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Issue 2

Summer 2009

Midsummer gathering

The air was filled with beautiful music and a delicious aroma at the Mid Summer Gathering, Pooltiel Pier, Glendale on Friday 19 June 2009. The Salt Shed was buzzing with activity and fun. The bonfire gave a glorious glow against the grey skies. Fortunately the rain stayed away.

At the event's peak anecdotal evidence claimed around eighty men women and children enjoyed the heat from the substantial bonfire designed by Stuart Edinburgh while tucking into burgers, veggie kebabs and sausages. The sound equipment inside the shed was set-up by Nick Carter and Mick Hope along with help from Judith Hope and Fiona Whitehill. Following a few libations to open his throat Nick opened with an excellent rendition of "Rain" ably accompanied by Mick, Judith and Fiona who filled the room with retro music at its best. Then two young people, new to the Glen, Elli and Craig played fiddle and guitar and sang for nearly an hour. The quality was exceptional. Finally Callum MacLeod a veteran of many a gathering at the pier gave us his unique and superb sound well into the night. An enjoyable evening was had by all.

The Glendale Trust would like to thank all who helped on the night and before. The consensus of opinion was to have another event around Hogmanay.

Ann Blackford

Meanish Pier Development

The Trust is currently in dialogue with the Glendale Moorings Association with regard to this proposed development. The Moorings Association had struck a 'submerged rock' in their negotiations with the Council in relation to



the Community take-over of the pier and surrounding land. The Trust have formed a Steering Committee in order to help them navigate the problem and, with the continued co-operation of all parties concerned the future looks to be clear sailing from now on. The success of this venture will ensure that the pier, slip and surrounds will provide a viable asset for the community and a vibrant facility for visiting yachts, facilities that are sadly lacking in the west Skye area. The proposal could include a regular outlet for local crafts and produce. Most importantly however, the success of this venture will provide a lasting legacy to the late Stan Farnaby who was instrumental in setting up the initial project and completed the hard work in trying to ensure that the area remained in Community ownership and control.

Brian Smith

Chair; Meanish Pier Development Steering Group

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Compost bins for only £8

If you are not already composting kitchen and garden waste this is a very good offer and they deliver free. I have bought two black bins and got lots of lovely compost this year, they work best placed in a sunny position. We can compost a surprising amount of our waste from toilet rolls inserts and cardboard to grass cuttings and eggshells. You could make your own compost heap, or make a composter out of old pallets, it is all useful.

Couldn't be easier, saves money, reduces waste and improves the garden, makes sense. Keep the energy saving tips on page 4 and we will reduce our waste, fuel bills and carbon footprint.

To get your **Compost Bins** go to:

www.wasteawarescotland.org.uk or call: 0845 076 022 quote ref: AD-NM-10

We have an excellent blue bin recycling facility now, collected monthly from the gate. This takes most plastic, tins, card, papers catalogue, pop bottles etc.

Collections; 13th Aug, 10th Sept, 8th Oct, 5th Nov, 3rd & 31st Dec.

Local Domestic Wind Turbines

We live in a windy place, as we all know and so it makes sense to harness the power of the wind. The success of the first year's production at the Ben Aketil wind farm is testament to this. We are also living in harsh economic times, which means that any return on our savings in the usual places, banks, building societies etc. are very small. **By investing in a small renewable energy scheme there is no reason to suppose that the return should not exceed the return from almost any savings schemes.**

I have been to see two small wind turbines on Skye. One in Kilmuir, (North end of Skye), and the other in Feorlig. Both of these are 6 kW Proven turbines and both are proving to be very productive. The one in Kilmuir is producing 15,000 kWh. per year, for which the owners are paid 15p. per unit regardless of whether they use the power or not. It is at present providing heating for three houses as well as a holiday 'wigwam' and showers for their outdoor activity business. This turbine has been running for 4 years and was erected at a cost of approx. £20,000. They are with **Good Energy** who I understand do charge an administration fee. The other one is in Feorlig and the cost of installation was similar to the other one. The output is actually a bit more – 16,500 kWh. annually. This turbine is at present providing the power needed for one house and anything produced over and above this feeds into the grid and the owner is paid approx. 15p. per unit for the excess. This is done through **Scottish Hydro Electric**.

There are smaller turbines, which would be a bit cheaper, and there are grants available. Different energy companies offer different deals for green energy. Planning permission has to be sought, although the Government is addressing the matter in order to make it simpler. However, in our windy part of the country it would appear that a small turbine is definitely a viable proposition.

Useful web sites:

www.segen.co.uk - A useful site, with lots of useful information on solar, wind and hydropower. www.provenenergy.co.uk - website of the two turbines I have looked at in Kilmuir and Feorlig. www.goodenergy.co.uk - see Kilmuir Turbine



Glendale Car Share

I sometimes need a lift to Glasgow, Inverness, Portree and Carbost, at times when there is no transport. Well there is never transport from here to Carbost.

Do you sometimes need to go somewhere and you don't have the car? Do you sometimes have trips with empty seats but would like to share fuel costs?

Would you like to take a step on the road to utilising your transport more efficiently, reduce costs and CO2? Would you like some company on long boring journeys?

