



# Kiltarlity News

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## Pylon Inquiries finally over

*But still a long wait for decision*

**T**he main Beaulieu Denny Public Local Inquiry (PLI) finally closed for business in Stirling in December 2007. It was, however, followed by two "mini" inquiries, the second of which ended in the Lovat Arms Hotel, Beaulieu, at the end of May this year.

The Inquiries' three Reporters are unlikely to come up with their findings and recommendations for all three inquiries before next December, or perhaps not until 2009. And whether the transmission line gets the go-ahead from the Scottish Government as an overhead line of giant pylons, or, as the Community Councils have argued, as an underground cable, work is unlikely to start until some time after that.

Under the umbrella title of Pylon Pressure, and supported by neighbouring Community Councils in Kilmorack and Beaulieu, Kiltarlity Community Council took an active part in the main Inquiry, both during the first (strategic) session in Perth and the local session in Inverness. The PLI started in Perth on 6 February 2007 and held further sessions in Inverness, Newtonmore and a second Perth

session, before it finished up in Stirling.

Local witnesses argued that there was no suitable overhead route to be found within the inhabited part of Kiltarlity and that SHETL, the transmission section of Scottish and Southern Energy (the old Hydro Board), must therefore lay an underground cable to take the power through the district. Since the point where the cable links to an overhead line requires a compound of transformers and a large terminal pylon, the case has been made for this to be located in the valley of the Eskadale Burn (Allt Garbh), well clear of houses at Eskadale and in a spot not easily visible from either side of the River Beaulieu.

SHETL argued at the Inquiry that this would be much too expensive and that the giant pylons, which can be as high as 65 metres with an average of 7 times the mass of existing towers, would **not** be an unacceptable feature of the local landscape, nor a threat to the wildlife of the Ruttie Wood.

However, over 17,000 objections were received against the overhead line proposal. Highland Council supported local objectors, as did Lovat and Eilean

Aigas Estates, in arguing for most of the line through Kiltarlity to go underground.

A Scottish Government spokesman said: "We don't give costs for public inquiries due to the variables involved." However, Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) asked government regulator Ofgem for permission to recoup (via customers' bills) an estimated £6.9 million for its participation in the inquiry.

The first of the smaller follow-up inquiries considered the proposed compulsory purchase of land to enable the erection of the giant pylons and, in particular, to provide access to the pylon sites. Kiltarlity Community Council argued that the resulting disruption and permanent damage to local roads was unacceptable and could only be reduced by the undergrounding option.

A further Public Local Inquiry was held during May in the Lovat Arms Hotel, Beaulieu, to hear objections to the massive extension being proposed for Balblair Sub-station. Kilmorack Community Council and Balblair residents were represented, as was the Lovat Estate. Kiltarlity Community Council registered its objection to the extension and its support for the Kilmorack community.

The 'Pylon Pressure' campaign has been wound down but the website has been kept open for information on further developments.



*Marchers led by Lord Lovat and piper set off from Balblair, and arrive in Beaulieu at the Phipps Hall.*



### Kiltarlity News

**W**e are keen to have material for the next issue of the *Kiltarlity News* and will print as many local news items, club news, school news, sports reports, obituaries, letters, articles etc, as possible. We cannot guarantee to print material received after **31 October**. Material may be sent to R. MacLean, 'Berisay', Culburnie, (741323), e-mailed to [rdmaclean5@berisay.co.uk](mailto:rdmaclean5@berisay.co.uk), or given to any Community Council member.

# Sun shines on Kiltarlity Community Gala 2008

**T**he sun shone this year on another fun packed afternoon on Saturday 17th May as Kiltarlity Community Gala was opened by piper Craig MacRitchie. Stalls had gone up in record time and with Jimmy Mainland as commentator and Graham Bell in charge of musical entertainment the scene was set for yet another memorable afternoon.

Stars of the show were the Sumo wrestlers, with well matched pairs of children, ladies and gentlemen pushing, shoving and rolling around in their oversized sumo suits, keeping Graham Bell, among many other things a skilful Sumo referee, busy. Battling for a place in the final had the ladies fighting every bit as fiercely as the men. Children's winner was Danny Kelly, and the adult winner Willie Mainland, who was pitched against his brother-in-law! Both winners were awarded with quaichs as trophies.

The Aero-Modelling Display also proved a hit with spectators, not of course literally, as the planes and helicopter dipped and dived, adeptly controlled from the sidelines. Even greater speeds (almost 100 mph!) were achieved at the Shinty Shoot Out while intrepid youngsters and a few more mature types scaled the seemingly impossible Climbing Wall. Among all this action Beauty Fire & Rescue Service was on hand to administer first aid, but were able to use their time to provide important Fire Safety Advice and arrange free Home Fire Safety Visits. Accident free adventure was also available on the Bouncy Castle Assault Course which gave those a bit young for the Climbing Wall plenty of fun.

Throughout the afternoon the talented team co-ordinated by Graham Bell provided entertainment from the stage. Instrumental music of the usual high quality was provided by Graham Bell supported by Jimmy Gallacher on the mouth organ, there was dancing from Highland Dancers, Rebecca and Rachel, and Gaelic songs beautifully sung by local girl Shona MacDonald. Guitars and chanters were tuned and the young musicians from Tomnacross Primary School took to the stage to entertain everyone with a selection of favourite melodies.

Also throughout the afternoon community clubs and associations provided a wide variety of enterprising fund-raising activities from baking to face painting, from bottle and plant stalls to popcorn, crafts, 'grab a duck' and many more. Taking part were Beavers, Cubs, Toddlers, PTA, TCC, Youth Club, Tomnacross School, K2000, Lovat Shinty Club, Nursery, SWRI, and the Hall Association.

The Community Gala is organised by a small band of enthusiasts and representatives of a range of Kiltarlity groups who come together each year to arrange the afternoon of fun and activities, which provides a valuable fundraising opportunity for all the groups.

The Gala Committee would like to thank all who came and made the afternoon the success it again proved to be. In particular they would like to thank all helpers, the groups who put on and supported the displays, stalls and events, Kiltarlity Community Council, Graham Bell for the use of the Tomnacross School and indispensable Master of Ceremonies, commentator Jimmy Mainland.

The Committee will be fundraising during the year to support the event next year and are always looking for willing recruits to join them. For more information call Anne Fraser, Gala Secretary, on 01463 741886.

A full list of lucky winners of the various raffles and competitions is printed on the next page.



*Sumo wrestlers are nice to each other, but only at the start!*



*(Left) almost there. (Above) an event for all ages.*

*(Below) which is faster—model aero-plane or shinty ball?*



*An afternoon for good fun—and good business*



*A good turnout on Gala afternoon*

## Gala prizewinners

**T**o round off the event the draws were made for the 'Lucky Programme' and 'Gala Raffle' along with the prizes for other events. The winners were:

### Gala Lucky Programme Prize Draws:

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Meal for 2 at Brockies Lodge – kindly donated by Brockies Lodge Hotel - *Ronald King (Inverness)*  
 2<sup>nd</sup> - Eden Court Theatre voucher – *Karen Murphy*

**Gala Raffle – 2 weekend passes to 'Tartan Heart Festival' – kindly donated by Joe Gibbs**  
*Paul Douglas*

### K2000 raffle

1<sup>st</sup> Pat, 2<sup>nd</sup> Stephen Sandilands,  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Niamh Martin, 4<sup>th</sup> Heather Kirk

**PTA Whisky – James Gallagher**

### Cubs shinty shoot out

Adult – *Steven Cameron – 98 mph*  
 Under 15's - *Greg Matheson – 91 mph*

**2008 Gala Challenge Quaich - Sumo Wrestling Competition**  
 Child – *Danny Kelly*  
 Adult – *Willie Mainland*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WINNERS**

**SEE YOU AGAIN NEXT YEAR**

## Highland Council a few steps further forward on Kiltarlity Core Path network

**C**onsultation on Highland Council's Draft Core Paths Plan, which included several Kiltarlity sessions, has ended and 61 objections and around 30 representations are now being considered.

Under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, Highland Council must submit for approval by Scottish Ministers a Core Paths Plan for their area which is "sufficient for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout their area". Although only the basic framework of approved core paths will feature on the final plan, drafts have identified a "wider access network" of paths which already exist and can be used to get to the core paths and also "aspirational" paths and routes which could be in the future be suitable or developed as core paths.

Many representations have been supportive and helpful, for example seeking clarification on some routes and providing further information. And there have been objections not only to routes being included but also to the omission of routes. Council staff will spend the next month or so trying to resolve objections, and this may take some time. The outcome of the process also depends on the recommendations of the Local Access Forum (set up under the Land Reform Act) and the Council's Planning, Environment and Development Committee.

The Council is not obliged to build or maintain core paths. However, they will appear on Ordnance Survey maps and will be publicly displayed and signposted.

More information can be found on the Highland Council Website.



*Numbered paths eg 320.010 are proposed core paths and it has been suggested that the Eilean Aigas path should be added. Other paths marked are access routes.*

## Low flying needed in Iraq and Afghanistan

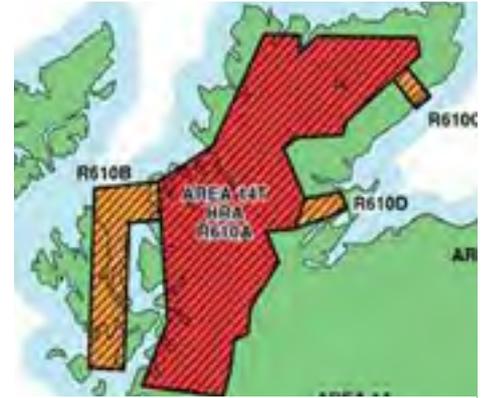
A recent, rather poorly attended, public information meeting arranged by Kiltarlity Community Council, on RAF Low Flying, was addressed by RAF Regional Community Relations Officer Squadron Leader (Retd) John Gilbert.

