

alyth voice

4th Edition, August 1997

Minimum Circulation: 1000

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

It's here again, and it looks as if it's here to stay!

Thanks to *your* encouragement and support, and the increasing demand for advertising space, we are delighted to have produced Issue 4 of the Alyth Voice.

We apologise for the slight delay in getting this Issue to you - this resulted from the untimely death of Simon's mother on the 29th July. Obviously, it was more important for him to be with his father and brother in Aberdeenshire at this time when he would normally have been busy preparing the Alyth Voice for printing.

On a more cheery note, the increased revenue from advertising, together with an increasing volume of articles being submitted for publication, has enabled us to expand to 8 pages instead of 6. If we

continue at this rate, we could be looking at 10 or 12 pages by the end of the year!

Judging by the reports of success and achievement by Alyth people, we are sure that there is sufficient news and views relating to Alyth to expand the Alyth Voice even further.

This month, we have incorporated "Clip-Art" images which we hope will enhance the appearance of the Alyth Voice. Please tell us whether or not you like these additions - it is, after all, *your* paper.

Most importantly, you tell us that you look forward to receiving each new issue.

Our thanks again for your encouragement and support - together we will ensure that the Alyth Voice will continue to serve the people of Alyth.

BUSINESS NOTICE

Alyth & District Business Association wish to advise members that it is with regret that it has received the resignation of Mr Kevin Smith from the office of Treasurer to the Association. We wish to thank him for his work for the Association and we wish him all the best for the future.

It is with pleasure that we are able to inform our members and non-members that Mrs Nancy Kay, 15 Airlie Street, Alyth (Tel: 632252 or 632690) has agreed to fill the vacant position of Treasurer.

All subscriptions due should now be paid via Nancy and any non-members who wish to join the Association should also contact Nancy at the above address.

Michael Kay, Chairman

HISTORICAL NOTES ON NEW ALYTH

The following extract is taken from:

"Places & Place-names round Alyth"

By James Meikle, B.D., F.S.A.Scot. (Minister at Alyth).
Published by Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co.
Ltd, London. 1925.

From Page 134 on New Alyth:

"When the Moor of Pitnacree was divided, the feuars on the lands of Pitnacree, who had rights on the Moor, got small sites at this corner as their proportion and in due time houses were built on them. New Alyth is mentioned in the Session Records of 1792, when the name of David Kermack, weaver there, is noted but it is not entered in Panton's map of 1783. In it the Bardmony Road crosses the Blairgowrie Road at the point of junction and makes straight for nearly the place where the Doctor's Brig now stands.

The names of some houses that may need explanation

follow:

1. Belton Cottage - near the belting or belt of trees cut in 1922.
2. Hebrew Cottage - so named because it has an inscription over the door in Hebrew letters. The top line contains the letters D.B.A.W. which were the initials of David Buick and Agnes Watson, his wife. The second line gives the date 1826.
3. Linton - a name chosen because the owner's forbears were lint millers.
4. Woodrae - given fancifully because the rays of the setting sun were passing through the trees of the "belting" when the name was chosen. Had the name been old or chosen by a scholar it would have meant "corner (Scand. vra) beside the wood".

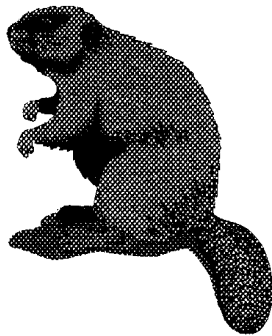
"I hope the extract will be of interest to your readers and perhaps especially to those in New Alyth"

Joan A.V. Rawling, Woodray Cottage, New Alyth

FUN AND FRIENDS

The Alyth Beaver Group has a maximum of twenty five boys between 6 & 8 years old, and we are looking for new leaders.

We meet at 7.00p.m. every Thursday at the Alyth Scout Hut. There is no badge work involved at this age - the Beaver motto is "Fun and Friends" which sums up the type of people we need. You won't be left to struggle on your own, we will be with you to ease you into the Beaver experience. If you are at all interested, or need more information, contact Anne on 632257.



THE WAY AHEAD - "STRATHMORE & THE GLENS"

Councillor Bob Ellis, Blairgowrie has been instrumental in bringing together a number of people interested in developing an "East Perthshire Initiative". The aim is to co-ordinate action on issues of economic and social interest in the area comprising Blairgowrie, Alyth, Coupar Angus and the surrounding rural hinterland.

