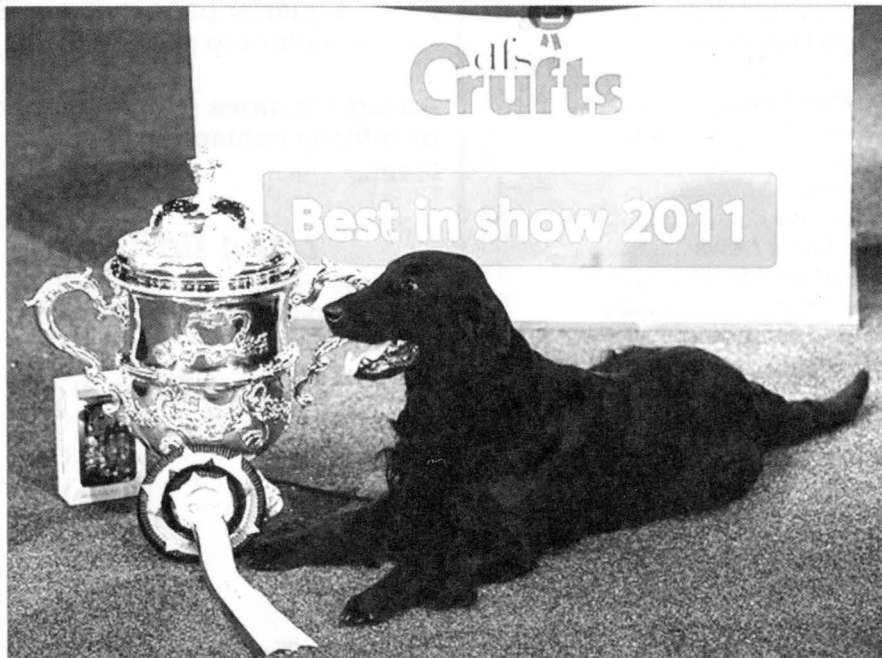


THE GLENFARG NEWSLETTER

Issue 194

June 2011



In your June issue:

- ◆ **A Canine Champion in Our Midst**
- ◆ **Newsletter Survey Results**
- ◆ **News, Views and Reviews**
- ◆ **Arngask do Ardroyand much, much more!**

SUGGESTED DONATION



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ADVERTISE IN THE GLENFARG NEWSLETTER

You can advertise in the Newsletter for very reasonable rates. Each issue costs:

£10 for a full page

£5 for a half page

£3 for a quarter page (full year £15 - 6 issues for the price of 5!)

Advert enquiries should be made by initially contacting the editorial team.

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Email: editor@glenfargnewsletter.org.uk

Editorial Team

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Distribution

Glenfarg Village Store 830 776

Cover photograph

Glenfarg's very own Jet, winner of the Crufts Best in show trophy 2011!

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

We always try our best to make sure that your newsletter is available promptly at the start of every even month. If you would like to contribute to the August issue, please inform us with details by the 1st of July to allow us adequate time to plan the issue. Contributions should reach us no later than 15th July.

Thank you.

The views expressed by contributors to this newsletter are entirely their own. Publication within this newsletter does not imply that the Editors or Community Council agrees with, or supports, those views. The editors will not be held responsible for any factual inaccuracies, or incorrect inferences drawn.

Contact Pages

Community Council

Chair: Colin Campbell
830 240

Secretary: Kate Armstrong
830 343

P&K councillor

Mrs Kathleen Baird, Easter Clunie, Newburgh KY14 6EJ 01337 840 218

Police

Non-emergency contact number (free phone) 0300 111 2222
Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

Household Utilities

Scottish Water Helpline 0845 601 8855
Scottish Hydro Electric Helpline 0800 300 999

Other Local Services/Organisations

Minister	Rev Alec Wark (alecwark@yahoo.co.uk)	01738 850 607
Church Session Clerk	Alex Johnston (alex@hullion.abelnet.co.uk)	830 776
Arngask School	Mrs Lynn Strachan, Head Teacher	830 263
Accordion & Fiddle	Mr Russell Robertson	830 642
Baby & Toddlers	Claire Silcock	830 781
Badminton Club	Alan Clark	830 246
Dance Connect (Tap/Ballet)	Rachel Webb	07760 972 359
Beavers	Jacqui Macmillan	830 155
Bowling Club	Janet Ewart, Kinross	863 929

Bridge Club	Jean Ross,	830 212
Cubs	Christine Morton	830 210
Curling - Men's	Gary Rutherford	830 360
Curling - Women's	Fiona Rutherford	830 360
Matthew Dance Academy	Nikki Watthew	07869 120 989
Folk Club	Caroline Waring	830 239
Glenfarg & Duncraevie	Sybil Galbraith	830 347
Knit and Natter	Ineke Watt	830 345
Ladies' Badminton	Annette Eadie	830 547
Old Folks Association	Christian Meldrum	830 437
Rainbows	Emma Roe	830 586
Red Cross	Bill Connolly	830 200
Riding for the Disabled	Angela Stocks	830 262
Scouts	Andrew Vaughan	830 128
Sunday School	Rev Alec Wark	01738 850 607
SWRI	Ursula Stewart mac@newtoft.com	830 469
Tennis Club	Sadie Allan s_allan@hotmail.co.uk	830 807
Village Hall	Emma Roe glenfargvillagehallbookings@gmail.com	830 586
Wine Club	Steve Mee	830 395
Yoga	Caroline Waring	830 239
Zumba	Susan Thomson	07894 834 481

Editorial



What a busy couple of months it seems to have been in Glenfarg. I sit down to write this editorial with literally JUST enough column inches left to do so, with this issue absolutely jam packed with news, articles, reviews, events, Crufts winners... need I go on? It has been particularly pleasing to hear from a few clubs and organisations who we had not heard from in a little while. It's so encouraging to see village life at its busiest, with lots of goings on to suit all ages and interests. From Zumba® classes, to the curling, bridge and bowling clubs, to cycling trips and charity walks, we really are a bustling hive of activity as summer approaches!

Not that we would know summer is on its way, thanks to the weather of recent days. With memories of a frozen winter barely gone from our memories, our poor village has fallen foul to the unpredictable Scottish weather system once again! Not quite the 'Big Storm', but gale force winds caused havoc with fallen trees and branches blocking roads including the Glen. Some trees in the village were completely uprooted, including a few in Wallace Park (photograph courtesy of Philip Ponton).

This issue, we bring you the results of our survey asking your opinion about the newsletter - look out for some of your outcomes of your feedback in this and future issues.

As I write, I realise that this will be

my last editorial in my current capacity, as after this issue I hand over to newly appointed lead editor, Deborah Widley. You may remember a few issues back an advert for a new lead editor. I started to feel that combining a full time job with the work involved in being the main editor with responsibility for pulling each issue together was becoming too much, and that the newsletter deserved someone who could give more time commitment to it and continue its success. I was grateful that Deborah showed interest in becoming lead editor. We also have other new members to the editorial team which encourages news and views from an even wider cross section of the community. So while I'm not disappearing from the editorial team altogether, this enables me to take a more backseat role. I'm sure you will continue to support Deborah, and the rest of the editorial team, as the newsletter moves forward.

Cara Chalmers



Letters to the Editor

Glenfarg Bike Ride Update

Dear Editor,

Pitlochry is the destination and the accommodation is booked. We leave Glenfarg at 9am on the morning of Saturday, September 24th, travelling via Bankfoot and Loch of the Lowes to stay at the Knockard Road Hostel. We return Sunday the 25th via Balnagaurd. It's 40 miles each way, give or take a mile or two. The Sunday is particularly easy. Everyone is more than welcome. No one is excluded from this weekend which keeps Glenfarg a keen favourite in the fittest village (Small Village Category, East of Scotland section, south Perthshire area..... beginning with G) competition. Just give your name to me with a £10 deposit and that will encourage you to put some rubber on the road and some lycra on your legs this summer. I'm waiting by the letterbox as I write.

Tim Corcoran

Glenfarg Talent Show

Dear Editor,

The Wine Club will be holding their 8th annual Charity Talent show on the 12th of November. The title of this years show is "Carry on up the Farg". As usual, the usual suspects are putting their names forward to "do a turn", but it would be encouraging to hear from new acts. If anyone fancies treading the boards doing whatever, be it singing,

comedy, a sketch, etc., then please contact Steve Mee on 830395.

Sorry, over 18s only as there can be some adult content in the show. Once again, the all money raised will stay within the village. This years beneficiaries will be announced at a later date.

Many thanks

Steve Mee

Coffee Morning Thank You

Dear Editor,

The organisers of the coffee morning held recently in Glenfarg Village Hall to support the victims of the Earthquake and Tsunami in Japan would like to say thank you to all who supported this very successful event. The coffee morning was organised by the Women's Federation for World Peace-Scotland (SC041748) with the help of myself and Lynda Stuart.

Fun was had by all, including the opportunity for kimono wearing, seeing a tea ceremony



demonstration, sushi rolling and origami. Cakes and biscuits were donated by people in the village. A fantastic amount of £446.41 was raised, which will be sent to the Earthquake Relief, Japanese Red Cross through the Japanese Consulate in Edinburgh. Thank you again for all your support.

Tae Baillie

Arngask Does Ardroy!

A group of P6 and 7 pupils attended Ardroy outdoor education centre, a multi activity residential centre located in Lochgoilhead. The pupils participated in many different activities designed to challenge them mentally and physically with the aim of fostering self reliance and independence, thus aiding the transition to secondary school. A total of 4 days was spent at Ardroy with the pupils arriving just after 12 noon on Friday 13th May. They were immediately given a short outline of what the weekend would entail followed by a hearty bowl of homemade vegetable soup. They were assigned their dorms and their instructors and given instructions to meet up after a short settling in period to begin their first activity. Activities during the weekend included the climbing wall, canoeing on Loch Goil, and the infamous Splosh archery and abseiling.

