

# 'Muir Matters'

Issue 18

June 2009

£1.00

## FORBES...no more!



**W**e had seen it coming for months, hadn't we? Hadn't we? The stock on the shelves slowly disappearing; our newspapers and journals not ordered; the whispered conversations about the state of the shop; the worried and bemused looks on the staff's faces. What was happening?

Then suddenly....Forbes was closed!

Forbes closed?? We had seen it coming but scarcely dared believe it would happen. But there it was on Monday morning looking already forlorn and down at heel. What a sad sight.

If more of us hadn't quite realised that Forbes was the Heart of Muir of Ord we certainly realised it that Monday morning. Small groups of "regulars" standing about aimlessly. "What'll we do now? Where will we go for the craic? What will happen to the staff? Jess, Billy, Catriona, Claire, Janice, Hazel, Wendy, Tracey and the others?

What was Martin thinking about? So many rumours. So few facts.

It wasn't really any of our business but... many local people had been loyal customers all their lives... their Mums and Dads before them and their children and grandchildren after them. They were part of Forbes and Forbes was part of them.

Newcomers to the village would find out what went on and where, from speaking to fellow shoppers or looking at the diverse and quirky notices in the window.

Visitors returned again and again for shortbread and perkins biscuits to take back from holiday. Folk passing through en-route to the West would stop for Forbes famous bread and oatcakes etc.



All gone! Plenty questions, very few answers.

Now, all this "fond memory" bit for the demise of Forbes is in no way to diminish or denigrate the important parts played by the other retail and service establishments in Muir of Ord, the bank, the post office, the chemist, the butchers, Lyalls (now Mr Chaudhry's) the hairdressers, the Café (how could I forget the café?) and "the Filly." All, or many of these businesses having contributed to life in the Muir for many many years under successive ownership, and good fortune to them all. But... Forbes was the hub around which the others orbited and if anecdotal information is true, some suffered loss of business since the closure of Forbes while of course, conversely, some will have benefited.



How is it that 36 years ago, when I came to the Muir, there were three grocers shops, two banks, four pubs (three of them hotels), a large garage and car saleroom, three filling stations, a proper railway station etc. etc., with about half the population?

I know! I know! What a lament. New folk in the village will be wondering what the fuss is about. It's away to work in the morning for them....building the future....shopping and banking at lunch time on the way home in Tescos, Morrisons, Lidl's and Aldi etc. etc. And who's to blame them? Maybe Forbes was just another milestone on Muir of Ord's journey.....

Who can predict the future; how life and times will evolve to meet contemporary demands? Certainly not me. But what of the now? O.K. so we are to get a new bridge to replace the present disgrace.... But when? The crumbling buildings that blight our high street; the school building which may soon be unfit for purpose; our hall, which if our community leaders hadn't been aware, would have been left to us in serious disrepair. Sections of our roads are "the pits" and piles of rubbish and litter lie neglected in corners we all know.

We are in the midst of a serious economic depression, so we have to bide our time! but in the meantime the Highland Council blithely progresses with plans for yet more houses around our village.

Certainly a proportion of recent house building at affordable costs for purchase or rent is a good thing, helping young couples stay in their village. However one gets the impression that Muir of Ord is an "easy touch" to ease the housing problems elsewhere.



It may be that Muir of Ord is in the throes of change from village to small “dormitory” town” but we must demand return for that change, in improvement to our village; for not only will shoppers be going elsewhere but parents choosing to send their kids elsewhere to school. Folk going to Beauly to bank while shopping. Whether our post-office, butchers or chemists etc.?

All these unresolved thoughts arising from the closure of Forbes.

I along with many others am desperately sorry to see such a sad end to a Muir of Ord institution. I regret not meeting old friends and acquaintances for a blether and I remember

fondly many other auld freens, no longer with us, who I met daily “down the street.”

What will happen to the buildings (many tenants still paying rent to Forbes) all sadly in a bad state of repair... I fear the worst. Mair flats?

I think it would be “polite” if the administrators (of what is left of Wm. Forbes) had at the very least posted a notice in the door letting we the customers know (as much as is legally prudent) what happened.

However it is to the future we must look. Much of that future will be in our hands. For those hardy folk who are involved in village affairs and organisations to keep pressure on Highland Council to think of Muir of Ord as a community which needs proper services and facilities and not merely a site to build more and more houses.

And to ourselves.....we must try to support our local shops and services as best we can to ensure there are no more “Forbes no more!.

Jim Thomson

## Community Association News



We’re delighted to say that our new “talking bin” is to be installed in the playpark within the next few days and there was a great response to the competition run by Muir Matters as to what it should say. Our prize winners and their slogans were:

Hannah Emerson, “Don’t drop your litter-feed it to me, I’ll eat it all up.! Hee, hee, hee..!”

Niamh Chisholm, “Go green and keep Muir of Ord clean..!”

Fraser Rush, “Thank you for filling my tummy..!”

Well done to them all and we hope they enjoyed their prizes..!

On a more serious note, we’ve been working hard this last couple of months on creating an Options Appraisal for the Association. This is the document that pulls together all of the work done over the last few years and its purpose is to assess the community facilities currently available and evaluate potential facilities that could be created for the future. We employed consultant Stuart Brownlee (sbworks.co.uk) who has made a great job of pulling everything together. We intend to submit the Options Appraisal to Highland Council for consideration as part of its upcoming review of the Capital Programme so that at last we can make a start on creating the kind of facilities that this community needs.

Martha Chisholm

*What we want above all things is not more books, not more publishers, not more education, not more literary genius, but simply and prosaically, more shops.*

*George Bernard Shaw*

## We Know Who You Are...!!

Some of you may already be aware that there is an ongoing problem with flytipping around Muir of Ord; in particular, the areas around Lily Loch, the Recreation Ground and Ord Lochan have been affected. Within the past few weeks a tent and a large couch have had to be removed from the middle of Lily Loch and now we hear that a hefty load of tree cuttings has been dumped over the fence at the roadside entrance to Lily Loch. Fortunately in this case it was witnessed by a resident and the police now have the registration number of the vehicle involved and hopefully suitable action will be taken against this particular Muir of Ord resident.

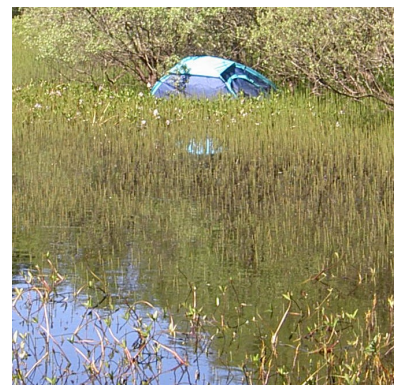
On a similar vein, Muir Matters has recently received several letters from residents in the Muir who are concerned about the rising number of flytipping incidents in respect of Ord Lochan. We are



unable to publish the letters and the names of the individuals mentioned in them, but we have passed them to the relevant authorities to be dealt with as they see fit. Why people would choose to dump their garden waste instead

of using the brown bins provided is beyond us. Maybe they don't realise that materials such as grass cuttings, prunings and hedge trimmings etc can do serious damage to a fragile environment such as Ord Lochan.

Remember, these people are flytipping on your community land, please take their registration number and call the police or report it to Highland Council.



## Memorial Cairn



We're delighted to say we got a great response to our appeal for information about the Memorial Cairn in Muir of Ord. We can't say yet who commissioned it but it was designed by MacKenzie & MacDonald, Architects of Dingwall in November 1921.