The first of several meetings was held in Blairgowrie some six months ago, and from these meetings has grown the title "Strathmore and the Glens" which aptly describes the area in question. From the initial meetings it was evident that there was a strong feeling of a need for a concentrated voice to gain recognition for what is a very important part of rural Perthshire. In April a public meeting was held in Alyth Town Hall and the green light

was given to form a steering committee to develop and formulate ideas. It is envisaged that this committee's role will come to an end around October 1997, when a meeting will be held at which members of the Communities involved will be asked to elect a formal committee.

It is important for the future growth and development of our area that we find a way of promoting everything that is good about it both in social and economic terms. Let us put the words "Strathmore and the Glens" on as many lips as possible.

Anyone requiring further information, or wishing to make any suggestions, should contact Ewan Walker at the Rosemount Golf Hotel on 01250 872604.

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LIGHTEN UP!

Well someone had to say it - Christmas is just around the corner! With the sun shining and people going on holiday the last thing you want to hear about is the "X" word. However, if we want the town looking decorative we have to start soon.

Last year the Community gathered round and made a big effort - this year must be no exception.

Some of the pre-Christmas events last year included an Ian Powrie concert, a coffee morning, carol singing in the Square with a visit from Santa, a Karaoke night at Geo's and the Blairgowrie Pipe Band leading the parade for the switch-on.

This year we need more people to help in a variety of ways. You may not be any good at climbing ladders

but you may be good at fund raising or a you may be a "good ideas" person.

Anybody who would like to help in any way is welcome to come along to the Lesser Town Hall on Tuesday 19th August at 7.30pm. If you can't attend but would still like to help and be involved please give Dennis Melloy a call on 632284 or contact any of the following people:

Billy Gordon at the Post Office
Rob Tindall 632734
Jessie McLean 632684
Callum Strachan 633140

Don't be left in the dark! - Let's have a great lead up to Christmas and have some fun as well.



ALYTH YOUTH PARTNERSHIP

The Alyth Youth Partnership was set up approximately nine months ago following a public meeting in the Town Hall regarding anti-social problems in the town.

The objective of the Partnership is to provide facilities for education, recreation and leisure activities for the benefit of the people of Alyth and its environs.

It is hoped to establish a youth centre and to work with the local authority and other interested bodies in the management and maintenance of the proposed centre.

Success in achieving this objective requires the full co-operation among Alyth's young people and adults, together with voluntary organisations and the local authority.

A meeting has been arranged for Thursday 28th August in the Lesser Town Hall at 7.30pm at which the constitution of the Alyth Youth Partnership is to be agreed.

It is important that as many people attend as possible. As well as the adults, we hope that many of the young people of Alyth will attend as well.

Anyone requiring further information can contact any of the following individuals:

Mark Lindsay (at the School)	632462
Seonaid Don	632605
Louise Thomson	632898
Dennis Melloy	632284

We look forward to your interest in and your support for this Partnership.

SUPPLY & DEMAND!

Our volunteer "postmen" and "postwomen" are being asked increasingly for extra copies of the Alyth Voice so that the petitioners can send a copy to Auntie Bella in Margate and Uncle Tam in Melbourne. Unfortunately the 1000 copies we have printed are barely enough to give one to every household in Alyth.

The Crooked Dreeel and Concealed Hinge Society welcomes this evidence of the popularity of the Alyth Voice and we will work towards increasing production.

Meanwhile, as the newsletter is not subject to any copyright, you are very welcome to photocopy it.

PEDAL POWER!

Alyth man, Malcolm Bruce, cycled 85 miles from Glasgow to Dundee on June 25th, raising £840 for the MacMillan Nursing Fund. On the run, Malcolm was accompanied by his son, Andrew who raised a further £350 for a hospital in Dumbarton.

Malcolm and Andrew would like to thank all those in Alyth, Dundee and Glasgow who helped them make the day such a success, and cheered them along the way.

Well done to both of you, a great effort!



CONGRATULATIONS!



The marriage of Scott Rooney McLeod to Victoria Edith White took place in Alyth Parish Church on Saturday 19th July. The service was conducted by the Reverend Gordon Oliver.