The instructors made sure that everyone knew what was expected of them and encouraged a supportive environment with all children supporting each other. It very quickly became clear that a lot of the weekend

would be spent cold, wet and muddy!

Dorm inspection was carried out twice daily with teachers and instructors being suitably bribed with crisps and sweets. For the second year in a row the Arngask boys won the competition for best kept dorm, better luck next time girls who received top marks but sadly were pipped to the post by one of the other schools attending.

During the initiative games on Friday evening the full group worked very hard to move a golf ball from one corner of the room to another using separate pieces of pipe and guttering, there was a real sense of achievement when after a few failed attempts the golf ball flew into the bucket.



What an ingenious way to get a wheelchair up a steep and muddy path!



Can you spot the 'man overboard' in this creative piece made from natural materials?

To get to the abseil site what a very rocky muddy and steep path! This was going to prove difficult for one member of the group who is a wheelchair user, however Phil from Ardroy had a plan, and tied the rest of the group to the wheelchair so that they could pull the wheelchair up the hill, a bit like a pack of huskies pulling a sleigh. How do you abseil in a wheelchair? Well again, Phil had a plan, and using lots of ropes and the other instructor, Caroline, as the steering this was duly accomplished. The rest of the group then abseiled down a much steeper cliff.

On Saturday night we again came together to create arts using natural materials. One of the group came third in this competition, creating a picture of two people in a canoe with another one in the water,

using shells stones and sticks.

On Sunday night it was time to tackle the labyrinth, a fully enclosed dark maze. Everyone managed to complete this with all supporting and cheering each other on.

Finally, on Monday morning, Archery was the name of the game, with the adults proving to be more competitive than the children.

By 1pm all had been fed and were waiting on the bus for the long drive home. Everyone was tired but happy. All in all the children performed fabulously. They showed courage and overcame their fears; they worked well together and supported each other in a very mature and caring way. They have grown in self belief and it stands them in good stead for the coming years.



An intrepid abseiler!



***Arngask Does Ardroy
May 2011***



Arngask School News

It's not just primary 6 and 7 who have been busy, with their away weekend. After a month full of days off in April, all the children are now back into the swing of things as school heads into Summer with lots going on.

Playground Markings Fundraising

The facilities which the school has to offer are always under review. Recently, Head Teacher Lynn Strachan and the school Eco Committee, have been working on a project to introduce new playground markings. The children within the school have come up with criteria for the playground markings which included challenge, fun, friendship and opportunities for physical activity and development of children of all ages across the whole community. The playground markings will also provide support for the Primary Curriculum e.g. in PE, maths, problem-solving, outdoor learning and co-operative learning.

The cost of the markings is £2700 and the school has a number of fundraising events planned which, together with the anticipated kind donations of local businesses, should make the target achievable.

On Friday, 20th May a "Bingo Feast" was held in the school hall attended by Grandparents, Mums & Dads, children & friends all ready

for eyes down. To say it was a success would be an understatement! Not only was the main hall of the school packed to the rafters with people, but a classroom was also drafted into use to cope with the sheer volume of supporters that turned up for a coffee, bingo and good giggle in the process. During the evening 10 games of bingo were played, there was a raffle which lasted over 30 minutes due to the large number of prizes donated and a lovely "feast" provided by the children's families. The event organisers Margaret Smith and Mary McAinsh wish to say thank you to all who took part on the night or contributed goodies to the feast and the raffle. The amount raised for the Playground Markings Fund after costs was £349, an absolutely fantastic total.



The Arngask Art gallery opened on Saturday, 28th May, where a "cafe" served refreshments and all donations went to the Fund.

Hopefully in the next issue we will be able to give you the news that the target has been met.

Arngask Parent Council

The role of the Parent Council is to:

1. Ensure that the voice of the parents of children attending the school is a contributory factor when making decision affecting pupils.
2. That the needs, both educational and emotional of the children attending the school are being fostered correctly.
3. Assisting the Head and her staff with progressing their ideas, aims and aspirations for reaching the highest possible standards for our children.

Arngask Parent Council have continued to achieve the above aims together with Lynn Strachan, HT.

An item that has constantly been on the agenda at the school council meetings is the High School

Catchment for Arngask. As you may know the current catchment school is Perth Academy although the majority of our pupils opt to go to Kinross High School. This involves a "placement request" and also means the transport has to be organised and paid for by the parent. The Parent Council were pleased recently to be advised by Councillor Baird (who has regularly taken our requests to John Fyfe, Head of Children Services) that Perth & Kinross Council are now going to review all catchment areas, with Arngask's possible change going to consultation next summer. If the majority agree, this means potentially from Aug 2013 children will automatically go to Kinross with transport being provided.

4.

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Newsletter Survey Results

Thank you to all our readers who recently returned a completed questionnaire seeking your views on the newsletter. This was much appreciated and helps us to continue to develop the newsletter for interest and use to the community it serves. Hopefully you will begin to see some of your helpful suggestions pop up over the next few issues as we work on this. We thought it would be useful to summarise for you some of the key information gleaned from the questionnaire analysis.

53 responses were received, which was about a 13% return rate based on an approximate distribution of 400-450 copies by Arngask Church (to whom we once again owe a debt of gratitude). While we hoped for a slightly better return rate, we hear that this may in fact be quite a good rate of return for a survey of this type. Congratulations to Annette Eadie, who was the winner of a £25 voucher to spend in Glenfarg Village Store courtesy of Glenfarg Community Council.

Frequency

All who responded to the survey purchased the newsletter at least 2 times per year, with 77% having purchased every issue. It was encouraging that having had the newsletter hand delivered for two

issues, 8 people expected to purchase the newsletter more often.

Cost

On the issue of cost, 94% of respondents indicated a willingness to pay more than our existing suggested donation of 75p. Given that these people felt £1 or more per issue was appropriate, we have gratefully increased our suggested donation to £1 in line with this.

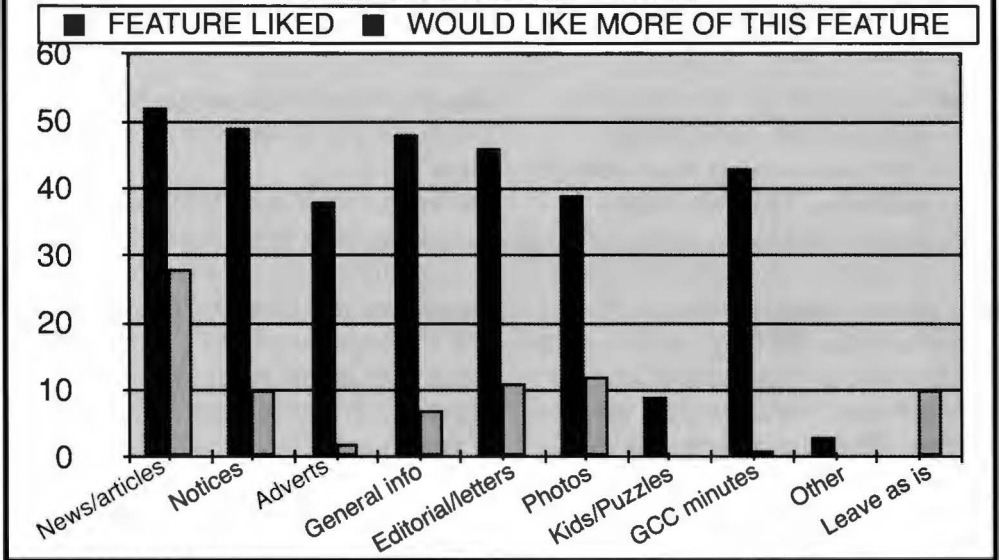
Subscription service/annual donation

Questioned on the possibility of receiving the newsletter via a regular annual donation with delivery to the door, just under half of respondents felt they would be interested in this. It is felt that the logistics of how this might operate will need further discussion via the Community Council's Glenfarg Newsletter sub committee, but this is certainly an option that can be pursued for those interested.

Current Content

You were asked to consider what features you liked in the current Glenfarg Newsletter format. A graph showing the results of what features are liked and which of the current features you would like to see more of is found at the top of the adjacent page.

Current Newsletter Format



Suggestions for future issues

We then asked you to consider our suggestions for possible features in future issues and to select whether these would be of interest to you. Positive results were as follows:

- At-a-glance diary: 45 respondents
- Culture reviews: 13 respondents
- Extended features on advertisers: 23 respondents
- Out and About - reviews of places to visit: 38 respondents

You were also asked if you had ideas for any other ideas of features not yet suggested.

Ideas you came up with included:

- * features on people of Glenfarg/ special anniversaries
- * articles for sale
- * recipes

- * an event diary including school holiday dates
- * photos/write up on editorial team
- * quiz/competitions
- * diary of events further afield (Kinross/Perth etc)
- * restaurant/coffee shop reviews
- * sports reports
- * wildlife/environment/gardening features
- * bus timetables
- * local history
- * colour photographs

Some really great suggestions! We have taken these on board and, as far as is possible and practical, we will work hard do develop some of these ideas into new features in coming issues. Thank you again for all those who took the time to respond and offer fresh ideas to refresh and rejuvenate YOUR community newsletter.

Local Interest

Glenfarg Sewage Treatment Works Development

For those who have been wondering exactly what was going on at the sewage works in April, the following information has been provided by Scottish Water. A new inlet screen was installed to remove “rags” from the flow from the drainage system into the works. Removal of these items is necessary to protect the inlet pump to a new settlement tank and to ensure they do not proceed further into the sewage treatment process.

“Rags” is the polite name for items such as nappies, wipes, sanitary towels, cotton buds, etc. which must not be flushed down the toilet because they can result in blockage in the drainage system and possible damage to the Scottish Water network or equipment. The correct way to dispose of such items is to bag them and bin them and dispose of with the rest of the household waste (green lid bin).

After a period of time in the settlement tank, the liquid is passed over a percolating filter – these are the two round tanks visible from the road - where bacteria and other microorganisms living on the filter remove organic matter. This results in a final clean effluent which can be discharged into the River Farg.

