

L/DG/7/1/26

Kilmassie Community News

Issue 32

Free

February 2008

Kilmassie Community Council

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 - Ken MacFadyen, Kilmory, Corpach 773 134
 - Nicola MacFadyen, Kilmory, Corpach 773 134

Kilmallie Community Council expresses it's gratitude to the following local businesses, without whose sponsorship this Newsletter would not be published

- British Waterways* *Boyd Brothers*
- Corpach Hotel* *Ganken Ltd* *Bow Timber*
- Locheil Logitics* *Slipway Autos*
- Ennstone Thistle* *Tradewinds*

Thank you to all our regular contributors, to the Sponsors, also to the girls at An Drochaid who print the Newsletter.

Community Council Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month (EXCEPT July and December) in Kilmallie Hall at 7:15pm.

Members of the public are always welcome at any meeting of KCC

Minutes of all meetings are posted on notice boards in Banavie and Corpach

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Spring 2008 Newsletter

HM Coastguard at Corpach



A very quiet period for the team here but a chance to get to grips with new rope rescue techniques and equipment.

Call outs included checking on the safety of a windsurfer near the Yacht Club and a call to assist the Coastguard teams from Oban, Inverary and Appin in a search for 2 canoeists thought to be missing on Loch Awe. They were eventually found safe and well at 3 am camping on an Island.

One incident we responded to was to look for an EPIRB (emergency beacon) which had been activated. The signal from these beacons is picked by a search and rescue satellite and the information and position is transmitted to the Coastguard in Falmouth. This one indicated the position to be very close to Spean Bridge. Loch Lochy was the obvious first search area but following some excellent detective work the beacon was found in a skip and de activated.

An attempt was made to locate an injured canoeist in the River Etive, however the Navy Helicopter beat us to it and airlifted the man with spinal injuries to Glasgow.

A safety watch was carried out on a cargo vessel aground at Corpach and after the severe gales in early January two small boats and a large mooring buoy came ashore all of which were secured.

Phil Wren - Area manager



A BIG THANK YOU!

To Duncan, Linda & staff at Tradewinds, for holding a Race Night for funds for the children's Christmas Parties. A great night was had by all. Thank you to Ian & Maureen Robertson for taking the bets on the night. All the punters were great.

Money made that night - £920.00
Also thank you to Cllrs Henderson, Clark & Hunter for donation of £300.00 and from Alisdair Young, Construction, the sum of £100.00.
Thanks to Anne MacDougall & Margaret Simpson for their time and effort.

Maddie the clown was at both parties -
1st party - 54 children
2nd party - 65 children
Santa came along as well and a Big Thank you to everyone who donated food and helped on the Day.

Total money raised - £1420.00
Party costs - £1219.00

Money left to be carried forward to 2008 parties.
Another Race Night has been booked for November 2008

Many thanks from...
Ken & Nicola MacFadyen (KCC)

Did you know...

1. The 1st WRI meeting in this area - and one of the 1st in Scotland - was held in the old GSC Hall in August 1917.
2. Long before there was a Fort William, Banavie was a "trading post".
3. In 1898, a school of whales was seen in Loch Eil near Annat.
4. Before Drumfada Estate was built, there was a croft house situated roughly between Annat View and Clerk Drive. The last crofter was a McMaster.
5. In Corpach and Banavie in 1831 there were...

2 shoemakers	1 collector of canal dues
1 vintner	2 grocers
1 smith	2 shopkeepers
1 headmaster	2 graziers
1 surgeon	

Notice

There are still some copies for sale of "Passing Glimpses", price £2.50.
This book, by Johnny Wilson, contains memories of by-gone days in Kilmallie.
Phone 772783 for a copy.



British Waterways



No canal news this time but John Stafford has sent in this poem which was written by Peter Kennedy just before he retired.

A Yachtsman's Dilemma

I don't feel glad, I don't feel sad
But the weather here is really bad,
Should I go or should I stay
I could make a run for Bishop's Bay.

I am berthed here in Corpach Basin
Up and down the quay I'm pacing,
The lock keepers here are very good
But my dear wife is starting to brood.

Should I extend my stay
Or move on my merry way,
I look for guidance from above,
Aboard the boat I totally love.