Mr W. MacKenzie of Ord Place was able to show us the original drawings for the Memorial and we're in the process of making a copy and the originals will be returned to his safe keeping.

Many thanks to everyone who came forward on this one.

## And the Winner is.....!!

The winner of the Edinburgh Sick Kids, Nursery Rhyme Quiz, drawn by Sue at the Chemist is:- Susan Wilson, Ord Lochan, Muir of Ord. A very big thank you to everyone who supported me. I am able to give the amazing sum of £515 to the Edinburgh Sick Kids Hospital. Many Many Thanks

Phyllis Pegrum



Hattie I am fed up to the back teeth, to think that an M.P could be a thief.



But by their own hands have come to grief.

The sums of money were not small. enough for a bridge and a Hall!!

To make sure they will not do it again. Come the next election all voters, can show. Even out of work they can go.



Minnie



# A Well deserved retirement!

As most will already know our favourite librarian Mrs Jean Lornie has now retired after 30 years in the library service with almost 28 of those years in Muir of Ord. One borrower told me that when they arrived in the village Aldie the Post told them "if you have any question about anything, just ask Jean Lornie at the library, she will be able to help you" and I think that really sums up what everyone feels about Jean. She probably knows more about Muir of Ord and the folk who live here than we know ourselves..!

After asking several people for stories about Jean's career one thing became clear – although people had known her for years they did not really have many stories or feel they knew a lot about her as she is such a private person but they all agreed she has a



WICKED sense of humour, is very compassionate and caring and great fun to work with. While a Saturday girl at Dingwall Library she struck fear into the heart of her colleagues on a Friday afternoon- they would realise with horror that Jean was

in turn would leave her notes asking if Jean could adopt them. Even to staff she is known as "Auntie Jean". One borrower, well into her eighties, came into the library one very busy morning. She was known as Lily from Chile as she was indeed called Lily and did in fact come from Chile! She put a book on the counter and told Jean – in a rather loud voice – that she had enjoyed the book very much but there was just one thing she needed Jean to explain to her – what exactly was a lesbian? The whole library fell into complete silence as everyone waited with baited breath to hear Jean's explanation. Jean calmly announced "Well Lily, if you don't know by now then it's not something that you need to bother about now..!"

The only thing left to say is a heartfelt thank you Jean for everything you have done for folk in the Muir and to wish you a very long and happy retirement.



due in the following day so they would rush around and tidy up, rather than incur Jean's wrath at the place being a mess! As Jean always said, "A book out of place is a lost book!" She would treat them to home made scones and jam and the staff

## FAIR IN THE SQUARE



On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May the centre of Muir of Ord was bustling with activity, the reason for which was the annual "Fair in the Square".

This event is growing in popularity each year and this year's Fair was the best so far. A total of eleven stalls gave shoppers the opportunity to buy plants, baking, books, bric-a-brac, herbal remedies and soaps, videos and CDs etc. As is the norm at this time of year, questions were being asked as to the wisdom of holding this event outside. However, yet again, the rain stayed away and the wind subsided long enough for all to enjoy the event.

The tea, samosas and spring rolls, all freshly made by Mr and Mrs Chaudrey, were hugely

appreciated, and they donated the proceeds to a fund which has been set up to provide a hearing loop in the village hall.

At the same time, the Muir of Ord Art Group put on a very fine exhibition of their work and from the sale of raffles, etc. during the exhibition, donated £500 to the hearing loop fund.



# Local Services



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New Body & Facial Waxing  
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## MUIR OF ORD POST OFFICE



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Euros & US Dollars Travellers Cheques  
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and Bill payments including Hydro

Post Office SATELLITE SERVICES at :-  
Marybank Hall (Tuesday & Thursday 10am to 1pm)  
Achterneed Hall (Tuesday & Thursday  
1.30 to 4.30pm)  
Plus Post Office :  
HOME PHONE SERVICE TO TORE

Telephone 01463 870250

## DONELLA



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welcome clients  
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**Rosebank - Killearnan, Muir of Ord**

Home PC repairs & upgrades  
Hardware & Software installations  
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**Telephone 01463 870736**

## Sid MacDonald

### Painter & Decorator

Torr-A-Chuilinn  
Heights of Achterneed  
Strathpeffer, IV14 9AE  
Tel/Fax: 01997 421719  
Mobile: 07801 539595



## Angus Blair Painter and Decorator

Rock View  
Upper Arcan  
Marybank  
Muir of Ord  
Tele: 01997 433244  
Mobile: 07759898771



# Local Services

## Culture Cuts

Professional Ladies & Gents Hair Salon



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Call us on 01463 870205  
Logan Buildings, Muir of Ord



## Floral Creations

by

Florrie Macgruer

59 Highfield Circle  
Muir of Ord  
Tele; 01463 870431

Flowers for all occasions

## THERAPIES BY THE WOOD Reflexology - Reiki

Susan Bennetta, IIR, MAR, RTCAP  
West Lodge, Highfield,  
Muir of Ord (near Clashwood)  
Tel: 01463-871900  
email: susan.bennetta@care4free.net

Daytime & Evening Appointments  
Also Home Visits



## ELEANOR FISHER In-Touch Therapies



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01463 871866 & 07887 556503

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: Indian Head Massage :  
Hopi Ear Candles



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## ORD ARMS HOTEL 1904

Restaurant Opening Times (01463 870286)

Monday - Friday 12.00 - 2.00pm (To end of August)

Sunday 12.00 - 2.30pm

Daily 5.00pm - 8.30pm

Times may vary due to seasonal demand

Teatime 2 course special £6.95 served 5.00- 6.30pm

Monday to Friday

Sunday roast 2 course special £8.95

10% off food bill on presentation of this advertisement  
(no photocopies). Does not include drinks and cannot be  
used in conjunction with any other meal offers

\*\*\*\*\*

Weekend Evening Entertainment - Free Entry

Michael Darren - Popular solo guitarist & Singer  
Saturday 4th July and 29th August @ 8.30pm

Black Isle Rock Orchestra (BIRO)  
Saturday 25th July @ 8.30pm

Disco Karaoke

Friday 19th June and 7th August @ 8.30pm

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# Down Memory Lane

**P**ubs closing early, lots of shops in the Muir, dances in the village hall, amateur dramatics performed at Tarradale School and curling behind The Tarradale Hotel. Confused as to when this was? Well, not that long ago and well remembered on a recent get together for our Living History project by Jess Campbell, Margaret Henson and Ena MacFadden.

A lovely evening was had by all, with plenty of laughs, as the women reminisced on the great times they've had living in the Muir. Jess and Margaret were both born and bred in the village and neither has lived anywhere else. Ena was born at Mulbuie old schoolhouse, moving to the Muir when she was two and has lived here since. They all attended Tarradale School and Margaret went on to Dingwall Academy.

For entertainment they went to dances in the village hall and Margaret and Jess were heavily involved with local amateur dramatics. 'Love Lingers On' and 'Alibaba and the Forty Thieves' were some of the shows they performed for the paying public. The

Galas sounded like great fun. The whole community took part with everyone working all hours to get floats ready for the big day. Curling and ice-skating were also hugely popular with anything up to 200 cars parked up when busy.

They recalled the Second World War and how the Lovat Scouts were stationed in the village along with Indian soldiers, who were also mentioned by Dan Macrae in a recent 'Living History' article. The road that runs to the Bowling Green became known as the 'Burma' road at this time. The whole village went to see the Lovat Scouts off when they left and Margaret remembered how it felt so quiet without them around.

