

The Glenfarg Newsletter

Issue 229 April 2017



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**Short Story Competition - The Telescope
Charlie Stewart - Emma Cheape - Old Glenfarg**

Suggested Donation £1

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You can advertise in the Newsletter for very reasonable rates as below which are annual i.e. 6 issues.

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

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newsletter@glenfarg.org

Robin Watson 830 355

Treasurer

Daniel Horsman 830 067

Distribution

Glenfarg Village Store 830 201

Cover Photograph

by the editor

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 next issue, please inform us with details by the 1st of May to allow us adequate time to plan the issue. Contributions should reach us by 15th of May. **Thank you.**

Contacts

Service/Organisation	Contact Name/ Email Address	Telephone
Community Council	Chairperson: Margaret Ponton	830 611
	Secretary: Lesley Warder secretary@glenfarg.org	830 692
P&K Councillor	Cllrs. Barnacle, Cuthbert, Giacopazzi and Robertson	See P&KC website
Police	Non emergency contact number	101
	Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Household Utilities	Scottish Water Helpline	0800 0778 778
	Scottish Hydro Electric Helpline	0800 300 999
Dog Warden	Kirsteen Mackenzie	01738 476476
PA Contact	Mark Crossey	830 201
Arngask Church	Bill Macpherson (Session Clerk) Session.Clerk@abernethydronarng askchurch.org	830 430
Arngask School	Marie Lyon (Head Teacher)	867 250
Accordion & Fiddle	Russell Robertson	830 642
Baby & Toddlers	Catherine	07583 022 608
Badminton Club	Alan Clark	830 246
Dance Connect	Rachel Webb	07760 972 359
Beavers	Jan Pedley glenfargbrownies@gmail.com	830 195
Bowling Club	Janet Ewart, Kinross janetewart@btinternet.com	863 929
Bridge Club	Sheila Harley	830 319
Cubs	Christine Morton	830 210
Curling - Men's	Arthur Jenkins	830 453

Curling - Women's	Margaret Jenkins	830 453
Folk Club	David Aird	830 370
Football	Alan Fairweather	830 851
GDIB	Kate Armstrong	830 343
Glenfarg Oil Buying Syndicate	Tom McAulay glenfargobs@gmail.com	07786 705261
Knit & Natter	Ineke Watt	830 345
Kinross-shire Time Exchange	Linda McKeen time-exchange@kinross.cc	07469 758 984 07510 380 603
Ladies' Badminton	Annette Eadie	830 547
Matthew Dance Academy	Nikki Mathew	07869 120 989
Neighbourhood Watch	Linsey Penman	830549
Old Folks Association	Christian Meldrum	830 437
Rainbows, Brownies & Guides	Jan Pedley glenfargbrownies@gmail.com	830 195
Red Cross	British Red Cross, Perth	0844 412 2808
Riding for the Disabled	Angela Stocks	830 262
Scouts	Andrew Vaughan	830 128
Soup & Chat	Lindsay Kinnaird	830 337
SWI	Margot Moran	850 211
Tennis Club	Tim Corcoran tim@taraw.plus.com	830 879
Village Hall	Tanya McKibbon	830 156
Website	Janet Watson <i>editor@glenfarg.org</i>	830 355
Wine Club	Steve Mee	830 395
Zumba	Gale Paterson	07823 334 476

Editorial

I'm pleased to report that the Newsletter is holding a short story competition. The story is to be of 1000 words and the details are to be found on page 12. To give entrants an idea of what 1000 words entails I have included in this issue one of my short stories 'The Telescope' taken from a series 'Annals of Maryhill'. 1000 words is an interesting format in that it is surprisingly short and requires economical writing.

Also in this issue is another of Jim Ashton's walks this time on the Bishop Hill. I have had many good comments from people who have followed the paths from descriptions in previous editions.

As I have observed before we have many talented people in the Glenfarg area. This newsletter highlights two more in Emma Cheape and Charlie Stewart both winners of prestigious competitions.

G.O.B.S. (Glenfarg Oil Buying Syndicate) is now online and thanks to the efforts of Bill Macpherson you can find the schedule of deliveries on the Glenfarg website. The management of G.O.B.S. has been taken over by Tom McAulay from Middleton see page 30. Many thanks go out to Dave and Kate Arnold for starting and maintaining the syndicate in the past.

Read the cautionary tale on page 29 about using public wifi by our resident IT expert John Watson. It is the first in a series on internet security.

The newsletter relies on the regular contributors. Thanks go to the various club writers, Alison Harrison and Leigh Smith for their usual excellent submissions.

Robin Watson

e-mail: newsletter@glenfarg.org



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kevin57whyte@mail.com

Diary Of Events

Date	Event	Where
7th April	Community Cinema The Martian	7.30pm Village Hall
7th-9th April	Folk Feast	Backstage at The Green
13th April	WRI - Visiting Institute, Sales Table	7.30pm Village Hall
22nd-23rd April	Art Exhibition	Village Hall
15th April	Pop-up Pub Easter	Glenfarg Village Hall
28th April	Tennis Club Social	Backstage at The Green
3rd May	Soup & Chat	12.30pm Village Hall
4th May	Council Elections	Village Hall
8th May	Community Council AGM	7.30pm Village Hall
11th May	W.R.I AGM Finger buffet	7.30pm Village Hall
12th May	Community Cinema Bridge Of Spies	7.30pm Village Hall
16th May	Parents & Friends Arngask Primary School AGM	Arngask School
27th May	Pop-up Pub	Glenfarg Village Hall

A Village Hall for All

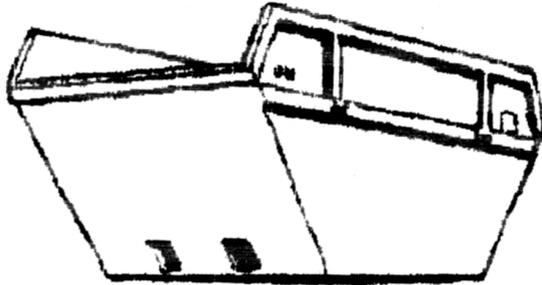
A quick guide to regular village hall activities. Does anything take your interest?

Day	Time	Organisation
Monday	9.30am - 11.30am	Baby & Toddler Group
	6.00pm - 7.30pm	Cubs
	8.00pm - 10.00pm	Ladies' Badminton
Tuesday	5.15pm - 6.15pm	Beavers
	7.00pm - 8.00pm	Zumba Gold
Wednesday	6.00pm - 7.00pm	Rainbows
	6.00pm - 7.30pm	Brownies
	6.00pm - 8.00pm	Guides
	8.00pm - 10.00pm (In winter)	Badminton
	12.30pm - 1.30pm 1st Wed of month	Soup and Chat
	7.00pm - 11.00pm	Accordion & Fiddle Club
Thursday	7.30pm - 9.00pm	Scouts
2nd Thursday Sept to May	7.30pm	WRI
Friday	10.00am - 11.00am	Chair Exercise

To check on the Village Hall bookings, go to the village website
www.glenfarg.org
 and look at the on-line calendar under 'Hire the Hall'



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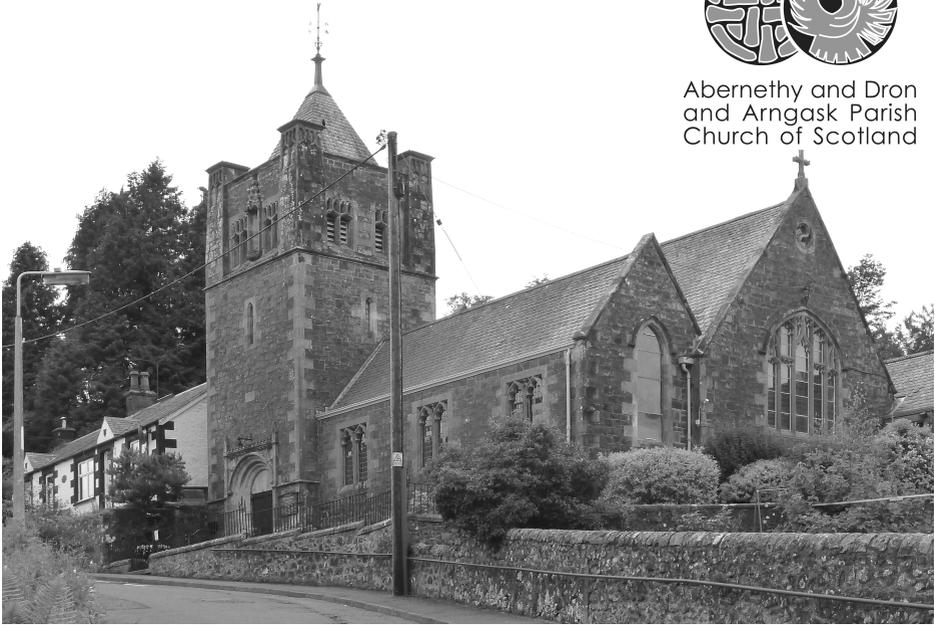
Tel. 01577 830 833