But wait! I see a bird, I see a bunny,
The weather now is nice and sunny,
I'm leaving Corpach now for sea-
I'll soon be home in time for tea!

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Toy Sale

LOCHABER
TOY LIBRARY

Date: Saturday 29th March 2008
Time: 11am - 3pm
Place: Outside the Post Office

Donations

All donations would be extremely appreciated.
Please hand any old or unwanted toys to
Jennifer or Fiona at An Drochaid in Claggan.

All money raised from the sale will go towards new toys for the Toy Library.

contact us at:
Voluntary Action
Lochaber
01397 706044

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Appeal

We appeal to anyone who has old photographs of Kilmallie to get in touch either with Magnus Ritch on 772251 or Margaret MacIntyre on 772783.
Photographs will be returned to owners.

Kilmallie Hall, Station Road, Corpach

Latest Update on the hall: The Christmas Fair was a great success and the committee wish to thank all who assisted in the event. The hall decorations were first class and thanks must go to members of the Community Council who decorated the tree. Santa was warmly welcomed, as was the hot soup and rolls. The committee have picked up a few tips which will help with next year's event.

Ongoing Work: The list is endless - we are aware that the roof leaks; hall heating (we are finding where the draughts are coming from); slippery floor; car park lighting. Just remember it all takes time but we will get there.

If anyone has any unwanted (in working condition) storage heaters, we would be pleased to have them.

Hall charges: To all the hall users and future clients, we regret the need to increase the hall charges.

There has been no review or increase since 2000.

An example of our expenditure is:-
Per Annum - Insurance: £1487.79; Cleaning £2160.00; Electricity £4,200.00; added to this is our Entertainments Licence, Fire Certificate, cleaning materials, and on going maintenance.

We would like to assure all our clients that we are a Community Hall and as such will be run for the Community.

CORPACH in COLOUR

The rain and frost that we had earlier in the winter did a lot of damage to the cordylone plants and so we had to remove them.

The spring bulbs are coming through and will give some colour for spring. Sadly we are still getting a bit of vandalism - tubs upturned and damage to plants.

We had a stall at Kilmallie Hall's Christmas Fair. This was to help raise money for a memorial garden bench in memory of Heather who was a founder member of Corpach in Colour.

Cllr Bill Clark has given us a donation towards the bench also for a new project that we have in the planning. Many thanks to Bill and all who bought from our stall!

The two Margarets.

BANAVIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Healthy Highland Week

In healthy highland week you were supposed to try and bring a healthy snack to school. Healthy highland week most people brought in a healthy snack and there were only a few pupils that forgot or didn't bring them.

I enjoyed having healthy snacks and it was very good fun

Lauren

it was o.k

Callum

These are some thoughts from p7 pupils.

it was bad timing because Halloween was in that same week

Michael

Bryan

Top Five Healthy Tips

1. Drink AT LEAST 2 litres of water a day
2. It is important that you have AT LEAST 5 portions of fruit and veg a day, but it should be a mix of both
3. You should also drink some milk and eat yoghurt and cheese
4. You should exercise for AT LEAST 60 minutes a day
5. You also need some fatty foods to keep a balanced diet

It was normal for me because I always eat healthily



By Melissa Gillanders & Melissa Harris

Kilmallie Playgroup

Third term for the children is well underway with a number of topics covering Cold Colours, Jack Frost, Caring for Birds in the Winter and further developing the children's independence.



There are many celebrations, too, Robert Burns Day, Pancake Day, Chinese New Year, Valentines Day and the build-up to Easter. The children have enjoyed these fun-filled days.



A visit to the new fire station was very exciting and informative for children and parents alike. Gregor Muir visited to teach the children about dental health. Outings to the hospital and library are planned this term and the children are enjoying their woodland walks.



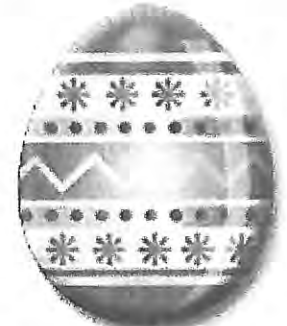
Fund Raising Event for Playgroup

WHAT: RACE NIGHT
WHERE: TRADEWINDS, CORPACH
DATE: SATURDAY, 15TH March 2008
TIME: 7pm

Kilmallie Parent & Toddlers Group

It's a new year and we would like to thank our councillors for their donations towards a stair gate, baby changing station, toys, tables, chairs and our Christmas outing, when we saw Santa at the woollen mill and had a lovely morning. The following day was the Christmas party and we all received a present from Santa.