Considering the relative quietness of the village in recent weeks with the closure of Forbes, it is interesting that throughout the evening the following shops in the village were mentioned: milliners, shoemakers, saddlers, barbers, a café, sweet shop, ice-cream and lemonade sellers to name but a few. How times have changed!

What did shine throughout the evening was Margaret, Jess's and Ena's very good humour and how much they love living in the village. In an age where most youngsters demand ipod, computers and game consoles, these three women showed that life can be so much more fun without them.

Hazel Chisholm



Louise MacRae, Johnny Skinner (manager) and Jess Campbell, Forbes shop Circa 1960's



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14		15		16		17		18		
	■		■	19			■		■	
20					■	21				
	■		■		■		■		■	
22										

Name.....

Address.....

P/Code.....Tel/No.....

Signed.....

For a chance of winning a £10.00 Book Token, fill in the above form and send the completed grid in a **sealed envelope** (photocopies not accepted) to **‘Muir Matters’ Prize Crossword No 18, Village Hall, Seaforth Road, Muir of Ord, IV6 7TA**. Entries must be received by **Friday 24th July 2009**.

The first correct entry drawn after the closing date will win the prize. Answers and winners name will be published in our next Issue.

**Across**

- 1) Soft cotton fabric (11)
- 7) Bequeath to (5)
- 8) Expression of approval (5)
- 9) External body organ (3)
- 11) Group leader (11)
- 14) Eternally (11)
- 19) Gershwin perhaps? (3)
- 20) Forefinger (5)
- 21) A Goatee or Van Dyke (5)
- 22) Happy, beneficial chance (11)

**Down**

- 1) Chips! (6 & 5)
- 2) Relating to sound (5)
- 3) More recent (5)
- 4) Constellation (5)
- 5) Area of land (5)
- 6) Not harmful to the Environment (3 & 8)
- 10) Cautious colour (5)
- 12) Anger (3)
- 13) Total (3)
- 15) Detection system (5)
- 16) Female fox (5)
- 17) Religious scholar (5)
- 18) African mammal (5)

**Congratulations to Margaret Alexander, Highfield Circle, on winning our prize crossword No. 17. The Prize is a £10 book token. Issue 17 Solutions**

**Across**

- 1) Rugby 4) Chaff 8) Open 9) Last
- 10) Elbow Grease 13) Stirrup Cups
- 17) Oboe 18) Alec 19) Keith
- 20) Amuse

**Down**

- 2) Unpalatable 3) Bingo 5) Halle
- 6) Fish Suppers 7) Brag 11)War 12) Rep
- 14) Rhett 15) Urge 16) Chasm

**Just for Fun Wordsearch**

Here is a list of colours. Which one does not appear in the grid?

**Black, Blue, Brown, Green, Grey, Indigo, Orange, Pink, Purple, Sepia, Violet & Yellow**

*The winner of the Issue 17, ‘Spot the Difference’ Competition is Claire Cameron, aged 7 years of Seaforth Road, Muir of Ord.*

**Well done to Claire who wins £10.00**

S	K	I	R	P	I	N	K	N	C
D	V	I	O	L	E	T	W	E	A
E	O	B	I	E	K	F	H	R	L
E	L	S	R	D	G	O	I	G	B
L	E	G	F	O	A	R	T	E	L
P	Y	W	O	D	W	A	E	U	A
R	E	L	E	N	O	N	D	Y	C
U	L	B	N	U	G	G	I	L	K
P	L	W	O	L	L	E	Y	B	L
I	N	D	I	G	O	B	S	D	Y

# A - Z of The Muir Clubs/Associations

## Art Group

Tues @ 7.00pm & Sat 10.00am / 12 noon  
The old School  
Contact Annie MacLean on 870274  
Meet all year round.



## Football Club (The Rovers)

Football for all ages.  
Further details can be obtained from Team  
Coach Billy MacGruer on 870093  
Anyone wishing to join the Committee will be welcome.



## Bowling Indoor

Saturday evening @ 7pm  
Village Hall, Seaforth Road  
Contact Ann Bell 01463 870170  
Meet October to April



## Jogging for Beginners

Age no barrier-all levels  
Mondays @ 7pm, Wednesday 1.30pm & 7pm  
Contact: Joan Munro 870237, Hazel Keiro 01997  
414376 or Ian Dempster 07724 199 880



## Bowling Outdoor

Meet April to September  
Club nights Wednesday & Saturday & 7pm.  
Contact details ;  
Maureen Howie 870282



## Lunch Club

Wednesday @12 noon  
Village Hall, Seaforth Road  
Contact details 01463 870065



## Bridge Club

Thursday evenings 7.00pm - 9.30pm  
GP Room, Tarradale School  
Contact Dot Chalmers on 870045  
Meet September to April



## Over 60s Club

2nd Wednesday of the month @ 7.00pm  
Tarradale School  
Contact details Ken Howie 01463 870282  
Meet October to May



## Community Association

Meeting are held in the Pavilion .  
Next Meeting 20th August @ 7.30pm  
Contact details; 870033

## Scrabble Club

Monday afternoon 2.00pm - 4.00pm  
Church Hall, Seaforth Road.  
Contact Muriel Mackay on 01463 870917  
Meet all year round



## Community Council

All meetings are open to the public.  
They are normally held in Tarradale School and are  
advertised locally.

## Amateur Swimming Club

Monday  
Children must be Age 7 plus  
Meet in the Square  
Contact Moira Chalmers 01463 871496



## Country Dancing

Monday evenings  
October / April  
Village Hall 7.30 - 9.30pm  
Contact Ellan Cromb 870860



## S.W.R.I.

1st Monday of the month @ 7.30pm  
Village Hall, Seaforth Road  
Contact Mrs W Stephen 01463 870065  
Meet September to May

## Curling Club

Monday evenings, 7.30pm & 9.30pm  
Inverness Ice Rink, Bught Park.  
Contact ; Tom Inglis on 01463 870693  
or Email tommyinglis@aol.com



## Walking Group (Step-it-up)

If you would like to get involved in the group,  
receive a pedometer progress card, a Great  
Glen Way Challenge Map, please contact  
Step it up Highland 01463 729997



*Are you a member of a local club or group which is not mentioned above? To advertise your club or group free on this page contact 'Muir Matters', our contact details can be found on page 9.*

## *Weekly Activities*

### Monday

**In the Village Hall**

**Country Dancing @ 7.30pm**

(1st Monday of month in the Church Hall)

**In the Church Hall, Seaforth Road**

**Scrabble Club** meets @ 2.00pm.

**Meet in the Square**

**Swimming Club**, contact Helen, 01463 871428

**Jogscotland @ 7pm** contact Joan 870237 or

Ian 07724 199 880

### Tuesday

**In the Free Church Hall, West Road**

**Noah's Ark Tots** 9.30am - 11.00am

**Youth Group** 7.00pm - 9.00pm (Fortnightly)

**In the Old School**

**Art Group @ 7pm - 9pm**

### Wednesday

**In the Village Hall**

**Babyzone** from 9.30 to 11.30am

(for more details phone Health Visitor 783403)