Squadron Leader Gilbert explained that, with the exception of larger towns and cities, the whole North of Scotland is a low flying area, within which fixed wing planes can fly with a "separation distance" of 250 feet. In addition, a large part of north-west Scotland is also a Tactical Training Area within which Operational Low Flying is permitted, when fixed wing aircraft are authorised to fly as low as 100 feet minimum separation distance, although larger aircraft such as C-130 Hercules are only permitted to fly as low as 150 feet. This area can also be used for pilots to practise flying with their planes being operated solely by electronic controls. As it happens, Kiltarlity is just outside the Tactical Training Area, but Squadron Leader Gilbert conceded that a plane at 250 feet is still flying very low, and can be quite alarming.

Sqn Ldr Gilbert explained that low flying

was an essential skill for pilots, which, along with other electronic and mechanical devices, enabled them to keep their planes behind and below mountain ridges and out of reach of enemy radar and missiles. Whatever missions they were asked to undertake aircrew must be able to use this skill as effectively as possible, often without time for "work-up" training, and current military operations around the world, required aircrew of both fixed and rotary wing aircraft to undertake operations at low level. They were only able to do this after specialist training gained through the use of the UK Low Flying System.

The Squadron Leader stated that the North of Scotland actually receives less than its "fair share" of low flying than many other areas, and that low-flying generally is being reduced. Nevertheless, all complaints received regarding low flying aircraft are treated seriously and, if appropriate, an investigation is carried out so that a suitable reply can be given to the complainant, including compensation, if justified. Squadron



*All North Scotland is low flying. In the shaded area planes can come to within 100ft. It extends into corridors for instrument only flight*

Leader Gilbert provided some information and advice for people wishing to complain — basically, do it as soon as possible, be as precise as possible and have evidence and, if possible, witnesses.

You may register your complaint with Sqn Ldr (Retd) John Gilbert, Irvine House, Canonbie, Dumfries and Gallogway, DG14 0XF (Telephone: 013873 81156; Fax: 013873 80904; E-mail: [rcro\\_southernscotland@stc.raf.mod.uk](mailto:rcro_southernscotland@stc.raf.mod.uk)).

More information about low flying can be found on the RAF website, including different ways in which complaints can be made.

## Kiltarlity's new constituency undecided

### *Electoral boundaries to move yet again*

**Y**et more proposed boundary changes have been announced for Scottish voters—this time for the Scottish Parliament. The Boundary Commission's latest proposals place Kiltarlity in a new constituency of West Highland which will replace our current constituency of Ross, Skye and Inverness West. But Highland Council has objected to the proposed new boundaries because they split Inverness along the line of the Caledonian Canal and have submitted a counter proposal which would keep Inverness intact but would split Kiltarlity.

Kiltarlity Community Council have written the Commission to support a change in the Caledonian Canal boundary but not at the expense of placing Kiltarlity voters in separate constituencies, as was done when the Westminster

boundaries were redrawn for the last General Election.

Under the Boundary Commission plan, the whole of the Aird and Loch Ness ward would fall within the new West Highland constituency. East Highland, which would have most of Inverness, and North Highland (which would include the Black Isle in the same constituency as Thurso) would complete the three Highland constituencies.

Highland Council want to allocate the old Beaully and Strathglass ward which includes most of Culburnie, with Fanelan, Kinerras, Hughton and Eskadale, to a new constituency to be called Ross, Skye and Strathglass, while the remainder of Kiltarlity would go with the rest of Aird and Loch Ness into their proposed constituency of Loch

Ness, Lochaber, Badenoch and Nairn. The Council wish to have four constituencies rather than three, which would allow for Inverness then to have its own separate constituency, with a constituency of Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross completing the Highland map.

If the Commission are unwilling to create four Highland constituencies, Highland Council has suggested another way to avoid the splitting of Inverness City within a three constituency set up. Under this scheme the three constituencies would be: North Highland and Wester Ross; Ross, Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch; and Inverness and Nairn. The whole of Aird and Loch Ness ward would be in Ross, Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch—which would avoid any splitting of the Kiltarlity community.

Representations had to be made to the Boundary Commission by 14th March and after considering these the Commission was to report to the UK Parliament on June 30th with its final proposals. However, if a local authority continues to object, as Highland Council may, then a local inquiry must be held.

## Beaufort golf project still on hold after last minute withdrawal

**F**rom the day in June, 2006 that Highland Councillors, Planning staff and members of the press and public gathered in the grounds of Beaufort Castle, only to be told that Beaufort and Golf Leisure Ltd were withdrawing their application to create a luxury golf course and country club with 81 holiday lodges, no more has been heard of the proposed development.

Since then, other similar projects have steadily progressed or hit the headlines. Two courses at Castle Stuart near Ardersier, are nearing completion and Donald Trump's Aberdeenshire proposal has rarely been out of the news. But, despite an understanding that the Beaufort project would be speedily re-submitted it seems, in fact, to have been put on long term hold.

The Beaufort Golf and Leisure project, if given the go-ahead, would have seen Beaufort Farm turned into a 399 acre championship golf course and the Beaufort Farm buildings transformed into an exclusive leisure centre, club house and country club

But it was the proposal for 81 'residential lodges', a key part of the application, which had caused Kiltarlity Community Council most concern, due to fears that they would mean a massive housing expansion in disguise and that, even if only for holiday use, they were on a hugely disproportionate scale. (The 500 private houses which did not form part of Aberdeenshire Council's Local Plan, were one of the key stumbling blocks in the Trump application.)



*Kiltarlity Golfer of the future. But now firmly in the past?*

Kiltarlity Community Council also asked that local people be fully consulted on every aspect of the proposals and that the community should benefit from foot and cycle paths within Beaufort and on the approach roads, that local access rights to Beaufort should be protected, and that local people should have access to the new facilities on reasonable terms.

Aird Communities Golf Initiative, supported by Lord Lovat and based on the wider Beauly and the Aird area, had argued that a smaller project based on the golf course but without the lodges would provide a valuable local amenity and better serve the local economy. The group was in course of investigating the possibility of registering a Community Interest in Beaufort land and buildings, which, if successful, would have meant being advised of any proposed sale and being given the opportunity to buy the land on behalf of the community.

Registration has not attracted a great deal of interest or support though it would be more likely to succeed in the absence of a 'live' planning application.

## End of seven year Tomnacross delay?

**T**omnacross Primary School Parent Council has been told that long awaited Tomnacross School improvements are finally about to start. At a meeting in April chaired by local councillor Margaret Davidson and attended by Brian Hemming, Highland Council's Estates Strategy Manager for Education, Culture and Sport and Robert Campbell Principal Project Manager, Housing and Property Services, parents were told that the latest tender process would be completed by the end of June 2008 and that this would enable a start to the works by August, and their completion by March 2009.

Kiltarlity Community Council, represented at the meeting, have since written to Steve Barron, Highland Council Director of Housing and Property to point out how frequently the project has been delayed in the past and to seek reassurances that it will really now go ahead. Stating that Tomnacross falls "well below that which is required to provide a satisfactory environment for primary education" the Community Council has asked that the parents and children can at long last "look forward to a school environment which is fit for purpose". Mr Barron has replied that tenders were to be returned by 20 June and that the Council hopes soon to confirm an August start.

The rejection by some parents of an original proposal in 2001 to build a completely new school for both Tomnacross and Teanassie pupils resulted in the alternative of a proposed refurbishment of Tomnacross, which should have been completed in 2003. However, the refurbishment never started, being repeatedly delayed by funding and technical problems. The most recent delay has been mainly caused by insufficient water pressure on the site to deal with a fire emergency and the solution to this problem has now been included in new tender requirements.

## Torrison member weds Kiltarlity bride



**T**orrison musician Kenny Smith and Linda Henderson, Culburnie, were married on 4<sup>th</sup> April at Greyfriars Free Church of Scotland, Inverness. They were played down the aisle by Torrison accordionist Amy Henderson, Linda's daughter, who, with sister Kirsty, gave the bride away. And after the ceremony they were piped outside the church by Torrison piper Ian MacKenzie

Kenny is also a Leader with the 3rd Inverness Boys Brigade Company who provided a Guard of Honour. The wedding party went on to a reception in the Lochardil Hotel.

Amy introduced her mum to Kenny when she joined Torrison four years ago. Although she is now studying music in Newcastle Amy still joins Torrison when she's at home. Torrison are now in their fourth very successful year with Kenny on drums vocals and guitar, Mathew Cameron on vocals, bouzouki and fiddle, Graham Bell on accordion and mandolin, Ian MacKenzie on pipes and bodhran and Amy on accordion and the penny whistle. Torrison have won the MFR awards for best local band for two years and they are Tartan Army favourites, having travelled to Ukraine Italy and Paris following Scotland with the supporters.

# Ward Forums will try to keep Aird and Loch Ness voters in touch

**A**ird and Loch Ness Ward Forum has now met five times, with the most recent meeting in Charleston Academy, Inverness on the topic of 'Education'.

After the Highland Council restructuring at the last election which saw the introduction of a proportional voting system and giant multi-member wards, it was agreed to hold quarterly Ward Forums to give members of community councils and other local organisations, and ward residents in general, better access to councillors and officials. All Forum sessions are open to the public and each discusses a main topic, while other issues can be submitted beforehand or raised at the meeting. Every Forum session provides an opportunity for electors to question officials and their ward councillors, four in the case of Aird and Loch Ness. Each session is chaired by a local councillor.

After an inaugural Forum in Inverness last June there have also been sessions in Drumnadrochit and Dores as well as Beaulieu. At Drumnadrochit the main topic was the development of the tourist potential of the Loch Ness area, the Dores session considered the issue of community and road safety and the Beaulieu Forum looked at housing.

