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# Crannog

Summer 2010

Read it first online at [www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk](http://www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk)

## Community Councillors

Ian Weir, Groam Farm, Kirkhill ☎831750  
 Chris Heaton-Armstrong, Kirkhill ☎831779  
 Ally MacNeill, Tigh Cala, 4 Newtonhill ☎831339  
 Fred Geddes, Newtonhill ☎831324  
 Cameron Kemp, West Altnaceardaich, Lentran ☎831552  
 Karen Young, Glen Rowan, Bunchrew ☎234128  
 Iain Urquhart, 58 Newton Park, Kirkhill ☎831278  
 Ian Cowan, Tigh-na-Beithe, Kirkhill ☎831344  
 Caroline Crawford, Gardener's Cottage, Achnagairn, Kirkhill  
 ☎831503  
 Arthur Lacey, 26 Newton Park, Kirkhill ☎831785

## Secretary

Jim Ogilvie, 22 Newton Park, Kirkhill ☎831316

## In this issue

**Gang show - Dazzling performances from Aird Scouts and cubs p2**  
**Festival ticket buying - your rights - p6**

**Crannog** is published four times a year by Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council. The next meeting is on 22 June 2010. All meetings of the community council are usually held in the Old North Inn on a Tuesday evening at 7.30 and are open to members of the public. If you have any concerns you would like raised please come along or alternatively speak to one of the councillors.

# Gala '10

Full programme inside p4-5

## Kirkhill District Amenities Association MUGA almost complete

Kirkhill MUGA nears completion...or may even be complete by the time you read this!

Those of you around the village will have noticed the construction work going on at the Community Centre. Aberdeen firm Hunter Construction have been hard at work building our new Multi Use Games Area or MUGA.

Things are going well and we hope to have it available for an inaugural shinty tournament amongst Aird primary schools a part of the Gala activities.

The court will have an all-weather surface and be suitable for a range of sports including football, tennis, shinty and basketball. It also has floodlights so you'll be able to use it in the evenings and into the winter.

|                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| KDAA funds               | £20,000        |
| SRDP Rural Priorities    | £41,500        |
| Sportscotland            | £23,000        |
| Highland Council Ward    |                |
| Discretionary Fund       | £2000          |
| Inverness Sports Council | £500           |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>£87,000</b> |

High quality facilities like this don't come cheap and the Kirkhill District Amenities Association (KDAA) have secured grant funding to match £20,000 of its own funds to enable this project to go ahead for the benefit the whole community.

We're working on booking procedures and will be advertising them soon but in the meantime if you have an interest in using the MUGA contact **Ken MacDonald on 831479**.

Oh, and we'll be having an official opening extravaganza so watch out for that - you're all invited!

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Very good condition. Suit boy aged 8-10. Cost £200, sell for £50 ono. tel **831770**

# Aird Cubs and Scouts set the stage on fire Kids Gang Show dazzle



Kirkhill Cubs and Scouts played a blinder this year in the 2010 Inverness Area Gang Show. It was a bumper year with

seven local children from Kirkhill Cubs and Aird Scouts taking the main stage at the Eden Court at Easter.

Cubs Struan MacDon-ald, Megan Meldrum, Samantha Cochrane, J e n n y MacPher-

son and Eilidh MacCormick and Scouts Sarah MacPherson and Mairi Strong all dazzled huge audiences with song, dance and sketches. Our cubs were the mainstay of the fantastic pirate sketch, a highlight of the show.

Group Scout Leader Sandra Hogg said "It's fabulous that we had such commitment and fantastic performances from our cubs and scouts. Months of rehearsal go into the show and then there's a whole week of performances at the Eden Court. We're extremely proud of them for being such

great representatives of our group."

Never been to a Gang Show? Well, it's not all camp fire songs. It is a fast-moving variety show with a wide musical content from Take That, Abba and Dire Straits, to songs from the shows and big production numbers. It's performed by Cubs, Scouts, Guides and leaders from Inverness, Nairn, Auldearn, Kirkhill, Aviemore, Grantown and Newtonmore.

Interested in getting involved in Beavers, Cubs or Scouts? (we have places and can always use adult help) **Contact Sandra Hogg 831674.**

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## Kirkhill Community Centre

Your community facility in the centre of Kirkhill is available for bookings for a wide range of activities. It can be used for groups, clubs, meetings, drama, music, sports, fitness, parties, celebrations, sales, fundraising events and more.

We have excellent facilities available at very reasonable rates including: large car park; main hall; toilet facilities; fully equipped kitchen; large selection of crockery, chairs and tables; storage for regular users; stage area and lighting; changing rooms and shower facilities; disabled access and toilets; barbecue; badminton net and stands; full size grass football pitch and training areas.