**Lunch Club @ 12 noon** (870065 for further details)

**Meet in the Square**

**Jogscotland @ 1.30pm** Contact Joan 870237,

Hazel 01997 414376 or Ian 07724 199 880

**Jogscotland @ 7pm** Contact Joan or Ian

**Healthways Step-it-up Walking Group @ 2pm**

### Thursday

**In the Village Hall**

**Egyptian Dancing** 10.00 - 11.30am

**Line Dancing** 6.30-10.30pm

**In the Church Hall, Seaforth Road**

**Beginners Ballet Classes - 3.00 to 3.45pm**

(P1, P2 & P3 classes)

### Friday

**In the Free Church Hall, West Road**

**Jam Club @ 4 to 5pm** (contact Deirdre 871257)

**Friday Zone @ 6.30 to 7.30pm** (contact Gordon 871223)

**In the Church Hall, Seaforth Road**

**Challengers academy age @ 7.30pm**

**In the Village Hall**

**Step & Step Dance @ 6.15 - 8.30pm**

### Saturday

**In the Old School**

**Art Group** 10am to 12 noon

## **School Calendar Session 2008/2009**

<b>Open</b>	<b>Close</b>
	Thursday 2nd July
Tuesday 18th August	Friday 9th October

## **Muir of Ord Scout Group**

**Wednesdays in the Village Hall**

**Scouts** (10 - 14 years) 8pm to 9.30pm

Alf McGregor 01349 862287

**Cubs** (8 - 10 years) 6.30pm to 7.45pm

Gordon Simpson 01463 782043

**Beavers** ( 6—8 years) 5.15pm to 6.15pm

Brenda McGregor 01349 862287

## **2nd Muir of Ord Guides**

Meet in the Church Hall, Seaforth Road

**Wednesdays 7.15pm to 9pm**

10 to 14 year old girls

All welcome

For more information contact

Janice Dunn (01463 871078)

## **1st Muir of Ord Brownies**

Ages 7 - 10

Meet Wednesdays 6.45 - 8.00pm

Tarradale School

Contact Frances MacGruer

01463 870093

## **2nd Muir of Ord Brownies**

Ages 7 - 10½

## **1st Muir of Ord Rainbows**

P1 - P3

Both groups meet Wednesdays 5.45 - 7.00pm

in the Church Hall, Seaforth Road

For more information contact

Margaret Anderson 01997 433231

**The next issue of 'Muir Matters' will be on sale  
from Early September 2009.**

**Any articles for inclusion *must* be submitted by our  
deadline of Friday August 21st 2009**

# The Really Really Useful Page

## Telephone Numbers

### Doctor's Surgeries

Strathlene, Muir of Ord 01463 870843  
Croyard Rd, Beauly 01463 782794  
Dingwall Med. Group 01349 863030  
Aird Practice, Beauly 01463 782214

### Chemist

Muir of Ord Pharmacy - 01463 870806

### Hospitals

Raigmore - 01463 704000  
Ross Memorial - 01349 863313  
'NHS 24' - 08454 24 24 24

### Samaritans

0845 7909090  
Inverness - 01463 713456

### Alcohol DrinkLine

Freefone - 0800 917 8282

### Childline

Freefone - 0800 1111

### National Drugs Helpline

Freefone 0800 77 66 00

## Council Services

Highland Council - 01463 702000

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Council: Refuse Collection  
01349 863381

\*\*\*

Dingwall Leisure Centre  
01349 864226

\*\*\*

M.O.O. Service Point - 01463 870201

\*\*\*

Dog Warden - 01349 868440

### Schools

Dingwall Academy - 01349 863071

Mulbuie - 01349 861289

Tarradale - 01463 870484

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### Police

Muir of Ord - 01463 870222

Crime Stoppers - 0800 555 111

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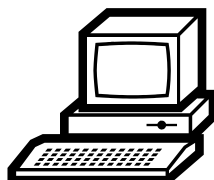
## Library Opening Hours



**Monday:** 10am/12..30pm, 2/5 pm & 6/8 pm

**Thursday:** 10am/12.30 pm & 6/ 8 pm

**Friday;** 2.00 / 5.00pm



Talking books for adults and children are available and a selection of magazines can be read on the premises.

Telephone/Fax 01463 870196

Among the many other services supplied by the Library are; photocopying, internet access and Fax facilities.

Various telephone directories are kept on site and a notice board in the corridor advertises local services and events.

## Want to contact us?

Email: [muir.communicationsgroup@virgin.net](mailto:muir.communicationsgroup@virgin.net)



Write or visit us at

"Muir Matters"

Village Hall, Seaforth Road,

Muir of Ord, IV6 7TA

Telephone: 01463 870822



**H**ave you relatives and friends staying away from the Muir who would be interested in receiving a copy of 'Muir Matters'? We could mail them a copy on your behalf. To order a copy or for more information please contact us using the details as given above.

Back copies of 'Muir Matters' are also available on request.

## Do you know something we don't?



*Muir Matters is constantly growing and evolving, so if you're aware of any new material, information or stories that you think we could include then please get in touch.*

*Please write, email or give us a call.*

***The Communications Group are looking for old photographs of Muir of Ord as part of our Living History Project.***

***If any of our readers are in possession of old snaps of the village and surrounding area we would love to hear from you.***

***We promise to take great care of your photographs and return them to you as soon as possible.***

***Please contact us using the details as shown above.***

# The Really Really Useful Page 2

## Train Times to and from The Muir

### Muir of Ord to Inverness

#### Monday to Saturday

0728, 0752, 0829, 1013, 1155, 1305, 1416, 1608, 1629, 1648, 1925, 1950, 2024 & 2305

#### Sunday

1154, 1334, 1446, 1542, 1647, 1729, 2305



### Inverness to Muir of Ord

#### Monday to Saturday

0706, 0900, 1038, 1101, 1216, 1332, 1359, 1439, 1715, 1752, 2109 & (2330 Friday & Saturday only)

#### Sunday

1000, 1111, 1249, 1521, 1755 (to 27/09only), 2109

### Muir of Ord to Dingwall

#### Monday to Saturday

0729, 0920, 1058, 1118, 1236, 1352, 1416, 1459, 1735, 1812, 2129 & (2350 Friday & Saturday only)

#### Sunday

1020, 1131, 1309, 1543, 1815 (to 27/09only), 2129

### Dingwall to Muir of Ord

#### Monday to Saturday

0716, 0742, 0816, 1004, 1145, 1254, 1402, 1556, 1619, 1639, 1913, 1941, 2015 & 2254

#### Sunday

1143, 1320 (to 27/09only), 1435, 1530, 1636, 1718, 2254

**From 17th May 2009 to 12th December 2009**

### ***DIAL-A-BUS SERVICE*** Operated by C & E Taxis

Mondays and Saturdays 0700 to 0810 & 1730 to 1900

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 0700 to 0810, 0900 to 1300 & 1600 to 1900

Booking arrangements and for more information

Telephone 01349 866007

### **Shopmobility Highland**

**Inverness**, Falcon Gallery, Car Park Level 2, Eastgate Centre, Inverness, IV2 3PR. Tel: 01463 717624 or email; [invshopmo@talktalkbusiness.net](mailto:invshopmo@talktalkbusiness.net)  
Mon to Sat 9.30am - 5.00pm.

**Dingwall**; Nicol's Court, Dingwall, IV15 9SW; email [shopmobility.dingwall@ecosse.net](mailto:shopmobility.dingwall@ecosse.net) Tel: 01349 866040  
Mon to Fri 10.00am - 4.00pm

This service can provide you with an escort. If you require assistance with your shopping, and are travelling by public transport chairs can be arranged to meet you on your arrival.



