

# Ness News

Community News & Events

September 2024



## Railway



## Senior Citizens



## The Hub





Welcome to another issue of Ness News after another busy few months with the usual problems that the summer season entails with parking, speeding and road closures.

The first part of the Local Place Plan was successful with no surprise over local concerns of the above issues, housing, lack of activities for young people, leisure/sport facilities and public transport. The results are shown in the centre pages of this issue.

The Community Council are in the process of employing an adviser to help with the deluge of renewable energy projects in our area. It is also trying to improve the Inchnacardoch Bay area by cutting back vegetation towards Cherry Island, removing the dangerous pontoon and erecting better signage.

There are a few public consultations coming up in our area.

Firstly the Millennium East Wind Farm – Exhibitions 10 & 11 Sept.

The developer held their first public exhibitions in March this year to share information and gather feedback on the proposed Millennium East Wind Farm development, an extension to the existing Millennium Wind Farm. Since then, Renantis has joined forces with another wind farm company and the resulting new company is called Nadara.

They are now holding the second round of consultation to update the community on their plans. The public exhibitions are taking place at the Caledonian Canal Centre, Fort Augustus on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September from 2pm to 7.30pm, at Glenmoriston Millennium Hall, Invermoriston on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September from 11am to 3pm and at The Hub, Dalchreichart on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September from 4.30pm to 7.30pm.

Also, the Coire Glas Community Liaison Group meeting at Glengarry Community Hall on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm. **All Welcome.**

The Fort Augustus Golf Club had a very successful centenary dinner dance on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August which raised £2,030 and was matched by Glendoe Estate who also donated £12,000 towards new equipment. Thanks to Davy, Alex, Lorn and Scott for organising this community event, to DM Catering for providing the lovely meal and to Nick and Raymond for running the bar and the excellent music from the band.

Just a wee reminder that it takes approximately a week to produce, proof read and print the Ness News so it won't usually be in the various outlets before the 7<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Deirdre

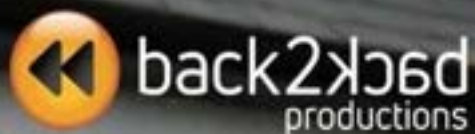
Editors

Deirdre MacKinnon

Seonaid MacDonald Urquhart

nessnews-paper@outlook.com





WE ARE NOW CASTING FOR SERIES 7

MY HOUSE IS HAUNTED

TO APPLY, EMAIL:  
HAUNTED@BACK2BACK.TV

# Invermoriston Community Shop



## "First Birthday Milestone"

The Community Shop in Invermoriston opened in 2023, thanks to generous support from the windfarm community funds and thanks to locals in the community who supported our vision and efforts. The joint venture of groceries and crafts makes it different and interesting to both locals and tourists alike. We have been really pleased with the support we have had with this venture from the start and over the last year this has continued. We would particularly like to thank those in the community who have got behind this and helped in no small part to make it the success it is.

We would like to give special thanks to our two managers, Stephane and Julius, without whose dedication and hard work, the shop would never have got off the ground and to the 14 volunteers who give their time free to serve in the shop. Also we would like to thank the army of workers behind the scenes who have helped with fit out and subsequent changes.

It has been a steep learning curve for all of us, and many of the volunteers are still in the process of learning how, and how not, to do things -we don't think the learning process will ever stop! Some of our ideas have been good, some have fallen by the wayside, but we believe that despite all the ups and downs, the community at large have benefited from having the wee shop in the village. Added to that, the visitors we have had in the shop have been many and varied and judging from the 5\* feedback on our media pages, we have proved to be a success.

As many of you are aware, we have a Facebook page and are on Instagram, managed very well by Jackie and Stephane. They do an amazing job of passing information to the public, and our following on these platforms is rising daily.

We have a number of locals who have become members of the shop. As a thank you, we are to introduce a Membership card which gives the bearer a 5% discount. If you have not yet joined as a member please consider this- it is free, gives you a voice at members' meetings, a say in the use of any end of year profits and now a regular discount on our prices.

New volunteers would be welcome and if you feel you might be able to offer an hour or two to help us, please let us know by phoning either Stephane or Julius on 01320 351727.

Thanks for all the support, we really appreciate it.

# The Hub Dalchreichtart

Autumnal Newsletter 2024

September has arrived and many people inform me that they are still awaiting summer. The saying, 'Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine,' certainly appertained to summer this year. In every leaf, there's a whisper of autumn's magic, with that thought, we move forward to the season that gives our glens the chance to display their beauty in such vibrant hues. It is not long before we must face the clocks going back. If a year was tucked inside a clock, then autumn would be the magic hour.



As we look back at the summer months, The Hub started well with the Buy and Swap Plants event, on the 1st June 2024. Numerous members of the community, brought their various plants to sell or swap which provided a lot of interest and a great atmosphere. In addition to garden plants there was an interesting selection of house plants on display, which proved very popular. Abriachan Nursery provided an extensive range of plants for sale, and offered help and advice regarding all gardening enquiries. The overall result was lots of car boots being filled with plants to take home and enhance existing gardens, inspire new garden projects, and brighten indoor spaces.

The weather was very kind to us. The front garden refurbishment as part of the Ecological Garden Project was not complete, however a great usable space had already been created, allowing tables and chairs to be placed outside, for the Community BBQ, which was held the same afternoon. There was an excellent attendance, it was a pleasure to see so many people enjoying the sunshine outdoors and sampling freshly cooked food whilst catching up with all the local news and views.



We have also held the first two of our Natural History Walkabout Discussions, led by John Malley, (former Water Catchment Advisor and Land Manager for the National Trust). The first was held on Saturday 3rd August at 10am, the second on Wednesday 14th August at 6.30pm. The walk element was not strenuous. It provided opportunities to learn and talk about the natural environment we live in. Identification of plants, birds, bird song, animals, fungi, flowers, moss and lichen were all discussed.



Geographical formations, geology and photography were included in these well attended outings, which were very interesting and suited the inquisitive minds of the local community. Everyone agreed how pleasurable it was to be out and about and actually see the items of interest instead of seeing them indoors on a screen. Coffee/tea and cakes were served afterwards in The Hub, giving everyone a chance to ask further questions and continue the discussions. Our next Natural History Walkabout which will be a Micrological (Fungi) Excursion, will be held on Sunday 8th September at 10.30am. Weather dependent, everyone to meet at the Hub.

Looking forward to Saturday, 5th October when we will be having an Oktoberfest at The Hub. As a result of the popularity of last year's event, which was a sell out, we will once again be having a Hog Roast. In addition this year, we will have live music by Scott Curley Allan, from Edinburgh (see Spotify and Facebook). The three musicians, comprising fiddle, guitar, banjo, and vocals, will be playing traditional/ contemporary



music as well as original material. Audience participation will be encouraged. Bring along your musical instruments, or if you would like, you may recite a poem. As before The Hub are heavily subsidising this event, the tickets will be £10 per person. The tickets will be on sale from Saturday 31st August, where you can pay and collect them at The Hub Coffee Morning. Otherwise reserve your tickets online at [thehubdalchreichart@gmail.com](mailto:thehubdalchreichart@gmail.com), Once you have reserved your tickets, you will be provided with details of how to pay online. No ticket, no entry, due to restricted entry numbers.

On Saturday, 26th October, The Hub Coffee Morning will also have a Table Top Sale. We held one earlier this year which drew a lot of attention. This is not solely a craft sale, we encourage you to sell your unwanted and unused household goods, clothes, plants, cakes and home made food items. Tables must be reserved on line at [thehubdalchreichart@gmail.com](mailto:thehubdalchreichart@gmail.com) No charge will be made.

On Saturday, 2nd November we will be having a Film Night at 7pm. The comedy film, Saving Grace, starring Brenda Blethyn will be showing. This is a free event, popcorn and ice cream will be served.

All our regular events have been held as advertised throughout the summer and they will continue during the autumn.

Craft and Chat first Wednesday of each month 10am till noon.

Commencing 1st October, then monthly as usual from 6th November.

Quiz Night the second Saturday evening each month commencing at 7pm.

14th September, 12th October & 9th November.

Coffee Morning the last Saturday morning each month commencing at 11am until 1pm.