**Our four Aird and Loch Ness representatives are: Councillors Helen Carmichael (Independent), Margaret Davidson (Independent), Drew Hendry (SNP) and Hamish Wood (Independent).**

Full details of councillors and ward forums can be found on the Highland Council website.



*The new Aird and Loch Ness giant ward*

Highland area generally, Local Plan policy should be set aside, as Highland Council have already done elsewhere.

Responding to fears that Allarburn/Kiltarlity Village would become another heavily developed dormitory estate on the pattern, for example, of Culbokie, Mr Gray maintained that Culbokie, though admittedly an Inverness dormitory, was able to sustain a good community life.

However, the Community Council, after considering the new proposals, agreed that the Local Plan should be adhered to and that rapid over-development should be resisted. A particular concern of the Community Council is that the 27 houses now proposed are simply Phase One of a possible three stage development.

In a letter to the Highland Council Planning Department the Community Council confirmed their view that the application was contrary to the Local Plan and that the total number of houses intended for the complete development was unknown.

The Appeal Inquiry Reporter has recently paid a visit to the site.

## Community Council maintain support of Local Plan against Balgate developers

**D**evelopers William Gray have resubmitted an application to build 28 houses on the site of the former Balgate Sawmill. And they have also appealed against the rejection by Highland Councillors, after strong objections from neighbouring residents and Kiltarlity Community Council, of a previous application.

At a formal hearing in Inverness in September 2007 the developers' initial application for 27 houses was rejected by the Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey Planning Applications and Review Committee who supported our two councillors on the Committee, Mrs Margaret Davidson and Mr Hamish Wood. Councillor Davidson, supported by Councillor Wood, moved that the application be refused on the grounds that the development would be in conflict with

Settlement Expansion policy as defined within the Inverness Local Plan and would result in an unacceptable housing increase in the village to the detriment of the character of the area, there would be loss of amenity for the residents of Pine Road, and there had been insufficient discussion to determine local housing need resulting in unsuitable layout and house design.

The wording of the final decision reflected clearly the arguments presented by the Community Council, represented by the then Secretary, Ron MacLean, and the views of local residents, explained to councillors by Carolyn Roy and Norman Grant.

Since then Mr Gray and his team have held discussions with the Community Council to explain that they now propose fewer affordable houses, that there are to be no flats in their revised proposals, and that an improved layout will meet some of the objections of Pine Road residents. Their main argument, however, is that the sawmill site is by far the most suitable site for development within Allarburn and because of the high demand for housing in the

## Dial a Bus Service

Dial a Bus in the Kiltarlity area.  
For more information and bookings tel  
01463 761250

## Kiltarlity native celebrates in Canada



*(Left) Maureen looking good at 80! Harp Lake, Ontario, July 2005 (Above) Maureen with daughters Jackie and Diane, niece Rosie and nephew Richard. (Below) A young Maureen with her parents by the famous wellingtonia tree at Brae Cottage, Beaufort.*

**K**iltarlity born Canadian Mrs Maureen Fraser-Purdie has plenty to celebrate as she looks forward to her 83rd birthday in July.

Maureen was born in Brae Cottage (now demolished), just below Beaufort Castle, on what was then the Lovat Estate. She was the youngest of the seven children of Mary and William ('Willie the Moon') Fraser. In his autobiography, "March Past", the late Lord Lovat dedicated his opening chapter to Willie the Moon (no one is quite sure of the origins of the family by-name) who himself emigrated to Canada but returned to work for the Lovat household.

After finishing her education at Tomnacross School, then of course a secondary as well as a primary, Maureen trained to be a fully qualified tailoress at Campbell's of Beaulay. In 1946 she married Al Purdie and the couple moved to Glasgow where they settled to raise their family.

However, in 1960, she and her husband, with their young family, moved to Canada. Maureen enjoys life to the full in Lagoon City, Ontario, where she now lives and shows little sign of wanting to slow down. And, in spite of having lived away from Kiltarlity for so long, Maureen is still after all these years able to recall in vivid detail, events, anecdotes and people from childhood days in the 1930s and early 1940s.

Nephew Richard Fraser is sure her contemporaries will recall "her astonishingly good looks sending many a young lad's heart a flutter as she moved through her teens", looks she has certainly not lost.

In 2005 cousins Rosie Nixon and Richard Fraser, both flew to Canada to be with her on her 80th birthday. Rosie's late mother, Chrissie, was Maureen's sister and Richard's late father, Jack, her brother. Rosie lives in Balloch, near Inverness, and Richard in Rainham, Kent, but both also spent their early years in Kiltarlity.



## Tartan Heart will beat for fifth year

**T**his year's Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival takes place on Friday 8th and Saturday 9th August in the beautiful surroundings of Belladrum Estate, Kiltarlity.

Now in its fifth year, the independent festival has built a reputation for its eclectic line-ups, its original non-musical entertainments and its all-ages approach. Capacity will remain approximately what it was in 2007 when 12,000 people attended the event.

Among star attractions this year will be Jefferson Starship, the Lemonheads,

the Waterboys, Scouting For Girls, and many other top names. Belladrum offers plenty of interest aside from the music, including an array of entertainment for children. Attractions will include street theatre, cabaret, cinema, dance, alternative therapies, stalls, food and drink.

Adult weekend tickets cost £80 and adult Saturday tickets cost £50. Both include parking and camping. As in previous years, tickets for children 12 and under are free.

Up to date information on the full Fes-

tival line-up, can be found on the Tartan Heart web site: [www.tartanheartfestival.co.uk](http://www.tartanheartfestival.co.uk)

Information and events on the Tartan Heart Fringe can be found on [nessmp3.com](http://nessmp3.com).

### Home baking appeal

Kiltarlity Hall Association are to have a Home Baking Stall at Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival. Any donations of baking for the stall will be gratefully received. Proceeds are for the upkeep of the Hall.

## Molly Brown – a hundred years young

**A** Kiltarlity great-grandmother has celebrated her 100th Birthday with a dram, a message of congratulations from the Queen, and 200 birthday cards. Molly Brown was 100 on 19th February and over 100 relatives and friends attended her birthday party on 23 February in Balloch Community Hall.

Molly now stays in Murray Park Avenue, Culloden, and, though daughter Heather Morrison is always on hand, looks after herself with minimal help in her own separate flat.

Molly Ross - or Mary as she was christened - was the sixth and now the only surviving member of the seven-strong family of Lovat Estate cattleman John Ross and his wife Mary Ann, and spent her early years in Rose Cottage, near Beaufort Castle.

After leaving Culburnie School (she was at the Schools Reunion Open day in June), she started work at the age of 14 as a maid in Beaufort Castle, later moving to Edinburgh where she worked with the Post Office before her wartime marriage in 1941 to Peter Brown, a farmer's son from Glenbeg, Strathnairn. She had met Peter when she was working in Strathnairn for a summer doing laundry work, and they used to go to the dances in Farr together. Because Peter spent most of the war abroad serving with the Lovat Scouts in the Faeroe Islands, Canada, Italy and Greece, Molly remained with her parents until his demob.

After the War they stayed for a time in Moy where Peter was working in forestry, but when he worked as a field officer with the Department of Agriculture, the couple moved to Kiltarlity, where they raised their family of four: Heather, twins John and Margaret, and Gregor. To begin with they went back to Beaufort but then settled in Pine Road in the village.

In 1960 the family moved to Balloch, then a small village, where Molly ran a successful bed-and-breakfast at Torris House. On their retirement they moved to Glenbeg Cottage next to Stratton Lodge which Heather and husband, Ian, had converted into a popular hotel. Peter died in 1985.

Molly Brown was born in 1908, the year when Herbert Asquith was elected Liberal Prime Minister, Mothers Day was celebrated for the first time, the old age pension was introduced for those aged 70 and over and London hosted the Olympics Games. Also in 1908, the first mass produced car, the Model T Ford, came off the



assembly line, the first passenger flight was made, and, perhaps appropriately, SOS became the standard radio distress symbol.

It was of course still early in the turbulent Twentieth Century. Molly's older brother, Jimmy Ross, served in World War One while younger brothers Duncan and George served with husband Peter in World War Two. World War Two also brought the Canadian lumberjacks to Kiltarlity, perhaps inspiring brothers Hughie and Johnny to emigrate to Canada where Johnny settled permanently, and his family came from Canada to Molly's hundredth celebrations.

Though Molly stayed at home, she has still been able to recall some exciting events, such as being passenger on her brother's motorbike as he crossed the river on planks when work was being carried out on the old wooden Black Bridge, jumping on and off the railway wagons on the narrow gauge railway built to carry wartime timber from Kiltarlity to Beaully Station and possessing a push bike with no brakes. In particular she remembers the fire at Beaufort Castle when the Lovat family had to be evacuated. Her thoughtful concern for a shocked Lady Lovat resulted in a letter of thanks and the handsome gift of a £1 note - a lot of money then.

Perhaps the Olympic atmosphere of 1908 got into Molly's system because she has been active and maintained an interest in sport throughout her life. In

Balloch she enjoyed curling as a member of Highland Ladies, and was also a keen outdoor bowler. She rode her bicycle until well into her 80s, and she still walks well for her age. But Molly has maintained a great interest in all sports, following golf, snooker, darts and football enthusiastically on television. Indeed, one of her favourite sports is boxing and she has long been a keen television spectator. However, she also enjoys a quieter game of dominoes or cards with anyone willing to play including several of her 8 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Molly still has good eyesight, a great blessing for an avid reader of novels and the local newspapers

Although slightly hard of hearing Molly greatly enjoys company even though, in her modern apartment, she cannot entertain in front of an open fire, which she misses. Elder daughter Heather and son-in-law Ian Morrison (formerly of Blairmore, Kiltarlity) share the house in Murray Park Avenue and elder son John, now retired as a Principal Agricultural Officer with the Scottish Executive Rural Affairs Department, and wife Irene live nearby in Balloch. Molly also enjoys the visits, from Leckmel, near Ullapool, of daughter Margaret and her husband, Ian, and of younger son Gregor and family who live in Oxford.

