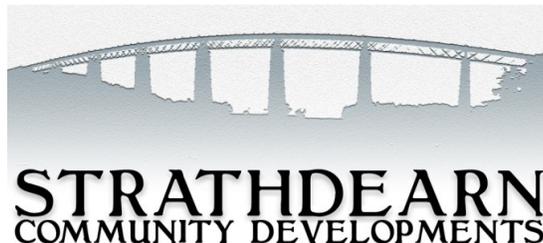


01 ~ Title ~ SCD ~ Police ~ Nurse _____	1
02 ~ Activities ~ Hall _____	2
03 ~ Hall AGM ~ SCD ~ Toddlers Group AGM ~ SCD ~ Toddl ~ CC sec _____	3
04 ~ Announcements _____	4
05 ~ Local News ~ Plant Sale ~ Step It Up _____	5
06 ~ Art Club ~ Poem ~ Foulis Plant Sale ~ Biblecake _____	6
07 ~ Cù Bòcan award ~ Cù Bòcan memory by AG-P _____	7
08 ~ Community Council Report _____	8
09 ~ Flower Show Schedule _____	9
10 ~ Church of Scotland ~ WRI _____	10
11 ~ Christian Aid ~ Nature Notes _____	11
12 ~ Highland Rugby _____	12
13 ~ School News _____	13
14 ~ SCCT financial statement _____	14
15 ~ Stans Quiz _____	15
16 ~ Gardening ~ Natural History ~ Recipe ~ Sponsors _____	16

STRATHDEARN NEWSLETTER

May 2014

Volume 14 No 2



Your community needs you!



The newly formed Strathdearn Community Developments Company is looking for someone to act as Company Secretary on a temporary basis with immediate effect whilst the staffing needs of the new organisation are finalised.

The work is varied but includes coordinating meetings; processing minutes and correspondence; liaising with statutory authorities and other organisations; managing the legal and financial affairs of the company; enacting the policies and procedures agreed by the Company Board and supporting the work of the Company Directors.

As in any company, this is a senior position and the post is remunerated accordingly on a retainer basis. The workload is variable but averages out at 5-6 hours a week.

If you are interested then please contact either Richard Cooling (Chairman) on 07711 823132 or James Macpherson (Vice Chairman) on 07527 883606

POLICE CONTACT Any concerns about Law and Order, information on vandalism, requests for advice, or any other police related matter should be passed on to our community policeman, PC Matt Cameron, who is based at the Burnett Road Police Station Community Beats 01463 228485. His email address is matthew.cameron@scotland.police.pnn.uk

NB – new number to call, for matters not urgent enough to require 999 ... **please call 101** and you will be put through

LOCAL NURSING SERVICES

Strathdearn nursing services are covered by the Inverness East Community Nursing Team.

The Nursing Team's telephone number is 01463 230850

The NHS24 telephone number is 084 54 24 24 24.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

First Monday of the Month
September to May (ex.December &January)

SWRI

7.30pm, Findhorn Room, Strathdearn Hall
Contact: Mrs Margaret Robertson 511243

3rd Monday of Month

Gardening Club

7.30pm Findhorn Room Strathdearn Hall,
Contact: Alex Don 511729

Every Tuesday

Zumba

7.30pm, Old Hall
Contact: Georgie Bell 511214

2nd Tuesday of Month

Community Council

7.30pm, Findhorn Room, Strathdearn Hall
All welcome

Every Wednesday

Community Coffee Morning

10.30am Findhorn Room, Strathdearn Hall
All welcome, £1

Every Wednesday

Walking Group

2pm Strathdearn Hall
Contact: Mrs Kathy Bonniface 511740

Every Thursday

11.30am – 1.30pm Tomatin Shop

POST OFFICE

Every Thursday

Toddlers' Group (term time)

10am-noon, Strathdearn Hall
Contact: Mrs Alison Tough 07928 532309

Every Thursday

Art Class

1.30 – 3.30pm Strathdearn Hall,
Contact: Mrs Betty Watson 511271

Monthly, various dates

Natural History Club

Some indoor, some outdoor, events.

Days vary, so look out for posters.

Contact: Mr David Bonniface 511740

or Mrs Carol James 531220

Strathdearn Hall

SCO15320

For booking or access into the Strathdearn Hall or Sports Facility in Tomatin please ring the Hall Manager **Steve Culeen 01808 511321** or email s.culeen@hotmail.co.uk (please note there is a dot in the name)

The toilets in the Old Hall are open to the public for the summer, 1st April – 31st October

The Sports Facility is free for local youngsters (under-18's) to play ball games. Evening/regular groups of adults will be charged. Available for ball games and tennis. No cycles, animals or food & drink allowed on the pitch. No blades or studs. Open 9am-9pm.

Light tokens free to under-18's only, available from Debbie Mackay 511466, Lewis Macleod 511354 or Gavin Edward 511427.

STRATHDEARN HALL SCO15320

Hire rates (local):

Findhorn Room	£8 p/hour
Funtack Room	£5 p/hour
Clune Room	£4 p/hour
Old Hall	£7 p/hour

Findhorn /Funtack Rooms together: £12 p/h

Double rates for non-locals
(ie outside Strathdearn district)

except Old Hall £12 non-local

Strathdearn Hall AGM

Wednesday 15th May 7.30pm

Volunteers to join the committee welcome and needed.

Could all user groups please ensure that at least one member is present, which is particularly important in the event of a vote.

Open to all members of the community.

CALLING NEW MEMBERS!