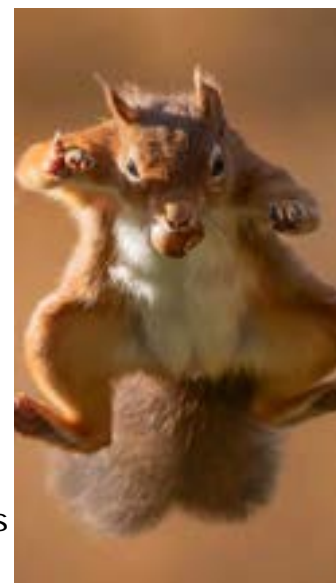
28th September, 26th October with table top sale, & 30th November.

Borrow a book is available whenever The Hub is open for other events.

PLEASE SEE OUR CALENDAR OF EVENTS at [thehubdalchreichart.co.uk](http://thehubdalchreichart.co.uk)

Arrangements for Games Evenings will be advertised on the Glenmoriston Hub Facebook page.

The painting of the outside of The Hub is now completed, this has transformed the whole building. A new notice board has been erected at the car park entrance, all notifications of events and community information are clearly displayed. The photographic competition to produce The Hub Dalchreichart Calendar 2025, is attracting some excellent action packed entries. Don't forget to submit your entries in September and October to [thehubdalchreichart@gmail.com](mailto:thehubdalchreichart@gmail.com) stating Photo Competition, with your name and address. The wet weather has delayed, but not deterred our enthusiasm for the Ecological Garden Project at The Hub. The ground works, rockery, border and bog garden are complete in the front garden area. A new fence has also been erected between the garden and the schoolhouse with ground works continuing in the rear garden. The solar panels have been repositioned. The deer fencing is underway and the new gate is already in position. Also new outdoor tables and chairs have been purchased. John Ferguson and his landscaping team, from Inverarnie, have done an excellent job whilst battling against the rain and the midges.



We have received confirmation that Trees for Life are going to support us with this Ecological Project. They are going to supply us with some shrubs, plants and small trees. They have also offered and help by growing native trees and shrubs from seed, which we are asking the local members of the community to provide from their gardens

eg quince and wild cherry. All offers of native seeds or any shrubs and small trees that the community may have in excess will be gratefully received. They will continue to grow and thrive in our community garden and be a heritage for the next generation.

For further information re The Hub Dalchreichart see our website, [thehubdalchreichart.co.uk](http://thehubdalchreichart.co.uk) on Facebook at <https://m.facebook.com/intheglen> or contact us by email at [thehubdalchreichart@gmail.com](mailto:thehubdalchreichart@gmail.com)

## Poppy Project Update

Plans are well underway for the Crochet Club's poppy arch at Fort Augustus Parish Church for this Remembrance season. It is hoped to be in place from late October through to Armistice Day, 11th November. The Crochet Club want to thank everyone who has contributed knitted or crocheted poppies.

Coinciding with this, there will be an exhibition of local war time memories on display in the Church during Remembrance weekend and later moving into the Church Hall.

Finally, a crocheted blanket is to be raffled in aid of Poppy Scotland. This will be on display in Tarff Trading from early September; raffle tickets will be available from Tarff Trading, Cath Fraser and Jane Patten. The raffle will be drawn on Saturday 9th November at the Cill Chuimein Heritage group meeting taking place on that day.



## Heritage and Gaelic Development officer



Do you have old photographs or family memorabilia that reflect the history of our area? Or any reminiscences of tales or events that are worth recording for future generations? Are you or were you, a Gaelic speaker and would like to meet up with others to keep Gaelic alive? If you are interested in preserving and celebrating the heritage of our Glens, there are moves afoot that might interest you.

A three year post to support the research, collection and recording of the heritage of Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston is to be created, with funding from the Beinneun Community Fund managed by Foundation Scotland and from Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston

Community Company. The appointment is the product of collaboration between the Cill Chuimein and Glenmoriston heritage groups, the Fort Augustus and Area Gaelic Group and Trees for Life. These groups share a common commitment to keeping our heritage alive but need a dedicated worker to support volunteer efforts.

It is hoped that the post can be filled by autumn. If you are interested please look out for the advertisement in the villages and on social media.

## 'Supporting Our Communities'



### Our Services...

**Befriending Service** - there are seven service users: four Befrienders and one volunteer driver for the Telford Centre. One new service user is waiting for a match. When I met with the befrienders, they all reported that the service users enjoyed the service.

**Handyperson Service** - this service is gaining traction, with 12 jobs completed to date. As the service gains popularity, I have been working hard to streamline and perfect the process to ensure its effectiveness for our volunteers and service users.

I am working on setting up a **facebook** page for 3 Glens CC, which will enhance our connectivity with our communities. *Beth*

Beth has now been in the **Development Officer & Services Coordinator** role for a few months. She is settling in well and has enjoyed meeting with our volunteers. She is currently planning the next meet-up for our service users and volunteers. *Denise*

### Glengarry Games 6th July 2024



#### Human Fruit Machine!

The Glengarry Highland Games were held on 6th July and were a great success despite the rain. Our stall hosted a Human Fruit Machine - a human 'one arm bandit' - winning a sweet cone as a prize. It was very popular with the children and brought attention to the hard work all our volunteers do. I hope this brings more opportunities to work with the Glengarry community.

#### 'SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES'

The Board of Trustees of 3 Glens Community Care work together, and alongside other organisations, to improve the availability of care services in our rural area to improve social isolation of people in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, or social circumstances.

#### CONTACT:

Beth  
Development Officer &  
Services Coordinator:  
07507627990  
[contact@3glenscare.org](mailto:contact@3glenscare.org)

Denise Paterson, Chair  
[chair@3glenscare.org](mailto:chair@3glenscare.org)

Visit our website:  
[www.3glenscare.org](http://www.3glenscare.org)







# Handyperson Service



Could you or someone you know benefit from a Handyperson Service?

We aim to give you the confidence to live safely and independently in your own home.

This service is available to anyone struggling to complete small jobs around the house who lives in the 3 Glens area (Glenmoriston, Fort Augustus, Glengarry). It is free of charge and can be used as often as needed. (Any materials required must be paid for.)

**To book, please call our answerphone line on 07507627990. Please leave your name, contact number, address and what the job is. Someone will then be in touch within a week.**



Working with  
Highland Hospice 

# 3 Glens Helping Hands Befriending Service

3 Glens Community Care are delighted to be offering a Befriending Service to the residents of Glengarry, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston.

If you need some extra support and friendship then we would love to help you! See over for more details on using the service.

Contact us at:  
[contact@3glenscare.org](mailto:contact@3glenscare.org)





Fort Augustus and Area Gaelic Group  
[www.the-gathering.co.uk](http://www.the-gathering.co.uk)

This project is funded by



**CONTINUED**

From: Orain, marbhannan agus duanagan Ghaidhealach (Inbheirnis: Alastair Mac-an-Toisich, 1829)



Image: National Library of Scotland

This song combines two of Ailean Dall's favourite poetic subjects: the MacDonell of Glengarry, and; whisky. Another one of Ailean Dall's poems in salute of whisky is Duanag Do'n Uisge-Bheatha (Ditty to Whisky), in which he gives fulsome praise to the spirit and its qualities.

<p><b>Seisid</b>          Ò siud an deoch mhilis          Nach tilleamaid uainn,          Chuireadh blàths' air gach cridhe,          Ged a bhìodh iad fuar:          Ò siud an deoch mhilis          Nach tilleamaid uainn.</p>	<p>Chorus          Oh, 'tis the sweet drink,          That we will not renounce          It'd warm every heart,          No matter how cold:          Oh, 'tis the sweet drink,          That we will not renounce.</p>
<p><b>Tha fàileadh gun fhòtas</b>          Bho chneas Mhic an Tòisich,          Chuireadh blàths am am pòraibh          Latha rèòta 's gaoth tuath.          Ò siud an deoch mhilis...</p>	<p>Such a fragrance comes          From Macintosh's skin,          As would warm your pores          On a day of frost and north wind          Oh, 'tis the sweet drink ....</p>
<p><b>Bu taitneach an ceòl</b>          A bhith 'g èisdeachd a' chròinain,          Ga leigeadh à stòp          A' cur cròic air a' chuaich.          Ò siud an deoch mhilis...</p>	<p>A pleasing music,          Listening to the murmur          Draining the flagon          And putting a head on the cuaich.          Oh, 'tis the sweet drink ....</p>

From: The beauties of Gaelic poetry Volume 2 by John MacKenzie (1841)

Translation: Translation: Frances Tolmie (1840 – 1926)

Here it performed by Rev. William Matheson, recorded in 1954. <https://www.tobarandualchais.co.uk/track/19862?l=en>

However not everyone was equally enthusiastic about the qualities and virtues of whisky, and by the early 1800s there was widespread condemnation in the Highlands of its negative effects. Hugh Fraser, a one-time resident of the glen, wrote a song Thigibh thigibh togaibh suas i, (Come, come, lift it (the banner) up) about the formation of Glengarry's Temperance Society. After singing its 15 verses (along with chorus) you might be forgiven if you were in need of slight refreshment.