### Coming soon!

From summer 2010 we'll also be able to offer a floodlit multi use games area suitable for five-a-side football, tennis, shinty and basketball.

We can arrange a viewing so you can see if our facilities fit your requirements.



**Contact Wilma Williamson for further information and bookings on 01463 831737.**

## Kirkhill Tots Relaxed and friendly

The Tots group meets every Wednesday and Friday morning (9.30-11.30), during term time, in the Community Hall.

Fundraising around Christmas was successful so we have bought new toys which are proving popular.

All pre-school age children and their parents/carers are welcome, so come along and meet us all. Snack is provided at the Wednesday session whereas the Friday session is more informal and people bring their own. Tea and coffee (and chocolate biscuits) are available for the adults.

We are also trying to do a craft activity each week supported by Karen our CALA rep. Later this term we are planning a trip to Bellfield Park for a Teddy Bears Picnic and a bouncy castle for the last session of term.

We try to be very friendly so do come along.



## beauty gallery news

*Our summer season begins with an exciting exhibition featuring the whimsical works of Lynne Bennett Mackenzie, famed for her imaginative illustrative works executed as if in a dream like state. Also showing during our Summer months will be works by David Body, Sila Collins Walden, Theresa Brown and Esther Armstrong.*

**Summer schedule opening times:**  
**Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00**  
**Sunday 11.00-17.00**

The Beauty Gallery and Gifts  
& Kirk Coffee Shop



The Kirk  
Wester Balblair  
Beauty  
IV4 7BQ  
01463 783 508  
[www.beautygallery.co.uk](http://www.beautygallery.co.uk)

Now in to its 5th year, Highland Open Studios is continuing to bring art to the public, by providing a wonderful opportunity to engage with the artists whilst viewing art in its process.

Here at Beauty Gallery and in conjunction with Tore Art Gallery we are opening our doors to a week of events, beginning Saturday 24th July, titled Art Around the firth, with a mini craft corner for the children, and Theresa Brown artist, in residence.

Saturday 24th July: Sally & Sandy's Craft corner. Theresa Brown, Artist

Sunday 25th July: Theresa Brown, Artist.

Monday 26th July: Jane Macrae, Artist.

Tuesday 27th July: Eileen Addly, Artist.

Wednesday 28th July: Eileen Addly & Jenny Hepburn, Artists

Thursday 29th July: Jenny Hepburn, Artist.

Saturday 31st July: Sally & Sandy's Craft Corner & Fiona Matheson, Artist.

Visit our website for more details [www.beautygallery.co.uk](http://www.beautygallery.co.uk)

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# Kirkhill & Bunchrew

# Gala '10

*Saturday 5th June*

*Official opening at 12 noon*

## **Gala Queen: Ashley Streets**

*Princesses: Melissa Fife & Leah Cameron*

*Princes: Lewis Malone & Angus Franklin*

*Piped from Church to Hall by Charleston & Nairn Pipe Band*

*Commentator: Cris Ford*

**LIVE MUSIC** from local bands **ALL AFTERNOON**

### **Fun Run -**

For entry form and further information contact Aileen Armstrong **831558**

### **Displays -**

Police Dogs, Highland Dancing, Line Dancing, Disco Dancing and Kick Boxing

### **Plenty to do -**

Art Gallery • Teddy Bears Picnic • Champagne & Strawberry Tent  
Tombola • Fly fishing • Tug O'War  
Face Painting • Mini Digger Challenge and lots more...

### **Competitions -**

*Adults - Best Victoria Sponge, Best Posie Arrangement*

*Children - Best Birthday Card, Best Garden in lid of a shoe box*

*Entries to be in by 10am Saturday morning*

### **Special Attractions -**

Lazerquest, Inflatables, Archery, Bucking Bronco, Fancy Dress Football, Classic Tractors, Cars & Motorbikes, Various Craft Stands and...

### **Refreshments -**

Afternoon Teas by WRI Ladies, Beer Tent, Ice Cream, Crisps, Soft Drinks & BBQ

Donations would be appreciated for the book stall, tombola and teas.....