Strathdearn Community Developments, the community company, would be delighted to welcome new members to join the company. If you are aged 12 or over and are resident in the community of Strathdearn or have local ties to the area then please contact the Company Secretary on 511745 or Strathdearn@hotmail.co.uk for further information or to obtain a membership application form.

With exciting projects in the pipeline it would be great to have more local support and have new members of the community joining Strathdearn Community Developments.

Strathdearn Toddler Group AGM

We are holding our Annual General Meeting on 15 May during our normal toddler group session (10am to 12pm). Mairianne from CALA will be there to help keep the children occupied! We would like as many members and new members to come along as possible to help discuss ideas for the future of the group, outings etc.

We look forward to seeing you there! If you would like to get in touch beforehand please contact me on 07958 477735, helena@obsenviro.com. You will also find us on facebook, just search for Strathdearn toddler group.

STRATHDEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL SECRETARY AND CO-OPTED POSITION FOR A COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR

We are very sorry to be saying Goodbye to Diane at our next meeting. She has been a very hard-working, good-natured and popular Secretary and I have very much enjoyed working with her. She leaves with our very best wishes.

She tried to escape last year but when we were unable to find anyone, was persuaded to stay for another year! After a month of fruitless searching this year we were beginning to despair of finding a replacement Secretary - when Lee-Anne Cornwall responded to gentle persuasion from me and said she was interested! A day later I got an e-mail saying Lianne Geddes from Moy might also be interested! It is really encouraging to have two young women interested in Community Council work - I'm always afraid we might become the Cinderella of the organizations with the new Development Companies taking centre stage!

And so, the agenda for our **next meeting on 13th May (which will also be our AGM)** will include items on 'Community Council Secretary' and 'Co-option of a Community Councillor.'

I will be happy to propose Lee-Anne Cornwall as our new Secretary, probably during the AGM at the beginning, and later in the general meeting, propose that Lianne Geddes be co-opted to fill the vacancy on the Community Council we have carried since our last CC Election in 2011.

This does not, of course, preclude anyone else from putting their names forward for one or either of these posts. Whoever is appointed will have to be proposed and seconded by members of the Community Council, and if there is more than one candidate, community councillors will take a vote.

Our next Elections are due to be held in November 2015 and it would be really great if we could have an election then. Why not come along to our meetings (at 7.30pm in the Strathdearn Hall on the second Tuesday of each month - except July when we take a summer break) to see what we do and whether you feel you would like to get more involved and stand as a community councillor yourself? All are very welcome!

Vivian Roden

Announcements

The draw for the judo final tickets at The Commonwealth Games were won by the Macleod family from Old Mill Road.

From Liz Cooling:

We were delighted at the safe arrival on Feb 2nd (just missed the last deadline!) of Milo Isaac. Congratulations to Sarah, Joe and Harvey as well as to Richard, Liz and Kaye as the proud grandparents and Cyril and Phyllis as the great grandparents!

A great time was had by all at the Easter egg hunt at Richard and Liz's house on Saturday. The weather was superb, even melting some of the eggs as they were being hidden and we were able to enjoy tea outside afterwards.

Thank you to all those who supplied eggs and/or tea. We look forward to some more community events over the summer - keep an eye on the Website and the Strathdearn facebook page for details.

Alan and Pam Hardwick are delighted to announce the birth of their first grandchild - Melanie Trakanta Hardwick on March 8th. Congratulations to Toby and Gift.

Toby and Gift Hardwick would like to announce the safe arrival of Melanie Trakanta Hardwick on the 8th March 2014 at 4:00am. Mother and baby doing well and she has already had a few trips back to Tomatin.

David, Karen, Callum and Becky would like to thank everyone for all the kindness shown to them over the last few months. We have had so many offers of help, delicious meals, home-baking, firewood, telephone calls, letters and cards. David is recovering well from his surgery and is about to start his treatment. He is looking forward to thanking you all in person.

John and Vanessa's wedding

On Sunday 30 March 2014, the sun shone brightly on the wedding day of John and Vanessa Mackintosh of Mackintosh in Singapore. The day began with a traditional Chinese tea ceremony at Vanessa's family home. This was a beautiful family occasion where the tradition is that the bride and groom serve a fragrant Chinese tea to the older generation and older siblings in their families. It was also a grand opportunity for the families to meet informally before the wedding ceremony. Jeffrey and Irene Heng gave a very warm welcome to the Mackintosh, Bruce and Darroch family and cousins.

The ceremony itself took place in the Shangri-La Hotel on Sentosa Island, on the lawn by the beach. Rose petals and soap bubbles replaced confetti as the bride was taken down the aisle by her father. John's sister, Louisa, and Vanessa's brother, Randy were honoured to act as witnesses to the wedding, sitting at the table at the front with John and Vanessa in front of the JP who performed the ceremony. Calum Dickson, John's nephew, son of his sister, Bridget Dickson, performed his role as best man perfectly, gently and effectively looking after all John's needs before and during the ceremony. The ceremony ended with a prayer read by John's uncle, and Celia Mackintosh of Mackintosh's brother, Rev Francis Bruce. Celia looked on proudly throughout the ceremony, glowing with happiness, reflecting the joy and radiance of the bride and groom. Stuart Cross and Heather Dickson meanwhile took many photos and videos of the ceremony.

The wedding was followed by a wonderful Chinese banquet. John and Vanessa were led into the dinner by a piper and a Mackintosh banner, borne by Donald McIntosh, Chair of the Clan Chattan Association. The eight courses were interspersed by the cutting of the cake, a short song by the other teachers from the Nan Yang Girls' High School where John and Vanessa both teach and speeches from Calum Dickson, Randy Heng and John and Vanessa. John ended his speech with a rendition of a George Formby number singing of his love for his bride, along with his ukulele while Vanessa's speech ended with a TS Eliot poem for her husband. It was a beautiful and very happy day.