Fax. 01577 830 488

Church News



Abernethy and Dron
and Arngask Parish
Church of Scotland



We continue the search for our new minister and we are grateful to have the continuing support of our Locum Minister the Rev Douglas Main. He can be contacted on 01738 860867 or by e-mail Minister@abernethydronarngaskchurch.org.uk

We are a few weeks into the new session year, but just to remind everybody that Arngask Church Service is now at 9.30am every Sunday, except for (usually) the last Sunday in the month when a joint Service will be held at 11:00 am, alternating between the two churches

Reminder that the Church Hall is available for hire and enquiries should be addressed to Sheona Reid 01577 830388

Saturday 22nd April
Sunday 23rd April
10am – 4pm



Glenfarg Arts Project presents:

GLENFARG
ART EXHIBITION
2017

Glenfarg Village Hall

Adults: £2.50 Children: £1.00
Includes tea and cake!

ARTISTS

Please return your completed entry form by 14th April.
For further information or to reserve a crafts table,
email us at
glenfargartsproject@gmail.com

Short Story Competition

It gives me pleasure to announce the Newsletter short story competition. There are to be valuable book token prizes and the prizewinners' stories will be published in successive newsletters.

Here are the rules:

No more than 1000 words (a few words over allowed)

Appropriate to be published in a family magazine.

Other than these conditions the subject matter is your own.

The story need not be of local interest and can be factual or fiction.

The judges will be looking for creative writing and style.

Come on have a go. You must have a story to tell. You can do 1000 words in an evening. Read the story through and refine at your leisure until it becomes that little masterpiece.

The deadline for submissions is 1st of June 2017 and you can submit as many stories as you like.

We would prefer electronic versions emailed to newsletter@glenfarg.org but typed / handwritten versions are acceptable and may be sent to The Haven, Greenbank Road.

The competition is open to all ages, with a special prize for a junior entry (primary school pupils). Have a look at page 52 to see the high standard of writing produced by Blair Laing, a pupil at Arngask School.

There will be a panel of judges including Margaret Ponton, Mark Crossey and the editor of the Newsletter.

Good luck and enjoy writing your story.

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The Bishop

As you leave Glenfarg, journeying towards Kinross, it's not long before the magnificent panorama of Bishop Hill comes into view. Why it's called this I haven't been able to ascertain but there was a Culdee Monastic refuge at one time on St Serf's island in Loch Leven and it later became a medieval priory, so that's maybe the connection.



To get on to the plateau of Bishop Hill is a good hill walk but there is an alternative lower level circuit known as the 'Michael Bruce' walk which still gives good views of the Loch.

For either walk you can park in the Portmoak church car park (except on Sundays when a service is on). From there cross the road, turn right and

walk down the footpath until you see a sign indicating the walk. There are some fairly steep steps for the first bit as you walk up through Kilmagad Wood that is predominately mixed broadleaf woodland. Sycamore, beech, birch and oak being the main tree species.

The path turns left and here you have the option to carry on along the lower track which runs along the top of Bishopshire Golf Course and then down through the centre of Kinnesswood back to the main road where you can walk along the pavement back to the car park. This walk will take roughly an hour or so.

However if you are feeling fit and adventurous, instead of turning left look up and you will see a broader path running diagonally right up the hill. Follow this path which then swings left and quickly gives you great views of Loch Leven and the hills to the South and west. Here you will find an information board pointing out some of the locations in the foreground and near distance.

Carry on up the path which then starts to turn uphill towards the 'giant golf ball' on top of Munduff Hill. This was erected in 2006/7 by the Ministry of Defence on behalf of the Meteorological office and it is described as a "rain radar" which monitors rainfall, in order to collect data which should aid the forecasting of rainfall events and also model flood risks within the Perth & Kinross catchment area and beyond. Local speculation that, like the similar structure at Balado, it was some kind of listening post during the cold war, a much more exciting reason for it being there only spoiled by the fact that on 2nd December, 1989, the governments of the United States and the Soviet Union announced the end of the Cold War!

The path continues steadily up the hill where you go through a gate and soon reach the remains of an old quarry. There were a number of quarries on Bishop Hill in the 1800's and one of them was the scene of a 'gold rush' in 1852 as this abstract from the Edinburgh Geological Society of 1870 tells us:-



The Lomond gold digging mania occurred in May 1852, and lasted about a month. There was a daily average of 300 diggers—at least 5000 to 6000 in all. Many of them were coal and iron miners, who were earning 15s. per week or upwards, and who had thrown up their employment to embark in the alluring lottery of gold seeking. The excitement extended over an area of twenty miles, including the opposite shores of the Forth and Tay. The origin of the mania was the statement of a convict, a

native of Kinnesswood, who wrote from Australia to the friends he had in the Kinross-shire village, that he had often seen gold at home at the lime quarries above Kinnesswood, in the Bishop's Hill, similar to what was being dug in Australia. At this particular time the public mind was in a condition of great excitement produced by the brilliant auriferous discoveries in California in 1847, intensified and revived by the no less splendid results of gold digging in Australia in September 1851; added to which, there were certain floating local popular traditions or proverbs which gave a spurious weight or significance to the convict's rash and inconsiderate assertion. The centre of attraction to the Fifeshire diggers—the chief scene of their labours—appears to have been a quarry of carboniferous limestone, known in the district as the Clattering, or Clattering Well. This quarry is situated right above the village, and north-west of Kinnesswood in Kinross-shire, about a gunshot back from the brow

of the Bishop Hill near its summit. Its locality is on the south base of the West Lomond Hill, overlooking Loch Leven. Superjacent to the limestone, which is richly fossiliferous, is a bed of ochre, abounding in globular masses of iron pyrites, known to the quarrymen as fairy balls, from the size of a fist to that of a man's head. Incredible as it may appear, these iron pyrites were dug out and carried away in large quantities in the mistaken belief that they were lumps of gold.

Anyway, if you haven't found any gold and want to continue up to the plateau just keep following the path up towards the 'Golf Ball'. From here you get magnificent views up to the Grampians and across to the Trossachs.

When you reach the plateau you can turn right onto Munduff Hill or go left and cross the plateau where you will pick up a broad path that leads to the small cairn that signifies the top of Bishop hill. To descend you can either retrace your steps or head directly across to the edge of the plateau and in the corner of the field you will see a track that curves round and drops quickly down the slope towards Easter Balgeddie farm. Care needs to be taken if descending this way as it is steep and muddy in parts. You will then see a sign pointing you back along towards Kinnesswood where you will meet up with the lower 'Michael Bruce' track and you can either take that back to where you started or walk down into Kinnesswood and back along the footpath on the main road.

There are a number of descriptions of this walk with alternative starting points on the Walkhighlands website.

When I did this walk with a friend in the first week of February I was sad to see the 'Lomond Country Inn', Kinnesswood in the process of being demolished. Yet another local landmark disappearing!

Finally, in the last newsletter I wrote about the Glenvale walk and mentioned that the new path 'can get muddy'. Well that was an understatement. I came back over this path from doing Bishop Hill and it was just a sea of mud. Even the sheep were avoiding it! I think it will be well into spring before it is walkable.

Glenfarg Gala Day

Saturday 24th June 2017

A definite date for your diary.

