

Carsphairn
Heritage
Group



OLDS CROSSKEYS (GREENHEAD) CARSPHAIRN

Newsletter No 81
Winter 2008

2007 AGM report

Mrs Campbell, the outgoing chairman reported that there had been an excellent exhibition with research and contributions from most of the committee and others from within and outwith the parish.

Many of the sporting cups that had not been found saw the light of day during the year and by the end of the exhibition six cups and nine trophies were on display. The exhibition started with just three from the Group's own collection. Virtually all of them have been returned to their custodians but a list has been compiled of where they are now kept.

The attendance this season was over 1400 which was slightly down on last year. A record number of 106 visitors came in on Carsphairn Show Day

The membership for the year was 86 three up from last year.

Visitors and requests have come from all over the world. One exciting moment was when the Jamieson family from Victoria in Australia came in August. Robert Jamieson, known as the Pioneer and a direct ancestor of the current Jamieson, emigrated from Carsphairn in 1851. He was a brother of Richard who is better known to us as the one who drowned in the Muck Burn in mysterious circumstances.

There has been just one organised trip to the Centre this year. Dalry Secondary School 3rd year came in July.

The autumn buffet was as successful as ever with its great reputation being upheld by one of our members Sandy Gilchrist who devised a most entertaining, interesting and educational quiz "Quaint and Curious".

The Group has benefited from several generous donations this year. The Hough family gave a seat in memory of Bill and Margret, and at the end of the season a large cheque was sent by a grateful researcher so that a scanner could be purchased for the Centre.

Mrs Campbell accorded thanks to the stewards and committee. Stewards give not only their time to sit in the Centre but

do all kinds of extras such as changing light bulbs, sweeping the floor and providing a service to the public which is much wider than just

answering historical questions. Support also comes from those who may not be either members or stewards. For example, the keys of the Centre are kept at the shop and there is always a supply of beautiful flowers throughout the summer provided by a village garden.

This year the committee members have used their talents as freely as ever, be it in research, mounting, looking after the sales table, organising rotas, providing illustrations, editing the newsletter now at number 80, stewarding, providing hospitality – the list is endless.

Anne Rutherford has retired from the Committee. Anne was a founder member and has been a faithful supporter since the inception of the group in 1986. Her talents are not going to be lost to the group.. She has promised her continuing support in the professional way she and Agnes Holden mount the exhibition.

Since the AGM Colonel Clark Kennedy has also retired. He has been a committee member for over twenty years and we thank him for his generosity in loaning so much material for so many exhibitions as well as his faithful input in being a steward every Thursday morning for so many years.

Carsphairn U.P. Church Christmas Treat

The annual treat for the children of the Carsphairn United Presbyterian Church was held on Wednesday evening. After partaking, along with some friends, of an excellent tea in the vestry, they retired to the church, which was beautifully decorated with evergreens and pot plants. But the central attraction was the Christmas tree, laden with gifts and fruits and sparkling with fairy lamps among the branches.

The Rev. W. Fraser gave a short address to the children, and also Mr. G. McMillan, Sabbath School superintendent, who gave

his report, and intimated that for missions the children during the year collected £1 17s 6d. The rest of the program consisted of songs, recitations, &c., in which every child took some part. The tree was stripped at eight o'clock.

All the children in the church received fruit and cake on retiring through the church vestibule. Thus closed a lively and happy evening for the children. There was a good attendance of parents and friends interested.

19 December 1908 from the Dumfries & Galloway Standard

For the first time in the annals of Carsphairn a leap year social and dance was held in the hall on the evening of Friday 11th inst. The weather was favourable so there was a good attendance. The Rev. G.F. A.MacNaughton presided at the social and after tea programme of songs and speeches was gone through.

Dancing was kept up briskly until 3am when all quietly dispersed after the singing of "Auld Lang Syne". The music was supplied by the local string band.

Much credit is due to the committee of ladies who carried out the arrangements so successfully. After clearing all expenses, they had a surplus of £1 which was handed over to the Castle Douglas Cottage Hospital.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2008

An application form for renewal of your subscription is enclosed

Would members please note that the subscription fees have been slightly altered in that there is no longer a 'Family' membership. Senior Citizens' membership has increased by a pound and is now £3 ; Individual membership has been increased to £5; a new category Corporate Membership has been added and is £10.

**Profit & Loss Account for Carsphairn Heritage Group – SC007408
Year Ended 31st October 2007**

<u>Income</u>	2007	2006	<u>Expenditure</u>	2007	2006
	£	£		£	£
Membership	266.50	236.00	Membership	16.37	139.19
1 Donations	1391.66	1129.97			
2 Social events	557.73	526.00	Social events	159.82	212.43
Buffet float deposited	30.00		Buffet float withdrawn	30.00	
Interest	251.00	254.26			
			Heat & light	617.87	863.85
Insurance refund	85.98		Insurance	439.36	438.18
			4 Centre expenses	2415.40	5855.85
Sales	951.88	1116.88	Centre sales	397.99	381.84
Book sales		40.00			
3 Sundries	278.19	36.26	Sundries	4.50	25.00
					(5.00)
			Cheque adjustment		3.60
Total income	3812.94	3339.27	Total expenditure	4081.31	7914.94
Profit / (Loss)				(268.37)	(4575.67)
	3812.94	3339.27		3812.94	3339.27

**Statement of Balances
As at 31st October**

	2007	2006
	£	£
Total income (2007)		3812.94
Total expenditure (2007)	4081.31	
Not cleared cheques and banking. (Last year's now cleared.)	(182.11)	(90.19)
Cash in hand	20.00	20.00
Bank account	1469.42	1883.65
National Savings Investment Account	6418.65	6220.75
Abbey Charity Account	2176.92	2137.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	13904.19	13984.19

APPEAL for 'Kail, Cakes & Cures - Our Kitchen Heritage'

The 2008 exhibition is based on domestic life in Carsphairn Parish in 'the old days'. Perhaps you have something lying about at the back of a cupboard or in the attic which is relevant and could be lent to the exhibition. Perhaps you have a pile of old herbal medicinal recipes at your elbow. Even one or two would help.

