



GLENELG & ARNISDALE DEVELOPMENT TRUST

The Trusty

February 2008

The information sheet of the Glenelg & Arnisdale Development Trust

Thanks to the people who came to the Hall on the 9th of February to share their old photographs. Not only has it been possible to record photographs but also several written pieces such as one of Tommy Moffat's clever and humorous poems. The afternoon was a great success and hopefully will be repeated soon.

There was to have been a meeting with representatives from the Highlands & Islands Community Energy Company and the Forestry Commission on the 21st regarding the renewable energy project. Unfortunately it had to be cancelled and was rescheduled for March 3rd. On March 3rd weather conditions prevented travel and the meeting will now take place on March 21st. Even with the best will in the world events outside our control can dictate the pace of progress.

On the 14th John MacLean had a site meeting at the Quarry jetty with Tony Usher, Highland Council Manager for piers and jetties, and two representatives from the Army. They agreed that a central galvanised steel structure with refurbished existing pillars was the best available option. Plans are currently being produced. The Army will be in Glenelg from 18th April until 12th May to do the work and plan to be billeted in the Community Hall. Contributions continue to come in for the refurbishment work and are a great tribute to the generosity of the local and wider community.

There is an HIE database which classifies this area as being in the top 1% of zones with the most deprived access to services in Scotland. While we do enjoy access to some excellent services, such as health care, these

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findings highlight the urgent need for social and economic development, especially as we have a total of 66 youngsters currently in education.

The publication, *Scottish Notes & Queries*, Volume VI, 1892 - 1893 has a section, which will be put into the Trust website, entitled; "Legends, Traditions, &c., From Glenelg". In it is a short section on the 'Origins of the MacCuaigs', Apologies to any MacCuaig who might read this. The extract goes as follows; "The MacCuaigs are a small clan and one much despised in the neighbourhood. Their presence is thus humorously accounted for: At one time Macleod of Macleod who then lived in his castle in Glenelg in some way or other required brogues. No one near at hand was able to make them, and he sent to Ireland for a supply. His handwriting was none of the best and the recipients of his letter read rogues for brogues, and sent over a consignment of these gentlemen!"

Another section details legendary feats of strength. One of the round stones on top of the pillars at the gate into the Church of Scotland graveyard is reputed, the author states, to have been carried from Strathglass by a shepherd in his plaid. The author thinks this unlikely. Little did he obviously know of the stature and strength of the men in Glenelg! This photograph from 1960 is one copied for the website archive.



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