Another subject popular with bards ancient and modern is affairs of the heart and there are many examples from Glengarry. One such song is Ailean Dall's Oran do 'n t-Shuiridhidh (The Song of Courting)



<p>Gur h-olc an obair an t-shuidhidh,  Dh' fhagas duine 'n iorghail greis  Cha chuis ghlic a bhi ga leanailt,  Mar a d' theid a leannan leis:  Fear ùr aice, ào-ill-ù-o,  Bheir iunnsaidh oirr' lio-ill ò,  Ga lubadh leis, ào-ill-ù-ò,  'S cha diult i ris, ho-ill-o</p>	<p>Tricky is the work of courtship,  That leaves a man a while in tumult,  It's not a wise course to follow,  If his lover does not go with him.  She has a new man, ào-ill-ù-o,  Who makes advances to her, ' lio-ill ò,  Bending her with him, ào-ill-ù-ò,  And she won't refuse him, ho-ill-o.</p>
---	---

Translation: Raghnaid Sandilands

The melody for the song can be found in The Highland Fiddle Music of Aonghas Grant, Volume 2.



### Fiddle Music

Aonghas Grant is himself originally from Glengarry – though his father was from Glenmoriston. He is a wonderful tradition-bearer for the West-Highland style of fiddle playing which he has almost single-handedly kept alive. Fortunately, he has passed on this tradition on to his many fiddle pupils, and for that we must be very grateful as it has ensured that there is a continuous link with fiddlers from the 18th and 19th centuries.

One of these celebrated old fiddlers was Neil Kennedy, Glengarry's foxhunter, some of whose fiddle tunes were noted down and published by Captain Simon Fraser of Knockie in his 1816 collection. *Hò! Cha cheilinn nach tu b'fheàrr leam* (I can't conceal that I prefer you) is the melody of a song by Kennedy, the words of which have been lost, of which Fraser comments:

"This is supposed to be the composition of Neil Kennedy, Glengarry's fox hunter; the editor has not been able to learn whether he addressed the words to his sweetheart or to his gun an idea very common with Highland sportsmen".



Source: Captain Simon Fraser Collection (1816)

Another fiddle tune collected by the Fraser family is the Strathspey, Tobar na'n Ceann (The Well of the Heads). The tune refers to a gruesome tale of murder and revenge dating back to the autumn of 1663 when Alexander, 13th Chief of the Keppoch MacDonalds and his brother were killed by their Roybridge cousins at a family party that had got "a bit out of hand". Iain Lom, the Keppoch bard and

warrior, sought vengeance and approached the nearby Lord MacDonell of Glengarry, who refused to get involved. For two years Iain Lom unsuccessfully looked for support, but eventually received the backing of Sir James MacDonald at Duntulm Castle on Skye who was the murdered brothers' foster-father. As Ian Lom was reported to have said Sir James: "Abel is cold and his blood is crying in vain for vengeance. Cain is hot and red-handed and hundreds are lukewarm as the black goat's milk." Sir James applied to the Privy Council in Edinburgh which issued letters of "fire and sword" against the killers and 50 men were sent to avenge the killings. Iain Lom guided them to the Macdonald home at Inverlair where, after a brief struggle, the seven known killers were murdered and decapitated.



Iain Lom was satisfied; he had his revenge and as proof, he wrapped the severed heads in his plaid and set out for Glengarry. Before presenting them to Lord MacDonell at Invergarry Castle, he stopped to wash them in the waters of Loch Oich. In 1812 a monument, known as The Well of the Seven Heads was erected close to this site by MacDonell of Glengarry. It is a tall obelisk with at its top, seven carved stone heads.

Source: Simon Fraser Collection Volume 2

It is a fine driving Strathspey and is played here on flute and cittern:

<https://soundcloud.com/user-396491986/to-bar-nan-ceann-the-well-of-the-seven-heads>

**TO BE CONTINUED**





# Announcements

## Graduation



Jade Anderson received 1st Class Honours in Applied Psychology and has applied to do a Masters in Clinical Psychology (studying back home in Highlands/Orkney) - she received travel grants from the Community Company and grants from the Beinneun Community Fund to help in her studies.

## Births



Jess and Rowan Davis welcomed Penelope ("Nellie") Hannah Dyas Davis was born 9th May 2024 weighing 7lbs 10oz. A little sister for Olive and second grand daughter for John and Angela Pargeter.



Lauren Johnstone and Grant Boyd welcomed Annie Boyd on the 17th of June at Raigmore Hospital. Little sister to Molly and Duncan. and another grand child for Andrew and Lorraine Johnstone

## Deaths



**Barry Morrison** was born in Carrbridge on 22/10/33 and died on 23/4/24

**Catriona Morrison nee MacDougall** was born on 16/10/38 on Barra and died on 23/5/24.

Barry and Catriona met whilst both living on Skye and married following Barry doing National Service and Catriona, her nurse training in Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. Barry didn't enjoy city living and eventually ended up working on a Tomatin estate which he really enjoyed. By the time they had daughter, Carol and son, Ian and as the estate was quite isolated, they saw a job available for a janitor in the newly built school in Fort Augustus, Barry applied and got the job. Being very practical, he was well suited to the many small and large tasks involved like fixing the boiler and maintenance of



the building but also had to get kids out of trees, get footballs off the roof and treat cuts and bruises!! Catriona also worked in the school canteen at first until their children grew older and she was able to return to nursing, working in the local nursing home and latterly as manager of the Telford Centre. Having arrived in the village not knowing any body, they soon knew most people in and around and made lifelong friends. Barry and Catriona finally retired having seen generations of children and their relatives through the school and the Telford Centre. Barry was always affectionately known as 'the janny' long after leaving the job! They spent a long, healthy and happy retirement - loved their family, friends, garden (especially Barry), a blether (especially Catriona!) and to help anyone when they could.

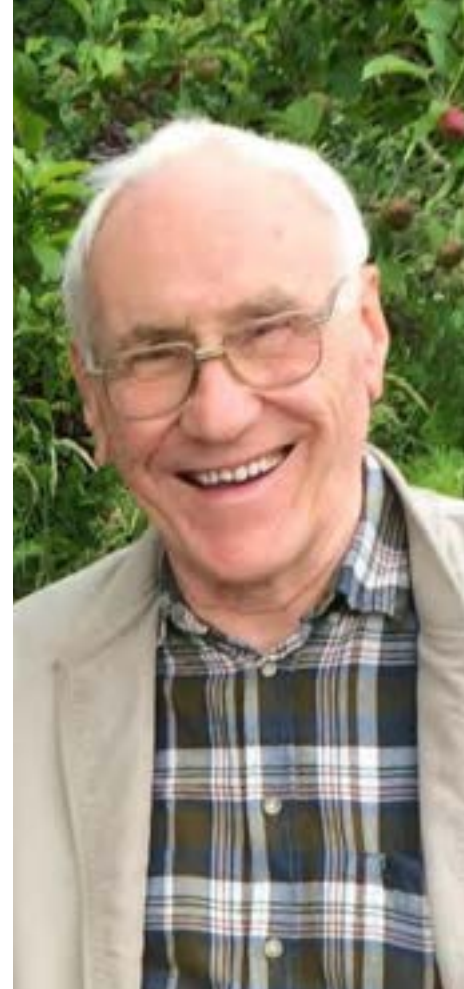


**Frederick James Service**

Inverness

25.11.1930 - 23.07.2024

Peacefully on Tuesday 23rd July 2024 at Raigmore Hospital, Freddie Service, 19 Scorguie Gardens, Inverness aged 93 years. Late of Port MacDonell, Invergarry. Game Keeper Aberchalder and British Waterway "Canal". Most loved husband to Isabel, adored father to Rodney and Marion, very dear father-in-law to Becky and Bruce, dear brother, uncle and a good and loyal friend of many.



**Tony Denison**

Passed away on Wednesday 21st August 2024, Tony Denison, Woodland Cottage, Fort Augustus, aged 85. Beloved husband of the late Jean, mechanical engineer, lover of Scotland, chocoholic, wildlife enthusiast, friend, father figure and neighbour. Sadly missed by Lizzy and Paul, David and Jayne and all his Fort Augustus family.

