

THE BLAIRDRUMMOND GRAPEVINE

ISSUE NINE

SPRING 2002

FREE

JUBILEE FOOTBALL

Entries are invited for all you budding footballers out there to take part in a Blairdrummond five-a-side football competition. The heats will take place in May and the final will be held at the Jubilee celebrations on June 1st.

Teams must include 1 adult (suggestion - goal keeper - let the children do the running!!) and at least 1 girl (sorry boys). Please forward your team name and captains name to Mandy McLeod Tel 841825 no later than 1st May. So come on all you Cuthil Brae Kickers and Kirklane Trotters rise to the challenge!

HALL FOR HIRE

Remember the Community Hall is available for hire. Costs are remarkable reasonable – one wonders how they keep the costs so low!

£4 per hour for Blairdrummond residents

£8 per hour for non-residents

£50 for an evening hire

PLANT SALE

The hall committee are holding a plant sale in the community hall on Friday 24th May from 6pm till 8pm. Everyone is welcome and all proceeds go to the hall funds.

Donations of plants to sell would be welcome. Please hand in to Tom Millar at Woodside, Blairdrummond Tel 01786 841825

AEROBICS

Last chance to get fit for summer, starting from 26 April.

Come along and try our aerobics class in the hall on Mondays nights from 7.30pm to 8.30pm and join in the fun. The class is run by the sports council and costs £2 per class. For more details contact Eleanor Graham tel 472523

KINCARDINE-IN-MENTEITH CHURCH

The Rev. Richard Campbell and his wife, Anne, are now firmly established in the Manse at Gargunnoch and a conservatory is being added to the East end of the house.

The Church A.G.M. was held in the Community Hall on Thursday, 14th March, and a good evening was had by all who attended. Caroline Penney, who is one of the Church Recorders for the Stirling Branch of NADFAS, gave a most interesting talk about the history of the church. She and her team had unearthed some fascinating information on the stained glass windows, the communion plates, the offering ladles and some of the inscriptions on the various memorials within the Church, including those to Lord Kames and John Ramsay of Ochertyre.

CAMPBILL OPEN DAY

Camphill are holding an Open Day on 22 June. Everyone is welcome to look round the buildings and in particular new facilities will be officially opened.

Camphill are keen to maintain & develop links with the local community through their befriending project or through volunteers to help with various areas such as the bakery, horticulture, etc.

CHILDREN'S 2000 POEM

A few Grapevines ago, we featured some poetry from local bard, Jimmy Reid. Last summer we had a poetry competition, with schoolchildren writing poems about life in Blairdrummond in the new millennium. Since then, we've been publishing the poems submitted.

In Stirling Valley

Down in Stirling's valley,
There is a wee community called Blairdrummond,
However, we are no ordinary people,
We have special qualities,
Some can dance,
Some can sing,
Some can perform the Highland Fling,
Some can farm, and drive tractors,
Some can do tricks in gymnastics,
And Blairdrummond is so beautiful,
Seeing the lazy cows strolling around, Eating grass,
So you see we are lucky.

By Andrew Darby

Since the competition Andrew's continued writing and below is a further poem from his pen.

Two hours ago it was all here,
The beachers were here and so was life beauty wonder.
But it all took a turn two hours ago,
A slick was approaching to avenge his poor refined brothers.
He opens his mouth and out pours his tongue,
He licks all the life out of plants and rockfish .
Soon all the coral fish will die.
It will be twenty years till there's a difference,
But the risk is still in the back of my mind,
The demon hasn't finished.

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RECIPE CORNER

Thanks go to Mrs Anna Burnett from Upper Spittalton for this additions recipe column. She is trying to get us all in the mood for summer with these delicious fruity recipes.

Lemon Cream

Grease 6" round cake tin
2 ½ fl.oz. Milk
2 level tablespoons caster sugar
grated rind & juice of 2 lemons
1 level dessertspoon gelatine
1 egg yolk
12 ½ fl. oz. Double cream
2 large egg whites

Place milk, sugar, lemon rind, gelatine & egg yolk together in blender or liquidiser. Blend for ½ minute and then pour mixture into small saucepan & stir over very gentle heat for 3 - 4 minutes till hot but not boiling. Return mixture to liquidiser and blend again adding lemon juice & ¼ pint of the cream. When blended pour mixture into bowl stirring occasionally till syrupy. Whip remaining 7 ½ fl. Oz. cream lightly until it begins to thicken. In another bowl whisk egg whites till stiff & fold into lemon mixture followed by cream. Pour into tin, cover & chill till firm.

Turn out & decorate - cuts like a cake.