## Bus Times to and from The Muir

### Muir of Ord to Inverness

#### Monday to Friday

0640, 0715, 0805, 0905, 1005, 1105, 1205, 1305, 1405, 1505, 1605, 1705, 1805, 1917, 2017, 2217.

#### Saturday

0640, 0811, 0905, 1005, 1105, 1205, 1305, 1405, 1505, 1605, 1705, 1810, 1917, 2017, 2217.

#### Sunday

1139, 1339, 1539, 1739, 1959.

### Inverness to Muir of Ord

#### Monday to Friday

0615\*, 0650\*, 0745, 0845, 0945, 1045, 1145, 1245, 1345, 1445, 1600, 1700, 1800, 1900, 2100, 2320

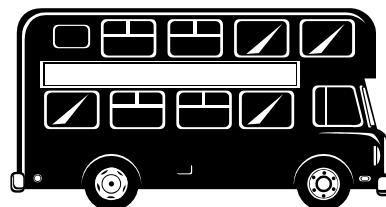
#### Saturday

0755, 0850, 0945, 1045, 1145, 1245, 1345, 1445, 1600, 1705, 1800, 1900, 2100, 2320.

#### Sunday

0945, 1145, 1345, 1545 & 1830

\*Burnett Rd. Bus Station via Tore (Monday to Friday only)



### Muir of Ord to Dingwall

#### Monday to Friday

0823, 0923, 1023, 1123, 1223, 1323, 1423, 1523, 1638, 1738, 1844, 1944, 2144 & 0004

#### Saturday

0833, 0928, 1023, 1123, 1223, 1323, 1423, 1523, 1638, 1743, 1844, 1944, 2144 & 0004

#### Sunday

1032, 1232, 1432, 1632, & 1917

### Muir of Ord Square to Dingwall Tesco

**1019 (Mondays and Wednesdays only)**

**Return 1225 (Mondays and Wednesdays only)**

### Dingwall to Muir of Ord

#### All times from the Royal Hotel

#### Monday to Friday

0750, 0850, 0950, 1050, 1150, 1250, 1350, 1450, 1550, 1650, 1750, 1905, 2005, 2205

#### Saturday

0756, 0850, 0950, 1050, 1150, 1250, 1350, 1450, 1550, 1650, 1755, 1905, 2005 & 2205

#### Sunday

1128, 1328, 1528, 1728, & 1948

**From May 2009**



# Church Chimes



## Church of Scotland

Service times:  
 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month at the  
 West Church Urray , 11.00am.  
 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays at the East Church,  
 Seaforth Road, 11.00am  
 Evening Services at 6.30pm in the East Church.  
 Morning crèche available

## Pastoral Care Group

In the Church of Scotland we have a pastoral care group that visits the house-bound, sick, elderly and others in need. If anyone who presently does not receive a visit feels they would like one, please contact Ivy on 01463-870308.

## Muir of Ord Churches

In the last edition of the Muir Matters we mentioned we were planning a Fun Day in Muir of Ord on 13 June. This event was **cancelled**, as the Parents Council had organised a School Fete on Saturday 06 June and we didn't wish to detract from such an important event. Our offer to help was accepted, and it proved to be a good community day-out.

## Free Church Youth Fellowship

7.45 - 9pm Fortnightly (contact Gordon 871223)

## Razzamatazz Robots



### HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB

6<sup>TH</sup> July to 10<sup>TH</sup> July

10.30 to 12.30

P1 to P7

Church of Scotland Hall, Seaforth Road, Muir of Ord

This will be the thirteenth Holiday Bible Club held for Primary school children. This is an action packed week with singing, games, crafts, drama, fun sheets, and quizzes.

Razzamatazz Robots is a fun filled adventure, designed to help children unpack the plan from creation to re-creation.

Invitations will be given out to all children presently attending Primary school in Tarradale, Marybank and Mulbuie and must be returned to the respective school no later than **26<sup>th</sup> June to ensure a place, as numbers will be limited.**

For further information contact Carole on 01463-871039 or Judy on 01463-871043.

## Free Church

West Road, Muir of Ord  
 Service Times :  
 Sunday 12 noon and 6.30pm  
 Crèche Available

## Muir Community Church

**Every Sunday @ 10.30am & 6.30pm**  
**Village Hall, Seaforth Road**  
 Local believers organise fellowship meetings.  
 Everyone Welcome.  
 Pastor W G McLaughlan B.A.Hons.PGCE  
 Contact Church Secretary 01463 870564

## Church of Scotland The Challengers Youth Club

For further information please contact  
 Raymond on 01997-433395

## Coffee at the Kirk

Every Friday morning from  
 April to September (except July 10th)

From 10.00am to 12 noon  
 Church of Scotland Hall, Seaforth Road

Now in its third year, 'Coffee at the Kirk' provides a good opportunity to relax, meet friends and make new ones over a cup of tea/coffee and some home baking.

Why not drop by and enjoy a cuppa and a chat?

There is no charge although donations can be given if so desired.

Donations go towards the work of pastoral care, with the bulk going to charity.

The last coffee morning in September will be  
 In aid of the Macmillan cancer support as has  
 been the practice in past years.



## Church of Scotland, Muir of Ord WANTED

Organist /Pianist

To play at Morning Worship on a rota basis  
 Further particulars can be had from  
 Frank Stephen on 01463-870065 .  
 Salary Negotiable

# Dates for your Diary

## Day Trip to Edinburgh and the Tattoo, Saturday August 29th

A few seats are left for the above trip, if interested please telephone Phyllis on 870285  
The coach leaves Muir of Ord @ 8.30am  
Inclusive cost £56.00

## Muir of Ord Community Council

Tuesday 16th June 2009

Tarradale School @ 7.30pm

## Muir of Ord Churches

We are planning a youth event in Muir of Ord on the week-end of 14/15/16<sup>th</sup> August, 2009.  
Further details will be made known later.

## Sir Roderick Murchison

You may remember that a few years ago, Muir Matters and Highland Council played host to a party of Russian schoolchildren who were studying the work of geologist Sir Roderick Murchison and were keen to visit his birthplace. When the children returned to Russia the Ural-Scottish Society unveiled a commemorative plaque to him which had been placed in front of their school.

It reads "To Roderick Impey Murchison, Scottish geologist, explorer of Perm Krai (region), who gives to the last period of Paleozoic era the name of Perm."

The Ural Scottish Society was created in Yekaterinburg on the 25th of January this year. The idea is to promote the Urals in Scotland and vice versa Scotland in the Urals. Ural is one of the seven regions that comprise the Russian Federation and Yekaterinburg is the capital of Ural and the Sverdlovsk region.

They are planning a number of events in Russia this year and Sir Roderick Impey Murchison, one of the areas great heroes, is to be commemorated with a memorial tablet on the banks of the Chusovaya River. This tablet will form the foundation of the recreated Scottish Village in the Urals. The hope is that they will be able to create a village from the time of Murchison in Russia and eventually a

## Frank & Wendy's Coffee Morning

(In aid of Epilepsy Research UK)

Friday 12th June 2009  
Tarradale Hall  
Seaforth Road, Muir of Ord  
10am to 12noon



Admission £1.50  
(Includes Coffee & Homemade Scones)

## Muir of Ord Community Assoc.

Thursday 20th August 2009

Community Pavilion @ 7.30pm  
All Welcome

Russian Village in Scotland.

