

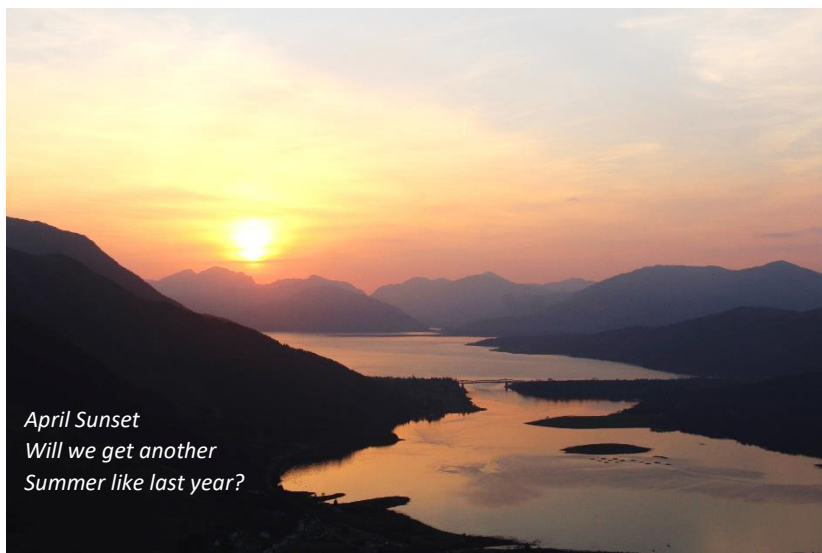
SLATEST NEWS

Your free community newsletter produced by Ballachulish Community Forum

Edition 15 – June / July 2019



*Crash of the Scouts rafts on Loch Gail
See inside for more of their adventure weekend*



*April Sunset
Will we get another
Summer like last year?*

WELCOME!

Thank you to everyone who has supplied articles for this edition of Slatest. This is your magazine, and it always has room for new items. If you have some interesting snippets of local history or have found some old photos or want to share a memory, please get in touch, we can also help put articles together.

Slatest belongs to the community, and needs your support to continue being a success, the deadline for the next edition is **10th July 2019** with deliveries by the end of July, so please get in touch if you have any events or ideas!

Please note the earlier deadline due to holidays!

Thank You!!!



To all of the local businesses who helped us raise
£2400.00 for a polytunnel!

It will be erected in our school garden in the summer
holidays. We really do appreciate it.

Highland Titles Co-op Ballachulish
Lochside Garage P1/2 Enterprise Group
Abbeyfield Ballachulish A.A. Whyte
Argyll & Lochaber Joiners Snips
School Raffle Cilla MacLeod

EMERGENCY REPAIR WORKS – LOANFERN

“Highland Council, are carrying out repair works following emergency drainage investigation works on Loanfern Road Ballachulish.

A temporary road closure will be in force from Monday 13th of May 2019 at the Junction of Albert Road / Loanfern. Construction works will be carried out generally between 8am and 16.30pm with emergency and local residents/business amenities only.

A temporary pedestrian barrier will be erected on Loanfern to ensure the safety of the public. We may request that local houses that fall in-between these critical works move vehicles to a more appropriate location. Upon excavation at each immediate house access consultation with residents will take place to ensure their safety.

Highland Council wish to thank the local community for their patience whilst this essential work is carried out.”

It has been suggested that the road could be closed for 4-6 weeks, although it obviously depends on what is found as the works progress. For the duration of the road closure the Kinlochleven – Fort William Bus service will operate via Albert Road.

RIVER LAROCHE PATH REPAIRS

We are continuing to liaise with Highland Council, Scottish Water and SEPA to try and resolve the erosion of the path along the River Laroch from Albert Road to the underpass. We are hoping that things will progress shortly and that a satisfactory resolution to the ongoing problem can be found.



Beer Stalking in the Highlands ©Gosh Wow Comics



4th Lochaber Scout Group

Beavers 6-8 years, 5.30-6.30pm

Cubs 8-10½ years, 6.45-7.45pm

Scouts 10-14 years, 8-9.15pm

We meet at Ballachulish Village Hall on Thursdays

The summer is now here, which means that all three sections are out and about and making the most of the light evenings and good weather. Planned activities include walks, cycle rides, treasure hunts, games and Orienteering.

We also recently took 14 Cubs and Scouts down to Lochgoilhead for an activity weekend, which they have reported on themselves (opposite).



Right: Arron Callander and Nathan Sleazas enjoying slip sliding; Below: Nathan MacLeod and Lucy MacMillan before and after their tower collapsed.



SCOUTS AT LOCHGOILHEAD

On Saturday morning we built some rafts and then we tested them out on Loch Goil and over to the mouth of the river. I jumped in a lot but it was very, very cold! We had two rafts in our group, and the other one was better... not! Ours was quicker to the river mouth and better at turning. We didn't capsize at all (neither did the others). After that we had a big battle and we pushed each other in to the water.