LOCAL NEWS

by SMG

What an enjoyable Daffodil Coffee Morning we had at Strathdearn Primary School – so friendly and we were entertained by the pupils' dancing, singing and reciting! It was all so entertaining – better than Eden Court!

Congratulations to Nicholas Crummy and his bride on their wedding in Australia.

Also to Margaret Saunders' son, Angus, who was married on 8th March by Rev Reg Campbell in Glasgow.

Birthday Congratulations to: Hannah Bell, and Alan Edward, who were both 21 at the end of April. Also to Debbie McKay who celebrated her 50th in February; and Vivian Roden who reached her 60th in early April.

Hoping that David Carson is getting stronger, but he must be so pleased that Highland Rugby Club have played so well this season. David is Head Coach and Callum Carson, Darren Macleod and Paddy Bryden are three players that I know play on the team. Well done to all of them!

Charlie Fuller was playing Hockey for Scotland Under 16s in April. What talented sportspeople we have in Strathdearn!

Chloe, Lois and Lindsay Ferguson were all off to the Pony Club on Saturday 19th April so missed the Easter Egg Hunt at the Old Manse at Moy – unfortunately couldn't be everywhere! I hear the Easter Egg Hunt was much enjoyed and a great success. They certainly got a lovely sunny day for it. Well done Richard and Liz for opening up your home and garden for this!

Wishing David and Brenda Lowery a happy time in retirement at Corrybrough, staying in Rose Cottage.

Welcome to Kaye Francis who is moving into Old Mill Road. We hope she will be happy in her new surroundings. She has had more good news with the arrival of another grandson, Milo, who of course is also the grandson of Richard and Liz Cooling at Moy. Congratulations to all, not forgetting parents Joe and Sarah, and big brother, Harvey.

Congratulations also to baby Lily's family at Millcroft on her arrival. Mum and Dad and big sister Megan must be thrilled.

TOMATIN and DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

PLANT SALE

The annual sale of plants from **HIGHLAND LILIUMS** and also some grown by **club members** will take place on

Friday 23rd May at 7:30 at Strathdearn Hall.

As in previous years we expect a good selection at reasonable prices.

STEP IT UP HIGHLAND

After such a lovely Easter weekend, weather wise, I think we can well and truly declare that spring is here, even in the North of Scotland. Our Wednesday walking therefore becomes even more enjoyable, as we look for all the changes in the flora and fauna as we walk. We have now reverted to our summer timetable of meeting at Strathdearn Hall at 2.00pm. Our walks over the last few weeks have revealed the subtle but steady changes taking place. On a cold day in March, we strode along the Clune Road with clouds tearing past, and no sign of any buds bursting in the old birch woods. However, later in the month, a walk along the River Findhorn revealed the calls and sights of curlew, oystercatcher and lapwing and the delicate green of new grass shoots. Last week's walk near Balvraid allowed us to explore the wonder of massed daffodil blooms, new growth on many trees, and the marvel of lambs frolicking in the fields.

We try to vary our routes as much as possible week by week, and have a good number of favourites. We talk, laugh, and enjoy the countryside, as well as striding out to take some very useful exercise. If you would like to join us you would be most welcome. Just contact Kathy or David on 01808 511740, or Carol on 531220.



Our club would like to invite you to:

TRY YOUR HAND AT

Wood engraving

Silk Painting

Charcoal Drawing

Watercolour Painting

Using distance to draw and focus with charcoal

Members of our club will be there to help and assist and give you ideas as to what you can do with your chosen medium. Materials will be provided.

There is **no charge** but **lots of fun**.

So, please come and enjoy being creative.

**Saturday 24th May 11 am till 4 pm,
Tomatin Village Hall**

CATARACT

What a feartie, such a feartie.
Oh, apprehensive me,
when I took my eye to the hospital
for micro-surgery.

As I made my way to Ward 1
still thinking, "Will I risk it?"
but they settled me with a cup of tea,
some eye drops, and a biscuit.

A good few eye drops later on
I was swept right off my feet,
and wheeled away without delay
to the Theatre of sight.

Fifteen minutes of painless angst
under hands of fine precision.
Relief sky high, now bright of eye
"was he surgeon or magician?"

DGM

Garden Plant Sale Foulis Castle, Evanton Sunday 18th May 11am - 5pm

Selling a huge variety and number of plants kindly donated by gardeners across Scotland, this year.

Teas in the Castle
Raffle
Free parking and entry

Raising funds in aid of



BIBLE CAKE

4 ½ cups	1 Kings 4 v.22
1 ½ cups	Judges 5 v.25
2 cups	Jeremiah 6 v.20
2 cups	1 Samuel 30 v.12
2 cups	Nahum 3 v.12
1 cup	Numbers 17 v.8
2 tbsp	1 Samuel 14 v.25
6 articles	Jeremiah 17 v.11
1 pinch	Leviticus 2 v.13
2 tsp	Amos 4 v.5
Season to taste with 2 Chronicles 9 v.9	

Add citron and follow Solomon's advice for making a good boy.

Proverbs 23 v.14

(Reproduced by Diana Usborne)

Cù Bòcan wins 'Best New Launch Whisky' at World Whiskies Design Awards

The Tomatin Distillery Co Ltd is celebrating a win at the World Whiskies Design Awards 2014. Its newest single malt brand, Cù Bòcan Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky, was awarded the 'Best New Launch' award.