Funeral service on Monday 16th September at 11.30am in the funeral home of William T Fraser and son, Culduthel road, Inverness. All welcome. We know some people won't be able to join us there so we are having a get together at Fort Augustus Village Hall at 2pm where we can share stories and of course, eat cake!

# Senior Citizens' Association

On Wednesday 21st August, 36 members of the association went on a summer bus trip. The first stop was An Talla at Dochgarroch for morning coffee, scones and cake. From there, we headed to the Cawdor Tavern for a delicious two course lunch. Staff at both venues were welcoming and the service was first class.

After lunch, we headed to the small retail park on the outskirts of Nairn where people had the opportunity to get some shopping prior to heading back to Fort Augustus. We held a raffle to raise funds. Thank you to everyone who donated prizes and bought tickets.

Our driver for the day was Hector who skilfully negotiated some challenging country roads in his usual calm manner.

Thank you to everyone who came along and made the day a success.

The next event will be the Christmas Lunch in December. Details will be announced once arrangements have been made.



## Heritage Group

The Committee have been busy arranging information from our archive cupboard to make an interesting display for our next meeting. There are wide and varied topics and photographs to be seen, and we are keen to hear any further information that people have. We hope to have some interesting discussions over afternoon tea.

Our meeting on Sunday, 8th September at 3pm in the Church Hall, is open to all and we look forward to welcoming you. See poster for more information.

Our November meeting will be on Saturday 9th at 2pm, and we welcome Roland Spencer-Jones back to share wartime experiences and local people's stories of the First and Second World Wars. Local documented history will be displayed, and we shall also have an assortment of household equipment from this era which we hope will entertain and bring some happy memories of family life. One or two items might cause some interest in deciding what they were used for. This meeting will be part of the Commemoration this weekend of Remembrance Day and a warm welcome is extended to all.



# Invergarry & Fort Augustus Railway

The Invergarry and Fort Augustus railway project has struggled for the last eighteen months due to the closure of the site, along with the Great Glen Way and Sustrans cycle route. This is because Forestry and Land Scotland are felling trees adjacent to the station, and consequently the closure has been necessary on safety grounds. This work should be completed by the end of this December.

During this time of closure a limited number of volunteers have been able to access the site one day a week, when Forestry operations are not taking place. This has enabled us to continue with essential maintenance work and the erection of a workshop. This was made possible by a grant from Beinneun Wind Farm, for which we are extremely grateful.

Work has been ongoing to lay track from the running line across points and a level crossing to the workshop. This has involved many hours of volunteer time and a great deal of effort. The track is now approaching the workshop, a length of two hundred metres laid down from levelling the ground, getting the correct gradient and positioning the sleepers and rail. We are also extremely grateful to Breedon Quarries at Banavie who have been so very generous to us in providing sixty tonnes of stone and the transport to site which will enable us to complete the track work into the workshop. This will make it possible to have the rolling stock and loco under cover for restoration during the winter months, It is hoped that we can be back on site working to our usual days in the New Year. More information will be published in further issues of the Ness News and we hope to welcome visitors to the site early next year.





# What next for Fort Augustus & Glenmoriston?



- ✓ NEW MEDICAL CENTRE
- ✓ SUNFLOWER HOME CARE
- ✓ NEW AFFORDABLE HOMES
- ✓ UPGRADED DALCHREICHART HUB
- ✓ INVERMORISTON PLAYPARK
- ✓ COMMUNITY SHOPS

Since our last community plan in 2018, our local communities have achieved a great deal... but there is always more to do.

A new community plan is now being produced, and it's up to you decide what should be in it. The work started in June with community events, a survey, and working with school pupils.

The results give a fascinating insight to our challenges and aspirations. Read on to find out what everyone said.

We're now busy turning these priorities into a new draft Plan which we'll ask you to check in October.

It will then be updated, and submitted by the Community Council to the Highland Council as our *Local Place Plan* - to guide future community action, planning policy and public services.

## Community events

Events held in Fort Augustus, Invermoriston and Dalchreichart were an opportunity to talk about the villages over tea and cake. Lots of good ideas were suggested. Here's a selection...

"More and more tourists - we rely on them for work - but don't have the infrastructure to cope!"

"Tourism is imposed on us, not done with us - e.g. Rabbits buses on Station Road"

### FORT AUGUSTUS

"Need a shop like a Co-op - community shop is great, but Penny Petroleum is like a service station"

"Need to fix our existing parks - Abertarff play area, Abertarff Green needs a play area"

"No staff accommodation - even Scottish Canals have converted their flat to be holiday accommodation. Staff have nowhere to live!"

"We need to think big - reopen old wooden bridge over the Oich, create loop path via old railway bridge"

"We need a dentist!"

"Need to focus on younger ones more - better park to hang out, more after school groups / youth clubs - open up school field after school"

### COMMUNITY-WIDE

"Housing is a big issue. When something comes up it gets snapped up very, quickly for holiday lets."

"include an action about resources/capacity in the community to deliver the plan - as well as projects like housing & shops"

"Look at fitting a fence around the play area"

### GLENMORISTON

"We need a 30mph sign for Invermoriston and 20mph on the bridge"

## Survey

These pages have a summary of people's survey responses. To see exactly what everyone said, check out the transcriptions at [www.ourfutureplan.net](http://www.ourfutureplan.net).

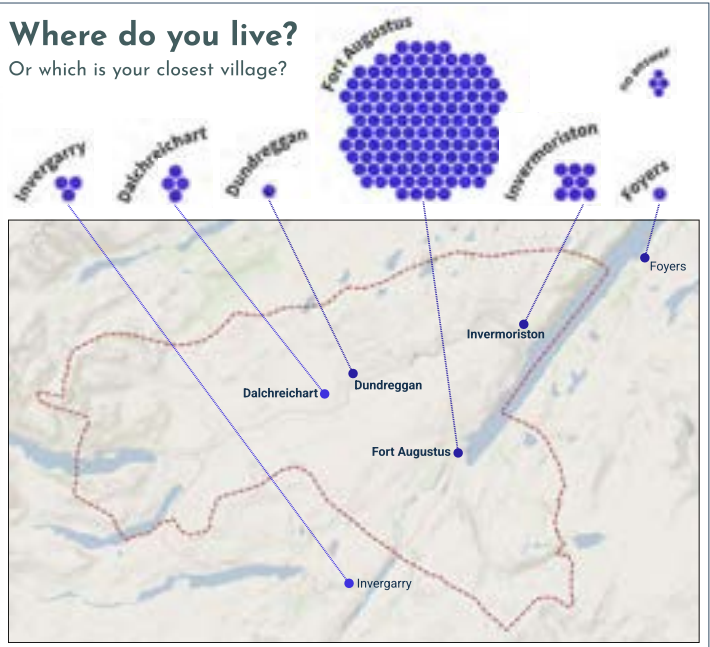
People could complete the survey online or on paper.

144 people responded to the survey, from a population of 1,143 (2022 Census data). Over 90% lived in the area.

The graphics below give you an idea of who responded. Although there were few responses from under 15s, all pupils at Kilchuimen Primary and Academy contributed through sessions in the school. Their suggestions are summarised on a separate page.

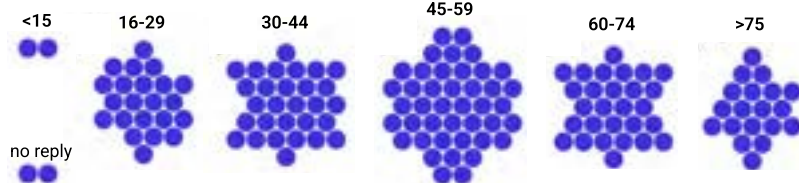
## Where do you live?

Or which is your closest village?

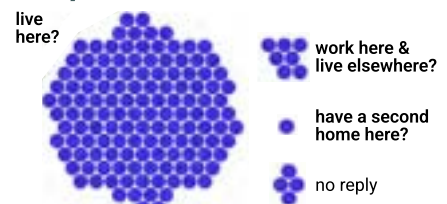


## What age are you?

Each purple circle represents one survey respondent



## Do you...



More information, interactive graphics and e-bulletin sign up at

[www.ourfutureplan.net](http://www.ourfutureplan.net)



# Priorities 2018 & today

In the survey, people were reminded of the priorities from our the last community plan in 2018, and asked how important they are today - and to add new ones that are missing.