In the afternoon we went climbing. I was in charge of taking some photos and managed to take some pictures which looked like we were on a really high cliff. When Rob went up he was shaking a lot and he kept slipping because he couldn't find any good holds! It was very funny. *Callum McKenna (Cub)*

On the Saturday evening we did slip and slide on a wet soapy tarpaulin. We had to try and get to the bottom which was great fun.



On Sunday Morning we went biking and a boat trip and I had a shot at driving the boat - it was amazing. We also saw a treehouse on the loch shore. *Nathan MacLeod (Scout)*

On Sunday Morning after breakfast we went on the high wire and I got to the very top of both sides which I hated it was so high and scary up there. We then played a crate stacking game where we had to start at the base, and then keep building a tower of crates whilst you were on top of them. There was only five minutes, but it was fun.

Owen Thompson (Scout)

Photos: Left: Eben Baldwin driving the boat.



Right: Lucy MacMillan & Lila Kent climbing

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Appin Murder talk

On Saturday April 13th over 70 people attended Ballachulish Village Hall to hear a talk on the Appin Murder presented by Emeritus Professor of History, Allan Macinnes. It was good to see so many people taking the time to come along given the early start and the beautiful weather. Allan was born in the village, son of Hugh Macinnes, Mod Gold medallist whose recorded songs were playing in the hall on Allan's arrival.

The subject of Allan's talk was the Appin Murder, the Case for a Pardon, during which he explained to the listeners his theory as to who the real murderer was. His investigations were carried out in collaboration with Adrian Fallows, Mhairi Ross and Professor Sue Black, forensic scientist, in an effort to secure a judicial pardon for Seamus a'Ghlinne who has always been thought innocent although theories about the true perpetrator continue to this day.

Those who came along, not only heard Allan's talk but had a chance to view a comprehensive display of articles, photographs and maps relevant to the event, enjoy a soup lunch and even accompany Allan to the murder cairn at Leitir Mor (right) where he was further able to expound his theories on site.

There was also an opportunity to purchase signed copies of Allan's latest book on the History of Scotland. It was good that an event focussed on our history and culture generated such positive feedback from those attending and Allan himself.

This event could not have taken place without the generous help given by people from the village and a contribution of rolls for the lunch from the Co-operative. All monies generated on the day went directly into Village Hall Funds. It would be worthwhile planning similar events in the future.

Marjie Thornton

River Laroch Duck Race

It is our intention to hold a Duck Race again this summer. However, despite the recent rain, there simply isn't enough water in the river at the moment for the ducks to swim down to the bridge. It may therefore become necessary to organize the race at short notice, please keep an eye open for further details!



DEMENTIA AWARENESS WEEK

Cuppa & Cupcake Day Friday June 7th



Unfortunately, the event planned for Fri June 7th has had to be postponed. Sincere apologies to all.

Team Cupcake propose to host a coffee morning at a later date, during which it is hoped that the Patient Participation Group (PPG) will be present to raise awareness of Dementia Friendly Communities. Details of this will be well

publicised in advance. *Team Cupcake*



**DEMENTIA
AWARENESS
WEEK** 3-9 June

Ballachulish Village Hall Friday 14th June 8pm (doors open 7.30pm). Tickets from Ballachulish TIC £10 each; Concessions £8 Recommended for 16 years and over only.

ALAN BISSETT: 'THE AUDIENCE WERE LITERALLY SHOUTING WITH LAUGHTER' **SCOTSMAN**

THE 'FALKIRK'S HARDEST WOMAN'

MOIRA

MONOLOGUES

'BRILLIANT STUFF' ★★★★★ **SCOTSMAN**

'UTTERLY REMARKABLE' ★★★★★ **REVIEWS HUB**

'FIERCELY FUNNY' ★★★★★ **ONSTAGE SCOTLAND**

SOUTH LOCHABER BOWMEN

Archery Club at the Leven Centre, Kinlochleven

Come and give Archery a try; All abilities welcome

Otters (5-7yrs) Cubs (8-12yrs) Juniors (13-17 yrs)

Monday evenings 6-8pm £2.50 per session

Adults 18 and over Tuesday evenings

7:00-9:00pm - £4 per session - All equipment supplied



Archery sessions are run by qualified coaches in both Field and Target Archery.

You can also find us on facebook: www.facebook.com/SLBowmen.

The club is now a member of the Scottish Field Archery Association (SFAA) which allows current year card holding members to attend club shoots and Championships all around Scotland. Further details of this opportunity can be obtained through South Lochaber Bowmen Facebook page. Your questions will be answered promptly.