The GALA will be held at the Village Hall and will run from

1.00pm until 5.00pm

Set to be a fun day for all ages the GALA will feature:



*Tea and Cakes – Craft Tent – Bouncy Castle – BAR-B-Q
Perthshire Brass Band – Tuck Shop – Gin and Whisky Tasting
Treasure Hunt in the Green – Licenced Bar – Plant Stall
and much much more.*

The theme for the day will be Sporting Heros and there will be a

Fancy Dress Parade at the start of the activities.

So get the date in your diary and don't miss what is sure to be a great day out for everyone in our community and beyond



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Anti-social Behaviour

Glenfarg Community Councillors are receiving an increasing number of complaints about anti-social behaviour in the village. The increase in dog excrement in the streets and parks is obvious to all. Litter is also obvious, particularly along Main Street. Plus there have been several instances of vandalism recently – the rescue pole at the pond has been vandalised twice and the plastic greenhouse under construction at the school was also vandalised.

We know that the vast majority of residents care for our community, as you have shown by voicing your concern. We all end up paying for this financially, either directly through increased insurance or indirectly as a council taxpayer. And the damage to the rescue pole could lead to even more serious consequences were a small child to need rescuing.

So what can we do about this problem? The Community Council decided on three plans of action.

1. We are investigating an alternative to the rescue pole, which may be less prone to vandalism.
2. Whilst not inferring that our young people are responsible for all these problems, we have asked the Community Police to speak to them about anti social behaviour. The Arngask head teacher has already spoken at the primary school assembly, emphasising that if there are pupils who have any knowledge of these incidents they should not protect the culprits. The pupils have also been making posters which, by now, should be visible around the village.
3. Through this article, we are asking for your help. Offenders need to be reported. Also, make sure the offender isn't you! Teach your kids to put litter in bins. Be a responsible dog walker. There are free dog poo bags available in the shop, so there's no excuse.

This message may not reach the perpetrators of the behaviour we wish to eliminate from our community but we can all do something positive. Confronting the offenders may not be a sensible option but reporting is and does not directly put the individual at risk. Please use common sense in dealing with any situation you witness but here are some relevant contact details if you choose to report it.

Contact details for any information are as follows –

Community Police - 101

Dog Warden - 01738 476476

If you have any other ideas, please contact a member of the Community Council.

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Glenfarg and Duncreevie in Bloom

Well spring has well and truly sprung and plants and birds have all been a bit confused. Our village pond was scheduled to be drained and excess marginal plants removed to restore the shape of the pond again – this task could not be done because frogs appeared slightly earlier than expected and therefore the pond could not be drained. This will now have to be left as a task for autumn!

The week after Easter should see the arrival of our begonia plugs and we are very grateful to all who have agreed to bring on plugs for the village; we have 2 new sources this year! The school have already started and with the help from GDIB, are bringing on their own plants which will go into the milk cartons on the railings again.

Milk cartons are needed during the month of May. We look for the 4 pint size or 2 litres. Cartons can be left at Struan Cottage, Hayfield Road during the month of May. Just leave them at the front door (rinsed please.)

If you are able to do anything to keep our village looking tidy, feel free to do so. The village belongs to all who live there! Sweeping pavements outside your property is always good but don't be afraid to do any other areas.



Daffodils in Glenfarg Green

Main Street looks so much better if debris is kept off pavements and shows off our village to those passing through.

In late May we will be holding our AGM and if anyone is interested in join our group, then you are more than welcome to do so. Contact Irene Findlay 830441 or at Struan Cottage, Hayfield Road.

Here's hoping our plugs do not suffer through unexpected late frosts this year!

Irene Findlay

Glenfarg Folk Club



THE 39TH GLENFARG FOLK FEAST COMES TO TOWN



For the second successive year, Kinross is to host the Glenfarg Village Folk Club's Feast, the event taking place over the weekend of 7th to 9th April and being centred around The Green Hotel. This will be the 39th such Feast and will be a prelude to a very special 40th celebration already being planned for 2018! The Committee all agree that this year's line-up is indeed very special and the event should prove to be the best for many years.

So what is on offer? Well, apart from the expected singarounds, sessions and general background of music in the hotel and village pubs, the celebrations will get underway on the Friday night with a Ceilidh-Concert to get the spirits aroused for the remainder of the weekend. The dancing will be under the lead of The Craigie Collective Ceilidh Band, although there will also be entertainment provided by invited guests. This is a new initiative for the format of the night and should add to the overall enjoyment of the attendees.

Saturday will bring a guitar workshop conducted by Maurice Dickson, followed by an organised singaround, followed by the Original Song Competition, this year's theme being "Wildlife", the trophy for the event being awarded to the funniest original song of the afternoon. After the laughter has died down from that event, we have a brilliant concert at night featuring the exciting young band Dallahan, the amazing



John Tams and Barry Coope, the wonderful voice of Robyn Stapleton and the



Club's very own merry band of local minstrels and songsters, the Farg Folk. The line-up for this concert is quite exceptional and is guaranteed to be a sell-out.

Having thought that it couldn't get any better, Sunday starts with a special event as it will feature A Conversation with John Tams. That is followed by a singaround, a children's entertainment featuring the amazing Artie Trezise and Ryan Moir, and



the world famous Puff-a-Box championships! And, there will be no let up as we move to another great night at Backstage featuring the legendary Steve Tilston and Jez Lowe on stage together, the brilliant young Irish group Na Leanai, and the wonderful guitarist and singer Maurice Dickson. All in all, this promises to be another great night with another seriously sensational line-up to bring the weekend to a close.

Further information on all of the above and on available accommodation can be found on our club website www.glenfargfolkclub.com and tickets can be obtained either on-line through the web site or our ticket hotline 07944 665617, or through tickets@glenfargfolkclub.com

The Committee have done their bit and would now love you to come along and show just how good a weekend's entertainment you have on your doorstep. Hope to see you all there!

The Famous Bein Inn

01577 830216



Kids Eat Free every day

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www.beininn.com

Glenfarg W.R.I.



On the 9th February we had a hands on meeting with Mrs Mary Ramsay who gave a demonstration on crochet and the members all had a go at doing it.

Competition winners

Hot Water Bottle Cover--1st Margot Moran, 2nd Allison Messenger, 3rd Helen Quartermaine.

2 Decorated Heart Shaped Biscuits-- 1st Allison Messenger, 2nd Alison Harrison, 3rd Lynda Stuart.

Flower of the Month--1st Helen Quartermaine, 2nd Lynda Stuart, 3rd Margot Moran.

A staff member from Erskine Hospital came along to our meeting on the 9th of March and gave a talk and slide show on how it started and progressed through the years.

Competition Winners

Poppy-any craft--1st Allison Messenger, 2nd Lynda Stuart, 3rd Alison Harrison.

Individual Savoury Filo Pastry Tart--1st Alison Harrison, 2nd Lynda Stuart.

Bowl of Bulbs--1st Liz yull, 2nd Lillias Johnson, 3rd Margot Moran.

Dates of Future Meetings

Visitors Welcome

13th April: Visiting Institute, Sales Table

11th May: A.G.M. and Finger Buffet.



Glenfarg Village Store

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Public Wifi & Hotspots

A Warning

Some of us love to sit and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee in our favourite coffee shop. Perhaps we would like to check our phones and check our emails or our facebook accounts. We connect to the wifi offered by the shop and log into facebook. We gleefully read through our mails and learn what important cat videos our friends and family have been posting.

This situation however has unwittingly left us open to identity theft. To explain let us use a metaphor. A Wifi network can be thought of as a coffeeshop. You connecting to the wifi is like walking inside. You look at websites and read your emails can be thought of as you shouting your orders at the barista and they then shout responses back at you. Everybody else who is on the network is in the shop with you and can hear your exchange. Generally they're not interested and aren't listening. The problem is sometimes somebody is interested for all the wrong reasons. They're just waiting for somebody to say something that might be damaging.

These people are able to sit on public wifi networks and listen in on communications. This includes the websites you visit and the emails you send and receive. With that in mind, you should be wary about the types of services you use when on these wifis. Anything you view, you should consider potentially viewable by a criminal who's interested in stealing your identity for their financial gain. It's also worth remembering that the security of websites vary a lot. If you log into a website there is potential that usernames and passwords can be "overheard" as well. Imagine if you used the same password for all your online accounts. What would that mean they can know about you? You should know as well that smart phones will "talk" to online services automatically such as retrieving your emails so you don't even need to actively do anything when connected to the wifi. Your phone can happily start shouting away without you.