You can see an explanation of the 2018 priorities on the right.

The graphs below show the importance they respondents attached to the 2018 priorities now, six years on.

At the bottom right, you can see new priorities suggested, together with the number of people who suggested each one.

## Community & Recreation

e.g. leisure facilities, outdoor play & sport, activities & events, community information

## Housing

e.g. developing new housing for locals & local employees

## Environment & Heritage

e.g. making the area more attractive, developing local paths & long distance trails, making more of environment & heritage, promoting renewable energy use, recycling, local produce

## Transport & Access to Services

e.g. improving local health & care services, transport, childcare, broadband & ICT

## Parking, Traffic & Roads

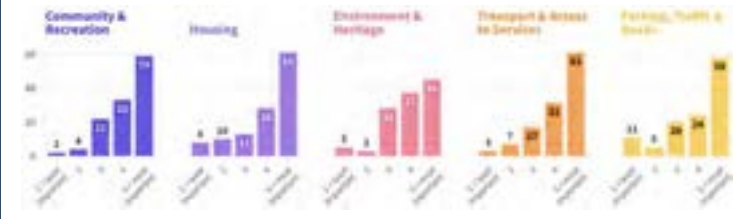
e.g. improving parking, roads & pavements, traffic calming (impact of night traffic & HGVs)

## What people think of the 2018 priorities today

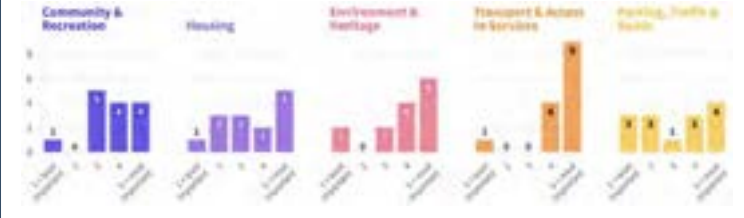
...across the whole Community Council area



...in Fort Augustus only



...in Glenmoriston only



## Any new priorities to add?

- Focus on youth and young adults [5 people]
- Support for local non-tourism businesses [3 people]
- Safeguarding habitats & landscapes [2 people]
- "Community interaction" [2 people]
- Maximise benefit from renewables developers [2 people]
- Culture: support Gaelic & traditional music [1 person]
- "Church and cemeteries" [1 person]
- Nurture creativity & arts [1 person]
- Mental health [1 person]
- Provision for adults with learning difficulties [1 person]
- Auchterawe needs focus [1 person]
- Attract young families [1 person]
- Make more of medical centre for preventative health [1 person]
- Camping facilities [1 person]



More information, interactive graphics and e-bulletin sign up at

[www.ourfutureplan.net](http://www.ourfutureplan.net)







# Young people



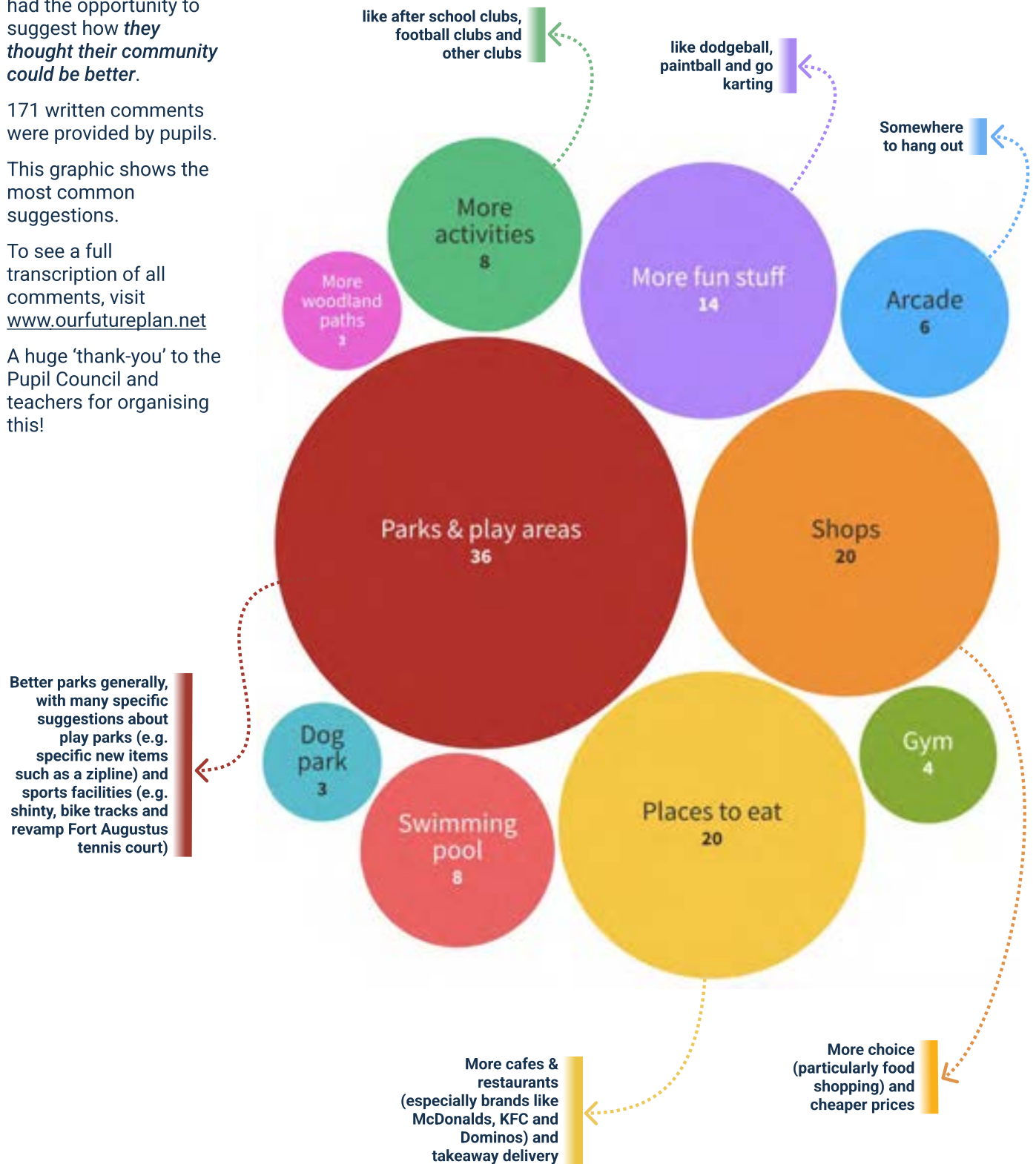
All pupils in the schools had the opportunity to suggest how *they thought their community could be better*.

171 written comments were provided by pupils.

This graphic shows the most common suggestions.

To see a full transcription of all comments, visit [www.ourfutureplan.net](http://www.ourfutureplan.net)

A huge 'thank-you' to the Pupil Council and teachers for organising this!



More information, interactive graphics and e-bulletin signup at [www.ourfutureplan.net](http://www.ourfutureplan.net)



## Kilchuimen 3-18 News

A warm welcome back to a new term at Kilchuimen 3-18.

We are excited to have our pupils return to school and look forward to having another fantastic year of learning and growth. A big welcome to those pupils who are new to our school community; we are very happy that you have joined us

This year, we are pleased to welcome three new staff members to our school community. We are excited to have Miss Fiona MacDonald join our teaching team as a Physics teacher. Ms Lauren Glasgow will teach in P1-4 and in P4-7. Mrs Hannah MacDonald will be joining us as a Pupil Support Assistant. We believe that our new staff members will bring fresh perspectives and expertise to our school. We are confident that they will make valuable contributions to our students' education and overall well-being.

We are delighted to be able to offer Practical Metalwork, Furniture Making, Barista Award, Rural Skills and Exercise & Fitness Leadership certificate classes to our Academy students this year.

This year, as always, we have lots of trips and visitors planned for our students. From the nursery pupils with their regular visits into the community, to the primary school going to the pantomime in Inverness, to academy pupils attending career fairs.

We are very fortunate that the Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company supports us so well in meeting many of our costs, including support for our after-school clubs.

We look forward to a wonderful year ahead and would like to take this opportunity to wish all our school leavers good luck in their chosen paths.

All at Kilchuimen 3-18



# Glenmoriston Millennium Hall Community Association

Septic tank update – after a very frustrating period for residents, businesses and visitors to Invermoriston, we have now found a contractor who has a solution to replace the broken septic tank at the hall and we hope that work is completed over the next few weeks. Many thanks to the funders at Foundation Scotland who are handling the community benefit fund from Beinneun Wind Farm for their help in providing the additional finance we needed to pay for the repairs.