The society members are also great Burns Lovers and if you go to [www.russianhour.tv](http://www.russianhour.tv) you can watch the film made of their Burns supper this year. It is under the title, Lermontovs Castle and R Burns. It is easy to find provided you have Broadband.

But they haven't stopped there. They are unveiling a memorial to him on June the 5th this year in the Urals. This monument will be the centre piece of what is to become the Scottish Village. This plan also involves the erection of a Russian Village in Scotland at a site yet to be decided. They are also planning an expedition following the routes taken by Murchison during his time in the Urals.

If you would like more information about this then please phone Martha on 01463 870033 who has more contact details.



Schoolchildren from Perm entertaining guests in the Village Hall whilst on a visit to Muir of Ord on 6th December 2005.

# Letters to the Editor

## MUIR MATTERS

I would like to thank the anonymous person who wrote to the last edition of "Muir Matters", thanking the police for their efforts in dealing with underage drinking problems.

Police Officers are tremendously encouraged when they read such letters and I would like to take this opportunity to assure your readers that we are doing as much as possible in dealing with the various problems in and around Muir of Ord.

We know that the vast majority of local residents, young and old, are law abiding and give the police a lot of support in many ways. I would always welcome suggestions for how we can improve our work but I will not make any promises that I cannot keep! Our own independent surveys indicate that speeding motorists and drinking/driving are two of the biggest concerns and we are regularly reporting people for these offences. At a recent "static road check" that was carried out in the village on a Friday evening, a fair number of road traffic offences were detected, as well as two person being arrested; one for a drink drive offence. This individual was more than double the limit, driving through the village at a time when a lot of young people could be expected to be out and about. We intend to carry out further such checks in an effort to discourage underage drinking, traffic offences and to deal with any travelling criminals passing through the area.

Yours sincerely

**Matthew Reiss**  
**Operations Inspector**  
**Ross & Cromarty**

Dear Muir Matters

A young boy passing my door was using the "F" word in every sentence. On telling him it was not necessary to use it he said he was sorry and went on his way. However as he passed the football pitch where a game was in progress the bad language continued. Not a good example and not a good impression to give the visiting bowlers on the green! Mums & Dads, I hope you don't allow your children use language like this?

Name and address supplied.

Dear Editor

At present the rampant dog fouling by off the lead dogs has reduced with defecation being less of a problem.

However as we are on a regular and popular dog walking route urinating and spraying by male dogs on leads has increased and has led to several of our plants and shrubs being damaged and in two cases have had to be removed and destroyed.

Extending leads are great for walking in fields and woods but should be shortened when walking on pavements in open plan estates.

We find it difficult to remonstrate with the culprits as in most instances our protestations have been ignored or unheard because of headphones being used for in-walking entertainment or they are using mobile phones or chatting to their companions and not paying attention to the behaviour of their dog.

Louise & Robert Grant  
1 The Meadows  
Muir of Ord

---

## Where's our 09.35?

Dear Editor,

We are constantly reminded of the need to be green so a trip into Inverness by train is probably the most eco-friendly way of doing it. Taking the car is expensive and a lot of hassle, especially if it's only a quick visit that's needed. Therefore, the 09.35 Muir of Ord train to Inverness was ideal. I could put the kids to school/nursery, jump on the train and be back to Muir of Ord in time to collect my wee one from nursery. This was all before the timetable was changed. At present, the other two trains into Inverness are either too early (before 9am) or too late (after 10am).

I have heard from others who really miss the 09.35 train service and was wondering if it's the credit crunch that's resulted in its withdrawal? With more people now living in the Muir, I would have expected an increase in the services provided rather than a reduction.

Yours etc  
Name & address withheld



# My Favourite Recipe

## George's Pork Sausage Casserole

1 lb Lincolnshire Pork Sausages  
1 Tablespoon Olive Oil  
1 Onion sliced  
1 Red Pepper thinly sliced  
1 Yellow Pepper thinly sliced  
2 cloves Garlic  
2 teaspoons Fennel Seeds  
2 Teaspoons Paprika  
397g can chopped tomatoes  
284mls Chicken Stock  
1 Tablespoon Oregano  
1 Teaspoon Dark brown soft sugar  
Salt & Pepper



Heat oil in a large saucepan, add the sausages and fry until evenly browned.

Remove sausages from pan and set aside and drain off any fat.  
Add onions to frying pan and fry until soft and brown. Add peppers and fry for 3-4 minutes. Stir in remaining ingredients and season.  
Bring to boil, reduce heat and simmer uncovered for 15 minutes stirring occasionally until the sauce is reduced and thickened.  
Slice each sausage into bite sized pieces, add to the sauce and simmer for a further 10 minutes.

Delicious served with:  
Pasta, freshly chopped oregano and parmesan cheese to garnish.

Maureen Thomson



## Grumpy Old.....!!!!!!!

What do **YOU** find really, really annoying?

Is it a packet of biscuits that takes you forever to open and when you finally get into them your efforts leave them broken?

Or is it the unending music or perhaps the automated choice of numbers given as you try valiantly to talk to a human being on the end of a telephone help line? All the time thinking of the bill being racked up on the premium rate number you are obliged to ring, gradually losing the will to live!!

My number one grouse at the moment is toilet rolls!! Is it just me or are the ends of new rolls deliberately glued down to prevent easy opening? Try as I might I always seem to sit there with a handful of shredded loo roll before being able to easily tear off the required length!!

Are you annoyed by something trivial if so please let us know? Our contact details are on page 12.

## URRAY HOUSE CORNER

Urray House is working with Primary 4 and 5 classes at Tarradale school on a health project focussing on older people in the community. This has involved the manager of Urray House talking with both classes about the Urray House and how older people are supported in the community. Over the summer months, small groups of the children are visiting Urray House to have a look around and to meet with some of the residents. This has proved most popular with both the children and residents alike!

Tim Blackie, Manager.

## Wanted

Urray House is currently looking for volunteers who can spare an hour or two per week to help with activities, entertainments, and fundraising. Residents and day care attendees enjoy and benefit from the involvement of the local community.

If interested please contact Tim Blackie, Manager of Urray House 01463 870516

*'Muir Matters' is printed on a Konica Minolta Bizhub C350, Supplied by Highland Office Equipment Ltd. Technology House, Harbour Road, Inverness, IV1 1UA*

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**David Tilbury**

dp.tilbury@btinternet.com  
Tele; 01463 871373 & 07828 084 061



## DMK TACSI

**Local to Muir of Ord, Beauly, Conon Bridge,  
Maryburgh, Dingwall & Marybank.**

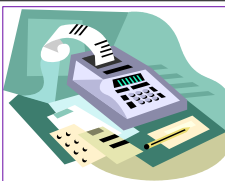


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## Tax Matters



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01463 - 711112**

**www.taxmatters-accountancy.com**

## Muir Amateur Swimming Club

We are a small community club run by parents,  
helping our children to enjoy the  
benefits of swimming.