We are planning an Easter Egg Hunt in Kilmallie Gardens followed by a small party. Our year will end with a summer outing which has still to be decided.



Kilmallie Parent & Toddlers meet in Kilmallie Hall on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10am 11.45am.

ALL WELCOME

ANDY - A CAT WHO LIKES SHOPPING BY RUTH MILLER



I was washing up dishes after breakfast one day lately when I had a surprise visit from a white cat with a lot of bright brown splodges who jumped up on the windowsill outside and meowed at me through the window. My own cat, Judy, was asleep upstairs but could appear any minute so I was a bit concerned about this one. There would be a bit of a rumpus if Judi found it about as she's not happy about other cats invading her territory. I went outside to look at this one but catlike it had already disappeared. But not for long. Later it was sitting at the back of the garden and ran off as I approached and later still it appeared at the front door as I went out and in various other places when I came back, appearing and disappearing rather like the Cheshire cat in Alice in Wonderland. Was it a stray? Was it hungry? Should I feed it? If it had stayed I might have – even though that would encourage it to stay around - but I didn't have to make that decision after all as it eventually vanished.



Two days later I went along to the co-op and there it was running about in the bushes by the post-box. It even came into the shop –“there's that cat again!” and was promptly put out. As I left the shop it was rather on my conscience. Was it a stray and was it hungry? I was just about to go back to the shop to buy a pouch of cat food to open and offer to the cat then and there when a lady with a baby in a pram called it - Andy!. That was quite a shock! “Is that your cat?” I asked. “Well, it's sort of adopted us”, she told me. But it had been with her for about four or five years – a victim, she thought, of people who had moved and had left it to cope alone - (I think less than the dust of people who'd do that.) I told her of my experience with Andy and she told me he was a very independent cat who loved exploring and followed her everywhere – even to the shop. She shelters and feeds him and I told her how thankful I was that I'd met her and knew now that he was cared for.

So the lady – calling Andy -went off with the pram towards Drumfada, and I watched as Andy, after a minute, trotted after her just like a little dog, as they disappeared in the distance.

Ruth Miller



Draft Local Plan



There are some issues therein which could affect our Community-

The Plan proposes a distributor road linking the A830 east and west of Corpach. It would go through the sawmill site, above Drumfada Estate, through part of Dennison's Croft to Pobs Drive and back to the A 830. This area is designated for “mixed use” which could mean housing, community facilities, etc. “Mixed use” is also put on the area from Tomonie towards Kilmallie Hall. Up to 75 houses is the figure given and the proposal is to have a “loop” road linking east & west Tomonie. The Plan includes a pedestrian footbridge over the railway at west Tomonie should development proceed in advance of the school closing. A new settlement is proposed for Fassfern with a possible 500 houses.

The Draft Local Plan can be seen in the Service Point, libraries and post offices, also on-line at www.highland.gov.uk/whilp

Comments/objections, should be sent in writing, to the address below, before 5pm on Friday 14th March 2008:-

**Tim Stott
Highland Council
Planning & Development Services
Glenurquhart Road
Inverness IV3 5NX**

Pupil Council



The pupil council is a group of pupils elected by members of their class. We take in all of the suggestions out of the suggestion box it is located outside of Mrs Dunhams office. We then decide which are sensible and which are not possible. Currently we are thinking about getting new playground equipment and Golden Time games! Our newest purchase is Liam's bench which is outside the main doors.

The current members of the Pupil Council are:

- P7 - Findlay Ireland (Chairman)
- P7 - Michael Lawrie (Vice Chairman)
- P7 - Kayleigh MacFadyen (Secretary)
- P7 - Chloe MacDonald - Cameron (Vice Secretary)
- P6 - Connor Skinner
- P6 - Erin Clark
- P5 - Mark Dunlop
- P5 - Lindy Ireland
- P4 - Iain MacIntyre
- P4 - Cheyenne MacDonald - Cameron



Banavie School: Bench in memory of Liam Sandison.