Silver Surfers enjoyed a trip to Cawdor Castle in June, followed by an excellent meal at Cawdor Tavern. We also had lunch at the Glenmoriston Arms Hotel in May. Plans for the future include lunches in local cafes and restaurants as well as a trip to Fort George. If you are over 60 and live in Invermoriston or Glenmoriston and would like to join please get in touch with Elaine or Carol on [silversefers60@gmail.com](mailto:silversefers60@gmail.com)



There was a Community Gathering on the Recreation Field in Invermoriston on a rare sunny Sunday afternoon in August. Games for children and adults, a bouncy castle, bubbles, welly wanging and a barbecue. It was lovely to see everyone enjoying the sunshine and having a blether. Thanks to Jackie Buckley for organising it and to Kelvin Hill for cooking the food. Don't know where the dinosaurs came from, but it was amazing to see one of them on the zip wire!!

Looking forward to starting Community Tuesdays again in October. Watch out for posters about the start date.



Regular Clubs continue to run in the Millennium Hall.

The Budapest Café Orchestra return on Friday 13th September – great musicians and very entertaining. Suitable for all and see posters for ticket details. Tickets are available on the door. Contact Carol on 07721 533316 or at [gmhcahallbooking@gmail.com](mailto:gmhcahallbooking@gmail.com) for more information.

Glenmoriston	Millennium	Hall	Activities
Monday	Weekly	1.30 pm – 4.00 pm	Art Club
Monday	Weekly	7.30 pm – 9.30 pm	Indoor Bowls
Tuesday	Weekly	7.15 pm – 9.15 pm	Shoshinkan laido – martial arts
Wednesday	Weekly	10.00 am – 12 noon	Nourish and Flourish – help with healthy eating and exercise
Thursday	Weekly	7.00 pm – 9.00 pm	Scottish Ceilidh & Country Dancing
Friday	Weekly	7.15 pm – 9.15 pm	Shoshinkan laido – martial arts
Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> of month	11.00 am – 3.00 pm	Craft Club
Saturday	Last of month	7.30 pm – 9.00 pm	Quiz
Sunday	Weekly	6.30 pm – 8.00 pm	Line Dancing



## **Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company – who we are and what we do**

Established in 2007 by the Community Council, we are responsible for safeguarding, distributing and investing the windfarm and hydro scheme funds in ways that enhance the quality of life for community members. Whilst there is a representative member of the Community Council on the Community Company's board, we perform very different functions. The Community Council act as the community's representative for dealing with Highland Council issues.

The Community Company has a board of directors, all volunteers, who meet monthly to discuss where and how the funds are used.

Some of our funds are used to:

- Support the Community Caretakers
- Develop properties for affordable rent across the communities
- Fund apprenticeships
- Support the village halls in Fort Augustus, Invermoriston and Dalchreichart
- Fund local groups and clubs such as Fort Augustus Cricket Club, the Glenmoriston Community Hall Association and Sunflower Home Care
- We also support local institutions such as Kilchuimen Primary and Academy and the Telford Centre for costs that are not supported by a government body.

Our Community Caretakers have taken on tasks previously managed by Highland Council. This includes grass-cutting in communal areas, collecting litter and maintenance of the area. ***Did you know that the Caretaker Team spends 46 hours each week litter-picking around the villages twice a day every weekday and once a day at the weekends?***



## [Milestones and Achievements](#)

Since 2007, the Community Company has achieved several significant milestones.

- We have built a new medical centre which is leased to the NHS, to avoid the community losing access to local GP services.
- We constructed twelve properties and purchased three additional homes for affordable rent.
- We acquired Tarff Trading to run it as a community store, to avoid it becoming another tourist establishment. ***Did you know that thanks to your suggestions 30 per cent of all sales at Tarff Trading are for food? So, drop in and find out what else we have.***
- We supported the Invermoriston Community shop with funding.

Since 2018 the Community Company has distributed over **£560,000** funding for groups and community benefit grants. Furthermore, we have been supporting young people by funding apprenticeships and student grants.

There are always new projects on the go that will bring new facilities to our community. We're still progressing the takeover of the Memorial Hall and Glentarff, along with the plans for the Convent Land development; read more about this below.

## [Get Involved](#)

If you would like to be a part of the community's development, you can join as a member of the organisation enabling to you to vote at the Annual General Meeting for the directors to represent you. You can also apply to join the Board of Directors so you can be part of the decision-making.

## [Grants – funding in action!](#)

**Jackie Buckley** found a need for a local wellness group where members can have a little exercise, swap healthy recipes, take part in some wellness activities and have a chance to meet up with each other.

Jackie successfully secured funding of **£536.58** for the start-up costs of the group who meet in Millennium Hall weekly. If you're interested in coming along to the wellness group, you can contact Jackie by emailing [buckleyjteams@hotmail.com](mailto:buckleyjteams@hotmail.com).

The classes are running on Wednesdays 10am until 12 noon starting from 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

The group have a Facebook page called ***Nourish and Flourish*** where you can find more information.



**Fort Augustus Fitness** yoga instructor Karen Felton approached the Community Company for funding for five spare yoga mats. The mats are an excellent tool for anyone who wants to come along and give yoga a try without committing to extra expense.

Karen secured **£54.95** for the yoga mats. If you would like to give yoga a try you can email Karen on [fortaugustusfitness@gmail.com](mailto:fortaugustusfitness@gmail.com)



**The Glengarry Games Committee** were asked by community members if transport for neighbouring villages could be provided. This would help locals who don't drive or who otherwise wouldn't make it to the games to attend them. The Community Company used Kilchuimen Academy's minibus and found some volunteer drivers to help. The drivers were previously funded for the MiDAS driving qualification (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme). The minibus ran from Dalchreichart, Invermoriston, Fort Augustus to the Games and made return trips to make sure everyone got home safely. Thanks to our volunteer drivers Simon, Chris and Derek.

**Fort Augustus Lunch Club** meet every Monday for a two-course lunch at a local eatery consisting of a main course, dessert and coffee.

The club sought funding of **£8,320** towards the cost of the weekly lunches, and successfully procured the funding that will enable the Lunch Club to continue for the next year.

The Lunch Club, part of the Senior Citizens Association, is a fantastic social event bringing local people together on a regular basis. Well done to everyone involved in organising the Lunch Club and on the funding approval. If you would like to join them, give Jenny a call on 01320 366438 to book your place.

**Glengarry Shinty Club** applied for a grant to provide coaching and first aid courses for five new coaches. The club also needed some new equipment such as camans, helmets and uniform items due to the club's recent increase in junior members.

Glengarry Shinty Club secured **£4,060** in funding. This grant will help the club manage their recent growth and help to attract new members. Congratulations and best of luck with the training to everyone at the Shinty Club.

If you are interested in joining, give **Scott Bremner** a call on **07867 775034** or email **Linda** at **Secretary.Glengarry@outlook.com**



**Neringa Mathieson** has been working in the local pharmacy for ten years and at the same time has successfully completed six years of a seven-year course to be a doctor. Neringa has been self-funding her studies for the last six years so approached the Community Company for funding. Neringa was awarded **£600** towards her costs. Well done and good luck with your studies Neringa!

**Kilchuimen**

Academy, Primary and Nursery



**Kilchuimen Primary Parent Council** were approved for funding of **£5,074** to ensure that the Primary pupils can attend the annual Alt na Criche residential activity days. These days bring fun and adventure to P1 to P7s and lets them broaden their horizons in a beautiful Highland setting.

Congratulations to everyone involved in securing the funding to make the trips happen.

**Kilchuimen Academy** listened to their students who wanted to learn more about woodworking and metal working. The Academy then approached the Community Company for a grant to purchase tools such as engineering vices, router planes, mortise gauges, and safety equipment.



The Design and Manufacture department in the school now offer these as extra-curricular activities. This funding can help the school retain senior students and attract new students. Congratulations to everyone involved and good luck with the new club.

**Glenmoriston Millennium Community Hall Association** asked for funding to support the employment of a Gaelic and Heritage Officer. This role is to research, catalogue and secure cultural artifacts from our historic area while promoting longevity of the Gaelic language introducing Gaelic to younger generations. The Heritage Officer will look to explore the possibility of a heritage centre. GMHCA successfully procured **£18,623**, over a three-year period, to help support the employment of the Gaelic and Heritage Officer.