Scott is the second son of Mr & Mrs Pat Rooney, Poicalk Cottage, and Victoria is the only daughter of Andy & Nan White, Alyth.

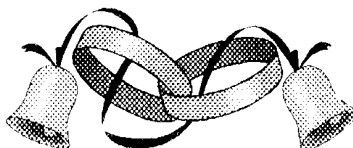
Victoria's friend, Miss Lynne Millar, travelled from Australia to be Bridesmaid, whilst Scott's brother

Robert had a more modest journey from Kent to fulfil his duties as Best Man. The Ushers were Arnold White and Stephen & Graeme Rooney - brothers of Victoria and of Scott, respectively.

During the service, Graeme read a poem written by himself called "The Wedding" and Janey McFarlane sang a beautiful rendition of "The 12th of Never". The Church organist, Mrs Elizabeth Strachan, played a lovely selection of music.

The reception was held at the Enverdale Hotel, Coupar Angus.

On return from their honeymoon in Florida, the couple will take up residence in Alyth.



Happy Birthday to

Finlay Farquharson

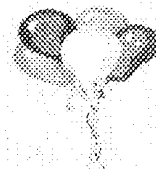
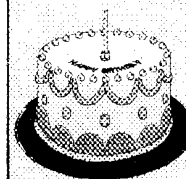
6 Bamff View,

New Alyth,

who was

90

on 6th August.



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DLM SCHOOL OF DANCING

LINE DANCING CLASSES restart in Alyth Town Hall.

Wednesday, 3rd Sept: 6.30pm Beginners/Intermediate

Friday, 5th Sept: 7.00pm, Beginners 8.15pm, Intermediate

Phone Dennis Melloy (A) UKAPTD (B) (HC) on 632284 for further details.

Come along, enjoy the fun and have some exercise at the same time!

Please note: Friday classes may be subject to alteration due to prior bookings of the Hall.

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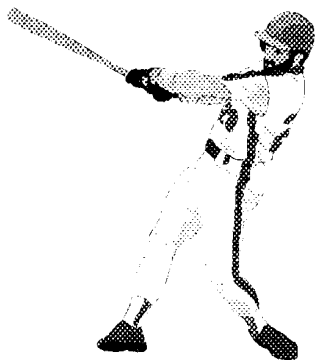
SPORTS SCENE

BASEBALL

Ewan MacFarlane, Ewan Calliander, Darra White and Andrew Marshall from Alyth Adders have been selected to play for the Scotland Under-16 Baseball Team.

They will be playing tournaments in Manchester and in Leeds and on 9th September they will be playing an international match against England.

The venue for the match against England will be in Dundee, so we look forward to some strong local support in anticipation of a convincing win for Scotland!



GOLF

Alyth Golf Club is delighted to announce that one of its local members has been selected to play for Scotland!

Michael Rae (18), of Isla Road, Alyth, will represent his country in the Boys Home Internationals at Westward Ho! Golf Course in Devon, this month.

Michael, who plays off a scratch handicap and is currently employed at Alyth Golf Club, is understandably delighted to be selected. We believe that Michael is the first Alyth golfer to be picked for his country.

We are sure that the people of Alyth will join us in congratulating Michael on this tremendous achievement.

*Craig Watson,
Alyth Golf Club*



CROOKED DREEL & CONCEALED HINGE SOCIETY

Come and join us at the next meeting of the Crooked Dreel & Concealed Hinge Society in the Thistle Lounge (Geo's), Airlie Street, at 7.30pm on Thursday 21st August.

This is NOT a secret society and it is OPEN to ANYONE who is interested in what is happening in Alyth and.....

.....there is NO membership fee!

We think that the meetings are fun, but you can decide that for yourself after you've been to one!

P.S. Bring a friend with you for moral support, inspiration, or simply so that he/she can buy you a drink!

Join the Cub Scouts!

Interested in joining? You need to be between 8 and 10 years of age. We meet every Tuesday (except school holidays) from 6.30 - 8.00pm in the Scout Hut, Cairnleith Street. We'd welcome new members (Boys only I'm afraid!)