Janet Little

Save Money on Heating Oil

Do you live in Glenfarg, Duncricvie, Drunzie, Arngask and the surrounding area? Do you want to save money on heating oil? Then read on...

The cost of heating oil has risen sharply over the past couple of years. In 2007 we were paying around 32p per litre; at Christmas 2010 it rose to 70p per litre and is currently about 61p per litre. It will undoubtedly rise again during 2011 due to the turmoil in the Middle East.

Dave Arnold, who lives in Duncricvie, is looking at setting up an oil buying syndicate which would consolidate individual orders into one bulk purchase (probably 3 times a year) and negotiate with the local oil suppliers for the best (i.e., lowest) price. Established Oil Buying Groups in other parts of the UK report savings for each household of £20-£50 per 1000 litres ordered.

As a first step Dave needs to know if there are enough oil users in the area who would join the syndicate. Please register your interest **now** by contacting Dave on 830136 or via e-mail at kadavar@waitrose.com.

Also, please mention the proposed syndicate to your friends and neighbours as the more people there are in the syndicate, the better the bargaining power.

Dave Arnold

**NEW
SALON**

Mandy's

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Police Box

Following a staff reorganisation, Constable Euan Mitchell has now again taken over as the Community Police Officer covering Glenfarg. As a result of this recent change he now has responsibility for the Abernethy, Bridge of Earn and Glenfarg areas.

Euan was previously the Community Officer for Glenfarg from November 2009 until a divisional restructuring in May last year which led to him being posted to do the same role in Abernethy and Bridge of Earn. The Glenfarg area has also now been added to his remit.

He is keen to liaise with the local residents in an effort to identify and resolve neighbourhood complaints, anti-social behaviour and other issues causing concern locally.

Euan is available to be contacted at the Bridge of Earn Police station, by telephone on 0300 111 2222 or by email on:
euan.mitchell@tayside.pnn.police.uk

THEFTS

Thefts usually fall into three categories, Targeted Thefts, Opportunist Thefts, and Distraction Thefts

Targeted Thefts

These are thieves who travel about the area looking for homes or vehicles that provide opportunities for them to commit theft at another time for example, houses with no intruder alarm fitted, or which are be

vacant whilst the owner is away on holiday, or vehicles with high value items left on display.

Opportunist Thefts

These are opportunist thieves who are looking for doors and windows lying ajar to quickly gain access to your home or vehicle and steal anything of value they can pick up such as wallets, handbags, jewellery and cash. These thieves will take every opportunity you give them to take advantage of your security weaknesses whether it is day or night.

Distraction Thefts

Distraction thefts often involve thieves posing as genuine tradesmen calling at houses during the day looking for business. These bogus workers often claim to represent utility companies or be even from the local council. Their primary aim is to gain access to your home and distract you while they take the opportunity to steal when you are not looking.

Furthermore at this time of year many people take advantage of the better weather and longer days and turn their attention to gardening and routine maintenance of their homes. Bogus workers may approach your home and offer to do work in the garden such as cutting down bushes and lopping trees. Quite often they may claim a part of your house requires immediate repair for example, loose tiles, broken

guttering, rotten fascia boards and may intimidate the owner into parting with cash to have the work carried out. Sadly the householder is left out of pocket for a job which is often sub standard and more likely not even completed at all.

So please remember the following:

Keep vulnerable doors and windows locked even when you are in the house. If others, such as relatives need access make sure they have their own keys. For ventilation, ensure that windows have restrictors fitted to prevent them being opened from the outside. Keep your garage doors and garden sheds closed and locked when not in use. If someone unexpected comes to your door, think **STOP, CHAIN, CHECK.**

STOP Are you expecting anybody, do they have an appointment?

CHAIN Use a door chain before opening the door.

CHECK Ask for identification and double check it. Most utility companies will have a telephone number in the phone book for you to check on their employees who call.

Use your common sense. If you really need a plumber, roofer or gardener would you normally wait about the house for one to call you?

NO. If you are not sure which tradesman to use, Tayside Police in partnership Trading Standards

operate a **BETTER BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP** which contain a list of approved tradesmen. If you would like to use an approved tradesperson simply contact them on 01738 476476.

Keep an eye out for elderly or vulnerable neighbours and take the opportunity of introducing yourself so they know who you are. This will help them especially if a criminal pretends to be their neighbour to try to gain access to their home.

Sometimes it is difficult for someone who has memory problems but ask them if they have had any new callers at the door. If you are a relative ensure that there is no property missing when you visit, if you suspect bogus callers have been visiting inform the Police immediately. If you see strangers visiting a neighbour make a point of finding out who they are. It's not about being nosy; it is about caring for others. The 'Nominated Neighbour' scheme is a great way of protecting the elderly and vulnerable from criminals – for more information contact your local Community Officer, Euan Mitchell.

FLY-TIPPING

Another problem we have experienced in recent years, particularly in the more rural areas, is caused by people fly-tipping large quantities of garden refuse and other rubbish at the roadside. We would ask you to report any such behaviour and where possible obtain the makes and registration numbers of the vehicles involved.

Poetry Corner

'The Ghost Train' by Bob Bell

*It came soundless through the cutting
Where the Willow Herb stood tall
Where for years the wagtail nested
Beneath the waterfall
And all the weeds and trash of years
Gave it right-of-way
As it glided on the shimmer
Of a scorching summer's day*



*Connecting rods were flashing
In the sunlight as it came
Though the spectre train was driverless
No number and no name
But every curve was harmony
And every line was true
From the brilliant skill and effort of
The engineers at Crewe*



*I saw it as I knew it then
A thousand years ago
When I wrestled with the tiger
And out-ran the buffalo
I sniffed the scent of sleepers
And walked barefoot on the line
Clutching Daisies, Ragged Robin
Purple vetch and Columbine*



Bob Bell is a man who now lives near Crewe, but from time to time contacts us to share his fond memories of his younger days as a boy in Glenfarg. He was keen to share this gentle poem with us about happy days gone by, which features a nod to his happy childhood in Glenfarg. "I did walk barefoot on the line down the glen and to the south past Carmore quarry and on to Southfields...(among the) birds, wild flowers and strawberries" he writes. What a lovely image! It's nice to read accounts of 'old Glenfarg' to ensure today's generation can share in something of the history of our little village. Any other memories people have of Glenfarg in days gone by would be most welcomed by the editors.

At-A-Glance Diary

Your all-in-one guide to key events and activities of interest in Glenfarg and surrounding areas over the coming weeks and months. Please let us know of any other events that you would like to advertise here.

Date & Time	Event	Place and other information
Saturday 11th June, 6.30am or 9am	Glenfarg Charity Walk 2011	Contact Sheona Reid (Tel: 830388) for details
Saturday 18th June, 2pm-5pm	Glenfarg Village Fete	Wallace Park, Glenfarg
Saturday 25th June, 11am-1pm	Guide Dog Puppy Coffee Morning	Glenfarg Village Hall
Monday 27th June, 7.30pm	Glenfarg Community Council Meeting	Glenfarg Village Hall
Friday 1st July	School Term Ends	Arngask Primary School
Friday 5th to Saturday 6th August 2011	Perth Agricultural Show	South Inch, Perth www.perthshow.co.uk
Saturday 13th August 2011	Kinross Show	Kinross House Grounds, Kinross
Sunday 14th August 2011	Perth Highland Games	South Inch, Perth
Tuesday 16th August	New school term starts	Arngask Primary School
Saturday 24th September 2011, 9am	Glenfarg Charity Bike Ride	Leaving from Glenfarg Hotel, cycling to Pitlochry
Saturday 12th November	Wine Club Talent Show	Glenfarg Village Hall



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Zumba Hits Glenfarg!

If you haven't experienced it, then you've certainly heard about it.

The Zumba® exercise program is “an exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness-party™ moving millions of people towards joy and health”. In other words, it's exercise in disguise. My name is Susan Thomson and I have been delighted to bring Zumba to Glenfarg.

Whilst I've always enjoyed exercise on a personal level, until last year I worked in a corporate environment, for the last 15 years at RBS. When redundancy became an option, and having tipped over that “mid-life” mark a couple of years earlier, I decided the chance to make a big change in my life was too rare an opportunity to pass by!!

I started on a series of retraining, qualifying as a UKCC Level 1 Swimming Instructor in December of last year then undertaking the Level 2 Exercise to Music (Aerobics) qualification through Fitness Scotland in February of this year. At the same time I undertook the Zumba training.

The beauty of Zumba is the wide range of participants who can attend. It is not a structured work out in terms of having set routines, however the steps used are easy to pick up and follow. I like to incorporate a fitness element to

each class but also ensure that there are appropriate adaptations available. In other words wonky knees and hips are no excuse not to come along! I have an age range of 16 to 70+ that attend my classes and I ensure each person works safely and effectively for their abilities, while having fun too.

The importance of exercise should never be under-estimated. While of course the physical benefits are important short term, whether it be weight loss or improving fitness/stamina, let us remember the long term benefits are also most important. Exercise improves bone density, can assist in reducing heart disease and blood pressure and can keep us supple. Add to that the huge benefits that you get from releasing all those “feel good” endorphins then what have you to lose?!!

I have been delighted by the response to the classes in Glenfarg and a huge thanks to the loyal gang who come along to as many as they can. However, new faces are always encouraged. So many times I hear “I was thinking of coming along, but.....” No excuses now, just see what it can do for you.

Lastly, if I do have only one grumble it is that Glenfarg has let me down when it comes to the male of the species. So far it's the only venue I don't have at least one gentleman

willing to get on down with us girls and considering the Zumba concept was originated by a gentleman called Beto I do feel it's a poor show. So lads, what are you waiting for – I'll even give your first class free....!!!

Classes are £3.50 per session and I operate a loyalty scheme. There is no need to book, and all you need are a pair of good supportive trainers/shoes, comfortable loose clothing and some water.