The World Whiskies Design Awards are the annual awards recognising excellence in bottle, label and pack design. Judged by an international panel of design experts, the winners were announced on Thursday 20th March 2013 at the Whisky Magazine's Awards Presentation Dinner held at the Waldorf Hilton in London. The World Whiskies Awards were also announced, in which the Tomatin 18 year old single malt won "Best Highland Single Malt 13 to 20 Years" for the second year running.

Released in September 2013, Cù Bòcan is a departure from the traditional Tomatin range, both in flavour - it is lightly peated - and in its contemporary presentation. Cù Bòcan (loosely translating from Gaelic as "ghost dog") tells the story of a legendary hellhound who has been stalking residents of Tomatin for centuries, expertly portrayed by its innovative and eerie packaging.

The judges said about Cù Bòcan: "Evocative and relevant graphics designed to attract new consumers and freshen up the image of whisky. The imagery evocatively describes the nature of the product inside. This package works on many levels – it is clean, contemporary and stylish – it feels new yet, at the same time, reassuringly authentic."

Commenting on the award, Jennifer Nicol, Marketing Manager, said: "We were clear right from the beginning of the development process that we wanted to separate our peated whisky release from the existing Tomatin brand so as not to confuse our existing customers. This allowed us to push the boundaries and experiment with a more contemporary design. We are delighted with the result; top quality and striking, reflective of the whisky contained within. The brand's success has surpassed all expectations and we look forward to its forecasted growth with further batches and limited editions."

Shortly after, Tomatin Distillery was awarded four medals from the **San Francisco World Spirits Competition 2014**. Regarded as one of the most respected spirits competitions in the world, the competition saw our products evaluated by top spirits professionals on a blind tasting basis.

We are understandably delighted to be scoring consistently high in our industry's esteemed awards competitions reflecting the consistently high quality whisky we produce.

2014 Awards:

Tomatin 18 Year Old Single Malt – DOUBLE GOLD

Tomatin 12 Year Old Single Malt – GOLD

Tomatin LEGACY Single Malt – GOLD

Cù Bòcan Single Malt – SILVER

CU BÙCAN

I have an old postcard, which had been bought many years ago when H.P. Doig had The Store at Tomatin, up by the station yard. The picture came to mind recently when the Distillery introduced their new brand of whisky, Cu Bùcan, and I had heard the story of a ghostly hound being encountered in the past. It was seen crossing an old bridge over the Alt na Frithe, where the burn joins the Findhorn and the pumping station is built now, a view shown in the postcard.

The beast was apparently large and black but history didn't say very fierce, nor whether it haunted anywhere else in Strathdearn. I would be interested to hear of any other versions of the story. I like to think of it as a 'spirit dog', as a play on the name association with the Distillery.

The card also shows in the background the steadings of Lower Inverbrough, sadly long ruined now though the dwelling still has a roof. On the opposite river bank a pale post can be seen; it was one of the supports for the box bridge (pully hauley) built in the same way as the one at Pollochaig, but prone to damage by spates as the uprights were in sandy soil.

Anne Glynne-Percy

STRATHDEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

These are some of the issues that have been raised and/or dealt with over the past couple of months:

Law and Order

In January, CCTV at the hall/sports pitch area was discussed due to the straps on the Sports Facility being continually loosened and other abusive behaviour.

In March, it was reported that a yard at Moy had been broken into again recently.

Applications to the Strathdearn Community Charitable Trust

In January, February and March the following Applications were submitted, and approved:

Mrs Saunders for the CC regarding the website - this was to keep the website updated.

Mrs Elizabeth Campbell gave an update on the taxi service that is being paid for by the Trust to take two senior citizens to the Glen Centre in Aviemore twice a week. It was confirmed that the Trust will carry on paying it, as was done last year, and Mrs Campbell will continue to try and secure a less expensive fare.

Strathnairn Farmers for £720 to allow four men to attend a Sheep Clipping Course. Strathdearn Community Developments for £150,000. The funds will be repaid once the Dunmaglass windfarm settlement is received. The CC for the photocopier costs for £820, and for Mr Geoff Fagan's travel expenses in the sum of £315. Strathdearn Art Club for £1,288.

Full details of all these applications can be read in the Minutes.

Road Safety

In January it was reported that the speeding survey showed that a significant number of vehicles had been speeding, but not by a great margin. The issues of speeding were discussed, and it was noted that speed cameras could be useful, and that we could put up a smiley face at the other end of village, and it should be solar powered. This is ongoing.

Financial Report

At the 28th February 2014 the balance in the current account was £1,317.94.

Windfarms

In January, regarding the Glenkyllachy Windfarm, Mr Bryden reported that he had emailed Keris Macleod regarding the visuals that we had requested not being delivered, and noted that he had received a reply, explaining that visibility was poor or none, and this is why they weren't included in the presentation. It was noted that this was an unsatisfactory reply, as the turbines will possibly be seen from the viewpoints asked for. It was suggested that photos were taken by the public.

In March, regarding the Proposed Aberarder Windfarm, Mr Bryden reported that he had received a Scoping Study for a new Windfarm at Aberarder from RES. It will be north east of the Dummaglass Windfarm, for 13 turbines. It will not be in Strathdearn, although it will connect to the substation.

Regarding Community Benefit Issues for Tom nan Clach Windfarm, Mr Osborne reported that he and Mrs Roden had attended a meeting at Cawdor, along with representatives from seven other CCs, and went on to give a brief overview of this meeting.