Elder son John says, "She is very alert and appreciates that she has been blessed with good health throughout her long life. She loves having her friends and family around her."

## Allarburn houses



Phase One of the Albyn Housing Association's Allarburn development have now all been allocated, and interest is already being shown in Phase Two, which will be another four 'homestake' houses.

Anyone interested should lose no time in contacting Albyn on 01349 855953, or email Yvonne Kirk at Albyn - [yvonne.kirk@albynhousing.org.uk](mailto:yvonne.kirk@albynhousing.org.uk)

## History of Kiltarlity

The following books on Kiltarlity history are now available and can be purchased by contacting Kilmorack Heritage, North Lodge, Beaufort, Beaulie, Inverness-shire, IV4 7BE, tel 01463 783168, email: [info@kilmorack.com](mailto:info@kilmorack.com), or see website: [www.kilmorack.com](http://www.kilmorack.com)

**Volume 1** *The History of Kiltarlity*, £25-95 plus p&p, covers the early history of the parish and of the Frasers and the Chisholms.

**Volume 2** of *The History of Kiltarlity*, £25-95 plus p&p, covers the Western Townships of Kiltarlity.

**The Policies of Guisachan**, £16-99 plus p&p, deals with Guisachan and Tomich, once part of Kiltarlity Parish.

**Kiltarlity's Fallen Heroes**, £14-99 plus p&p, tells the stories of the men remembered on Kiltarlity War Memorial.

**Memorial Inscriptions of the Parish of Kiltarlity**, £16-99 plus p&p, covers all the burial grounds of the parish.

**Volume 3** of *The History of Kiltarlity*, will cover the Eastern Townships of Kiltarlity and will be available in summer 2009.

Books can be collected at North Lodge or, if necessary, delivered..

## CHURCH



## UPDATE

### Kiltarlity Free Church

**K**iltarlity Free Church meets on Sunday mornings at 11.00 am and midweek for either a Prayer Meeting or Bible Study. A Sunday School is available each Sunday morning. A Ladies Bible Study meets on Thursday evenings. The Church is presently constructing a website whose url will be: [www.kfchurch.com](http://www.kfchurch.com).

The minister is Andrew Matthews. Andrew hails from Houston Texas and is studying for a PhD at Highland Theological College in Dingwall. Andrew and Eleanor together with Gaius and Gideon live in Camault Muir. In addition to the service conducted by Andrew, Eleanor leads the Ladies Bible Study.

The Church is an old building constructed in the 1840's. The congregation plans to refurbish the Church to make it more comfortable and fit to serve the community. If you are even mildly curious as to what goes on in a Church like ours come and join us one Sunday morning. Remember a Church is like anything else in a local community; if you do not use it you will lose it. Enquiries are welcome and can be directed in the first instance to the Session Clerk, James M Fraser, Tel 01463 741729 or email [jsfraser@gmail.com](mailto:jsfraser@gmail.com).

### St Mary's R C Church, Eskadale

**T**he present Lord Lovat's great great grandfather built Eskadale Chapel around 1826. In early 2006 major roof repairs were urgently needed. A Church Appeal was set up to help with the huge costs involved, and many generous people far and wide, and from all denominations, kindly donated to save this historic church.

In early 2007 the Appeal received a £9,000 Grant from the Scottish Churches Architectural Heritage Trust which was very greatly appreciated.

Weather permitting the church will be reharled and exterior painting carried out. Also high on the agenda is the need for water and toilet facilities within the church.

At present Mass is held about once a month. Secretary, Treasurer and Trustee is Mrs Jessie Matheson Lonvichkime, Kiltarlity.

### Kiltarlity Church of Scotland

**A**t the start of 2008 Kiltarlity Church of Scotland welcomed Rev Dr Willis Jones as locum minister during the current vacancy. Willis, who has been Education and Outreach Minister at Crown Church, Inverness, since 2003, is originally from Arkansas, USA. As well as taking Sunday services in Kiltarlity and Kirkhill, he is devoting two days a week to pastoral work in the two parishes and has meantime moved with his wife Pat to the manse in Kirkhill which the churches of Kiltarlity and Kirkhill (linked since 1982) share.

Meanwhile, a joint Nominations Committee, consisting of four members from Kiltarlity and five from Kirkhill, has been appointed and, under the guidance of Interim Moderator Rev Reg Campbell, minister of Daviot and linked churches, is working to identify suitable candidates for the vacancy, which has been advertised.

The two churches now have a joint website ([www.kiltarlityandkirkhill.org.uk](http://www.kiltarlityandkirkhill.org.uk)) and a newsletter "The Parishioner" (contact: Mrs Rosemary Mortimer, 7 Priory Place, Beaulie. Tel. 01463 782648).

Folk from both congregations accepted an invitation from Willis and Pat to a series of "Manse Munches" over several Sundays, where they enjoyed fine manse hospitality and were able to discuss and record what they would like to see established as priorities for the two congregations. A top priority was more social activity indicating a desire to get to know fellow church members better and people also felt it was important to promote relationships between Kiltarlity and Kirkhill and to engage better with the wider community.

Other recent church activities have been the setting up of a Didache One book study and Kiltarlity Church's day of hospitality for a group of Romanian children on Sunday 15 June.

Session Clerk is Mrs Marie Harvey, Tel. 01463 741328, email: [marie.harvey6@btinternet.com](mailto:marie.harvey6@btinternet.com).

**Obituaries** *Inevitably, since our last issue there have been several deaths in or connected with Kiltarlity and not all of these are remembered here. We will be happy to print obituaries which have not been included this time in the next issue .*

## William Mann Matheson, Ruifour 1917 – 2007

**W**illie, as he was known from infancy, was born at Ruifour, Kiltarlity, the second son of Willie Matheson, of Torranerrick, and his wife Mary Ann Mann, Ardendrain, both Kiltarlity. The family was later to comprise three sons and one daughter.

Born in April, Willie, as a five day old baby, was taken to the side of the field as his parents worked together to sow the corn. His was to be a life in the open air. Because of his health, Willie's mother did not put him to school until he was six years old. Early schooling at Glenconvinth School was strict and the programme of subjects was intended to prepare the pupil for everyday life. There was daily attention to Scripture and lengthy passages were to be memorised with periodic visits from the local minister who tested the schoolchildren as to their biblical knowledge.

Willie's secondary education was at Tomnacross School for three years after which he went on to Inverness Royal Academy. Unfortunately, Willie's health broke down and an early ulcer forced him to give up school at the doctor's suggestion and he had to be very careful about his diet for years to come.

One of Willie's first jobs was fencing for the Belladrum Estate and for several seasons he went to Coignafearn Estate at Tomatin as a stalker. But Willie was to settle at Ruifour helping his father on the croft and learning about it as he went along. Times were hard and sometimes his father would walk the sheep back from Inverness if a satisfactory price could not be had. However, hard though life could be, neighbourly crofters made a great difference.

As a schoolboy, Willie had realised he needed to put into practice what he learned in Scripture classes, and that was his direction all through life. His interests were church and family life and the animals he looked after on the croft.

Willie was able to work until well on in years and was ninety when his health finally gave way. He, nevertheless, remained alert during four months in hos-

pital and a final week in the care of Highview House, Inverness.

Willie is survived by his wife Audrey, his three sons Willie, John and Roderick, and his grandchildren.

## Ernest Tomlinson 1936 – 2007

**E**rnest Tomlinson was a founder member of CAP, Communities against Pylons, and took a very active part in the local campaign opposing the giant pylons proposed for the Beauldy Denny transmission line. As well as participating in marches, demonstrations and lobbying visits to the Scottish Parliament and SSE Headquarters in Perth, Ernest attended many of the Perth sessions of the Beauldy Denny Public Inquiry in Perth and, until his untimely death, almost all of the local sessions in Inverness.

Ernest came from a large family of five brothers and one sister. Around the start of the Second World War times were not easy and Ernest, born in 1936, was from an early age self-reliant and practical in nature.

In 1960 Ernest married Brenda, the local district Nurse in Brinsley (Nottinghamshire) and had three children, Carolyn, Mark and Jane. Tragically early, after only 11 years of married life, Brenda died from cancer after a long and painful fight, when she was only 39. Ernest never got over the family's loss. In time, however, he became the proud grandfather of three lovely grandchildren and when he died he knew that his first great grandchild was on her way.

Ernest Tomlinson left school at 15 to go into the motor trade, when mechanics had to be mechanics and faulty gearboxes were not replaced but stripped down, the fault found and fixed. This was a good grounding for

*The late Ernest Tomlinson and CAP members help exert pylon pressure outside SSE HQ in Perth.*

later life where problem solving would become his forte.

In the early 1950's Ernest joined the army and was in the REME attached to the Kings 3<sup>rd</sup> own Hussars (who replaced horses with centurion tanks). Based in Germany, he threw himself into army life - small bore shooting champion for the regiment, member of the cricket and tug of war teams.

After the army Ernest worked for a time for Rolls Royce on aero engines before returning to the motor trade.

Key member of a company with the main Ford dealership which also had Jaguar, Jensen and Lotus dealerships, Ernest and his team produced the Lotus in kit form and could have a Lotus on the road inside a weekend. Moving to a company that dealt with forklift trucks he soon learned and became expert in hydraulics, becoming their main technical troubleshooter. He was also enabled to set up his own training school to have apprentice and production training.

Before retirement Ernest moved on again to work in Nigeria, Greece and Iran, and Northern Ireland at the height of the troubles. After his retirement he did an Open University course, handling the academic side of technology with his usual tenacity .

