

KILMALLIE COMMUNITY NEWS

ISSUE NO 6

FREE

WINTER 2001

HELP!!

Your Community Needs You!



This *Newsletter* has been edited up to now by Hilary Hemm (details in KCC info). However, due to other commitments, she is having to step down from her editorial post after this edition. So we need a new Editor. Can YOU help?

It would be useful if you have access to a computer (and it is increasingly useful if you also have access to e-mail) but neither of those are essential. We can arrange for you to get editing and desktop publishing training through VAL (maybe that would have helped this editor!!) and KCC members will do all they can to help you.

We do not want to see the Newsletter close down. At present it is published four times a year. The new Editor could always change that if they wished.

If you would like to discuss what is involved, do give Hilary or any other KCC member a ring and we'll be happy to talk to you.

In the meantime, and in the hope that there will be an editor for the next edition, the deadline for Spring issue is 6 April 2001. Send any copy to Hilary or KCC secretary, Joan Cameron.

Give Cruse a Hand

Cruse needs volunteers to help people who are struggling to face the future following a death. In an effort to encourage more people to volunteer, Cruse has launched a new leaflet. Cruse provides emotional support and advice to anyone who has been affected by death or who is trying to help someone they know cope with a bereavement.

Volunteers are a crucial part of Cruse. They meet bereaved people and they are involved in every aspect of running our local branch, from keeping the branch accounts, organising training events to holding coffee mornings and helping raise funds.

Often people are unaware of the great contribution they can make by volunteering. Many people think that they don't have the right skills - but no previous experience is necessary. Everyone can make a contribution - all you need is to care about bereaved people and have time to offer. Call the Lochaber Branch today to volunteer or get a leaflet.

If you are struggling to face the future following a death and would like to speak to a Cruse Counsellor in complete confidence, please call us on 01397 705100, email cruselochaber@freeuk.com or visit our website at www.cruselochaber.freeuk.com

Kilmallie Community

Council Members:

Chairman: Lorna Ungood-Thomas, Murlaggan, Banavie. Tel: 703331

Vice Chairman: John Ireland, 10 Hillview Drive, Corpach. Tel: 772614

Treasurer: Robert Cumming, Travee, Corpach. Tel: 772380

Correspondence

Secretary: Joan Cameron, Torbeag House, Muirshearlich. Tel: 772412

Minute Secretary: Sheena MacPhie, 7 Pobs Drive, Corpach. Tel: 772419

Members:

Jamie Allan, Daylesford, Banavie. Tel: (Caol Post Office) 703311

Paul Campbell, Rowanlea, Tomonie, Banavie. Tel: 772623
Hilary Hemm, 11 Farrow Drive, Corpach. Tel: 772437

Duncan MacInnes, Taormina, Banavie. Tel: 772217

Heather Robertson, Victoria Cottage, Corpach. Tel: 772720

Margaret Simpson, 14 Caledonian Road, Corpach. Tel: 772679

THANKYOU

to the following for their support with the cost of producing the Newsletter:

Arjo Wiggins Auto Body Repairs, Corpach
Boyd Bros (Haulage) Ltd. Corpach Boatbuilding Company, Annat.

Corpach Hotel

Letterfinlay Game Services and Specialist Foods, Annat.

Ewan MacColl, Coal merchant Nevis Bakery, Annat.

PrintSmith, Nevis Bank Wks.

Slipway Autos and Practical Car Hire, Annat.

Tradewinds, Corpach.

Kilmallie Marks the Millennium

The Community Council is pleased to have recently completed a project that has been under way for some time. You may have seen reports in the press just before Christmas about signs being erected at the "Obelisk" on the Kilmallie Church road and also at the old Ice House down the track to the small boat slipway at Annat.

The signs have been created and erected with the assistance of funding from the Historic Restoration and Environmental Improvement (Millennium) Fund, and we are very grateful for its support.

As you know, the Obelisk has an inscription recording events at Waterloo, and the wording had become so worn that it was getting more and more difficult to read the inscription. The



The new sign at the Obelisk

sign provides everyone with a replica of the Obelisk wording which is both easy to read and in an accessible place.

At the Ice House, the sign describes the former use of the building

Water Mains replacement in Banavie and Corpach



Just as this Newsletter was being put together, we heard about major water mains replacement work starting on 15th January.

The work is being carried out by Corrie Construction on NoSWA's behalf. It will involve work along the pavement and road on the

north side of the A830 between the Moorings Hotel (Banavie Swing Bridge) and the Paper Mill. The work is scheduled to last until May/June.

We are told that the work will be carried out in 200m sections, at times at both ends of the route. There will be traffic controls in place at times, and some interruption to supplies for approximately 2 hours at a time, with those affected being notified in advance.

One concern that the KCC had was the safety of pedestrians using the pavement and particularly the safety of school children, as many travel along that side of the road to and from school and bus stops. We have raised the issue with Harcross, the project managers, and have been assured that our concerns will be addressed.

If anyone does have any concerns about the project and site works, they should contact the names given below:

Jim Munro, Project Manager, Harcross, Tel: 01463 231707

Or

Corrie Construction site foreman Jimmy O'Donnell and Site agent, George Cairns, both on FW 700680.



An Article from Councillor George Bruce

I hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas and may I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year.

Community Works - Phase 2

Fort William, Upper Achintore, Plantation, Inverloch, Claggan, Lochside, Caol, Banavie and Corpach will all be included in Phase 2 of this new style community works programme, which should be in place by 1st April 2001. From then on all Ground Maintenance, Street Cleaning, Grass Cutting, Burials etc. will be controlled via Protective Services with the work being carried out by Commercial Operations.