Planning Matters

In February, regarding the proposed SSE Substation at Garbole, it was noted that this was still at pre-application stage. It was reported that over 70 people attended the meeting which Mrs Wells had chaired. There were six short presentations from various people in the Community, as well as questions and comments from the floor. There were 49 proxy votes against the substation being built, and 61 votes against the substation being built, giving an overall figure of 110 votes. It was noted that no-one from SSE was there, even though they were notified and given the opportunity.

Mr Bryden reported on the reopening of the quarry at Dalmagarry. This will require an environmental impact assessment. It will possibly be around June or July that the Application goes in for planning.

This is only a handful of the issues dealt with by the Community Council – to get the full picture, read the Community Council Minutes on the Notice Boards – or better still, come along to our meetings, which are held on the second Tuesday of each month, at 7.30pm in the Strathdearn Village Hall. We hope to see you there!

If you would like something put on the Agenda, please get in touch with a Community Councillor. We are:- Vivian Roden (Chair) Tel 511355; Edward Osborne (Vice Chair) Tel 511482; Margaret Saunders (Treasurer) Tel 511755; Duncan Bryden (Planning Contact) Tel 511411; John Cameron-Mackintosh (Road Safety Contact) Tel 511239; Ann Glynne-Percy Tel 511210; Tony Gerlings Tel 511222.

Flower Show 2014

Saturday 6th September

Here are the classes for this year's show.
Time to start preparing now!

Children's Sections

(8 Yrs & under; 9 - 12 Yrs)

1. Animal made from fruit and/or vegetables
2. Egg Cup Flower Display
3. Garden in a Tray no bigger than 15" x 10"
4. A decorated flower pot

Children's Challenge: To grow a **crop of potatoes**
Children must state age on tickets.

Handicrafts

1. Exhibit of Patchwork and/or Quilting
2. Exhibit of Knitting
3. Exhibit of Embroidery, Cross Stitch, or Tapestry
4. Exhibit of Crochet
5. Any Craft (other than above)

Photography (mounted - see Notes on Exhibits)

1. A leaf or leaves.
2. "On your bike".
3. Holiday or day out
4. Plants by water
5. Summer colour in a Strathdearn garden
6. 3 Pictures on one sheet of A4 telling a story.

Floral Art

1. Two Colour Arrangement (to be viewed from front)
2. Foliage Arrangement (max 18") (to be viewed all round)
3. An arrangement with maximum of 5 blooms
4. An arrangement in a boot

Flower Section

1. 5 Sweet Peas - Mixed
2. 5 Sweet Peas - Same Colour
3. 3 Antirrhinums
4. 3 Carnations/Pinks
5. 3 Calendula (Marigold) Stems
6. 3 French Marigold Heads
7. 3 Pansy Heads - Same Colour (note pansy not viola)
8. 3 Pansy Heads - Different colours
9. 1 Rose Stem - Single Bloom
10. 3 Rose Stems - Floribunda
11. 1 Rose Bloom - for scent
12. 3 Fuchsia Heads - same colour
13. 3 Fuchsia Heads - different colours
14. 1 Fuchsia - grown as standard
15. 1 Fuchsia - 7" pot or smaller
16. 1 Fuchsia - larger than 7" pot
17. 3 Begonia Heads

18. 3 Dahlia Stems

19. 1 Vase - 4 Herbaceous Perennial Stems **same species and variety**
20. 1 Vase - 4 Herbaceous Perennial Stems mixed species
21. 1 Vase - 4 Annual Stems same species and variety
22. 1 Vase - 4 Annual Stems mixed species
23. 1 Vase - 4 stems of flowering shrubs
24. 1 Pot Plant - Flower
25. 1 Pot Plant - Foliage
26. Planted Container

Baking & Produce Section

- 1 Lemon drizzle cake
- 3 Small, plain meringue cases
- 3 Pancakes
- 3 Wholemeal scones
- 3 Oatcakes
- 3 Jam tarts
- 4 Squares chocolate fudge
- 1 Cake decorated with chocolate
- 1 Jar Raspberry Jam
- 1 Jar Strawberry Jam
- 1 Jar Blackcurrant Jam
- 1 Jar Marmalade
- 1 Jar Jelly-any variety
- 1 Jar Lemon Curd
- 1 Jar Chutney - any variety
- 1 Granary loaf (2 lb tin)
- 6 Eggs

Art Section (any medium)

- Strathdearn landscape
- 1914-1918 war
- Fruit or vegetable
- Farm implement
- Flower or flowers

Vegetable Section

- 1 Cabbage
- 1 Cauliflower
- 3 Carrots
- 3 Onions
- 2 Leeks
- 3 Potatoes - White
- 3 Potatoes - Coloured
- 3 Beetroot
- 2 Turnips
- 1 Lettuce
- 3 Tomatoes
- 2 Courgettes
- 1 Pepper - any colour
- Basket of 5 kinds of Vegetable (not decorated)
- Any other Vegetable
- Display of 5 different cut Culinary Herbs
- Parsley grown in pot
- 3 Beans - any variety.

Church of Scotland
Parish of Moy, Dalarossie and Tomatin
Minister: Rev R F Campbell, Daviot Manse, Daviot. Tel: 01463 772242
www.strathsnairnanddearn.co.uk

All Age Worship:

takes place in the Strathdearn Hall at 10.30 am on the second Sunday of the month. Families are especially welcome. There are usually activities for children during the Service. Donations to the **Highland Foodbank** are also welcomed at these Services. Any of the following items will be much appreciated:- Breakfast Cereal / Pasta or Rice / Tinned Potatoes / Oatcakes or Crackers / Tinned Vegetables / Tinned Tomatoes / Tinned Fruit / Long Life Fruit Juice / Tinned Ham or Corned Beef / Tinned Soup / Tinned Tuna or Salmon / Tinned Mince or Stew / UHT Milk / Tinned Custard or Rice / Teabags or Coffee / Sugar. Further information from Sandra 01808 511246.