Classes:

Glenfarg Village Hall

Monday and Saturday 9.30am – 10.30am

Wednesday evening 7pm – 8pm
(except 1st Wed of month)

Strathmiglo Village Hall - Thursday
7pm – 8pm

Leslie Town Hall - Tuesdays 7pm – 8pm.

Contact me on:

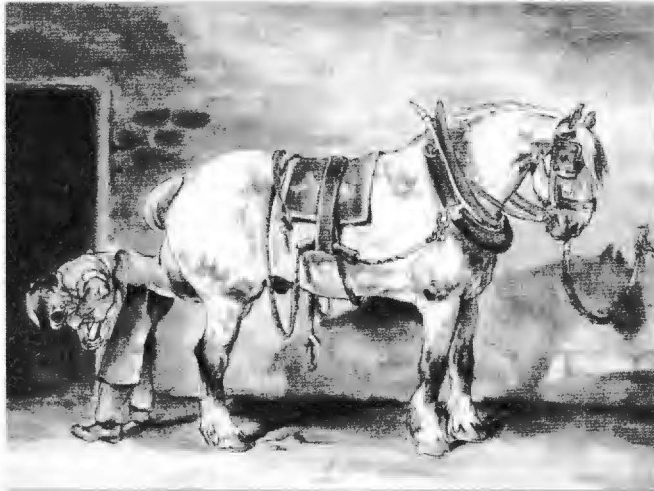
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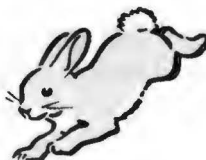
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Glenfarg Club News

Glenfarg Curling Clubs

Glenfarg Curling Clubs held their annual dinner and presentation of prizes at the Glenfarg Hotel on 22nd April 2011 when a good time was had by all. Prize winners were:-
(Skips names first)

Ladies Club

Hamilton Cup: Lora Burgess;
Christine Melville; Alice Bogie;
Angela Taplin

Wooden Spoon (Hamilton Cup): Caroline McGregor

Jessie Deas: Fiona Rutherford;
Gwen Poole; Maria Tait; Christine Painter

Bette Pirie (Novice Skip): Annette Bennie; Sheona Reid; Christine Painter; Jean Andrew

Pairs High Road: Valerie Inglis;
Sheona Reid

Pairs Low Road: Christine Melville;
Maria Tait

Points: Winner - Lora Burgess
The Ladies Challenge: Gents won.
Highest-up rink: Lorne Findlay;
Arthur Jenkins; Bill Melville; David Miller

Gents Club

Colin Campbell: Gents team won.
Gordon Walker; Darren Ritchie;
Lorne Findlay; David Miller
Willie Murray: Lora Burgess;
Gordon Walker; Fiona Rutherford;
Nigel Goody

Piper Cup: Darren Ritchie; Eric Poole; Stuart Andrew; Nigel Goody

Blair Struie: Arthur Jenkins; Bill Melville; Gordon Walker; Douglas Hamilton

McLellan Cup: David Rutherford;
Fiona Rutherford; David Burgess;
Christine Painter

Pairs High Road: Gary Rutherford;
Stuart Andrew

Pairs Low Road: Arthur Jenkins;
Findlay Campbell

Points: First - Arthur Jenkins
Second - Findlay Campbell
Third - Gordon Walker

The Gents Club had a particularly good season in external competitions. At Kinross they won both the Province Bonspiel and the Blairhill.

At Perth the team of Stuart Smith, Darren Ritchie, Arthur Jenkins and David Rutherford reached the final of the RCCC, a first for the Club, thereby qualifying to represent Perth Ice Rink in the National RCCC Rink Championships at The Galleon Centre in Kilmarnock.

Back at Perth this team went on to win the final for the George Paterson Trophy.

On a more personal level, David Rutherford entered the teams of Stuart Smith, David Rutherford, Arthur Jenkins and Allan Taylor and also Stuart Smith, David Rutherford, Cameron Coutts and Allan Taylor into the Perth Senior Knockout and Perth Senior League respectively and won both.

Arthur Jenkins

Glenfarg Bowling Club

Glenfarg Bowling Club held their Opening Day and presentation of trophies at the Club House on 30th April 2011. The winners were:-

	Winner	Runner Up
Club Championship:-	Steve Ewart	Arthur Jenkins
Seniors:-	Arthur Jenkins	Willie Coventry
Ladies Singles:-	Karen Coventry	Edie Coventry
Gents Singles:-	Steve Ewart	Alec Robertson
Hunter Cup Pairs:-	Willie Coventry Mary McAinsh	Ian Gellatly Margaret Jenkins
Ireland Cup Pairs:-	Arthur Jenkins Margie Davidson	Alec Robertson Margaret Jenkins
Lochrie Cup Pairs:-	Alec Robertson Margaret Jenkins	Willie Coventry Mary McAinsh
Norman Smith Pairs:-	Arthur Jenkins Dave Watson Snr.	
Neil Brunton Points:-	Margaret Jenkins	

Glenfarg Bowling Club is always looking for new members, whether you have played before or never lifted a bowl but would like a try, you are very welcome to come along. Club nights are every Tuesday at 7 pm, just turn up.

You do not need to have any bowls as there are spare sets available

and members are only too happy to show you the basics of the game. All you require are flat soled shoes or trainers, that is, not sharp edged raised heels that are likely to dig into the turf of the green.

Arthur Jenkins

Glenfarg Bridge Club

Glenfarg Bridge Club held their annual lunch and prizegiving on Friday, 6th May in the Glenfarg Hotel. Prizewinners were as follows:

Searle Cup: Sheila Harley
2nd: Mary Whyte
3rd: Bob Anderson

The summer season has now started and the club meets on Friday afternoons at 1.30p.m. in the Bowling Pavilion. New members are always welcome.

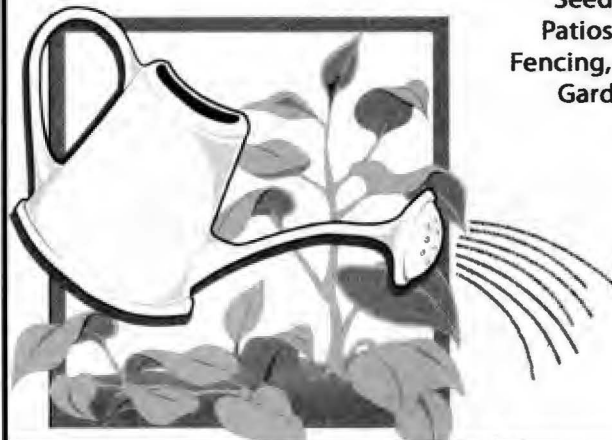
**Jean Ross - Secretary,
Glenfarg Bridge Club**

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The 33rd Glenfarg Folk Feast

This years Folk Feast was a great success musically, socially and 'weatherly' (no, it's not a proper word but you know what I mean!). Friday kickstarted the weekend with a Ceilidh dance in the village hall with music by The Orwell Ceilidh Band from Milnathort. They are firm favourites at the Feast and guaranteed to get people dancing.

As has become tradition the Saturday evening concert opened with the talented Farg Folk, regular members of the Glenfarg Folk Club, each with an individual voice and style yet complementing each other as was evidenced by the excellent choice of songs and wonderful harmonies during the set.

Wendy Stewart and Gary West played an interesting mix of

traditional songs and tunes and their own compositions on harp, concertina, whistle, pipes and guitar. Highlights were The Slave's Lament on harp and guitar with a mesmerising instrumental which conjured up a tango being danced under Cuban stars, and the Loch Tay Boat Song sung by Gary with great feeling.

Then we had the most incredible act which has to be seen to be believed. The madcap musicians of the New Rope String Band romped through an exuberant musical extravaganza with a large dose of skilful slapstick which left the audience jumping out of their skins and laughing till they cried (and those in the front row covered in confetti and with wet feet!) The highlight of the evening was an extraordinarily creative and

hilarious audiovisual rendition of Tam o' Shanter which showcased both the band's musical and acting skills, in particular a brilliant sense of timing with the characters physically emerging from the film on the screen.





songs including Puppet Master and West Coast Days. In typical Glenfarg style the audience didn't miss any opportunities to join in with the choruses.

Next the audience was treated to a scintillating performance from Mochara (Maurice Dickson, Siobhan Skates and Catherine

Sunday evening's concert came all too quickly after a grand weekend of non-stop singing and music making, enhanced by fabulous weather for the third year in a row. First up were Alistair Ogilvie, Jim King and Carol Anderson. It was easy to see why Alistair was a nominee for Young Traditional Musician of the year. His rich velvety tones soared round the

hall as he sang some well known and newer songs including Loch Lomond. Jim King and Carol Anderson provided some fine, gentle but skilled backing to some of his songs. Jim also delighted the audience with some of his own wonderful

Ashcroft). They were in truly sparkling form and had the audience completely absorbed throughout their entire set. Powerful harmonies and Maurice and Siobhan's enchanting voices in 'Where Eagles Fly' were mesmerising. Catherine's incredible nimble fingers on pipes and whistle had everyone struggling



not to get up to dance and their encore of an instrumental with foot stomping, racing almost frenetic rhythms on guitar, cahon and pipes had everyone grinning from ear to ear with delight and wishing the set didn't have to end.



The evening ended with Heidi Talbot, supported by John McCusker on fiddle and Ian Carr on guitar. Heidi began with a Sandy Denny song 'At the end of the Day' – a lilting melody that showcased her unique voice well. Her rendition of Tom Waits' Time never loses its appeal or ability to get the audience joining in with the choruses. Beautiful melodies, complex arrangements and lovely singing by Heidi made a fitting end to the Feast.

As has become tradition all three acts came together on stage along with the committee and stewards to lead the audience in a rousing rendition of 'The Wild Mountain Thyme' – a rafter-raising finale!