A new call centre network has been developed to deal with any problems at the existing **Service Point, Telephone No.01397 707215**. This number should be used to register any complaints regarding council services. This "One Stop Shop" approach should help to improve the service we are getting at present. The aim is to develop working partnerships between the Council and the Highland Communities in order to deliver a "Best Value" scheme for all communities.

Swimming Pool.

At a recent Highland Council meeting it was agreed that funds would be allocated over the next two years for the re-roofing of the swimming pool with a pitched roof to replace the last section of flat roof on this complex. Included in this package deal was £110,000 over the next two years to carry out some urgent repairs and interior decoration of the pool.

Great Glen Way.

Work progresses on this new pathway and the section from Fort William through Inverloch along the river to the Soldiers Bridge has been completed. The section at Gairloch is well on the way to completion and the path along the shore from Corpach to Caol will be upgraded. The "Soldiers Bridge" will be re-decked in the near future and will feature "passing places" but this will mean the closure of this bridge in the near future.

Proposed ByLaw to Prohibit the Consumption of Alcohol in Public Places.

After consultation with the Kilmallie Community Council and discussion at a recent Area Committee meeting it was agreed that Corpach and Banavie should also be included in this proposed byLaw. If the Scottish Executive agree to this application the new bylaw will encompass Fort William, Caol, Claggan, Inverloch, Corpach, Banavie and Kinlochleven.

Play Areas.

At a Highland Council meeting recently it was

announced that there was £100,000 available in each year of a current five-year plan to address the need to upgrade the Councils play areas. Lochaber is second in the list of priority and has had £31,185 allocated this year for repairs with a further £11,872 next year. Lochaber has 38 play areas, all of which require money spent on them with some areas worse than others. With this in mind the Area Committee has ranked the play areas in order of priority with the view that we will tackle the worst areas first.

Unfortunately none of the play areas in Kilmallie are in this first level of priority but will be upgraded as soon as additional funds become available.

Guisach Terrace - £5,000 to improve the play area and bring it up to a more acceptable standard.

Caledonian Road - £8,000 improve the play area and bring it up to a more acceptable standard and replace the chute.

Banavie Road - £3,000 to improve the play area and bring it up to a more acceptable standard.

Invergarry Community Council have approached the Lottery Board for funding to completely refurbish their play area and if successful the council will take over the maintenance and insurance costs, so maybe this is the way forward to providing better equipment for our children. Kilmallie Community Council is looking at the possibility of establishing a working group to take this forward.

Contd. on next page..

(George Bruce's article continued..)

The problem with vehicles speeding past the play area at Caledonian Road is being looked at with the possibility of rumble strips being fitted, as speed bumps would cause a problem for the low ground clearance of the hearse. This will depend on us getting the finance for this from the next Capital programme.

Surgery Meetings.

I held my most recent surgery on 22nd November at Kilmallie Hall.

I plan to hold future surgeries on a regular basis at Kilmallie; Invergarry and Achnacarry, I also plan to attend as many of the Community Council Meetings at these areas as they are all part of my Ward.

But please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or speak to me when I am out and about if you have any problems and I will do my best to resolve them for you.

"Holburn" Albyn Drive
Corpach
Fort William
Tel. 01397 772948
Fax.01397 772197

Lochaber Transport Forum website:

The Lochaber Transport Forum website is now at www.lochabertransport.org.uk. The site contains information regarding community and public transport within the Lochaber area. Information regarding the Transport Forum and local transport issues is also available on the web site. Please contact Clare Strain with any comments or suggestions regarding the site.

"The Clash of the Ash"

The last issue reported on the arrival of hurling players from Sixmilebridge, Co. Clare, to compete against Kilmallie Under 12 and Under 14 shinty teams. We promised you the results in this issue. Both matches were played in cold, blustery conditions with all the players giving their best for their team. Both matches were extremely close, both were decided on penalties, after extra time. Kilmallie eventually won both matches. All the teams are to be praised for the good spirit in which the games and the visit took place.

Kilmallie Children's Christmas Party:

The parties took place on **Saturday 16th December**. A very good time was had by all and Bubbles the Clown was a great success - the envy of many parents helpers as he single-handedly kept up to thirty children engrossed and well-behaved for an hour and a half! Our thanks to him and to the many people who helped make the parties such a success. **Special thanks** to the parents who donated food and who came to lend a hand, and also to the **Co-op** and **Spar** stores who kindly donated the goodies to go in the children's party bags. The help we receive makes a big difference. The costs of the party are kept to a minimum and were funded in large part from the takings of the plant stall that we ran at the Gardens Competition Presentation evening.

Fluoridation of water supply

KCC was recently contacted regarding renewed proposals to fluoridate our water supply. After considering the evidence put before the KCC, it was agreed to oppose the proposal, and letters were sent to relevant parties - NoSWA, Health Board and Susan Deacon.

Kilmallie Hall: a new Committee and Kilmallie Hall 50/50 Club Membership Appeal



Hall Trustees and Committee:

A new committee has just been formed and new trustees also appointed so that the management of the Hall and plans for its future development continue to be managed by and for local people.

The committee members are: Euan Harper (Chairman) Karen McKenna (Secretary) Margaret Simpson, Euan Harris, Ewen Leslie, Tom Donaghue, Martin McKenna, Esther Leslie (50/50 Club Treasurer), Stuart Nicol and John Nicol.

The 50/50 Club needs new members: it is drawn monthly and costs only £6.50 per year to belong. If you wish to support the Hall by becoming a member, please call Esther on 772664 or contact any committee member for details.



A reminder that the **National Census** will take place in April. Every person in the country must be recorded in the Census. Make sure that you follow the instructions and complete your form correctly!