That or just a favourite dish your granny used to make. Please contact Agnes Holden at Dalshangan who is now Chairman of the Heritage Group. Tel: 01644 460651

Notes on the Accounts on page 5

- 1) Includes £420.30 from Windfarm Community Fund Committee.
This was in response to our application for a grant to cover the cost of printing 4000 flyers to promote the 2007 exhibition.

Also £320.00 from Mr Hough, Carsphairn, for a Centre bench, a refund as we have already paid for it.

2) Autumn Buffets

	2007	2006
Tickets	£274.00	£280.00
Raffle	£106.00	£ 93.00
Bar	£177.73	£153.00
Total	£557.73	£526.00
Expenses	£126.88	£212.43
Profit	£430.85	£313.57

£117.28 up from last year's.

- 3) Includes £274.19 repayment from Signcraft for the Centre sign.
4) 2006 Centre expenses were high because of Awards for All expenditure. After adjustment it was £1510.

2007 Centre expenses includes £274.19 refund of grant for Centre sign to Windfarm Community Fund.

CHG COMMITTEE MEMBEERS FOR 2008

Robin Ade - Auchrae, Carsphairn	01644 460251
Anna Campbell - Holm of Daltallochan, Carsphairn	01644 460208
Carol Cathcart, Newsletter Editor - Borgue	01557 870247
Sheila Hey - 26 doonbank Crescent, Patna	01292 531542
Agnes Holden, Chairman - Dalshangan, Carsphairn	01644 460651
Joyce Hunter Blair, Secretary - Dalry	01644 430329
Allan James - 6 Salutation House, Casrphairn	
Bob Ramsay, Membership Secretary - Carsphairn	01644 460260
Jim Sloan, Treasurer - McAdam Way, Carsphairn	01644 460235

Cross Keys Inn, Carsphairn

22nd Sept 1860

Stewartry Criminal Court, Kirkcudbright, Sept 20.

Mary Kerr or McCrae, Carsphairn, was accused of assaulting Mary McCrae, her sister-in-law, innkeeper of the Cross Keys Inn in Carsphairn, by first pushing her down over a chair, and then knocking her down by giving her a blow with her fist below the eye, and throwing a spit-box at her. Panel pleaded not guilty. From the evidence it appeared that the panel's husband never left his sister's inn, and that she, feeling irritated at this, took his clothes and laid them on a table in a room of the inn where he was, saying "there were his clothes, and he might stay there;" on which, after some words between the panel and Mary McCrae, the latter took up the clothes and threw them in the face of the former, when she gave her the push as stated, and followed it with the blow. The judge considered the case a painful one, and, in the whole circumstances, could not but find it to be his duty to assoilzie the panel, when she was accordingly dismissed.

28th Jan 1865

Festive meeting at Carsphairn. The annual ball and supper took place on the evening of Friday, the 13th curt. Supper was served up in first-class style by Mrs Bennet of the Cross Keys. There were about forty ladies (dressed in white with blue sashes) and gentlemen present, and dancing was kept up with great spirit till three o'clock A.M., when the "boy in blue" put an end to their most harmonious and happy meeting. Mr McKay, Balmaclellan, discoursed excellent music, and the stewards – Messrs. McGuffog, Hunter and Brown – were assiduous in their attention to the comfort of the company. Several fine songs were sung in the course of the evening.

(Extracts from Dumfries and Galloway Standard)

Remembrance Day 2007

This year Remembrance Day fell on the Eleventh Day of the Eleventh Month and it was decided that the practice of laying a wreath at the Carsphairn War Memorial should be revived. After the Kirk service the congregation moved to the memorial where the Rev. Robert Hamill led the prayers.

Wreaths were laid by Colonel Clark Kennedy and Bob Ramsay, who had served in the Royal Scottish Fusiliers, and in Korea in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

All that was missing was a bugler but I for one could hear a ghostly Last Post ring out as we thought of those who had given their lives in the Services during and since the Great War and particularly those from this Parish.

We will remember them.

The Glencairn Memorial Book

Three Carsphairn soldiers commemorated on the war memorial outside the village are among the 72 men and 1 woman whose stories are told in 'The Glencairn Memorial Book' compiled and researched by Alexander Hall and Anthony Murray-Flutter. Walter Kennedy and his brother Douglas, as well as David McMillan, had strong connections with both parishes.

This hardback book which has 205 pages with portraits, badges, illustrations and maps will be valued as an historic and educational reference book and costs £15. It can be delivered free to Carsphairn or collected from Moniaive Post Office and is available from Monday 17th March. Postage £5. Cheques should be made payable to 'The Glencairn History Group' and sent to Ardnacloich, Moniaive, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire DG3 4HZ.

You are invited to the book launch at the Memorial Institute in Moniaive on Sunday 16 March 2008 between 5 and 8pm. There will be refreshments