I could try to bamboozle you with methods to prevent listening in on your communications. If you're familiar with terms such as HTTPS and VPN then you'll probably be able to figure out what to do with a little help from Google.

If however you're not an expert, it's a lot simpler to just rely on your 3G/4G signal. If you do connect to a public wifi or hotspot, then only do so to look up the football scores don't go checking your bank statements.

John Watson

G.O.B.S

Through the Newsletter, I thought I would give an update on what's happening in GOBS and let people know more about the new organiser Tom McAulay – me!

As I am sure you know, GOBS has been in existence since May 2011. It was set up by Dave and Kate Arnold and has grown to 205 members. Dave and Kate are a strong team and were a hard act to follow. They were really supportive to me and their handover went smoothly. I can now report that GOBS is fully online within the Glenfarg website, thanks to Bill Macpherson. GOBS can be found within the Clubs & Groups section and you can do the following:

- ♣ Join by filling in a form available there
- ♣ Remove yourself from GOBS if you wish to
- ♣ View the Terms and Conditions of GOBS membership
- ♣ View the future heating oil ordering scheduled dates

We hope to add more functionality in the future e.g. fillable heating oil order forms online, order statistics – how much was ordered, the price of the heating oil and potential £s saved through using GOBS. And, most importantly to me, I can now communicate via e-mail through the website to all GOBS members, at the click of a mouse! By doing it this way, I comply with Data Protection Regulations by never inadvertently calling members with others e-mail addresses.

Many GOBS members have thanked me for taking over the organiser role and asked the question “why do you do it” and there have been some “would be good to know more about you” comments; such is curiosity.

I am 66 years old. I've lived in the Kinross general area for 30 years and most recently in Middleton with my wife Frances, a lawyer specialising in employment law. I am an engineer by background and have been running my own small business for the last 15 years. I am a Heating Engineer as some of the GOBS members already know, being customers of mine.

As I no longer work full time and have no real plans to retire in the near future I do have some time to make available for other things and am able to take on the organisation role. As a by-product of doing this I've met and gotten to know some nice people and it makes my day when a member says “thanks”. It's a good feeling to give something back to a community you live in.



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The Telescope



Police constable Dirk Burrelson was sitting in the public office in Maryhill police sub-station. The air was stiflingly hot on a humid Sunday afternoon in Glasgow. He was in charge of the office, a job which was usually given to cops who were, for some reason or other, going to remain a constable all of their service. Dirk was one. Old and disillusioned, he was hanging on, waiting for the pension.

He was musing on the fact that it was a good job that the heat affected criminals just as much as policemen. The only option was to have a siesta. All was quiet. A desultory fly buzzed in the beams of sunlight shining through the windows lighting speckles of dust.

Suddenly the door opened and an urchin boy, barely tall enough to see over the counter, with a dramatic flourish produced with a bang, a brass three-draw telescope.

“Careful wi’ that son. Where did ye get it?” said Dirk as he heaved his not insubstantial body from his chair.

“ I fund it a back court. Ma mammy’s outside and she says I’ve tae haund it in.”

“That’s good advice. Here let me see it,” replied Dirk.

He lifted the scope and surveyed the office like Nelson at sea.

“That’s a fine bit of optics “ he said, “Barr and Stroud is a good Glasgow company ye know”.

After the necessary filling in of forms and further commendation on his honesty the young lad left the office.

The telescope took pride of place in the middle of the office table.

Dirk resumed his seat and the office returned to stasis. Two young beat cops Jim Bennet and Fred Styles came in, bored with inactivity. They were new and eager for action. In the job for less than a year, they knew it all.

“What’s happening old man?” said Jim swaggering in behind the counter.

“Less o’ yer cheek” said Dirk.

“What’s this then?” said Fred picking up the telescope and putting it to his eye.

“This must be worth a bob or two,” he said.

“Aye”-said Dirk, “its lost property. It was brought in by a young laddie.”

“In Maryhill?” exploded Fred with laughter “that’s a miracle”.

“His mother made him bring it in. There are some honest people you know,” said Dirk.

As the day wore on the telescope was irresistible. Anyone who came into the office just had to have a shot. It was then that Dirk had his bright idea. He had always been known as a bit of a joker and was famous for his pranks.

Jim and Fred had come back into the office.

“Listen boys will you watch the shop for a couple of minutes I have to go out for a bit” said Dirk.

“No problem at all sir” said Fred taking over Dirk’s position in the chair with his feet on the table.

Dirk left the office through the back door and into the yard at the rear where several police vehicles were parked. He went up to an old Land Rover and with his index finger scraped around the inside of the exhaust pipe until his finger was covered in a black, oily, sooty deposit. He returned to the office. Under the curious gaze of the two officers he picked up the telescope and carefully smeared the rim of the eyepiece with the soot.

The telescope was then put back in the centre of the table. Jim and Fred determined not to miss the fun busied themselves at the far side of the table writing out imaginary reports.

The first victim was an old grouch of a detective sergeant George Maclean.

“How’s it going George?’ said Dirk.

“Awful if you want to know” grumbled George and noticing the telescope said, “ Where did this come from?” Picking it up he said, “This is a spotter’s scope you know, it’s used for deer hunting”.

He then surveyed the hill for deer through the office window. When he removed the scope from his eye a black ring like a spectacle frame surrounded his right eye. While Dirk was impassive, the two young cops were barely able to control their mirth as George left the office without noticing anything.

“That’s amazing,” said Fred “he doesn’t know he’s got a black ring round his eye.”

It was true. The way that the eyepiece had fitted into the eye socket the black ring was inside the field of view. Although invisible to the wearer it was startlingly obvious to anyone looking at the victim.

There then followed a succession of visitors to the office each one drawn as if by a magnet to the telescope and the resulting black eye.

Each one left unconscious of their eye makeup. It is to be wondered what the public thought of the police in Maryhill, a number of whom were wandering about with a black ring round one of their eyes.

The operation suddenly became more serious when the Chief Superintendent came into the office.

Dirk sprang to his feet “Sir”

The two young cops were now standing rigidly to attention.

“Hello Richard” the Chief said. He used Dirk’s official name. He had the air of a man full of his own importance.

“I have just dropped in on my way down town there’s a bit of a flap going on. How are things doing here? Running smoothly I hope,”

Picking up the telescope he said, “I’m a bit of a sailor you know. I have a small yacht down at Largs“

“Everything is shipshape and Bristol fashion” said Dirk, ever one for ‘le mot juste’.

The Chief with telescope to the eye surveyed the office all around like Captain Ahab in search of a whale.

“Nice instrument” he said.

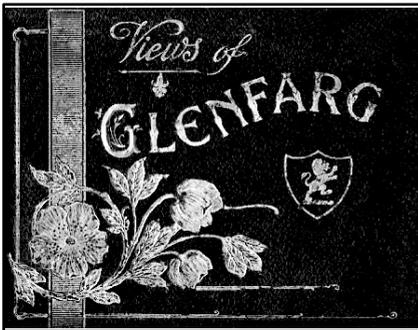
“Lost property” said Dirk with some trepidation.

Sporting his new look, the Chief drew himself up and addressed everyone in the office.

“I’ll have to go. I’m off to a very important meeting with the Chief Constable.”

And with that he strode purposefully out of the office.

Glenfarg In The Past



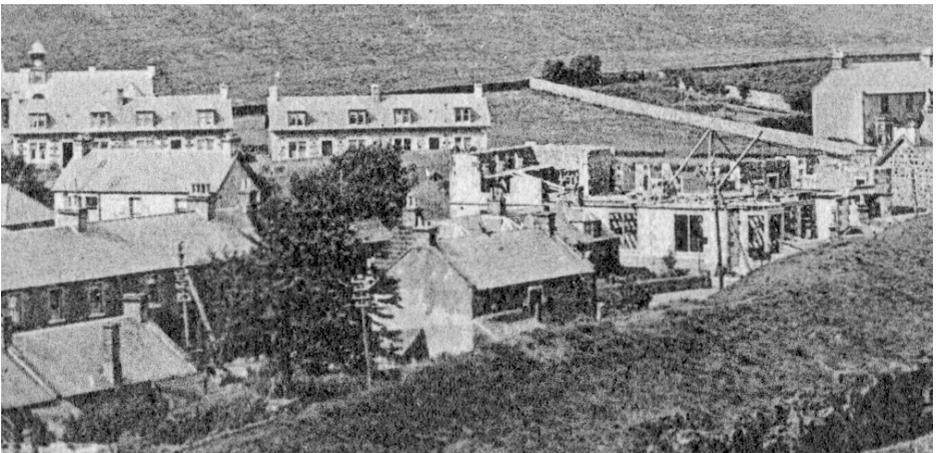
My colleague Gordon Menzies showed me a book he had found entitled 'Views of Glenfarg'. With an impressive floral cover, the book was published by 'P. Anderson, Grocer and General Merchant, Post Office, Glenfarg'.