Glendale Car Share will do all these. We are populating a list of drivers and passengers which will be posted in the Glendale Post Office and on the GT website which will be up and running soon.

Please offer lifts, ask for lifts, even if it is not on a regular basis it could be of great help. There is a simple form in the GT News for your transport needs and offers.

Ocean will keep these entries up to date.



Ocean 511351

Renewables Background Information – Part 1

Although a considerable amount of information to discuss renewable energy is available through the media and internet, there is a lot of confusion created by the authors of the related articles when they confuse the units of energy, power, work, etc. when discussing the plant equipment. Not only does this confuse the casual reader, but also makes the task of filtering vital information very difficult when comparing different types of renewable energy generating equipment. [Cont'd on page 5.](#)

Glendale Freecycle

One person's rubbish is another person's treasure. Do you have stuff cluttering up the place that never gets used and you don't want to throw away, yet is not worth selling? Freecycle can be an answer. It basically means giving things away to other people so they can avoid the expense of buying new, or a means to request items that are needed. Started on the internet, we're going to try and set up a Glendale based Freecycle network.

There are very few rules to the Freecycle process. You are expected to advertise something you wish to get rid of before you start taking things, and no animals should be advertised. The Glendale Freecycle will be free to users, who should be resident in the Glendale area (a web based Skye & Lochalsh area freecycle is available on the internet). Initially a paper system will be available through the post office & this will be extended to the Glendale Trust website in due course.

What next? If you want to take part, pick up a form from Glendale Post Office, fill it in and hand it back - simple as that. Goods on offer or needed will be available to view on a board in the back of the post office and soon on a website near you. Just let Nancy know when the items have gone to a good home so that they can be taken off the list.

Happy Freecycling!

Nancy Bell 511266

How to save energy, money and reduce carbon emissions?

Heating:

- Turn down the thermostat by 1°C save 10% on the bill and turn heat off in summer
- Set your water cylinder thermostat to 60°C/140°F
- Install thermostatic radiator valves, cut bill by 17%
- Electric Storage Heaters: Reduce Input Control in milder weather. Set the Boost Control to minimum and turn up if required later in the day

Lighting:

- Fit low energy light bulbs, they use much less energy and they last longer too
- Switch off lights when leaving the room and make the most of sunny windows

Kitchen:

- Wait to fill the dishwasher, washing machine or dryer and hang laundry outside in dry weather
- Wash clothes at 30° and save 1/3rd electricity
- Only boil as much water as is needed
- Use "A-rated" domestic appliances
- Choose the right size pan for the food and cover with a lid
- Close fridge and freezer doors quickly after use
- Defrost regularly to run appliances efficiently
- Don't place fridge/freezer beside cooker or boiler

Water:

- A quick shower uses 75% less power and water
- Fix dripping taps and leaky pipes
- Heat the water cylinder only when needed
- it is NOT cheaper to leave the immersion heater on all the time
- Use a plug in the basin or sink and do not let the hot water run away

General tips:

- Don't leave appliances on standby and turn off and unplug chargers when not in use
- Close curtains and blinds at dusk
- Draft proof windows and doors
- An 'Electricity Energy Monitor', which shows where in the house the energy is being used so we can manage our consumption. I just bought one on Ebay for £27 although you may be entitled to one from your electricity supplier free.

So we can be comfortable, cosy, environmentally considerate and quids in.

Glendale
Trust News



Website

www.glendaletrust.org

The purpose of the website is to share information about the projects being developed by the GT.

We are in the process of developing a website for the Trust and need information, information, information
* "the sponge" phase*

We need to gather examples of the trust's work, case studies, relevant websites, pictures past and present. Please forward them to
info@theglendaletrust.org.

email address will be live this week

Graham Davies

Glendale Trust Directors

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Brian Smith: Vice Chair
Ocean Graham: Secretary
Ann Blackford
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Jeni Neale
Dave Perry
Margaret MacPhee
Joy Talbot

Advisors:

Fay Thomson: Funding
Greg Lane: Moorings

Communications sub-group

As part of the Glendale Trust, a sub committee is looking at the medium to long-term internet needs of the local community, to see if any improvements are needed to our communications network beyond that planned by the local government, service providers, or development agencies.

It is hoped that any shortfall in planned service capacity can be lobbied against, and research made to seek development grants to offset the shortfall, where there is otherwise no commercial incentive for service providers to do so themselves. At present, the next major development point in the local infrastructure is due to commence in Qtr.1 2011, where the local exchange is to be "unbundled" by BT under its OpenReach project, so allowing other service providers to install their own hardware in the local exchange.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, part of the local survey form is devoted to researching the need for an active intervention by the Glendale Trust on behalf of the community (or conversely, to dispense with this activity if the community is happy with the current and future service provision/s). Part of this research is to encourage local participation in a national web-site devoted to rating the service of the Internet Service Providers (ISP's) in the UK. By using a common, and well recognised, ISP rating site, it is hoped to get a fair comparative picture of the speed of connections across Glendale. Although it is not necessary to fully sign-up as a member of this web-site (no fee is charged irrespective), there are advantages for each user by registering; speed information can be easily shared with other users, and the results stored and displayed as a chart for each user over a number of months.