Another draw over the weekend was a children's concert where Margaret Bennett quickly built up a wonderful rapport with her audience, which

spanned some 60 years! She cleverly encouraged everyone to join in her songs and games and used a variety of techniques to build up the children's awareness of rhyme, rhythm and pitch, whilst having fun. It was a delight to watch the wee faces around the room, engrossed in her singing games and action songs.

Musical workshops, a song writing competition and the famous World Puff-a-Box championships completed the package which helps to keep The Glenfarg Folk Feast one of the most popular of its kind. We would like to thank all the people in the village who help and tolerate our activities over the Feast – we really appreciate it.

Philip Ponton, Club Secretary

(Photos courtesy of Douglas Bentley and Duncan McNab)

The Easy Eight Walk the Cape Wrath Trail



Day 1 – Killilan to Craig (22 miles)

We all packed and re-packed our day rucksacks several times before setting off on our first adventure. Although many of the group had benefited from a map reading course with Christine Morton, we managed to take the wrong path within the first ten minutes! That was soon sorted though and Maud kept us right with a combination of her GPS and our trusty route card. It was a dull, cloudy day, so we pressed on and made it to Craig by 7pm. As we arrived at Gerry's Hostel, our day really took off. Gerry is a most unusual and eccentric chap, who

In 2009 eight friends embarked on the West Highland Way, and had such a Fantastic time, decided they would have to make time for a long walk and a guid blether every year. And so, the Easy Eight walking group (EZ8 for short) was born. After a great deal of dithering in 2010, we eventually decided to tackle the Cape Wrath Trail, a long distance walk starting at Fort William and ending at Britain's most northerly point; Cape Wrath. By the time we have completed the trail, we will have walked and skipped all the way from Milngavie to Cape Wrath. The Cape Wrath Trail is 198 miles long. Last year we managed to complete the first 52 miles ending in a little hamlet called Killilan, some of us having been traumatised by the Falls of Glomach on the way. The least said about that the better! In 2011 we quickly decided to walk the next 64 miles, taking us from Killilan to Corrieshalloch Falls.



The spectacular scenery along the way



A leisurely breakfast before day 2 begins

delighted in re-arranging our towels and underwear to ensure the optimum drying position for them in the boot room! Throughout the hostel, there were many signs and instructions, some implying terrible consequences if you didn't follow the rules. Naturally, we all did as we were told.

Day 2 – Craig to Kinlochewe (11 miles)

As we only had 11 miles to walk, we had a leisurely breakfast and a good rummage in our rucksacks before heading to Kinlochewe. The sun was shining as we left Craig, and the sky was blue, and remained this way through the rest of the holiday. We quickly climbed above Loch Carron, and eventually reached our lunchtime stop, where we lay and gazed upon Beinn Eighe and Liatach. After soaking up the sun, we carried on to Kinlochewe. We then spent several hours covering only

a few miles to our destination, as we struggled with many man made obstacles on route – i.e deer fences in places they shouldn't have been! As today was the day of the Royal Wedding, we had our own street party in the car park of the bunkhouse. Each member of the Easy Eight donned their tiara, as instructed by Will and Kate's biggest fan (Lise), and raised a glass of Pimms to celebrate the royal nuptials.

Day 3 – Kinlochewe to Dundonnel (18 miles)

On day three the Easy Eight grew from nine ladies to eleven. We met up with Barbara and Marguerite for



It all got a bit too much for one walker!



You can have a right royal knees-up anywhere!

an early breakfast at the Whistlestop café. Today was to be a long day, but also the most breathtaking. Along the way we met an Adder dozing in the warm sunshine. There wasn't a cloud in the sky and the sun continued to shine. So much so, that several of our group had another of many swims during the trip. After an hour or so of a constant pull uphill, we were rewarded with spectacular views of the Torridon mountain ranges. As we lunched at the edge of Loch an Nid, we had the most magnificent view of An Teallach. After walking 18 miles, we were very kindly collected by the last member of our group to join us; Jan. She was a very welcome sight, as very few of us looked forward to a two mile trudge along the road to our hotel.

Day 4 – Dundonnel to Corrieshalloch (13 miles)

Our last day, and our numbers had swollen to 12. Today seemed even

hotter than the rest, and we were all suffering from tired legs and feet. However, the sun was shining, the skies were blue and there was walking to be done.

We had to make it to Corrieshalloch Gorge for 3pm, as we were being collected by our wonderful B&B host/taxi driver/bag carrier – Mr David (Goliath) Glover of Kintail!

Sadly, on our way we saw one of the many forest fires which had started this weekend. The fire at Dundonnel seemed close to the path we had walked on the previous day. We stopped by a small lochan for lunch where there was more swimming to be had, before continuing on our way. After a long slog along farm tracks and roads, we reached Corrieshalloch gorge where we could relax and remove our boots, before starting our journey home.

Summary

We had a wonderful four days walking in the most spectacular scenery, and managed to climb 10,498 feet in the process. Highly recommended. We had lots of laughs, and probably frightened lots of male walkers who had never come across 12 women walking in the wilderness before. Now to plan for 2012, hopefully we will make it to Cape Wrath for an ice cream and maybe a wee whisky!

The Cape Wrath Trail Walk, April 2011



Glenfarg's Own Black Beauty!



Crufts Best In Show Winner 2011, Jet!

140,000 spectators, 22,000 competitors, more green velvet than humanly possible and hairdressers abundant to rival that of Hollywood, Crufts has landed!

In Birmingham NEC the prestigious dog lovers event of the year began, with a sparkling array of breeds from Dachshunds to great danes and Shih Tzus to Terriers they were all out in truly groomed force. Yet this was not enough to clinch the win from our very own Jet.

Co-owned by Iain Ross from our own village and Jim Irvine, a good friend of his late father, the pair brought to light the oldest winner in the 120 years of the competition. Granted, the nine year old beauty is hardly sporting a walking frame. Being in good health and clearly in his prime,

this flat coated Retriever had already won Best Gun dog then, leading both to win Best in show at Crufts 2011.

Needless to say the questions on whether or not the winner will sire the future generations of Crufts winners have come thick and fast. In response to them, Iain says: "I'm really not that interested in breeding him anymore. I did that in the past and his offspring are as far as America, Canada and Sweden. Although, if he had his way he'd have a different bitch every day. He may be getting on, but he's still very keen. Anytime a bitch walked past him at Crufts he'd hook his paw around their neck and drag them towards him. He's fast as lightning." Jet may be our latest celebrity, but

Iain insists he doesn't get the VIP treatment at home.

"I recently spent £140 on a pair of shoes, when I saw Jet chewing what I thought was my slippers - then I realised I was actually wearing my slippers. It turned out he was chomping on my expensive shoes." Iain assures us he had some choice words for Jet that day! However, he went on to say that "to be honest that kind of stuff never normally bothers me. He's always been a chewer. As a young dog I had a cage for him, then my dad said, 'I think he'll be all right without the cage now. Well, that night I heard a commotion in the spare room - there was nothing left of the new bed settee I'd bought."

I had questions aplenty about the care, and of course how he gets that stunning coat, so shiny and smooth. I wondered if there were any special secrets to achieving this.

Iain enlightens us about his best friend's day to day life; "Jet doesn't really have a special diet either. He eats dry food, then the scraps of anything I'm eating. He's a beggar and will whinge until he gets something off my plate."

He also enjoys watching the telly. Iain says: "He loves wildlife programmes. He runs right up to the telly whenever there's another dog on it, or a rabbit or squirrel."

On the issue of Jet's first owner, Iain's late father Jock, he reveals: "My father always believed that Jet could go all the way. He told me 'this dog will be world champion one day.'



Jet with co-owner and trainer Jim after his win

I'm so glad his prediction came true. It's weird though because he doesn't really do any party tricks. He won't sit when asked, or give you a paw. But he walks perfectly when on show. He just knows what to do - he doesn't even look at me for direction like other dogs. But the reaction to him winning has been incredible. Jet may be a world champion but he's still my pal. My **BEST** pal."

It is with great pride that we wish both Iain and Jim a hearty congratulations on their win at Crufts, but I do think that Jet truly deserved to win the title, Well done to you all!

Deborah Widley

Guide Dogs for the Blind

Glenfarg residents Dave Smith, a Guide Dog Puppy Walking Supervisor, and Guide Dog Puppy Walkers, Alex & Lou Robertson and Bob & Margaret Donald are holding a Guide Dog Puppy Coffee Morning in the Village Hall on 25th June 2011. Funds raised will be donated to



Dave and Bob who will be part of a 12-strong team of Guide Dogs employees and volunteers attempting to raise £7500 by competing in the Coniston Challenge, a one day triathlon type event in the Lake District on 10th September 2011.

This will be a Coffee Morning with a difference though, as there will be plenty young Guide Dogs mingling with diners for cuddles and pats (though hopefully not begging for treats!). Dave will take the opportunity to lead a short demonstration which will give a rare insight into the type of training that

Guide Dog puppies get to prepare them for a lifetime of helping people. The Puppy Walkers will also be happy to answer any questions and try to encourage even more people in the area to rear these special dogs as Puppy Walkers or to provide short

term board and lodgings for pups up to 14 months of age, the very best time to be involved with them.

So if you want some nice home baking and the opportunity to learn more about Guide Dogs as well as the prospect of seeing one puppy turn an organised training session into a total debacle (yes, there's always one!) then please come along to the Hall on 25th June at 11am. Tickets on sale at the door.

In case you are wondering why raising funds for Guide Dogs is important, we thought you would like to see a photo of Guide Dog 358757

(Zelda) in her working clothes. Zelda was of course reared in Glenfarg and many of you may well remember her. She is now working in Wisbech in Cambridgeshire where she is both a guide and companion to a gentleman who lost his wife suddenly last year and became almost a prisoner in his own home until her arrival. He says she has transformed his life.

PS. Please keep putting any small change that you can spare into the Guide Dogs collection box in the Village Store. You are doing a great job feeding it! A Guide dog costs £5 per day to operate and you have already donated enough to keep one going for many weeks!