All abilities welcome (children must be Age7+)  
the bus leaves from the square on

**Mondays @ 7.15pm** and returns 9.15 approx.  
Parents will be required to do 1-2 duties per term.  
For an application form contact Moira  
on 01463 871496

*Whilst we welcome and look forward to receiving  
letters and articles for publication in 'Muir Matters'  
we reserve the right to alter or amend them as we  
deem necessary.*

*All correspondence must be Accompanied by your  
name, address and telephone number.*

## D.J. MACLENNAN & SON Funeral Directors

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Established 1947

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***Whilst every care is taken to ensure accuracy, the editors of 'Muir Matters' take no responsibility  
for errors in articles submitted.***

# MINIBUSES FOR HIRE

CMH – MUIR OF ORD  
Calum MacLeod,  
16 Corrie Gardens, Muir of Ord



**WEDDINGS, HILLWALKERS, GOLFERS,  
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Prices on request  
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### *Customer Special Notice*

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my customers from Corrie Hire for their patronage and support over the years, with a special mention of thanks to Riverford Autos of Conon Bridge.*

*I look forward to seeing many of you in the future using CMH Minibuses.*

*Calum Macleod*

## Volunteering Changes Lives



**Home-Start Ross & Cromarty is a voluntary organisation committed to promoting the welfare of young families**

*The service is offered to families in the areas from Edderton to North Kessock, Cromarty to Garve and their environs and delivered by a team of volunteers who are parents themselves or have parenting experience.*

*All volunteers are subject to an enhanced criminal records disclosure check.  
for further information please contact:*

**Marion Fraser or Irene Cameron**  
On 01349 883484  
email: [homestarttrandc@btconnect.com](mailto:homestarttrandc@btconnect.com)  
[www.homestartrossandcromarty.org.uk](http://www.homestartrossandcromarty.org.uk)

## HTC LEARNING CENTRE AT HIGHLAND THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE, DINGWALL COMPUTING CLASSES

**AUTUMN TERM 2009-2010 (BEGINNING ON MON 3/8/09)**

**LEVEL 1A:** Mondays: 10.00 am- 12 Noon (Beginners) Starts 3/8/09

**LEVEL 3A:** Mondays: 1.00 pm- 3.00 pm Starts 3/8/09

**LEVEL 3B:** Mondays: 3.00 pm-5.00 pm Starts 3/8/09

**ECDL (Group A):** Tuesdays: 10.00 am - 12 Noon

**ECDL (Group B):** Tuesdays: 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm

**ECDL (Group C):** Tuesdays: 3.00 pm - 5.00 pm

All ECDL Classes will start on Tuesday 18/8/09 and will last for 10 months  
ECDL means European Computer Driving Licence (a qualification)

**LEVEL 2A:** Wednesday: 10.00 am - 12 Noon Starts 5/8/09

**LEVEL 1B:** Wednesdays: 1.00 pm-3.00pm (Beginners) Starts 5/8/09

**LEVEL 4A:** Wednesdays: 3.00 pm-5.00pm Starts 5/8/09

**LEVEL 2B:** Thursdays: 10.00 am - 12 Noon Starts 6/8/09

**LEVEL 4B:** Thursdays: 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm Starts 6/8/09

Each course will last for 10 weeks (total of 20 hours) and will cost £70.

(ECDL course £215) Individual Learning Account (ILA) funding is available for these courses - phone the number below for more information on this. Topics covered include Word Processing (including mailmerge), Spreadsheets, Databases, Presentations, File Management, Internet and Emails. For more detailed information on any of the courses or to enrol for any of them, please telephone: 01349 780000 mob. 07768972226

If there is sufficient demand for any of the above levels, then extra daytime classes may be arranged at other times during the week.

## Win, Win with the Young'uns Competitions



Win £10.00 in our 'Spot the Difference Competition', Find and circle the 6 differences between the two pictures. Send in the right-hand picture with the differences circled, along with your name, age, telephone number and address to; 'Spot the Difference' Comp. 'Muir Matters', Seaforth Road, Muir of Ord, IV6 7TA. Entries by July 24th Please

## Muir of Ord Bowling Club 1959-2009

On Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May the Muir of Ord Bowling Club held a reception in the Pavilion to celebrate its fiftieth anniversary. As well as the members of the Club, representatives from Bowling Clubs in Aness, Avoch, Beauly, Conon/Maryburgh, Dingwall, Fortrose, Invergordon, North Kessock, Tain and Strathpeffer were in attendance. The special guests were Councillors Angela Maclean and David Chisholm; Mrs Martha Chisholm, chair person of Muir of Ord Community Association; Mr Boyce Macleod, Scottish Bowling Association; Mrs Fiona Graham, vice-president of the Northern Counties Ladies Bowling Association; Mr George Smith, immediate Past President of the Northern Counties Bowling Association; and Mrs Carol Thornhill of the Scottish Women's Bowling Association.

In spite of the inclement weather the company enjoyed a fun bowling session before retiring to the Pavilion for a very enjoyable meal which included a birthday cake and a portion of the gigantic "Cloutie dumpling" made by a Club member.

After the meal the Club President, Mr Ken C.G. Howie addressed the company and in his speech he paid tribute to all of the Club members who, over the years of the Club's existence, had the foresight and enterprise to continually improve the bowling green to such an extent, that the Muir of Ord Green was now considered to be one of the best in the area, with its sprinkler system, floodlights, bankings and enclosing fence. He expressed the hope that the Club would continue to provide bowling facilities for the village for many years to come. After thanking all of the guests for their presence and kind words of thanks, the company enjoyed a short ceilidh to round off a very enjoyable event.



The photograph on the left shows Euan and Robbie Chalmers sitting on a carved bench presented to the Club to mark the Golden anniversary by the Chalmers family. In the background is Dot Chalmers and Mairi Chalmers, wife of Ian Chalmers who carved the bench.

*(Photographs courtesy of Ian Hammond)*

# ‘Mulbuie ‘dig-in’ proves great success’

Parents, teachers and pupils at Mulbuie Primary School recently got involved in a ‘dig-in’ in an effort to improve their school ground.

Head Teacher, Shona MacKinnon explained how the idea came about. ‘The school is very proud to already have gained two Green Flags which is the highest level for Eco Education and we continue to work towards our third one. Our grounds are very varied with areas for plants, fruit and veg and space for running around. It’s very important to remember that the community play a part in what goes on in schools so we organised a day where parents could come and work with staff and pupils on the grounds.’

The ‘dig-in’ was held on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April and thankfully a damp start gave way to a dry day.



Everyone really enjoyed themselves with all ages getting involved from nursery age upwards. The



children were really enthusiastic about the event and dressed-down for the day, happy to be allowed to get

dirty for a change.

The teachers were thrilled to see just how keen the kids were to get involved and felt that they really benefited from the teamwork and planning that was required to make the ‘dig-in’ a success. ‘The present educational climate is all about active learning and children getting hands-on experience’, said Mrs McKinnon. ‘It also gives them a sense of pride about their school and how they can make it so much better.’

A lot was achieved by the end of the morning – plenty of digging had been done, weeds were pulled, plants laid and benches scrubbed. Eileen Bice, Chair of the Mulbuie Parent Council was delighted with the support shown by parents and wished to thank them for all their help.

Hazel Chisholm



## Tarradale School Eco-Garden news

Many readers will have noticed that the school garden has just been fenced and that lots of activity is taking place in there! The garden has suffered in the past from vandalism but now it’s secure and already we’ve made great improvements.

Funding for the fencing came from **Highland Council’s Education Dept**, the **Ward Discretionary Fund**, and **Friends of Tarradale** (the Parent Council).



Two wonderful benches have arrived, one from **Fettes Sawmill** and the other from ex-pupil and chainsaw sculptor **Ian Chalmers**. We are delighted with these generous donations and also delighted to have somewhere to sit! Fixed beds are being established, with the recycled timber edging kindly donated by **The Greenhouse** in Hill St in

Dingwall – again, many thanks as this will make maintenance much easier. The school gardening group has been busy laying ground cover fabric (to suppress weeds), soon to be covered with bark chips, and planting veg and flowers.

