

A Fun

Extravaganza!!!

The Youth Club Beach Party was, by all accounts, a great fun evening! Loads of people helped with the organising and to the overall success of the night – well done to all involved.

The Duck Race Sunday 3rd May 2pm

This year, having had a pretty bad time recently, Bob McLaren is taking a well earned rest from the labours of organising the Duck Race and has allowed some other willing helpers to get their feet wet! This is where we find out just how hard Bob and his team of helpers have worked over the past few years arranging this event! The ducks are now on sale so if, as time wears on, you haven't had a chance to buy please contact a member of the committee to get your ducks. As usual there will be soup and teas at the hall following the races.

Craft Club, with coffee & Pool or Darts!

From 10am to 12 noon why not come along with a book, sewing, knitting or just for a bit of social chat before the Library Van comes on a Wednesday morning. If you are not 'handy' perhaps you might enjoy a game of darts or pool before joining the ladies for coffee and a biscuit instead – at £2 a session it's up to you what you do but we'd ideally like more folk to join in!

LOGIE COLDSTONE TRUST

A Hall at the Heart of the Community

Just under a year ago now we were in the throes of the Feasibility Study which many of you have seen the results of over the past months – the drawings have been displayed in the hall since then. However, time moves on as does the financial state of the country!

The feasibility study has brought to the fore some very important aspects involved in the operation of a building like Logie Coldstone Hall – not least of which is the basic cost of running and maintaining such a building.

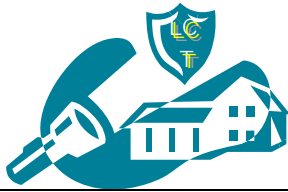
Over the past few months since the feasibility report was completed and the committee have had a chance to discuss the findings and make some decisions about how to move forward.

It has become clear that although the plans for a renovated hall are exciting and would provide wonderful facilities for the users of the hall, the cost is prohibitive in view of the prospective usage we can foresee at the moment, the time scale to pull grants and our own fundraising monies together is presently daunting, and currently, the committee is just a tad weary having spent the past five years getting the status of a legal charity with a membership and elected directors, complying with the Aberdeenshire Council Public Licensing issues, and working on more robust systems to get tasks done so that responsibility for Trust activities can be shared as widely and in as an enjoyable way as possible.

The committee is aware that much of our labours have been invisible and probably much of it has seemed pointless to your use of the hall, but sadly it did all need to be done in the aim of the local residents truly feeling comfortable in 'taking ownership' of their own community facilities!

So we get to the present day and how we continue to keep the hall busy and well used. All of you who attended the Burns Supper or the Youth Club Beach Party will have seen how great the hall can look when it is decorated for a function – we do have a terrific building and must learn to make the most of what we have and to that end we are now looking into the various jobs around the hall that need to be done, that we can do quickly or with only a small amount of effort and also the jobs where we need to do some specific fund raising to target specific jobs. We haven't forgotten the plans that exist, but in the short term have accepted that we can make small changes that hopefully will have a big impact on the users of the hall.

And ... we'd like you to get involved on whatever level you feel able to. Whether it's buying a raffle ticket, coming along to events at the hall, initiating new uses of the hall for community benefit, or perhaps when we advertise a 'painting party' to decorate areas of the hall you might be able to lend a hand or some equipment or just pop up and make coffee and tea! There is no limit to what you can do – particularly if you have a 'special talent' that you'd like to share!



The Wells of Poldhu Restoration Project

A Community Occasion – Grand Opening of the Wells, Saturday 13th June, 11am

Did you know that in the Woods of Blelack, the Wells of Poldhu attracted the attention of Archaeology Scotland? With their guidance, a project to restore the Wells is nearing completion and you are invited to see the outcome at a Grand Opening on Saturday 13th June at 11am. Come to the Wells for the 'Opening' followed by barbeque and refreshments on the cabin-decking of Gordon Drummond who will kindly host the celebrations.

What exactly has been done? A jungle of rhododendron which had hidden the wells for many years, has been removed, the site dried out, a rubble drain installed, the pathway resurfaced, stone culverts repaired and the granite surrounds of the wells re-aligned and re-sealed. The original footbridge has also been replaced, waymarker posts erected and landscape and public access are being carefully managed. These were the ambitions of the project which began in May 2006.

The waters contain various levels of iron, manganese, magnesium, sodium and potassium; properties not unlike our better known Deeside neighbour at Pannanich. However there is little prospect of the waters of Poldhu being commercialised and bottled. If that happens, we could be drinking mineral water called 'Coldstone Sober'!

Thanks are due to Craigmyle Estates for permission and encouragement to proceed with the restoration and to Helen Bradley (Archaeology Scotland), Nigel Healey (Cromar History Group) and Irvine and Veronica Ross, all of whom put in a power of work. Jim Lovie, Colin Mitchell and Alistair Urquhart provided their skills in bridge construction, pathway and drain installation and granite-work repair. Correct archaeological procedures enabled funding to be obtained from The Cairngorms National Park Authority, 'Awards for All, Scotland' and Scotways. We are grateful for their essential support.

Article submitted by Fred Bull, Project Team Member



Morven Walk

Sunday May 31st

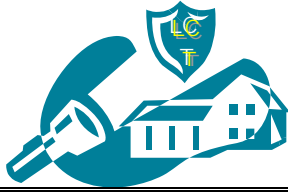
On the day walkers meet at the Hall at 10.30am where drivers who are not able to take part in the walk are happy to drive groups round to the start point. Sponsor forms are available from various locations around the village and a barbeque and bar will be provided at the Hall from 3.00pm.

INTO THE SUMMER AND AUTUMN :-

There are a variety of events being planned to take place in and around the hall through the summer and into the autumn so watch out for more information as dates and details get confirmed.

We have a date set for one new event – our first show in partnership with North East Arts Touring :-
The Sun, the Moon and a Boy called River, by Wee Stories Theatre Company – Wednesday 16th September 2009

Two babies born at exactly the same moment, under the exact same moon. One born a princess in a palace, the other the son of a poor woodcutter. A prophecy is cast which dictates they will marry, but the evil King will stop at nothing to prevent his daughter from marrying a commoner. A magical tale of good against evil and an unattainable quest with many surprises along the way!



LOGIE COLDSTONE TRUST

HALL NEWSLETTER

April '09