I took the opportunity to scan the pictures so I could show them in the Newsletter.

The picture above is entitled Glenfarg from the North East. Notice the train pulling out of the station.



The picture above is entitled Glenfarg from the South East and is interesting in that it shows the Glenfarg Hotel or as it was then the Arngask Hotel under construction. See the detail.



There are more pictures in the album which I will be showing in future editions of the Newsletter.

Editor

Charlie Stewart



Congratulations are due to Charlie Stewart from Glenfarg on his winning the prestigious BBC Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year at the City Halls in Glasgow. He was praised for a "moving and spirited" performance which set him apart from five fellow finalists.

The ceremony, staged on the final night of the Celtic Connections music festival in Glasgow, was broadcast live on Radio Scotland, which organises the annual competition with promoters Hands Up For Trad.

Stewart did the traditional music course at the Conservatoire for a year, but he decided to swap to the jazz course as he fancied doing something a bit



different. "I wouldn't really describe myself as a jazz musician, although I really like it. I listen to it more than I play it. Traditional music was always played in my house when I was growing up." he said.

Jeff Zycinski, head of radio at BBC Scotland, which offers the winner a free recording session, said: "Charlie is exactly the type of performer we wanted to shine the spotlight on when we launched the search for this year's winner. His stunning performance was both moving and spirited and



really captivated the audience. Every year, the judging process becomes more difficult with musicians of such a high calibre coming through the ranks."

"Charlie will really help to inspire and encourage the next generation of young artists to keep traditional music alive."

Emma Cheape



The Horsescotland Annual Awards recognise and reward the hard work of Scotland's equestrian coaches, volunteers, performers, clubs, equine breeders, the equestrian business community, employees, photographers and those that have made outstanding contributions to the equestrian community in Scotland.

This year Horsescotland received a record number of nominations showing the hard work and dedication made across the entire Scottish equestrian community.

All nominations were considered and after much deliberation from our voting panel, the nominees were scored against and the winners decided, with the Equestrian Photo of the Year being shortlisted and voted for by the public via Facebook.



Emma Cheape was one of the six equestrian photographers with their photos shortlisted for the award, with Emma's photo going on to be chosen by the public as Horsescotland's equestrian photo of 2017.

"Photography has been an interest of mine since an early age, starting off with just trying to get photos of my sisters and their horses training, to family photos and pets to more recently wildlife which has become the area I most enjoy photographing," Emma said.

"I am now lucky enough to say I make a living out of something I enjoy so much, working full time as a photographer for The Scottish Farmer taking a selection of agricultural images for a weekly paper."

"My photo was taken on the old Arngask road just up from the footbridge on a crisp autumn morning with the autumn leaves still falling."

Glenfarg Gala

The Fete/Funday, is now to be known as Glenfarg Gala. This year it will be held on the weekend of 23rd/24th/25th of June, and as usual there will be lots of great things that will entertain everybody.

On the Friday evening there will be a pop-up bar from 5.00pm till late featuring great real ales, lagers and wines plus entertainment from some of the Perth City Centre Buskers.

Saturday will feature lots of entertainment with live music from Perthshire Brass, a huge Bouncy Castle, Light Chaser Game, Pig Racing, Putting Game, BBQ, Craft Stalls, Tea and Scones, Duck Fishing, Splat the Rat, Train Game, Bottle Stall, a Gin Tasting and a Whisky Tasting Masterclass (Look out for tickets going on sale for the Masterclasses), and of course the famous raffle with fabulous prizes.

Saturday evening will be a relaxed affair with a Kids Disco in the Marquee, and a casual pop up bar in the hall, and on Sunday the bar will be open from 5.00 until 10.00.

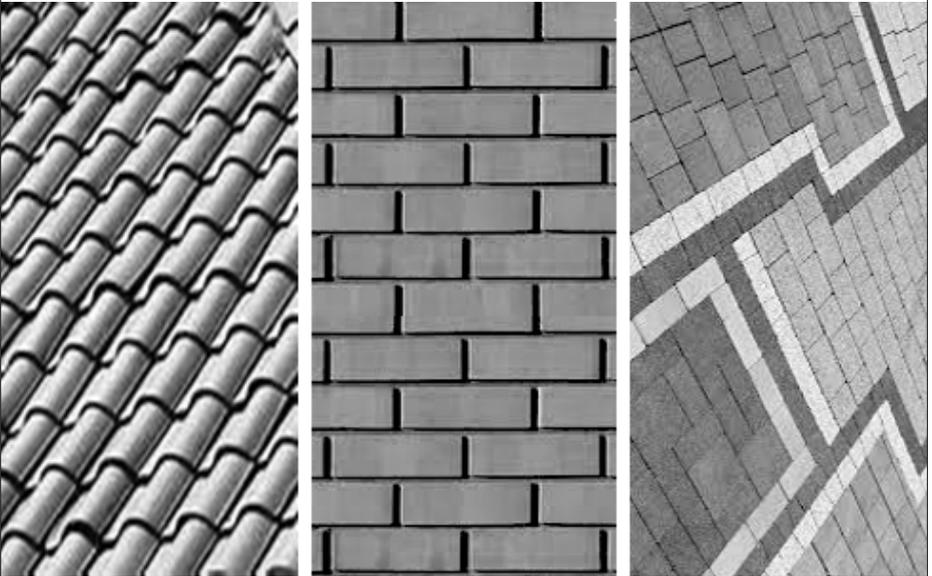
This is going to be a fantastic fun filled weekend, so get the dates in your diary.

Once again we have the usual problem of volunteers to come forward and help on the day in some way or another, even to do an hour makes a big difference, so please put your name forward to either:

Steve Mee on 830395, or David Aird on 830370.

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Glenfarg Community Cinema



It's been an interesting couple of months at Glenfarg Community Cinema, with two very different films on show.

In February we watched “45 Years”, the story of a couple (Charlotte Rampling as Kate and Tom Courtney as Geoff) about to celebrate 45 years of marriage. The discovery in Switzerland of the body of Katya, Geoff’s lover before he met Kate, puts a strain on the apparently rock-solid marriage. Over six days leading up to the celebration, the couple both find themselves dwelling on the past and wondering about the future.

But don't get suspicious – this isn't a who-dunnit! At the end of the film, a lot of the audience were asking each other ‘what did that last scene mean?’. Rampling, who was nominated for a Best Female Actor Oscar for this role, suggests the underlying emotions through the slightest changes of facial expression – which fits perfectly with the long slow shots of the flat Norfolk countryside. So definitely an adult film – no, not that kind! And perhaps not for you if you go to the cinema to watch car chases. Here is what the audience thought on the night.

Awful	OK	Good	Very Good	Fantastic
0%	34%	22%	34%	10%

March saw another film that provoked a lot of discussion and produced different opinions. ‘Life Is Beautiful’ tells the story of Guido, a clown-like figure who through a colourful imagination and an irresistible sense of humour, has won the heart of the woman he loves and created a beautiful life for his young family. When that life is threatened by war, Guido must rely on those very same strengths to save his beloved wife and son from an unthinkable fate. He tries

to protect his son's innocence during their internment, by convincing him that the Holocaust is an elaborate game.

The film was co-written, directed and starred Roberto Benigni who took inspiration from the book 'In the End I Beat Hitler'. He won two Oscars for the film – one for Best Actor and one for Best Foreign Film. It is the only film in a foreign language also to be nominated as Best Film in its own right.