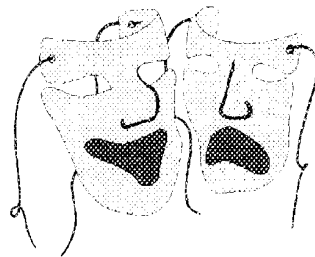
Phone Akela (Margaret Colley) for more details - 632500

Interested in being a Cub Scout Leader or Adult Helper? Telephone Akela and have a chat. It's great fun!

THE ARTS

Sarah MacFarlane, a pupil of Miss Sandra Wright, Glamis, where she studies ballet and tap-dancing, is one of 18 girls selected from all over Scotland to receive professional training as a junior associate of Scottish Ballet.

Unfortunately, due to a funding crisis, Scottish Ballet may close which means that talented Scottish children who wish to pursue a



career in dance will no longer have the same opportunities as their counterparts south of the Border.

Readers' Letters

"Our Parks and Gardens - Not a Bed of Roses".

Dear Sir,

I refer to Mrs Van den Berg's letter in last month's Alyth Voice, in which she asked, "What is the Community Council doing for our rose beds?"

Most people know that Perth and Kinross Council has been faced with severe budget problems and have, as a consequence, had to cut back on certain services. The Community Council has been in dialogue with various departments within Perth and Kinross Council regarding several decisions which have affected Alyth.

When we were informed of the decision by the Leisure and Recreation Department that certain cutbacks were to take place in Alyth, I telephoned to discuss these issues. We in the Community Council did not

want the flower beds grassed over, nor did we want large areas of ground with no flowers. The Community Council proposed that the Town should take responsibility for looking after certain areas and this was to be done under the umbrella of the Alyth in Bloom Committee which has had several meetings with the Leisure and Recreation Department and which has put in a lot of hard work already.

If any other organisation wishes to assist the Alyth in Bloom Committee I am sure that they will be made most welcome.

With reference to the rose beds in Parkside Road, I have been advised that the roses were old and were due to be taken out and that the earth would have had to be replaced to allow replanting.

The Community Council held a meeting with the Tenants' Association

and it seems that some members are happy with the old rose beds being grassed over. This will be discussed at the next meeting when Mrs Van den Berg can put her points forward. If the decision by the Tenants' Association is to reclaim the areas in Parkside Road for plants, the Leisure and Recreation Department has no objection in principle.

In summary, I am delighted that Mrs Van den Berg put pen to paper in the readers' letters section as the Alyth Voice is the perfect forum to voice an opinion - may it grow from strength to strength.



Dennis M Melloy
Chairman,
Alyth Community
Council

Dear Auntie Mabel,

Tempted by 35p a basket I went to the berries this year after a long absence. The money sounded great but is my memory playing tricks?

I'm sure that the berries were bigger, sweeter and more numerous in days of yore. Weren't the dreels shorter the bushes taller, the thistles and nettles fewer and the women on the weighs more generous? The sun was hotter and the wasps fewer then. I know all these things as fact. But please, Aunt M, can you tell me how many baskets I needed to pick to get a fish supper in those days - it's far too many now.

Your loving nephew,
Adam Neave.



Muirton Farm Cottage,
Alyth.

Dear Sirs,

I was disappointed last week during the hot weather to see Alyth paddling pool empty.

When I contacted the Park & Leisure Department I was told that because of cutbacks it wouldn't be filled this year and it was questionable whether it would be in use next year.

Can I urge other parents to write to their local councillor requesting our paddling pool be put to proper use for the enjoyment of today's children.

Yours faithfully,
Miss Jennifer Menzies.

Sirs,

You have a lovely town here with an equally fine river. So why do people discard rubbish, thus damaging not only the look of the burn but also the fishes' home? **Don't you care?**

On July 22nd, after seeing youngsters in the pool (created for the fish) one wonders why so many parents seem to be so lax in the light of so many recent river and pond drownings. **Don't they care?**

An Alyth
Visitor.



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IAN MILLER - Local Councillor

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Julie Brown 632986
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Billy Gordon via Post Office
Simon Ingram 632705
Sandy McCurdy 632744
Jessie McLean 632684
Callum Strachan 633140
Rob Tindall 632734

Please ensure that articles for publication are
submitted by the 21st day of each month.

Note: The views expressed in the Alyth Voice are
not necessarily those of the Editors, nor can they
accept responsibility for the accuracy of **any** article.