All enquiries to  
Fiona Stoddart - 07760 162931

# Gala Week Events

## Sunday 30th May

### GOLF TOURNAMENT

Archie Chisholm Trophy

9.30am Muir Of Ord Golf Course

Contact: Colin MacMillan 831656

### FAMILY CHURCH SERVICE

10.30am Wardlaw Church

Chris Watt and his puppets

The Kirkhill Primary School Choir

The WRI Choir

## Monday 31st May

### CROWNING OF GALA QUEEN

7pm Community Centre

### PRIZE BINGO NIGHT

7.30pm Community Centre

Usual Prizes on offer. Refreshments and prize raffle

Organised by Kirkhill Bowling Club

## Tuesday 1st June

### CAR TREASURE HUNT

7pm - Sharp - Community Centre

£5 per car

Finishing at Old North Inn with Family BBQ

## Wednesday 2nd June

### PET PARADE & HOMEMADE PET

7pm Community Centre

Refreshments

Organised by KDA

## Thursday 3rd June

### COOKERY DEMONSTRATION by THE KITCHEN RANGE, DINGWALL

7.30pm Community Centre

Entry £5 includes glass of wine/small buffet

Tickets phone Fiona Stoddart on 07760 162931

## Friday 4th June

### JUNIOR FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Registration - 6.30pm Community Centre

BBQ

### QUIZ NIGHT

9pm - Old North Inn

Team of 4/5

Entry £10 per team

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## Advice from Highland trading standards

# Know your rights when buying tickets this Summer!

Festival goers and rock/pop fans are gearing up for a summer of outdoor and stadium ticketed events. However buying tickets for that 'special event' or concert can be more complicated than you think. As a ticket buyer, you may not be aware of all the pitfalls of buying tickets online or what rights you have if an event is cancelled or you are overcharged the ticket price.

Making an informed choice might help you avoid some of the pitfalls that can occur if things go wrong.

Here are a few tips on buying tickets and advice on your consumer rights from Highland Trading Standards:

**Ticket sellers are legally required to:**

- Give clear information about the total price of the ticket.

If there is a booking fee, for instance, this information should also be given or shown to enable you as the consumer to work out the total costs. Likewise if there are discounts available for group bookings (eg family tickets) this information and any terms and conditions should be clear and unambiguous and not misleading.

- Offers of availability of seats should also be clear.

If there are only a limited number of seats available at a particular price or venue, this should also be made clear in any advertising materials or promotion of the event.

**Ticket sellers should also provide:**

- Confirmation of seat location and
- Despatch tickets in time to attend an event.

If the event is cancelled, the ticket seller should refund all monies paid. If the event is cancelled by an events promoter or producer and the tickets have been bought over the phone or via the internet, you should be offered a refund of your monies or be offered an alternative indoor event.

**Buying your tickets online – advice and rights**

Beware of fraudulent ticket websites! Unsuspecting fans for sporting events as well as rock concerts etc have been duped into buying either fraudulent or non-existent tickets with the promise of reduced priced tickets. Only go through official websites and don't be tempted by bargain offers as once a fraudulent website disappears it can be very difficult for you to get your money back.

Remember to read through all the terms and conditions of any website that sells tickets. If you still decide to go ahead and order your tickets online through an official website – take a printed copy of your completed order form before you push the "send" button.

When you buy tickets over the internet you are not entitled to any cancellation rights and therefore cannot change your mind when your tickets arrive through the post. However, if your tickets do not arrive, or the supplier fails to perform the contract preventing you from getting to the event, then you are entitled to a refund.

**Extra Protection**

It is worth remembering that if you pay for your

tickets using your credit card then you may have further protection against losing your money if things go wrong. If the contract you have made costs over £100 and you paid by credit card, then the credit card company is equally liable for any problems. This is good to know, if a promoter goes bust or you cannot get in touch with the ticket seller and the event is cancelled.

Remember also to keep your credit card statements safe so you can show your credit card company the payment you made.

If you need more information about buying tickets contact Consumer Direct on **08454 04 05 06** or go online at: **www.consumerdirect.gov.uk**

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For your local handyman contact us on:

**Home: 01463 831828**  
**Mobile: 078877 00725**  
**Email: thehandyman@hotmail.co.uk**

# Filmstars and daffodils as Kirkhill's big 'hoose' continues its comeback It's Springtime at Achnagairn - update

by **Sheila Endersby**

As it finally feels as though spring has well and truly sprung, it's time for another Achnagairn House update!

There are exciting new developments at Achnagairn House and we are very proud that interest in the House as a wedding and events venue is surging ahead.

We have had some fantastic recent events at the house, ranging from corporate team building week-ends for top financial firms, to a wedding featured in the latest edition of the Scottish Wedding Magazine's sister publication, Real Life Weddings, through to a stunning ball for Marie Curie Cancer Care which raised over £45,000 for this fabulous cause.

The ballroom was decked in daffodils, the Marie Curie symbol, looked tremendous and some of you may have seen the helicopter which landed in the grounds, flights being auctioned to help raise funds.

The Red Hot Chilli Pipers raised the temperature within moments and the 220 guests had an amazing time - we look forward to welcoming everyone back next year, along with several other local charity events which we are proud to host.