In retirement he and daughter Carolyn decided to move to Scotland. Settled happily at Hughton, Ernest found the local landscape threatened by giant pylons and unhesitatingly challenged the proposals. However, the pylons issue gave him a purpose and a campaign where he could continue to use some of his many life skills. Unfortunately, his health had been slowly deteriorating even though he had several serious episodes and had bounced back every time. On 14th June 2007 he collapsed on his way to a session of the Beauldy Denny Public Inquiry and died shortly afterwards in hospital.

He was laid to rest in Eskadale Churchyard after a service attended by friends and family from Derbyshire, neighbours at Hughton and fellow pylon campaigners.



## Nancy Humphries Culburnie 1919—2007

**N**ancy MacKenzie (also known as Hannah) was born at Bredaig, Kiltarlity, on St Swithin's Day (15<sup>th</sup> July) in 1919. She was the oldest in a family of six sisters and one brother. Her sister Marjory died when only 13, her brother Alastair in 1947 when still in his twenties and her sister Dolly (Margaret), who lived in London, died a few years ago. Her sister Marie now lives in Inverness, Janet in the Edinburgh area and Eileen in Stranraer.

In 1933 the family moved from Bredaig down to the croft of 19 Culburnie where their father, John, took over from his late relative Murdo (the Shoemaker).

In 1940 Nancy married Charlie Humphries of the Canadian Pioneer Corps. The couple emigrated to Canada but later returned to this country and eventually to the croft at 19 Culburnie. Charlie died in 1992 aged 79 years.

Nancy died on New Year's Day 2007. She is survived by son Tommy and daughters Jessie, Jean, Barbara and Joyce and by her grandchildren and great grandchildren

## Charlie Mackenzie 1925—2007 "Charlie the Tailor"

**C**harlie was born in Allarburn, Kiltarlity, in 1925, son of Charles Mackenzie who had a tailor's business and shop in the village. He was a member of a large family that, despite following many different occupations, continued to be known as the "Tailors" after their father's business.

Charlie attended Tomnacross School and on leaving in 1939 was apprenticed and served his time with the Inverness joinery firm of Smart's. After the Second World War he and his sister Sarah reopened the tailor's shop in Allarburn and ran it until 1954, including taking vans to outlying places on the West Coast and Skye.

Up to the mid sixties Charlie was the manager of Frozen Foods in Inverness, a company that led the way in this technology and supplied the catering trade throughout the Highlands until hotel and

shop freezers became established.

Until his retirement he ran a corner shop in Inverness and for a time was also a representative for various building firms.

But above all Charlie will be remembered for his prowess on the shinty field where he was undoubtedly Lovat's most famous full-forward and was awarded the unique trophy of a silver mounted caman from the Lovat Club for having scored the greatest number of goals ever recorded in one season. He was a key member of the famous Lovat team which dominated the post war game and reached a victorious climax in 1953, making a clean sweep of trophies never since equalled.

Another of Charlie's sports was fishing and for a time he had a holiday home in north Sutherland which was within easy reach of the plentiful hill lochs of that area and where he would offer hospitality to fellow enthusiasts.

Charlie died on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2007 and is survived by his wife Dorothy, a former nursing sister.

## Annie Fraser 1914—2008 "Annie the Shop"

**A**nnie Bella Fraser was born on 16<sup>th</sup> June 1914 at Blackpark, Glaichbea, the youngest child of Hugh & Isabella Fraser. As a teenager she suffered a bone disease in her shoulder which caused problems for the rest of her life. But Annie was able to put that aside and worked hard her whole life.

By 1933 Annie was already working for the MacKenzie family who had the shop and bar at Allarburn. Annie ran the shop during the day and worked in the bar at night. During this time, Annie had very few days off work or many holidays. It was not surprising that generations growing up in Kiltarlity came to know her simply as "Annie the Shop".

And when the members of the MacKenzie family became ill she nursed them until the last member, Donnie, died in the 1970's. By that time Annie was in her sixties, so she moved to live with her sister Katie and brother-in-law Geordie at East Ingliston, Forfar, where she found more employment looking after an elderly lady

in Monifieth. When that lady died she retired finally to live the rest of her life with her sister in Glamis and latterly Forfar.

Although Annie never married or had any children, with her cheery disposition she was at her happiest when she was in the company of her five nephews & nieces - Joss, Duncan, Isobelle, Catherine and Angus, who in time produced eight great nephews and nieces. Annie took great delight in making cups of tea and pancakes or playing cards, doing jigsaws and even playing football with this next generation. She was also fortunate to know of the arrival of five great-great-nephews and nieces.

Annie, died on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008, predeceased by her sister Katie, brothers, Ally and Danny and half brother Simon. Her final wish was to return home to be with her parents in Kiltarlity.

## Deirdre Anderson 'Foinaven' Kiltarlity

**I**n recent years Deirdre was probably not well known to many people because for many years after her retirement she had led a very quiet life at her home "Foinaven", the house she and her late husband Bob had built at Loaneckheim when they started married life in the sixties.

However, Deirdre Cunningham had a very long connection with Kiltarlity and her Cameron grandparents had for many years kept the village shop at Allarburn. Her mother had taught music in Kiltarlity before meeting and marrying her father who had come to the Forestry School at Balgate. He then joined the Glasgow police and the couple moved to Glasgow where Deirdre was born.

In 1964 Deirdre, by that time a primary school teacher based in Lossiemouth, married Bob Anderson of Teanacoil, Culburnie, and came to live with him in their new Kiltarlity house. Sadly, Bob, a journalist and photographer, became ill about two years after their marriage and died in 1968.

Deirdre taught for many years at Tomnacross Primary School before retiring to devote more time to her garden. Besides being a keen gardener with a wide knowledge of plants, she was also very fond of animals and loved her pet cats and dogs.

# Kiltarlity schooldays well remembered

*Organisers' efforts rewarded with successful schools reunion*

**K**iltarlity exiles returned in their hundreds last summer to remember their schooldays here in the first half of the twentieth century. Former pupils of Tomnacross, Culburnie, Eskadale and Glenconvinth schools came from places as far afield as Alberta, Cornwall, Kent, Glasgow, and the Isle of Man to join those still living in Kiltarlity and nearby at a Grand Kiltarlity Schools Reunion held on Saturday 9th June.

Before the Reunion Dinner in the Community Hall in the evening, well over 100 guests were entertained to an Open Day at Tomnacross School (the only local school now open) and were taken round their old classrooms by present Headteacher Graham Bell to see the many changes that had taken place. They were also able to view a fascinating exhibition of old school and other local photographs collected for the event.

And they had ample opportunity to reminisce about the "good old days" and renew old friendships over cups of tea and coffee.

At the evening Reunion Dinner in the Hall, the 91 guests were welcomed by Isabel Campbell (MacLean) MBE who entertained them with extracts from Tomnacross School Log Book - in verse form (printed in full on Page 14).

Present day pupils were not forgotten and almost £500 was raised for Tomnacross PTA funds from a raffle of generously donated prizes, and the auction of a fine painting by artist and former Tomnacross pupil Mrs Catherine Harrison (MacDougall), who unfortunately could not attend in person, raised over £100.

Typical of those attending were two members of the Boa family Donalda and Patricia, former pupils of Glenconvinth when they lived at Drumcroy on the Drumnadrochit road. Donalda (nowadays Mrs Beattie) lives in Kilmorack, but sister Pat, though not so near thought "it was well worth the trip from Cornwall".

And the opinion of Elspeth Hancock, formerly Allan, now living in Peebles, was that the Kiltarlity Schools Reunion had been "a great success and a really enjoyable time" which had reminded herself and fellow former pupils "how lucky we all were to attend the schools we did".

During the Dinner, event organisers Rose Nixon, (MacGregor), John Brown,



*(Above) former pupils set off with Headteacher Graham Bell for a tour of the school.. (Below and bottom) back to school with a difference. (Opposite page top and second) two of the tables at the Reunion Dinner*





Esther MacBride (Kennedy) and Ron MacLean were thanked in a humorous and wide ranging vote of thanks by Bill Fraser.

The organising committee would, in turn, like to express their gratitude to all who supported the event, and all sponsors and helpers.

It may come as a surprise to some that Kiltarlity had at one time no fewer than four primary schools, Tomnacross, Eskadale, Culburnie and Glenconvinth with a fifth school, Abriachan, also sending pupils to the Tomnacross's Secondary Department. It was possible for school shinty teams to play competitively against each other without going beyond their own district.

By the 1960s, however, rolls had dropped in the outlying schools from as many as a hundred pupils to below twenty and the small schools had all closed by the end of that decade and local schooling centralised in Tomnacross. With the introduction of comprehensive schools Tomnacross's secondary department closed and all pupils had to make the daily return trip to Inverness., first to Inverness High School and then to Charleston Academy, now designated as our area secondary, though some pupils attend the nearer Glenurquhart High School.

Occasional suggestions by councillors and others that a local secondary might be built for the Beaully and Muir of Ord area, have not so far not come to anything. However, the idea was raised at the last Aird and Loch Ness Ward Forum and it was acknowledged to be a possibility in the context of the expansion of population in Inverness and district.



*(Left) Isabel Campbell (Isy MacLean) MBE, auctioneer, poetess and MC for the evening. (Above) the organising committee are toasted by guests (also in picture Betty Jamieson Crevier, author of "After the Long Journey").*

# The best days of their lives

*Tomnacross School Log—  
slightly adapted for the Kiltarlity  
Schools Reunion by Isabel  
Campbell MBE (Isie MacLean,  
Boblainie)*



We've come from "a' the airts" tonight to attend this wonderful event  
We'll reminisce with joy and pleasure the happy years we spent,  
In Tomnacross Junior Secondary School, that was the title for us  
In nineteen hundred and fifty-three, and we're all now 60 plus!

The foursome who hatched this idea have researched the old school files  
With help from Headmaster Graham Bell, they discovered the role fluctuated whiles  
It stood at 152 in 1919, but dropped to its lowest after the war  
With only 98 pupils in '45, it was soon to get new life from afar!