Breakfast Club:

Beginning at 9.30am, freshly brewed coffee, bacon rolls and fresh fruit, followed by discussion of a Bible passage and a time of singing and prayer. All welcome to join us on Mondays, 19th and 26th May; and 23rd and 30th June (we have a summer break in July and August). Further information from Vivian 01808 511355.

Afternoon Tea:

Join us at the Strathdearn Hall for a blether over freshly made sandwiches and delicious scones and cakes between 3 and 4 pm on the second Monday of each month. Further information from Vivian 01808 511355 or Sandra 01808 511246.

Services (all at 10.30 am unless stated otherwise):

May:

- 4th Dalarossie Church
- 11th Strathdearn Hall All Age Worship with Tea after the Service.
- 18th Dalarossie Church
- 25th Tomatin Church

June:

- 1st Dalarossie Church
- 8th Strathdearn Hall All Age Worship with Tea after the Service.
- 15th Dalarossie Church
- 22nd Tomatin Church
- 29th Tomatin Church

July:

- 6th Dalarossie Church
- 13th Strathdearn Hall All Age Worship with Tea after the Service.
- 20th Dalarossie Church
- 27th Tomatin Church.

August:

- 3rd Dalarossie Church

All warmly welcome at all our Services and Activities

Tomatin and Moy SWRI

The final meeting of the 2013/14 session will take place on Monday 12th May in Strathdearn Hall at 7.30pm when the Annual General Meeting will be held. The business is usually over fairly quickly before we all taste examples of each other's cooking and have a good blether.

The first meeting of the 2014/15 session will be on Monday 1st September in the same place at the same time. Another stimulating series of talks will be planned. Details of the talk for September and the competition will be in the next Newsletter and displayed on the village notice boards.

We would very much like to have the pleasure of your company at our meetings. They last for a couple of hours and consist of a speaker, a competition, a raffle, refreshments with social time and a short business session.

Through the WRI you can become involved in many other activities either within the County Federation and/or the National Federation. There are craft classes with local and national exhibitions to show off your skills. There is a short summer school to meet like-minded members from all over Scotland. You could join the Federation choir, entertain your fellow members and take part in national competitions or you could enter one of the sports tournaments. If none of these appeal, surely a quiet couple of hours once a month (Sept-May) in the company of friends is worth joining for. We look forward to seeing you.

Carol James

Christian Aid Week 10th-17th May 2014

Christian Aid fights for a world free of poverty and injustice. "War tears lives apart. It leaves people broken, brutalised, grief-stricken and afraid. In some of the toughest places in the world, Christian Aid is helping people caught up in conflict to get the basics: medical care, water, food, shelter. We keep people safe and help heal their emotional scars, providing the expert support they need to deal with their traumatic experiences.

When the fighting stops, we're still there, helping communities walk the long road to recovery - from building homes where families can feel safe to making sure people who've lost everything can earn a living again. And we work to tackle the causes, not just the consequences, of conflict.

By coming together this Christian Aid Week we can help give people across the world a life free from fear. The good news is that individuals, communities and churches can make a real difference this Christian Aid Week. Last year, a magnificent 20,000 churches across the country helped raise £12m for Christian Aid Week. Thanks to your efforts, many more people can look forward to a future free from poverty."

This year Moy, Dalarossie & Tomatin Parish Church is not doing a door-to-door collection, trying out a more direct mailing collection from the folk in the Churches instead. In addition, Christian Aid envelopes will also be available at Church on the 11th May (at 10.30am in the Strathdearn Hall) and in the Shop to give everyone in the community the chance to give to this year's annual Christian Aid Week collection. Our thanks to Mrs Tanya Macleod and her staff for their willingness to pass on the envelopes.

Please give generously, if you can. If you are a tax payer, please think about signing the Gift Aid declaration on the Christian Aid envelope. This will enable Christian Aid to claim the tax which would otherwise be paid to the government, increasing your gift to Christian Aid at no extra cost to you. If you're not well off but can spare a handful of loose change, this would be welcomed too. A few handfuls of change soon adds up to a sizeable donation! Envelopes may be handed in at the Church services at the Hall or given to Vivian Roden before 18th May 2014.

Thank you all very much.

Nature Notes

"Spring is sprung, the grass is riz, I wonder where the birdies is?" (with acknowledgements)

Spring is definitely sprung. We are well past the equinox and the longer days are getting warmer. The hazel catkins have been blowing in the wind for weeks and the pussy willows are going over. The elderberry bushes are in leaf and the larch tree in the garden has its red cone-like female flowers glowing in the sunshine. Most importantly, the first lambs are frolicking in the fields.

The grass is definitely riz, especially in my garden. I really must get the grass cutter out! The snowdrops are over and the garden colour is now yellow as the primroses flower. The first ones are visible on the bank under the hazels between the recycling bins and the railway viaduct, along with a dandelion or two. I have yet to see the celandines there.

I wonder where the birdies is? The local migrants such as pied wagtail, peewit, oystercatcher and curlew are back in the glen, pairing up and marking out their breeding territories. The pied wagtails have been strutting on the roof and the curlew pair feeding in the fields round the house. This year we don't seem to have oyster catchers or peewit nesting near us, although I have been surprised at the large numbers feeding together in the same fields.