During filming, and on its release, there was some criticism of the way in which comedy was brought into the context of the Holocaust, and certainly some of our audience felt that mixing Chaplin-like antics with a concentration camp was not appropriate. But it also showed the resilience of the human spirit, and the lengths to which we will go to protect our children. Go to see it and decide for yourself.

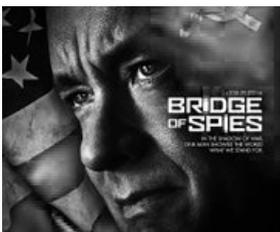
Here is a summary of the voting –

Awful	OK	Good	Very Good	Fantastic
0%	14%	22%	64%	0%

PROGRAMME FOR THE COMING MONTHS



APRIL 7th The Martian *Adventure, Drama, Sci Fi*
An astronaut becomes stranded on Mars after his team assume him dead, and must rely on his ingenuity to find a way to signal to Earth that he is alive.
Based on the novel by Andy Weir. Starring Matt Damon.



MAY 12th Bridge of Spies *Drama, History, Thriller*
During the Cold War, an American lawyer is recruited to defend an arrested Soviet spy in court, and then help the CIA facilitate an exchange of the spy for the Soviet captured American U2 spy plane pilot, Francis Gary Powers..
Starring Tom Hanks and Mark Rylance, who won the Oscar for Best Supporting Actor.

Just Jammin'

Last time, I promised to give you some chocolate recipes. However, having got myself into a bit of a pickle, chocolate is on hold for now. Maybe next time.



My friends Rosemary and Alex make exceptionally good marmalade and kindly gave me a jar a few weeks ago. Just as the jar emptied, I won a jar of marmalade at the wine tasting club. This was every bit as good and I was bemoaning to another friend, John, the fact that it was probably too late now to obtain Seville oranges. Turns out he had made this batch! He said he was sure that big supermarket at Friarton had some the other week, so off I went.

Having only attempted orange marmalade making once as a very young and inexperienced bride, and having had to put about 8 jars of burnt looking gunk in the bin..... and having not stopped to look up a recipe..... off I went, with no idea how much to buy. The only “Mother’s advice” I could recall was that I’d need lemons as well and that oranges did not contain much pectin – the natural setting agent for jams and jellies.

The supermarket had an abundance of oranges of many types and it did not take me too long to find the ones that came from Seville. About 8 in a pack – should I buy one pack, or would I need two? Two were purchased.

Arriving home, I googled Marmalade and was overwhelmed with recipes. I dug out Mum’s 1944 Parkinson Cowan “Perfect Cookery” book and having had a study of that as well, I decided on a recipe. Just as I was cutting open the first bag of oranges, I discovered that on the reverse side of the plastic strip around the bag was a recipe. It looked very straightforward, so I changed my mind and decided to use that.

“Take 4 Seville oranges.....”(So why were there 8 in the pack?), a litre and a half of water, a lemon and 1Kg of granulated sugar. I doubled the

ingredients, using 1Kg of jam sugar (containing pectin) as well as the same amount of granulated.

Having split and juiced the fruit, and tying peel, pith and pips into a bag made from a muslin square, I spent the whole of that Sunday evening carefully snipping the peel with scissors, into fine ringlets, which I finally chopped into tiny shreds just before bedtime. What a trauchle. The muslin bag was suspended by tying string round the rim of the pan. The whole lot, which nearly filled the pressure cooker, was left to soak overnight. (If only I had kept Mum's old jelly-pan, thought I.)

The actual process is very easy – bring everything to the boil and then simmer for about an hour by which time the liquid should have reduced by a third. Remove the muslin bag and when it is cool enough to handle, gently squeeze to remove as much liquid as possible before discarding the contents. Add the juice to the pan and bring back to a rolling boil. Stir constantly. Having previously chilled a few saucers, you simply test a wee spoonful every now and again on a saucer and once it forms a slight skin and wrinkles if you push it with your finger, it has reached setting point. As a “belt and braces” kind of person, I decided to check it with my sugar thermometer as well. Google had revealed that 110 deg C or 221 deg F is the optimum temperature.

All very well, but my pressure cooker was not big enough and the mixture was threatening to overspill, despite constant stirring. I kept turning the temperature down and up, trying to maintain the rolling boil but avoiding overspill, but the thermometer just would not reach the desired 110/221. It got as far as 105 and refused to budge.

After a flash of inspiration, I ladled half of the mixture into a separate pan, and carried on boiling and checking. Ah! Success! Eventually both pans reached 110/221.



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Having sterilized jam jars in the oven, and removed them just before reaching the setting point, I got bottling, and sealed them with waxed paper discs and cellophane covers – if there was a competition for elastic band pinging, I would win hands down. The kitchen floor was covered in the blooming things by the time I had finished. On then to labelling and cooling.



Och, goodness me! There was the second bag to do yet! I could not face all that snipping and shredding for a second time, so decided to experiment and simply grated the rinds of all 8 oranges, then followed the same recipe, having that night's breathing space while it all steeped. The second batch was just as tasty, though did not set quite as firmly, even though the desired temperature had been reached.

Now here is the part about getting in a pickle.

All this effort was to have enough to keep 4 jars of marmalade for a competition entry for Gardening Scotland later this year. I was to take a jar to the Rural last week, and if that won its heat, take another jar to Federation meeting in a few weeks, and if it won there, the third jar would go through to Gardening Scotland. The fourth jar is a "just in case" one.

So, off I went to the Rural. Nobody else had brought their marmalade, so I got through to the next round by default. I got mixed up and took a jar to the Group meeting yesterday – unnecessary, but just as well, as I learned that the Gardening Scotland competition this year is for THREE FRUIT marmalade.

As it happens, I did make some lime and lemon marmalade last year, so I will be re-boiling it with my Seville orange to produce Three Fruit Marmalade. If that doesn't work, I guess I will be off down to Friarton to see if there are any Seville Oranges left.oh! and lemons, limes and jam sugar!

Toast and marmalade anyone?

Alison Harrison

All The Fun Of The (Wedding) Fair!

Wedding fairs are one of the best ways for brides to do some research about the different suppliers they need for their big day. They are often accompanied by their partners and sometimes parents, offspring and best friends too, it's become a day out for all the family.

I usually exhibit at Huntingtower and Fingask Castle wedding fairs which are very well attended and both are popular venues for weddings. Just as well hubby is a careful driver as the rutted track leading to Fingask Castle can mean some scary moments praying that the display cakes arrive in one piece.

Other suppliers at wedding fairs, photographers, for example, have said they are envious that people are so easily attracted to my stall. Of course, I have free cake samples to hand out – not many people say 'no' to the offer of cake! I often get talking to mums or grans about baking when they spot my Scottish Baking Award which is proudly displayed on the table.

The most popular question seems to be whether people can have each tier made in a different flavour. In fact, every wedding cake I've made has combined a number of flavours so it seems like that's become a standard. So you can please yourself and your family, and for the older relatives, it seems nothing can beat a piece of fruit cake.

Once the day is over, I'm usually exhausted but glad to have met so many lovely people, had time to answer their cake concerns and had positive comments about the cake samples and display cakes. I can then look forward to updating the diary with cake consultations sometimes up to 2 years ahead. And collapsing in a heap when I get home!

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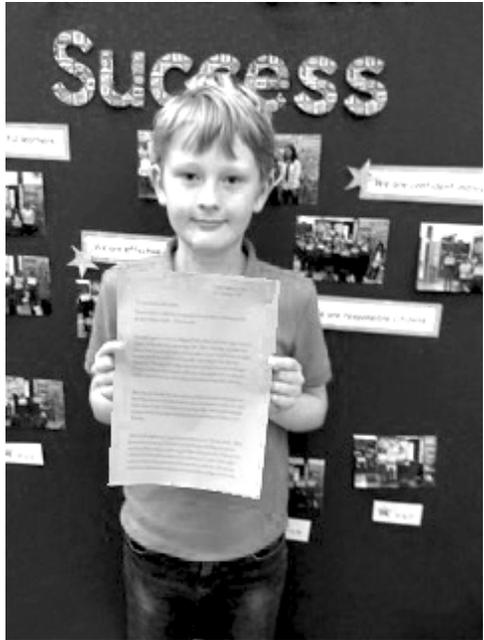
Email: info@leighsmithcakes.co.uk

Blair's Story

We like to bring you examples of the work of pupils at Arngask Primary School.