Many children from the big cities moved to the country at that time  
And in nineteen hundred and fifty-two the roll peaked at 159,  
Attendance was affected by severe frosts and water leaks,  
With measles, influenza and mumps closing down the school for weeks.

Many of us will remember the milk bottles in their crate,  
Providing a real healthy drink at the morning break,  
But three inches of frozen milk would be sticking out the top  
And was thawed out beside the classroom fire, so we could drink the lot.

The school was closed for a week when war was declared with Germany  
In '45 it was closed again to mark the European Cease-Fire ceremony  
Official holidays were also given for lifting potatoes and harvesting  
And the school closed for the "Fast Day" and the Harvest Thanksgiving.

School holidays were granted for numerous Royal Occasions,  
In '53 it closed for three days for the present Queen's Coronation.  
A party was held at Beaufort Castle in a lovely sunny day  
And we were all given a Coronation mug as a gift to take away.

Four Headmasters served the school from 1919 to '55,  
John Young, John Ewen, John MacDonald and Hume Robertson, sadly none are still alive.  
Miss MacAulay, Miss Maciver, Miss Riggs were teachers, I recall  
From Primary 1 to Primary 7 – they taught us all.

Truancy was not a major issue when we went to school  
And vandalism was totally unknown as a rule,  
But a classroom window was broken by Billy Fraser's mother Nelly Ann  
Who offered to pay for it instead of being belted on the hand.

Miss Anderson, known as "Gandy" joined the staff in '29  
And many will remember how she took no nonsense in the line.  
Miss MacKintosh taught domestic science, how to set the table for tea,  
While Mr Mollinson stretched our vocal cords with his "Doh, Rae, Me"!!

While girls were taught home crafts, boys learned the rural skill,  
Of making a school garden, which had five vegetable plots to till!  
The prestigious Locheil Garden Shield was won on three occasions,  
And Locheil himself presented it, accompanied by the Director of Education.

Shinty was the premier game the boys were taught to play,  
And the school won the Matheson Cup in the early days.  
Many of the boys went on to join the Lovat Shinty Team,  
To win the Camanachd Cup was every player's dream.

Three outstanding players are with us here tonight,  
Addie MacKenzie, Donnie Campbell and Alan MacLaren got their act just right.  
In '53 they won the MacTavish, MacAulay Torlundy and Celtic Society's Cups  
And shinty's highest accolade – the Camanachd Cup.

Some early village memories remain with each of us,  
There was Isie Ann's school taxi and Bobby Kennedy's Bus.  
Willie Daddy ran the Garage, the Munros were the Millers  
MacLeod the Tea Man's shop was near Charlie the Tailor's!

We all have special memories of our Tomnacross school days  
The excellent teaching we received guided our future ways  
Tonight we renew old friendships spanning over forty years  
With love emotion and laughter, and perhaps a few tears!!

Our thanks to the Reunion organisers for planning this wonderful night  
Their research and attention to detail has made sure it is just right.  
To John, Rosie Esther and Ron who brought us from far and near,  
Let's raise our glasses friends and give them a good cheer!!!

## Once again a good time had by all

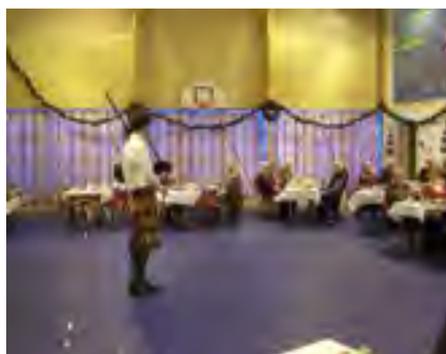
**T**he Annual Christmas Party of 2007 was voted another great success by approximately 60 guests. The party, held on Saturday December 15<sup>th</sup> was, as in previous years, organised by Kiltarlity Community Council with catering provided by Kiltarlity SWRI.

Entertainment was arranged by Graham Bell who also acted as Master of Ceremonies. Guests enjoyed music and song throughout the afternoon from ace dance band Torridon, of which Graham is also a member, while Euan Wotherspoon was this year's inspiring piper. Guests also enjoyed the Tomnacross Guitars and Singers, Caitlin Sandilands on the violin and further music from Graham Bell, appearing this time with Jimmy Gallacher.

Santa Claus's adult department was as reliable as ever, arranging for generous refreshments and for the man himself to appear at the end to give all the ladies a pack of assorted toiletries and all the gentlemen a propelling pencil, scarf and whisky miniature.

In his vote of thanks, retiring Community Council Chairman Hamish MacIannan thanked the organising committee of Dorothy Ward, Maureen Hanson and Karen Ferguson, the ladies of the SWRI, all the artistes, Torridon, and Graham Bell for his enormous contribution to the event and also all the Community Council members who had helped both in the preparation and running of the event. He particularly thanked also all the donors whose generous funding of the Party had been a vital part in making it a success.

Invitations to the Party go to all local residents of 60 years and over. As always it proved difficult to achieve full coverage with invitations, although every effort was made and Kiltarlity Community Council wish to apologise to anybody who was inadvertently missed. The hope always is that new residents who may not yet be on the list will hear from neighbours. Some difficulty was caused by guests who had accepted invitations but were unable to come, not being able to let the committee know. The Council hope that on future occasions folk who find they are after all unable to come will be able to let the organisers know so that the necessary adjustments can be made.



*Above, left, Euan Wotherspoon on the pipes and, right, talented young violinist Caitlin Sandilands. Below, guests give performers their full attention*



*Torridon, in top form*



*Tomnacross Guitars, up and coming*

## Kiltarlity Youth Club



Among recent projects Kiltarlity Youth Club accepted a commission from the Hall Association to paint a mural, now well on its way to completion, at the entrance to the Community Hall and carried out a sponsored litter pick up around Kiltarlity Village in aid of Club funds. With parents and Kiltarlity 2000 members helping, they collected 16 bags of rubbish, as well as a car exhaust, a bike, car radios, tyres and lots of bottles. The youngsters also had a stall at the Kiltarlity Gala.

The Club meets on a Friday night in Kiltarlity Community Hall, from 8.15 pm to 9.45 pm. Ages are from primary 7 up to 18 years. Membership is £10 for the year with a £1.00 weekly entrance fee for members and £2.00 entrance fee for non-members.

Club members and visitors can participate in games of football, unihoc, basket ball, badminton, and table tennis. The Club has a play station, CD player, and karaoke machine, and has now succeeded in the purchase of its own wii. Cooking, baking, and arts and crafts are also on offer and there is a tuck shop on site for breaks.

From time to time visiting guests to the Youth Club introduce members to various interesting activities and skills. Recently Louise Mainland did a Virgin Vie demonstration, showing members how to apply make up and how to look after their skin, and doing foot massages. Another guest was Caroline Mainland who did a hair demonstration, showing how to put up hair and how to care for your hair.

The final meeting on June 20th was an evening paintballing at Tore.

The Club has three Youth Club Leaders who help out at the Club, and also a bank of parent helpers who can be contacted at short notice if a leader is unable to turn up. Anyone who may be interested in working with the Club as a youth leader on an 'as and when' basis should contact **Jackie MacKinnon** on **01463 741701**. Youth leaders require Disclosure Scotland approval.

## Model pilots in Hall

**W**hen there is too much wind and it's cold a group of friends from the Highland Model Club get together to fly indoor models in the Village Hall. Various models are flown, from tiny helicopters and fixed wing to full function helicopters. The group has enthusiasts of all ages from young to young at heart and is as much a social event with tea coffee and biscuits as a flying session.

When the weather is fine we hope to be flying outside. Anyone interested is welcome to come along and see what we do in the Hall or even bring their own model. It's free to watch but a small charge is made to pilots, to cover the cost of the hall.

If you are interested you can contact Ben Braithwaite on Kiltarlity 741417 for dates and times.

## French spoken—in Kiltarlity Hall

**K**iltarlity youngsters, from nursery age through to Primary Seven are now able to learn French—without going any further than Kiltarlity Community Hall.

Another successful term of French lessons is over and tutor Anneliese Garvie reports that, after a year, "the children are really starting to speak the language".

Anneliese explains that the children learn through songs, games and role plays, and emphasises that learning languages can be fun! Kiltarlity Hall is not quite the same as a real French café or baker's shop/boulangerie selling baguettes and croissants to practise their French in! But being able to decorate the walls of the hall and turn the room into a 'little corner of France' has been much appreciated.

## SWRI celebrates 80th anniversary

**A** highly successful year for Kiltarlity SWRI started when they celebrated their 80th anniversary. At a dinner at the Old North Inn, the 80th Birthday cake and guests were piped in by local piper Calum Cruden.

Nationally, the SWRI celebrated 90 years of a unique contribution to Scot-

tish rural life and Kiltarlity marked this anniversary by twinning with Harburn SWRI, in West Lothian. Enjoyable exchange visits have already been made with Harburn.

In addition to the usual variety of talks and demonstrations, the group raised £200 with their charity Whist Drive. The competitions Rose Bowl was won this year by member Sheila Moir.

In June Kiltarlity SWRI rounded off a memorable year with their annual trip, this year to Inverewe Gardens.

Kiltarlity SWRI meet from September to May in Kiltarlity Community Hall on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm.

## Hall Association Chairman's Report 2007—2008

**A**lthough fund raising is still a priority, Kiltarlity Hall Association Chairman Veronica Tervet was able to tell members that things had improved a lot during year 2007—2008.

At the same time a year ago Association funds had been very low, but sustained effort fund-raising, including the well attended monthly whist drives, had left the Association in a much sounder financial state.

This year the Annual Duck Race had a new venue at the Aquadome, which had made the race easier to organise but, Veronica admitted, might not have been so much fun as in previous years.

Another change had been the use of contract cleaners. This new system had been very successful and more cost effective. None of the organisations using the Hall had reported any problems and had adapted well to the new arrangements.