In addition, the Drambuie Challenge, renowned throughout the UK, held its celebratory dinner dance at Achnagairn for the third time at the start of May. They were true pioneers, being the first ever booking in the

house and are now adamant that they will no longer go anywhere else!

Their guest of honour, a certain Josh Duhamel of the Transformer films fame, set female hearts a-flutter and was installed in our Master Bedroom, taking advantage of the fantastic facilities and ambience - I don't think he gets much chance to relax nowadays!

In general, the future is looking very rosy for Achnagairn House, it's local supporters and suppliers.

Please take the time to have a look in the next few weeks at our new website

www.perfect-manors.com which will feature, very soon, an on-line blog written by yours truly.

You'll find there matters of interest, updates regarding clients and events, news from the owners, Gillian and Mike, and also postings of forthcoming events which we very much hope you will attend.

If anyone would like any further information or a chat, please do contact us on 0845 057 4212.

## Summer holiday clubs

Watch out for news about two exciting Holiday Clubs for primary school age children this summer. New this year will be Showstoppers in Kirkhill Community Centre from July 26 to 30, and, like last year, Holiday Club at Beaufort Castle near Kiltarlity, from 9 to 13 August. More information will be available through schools and churches.

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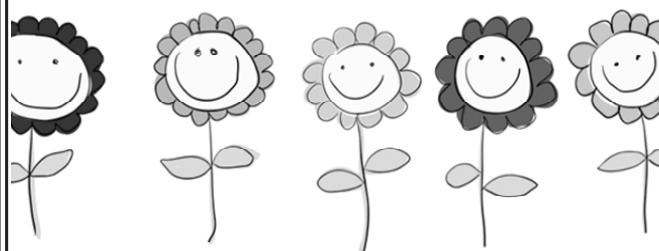
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## Kirkhill Indoor Bowling Club 2009/10 season results

The indoor bowling club had a mixed success this past winter. We were knocked out in the second round of the Inverness League Cup. In the League we finished in a moderate seventh place well down on our third place finish of the previous year!

The season finished with the Annual Dinner and Prize Giving on Friday 16 April.

The season will start again in September 2010 in the community hall on Monday nights - we are always looking for new members to keep our membership up so watch out for a notice about the start of the new season in the autumn Crannog.

FERNLEA TROPHY (Club Champion)  
Winner - Tom Rhind,  
Runner up - Willie Maclean

MACGILLIVRAY TROPHY (Triples)  
Winners - Tom Rhind, Helen Stuart, Neil Maclean  
Runners up - David Scrimgeour, Moira MacColl, Heather Rhind

J & J TROPHY (Gents Singles)  
Winner - Neil Maclean,  
Runner up - Tom Rhind

MALDUN TROPHY (Ladies Singles)  
Winner - Pat Morrison,  
Runner up - Madda Georgeson

DRUMCHARDINE TROPHY (Pairs)  
Winners - Neil Maclean & Ken MacColl  
Runners up - Elizabeth Macrae & John Lyle

Spoon Winners - Anne Lyle and Neil Maclean

**David Scrimgeour  
831700**



**Don't just bag it, BIN IT TOO!**  
community councillor Ian Cowan asks dog owners to stop leaving poo bags behind...

Walkers and cyclists using the roads from Kirkhill to Beaully and Inchmore, as well as the woods across the area, may have noticed lines of neatly tied green plastic bags in roadside ditches and hanging from tree branches. This seems to be the latest trend in dog dirt disposal, following last year's fashion of letting the family pets mess up the Kirkhill community football pitch.

The message then was "Bag it and bin it", and dog-walkers appear to have got it...well, at least the first half. But a few keen bag-users using the roads in and out of the village seem to think it's okay then just to chuck their packages into the ditch. It's not!

These plastic bags take many years to rot away, so ditching them is the

worst type of littering... and a really nasty thing to leave someone else to clear away.

The best thing to do is put the tied-up bag in an old plastic supermarket bag, and take it home. If you don't pass a red dog-waste bin on your way home, then tie up the outer bag and chuck it in your wheelie bin. Please!

Thanks for reading **Crannog**

This is my last edition of Crannog as Editor. Thanks for all your contributions and help over the last four years. I hope you'll continue to support my successor/s. The next issue - Autumn 2010 - should be out in early September.

If you have any news, views or adverts (only £10 for a quarter page or £35 for four issues!) contact Jim Ogilvie, Secretary of the community council ☎831316 and he will put you in touch with the new editorial team.

Crannog relies on volunteers to keep things lively and to share the workload. If you can help, contact Jim for content and production or (for delivery) Ken MacColl 831617

Kindest regards

*Alison Hay*

 **Rowanhill Natural Crafts**

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