Here is a story by Blair Laing, who is in P7.

Blair has imagined Mary Queen of Scots writing a letter to her son James, who later became James VI of Scotland and James I of England.



Fotheringhay Castle
31st January 1587

To my dearest child James,
I know it's been a while but I am going to be executed in February, so I'm going to tell you my life. How are you?

It had all began in 1542 in Linlithgow Palace where I was born, I got crowned Queen of Scotland at only six days old! After a few days, my father had died so I had moved to France with my mother. Later in my life I was arranged to marry the Prince of France Francis II. I was only six when that had happened. The day had finally come, I was to marry Francis II, the King of France and I was only seventeen. We were only together for an entire year until he died, but he wasn't the only one that died as my mother died also.

After the two deaths I became a widow so I had returned to Scotland,

but when I had returned, Scotland had become a protestant country. Can you believe that! Later on I further increased my skills in the English language and spent most of my days ruling Scotland, until I met your father, Lord Darnley.

At first I thought he was a good man but he was not! He was a fool, All he wanted was my money. He had even made the guards kill my own private secretary fifty six times. Later on your father had gotten ill so I had sent him to Kirk O' Field with his butler so he could recover. Later on that night I went to check on him, just to know if he was fine and he was. On my way home I heard this massive explosion so I turned the carriage around, it was where your father was staying, and we had found his body outside with his butler. The good news was that he was never harmed by the explosion but the bad news was, he still died but was strangled to death.

After the funeral I had you and that was the best time of my life! As you will be aware I became an acquaintance of the Earl of Bothwell but later discovered that he was a coward. He ran off because he was part of the crime that had been committed! This also left me in a vulnerable situation, as claims were made that I had a part to play in the crime – the death of my husband! This was not true!

Later on I was sent to Loch Leven Castle where I was imprisoned but I had escaped. Since I was a criminal in Scotland I fled to England to my cousin Queen Elizabeth the 1st, but she didn't trust me! She thought I was going to take over the throne from her! I was put back to prison. Since I was back in prison I had to give up the throne of Scotland and most important, I had to give up you.

Well, now I'm going to be executed in eight days so, at least you know my life, who I am and I hope you remember me.

Your mother

Mary Queen of Scots

Glenfarg Grapevine

Do you feel 'out of the loop'? Are you missing out on village news? Or are you an organiser, needing to reach as many people locally as possible?

Then you need to make use of ALL our wonderful means of communication. Please remember, these are run by volunteers. They will not copy from one medium to another - you need to make use of them all.

Community Website

www.glenfarg.org

for all the information about our village

club contacts / service dates / hall calendar / group and CC minutes etc

Facebook

join the Glenfarg Grapevine closed group
for instant community news / details of events

Email Service

sign up via the community website
to receive a weekly email of upcoming events
plus emergency announcements

Noticeboards

The shop window is the place for general posters
and the CC noticeboard (round the corner) for CC and Perth Council news

Grapevine News for Non-Computer Users

we are now posting a printout of the Grapevine Email Service
on the CC Noticeboard

Newsletter

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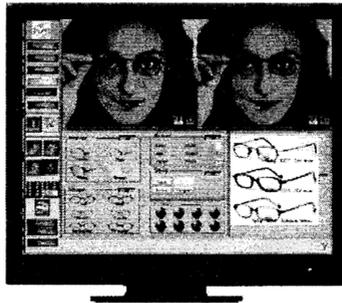
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Parents and Friends of Arngask Primary School

Update

The Parents and Friends of Arngask is the new name for the PTA and Parent Council.

We are a small school at the heart of our community and we would like all parents and carers to be involved in school life.

We generally meet once a term and would like you to get involved in helping the school to meet the needs of our children and supporting our fundraising efforts for additional resources and equipment. We understand everyone has busy lives and this needn't be a big commitment – as much or as little time as you can spare will make a difference.

Summer Fun Night

The summer fun night will be on Friday 2 June at the school. We are looking to set up a small group of parents to help organize this great event. Please email arngaskparentcouncil@gmail.com if you are interested in helping organize or are happy to help out on the night. We need people to man the stalls, bouncy castle and the BBQ.

School Building – removal of the mobile

Perth and Kinross Council have advised that they are progressing with plans to remove the mobile classroom in the summer of this year and turn the library back into a classroom. The Parents and Friends of Arngask and the Community Council have written to the Council to raise concerns about the proposals. These are mainly around:

- loss of the library/learning spaces
- class size flexibility
- reduced cloakroom space
- lack of space for additional support/activities

We are hoping to meet with the Council to discuss our concerns in the near future and hope as many parents and carers as possible will attend. The date will be publicised as soon as possible.

Next Meeting

The next meeting on the parent council is due to take place on 16 May 2016 and will be the AGM. All parents, carers and friends of the school are welcome.

As the PTA and Parent Council have combined a new constitution has been drawn up and is available on the Parents page of the school website. This will be agreed at the AGM. Any comments and suggestions on this document are welcome in advance of the meeting.



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Many thanks to all who have donated soup and to the dedicated helpers who have made the Soup 'n Chat such a success.

Lindsay Kinnaird

Bridge Club

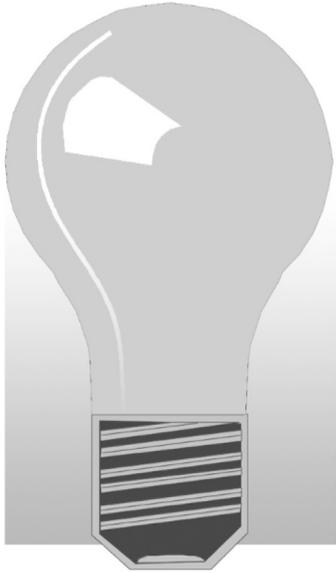
Our winter sessions in the Church Hall have been enjoyed by one and all, especially as we have managed to fill two tables on several occasions.

Our prizegiving will take place on Friday 28th April at the end of our last meeting in the Church Hall before we change to our summer venue at the Bowling Club.

The suspense is growing as we have had 2 members breaking the 3000 points mark. Both Jean Blackwood and Janet Hill are giving Sheila Harley a run for her money.

We are always looking to extend our membership. Are there any Bridge (or Whist) players who would like to come and join us on Friday afternoons at 1.30pm? You do not have to commit to every Friday, few members do, and the annual subs are a staggering £5!

If you would like any other information, please contact Charlie Kinnaird on 01577830337 or Sheila Harley on 01577830319.



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GLENFARG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

Monday 6th March 2017

Glenfarg Village Hall

PRESENT: CCllrs Arnold, Horsman, Loudon, Pilmer (Chair), Taylor, Warder, Watson

Also present - Cllr W. Robertson, Cllr M. Barnacle and 7 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: CCllr Burlison, CCllr Ponton, Cllr Cuthbert, Community Police

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING:

Arngask Old Graveyard Cllr Robertson reported that he had been in contact with the Preservation Society and Kinross Museum about the medieval statue of Lady Margaret in the graveyard. He then introduced Karen McGregor and Wendy MacPhedran of the Old Arngask Graveyard Preservation Group who emphasised the importance of the graveyard in the history of the community. Family members are known to still visit the graveyard when in the area. Over the past two years, professional recording of the stones has continued and the final report will be made available to the CC for the history archive and inclusion in the History section of the website.

Effigy Preservation – an article in the December newsletter had produced no objections to the effigy being moved under cover. As the effigy is large, there is insufficient room for it in the Kinross Museum. Cllr Robertson offered to explore other options with Culture Perth & Kinross. However he was of the opinion that the effigy should be preserved in situ. There could be funding available to encase it in a suitable transparent container. It was agreed to wait the outcome of Cllr Robertson's enquiries.

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Stones – it was noted that several large stones / monuments were now lying on the ground in a poor state – some face down and some broken. The Preservation Group members informed the CC that, what had at first appeared to be vandalism, had in fact been carried out by P&KC workers on the grounds that they were in a dangerous state. They also reported that the stones had been recently inspected and in their opinion were not in a dangerous state. Also, the guidelines state that families must be contacted before such action is taken, which had apparently not occurred. Cllr Robertson offered to arrange a meeting with Willie Greig (P&KC) to be attended by Preservation Group representatives, CC representatives and possibly family members affected.