New members are always welcome, whether you are a first timer or experienced archer please feel free to come along and try out your skills!

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BALLACHULISH MEDICAL PRACTICE

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Pulling together for health



Patient Access is a website for your computer and an app for your phone.

You can access your local GP services at home, work or on the move - wherever you can connect to the internet.

Our practice uses a clinical information system to manage patient records. The practice also uses the system to make appointments, send letters and update your contact details. Patient Access is a website that displays information from the practice's system and allows you - the patient - to:

1. View appointments.
2. View your medication and request further prescriptions.
3. Send messages to your practice.

Each practice decides how much information is allowed to be seen through Patient Access and how many appointments can be booked online, rather than over the telephone. The practice is also responsible for allowing you access to Patient Access and only they can create and reset accounts if you're struggling to sign in.

It is easy and clear to see what you have ordered and when. To be able to use this system you need to ask at Reception for a Patient Access Registration Form.

You will be given an identification number and you then make up a password. That's it! You'll then be able to see what regular medications you have listed and can simply select the ones you want. It enables you to see when they have been approved and dispensed. You can also view your upcoming doctor's appointment.

There are also useful links and articles of medical interest about your health.

Prescription Requests

A number of prescriptions are ordered and then not collected. Please ensure that you pick up your prescriptions promptly, as space is very limited to store your requested medication. It takes two full working days to prepare, check and double check prescriptions. If you request a prescription on Thursday, it will be ready to collect the following Tuesday afternoon. Thanks for your help.

GLENCOE MUSEUM UPDATE

Glencoe Folk Museum is delighted to have been awarded Full Accreditation again this year by Museums Galleries Scotland.

Museum Accreditation is a nationally-agreed standard, which assesses museums on their ability to manage and care for their collections, and also on the service they provide to their visitors. It also gives us the opportunity to reflect on our current performance, plan for the future and consider what we could be doing better; in return, we receive access to funding streams, support and advice, and a certain level of credibility. There are around 250 accredited museums across Scotland.



We are absolutely thrilled to have achieved full accreditation again, as it demonstrates how committed we are to caring for our collections and giving people the best visitor experience possible. We work hard to ensure that we are continually improving our services, so it is lovely to get recognition for this – especially as we begin a busy tourist season!

There are plenty of opportunities if you would like to be involved with the museum at this exciting time. We are always looking for more volunteers to join our friendly team, either on the front desk or behind the scenes helping us to catalogue our collections. Please get in touch with Catriona at curator@glencoemuseum.com or give us a call on 01855811664 if you would like more information!

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E-mail: glencoetaxis@gmail.com

1883 EXAM TO GAIN GRAMMAR SCHOOL BURSARY

This is one of the seven papers use by Scottish Education authorities in 1883 to select which children would be granted bursaries for Grammar School. How many of the questions can you answer?

English – 100 points; 1 hour

I. Grammar

1. Write the plurals of – ship, gas, elf, cliff, brother, salmon, father-in-law, knight-templar; the possessive singular and possessive plural of – man, book, goose; the comparative degree of – good, fore, merry; and the possessive plurals of – I, He, and it.
2. Write down the present indicative, past tense and past participle of – blow, choose, burst, say; write out fully the future indicative active and the future perfect indicative passive of any one of these verbs.
3. In the following passage parse the words in italics. How many statements are in it, and which if any are dependent?

“From *yonder* ivy-mantled tower
The *moping* owl does to the moon complain
Of *such as* wandering near her secret bower
Molest *her* ancient solitary reign”

Derive *complain*, *ancient* and *solitary*.

II. Geography

1. Where are the following countries:- Spain, Persia, Italy, China, Egypt, Mexico and Chili? Name the capitals of all, and the chief rivers of any three of them.
2. Where are the following towns and for what are they noted :- Quebec, Calcutta, Cork, Melbourne, Dunedin, Sheffield and Bristol.

III. History

1. What happened at the following dates :- 1174, 1263, 1297, 1314, 1513 and 1603?

What Scottish sovereigns were imprisoned in England for a lengthened period? What led to their imprisonment and by whom was Scotland ruled in their absence?

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CO-OP BOOK STALL

Inside the Co-op we have a book stall for people to drop off unwanted books and then all we ask is a small donation to our local cause if anyone wants to buy any of them.

We change who we are donating to every 3 months and our most recent donation went to Ballachulish Primary School's Eco Committee to help towards the cost of a new Polytunnel so the children can grow their own fruit n veg.



The children came into the shop to receive the money, a total of £377.60. Previous to that we have donated to the Halloween and Xmas parties in the village hall.

Anyone wanting to donate books, (children's as well) then please just drop them off at the Post Office, they will be very much appreciated. This quarter the money is going towards new Audio equipment for St Brides nursery in Onich.