GMHCA has obtained additional funding from FERN and Trees for Life.

***We are here to help if you have a community benefit project or a group to start. We can advise on where to start and what funding may be available.***

### **Student Grants – recent student grant activity!**

Congratulations to all the students who successfully applied for student grants. We are delighted to report, at the time of writing this, fourteen students have been approved for the student grant. Student grant applications are welcome from anyone just starting or continuing further education. The Community Company website has further information, or you can email us [contact@communitycompany.co.uk](mailto:contact@communitycompany.co.uk) or call 01320 366800.

### **Community Skip Days – mark the dates in your calendar!**

The Community Skips, funded by the Community Company, will be available on the dates below.

Invermoriston	-	<b>27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> September</b>
Dalchreichart	-	<b>27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> September</b>
Fort Augustus	-	<b>30<sup>th</sup> September to 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b>

There are strict regulations regarding acceptable items for the skips. A good rule of thumb is to avoid discarding fabrics into the skips; these will be deemed as fire retardant materials and may result in a large fine which may in turn result in removal. Fridge/freezers, tyres, asbestos and liquids including paint are unacceptable.

If you need to check if your items to be discarded are suitable for Bowman's Skips, then please call 01320 366800 or email [contact@communitycompany.co.uk](mailto:contact@communitycompany.co.uk). Alternatively, Bowmans are very helpful in providing information on acceptable items and can be called on 01397 722218.

### **Community Caretakers – Summer update**

Summer, what summer?!! It's flying by in a blink of an eye and the weather really hasn't been on our side this year, but as always, we adapt and get on with what's needing done.

Visitor numbers are through the roof and the main car park can only be described as an unorganised jamboree during the day, jostling for space and tensions rising high.

At this time of year, a good percentage of our working hours involve following our grassland



management program around the foul weather and lightning strikes. This year we injected some excitement into the job and have left numerous wildflower banks within the heavier managed areas.

It's fantastic to hear the many people commenting on the delight of seeing some childhood favourite flowers blooming on their doorsteps.

Shrub shaping and various forms of natural art have also been on our radar of late. Old Nessie has had a good trim, but she keeps getting bed hair and pesky ivy strands popping up. It reminds me of when your mum used to lick her hand and try and flatten down your unruly hair before going into school. (Or was that just me)!

The team must also thank the **Brownie squad of Fort Augustus** for doing such a good job of planting up **HMS Resilience** (aka HMS 'Brown Owl'), our boat shaped raised bed at the toilet block. Goodness me it really came on glorious. Thank you, girls. And thank you to **Davy, Billy and Lisa** also for the timber, decorations and guidance.

A final word from the caretakers' yard is to introduce a new member of the team, young **James Alvey Anderson**. He has been involved on and off for several months now and is gelling well with the team. His on-the-job skills and initiative are growing by the day. So if you see him about, stop him in his tracks and say hello, he's doing a grand job.

Glen



### Staff update

We are excited to welcome Deborah Crawford to our team in the part-time role of Bookkeeper, working alongside our Finance Manager, Donna Green. Although Deborah is relatively new to the area, she is eager to contribute and become an integral part of our team. We're thrilled to have her on board and wish her great success in her new role!

### Tarff Trading – **Collect+ service available in your community store!**

You can now collect and send parcels from Tarff Trading by logging on to the Collect+ website [collectplus.co.uk/](https://collectplus.co.uk/)

From there you can get quotes and make bookings for collections/deliveries. Your parcels can be collected or uplifted from Tarff Trading. Collect+ work with Yodel, Amazon, Royal Mail, DHL, DPD, UPS and more.

Also, stamps are available in the store and are sold as booklets.



## Convent Land – behind the scenes

Thanks to Community Caretaker **Gordon MacLennan**, three fabulous hedgehog homes have been built for the **Convent Land** to provide safe hibernation spaces this winter.



With hedgehog populations in decline, creating safe habitats is one small way we can help protect these vulnerable creatures.

Thanks, Gordie! We know they'll appreciate it!

Chris Rose is looking to finalise a supplier for the much-anticipated adventure play area by mid-September. The tender process involved five potential suppliers, each working with creative ideas inspired by the students at Kilchuimen Primary and Academy.

Planning permission is being submitted for the Adventure Play, as well as a new circular path network designed to be fully accessible for everyone. Our goal is to complete these projects by Spring 2025, subject to getting funding and planning permission, creating an inclusive and exciting outdoor space for the community.

Additionally, work on the trees damaged by Storm Gerrit is scheduled to begin in late September. The contractor will be using a horse, Tarzan, to take on some of the work in more inaccessible spots, carting the fallen trees across the Convent Land to mechanical transport. Tarzan offers a greener approach to removing the fallen trees. We will let you know when he is at work in case you want to see him doing his thing!

**To follow us on Facebook, scan the QR code and click the link.**



Email us: [contact@communitycompany.co.uk](mailto:contact@communitycompany.co.uk) or call on 01320 366800.





# Fort Augustus & Glenmoriston Community Council

Present:

Deirdre MacKinnon - Chair (DM)

Helen Clay - Vice Chair (HC)

Mike Anderson - Treasurer (MA)

Claire Pegrum - Secretary (CP) Cllr. David Fraser (DF)

Clare Levings (CL) Leanne Findlay (LF)

Jenny Findlay (JF) Daniel Clark (DC)

Apologies:

Cllr. Chris Ballance (CB)

Rachel Hayes (RH)

Minute Taker: Barty Jones

Previous Minutes:

Proposed by HC seconded by CP

AGM Minutes proposed CL seconded by JF

Matters Arising:

Redburn Traffic - Ongoing

Janitor's House - Highland Council are prepared to undertake a community asset transfer with the Community Company. DF to provide more details for the Community Company.

Glenmoriston Estates - Currently in the hands of solicitors - Ongoing

Oich Road - Concerns over parking. DF to send reminder - Ongoing

Achnaconeran Road - DM has emailed the Highland Council regarding, sleeping policemen and lines in need of re-doing from Tarff Bridge to the Abbey, but has not heard back – Ongoing – DF to send a reminder

Fort Augustus Public Toilets - DM has been in touch with Highland Council who say they can't get funding for more toilets, and whether someone could be in attendance at the toilets.

Concerns over entrance in main car park as not wide enough for buses which can result in blocking traffic and bumps. DF notified CC that Transport Scotland are doing a survey and will be looking at the problem.

Concerns over buses double parking and blocking car charging areas - DF to assess all concerns and make a report.

Dog Fouling - Community Company have put up signs on the green at Abertarff stating that it is a children's play area. The CC have considered a request that the area be used for dogs, but have collectively decided that it remains a children's play area and dogs do not have access to it.

A request was made for some facilities for the children's area, such as goalposts. DM to contact Community Company to see if they can help.

Invermoriston Toilets - Awaiting quotation and description of work that needs to be done for the septic tank. As water levels have dropped there has been discussion about opening the toilets to the public on a trial basis, the main issue is whether they are going to be cleaned and are waiting to see if the Highland Council will be able to provide cleaners at this stage. - Ongoing

DF notified DM regarding the situation with road closures at Invermoriston due to accidents and buses not going to the car park to pick up passengers. Stagecoach have come back stating that they will instruct their drivers to pick up passengers in the main car park. However, CityLink stated that their buses cannot safely turn in the car park and advised passengers to check live tracking on social media. CC has asked DF on how passengers without WiFi can access this information and on how other buses can get in the car park. DF to raise issue with CityLink.

DF notified CC that the bus taking pupils to Drumnadrochit is a service bus and not a school bus. Concerns over numbers at Kilchuimen school, DF suggested contacting Nick Wright to make a business case to put to the Highland Council, taking into account housing for teachers, transport for the children and the necessity to have a school. DM to invite Nick Wright to a CC meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

The account balance is currently £5,832.95

Once cheques for minute taking have cleared the balance will be £5,712.95

Money from Etape has not come through yet.

A cheque for £45 will be made out for DM for flowers for accounting.

Police Report:

CC has received a Police Report exactly the same as the previous report.

Renewable Energy Projects:

CC are in the process of finding professional help to negotiate payment amounts with energy projects happening in the area. DM to get a hold of prospective negotiator.

Glen Earrach Energy Ltd - It has been brought to the attention that Glenurquhart CC are going to be paid for the development. Though the vast majority is within Glenurquhart

CC's area, DF notified that a project that massive will have impact upon surrounding local communities. Glen Earrach Energy Ltd have said they will come back and do some more voluntary exhibitions prior to putting in pre application notice and are willing to go to local communities. DF to invite them to come to a CC meeting.