I have not heard or seen any of the long-distance migrants in the strath yet, although they can't be far away. I saw two swallows in Aviemore and a wheatear on Cairngorm. I shall be listening out for the cuckoo at the end of the month. My wildlife records show that most years I hear the first one within a few days of April 29th.

So, with the strath going green, wildflowers showing and birdsong filling the air, Spring is definitely Sprung.

Carol James

Highland Rugby Club: Scottish Bowl Champions 2014

Highland RFC completed their remarkable season on Saturday 19 April at the RBS Scottish Cup Finals Day held at Broadwood Stadium, Cumbernauld. Having already won the Caledonia North Division 2 title and the North Regional Bowl they met Glenrothes RFC in the National Bowl final and won by 26 points to 12.

Four local lads played a huge part in the team's success this season - Head Coach, David Carson and players Paddy Bryden, Darren Macleod and Callum Carson. Darren scored the opening try in Saturday's game - cheered on by his little brothers Andrew and Lewis. Strathdearn has been a continual source of rugby talent through the years. The 3 lads currently playing have all come up through the youth structure at Highland and are an inspiration to the next generation of youngsters from the community currently in the Junior set up. Huge thanks must go to the dedicated parents, past and present, who have given of their time to taxi the youngsters to training and games every week.

National Rugby Victory

A sun-kissed football stadium on the outskirts of Scotland's monument to unlovely architecture was an unlikely venue for a recent Strathdearn led national triumph.

Highland Rugby Club head coach Dave Carson, popular Tomatin electrical linesman and sheep breeder, was grinning from ear to ear as he posed with his all-conquering team when they collected the RBS Club Bowl after winning the 2013-14 final on Easter Saturday.

Highland had been denied their final at the HQ of Scottish Rugby when invasive nematode worms ate the roots of the hallowed Murrayfield turf requiring the whole pitch to be torn up and replaced. Home to Clyde FC, Broadwood Stadium is adrift in a sea of roundabouts and motorways somewhere near to Cumbernauld and was a curious alternative choice by the Scottish Rugby Union for national final. Still, at least the 4G plastic pitch was nematode free, if a little hard for rugby, there was plenty parking, the sun shone and the game was streamed live on Youtube.

80 minutes earlier the Highland team, including Strathdearn players Paddy Bryden, Darren Macleod and Calum Carson, in their new green and red strips, had lined up against a determined Glenrothes team. Coach Carson's body language showed some tension as he took up position beside the Broadwood pitch. In fact, there was good reason for him to be confident. Highland had already cruised through to their league championship, sweeping all before them - racking up over 1000 points with a measly 100 or so scored against them. The previous two Saturday in winning the league, they put 107 and 129 points past hapless Stornoway and Shetland teams with no response. And they had fought their way through the knock out stages of the Bowl to the national finals. But, Glenrothes were champions in their own league, fielding a powerful team of their own and keen to make a game of it.

From the kick off Highland attacked hard and fast, rucking Glenrothes off the ball. Three minutes and a couple of phases by the forwards saw the Highland back division spin the ball out wide. Slick passing put the ball into Darren Macleod's hands and the speedy winger outpaced the covering full back to glide over in the corner for the first score. The travelling Highland support danced with glee.

The try was converted and the Highlanders were on the ascendancy. Darren nearly got another but the final pass went forward. The teams were well matched, but Highland had the superior pace and bulk up front. A couple of the Highland players weigh in at 18 to 19 stone, hard to stop when travelling at any speed. The plastic pitch was fast and firm. Many of the players had scrapes and bangs from the hits and collisions with the surface and each other. Paddy Bryden stopped a threatening Glenrothes move close to the Highland try line when he floored the opposing fly half with a text book tackle. Described by the commentator on Youtube as the King of the Turnover, Paddy claimed three turnovers in rucks. Coming in at an unfamiliar second row position, Calum Carson had a barnstorming period, as Highland's superior fitness seem to tell in broken play, pinning Glenrothes into their own half.

Highland's try count stood at four and the game was drawing to a close. Glenrothes had only managed to cross the Highland line twice in response. Highland had a man sent to the sin bin for the final 10 minutes, but despite this little wobble the 14 Highlanders rallied and they were denied a fifth try when the linesman spotted a previous infringement.

The final whistle went with the score at 26 -12. Coach Carson's grin and the whoops of delight from the players and much backslapping marked a well-deserved and hard earned victory.

Congratulations to Dave, Darren, Paddy and Calum and of course the rest of the Highland Rugby Club players and coaches, a fine effort to become RBS Club Bowl Champions.

By: **The touchline pundit.**



Strathdearn Primary and Nursery News

Community Litter Pick

Please come and join us in a very worthwhile event on Saturday 17th May.

Please meet at the Village Hall in Tomatin at 10am. Litter grabs will be provided.

We would appreciate your support.

Badenoch and Strathspey Music Festival March '14

We had many pupils perform at this event. Each child should be extremely proud of themselves. A special mention to the school choir and country dancing teams for winning trophies.

Commonwealth Games

This term we will be learning about the Commonwealth. We will be finding out different countries, their cultures and values, etc. If you have any books, pictures, artefacts or anything else that we could borrow then please bring them into the school. Thanks.

Science

The P4- 7 class was treated with some superb science activities with Dr. Amy MacQueen, who works at the Babraham Institute in Cambridge. The pupils were shown how to extract DNA from an onion and thoroughly enjoyed the experiments. Many thanks to Amy and her colleague Hema for talking the time to visit the school and provide the children with such a worthwhile experience.

