion of the congregation could participate at one time, and so, while one group of people sat round the table the rest of the congregation generally stood outside in the kirkyard. When the first "table" was finished they went out and the next group of communicants took their place and so on until all had communicated. Now, with one group of people going out and another coming in, there could easily be a lot of delay and congestion. So what was to be done? The answer was quite simple: build two doorways. Thus at Arngask, and elsewhere, we find two doorways, in this case facing each other from opposite walls. The presence of this second door in

the west wall (i.e. underneath the belfry) does seem to indicate that the kirk once enjoyed a much more open and commanding site than is now the case. As we remarked earlier, the kirk was "ower wee" and about 1823 a horseshoe gallery was fitted inside. Space was so tight that access to the gallery had to be by means of an external forestair, a rather charming and unusual feature. The new gallery darkened the interior and two windows had to be pierced in the formerly blind north wall. The session house appears to have been tagged on at the same time.

Changing fads and fashions in kirk design left their imprint on Arngask. When the common communion table went out of fashion the need for the west doorway disappeared, and it was subsequently blocked up as was the minister's door. Later, too, the heating apparatus was installed where the west door had been and a new belfry was added, which also contained the disguised chimney of the stove.

Taken from issues of The Magazine of Arngask Church of Scotland: News Sheets: Summer 1966, Sept — Oct 1966, Nov — Dec 1966, Jan — Mar 1967 and April — May 1967

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*And so we leave it there upon the hill,  
this little kirk.*

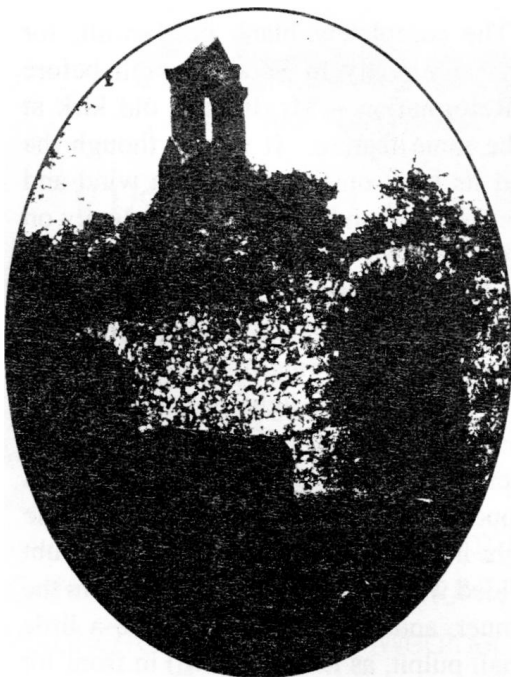
*Silent now, those walls that sheltered once the slow uplifted  
psalm.*

*Silent, though the chattering sparrow darts through empty  
round-arched windows.*

*Leave it, floored deep with dark-green nettles,  
its walls lit by the yellow glowing lamps of ragwort  
its skews softened by the wispy purple stalks of willowherb.*

*Leave it, to the quiet, all concealing hands of ivy, that stretch  
out slim clutching fingers over stone and mortar.*

*Leave it, to its past,  
its unheard memories and silent echoes.*




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*Murdo Iain MacDonald was a schoolboy in the village while his father Murdo MacDonald was minister in Arngask from 1959 - 1967. Iain, a history graduate of St Andrews University, is at present an Archivist in Argyll.*

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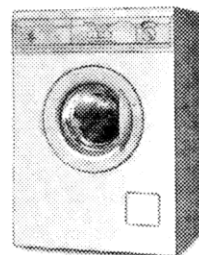
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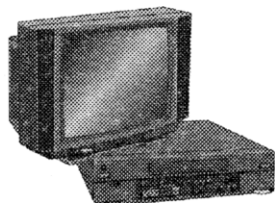


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