Bob Donald



Guide Dogs

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Abernethy and Dron and Arngask Parish Church of Scotland

Easter weekend was a very busy time for the church. Easter Day started with a 7am 'sunrise' service up in the old Arngask Churchyard. There was a good turnout of people and the minister, Rev. Alec Wark, led a short inspirational and enjoyable service. Afterwards we all enjoyed a breakfast of warm croissant and tea or coffee in Arngask Church Hall. At 9.30 a family service was held in Arngask Church. Once again the turnout was good, lessons were read by Fraser Nicol and Lara Melville from the Sunday Club and the children sang to the congregation. The church was looking very bright thanks to the ladies of the Flower Committee who had made considerable effort in making and placing the displays of seasonal flowers. Unfortunately the minister could not stay to have his chocolate biscuit as he had to rush off to take the morning service in Abernethy, but some of us enjoyed another cup of coffee! In the early evening the minister was back again to lead us in an Easter 'Songs of Praise' service in the village hall. This was also well attended and we were led through

the Easter story by the minister using the prophesies made in the Old Testament and linking them to the familiar story told in the New Testament...

On Sunday 15th May there was a joint service held in Arngask Church. This service was organised and, in part, led by some of the elders. The preacher was the Rev. Gordon Jamieson, who is Head of Stewardship at the Church of Scotland headquarters in Edinburgh. In his address, he showed us how the bible tells us how we should use our time, talents and money for the benefit of the church. He explained that by 'church' he did not mean the building but rather the movement. This means that time, talents and money should be used for mission locally, nationally and internationally. He also made it clear that it was not the business of the church to preserve old buildings, but rather to adapt them to make them more useful to communities in the present day. This statement should serve to scotch the rumours that Arngask Church is going to close. **There is absolutely no intention or plan to close Arngask Church or Abernethy Church.** At this service we were also pleased to welcome the Junior Section of the Alloa Boys Brigade who were on a weekend camp in the local area. Alec Wark took the opportunity to go out with the Sunday Club and the Boys Brigade and by all accounts, he seemed to enjoy the experience, as did the children.

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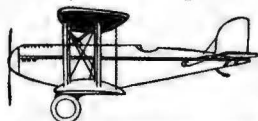
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SHIP AHOY!

On the evening of Tuesday 17th May, around 40 villagers from Glenfarg and Duncricvie visited the Royal Navy aircraft carrier HMS ILLUSTRIOUS in Rosyth Royal Dockyard.



The visit was organised by local resident, Craig Mearns who is the Commander (S) onboard and is responsible for all aspects of supply, catering, pay, administration, etc. The visitors were briefed on arrival then split into 4 smaller groups. Each group was then taken on a guided tour of the ship by Craig or one of his Lieutenants. The tours took in the accommodation mess decks, the galley, the wardroom, the bridge, the aircraft hangar and the flight deck. In the sickbay a young female Medical Assistant gave a comprehensive talk on how they keep the ship's company fit and well and how they deal with casualties.

Even with the ship in refit and not fully manned, it was a very interesting visit that gave us landlubbers an insight into life onboard a Royal Navy warship and in particular the austere and

cramped conditions our sailors and Royal Marines have to endure.

Many thanks to Craig for organising the visit.

Dave Arnold



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Glenfarg SWRI



Thursday April 14th meeting

Betty Graham from Scone introduced Glenfarg to the art of plastic canvas work with a demonstration and impromptu workshop making a bookmark. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all at a happy evening.

Mrs Liz Yull proposed the vote of thanks.

Competition winners:

Flower of the Month:

1. Allison Messenger 2. Helen Quartermaine 3. Irene Bettaney

Necklace:

1. Margot Moran 2. Liz Yull

Lemonade:

1. Liz Yull 2. Allison Messenger
3. Helen Quartermaine.

Thursday May 12th meeting

President Mrs Ursula Stewart welcomed members and friends to Glenfarg's AGM and very belated Christmas Party, making a pleasant end to a busy year. While we mourn the loss of a much loved former President, Jenny Adam, we are also pleased

to welcome some new and returning members and look forward to a happy and successful session in September. Mrs Helen Clark has finished her term of office and Mrs Helen Quartermaine has been elected in her place.

Yearly Competition winners were:

Flower of the Month- Mrs Irene Bettaney

Jubilee Cup- Mrs Liz Yull

Endeavour Cup - Mrs Allison Messenger

Monthly competition winners:

Best use of a metre of material:

1. Catherine Fairweather 2. Sylvia Wall

Individual Sweet: 1. Liz Yull 2. Allison Messenger

Flower of the Month 1. Margot Moran 2. Lillias Johnstone 3. Irene Bettaney.

The tellers were Ann Munro and Christine Dawson from Carnbo, to whom we give thanks.

The "Rural" is, and has been for 90 years, part of the fabric of Glenfarg village life and provides a useful source of traybakes and scones to many activities taking place within it. It has also provided a source of entertainment, cultural and domestic interests for its members over the years. While we no longer hold competitions on how to starch and iron the perfect shirt (it is doubtful the menfolk would appreciate that nowadays!) we do and can help each other with the many crafts and skills that the women of this village possess. Like many a

similar organisation, however, the Rural has to be nurtured if it is to move forward and meet the needs of future generations and always needs new blood and new ideas to help it do this. If you are interested in crafts, cookery, a little light entertaining, please consider joining us. We meet in the village hall on the second Thursday of every month and the new session starts in September. Come with a friend and you may be pleasantly surprised at what is on offer within the greater organisation. And you don't have to enter any competitions, really!!

Don't forget...Glenfarg Village Fete!!!

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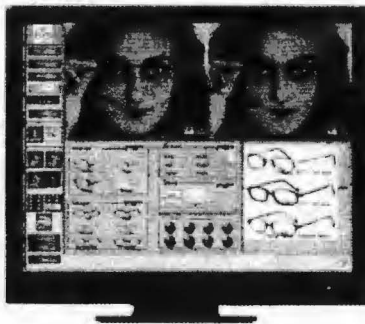
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Popular Culture Reviews

We've taken on board some of your suggestions, and we're trialling a feature giving you the chance to share your views on things that interest you. If you fancy having your say, on music, TV, film, etc. we're keen to hear from you. This issue, it's books!

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

One of the joys of retirement is sitting down with a good book, and of course enjoying the Glenfarg Spring sunshine. Combining both on such an occasion my reading material was *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak which, in spite of its macabre cover depicting the hooded figure of Death dancing hand in hand with a young girl, proved to be a cracking good read.

My reservations on this book, which is narrated by Death, continued as the fifth line in bold print reads "Here is a small fact. You are going to die." However in no time I had been introduced to the main character, 9 year old Liesel, and the events of a time in Germany, a time of Nazi Germany, a time of fanaticism, fear, survival and friendship.

The style of writing, illustrations and unusual choice of narrator combine to make this book a real "page-turner". This is a book which I will read again, not for the story that develops and flows throughout as that I will remember, but for the underlying sentiment, the hidden messages and the ability of human love to survive in the face of adversity. *The Book Thief* is set to return to my bookcase for future reference as opposed to making its way to the book stall at the Glenfarg Fete.

House Rules by Jodi Picoult

From a professional point of view, I was intrigued to hear of *House Rules*, the latest offering by Jodi Picoult about Jacob, a teen with Asperger's Syndrome, a condition on the Autism Spectrum. He is not good at communication and interaction with others, but has areas of brilliance, and one particular area of obsession - crime scene investigation. When a murder happens in his hometown, his seemingly macabre interest leaves people pointing the finger at him, while his mother does anything in her power to protect him and fight to have her son's condition understood.

Written from the differing points of view of the various characters - Jacob, his overwhelmed mum, his rebellious younger brother Theo - this book gives an overwhelming insight into the daily battles and challenges families living with this condition face. Although the outcome in my opinion was a little predictable and disappointing and spoiled the book a little, it was one of those rare books that I didn't want to put down and of which I was desperate to know the outcome for this young man and his loved ones. Not in the same league as *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* (an amazing read on a similar topic) but good. 4/5!

Explorer Scouts

Mountain Biking in Pitmedden March 2011

Gillian, our friendly mountain bike leader came along to the hall one Thursday night and ran an indoor skills session. The explorers were shown how to check a bike to ensure it was fit to ride. In addition to checking that the tyre were OK, the brakes functioned, the head set didn't wobble and that the pedals were secure. They were shown how to adjust the bike to fit the rider and to change the saddle height depending upon the type of ride.

After this the explorers practised mountain bike skills in small groups, riding along the see saw, and climbing the ramps. After this they progressed to slow bike races and track stands – Gillian showed them how to do it.

Two Saturdays later 4 explorers were out in Pitmedden riding with Gillian. Michael had said he didn't want his new bike to get muddy – after the third puddle it certainly was. It had been raining a lot the previous week so although the tree routes and the main tracks were dry there was plenty of mud.

The mud was strength sapping, slowing you down if you were in a straight line when you went into it or pulling you side ways if the front wheel was even slightly turned.

Malcolm was hampered as he borrowed an old bike that didn't have disc brakes but that didn't stop him doing an extended loop back to the car for lunch. The day finished with the run down to the bottom car park which the explorers said was definitely worth the climb back up the hill and even considered repeating the route.

Following the mountain biking Liam, Duncan and Michael decided to do cycle maintenance with Gillian as their Duke of Edinburgh award skill.



Malcolm, Michael, Duncan, and Liam

Skiing in Glenshee – March 2011

The explorer scouts again got a good day's weather for their skiing although due to other commitments only four were able to attend. The three less experienced ones went to practise on Claybokie while Robert and Niall went off to try the red race run.

It would have been useful if those on Claybokie had read the notice at the

bottom telling them where the best snow was rather than pick their way through the bare patches on the area closest to the tow. They only made that mistake once!

Robert and Niall took Duncan and Liam up to Butcharts and left them their before heading off to Glas Moal and the big runs and better snow there.