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SCHOOL STAFF CHANGES

As many of you will be aware, Additional Support Needs (ASN) Teachers and Pupil Support Assistants (PSA) are being cut by the Highland Council. This comes on top of cuts already experienced locally, with the Highland Council making no effort to replace our now-retired ASN teacher, or provide cover while one of our PSAs is on maternity leave. This is having a major impact on all of the children in our school, as the teachers are having to spend more time helping those children previously assisted by the ASN and PSA staff. The situation in Ballachulish Primary is sadly already being replicated across the Council area, and likely to get worse.

A Lochaber-wide meeting with representatives from Community and Parent Councils was recently held, and it is hoped to hold a public meeting soon when Council staff will be invited to explain the decisions made and the data used to come to their conclusions. Ballachulish Community and Parent Council were both represented at this first meeting, and we will be working hard to ensure that the best outcome for our children is achieved. For further information, please contact a member of the Parent Council.



Ballachulish Rainbow Baby & Toddler Group

We provide a fun, interesting environment for pre-schoolers to play together at the Village hall. There is a varied programme of activities with crafts, singing and storytelling.

£1.50 per child; 6months & under - free
Everybody welcome!

Contact Meg Pollock
07887 837648

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USEFUL CONTACTS

If you have any questions about what is going on in the community, or would like to help with anything, please get in touch with someone below:

Community Council: www.ballachulish.org.uk

Our Community Councillors are: Shirley Grant (Vice-Chair), Alisdair Jack (Treasurer), Dave Kitson (Secretary), Rob Malpas, Kath Small, Kevin Smith (Chair), Iain Dickie

Community Association: www.balla-hall.co.uk

Our Trustees are: Brian Dickie (Vice Chair), Mags Ingram, Donella MacDonald, Rob Malpas (Secretary), Sheila McLean, Sandy Stoddart, Marjie Thornton

Booking Secretary: Judy Bigham 811758

Community Company: [on Facebook](#)

Brian Dickie, Simon Ingram (Treasurer), Dave Kitson, Angus MacInnes, Niall McLean, Kevin Smith, Morgan Smith



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REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Please note some activities do not meet during school holidays.

Monday

- 10am Step it Up Walking Group meet at TiC 
- After school primary football – Jubilee Park
- 7pm Highland Hustle at School
- 8-10pm Scottish / Country Dancing at Village Hall

Tuesday

- 9.30-11.30am  Playgroup at Village Hall
- 6-8pm Junior Shinty Training at Village Hall / Jubilee

Wednesday

- 6.30-7.15pm Zumba at Village Hall
- 7.30-9pm RockSkool at Village Hall

Thursday

- 9.30-11.30am  Playgroup at Village Hall
- 10.30-1pm Knit & Knatter, Coffee & Crochet at TiC
- 5.30-9.15pm   &  at Village Hall
- Evenings – Shinty Team Practice at Jubilee Park

Friday

- 10am Step it up Walking group meet at TiC 
- After school dancing session at school

Sunday

- 11.30am Church of Scotland Service at St Munda's
- Episcopal Church Service at St Mary's, Glencoe
- Catholic Church Service at St Mun's

RBS Mobile Bank

Tuesdays

10:45-11:15 Abbeyfield

11:30-12:30 V Hall

Fridays

10:30-12:00 V Hall



Mobile Library

Thurs 13/4; 4 & 25/7

12:40-12:55 Square

13:00-13:10 Lochside

Cottages

Wed 19/6; 10 & 31/7

(13:30-14:25 School)

14:30-15:15 W Laroche

15:20-16:00 Park Rd & Abbeyfield

16:05-16:30 Albert Rd



As you can see, ours is a very busy community with lots going on. However, if your group isn't mentioned above, please get in touch!

If you are interested in any of the above, we're sure you will be made very welcome. Contact details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter, on facebook or simply ask us and we shall pass your enquiry on!

Also active locally:

- South Lochaber Bowmen – Archery Club
- Ballachulish Football Club

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

June

- 4th Community Council Meeting, 7pm at shinty pavilion
3rd-9th Dementia Awareness Week

July

- 2nd Community Council Meeting, 7pm at shinty pavilion
5th School Summer Holidays start

Noticeboard at Co-op

If you would like a poster inserted in the community noticeboard outside the Co-op, please put it in one of the letterboxes at the village hall for consideration. No Small Ads.

Advertising

If you would like to advertise your local business in this newsletter, please get in touch. Adverts will cost £20 per issue, for a quarter page which includes a small banner advert on the Community Website. We will take a maximum of 10 adverts per issue, and can do the artwork for you if that helps.

Ballachulish Community Council, Ballachulish Community Company and Ballachulish Community Association SCIO (SC023308) have worked together to produce this newsletter.

Editors: Rob Malpas and Sheila McLean



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