Veronica thanked all the members of the Association for their time and effort over the past year, their support for events and their willingness to help as and when required.

On behalf of members she expressed special thanks to Meika for her murals in the Hall, to Carol and Sheila for running the hundred club, to Eunice "for always being at the end of the phone and to Cath for always being there with a key".

Hundred Club memberships are currently due for payment and anyone who would like to support the Hall by joining should contact Carol or Sheila of the Hall Association.

## New Kiltarlity Community Council keen to serve community

**I**ncreased interest in the Community Council elections held in October resulted in eight nominations, two more than at the election four years ago. The new Community Council agreed to co-opt a further two members to bring the membership up to the full strength of 10 members.

Chairman of the new Council is Norman Grant, and the Secretary is Hector Douglas. Norman is a long serving member of KCC while Hector has quite recently moved to Kiltarlity, but though new to the Council brings a wealth of experience to the key post of Secretary. Dorothy Ward continues as Treasurer.

Retiring members Maureen Hanson, Sheila Fraser, Shaun Murphy and Tom Hunt were thanked by the new Council for their valuable service to the community during their time on the previous Council.

The new Community Council is keen to provide as good a service to the community as possible and will welcome approaches for advice or assistance from any local resident whether on a personal or community basis. For example, the Community Council may be able to provide some finance for local projects either from its annual grant of around £750 or by applying for additional funds to Highland Council or other funding bodies. Individual members may be able to help with matters such as official letters, forms and documents, or put people in touch with an appropriate source of assistance. Any personal approach to a Council member will be treated with total confidentiality and will only be discussed in Council meetings with the clear agreement of the person who has

### Kiltarlity 2000

**V**illage amenity group Kiltarlity 2000 would like to do more but badly need someone to act as Secretary. Although the job would not be particularly heavy it would make it easier for the group to apply for funding and take on more projects. Kiltarlity 2000 are also keen to have more volunteers prepared to give up a little of their time on a regular basis.

In spite of ill health and work commitments the group have continued to regularly tend the village flower boxes, the Garden of Hope and the War Memorial surround, and see to it that the grass areas have been cut. They also joined the Youth Club on their village clean-up.

made contact.

The Community Council would like local people to get in touch with any ideas they may have for ways to improve living in Kiltarlity. **You can use the form inserted in this *Kiltarlity News*, if you wish.**

Community Council meetings are completely open to the public who, with the Chairman's agreement, can contribute to the discussion. The Council has the right to discuss extremely confidential issues and take decisions in private session but the need for this almost never arises.

**Community Council members:**  
**Norman Grant, Chairman (741532)**  
**Hector Douglas, Secretary (741881)**  
**Dorothy Ward, Treasurer (741253)**  
**Karen Ferguson (831251)**  
**Floris Greenlaw (541342)**  
**Lesley MacColl (741430)**  
**Ron MacLean, Newsletter (741323)**  
**Hamish Maclennan (741312)**  
**Eunice Ramsden (741447)**  
**Jan van 't Zand (741711)**

### Local Heritage Course

**S**everal Kiltarlity residents took advantage of a recent opportunity to explore the issues of the area's past when a two session heritage course was offered by Inverness Workers' Educational Association.

The course, with tutor Susan Kruse, was held in Kiltarlity Community Hall, on 15<sup>th</sup> and 22nd April, and local history enthusiasts were able to look in depth at the archaeology and heritage of the area, learn how to find early maps, information about archaeological sites and archival sources. Participants gained new knowledge about the history of our area and were introduced to valuable research skills.

Ms Kruse was pleased with the good response from a community where her organisation has not regularly offered courses.

During May and June the WEA have been running courses and talks in the north Highland area on a range of topics as varied as the Highland Drivers, DIY Weather Forecasting, Poland and the global crisis in water and sanitation.

For information on their future programme the WEA can be contacted on 01463 710577 (email: [inverness@weascotland.org](mailto:inverness@weascotland.org))

## Clubs meeting in Kiltarlity Hall

### MONDAYS

3.30-4.30pm School Badminton (term time)

6.00-7.00pm Beavers (term time)

7.00-9.00pm Kempo (every week)

### TUESDAYS

9.30-11.30am Mother & Toddlers - £1 (term time)

2.45-3.15pm French for p1-p2 (term time)

pm Tap  
 3.30-4.30pm School Shinty (winter terms)

6.00-7.00pm Fitness Class (term time)

7.15-8.15pm Badminton Juniors (s1-s3) - £1 (Oct- end March)

8.15-9.45pm Badminton Seniors (s4 to adult) -£2 (£1)

### WEDNESDAYS

2.45-3.15pm French for P3s

7.00-9.00pm Shinty training

7.00-10.00pm WRI (1st Wed of each month)

7.00-9.00pm Craft class (2nd & 4th Wed of each month)

8.00-9.30pm Hall committee meeting (2nd Wed of each month)

7.30-10.00pm Community Council Meeting (3rd Wed of each month - can vary)

### THURSDAYS

2.45-5.45pm Ready Steady Go (nursery-P7) (Term Time)

6.00-7.30pm Cubs (Term Time)

7.30-9.00pm Scouts (Term Time)

9.00-10.00pm Indoor Football (Adults) (Winter Terms)

### FRIDAYS

2.55-4.15pm French Class (Term Time)

5.00-6.00pm Indoor Football (Children) (Term Time)

6.00-8.00pm First Shinty Club (Winter Terms)

8.15-9.45pm Youth Club (Term Time)

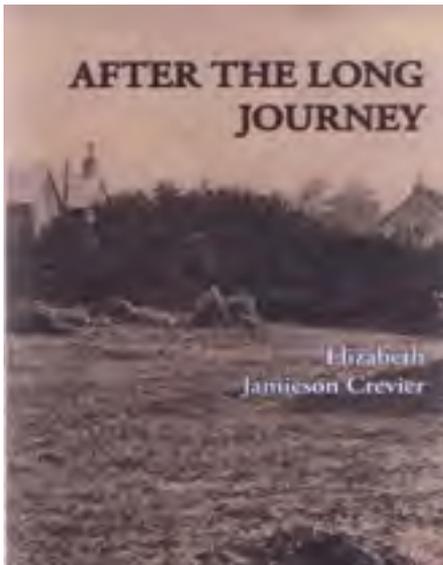
### SATURDAYS

9.30-11.00pm Kirkhill Football Club (Winter Terms)

2.00-4.00pm Model Aeroplane Club (Winter Terms)

7.00-10.00pm Whist Drive (Last Sat of Month)

*Arrangements change from time to time, and the latest information and club contacts can be obtained by phoning the Hall Association Secretary on 741447.*



**W**artime Kiltarlity may have been more peaceful than Clydebank (see “The Anderson Shelter” opposite) but it was not an easy time by any means, or one to be forgotten quickly. Kiltarlity made its own contribution to Highland Year of Culture 2007 with the publication of “After the Long Journey” by Canadian author Elizabeth Jamieson Crevier, an account of the writer’s childhood on a Kiltarlity croft during the Second World War.

And on the same weekend as the Kiltarlity Schools Reunion (see separate report), local primary school youngsters and teenagers entertained a capacity audience in the Community Hall on the evening of Friday 8th June to a dramatised version of ‘After the Long Journey’. Betty Crevier had flown from Quebec with daughter Linda, to launch her book in person, and sign well over a hundred copies sold on the night.

Not long before the outbreak of World War 2, Betty Jamieson and her sister, Margaret, moved from Glasgow to be fostered with Louis Macdonald (Louis the Butcher) at 18 Camaultmuir. Their father had died and the family returned from South Africa to Glasgow where their mother had developed breast cancer.

Betty, married to French Canadian Stanley Crevier, is now 76 but the grandmother of six never forgot her childhood days in Kiltarlity and made regular trips back to Inverness-shire since emigrating to Canada when she was 19.

A few years ago she decided to write a book about her childhood - *After the Long Journey* – and approached Kiltarlity Community Council for help in getting it into print. It seemed an ideal project for Highland Year of Culture 2007 and funding was obtained, not just to publish the book but to produce a play based on the book which would be acted by Tomnacross Primary 7 pupils and, following that, to produce a DVD of the play.

Accompanied by daughter Linda, Betty was able to make the trip from Canada to attend the launch of her book - and the

## Wartime Kiltarlity remembered

world premiere of the play. And they were both delighted to attend the Reunion events on the following day.

Housekeeper to widower Louis Macdonald was Nellie Drury who during Betty and Margaret’s stay married local agricultural worker Ted Sutherland. After the War the couple emigrated to Canada and persuaded Betty to join them. Ted and Nellie retired to Kilmorack but, sadly, both have died in recent years. However, their daughter, Louisa, based in Calgary, Alberta, also came over to Scotland for the play and reunion.

Betty’s sister Margaret, who features in the book and the play, decided not to emigrate with Betty. She died some years ago.

The play and DVD would not have been possible without the acting skills of Tomnacross Primary 7 pupils working with Headteacher Graham Bell, Amanda Luscombe of Eden Court and Arts in Motion of Evanton. The pupils also adapted the text of the book to form the dramatic episodes which were linked by narratives written by Betty Crevier and Ron MacLean, and read by local teenagers Craig MacRitchie and Serena MacRae. Graham Bell provided an original musical accompaniment. The DVD, with the same cast, was filmed at the studio of Arts in Motion’

The Kiltarlity Community Council project was supported by Highland Year of Culture 2007, Awards for All and Leader Plus, and run with the help of Arts in Motion and Eden Court

*Copies of the book and DVD are still available and enquiries can be made to 01463741323; email:rdmaclean5@berisay.co.uk*



*(Above) Betty at 13 (right), and sister Margaret at 15 (left), with friend. (Below) Betty at Reunion Dinner. Also in picture, John Brown and Ron MacLean*



*(Above) 18 Camaultmuir when Betty lived there. (Below) her present home near Montreal, Quebec (sledding a lot better !)*



*(Left) Louis Macdonald in 30s with a pet dog. (Above) a scene from the play and DVD. The children acted in front of a partly animated backdrop, and here, with a lively pig.*

Although, as "After the Long Journey" records, Kiltarlity escaped bombs and air raids, the following vivid account reminds us that larger industrial places, Clydebank in particular, experienced horrendous danger and damage.