Tea, Coffee and Cake Morning

This event was a great success. Many parents, families, friends and local people joined us for a morning. The children performed brilliantly and showed that they are confident and talented individuals. Scottish Country Dancing, Easter bonnets, piano and violin recitals, singing, solo verse speaking and a wonderful choral verse to finish were on display.

Thank you to all our guests for supporting the event. £126.56 was raised for the Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal so thanks to everybody who donated to this worthwhile cause. Thank you also to all the parents for the delicious home baking.

P4-7 Skiing

The P4-7 pupils had a brilliant time skiing on Cairngorm in March. Each child progressed extremely well and by the 3rd day all the children managed to ski down from the top to the lower slopes, a massive achievement. Well done to you all. Hopefully, skiing lessons will become an annual fixture in the school calendar.

Easyfundraising

Do you shop online? If so, you could help the Parent Council raise funds for the school by simply registering with www.easyfundraising.org.uk and helping the Strathdearn Primary Parent Council cause. A percentage of what you spend will be donated to the school, at no extra cost to yourself. Contact the school for more info!

Beetle Drive - Fri 23rd May

The Parent Council are holding a Beetle Drive at the school at 6.30pm. Everybody is welcome to come along to this fun event.

Well Done Miss Leakey

Massive congratulations to Miss Leakey, our Support for Learning Teacher, who competed in the gruelling Marathon Des Sable in Africa. Running 6 marathons in 7 days, she came in 6th fastest female and was 121st out of over 1000 runners. What an achievement!

STRATHDEARN COMMUNITY CHARITABLE TRUST

Financial statement for the period 1 January to 31 March 2014

Income

Bank Interest and dividends	2,055
Increase in value of investments (see Note)	<u>10,717</u>

Total income **12,772**

Expenditure

Grants:		
Stamps for local pensioners	96	
Strath Farmers Assoc- Sheep Clipping courses	648	
Yellow Cherry - Community website maintenance	40	
G.Fagan of CADISPA - Travel expenses	315	
Weirs of Aviemore - Taxi to/from Aviemore day centre (December, January & February)	2,400	

3,499

Community development worker	12,710
Adminstrator annual fee	4,338
Postage, stationary & misc	83
Independent examination fee of accounts	840
Deutsche Bank Investment fees	1,383
<i>Total outgoings</i>	<u>22,853</u>

Excess of income over expenditure for the period -10,081

Funds at 31 December 2013 **510,535**

Funds at 31 March 2014 500,454

Consisting of:

Deposit and current accounts with Royal Bank of Scotland	57,857
Investments managed by Deutsche Bank Private Wealth Management	441,934
Income due at 31 March 2014	<u>2,046</u>
	501,837
Less: Payments due at 31 March 2014	<u>1,383</u>

Funds at 31 March 2014 500,454

Investments managed by Deutsche Bank are at 31 December 2013 as the valuation for 31 March 2014 is not yet available.

30 Battle of Tewkesbury, etc (4,5)
continued overleaf ...

___ of the ___

31 1999/2000 (4,7)

___ of the ___

32 Leo, Libra, etc (5,6)

___ of the ___

33 The obvious part of something bigger (3,7)

___ of the ___

34 Star Wars sequel (6,4)

___ of the ___

35 Tibet (4,5)

___ of the ___

36 Ordinary (3,4)

___ of the ___

The answers can be obtained by contacting me, as above ... Best of luck! Stan Beaumont

Strathdearn Community Council

www.tomatin.org.uk

publishes the "Strathdearn Newsletter" quarterly, delivering it free to every home in Strathdearn. The Newsletter is sponsored by Tomatin Distillery and Mr & Mrs George McLeod. This is a community newsletter, and the views and opinions expressed in contributions submitted by members of the community are not necessarily those of Strathdearn Community Council, nor of the Editor.

No items are written by the Editor unless expressly indicated.

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Business adverts £10 per quarter page

Next deadline: Wednesday 30th July 2014

TOMATIN AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB.

April 29th Visit to Floral Hall, meet at the Hall 1pm sharp.

May 19th Tidying up around the Hall.

May 23rd **PLANT SALE** 7-30pm
Plants from Highland Lilliums and local plants.

June 16th Proposed visit to Logie House Gardens.

Aug. 18th Meeting to finalize Flower Show
arrangements.

Sept 6th **FLOWER SHOW.**
see schedules for details.

Natural History Club

A presentation of "not so long ago" recordings was once again well attended and enjoyed by all present. The Club has an increasing focus on local history and over the summer members are hoping to get out and about updating some of our records of interesting sites. In the autumn we will continue with a programme of talks on travel and wildlife both near and far.

Betty's Recipes

Rhubarb is now in season so how about a tasty crumble.

RHUBARB CRUMBLE

300g rhubarb, cut into chunks
Sugar or clear honey
200g wholewheat or plain flour
75g butter
80g demerara sugar
Chopped crystallised ginger.

Put rhubarb in baking dish with sugar or honey to taste
Make crumble topping with flour, butter and demerara sugar.
Stir in chopped ginger. Spread over rhubarb and bake .

RHUBARB AND STRAWBERRY FOOL

300g rhubarb, cut into chunks
300g strawberries, halved
150ml dessert wine
400ml double cream
75ml maple syrup

Simmer rhubarb and strawberries in wine for 5 mins. Leave to cool.

Whip cream and maple syrup. Fold in rhubarb mixture

Divide between glasses and chill.

Nice served with almond biscuits