



LOGIE LIFE SEPTEMBER 2020



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Picnic in the Park

On the 9th August 2020 the Community of Blairlogie was able to enjoy their first social gathering since "lockdown" was introduced to prevent the spread of Covid19.

The event took place, with extremely short notice, in the village play park in response to a favourable weather report for that weekend.

In much the same way as other groups might organise an illegal rave or house party, a message was sent out via social media (WhatsApp) suggesting a time and place. The overwhelmingly positive response created a need to check the current regulations for gatherings in public spaces. (The park is a very PUBLIC space!) A risk assessment was carried out and circulated for comment.

As a result "social bubbles" were mown into the longer grass of the park to facilitate maintaining an adequate distance when setting up picnic sites. (Many thanks are due to John Logan and Mike Allen for doing this). All participants brought their own food, drink and equipment. Hand sanitiser was made available.

The weather lived up to the forecast, dry and bright with a gentle breeze to keep any midges at bay. The atmosphere was relaxed as neighbours caught up with each other and new members of the community had an opportunity to meet and put faces to each other.

The opportunity was taken to celebrate the 80th birthday of a long-standing member of the community, Mrs Sheila Randall. Sheila lived in Blairlogie as a child and despite spells away has returned home to stay.

In the subsequent two weeks all participants have remained healthy. Perhaps it's safe to arrange another outdoor social opportunity.

As the weather starts to turn more autumnal activities come to mind. The chestnut tree by the park is shedding conkers. Anyone up for a tournament?

If you would like to be added to Blairlogie Community WhatsApp group, contact susanallenblairlogie@gmail.com with your mobile phone number. You will need a suitable mobile phone with WhatsApp installed.

Sue Allen

100 Club

The first draw in this year's 100 Club will be made in the Village Garden during the maintenance/clear up on Saturday 26th September.

John Randall

Thanks to Sheila Hartley for the photos



Left to right: Sheila Randall, Jenny Jennings and Sue Allen



Clare, Molly and Tim Beechey



The Jamieson family, Graham, John and Sheila



Left to right: Robin, Sue, Sheila R, Jane, Alastair, Clem and Sean



Left to right: Jenny, Graham, Sheila R, Alastair, Mary and Sue Jamieson

Blairlogie Community and Heritage Trust (BCHT)

Across the summer the Trustees of BCHT have met by means of Zoom. It was decided that it would not be appropriate to organise the usual Village Barbecue this year. We are grateful to Susan and Mike Allen who organised a Village Picnic which was held in a socially distanced way in the village playpark.

It had been hoped that the Reading Room could be open again for carefully managed small events but in the light of recent government announcements this will not be possible and the premises will remain closed. Arrangements have been made with a new cleaning contractor so that deep cleaning can be undertaken prior to reopening in due course. It is also intended that a refurbishment of the upstairs Crowsteps room will be undertaken.

The BCHT AGM will not be held on the scheduled date, but must now be on hold until the hall is in use again. The accounts have been cleared by the auditor and the Scottish Charity Regulator has stated that they will be understanding and proportionate about the delay for an AGM. Similarly, it will not be possible just now to hold the necessary meeting of Trust Members to seek approval for the change of status from a charity to a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). The change has advantages including simplified accounting and lower costs for the annual review.

The Trustees look forward to better times when the full range of activities can be resumed.

Angus Annan, Secretary to BCHT

Greetings from Cotkerse

It has been lovely to meet many of the people of Blairlogie over the summer, and to interact virtually with some of you via the Blairlogie WhatsApp group. You have all made us feel most welcome – thank you for that!

For those we have yet to meet, FYI, we are the new folks at Cotkerse House. We bought the house in February and moved in end of April. Some of you will have heard some of the renovation and tree felling work, and sincerely hope it didn't disturb anyone!

Although new to Blairlogie, we are longstanding residents of the area. Our two, now grown up, children were born in Stirling and Bridge of Allan. Apart from periods of time living overseas in Asia and Scandinavia, we have lived about 10 years on this side of the Ochils. The Blairlogie website has been incredibly helpful in this regard. The selfie, below, was taken at the top of Menstrie Glen as we walked down from the old Jerah farmstead and the Lossburn Reservoir.

Some of you will know us as the folks with the greyhounds. As well as our own two (Sally and Mr Bolt), we foster greyhounds helping them to move from track to companion dog. Other recreational activities we enjoy include spending time with other humans who share our interest in things like music, food and wine and regular, but no too adrenaline-fuelled, activities such as dog walking. We earn a crust working in public health (GC) and international development (GH) mainly home-based, before lockdown and now ever more so.

We are really looking forward to being involved in village life and getting to know our neighbours in the coming months and years.

Georgina (Cairns) & Graham (Haylor)

Cotkerse House , Gogar Loan, Blairlogie



Halloween Competition Blairlogie 2020

(How to banish Covid-19 blues)



1. Carve the scariest lantern from a turnip or pumpkin.
2. Place your lantern in a window or gateway facing out towards the nearest road.
3. Send details of the location of your entry to the organiser by email to susanallenblairlogie@gmail.com or text 07738666009. Use Halloween 2020 in the subject line to identify your email or text message.
4. Where possible include a photo of your entry. Please note your photo may be used in future editions of Logie Life.
5. Entries to be submitted by 6.00pm 31st October 2020. (Halloween starts at sunset on the 31st October.
6. Take a walk around the village to look at the lanterns displayed. We may have to socially isolate but hopefully the spirit of Halloween can still provide some entertainment.
7. Nominate your favourite entries by texting or emailing organiser using Nomination 2020 in the subject line of your email or text.
8. The judges will visit the local entries on site where possible. A prize will be awarded for the lantern which, in the opinion of the judges, is the scariest.
9. A special award will be made to the scariest lantern photo submitted by readers connected to Blairlogie but not living here.
10. Results will be published in the next edition of Logie Life.



Reading about Halloween has led me to Samhain, a Celtic festival at the end of harvest. Traditional lanterns were carved to scare away the spirits thought to emerge on Halloween. Masks were worn as part of a disguise to hide from the spirits. Both these themes tie in with the threat posed by the second wave of Covid19 this autumn. In this case the threat comes from a Coronavirus. ☹

Let's hope our lanterns keep the virus at bay and cheer us all up.

If anyone would like help sourcing a pumpkin or turnip 🎃 notify Susan Allen on susanallenblairlogie@gmail.com before Monday 19th October to give sufficient time for an order to be placed.

Stay safe and well while enjoying nature's autumnal bounty. Sue Allen

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