Marshmallow Delight

1 tin crushed pineapple
1 tin mandarin oranges
1 pkt marshmallows
1 tub soured cream

Drain juice from fruit & cut up the marshmallows. Mix together drained fruit, marshmallows, soured cream. Leave in fridge overnight & finish by topping with cream.

Orange Haze

1 orange jelly melted with ¼ pint water
2 oranges
2 oz caster sugar
3 standard eggs separated

Add grated rind & juice of oranges to melted jelly. Leave until just beginning to set. Whisk together

egg yolks & sugar, & then whisk into jelly. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites & leave till set.

KINCARDINE IN MENTEITH PRIMARY SCHOOL

January was our "Scottish Poem Month". Every child in the school learnt a Scottish Poem. P1 would win hands down for enthusiasm as they recited Teenie Tit. P2, 3 and 4 learned Robin Reidbreist, Mavis and Chookie Hen. Senior pupils must learn a poem by Burns to gain a certificate. Our choice was My Hoggie, To a Mouse, To a Louse, To a Haggis and extracts from Tam O'Shanter.

Recitation certificates were awarded to Laura Graham, Andrew Darby, Morag Cullens, Kirsten Buchanan, Kirsten Duff and Laura Killen.

Music certificates were awarded to Kirsten Buchanan (violin) and Danielle McLeod (recorder).

Some senior pupils are to take part in the Trossachs Table Tennis Tournament this month. We wish them well.

Tesco coupons - these are gratefully received - please keep them coming. Computer software is so expensive to buy, the more we get for free the better.

This is a long dreich term for us - bad weather, coughs, colds and lots of tests. We look forward to summer term when we can get outdoors, go trips, have sports and P7 pupils look forward to their two days induction at McLaren High.

We have enrolled seven new pupils for August. This augurs well for the school and community as a whole.

Frances Berry, Headteacher

PRIMARY SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

Fund raising is a continuing priority for the school, and we are indebted to the tremendous support given by the local community. This money provides a whole range of equipment for the school - recent purchases include a computer, printer, video player, musical instruments, jigsaws, Lego, and mathematical materials. As well as this, it provides treats for the children on sports days and parties, and enables bus hire for school trips. And, just before Christmas, some of the money was used for

materials to run an after-school crafts session for the children.

We run various fund-raising events throughout the year, but our best regular source of income is the "100" club. We'd like to invite you to join this - whether you have an interest in the school or would just like the chance to win a prize!

To join the club you pay £1 a month, which buys your lucky number. On the last day of each month the Primary 7 pupils draw three numbers, which win prizes of £25, £10 and £5.

Why not give it a go? The odds are much better than the lottery - even though the prizes are maybe not quite so good!

If you would like further information on the club please contact Mairi Osborne - telephone 01786 860433.

Recent "100" club winners are:

September:	1st	Joanne Inglis
	2nd	Andrew Darby
	3rd	Margaret Aitken
October:	1st	Mr & Mrs C Watt
	2nd	Mrs J Barber-Fleming
	3rd	Mrs S Gillespie
November:	1st	Catherine Killen
	2nd	Mr John Sinclair
	3rd	Mrs Janet Graham
December:	1st	Mr & Mrs C Watt
	2nd	Mr & Mrs C Watt
	3rd	Mr John Killen
January 1st		Mrs Sinclair
	2nd	J & H Graham
	3rd	Iain Berry
February 1st		Andrew Graham
	2nd	Mrs S Cullens
	3rd	Iain Berry

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ANDREW TRAINS FOR SCOTLAND

Our Local Gymnast Andrew Darby went to the Scottish Team Trials in January, and was selected for the Scottish Junior Training Squad for 2002. This means spending about 7 long weekends staying over at the national training base at Inverclyde. Training is intense, starting at 9am, and finishing at about 7pm.

Scottish Gymnastics held its National Floor and Vault competition at Broadwood Stadium, Cumbernauld on the 24th February, where Andrew won his first gold of the season. He has a slightly tougher competition on the 24th March.....the National Apparatus competition. This will involve rings, high bar, pommel, and parallel bars.

The open Scottish Championships are on the 15th and 16th June at the Bells Sport Stadium in Perth, followed by the British NDP Finals on the 13th and 14th July in North Tyneside.

Good luck Andrew.

YOUTH CLUB

We have 17 members at present and have been very busy. This photo shows some of us enjoying Halloween. In December we had a go at Circus skills with Gary Worrall, this was a very popular event. In January we went to see the panto in Glasgow. Over the past 6 weeks we have been doing a First Aid course. All YC now have a junior certificate in First Aid. I just hope I never need resuscitation after seeing the way the dummy was treated, although it



got its own back when it bit someone.(No names.) We went bowling on the 19th March before breaking up for Easter. SAYC are organising a Trash 'n' Fash Show it will take place on Saturday 27th April 02 at the Cowane Centre Theatre Stirling. The aim is to create Evening, Casual, Clubbing or Sport wear out of anything you can think of. We have done this before and everyone taking part enjoyed it. I would like to say what a great group of young people we have in Blairdrummond and a special thanks to everyone who has helped out on Tuesday evenings.