CC have received an email from SSEN saying they will be doing some survey work around the substation in preparation for a 400kV upgrade. Concerns over SSEN not looking after the landscaping in Auchterawe and Coire Glas.

Planning and Licensing Applications:

Ref: 24/01535/CLP

Location: The Highland Club Proposal: Change of use from store to office

Applicant: Santon Highlands Limited

Ref: 24/02580/FUL

Location: Glenara, Canalside North Fort Augustus PH32 4BA

Proposal: Erection of extension and decking

Applicant: Lisa Maltby

Notes: Enlargement of existing extension and wrap-around raised decking

Community Amenity Issues:

Inchnacardoch Bay - DM has sent a copy of the deeds and a map to the Community Company, the CC are waiting to hear back. MA notified CC that he has not heard back from the Highland Council regarding them helping do risk assessments. MA to email David Campbell to ask if he would write the risk assessment. The CC discussed the necessity of getting rid of the pontoon ASAP. DC has offered to make enquiries.

AOCB:

Concerns over too many caravans parking together in car park behind school fence, also concerns over caravans parking overnight in the main car park. DM to contact Scottish Canals.

Issue raised over the difficulty of turning at the Caledonian Canal Centre junction onto the A82. DF has spoken to Transport Scotland who has said that they are going to survey it.

Issues over cars not slowing down through Invermoriston. DF notified the CC that there have been discussions over reducing the speed limit to 30mph between the bridge and the junction. DF notified CC that in autumn, the Scottish Government have a consultation paper coming out regarding speed limits for rural roads which he encouraged everyone to respond to.

The CC discussed speeding and overtaking in the village and also about extending the 20mph speed limit throughout the village.

The CC also discussed having signs that warn drivers that they are approaching the bridge. DF to ask Transport Scotland.

About eight houses on Achnaconeran road are concerned about how an extra eight bins are going to be stored. There was no clear solution.

Issue raised over a lot of overhanging trees along Achnaconeran and Dalcataig road. Query raised over whether the local caretakers could help, or to contact SSE.

Question was asked whether there was a community event planned on Hogmanay in



Fort Augustus, there is currently not.

The Fire Service has asked whether CC wants any input into the future of the fire service. CP will circulate.

BEAR will not be closing the A82 on the election day, (4th July)

Highland Council have developed a local living tool and want to consult CC on their opinions on it.

A local resident has suggested CC should join the Highland Environment Forum and sign up to the Highland Charter for Climate, Nature & Health and take part in the Highlands and Islands Climate Festival. CC suggested it was more for the Community Company to deal with.

CP has made up a list of empty homes, the CC discussed and narrowed down the list and will send list to the Empty Homes Officer.

The gym in the Highland Resort is opening on 1st July.

Issue raised over the number of potholes in the car park in Invermoriston.

CC notified that there have been calls wanting to see the burial ground in Invermoriston improved.

Decision needs to be made over whether to have a fence around the play park in Abertarff Place.

A query was raised over what happens to the car park money. DF notified the CC that it is allocated to Inverness City Committee who agreed to allocate it to the ward, it will go to the four councillors with information regarding what area made what. DF will suggest that the money should go to the communities where the money was raised and ask for suggestions on how they choose to spend it.

One-way street in the front of the village along the canal side is becoming a problem with lorries parking to unload their goods blocking traffic and stopping parents from dropping off kids at school. CC suggested marking off a layby be used for loading and to ask business owners to direct lorries so they don't block the road.

Member of the public notified CC about coordinating some litter picking along the A82 but Highland Council have stated that it is too dangerous. DF will ask.

BEAR Scotland have abandoned a lamppost, DF to have a look.

Concern over sewage being pumped into Loch Ness which is a water source for homes. DF assured that the water is controlled by SEPA and goes through septic tanks to give it treatment and filtration.

Next meeting is at the Millennium Hall, Invermoriston

on Wednesday, 28th August 2024 at 7.30 pm

# Notice Board



## THE GLENGARRY TRUST FUNDING AVAILABLE

Funding is available for organisations, groups and individuals operating or living in the Glengarry Community Council area. Applying is straightforward and there is help available if you need it.

We would be really pleased to hear from you if you are a student in further/higher education or about to start your studies, need adaptations in your home to continue to live there, or are an organisation or group with a project idea you need funding for.

Deadlines for applications (**all by 5pm that day**):

- 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 (for our meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> June, also our AGM)
- 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024 (for our meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> September)
- 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (for our meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> December).

**We also have an Apprenticeship scheme – if you are leaving school this year or have left school and are interested in this then please let us know!**

Website: [www.glengarrytrust.org.uk](http://www.glengarrytrust.org.uk)  
 Email: [glengarrytrust@gmail.com](mailto:glengarrytrust@gmail.com)

Please also follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/glengarrytrust](https://www.facebook.com/glengarrytrust)



## Recruiting in YOUR area

Can you give one or two evenings a week to help people in your community stay at home?

Looking for evening and weekend work? Look no further.

- Care at Home Worker: £12 - £12.50 /hour
- All training provided
- Travel time and mileage paid
- Supported and funded SVQ
- No experience needed for worker post
- Driving licence essential

For informal enquiries contact Vicky at [v.kilgour@highlandhighcare.org.uk](mailto:v.kilgour@highlandhighcare.org.uk) or call 07565 025017  
 Full job pack and application form at [www.highlandhighcare.org/vacancies](http://www.highlandhighcare.org/vacancies) or scan the QR code.



Sunflower Home Care is the Highland Region's only at home service.  
 Highland HighCare is a registered provider of care services.

## LET'S PLAY WHIST



Season starts

**Friday 27th September**  
**7pm start**  
 Game over 10pm

**Fort Augustus Church Hall**

Entry £2  
 Raffle

Tea, Coffee, Juice.  
 BYO Supper

**All welcome!**

Under 14's must be accompanied.

Next dates: 25th October, 29th November

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Supported by Fort Augustus SCA

## Junior Shinty Training



Glengarry Shinty Pitch  
 Monday evenings

Primary 1 – 3    6pm – 6:30pm

Primary 4 – U17s    6:30pm – 7:30pm



**New faces welcome**

P1-3 £1    P4+ £2    Shin guards essential - available to buy from us

# Notice Board



## Glenmoriston Craft Club

1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month

At Glenmoriston Millennium Hall  
11am - 3pm

Cost only £3 per session

Come along to our friendly group  
bringing whatever craft takes your fancy.

## Bus to Fort William

\*\*\* Open to all ages \*\*\*

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September  
£3

Departing Fort Augustus Car Park 0945  
Police Station 0950  
Abertarff Place 0955  
Newton 1005  
Invergarry 1015

Leaving Fort William 1330  
Return to Fort Augustus 1450 approx

Shopmobility scooters available. Please ask when booking.

To book please telephone  
Jenny: 01320 366438

Fort Augustus  
Senior Citizens' Association



## COMMUNITY SOUP & SANDWICHES

Wednesday 11th & 25th September

9th & 23rd October

13th & 27th November

12.00 – 14.00

Fort Augustus Village Hall



For more information contact Helen on 07359 083997

Donations welcome for the MS Society

Thanks to



& BANK OF SCOTLAND





# Notice Board

## Cill Chuimein Heritage Group Archives



Take this chance to browse in the archives while enjoying coffee and cake!

**SUNDAY 8 September 2024**  
**3.00pm**

Church of Scotland Hall, Fort Augustus  
There will be a charge of £2 for this meeting

**Cill Chuimein Heritage Group**

## Scottish Country and Ceilidh Dancing

Glenmoriston Millennium Hall

Every Thursday from  
12<sup>th</sup> September



7p.m. – 9 p.m.  
£2 per evening

We are a very friendly bunch who invite you to come along, give it a go and help swell our numbers. **No experience needed. Comfy shoes are recommended**

For more information contact:

Clare 07729 803557 Jean 07761 129332  
Cherry 01320 351230.

## Andrew Lloyd Garden Care & Handyman Services

# 07487 537302

### General Garden Maintenance

Grass Cutting - Strimming - Weeding - Tidying  
Pruning - Hedge Trimming

Home maintenance  
Handyman odd jobs

**FULLY INSURED**

[www.gardenhandy.co.uk](http://www.gardenhandy.co.uk) ~ [andrew.gchs@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.gchs@gmail.com)