Now that the garden’s secure we’d be really pleased with any donations of plants, tools, labour etc.

So if you bought too many plants at Fair in the Square and you’ve run out of space in your own garden, just get in touch with Mrs Boardman or Mrs Smith at the school on 870484 and we’ll give them a good home!

# Tarradale Times



## Waste Aware Day

In February Emma and her team came to the school to talk to us about Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

We watched a power point and played games to make learning fun. Rory loves a challenge and is thinking about his answer.

## Garden Fence

Neil can't hide his delight about the new garden fence. The gardening group can now get on with their plans that they developed during the winter months.



Here they are busy clearing and getting ready to make the paths and prepare for planting. Thank you to everyone who has helped us with grants and gifts. Watch out for our Ground Force action Day on 6<sup>th</sup> of June.



## Red Nose Day

The House Captains arranged a fun day of activities to support Red Nose Day. Here's what some people thought.

Sahrah Drysdale, P4 said "I really enjoyed getting a butterfly painted on my face and I was happy with my score of 4 when I had to knock over the cups. I rated it 10/10!"

Adam Chalmers, P4 said "I really enjoyed picking the lolly pops and eating them. I also did very well sticking the nose on Spongebob. I rated it 10/10! It was great!"

We raised lots of money to help children who are less fortunate than us.

## Recycling

Our Rag Bag collection raised £45 for our school funds. Neil, P7 said "Lots of children contributed to this year's rag bag collection. We helped lots of poor people without these items. We had a great turnout and made lots of money for the school."



## Energy Saving

"I am an energy saving monitor and I go round the school checking everything electrical is shut down when no one is using it."



## Tree Planting

As part of the playground refurbishment trees have been donated by the forestry commission who then came along to the school and planted them with a selection of children from each of the classes.

"We learned a lot about planting trees. First we picked out a tree then we had to hammer wooden poles to make a hole to plant the tree in. Once the tree was in we had to stamp round the soil with our heel. Lastly we put tubes round the trees to save them from animals"

Joshua P6/7

"We helped Garry and his team to plant trees along our fence. It was cool but the worms were disgusting." Adrian P6/7



## Silver Award

As you can see our Eco group has been very busy and we now have a Silver Award and are well on our way towards green flag status. Well done everyone!

## Primary 1's Visit from 'Petty the Lamb!'

It was a very exciting morning when Isla's mummy brought in Petty the lamb! We watched Isla feed her and then we got to pet her.



By Iona Alexander, Ellie Charlett and Rachael Anderson.

# MULBUIE HIGHLIGHTS

As the P7's look towards leaving Mulbuie for Dingwall Academy, they wanted to record their best memories in primary school.

## Cycling Proficiency

In 2008 we were in P.6, and we had cycling proficiency. Three parents trained us to be safe and confident on the roads with our bikes. All of the P6's passed their tests, which was a great achievement to all of us! (By Jennifer)

## badaguish

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> of June 2008, we went on a weeklong trip to Badaguish, near Aviemore. We were only in Primary 6 then, and it was our first upper school trip. It was very exciting going away without our parents. The week was really fun, with campfires on the beach roasting marshmallows, lots of outdoor activities, a morning at the Highland Wildlife Park, and a trip to Landmark on the Friday.

**It was a fantastic trip!** (By Ruth)

## Final Memories

**During our time at Mulbuie Primary lots of teachers and pupils have come and gone, but one thing that has always remained is great friendship. We have made some amazing bonds over the years, and hopefully those bonds will never be broken.**

**Being part of this amazing school has been a privilege, and we will treasure the happy moments we've shared here forever.** (By Ruth and Kirstin)

## Garden Party



My best memory was when we had a garden party in 2006. I was in P4. There was lots of preparation put in. We had a gazebo with a buffet inside. It was combined with the P7 leaving party and prize giving. It was a really fun evening. (By Robert)

## Primary 1



My best moment was in Primary 1 when Mrs Munro, our P1/2 teacher, took us to Rosemarkie beach and we were looking for pebbles and rocks.

That was my first school trip! (By Euan)

## TARTAN LAUNCH

**We held an event in the Strathpeffer Pavilion in 2007 to celebrate the launch of our fantastic new school tartan. It took a lot of practise and commitment, but it turned out to be a fantastic night in the end. There was a film showing how the tartan was made, Scottish dancing and singing, and a meal made up of traditional haggis, neeps and tatties. It was fabulous. I loved it!** (By Fraser)

## New Teaching

There have been many new teachers during the seven years we have been here. Originally there was Mrs Munro for the P1/2's, Mrs Mack for the P3/4/5's, and Mrs Henderson for the P6/7's. But all these teachers have moved on. Teachers such as Mrs Morrison, Mrs Dalseme, Mrs Shaw, and Mrs Clelland have all been and gone, but their legacy still lives on. (By Shannon)

## BUDDIES

When we were in P6, we got told we were going to be buddies to the incoming P1's. That year, they had the choice of who would be their buddy. It was then our job to look after them and make sure they settled in to our school. Every Tuesday and Friday we would collect them from the nursery at break time to play with them, and get them used to the school. It made us all more caring by looking after a younger child. (By Kirstin)

## Our Eco Flag



Before we got our first Eco flag we had to work really hard in the garden. We made up a rap to sing and instruments out of recycled materials to play along with. We got our first Eco flag in 2006. We were then working towards our second Eco flag, which we gained in 2008. (By Ross)

# Join in with ORDKIDZ!



a nature walk, drumming sessions, fitness sessions and more Animal Antics with Eden Court's Islay Macrae. After the holidays we expect to be carrying on with Babyzone, Cecilia's Beginner Ballet classes, running more music / crafts / storytelling sessions with Eden Court's Outreach team, and hope to be offering "AutumnWatch" sessions. We're also wondering about running French classes, so if you're interested in any of these then do get in touch. We raised £137 at our Fair in the Square stall, thank you to the organisers and to all who helped. And we could really do with some more volunteers, especially people who'd like to help with Babyzone (Wednesdays 9.30 am in the Village Hall). So come to the AGM, and join in! For more information contact Lizbeth on 870865 or Jenny on 871166.

ORDKIDZ, Muir-of-Ord's new(ish) group running Babyzone and fun activities for the wee ones of the village, is holding their second AGM shortly. It's in the Ord Arms on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 8pm. There'll be coffee and baking, and all those coming will be entered in a prize draw for prizes including a bottle of bubbly and a £20 voucher for a pampering treat. Please do come along and hear what we're planning. In the summer we'll be running a range of activities in w/com. 27<sup>th</sup> July and w/com. 7<sup>th</sup> August, including



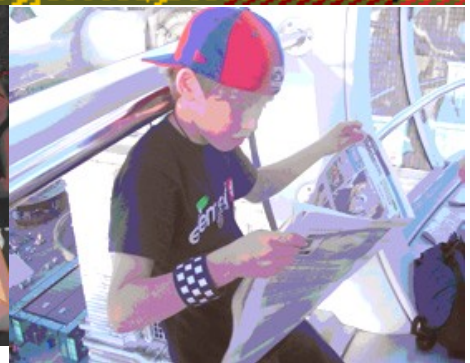
## MULBUIE VISIT TO LONDON



*Bunch of nutters!!!!!!!!!!!!*



*My dream came true, I met Britney*



*Calum having a read on the London eye*



*What pretty faces*



*Born to be stars*



*Miss MacKay in love*