Once Ally was able to turn both ways and stop without falling he joined the others on Butcharts. Duncan was gaining confidence and learnt the hard way that you have to concentrate on the tow or you fall off. Ally commented on the peace at the top of the ski run, away from any noise. The next learning point was Christine can tuck tighter than the explorers and easily overtakes them on the flat. By lunchtime the boys



Sarat

were coping with the challenges of the narrow areas of snow very well and sometimes managed all the way down without falling.

In the afternoon we all ventured over into corrie finn to access glas moal. Duncan voiced just how intimidating he found the top of the run, initially not being able to see the bottom then expressing complete disbelief that he was expected to ski down "this vertical slope" to the bottom. He didn't come to grief on the descent and immediately wanted to have another go on the run.



Ally

We crossed over to the glas maol tow and were pulled to near the summit of the hill. Heading round the top of the hill the cloud kept breaking up giving us good views across to the cairngorms. The explorers were very impressed by the views and could see the area they are going to for their silver duke of Edinburgh expedition. Niall stayed with the less experienced skiers and led them down the run to the tow. After four or five runs we decided to call it a day and headed for home.

The explorer scouts were now bitten by the skiing bug and after the final snow fall in March another day's skiing was arranged for Glenshee. The weather had got warm and it was drizzling when we left Kinross – not a good sign but it didn't dampen the enthusiasm.

Driving up to Glenshee we could occasionally see the hills through the mist - but there wasn't much snow on them. At the car park we could see to the top of the Sunnyside. Although only three of the explorers managed this day the staff at ski hire recognised us.

Due to the thaw there were no beginner runs left open so we set off for the runs on Glas Moal. We were back at the cars after one run as Duncan had forgotten to put on any form of eye protection and

discovered all the disadvantages of not having any on the first lift.

Heading off again we reached the top of the Glas Moal bowl and peered into the mist to see if the lift was working before heading down. Unable to see whether the tow was working and not keen on the walk back up if we got it wrong, we headed back to the bottom of the tow we'd just come up to check with the liftie. He assured us the tow out of Glas Moal was working and asked if we could answer any of the clues in this crossword.

The first run from the top of the Glas Moal tow was really good despite the visibility being poor, a dusting of fresh new snow made for a fast traverse along the shoulder to the run down. We went back up back up the tow, eager for our next run. It was very disappointing, the snow had warmed up in the short time it had taken to return, and we had to push along the traverse.

After lunch we returned to Glas Moal, Ally managing to ski past Duncan, pirouette and go backwards down the slope taking Duncan with him. Sarat went off on his own to ski the harder run. Despite the poor weather the explorers enjoyed their day. Sarat gained his explorer scout skier's badge and Duncan (who had never skied till he went with explorers) has decided to use dry slope skiing for his Duke of Edinburgh physical activity along with another explorer scout.



Duncan

Christine Morton

Recipes of the Month

Welcome to a new feature in the newsletter. To start us off, as June is Village Fete month, and in recognition of the home baking provided in the Tea Tent, here are a couple of home bakes just to get you into the mood. All ingredients are available in the village store.

Janet Little

Malteser Traybake

100g milk chocolate
100g butter
200g digestive biscuits crushed
200g maltesers, keeping 12 aside for the top
3 tablespoons syrup
200g white chocolate

Method:

- 1 – Grease and line a swiss roll tin.
- 2 – Melt together the milk chocolate, syrup and butter but do not allow to boil.
- 3 – Add crushed biscuits and whole maltesers to the melted chocolate mixture and stir it all together.
- 4 – Press into the tin and allow to cool, in the fridge if needed.
- 5 – When the biscuit mixture is firm, melt the white chocolate and spread it over the top. Crush the 12 maltesers set aside and sprinkle over the top.
- 6 – When cold, cut into 20 slices.



Custard Cream Biscuits (Yo-Yos)

6oz (90g) margarine or butter
6oz (90g) self raising flour
2oz (30g) custard powder
2oz (30g) icing sugar

Method:

- 1 - Cream the marg. or butter in a bowl.
- 2 - Sieve the remaining ingredients together before mixing them in with a wooden spoon until all blended into a smooth paste.
- 3 - Take a small piece of dough and roll into a ball the size of a walnut. Place on a greased baking tray and flatten slightly with a fork. This should give you about 14 pieces, make sure it is an even number.
- 4 - Bake in a moderate oven 180°C for 15-20 minutes until pale golden brown.
- 5 - Allow to cool on a wire tray.
- 6 – Sandwich pairs together with butter icing made with 20g soft butter, 40g sieved icing sugar and a couple of drops of vanilla essence.



An alternative is to roll out the mixture to 0.5cm thickness and cut into shapes – star or circle, whatever shape you want. Reduce the baking time to allow for thinner biscuits and sandwich together as above.

LochLeven

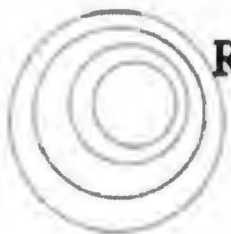
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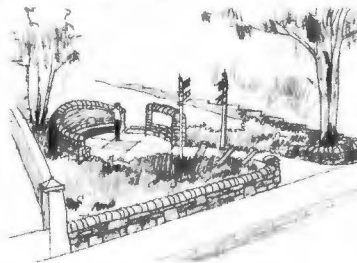
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Donations

Our quiz on the 17th April raised £190 which was truly amazing considering the beautiful weather and commitments of possible attendees. We are eternally grateful to those who made it and of course to our quizmaster of the day, Steve Whiting, but also to the donors of raffle prizes and the Village shop who donated the team prizes. But donations don't stop there. Our collecting can in the shop recently gave up over £44 and many individuals make all sorts of donations, often financial but also goods which they have funded personally. Such items include gravel at the village hall, plants for various locations, diesel for Monty our watering vehicle. Stewart of Glenfarg Garage is also kindly carrying out the servicing of Monty free of charge. Of course we never forget one of the greatest donations that anyone can make and that is time helping out on a variety of tasks, maintaining, growing, shovelling or litter picking. Just the other week a "squad" were moving the wood chip on the Green when a couple of young lads out walking their dog were "commandeered". They took the dog home and returned with another young lad and got stuck in, completing the task in next to no time. Such are the kids we've got in this village.



Fete Plant Stall

Again GDIB will be running the plant stall at the Fete and you should either make your plant donations to Margaret Scott in the days leading up to the fete or bring your donations along to Wallace Park on the day preferably before 1pm.

Main Street Feature

As you will remember the area next to the school had been earmarked for landscaping and creating a feature for locals and visitors alike. Plans submitted by the Community Council on behalf of GDIB have been approved and the finances are in place for the work to be carried out this summer. The artist's impression shows how the feature will look with a seating area, information panel, permanent planting and provision for hanging baskets. The theme centres around Glenfarg's development as a village through the advent of the railway line and the information panel will have many historical facts of interest to all. With this in mind the area has been named "The Train Stop" although as we all (sadly) know there is no longer a train stopping in Glenfarg. GDIB will be contributing £500 plus another £500 in kind to this project in the initial stages but will then have an ongoing commitment to maintaining the area.

Kate Armstrong



THE FAMOUS BEIN INN

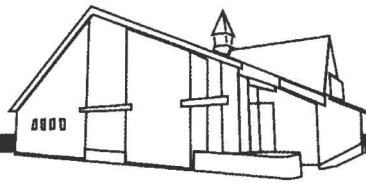
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Glenfarg Village Hall held its AGM on 11 May, 2011, at which Chairman Cedric Wilkins provided an overview of the past year:

“Looking back over the past year, the Hall has had a steady and sustainable year in which its role as a key facility at the heart of Glenfarg has been underlined once again. The Hall has proven genuinely to be a “Hall for All” and it is now operating at close to full capacity.

Through making savings on power and insurance the Committee has been able to maintain charges at the same level for the second year in succession. The simple charging structure has been viewed as fair and affordable. Once again we gratefully acknowledge the donations from the Village Fete and the Glenfarg Scout Association which have enabled the Hall Committee to ensure its future role in the community. Our Treasurer, Lesley Ferguson, is to stand down after the AGM. She has done a great job of laying a sound financial footing for the Hall. We all extend our thanks to Lesley and wish her and the family well in their forthcoming move to Dunbar.

A milestone was achieved during the year when the Lottery formally signed off its funding agreement with us. The remaining snagging items, following the extension, have been dealt with and any outstanding matters concluded. The aim of the refurbishment has been achieved and the Hall is indeed more accessible, safer and more comfortable than it used to be— and it is attracting many new users, including Zumba classes and some Church events. The one-off weekend events are also in strong demand. This increased usage will help to underpin the financial future of the Hall.

As ever, there has been quite a lot of jobs to do on the fabric of the Hall to maintain it in good order, and I would like to thank our Property Convenor, Tim Corcoran, for his hard work in getting these done. The snow proved a challenge and clearing it from the doorway was difficult. The public footpath to the side of the Hall was not cleared by the Council and this is a matter that needs to be resolved. However, the Hall is looking well cared for both internally and externally. I would also like to thank our Hall Cleaner, Kareen McGregor for the care she is devoting to the job.

At the last AGM it was resolved to update the Constitution. The Hall operates under the terms of a Trust Deed which sets out in detail the way in which the Hall should be managed. However, it has been shown that making any alterations to the management arrangements would require revision of the Trust Deed, which would be potentially costly in time and legal fees. The Committee therefore resolved not to pursue any changes other than to the name of the Hall, which has been approved and the Hall is now formally known and registered as "Glenfarg Village Hall" (not "Glenfarg Public Hall").

The land to the rear of the Hall is not owned by the Hall. It is ill-used and badly maintained and has been

a contentious issue for many years. After an unsuccessful legal attempt to find the owners of the Hall, the Committee is currently pursuing a "non domino" title – a provision by which ownership can be established over land where no owners can be found. How long the full process to ownership might take is not known, but if successful it will enable funds to be raised that will allow the land in question to be properly landscaped and used more beneficially.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all members of the committee and the Hall users, as well as the many other people who have helped out over the past year. A well used and well cared for Village Hall is a vital part of our community."