CCllrs Loudon, Arnold, Horsman

Social Hub A member of the Glenfarg Community Company was present to give an update on work so far. It had not been possible to progress a possible purchase of the hotel as permission to carry out a survey had been refused. Alternatives being pursued are –

1. Permanent replacement – the Company's committee and the Village Hall Committee are working together towards a possible extension of the hall to provide both a replacement for the hotel bar / restaurant facilities and improvements to the hall.
2. The possibility of a temporary hub has also been explored – the bowling club, a pavilion in the park, the garage land on Main Street. Extensive work has been carried out on this last option, but planning requirements have made the costs prohibitive for a temporary solution.
3. Funding – the Company has met with the Scottish Land Fund's agents, Highlands & Islands Enterprise. The next step would be to produce a community needs survey, to show that there is a 'need' for a social hub rather than a 'wish'.

The new manager of the Bein Inn was present, and expressed his hope that he could meet some of the community's need for a social meeting place in the interim. Facilities are to be advertised in the newsletter.

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Proposed Green Route The CC had received proposals from P&KC to create a green route from Milnathort through Glenfarg to Bridge of Earn via the Wicks o' Baiglie Road. This would involve some reductions in speed limits and some engineering measures in order to improve the infrastructure for cyclists, walkers and equestrians. The CC had posted the details, inviting comments from the community. The CC had no objections to the proposals.

A member of the public objected to the inclusion of some of the Wicks o' Baiglie road, as he felt it a waste of resources to include the southern stretch of road not generally used by cyclists or walkers. By contrast, the roads to the east of the motorway, which form a circular route from Glenfarg via the two motorway bridges, are regularly used by local walkers who would benefit from the protection of a green route. Cllr Robertson reported that he had already written to the Senior Engineer (Brian Cargill) asking for this route to be included. He was also still pursuing the old railway route through the Glen as a possible cycle track.

It was agreed that the CC would write to Brian Cargill in support of the proposals, but would also request the inclusion of the east route.

Secretary

Vandalism and Anti-Social Behaviour It was felt that this had increased in recent times and was constantly being brought to the attention of the CC by concerned residents. At Cllr Robertson's suggestion, it was agreed that the Community Police should be asked to visit local schools (both primary and secondary) to speak on the subject.

Secretary

It was also agreed to highlight the issue on the Grapevine and in the newsletter.

Cllr Arnold

Wallace Park Development Group Cllr Horsman reported that a meeting had been attended by 10 local residents (including 3 young people) and a Community Capacity Builder with Greenspace (Diane Cassidy). Diane has experience of working with local communities to improve their open spaces. She reported that the playpark is due for renewal in 2019/20, so preferred options should be in place well before then. Match funding may be available. It was emphasised that



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there was a need to involve the community in formulating ideas, which could then be worked on by a landscape architect. Ideas so far are a circular path / running track, outdoor gym, flower garden.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. GCC – Balance on Account £500.18

Expenditures: Village Hall £24

2. GCC Newsletter Account - Balance £ 12,086.45

This balance is made up of Newsletter £7,501.06, Microgrant £574.39, Nursing Fund £4,011.00.

Income/Expenditures since last meeting:

Newsletter:

Income - £1,199.49 from newsletter adverts and shop donation tin, including a £50 donation from a reader who appreciated receiving the newsletter.

Expenditures – Newsletter printing £190, Newsletter Editor's hard drive £54.99 and Community Payback to relocate Glenfarg sign £25

Microgrant:

No Change

3. School Fund £441

No Change. CCllr Horsman reported that the school had been asked if, since the fund was dwindling, they would prefer to have access to the whole lump sum. The Head Teacher felt that the annual sum was much appreciated and would ask for it to continue. CC to consider this at the appropriate time.

Total Funds Held £13,027.63

SCHOOL LIAISON:

CCllr Watson reported that, along with CCllr Horsman, she had attended a recent meeting of the Parents and Friends of Arngask at which the main item on the agenda had been proposals by P&KC for changes to the school buildings. The hut to the north of the main

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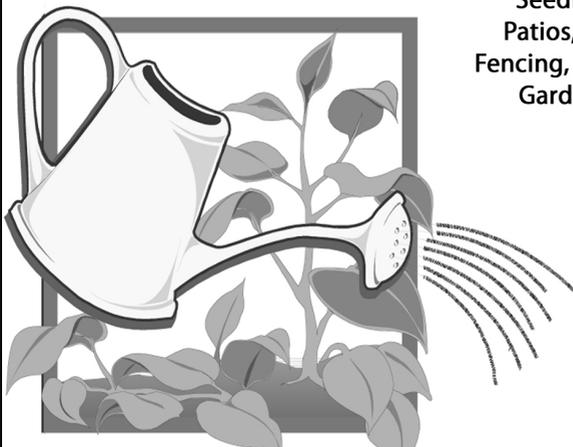
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building is not fit for use and repairs would not be financially viable. It is therefore proposed to demolish the building, with the loss of a classroom, staff room, side room and toilet.

P&KC plans to spend £150K on renovations to the library to make it into a classroom, wall mounted Smartboards, a disabled toilet, children's boot boxes. The library would occupy a corner of the dining room. Pupils would need to access the toilets in the main building during break times. Staff would need to use the Parents' Room in the Nursery area as a Staff Room.

Cllr Robertson, who had attended the school meeting, noted that the parents present had not been impressed by the offer from P&KC, which they felt was a short-sighted arrangement which would not make up for the loss of facilities.

CCllr Watson reported that the school role is presently 87, rising to 95 in 2018. Capacity is 98. She commented that, with the number of future housing developments in the pipeline, capacity would probably soon be exceeded. The Parents' Group have written to the Director of Education, Sheena Devlin, requesting a meeting, which CCllr Horsman hopes to attend. It was agreed that the CC would write to Ms Devlin in support of the points made in the letter. *CCllr Watson*

PLANNING REPORT:

CCllr Pilmer reported that there had been no applications / approvals in our area over the past two months. CCllr Arnold asked about the dilapidated state of Smithy Cottage. No action by the owner or agent was evident. It was agreed to send a reminder of our request for action.

Secretary

POLICE REPORT:

No police officer was able to be present and no report had been received. It was noted that there are now two community police officers covering the Kinross area.

AOCB:

Leaves in Wallace Park. CCllr Arnold noted that these had not been



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cleared this year. Cllr Robertson to pursue.

Litter in the Glen. This again needs attention. CCllr Robertson to pursue.

Rescue Pole. CCllr Arnold commented that the pole by the pond on Glenfarg Green, which has recently been vandalised twice, is unwieldy. He felt that a throwing line housed in a canister and mounted on a post (as installed at Loch Leven) might be a better option and less likely to be vandalised. To be investigated. *CCllr Arnold*

Defibrillator. CCllr Arnold has taken responsibility for carrying out the regular checks of the PAD, at the same time as he checks the emergency equipment held in the village hall. New weekly visual-only checks on the defibrillator, carried out by a 'PAD Guardian', will start soon. CCllr Horsman has volunteered to be the first Guardian. It was agreed that it was time to look at arranging another training session in the village. *CCllr Arnold*

Gala Day. A member of the Gala Day Committee reported that this was being arranged for 24th June.

Tennis Club. A member of the public asked if the CC had been provided with the planting plan for the space by the tennis courts where trees had been removed. Although this had been promised, no plan had been forthcoming. To be pursued.

CCllr Watson

Newsletter. CCllr Watson reported that the editor wished to run a short story competition. He also planned to speak to the school about printing pupils' stories. Book token prizes would be necessary. The CC agreed to the cost being taken from newsletter funds.

CCllr Watson

Micro Grant. CCllr Warder reported that a microgrant request had just been received from Glenfarg & Duncricvie In Bloom for the sum of £250 for replacement tyres for the watering machine (total cost £264). GDIB have depleted funds due to the building of a greenhouse. The application was approved.

The AGM of the Community Council will be held on 8th May 2017.

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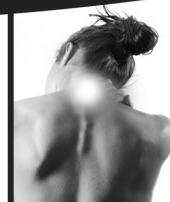
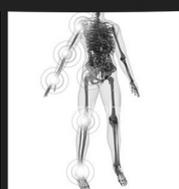


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