Louise 841352

FIRST AID

Blairdrummond Youth Club has been doing a First-aid course over the last 6 weeks. The people who came are called Susan & Lex. They came from St Andrews Ambulance. We learned C.P.R, how to deal with hypothermia, burns, fractures, internal bleeding, nose bleeds, broken bones, recovery position, check pulses and how to wrap someone up in a blanket if they hurt their back. Susan & Lex explained it very well. Lex always comes up with stories that happened in the past. We have missed Susan & Lex on the weeks that have gone by.

Report by Danielle McLeod Age 11

MOTHER & TODDLER GROUP

Thornhill Mother & Toddler Group would like to welcome any new babies or toddlers with mums, dads or carers to Thornhill community centre Mondays 10 - 11.30. There is a lovely relaxed atmosphere and it gives you a chance to meet other mums. Just turn up or call Fiona on 850215.

BEETLE DRIVE

The recent Beetle Drive at the Hall proved yet another fun night, enjoyed by all as well as raising about £170. A well attended event resulted in the following prizes . . .

Adult 1 st	John Casey
Booby Prize	Hazel Craig
Kids 1 st	Danielle McLeod
Special Prize	Grant Wilson

COMMUNITY HALL AGM

The AGM was held on 27 March. An overview of the activities at Camphill was followed by the formal part of the meeting. Chairman Jimmy Maxwell's report is below . . .

"I would like to report another successful year for the hall with new groups using the hall on a regular basis, e.g.: Camphill, Aerobics, BAGS, Beetle Drives are now very popular, great fun! and hectic activity while being played.

The year started off with the new committee members in place, the secretary's job was split between minutes and bookings for the first time, this has worked well with neither secretary feeling their job is to onerous.

A questionnaire was sent out to every household with a copy of the Grapevine to gain enough information from the community to prioritise hall improvements. The results of the questionnaire were discussed at a Public Meeting and it was decided that the best value for money option was a complete rebuild of our hall. This has been the main focus for the committee this year, an Awards for All grant was successfully applied for and this enabled us to purchase tables and chairs and also carryout a Feasibility Study for a complete rebuild of our hall.

A building committee was formed and an Architect was appointed to help plan a design for the new hall and make a Main Grants application to the Community Fund for full rebuild costs. This process involved visits to other halls to gain ideas on costs, layouts and storage space. Many meetings were required to complete the application for Scheme Design Study grant funding, at this stage the whole project has to be detailed with a Business Plan and relevant Check List having to be submitted. Many hours of work went into this application but overall it was enjoyable and good experience for everyone involved. The application has now been accepted after the hall committee agreed to lease the hall from the trustees, and this meets the Community funds requirements regarding security of tenure of the building. The assessment stage of the application has started and it is likely to take several months to decide if we are to be successful.

Community events organised during the year included a Sports Night and BBQ, which was a great success with the ladies sack race being the highlight of the evening.

The hall has been well used during the year with eleven groups using the hall regularly, there are other groups who would like to use the hall if the facilities were suitable. The work on the grant application brought out new ideas on how to promote the hall and encourage new users. These can be followed up when the hall has been upgraded. I would like to conclude my report by thanking everyone on the committee for they're considerable help and support during the year. Thank you"

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

... will be in the summer - so if you have events planned (right through to Autumn eg Halloween, Bonfire Night, etc) let us know the dates. Any articles on any subject welcome. Don't worry about typing - we'll do it if you can't. Articles to:

Dave Simpson, 2 West Drip Cottages or 471455 or dave@westdrip.freemove.co.uk
Eleanor Graham 472523 or eleanor@westdrip.fsnet.co.uk
Maggie Sherriff 841236 or msherriff1@aol.com
Catherine Killen 860246 or markkillen2@farmersweekly.net

or anyone on the Hall Committee. Deadline for the next edition is 15 July 2002.

Your Hall Committee is ...

Allison Coates (860531), Annette Paget (841709), Catherine Killen (860246), Dave Simpson (471455), Eleanor Graham (472523), James & Louise Maxwell (841352), John & Joanne Inglis (841309), Diane & Jon Darby (841679), Lesley McKenzie (470894), Mark & Maggie Sherriff (841236), Robert Muir (841207), Susan McMillan (447664), Tom Gilliland (460637), Mandy McLeod (841825), Ian Brisbane (841722), David Turner (463810), Tibor Juhasz (Camphill), John Casey (Camphill), Stuart Burnett