## The Anderson Shelter

*An account, slightly adapted, by Mrs Chris Macdougall of Nairn (nee McLeod), formerly of Culmill Farm and Kiltarlity Manse*

**I**n 1941, I was a student in Glasgow, staying with my uncle Willie and family in Dalmuir. After a year and a half we had got used to air raid sirens sounding through Clydebank and district. People with gardens were supplied with shelters which were half buried underground, called Anderson shelters after Sir John Anderson, who later became a member of the Government.

They consisted of fourteen corrugated steel sheets, with a curved corrugated steel hood and could accommodate six persons. It was proved that they could withstand the effects of a 500 lb high explosive bomb 50 feet away and blast from 30 feet. They looked like mole-heaps but people planted strawberries, flowers and vegetables in the foot or so of earth which covered them and made them look quite attractive.

My uncle made the shelter as comfortable as possible, with bunks, and cushions. Although some shelters were inclined to be damp ours was bone dry. He had a store of food, and flasks of tea and other necessities were brought to the shelter each alert to help us while away the night while waiting for the "All Clear". We never went to bed without having our gas masks, torches, coats and warm slacks to wear over our pyjamas, at the ready for whenever we would hear that unearthly wailing announcing that enemy planes were on their way. We had become quite used to air raids.

On the evening of Thursday, 13 March, we were listening to the 9.00 pm news when we heard the sirens wailing. At first we thought it was part of the broadcast, but not for long! I remember looking out from the darkened bedroom window and seeing this beautiful big full moon lighting up the whole countryside making it as bright as day. We dreaded the full moon - the "bombers' moon" it was called. It made us feel so vulnerable as it gave enemy aircraft wonderful visibility.

We heard the German aircraft coming in from the west. They had a deep throbbing engine noise quite different to the R.A.F. (It was a note I dreaded to hear whilst having a bath!)

At first we were not unduly worried as usually the raids did not last for very long; but this one went on and on. The bombs made a wild whistling scream as they fell. There was an anti-aircraft battery on the rise behind us at Mount Blow and we felt the earth trembling every time it blasted off its guns at the enemy and the noise was horrendous. On the Clyde the naval "pom-poms", the destroyer battery, kept hammering away making an awful din.

Although the main objectives for the Luftwaffe were factories, shipyards and the like, they also intended to undermine the morale of civilians. This didn't happen in Clydebank even though casualties were enormous. The spirit of the people was not broken. The slogan was "We can take it".

The Pathfinders (which came first) dropped flares and incendiary bombs as well as high explosive bombs. The fires pin-pointed the target for the following waves of bombers. Decoy systems above Clydebank and Dumbarton were bombed quite severely and thus saved countless civilian lives.

It was a long night and I couldn't stop my teeth from chattering. Uncle Willie gave us each a sip of brandy which I had never tasted before and didn't like, but it did the trick. When the last raider had gone and the welcome steady note of the "All Clear" sounded, we crawled out into another world. It was 6.30 in the morning. We had been nearly nine hours in the shelter.

The damage round us was indescribable - buses and trams flattened out like corned beef tins, stark broken buildings, rubble and glass everywhere. Fires were burning all around - the firemen greatly hampered through lack of water.

Every now and again there was an explosion from a land mine or delayed action bomb. The parachute bombs looked just like oil drums with parachutes attached. They looked so innocuous but were deadly. As we were not able to help we returned to the shelter.

Then, as darkness fell again, the great round moon shone redly through the fog of dust, smoke and debris. This night its light could not compete with the fires raging all around us. Again, we experienced that shiver of terror as the alert started to wail. Inexorably, the throbbing beat of the bombers was heard and we prepared ourselves for a long grim night. This time they knew exactly where they were going due to the intense conflagration below.

Miraculously, our little shelter saved us from the worst that Hitler could throw at us. In the morning it was pitted with incendiaries and shrapnel. In Mount Blow the very trees were on fire

At one time, during the night, I noticed light coming and going on the roof. I thought that maybe the heat was melting it. My uncle pointed out that the flickering light came from the house burning. There was an almighty crash and Auntie Vic said "That's the piano gone!"

After the "All Clear" we crawled out to a scene of utter devastation. Singer's Wood



*The Anderson shelter—still to be seen in Lewiston*

Yard to the east was sprouting flames reaching to the zenith of the sky, John Brown's rubber store was sending out clouds of dense black smoke, and the Royal Ordnance Factory was well ablaze. The whole place was unrecognisable. The inferno in Clydebank could be seen by R.A.F. planes in Dyce, Aberdeen-shire. That night 3 enemy bombers flew over us, dropping 2198 high explosive bombs and 781 incendiaries. The intensity of the attack was greater than on the previous night - a veritable hail of bombs falling constantly for 6 hours, the planes returning later until the "All Clear" sounded at 05.30 hours.

There was nothing for it now but to head for Inverness-shire to my parents' home. We picked up our gas masks, torches and handbags, having nothing else but the clothes we stood up in, and started to walk to Glasgow Centre, Uncle Willie leading the way over rubble and devastation, detours round unexploded bombs, until at last we reached Partick where we were able to board a bus to Buchanan Street Station.

We went by train to Inverness - sadly - leaving Uncle Willie behind, as he had work to do. Not long afterwards, he went to Buckingham Palace to receive the British Empire Medal - an honour he richly deserved.

We caught Kennedy's bus for Kiltarlity and arrived at Culmill late that evening. I ran into the house first to find my father and the rest of the family engaged in "taking the Book" - conducting family worship. I stood in the hall for a moment while he entrusted our safe keeping into the hands of our Heavenly Father in whom he trusted implicitly. It was a very moving moment. I interrupted him. It was a wonderful home-coming.

That night - and for many nights after - I had difficulty in sleeping in an enclosed space, and used to sit on the landing until day-break. Next day was Sunday - a beautiful morning - a benison - with the sun so hot that we sat out on the garden seat in the peace and quiet, soaking it in - the only sound the singing of the birds in the apple trees. It was a different world! In the grass all around us a wealth of yellow crocuses open to the sun, sent forth their own fragile declaration of hope.

Uncle Willie transported the shelter to River-view (in Lewiston, Drumnadrochit) where he and Auntie Vic were to retire. I greeted it as an old friend. It, too, had survived!

## New look Brockies Lodge

**N**ew owners Robbie and Jean Sheriffs are well on the way to creating a new look Brockies Lodge Hotel. Already all the bedrooms have been upgraded, the conservatory has been refurbished, and the function room is now ready to hold meetings, weddings and lunch events. A new menu has been in place for some weeks but the couple aim to adapt it even further to suit their customers' tastes. In fact, 95% of food at Brockies Lodge is produced in the hotel by their kitchen team.

The Sunday carvery is proving to be very popular with a choice of three meats, delicious starters and tempting desserts. The new coffee machine serves up a mean latte, cappuccino, espresso, mocha and americano making Brockies, says Robbie, "the ideal destination for a quick coffee stop with our scrumptious home baking or a nice after dinner drink". And a loyalty card means that customers can be stocking up on their stamps to earn free meals.

And the hotel gardens are being landscaped to bring a modern and more welcoming look to the hotel.

The new proprietors would like to thank the hotel staff for all their hard work, dedication and support, a large element in the recent success of the hotel during the takeover period. And they are delighted to promote Karen Stewart to assistant manager, a position which will support the front of house team ensure a great delivery of service to guests.

Brockies Lodge is also to be the home of Salon Chic and Lisa and her stylists are ready to accept bookings. Please phone the hotel between Wednesday and Saturday to book appointments.

Robbie and Jean were both born in Inverness and Jean studied at Inverness High School. Robbie attended school in Kirriemuir but moved back to Inverness to study at Inverness



College, including a spell working at Brockies Lodge. Jean is a paralegal by profession and works in various solicitors' offices around Inverness.

When Robbie finished his studies, he worked for Inverness College for a time before he and Jean moved to Edinburgh. However, while they both enjoyed their time "down south", when they heard there was a hotel for sale on the outskirts of Inverness and discovered it was Brockies, they were delighted at the prospect of returning to the Highlands. Now they are enjoying living in a community that has welcomed them so well and of which they already feel very much a part.

***Lovat Cup  
Pressure on Beaully but hard  
times in store for Lovat***

## Camanachd Cup win cheers battling Lovat

**D**espite a good Lovat Cup win which secured the trophy for another year, and success in pre-season friendlies, Lovat's first season in the Premier League has not so far been easy, though supporters will not be giving up yet on a young and promising team. Things initially were not any better in cup competitions with the side dropping out of both the MacTavish and MacAulay.

In the League some heavy defeats have obscured Lovat's good performance in several games lost by very close margins. Against Lochaber and Bute, for example, Lovat suffered cruel reversals of fortune at a late stage in play when they looked to be coming out with the points. Particularly disappointing was the recent defeat by neighbours Strathglass, also struggling at the bottom of the League. However, despite another disappointing League showing against Fort William, a close fought victory in Skye in the Camanachd Cup gives loyal Kiltarlity supporters a ray of hope.

Lovat Juniors have fared a bit better sitting round about the middle of the Division Two League Table and, while out of the Sutherland Cup in a second round clash against Fort William, are still in the running in the Strathtearn competition.



### Cost of Kiltarlity News

**This issue of the Kiltarlity News has been subsidised by the Community Council. In order to have enough funds to support a variety of local projects we may need to consider a future price increase.**