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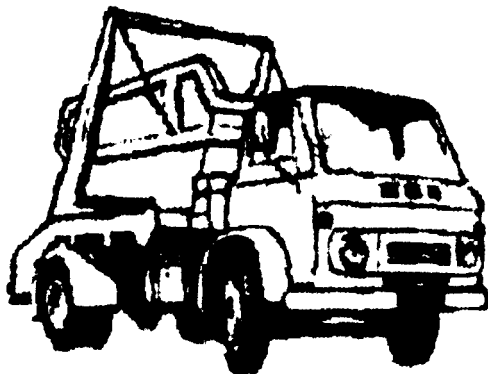
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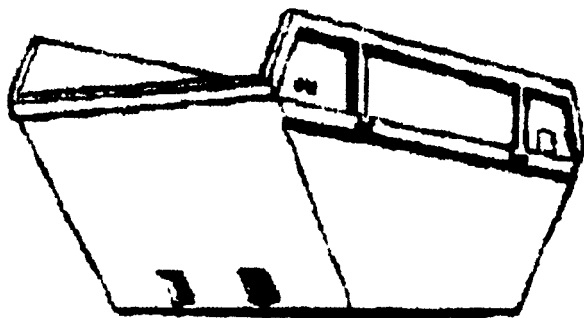
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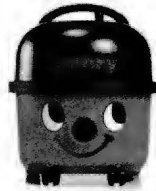
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Glenfarg Community Council

Glenfarg Community Council
Draft minutes of meeting held on
Monday 9th May

Present

CCllrs Armstrong, Arnold, Campbell
(Chairman), Connolly, Johnston,
MacKenzie, Macpherson, Ponton, Watson

By Invitation

Cllr Baird, PC Mitchell, W Johnston
(Arngask Parent Council), L Strachan
(Headteacher)

Apologies

CCllrs Murison & Vaughan

Minutes of last meeting (07.03.2011)

Proposed CCllr Mackenzie, seconded
CCllr Campbell

Matters arising not covered elsewhere

None

Police Report

PC Mitchell advised that he was now the
community police officer for Glenfarg
(and Bridge of Earn & Abernethy).
Only 1 crime since last meeting –
vandalism of car in Elm Row – culprit not
yet found.

There have been 2 incidents of parked cars
on Main St having wing mirrors damaged
by passing vehicles and the issue of speed
through the village was again highlighted.
Rural locations are again advised to be
vigilant on chance thieves following an
incident at Stronnachie where residents
disturbed flat bed truck and trailer drivers
in the early hours of the morning.

Tayside Police are undertaking review of
force “Transforming Tayside”. Exercise is
available to view, and comment on, on
website.

GCC are asked to promote the Street
Sports for All program which is being run
by Police in conjunction with P&KC and
St Johnstone. Agreed that we would
mention the availability of this scheme to

the Fete Committee

Fete Funds Application

The application form (used last year) was
approved for use this year and posters
giving details of how to apply will be
placed in shop and GCC notice board.
Closing date for applications 21st June
2011.

Wendy Johnston reported on the
playground marking project for which the
Parent Council are currently raising funds.
She was given an application form and
told that their application would be judged
at next meeting of GCC (27.06.2011)
along with all other applications.

Treasurer's Report

CCllr Vaughan submitted a report which
was read by the secretary.

Current account balance at 8 May
£2094.53

£5000 has been transferred to 1 year
guarantee reserve as per last minutes.
Hall rental has been paid (£54) and
interest earned 57p.

GCC Newsletter account balance
£1561.25.

Outstanding advertisers' invoices total
£490. Invoices were issued in January
and treasurer is to issue reminders.
Donations at the shop for 2nd free delivery
issue were only £84 compared to £143 for
1st free delivery issue.

School Catchment

Cllr Baird advised that the school
catchment for secondary education is
likely to be changed to Kinross following
consultation and agreement in Aug 2013.
The 3 month consultation is planned for
Aug 2012. Any Glenfarg children
attending Perth Academy at time of
change (if agreed) will be able to complete
their education at Perth Academy if
desired. Important that all those in and

around Glenfarg wishing to see the catchment area reviewed make their wishes known at the appropriate time.

Planning

Nothing to report.

CCllrs Campbell & Johnston briefed the new CCllrs on long standing and ongoing planning issues namely Lomond Hotel, Hilton of Duncricvie, Stephens Development and Drunzie.

Correspondence

MP surgery dates for next 2 months. No date for Glenfarg.

Community Benefit Fund (CBF)

CCllr Campbell briefed the new CCllrs on the history of this fund and the stage of ongoing negotiations.

A meeting with Earn CC is scheduled for 18th May with the object of reaching agreement on fund administrator.

Attendees at this meeting will be CCllrs Campbell, Johnston, Mackenzie, Macpherson, Ponton and Vaughan.

GCC have suggested an agenda which would include a presentation from each CC on their preferred fund administrator with break for consultation before decision made.

GCC's approach was put to whole GCC and approved. Proposed Cllr Macpherson and seconded CCllr Arnold.

Newsletter

June issue will return to shop. Editor to be asked to change front cover suggested donation to £1. Questionnaire – only 13% returned – comments mainly positive with some suggestions being adopted or tried in future issues.

Cllr Baird drew the winning entrant, Annette Eadie, from named questionnaires.

The Newsletter Management Committee will continue meantime to establish ownership and strategic management role.

This committee will include the lead editor who will be required to report to GCC on agreed regular basis.

CCllrs Johnston & Macpherson will attend the Newsletter editorial meeting on 12th May.

Sub Committees

Planning – CCllrs Campbell, Johnston, Connolly, Arnold, Mackenzie

CBF – CCllrs Campbell, Johnston, Mackenzie, Vaughan, Ponton, Macpherson & Armstrong

Binn Farm Community Forum – any 2 from CCllrs Campbell, Connolly and Arnold

Website – CCllrs Armstrong & Watson

Newsletter – CCllrs Vaughan (lead), Macpherson & Watson

AOCB

1. Glenfarg Oil Buying Syndicate – CCllr Arnold presented a draft of how such a syndicate could be operated. Further examination required re GCC involvement.

2. Community Spirit Award – the use of the £250 prize awarded last year has still not been agreed. Secretary to obtain details of sign costs and submit proposals to next meeting.

3. "Train Stop" project – CCllr Mackenzie reported that the planning application submitted by the GCC on behalf of GDIB had been approved and that finances are now in place for work to commence this summer on the area next to the school.

4. Dargavel visit – CCllr Johnston's report on his visit to the gasification plant near Dumfries is to be held over to next meeting.

Next meeting Mon 27th June 2011

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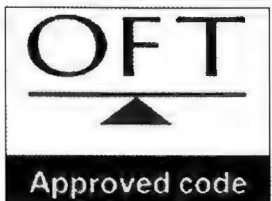
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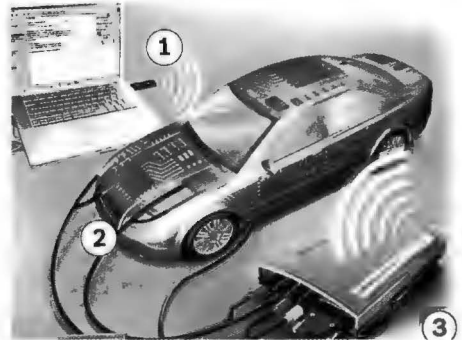
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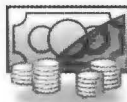
Loch Leven Health Centre, Muirs, Kinross - 01577 862 112
Out of Hours linked with NHS 24 - 01577 865 252
The Surgery, Main Street, Bridge of Earn - 01738 812 000
NHS 24 Out of Hours - 08454 242 424

Mobile Services

Library

The van visits the village on alternate
Wednesdays: 8th & 22nd June and 6th
& 20th July, and stops at:

Arngask Primary
School; 09.30-10.15
Hayfield Road: 10.15-10.30
Ladeside: 10.30-11.15
Main Street: 11.15-11.30
Duncrievie: 11.35-11.50



Bank of Scotland

Stops at Glenfarg Hotel
every Tuesday 10.45-11.00

Mobile Post Office

Stops outside the Old
Joiner's workshop,
Ladeside, on the following
days and times:
Mon 11am-12noon; Tues 12.45pm-
2.15pm; Thurs 11am-12noon; Fri
12.45pm-2.15pm



Recycling

Recycling Points

Glenfarg: Arngask School car park for cans, paper and glass
Kinross: Causeway Car Park, Sainsbury's, Station Road, for cans, glass, paper and
textiles
Bridgend Industrial Estate Open Mon-Fri 9am-7pm, Sat-Sun 9am-5pm
Milnathort: Thistle Inn, Black Loan for cans, glass and paper
Orwell & Portmoak Church Office for cans, plastic, paper and ink
cartridges
Perth: Tesco, Edinburgh Road for cans, glass, paper, textiles and books

Kerbside Recycling Service: Waste Collection Dates

Glenfarg

Green lidded bin (**Non-recyclable waste**): Mondays 13th & 27th June; 11th & 25th
July
Blue lidded bin (**Paper, cardboard, cans, plastic**): Mondays 6th &
20th June; 4th & 18th July; 1st August
Brown lidded bin (**Garden & food waste**): Thursdays 2nd, 16th &
30th June; 14th & 28th July

Duncrievie

Green lidded bin (**Non-recyclable waste**): Thursdays 2nd, 16th
& 30th June; 14th & 28th July
Blue lidded bin (**Paper, cardboard, cans, plastic**): Thursdays 9th & 23rd
June; 7th & 21st July; 4th August
Brown lidded bin (**Garden & food waste**): Saturdays 4th & 18th June; 2nd, 16th &
30th July