The web-site is at; www.thinkbroadband.com and it costs nothing to register there. It is hoped that users across Glendale can post their speed test results to the Glendale Trust, so that a true picture of service speeds can be established in advance of any work by the sub-committee. In the short term, I am happy to collate the results if they are Email'd to my address at the bottom of this note (the ThinkBroadband web-site has an easy "send these results to a friend" box below the speed report that it returns during the test procedure). These results will be posted back via the GT website as a group average, as and when there are enough tests posted in to me. It is worth trying the test at different times during the day, as well as different days of the week, to get a true picture of upload/download speeds. To illustrate this point my own download speed varies between 1.5Mbit/s and 5.6Mbit/s, depending on test time/day.

Stuart Bell p6resthome@btinternet.com

[Continued. From page 3.](#)

The important distinction to make when discussing electrical plant, and the relative merits of one power plant over another, is that it is the energy that is produced over any fixed period of time that is the most critical in determining the financial payback on any equipment installed. The most commonly used unit for energy in generation terminology is the kilowatt_hour (kWh), which is also known as a "Unit" of electricity on most electricity company bills.

The power of a device is measured in watts (W) or kilowatts (kW) (1kW = 1000W), and this is the rate of energy flow into or out of a machine. If a wind turbine is charging into a mains electrical network or battery system at a consistent power for a given period of time, then it is possible to use the simple equation energy = power x time to work out how much energy has been produced by that turbine. For example, if a turbine was measured to be charging at a rate of 2kW, then over the period of 1day it could be assumed to have produced (2 x 24)kWh = 48kWh. In reality, most renewable energy plant will not be producing energy at a constant rate all of the time, and so the energy calculation has to be made more frequently, and the results added together. This is no different to the way that a domestic electrical consumer meter measures the energy consumed by a household over a quarter of a year.

A useful analogy to electrical energy and power is to think of a "bathtub" example. The bath is filled by a tap that has a flow of water (analogous to power in this example), so the greater the flow, the faster the bath fills. The volume of water in the bath is dependent of the length of time that the tap has been turned-on, and also flow rate out of the tap during that time (so the volume of water is analogous to energy in this example). If the water pressure drops whilst filling the bath, and the tap flow reduces, then it will take longer to fill the bath up to a level that is comfortable for the consumer, however it will still be possible to get the water up to that level in time. In this example, the total volume of the bath could be analogous to the electrical capacity of a battery system that is connected to an electrical generator. The reason that power on its own is not a useful indicator of renewable energy potential in an application (instead of considering energy), is that many forms of generator do not have a steady output. A wind turbine and electrical generator set might be capable of producing 10kW in a strong wind, but if it only produces 1kW in a gentle breeze, then its output does not appear so good. [Cont'd on page 6.](#)

The information board and map



The happy arrival



*And there we were,
a diggin' this hole,
diggin' it square
when it ought to be rectangular.*



And the earth moved



One two threeOw!!!

Well it has taken a while, but it is up. This, our first physical project and it seemed to be so simple at conception. The artwork and techy complications that followed were an education. You can see the map board with local walks on one side and a board with some history of people, place and nature on the other. These boards are at the Glendale Community Hall Car Park.

A leaflet of the many good walks around Glendale will be available from the shops in due course.

**The Glendale Trust will be hosting an
"Exhibition of Glendale Life"
at Borrodale School
from Monday 17th-Saturday 29th August 2009.**

The exhibition will showcase the rich history of Glendale and its people. Glendale had an important part to play in the struggle for crofting rights with the Glendale rising being a key event in the struggle by the Gaels for land reform. The exhibition will chart the activities of "The Martyr" in leading the inhabitants of Glendale to successfully lead the fight for reform.

We will also showcase the many men from Glendale who gave their lives in the First and Second World Wars.

The Glendale Trust would welcome the support of anyone who could lend material to the Trust that would add to the exhibition. Any materials, stories, photographs etc would be gladly received. We will have the opportunity to copy any original documents prior to the exhibition and return original artifacts to their owners.

As we will be opening the exhibition for two weeks we would also welcome any volunteers who would wish to help in both setting up and manning the exhibition. It is our intention to open the exhibition daily between 10 am - 4 pm

**Please contact Ian and Ann Blackford on 511218
or Maggie MacPhee on 511342 with offers of help or materials.**

Cont'd from page 5. However, if we assumed that it was coupled to a large electrical network (or a big battery), and the wind blew strongly for 1 hour in every 24hours, then the average energy production would be (10 x 1)kWh + (1 x 23)kWh in each day, which is 33kWh in one day, enough to supply over 5 average households when electrical storage is used to smooth out the supply and demands.

Stuart Bell

So many thanks to so many people. For the text, Kathleen Lindsley and Chris Mitchell, For the structure and line drawings Dave Perry. For the walks and techy skills Andy Stables. Stuart Bell for the heavy machinery. Graham Davies for the truck, The co-op community fund. Brian Smith for the pictures. Clare Gray for the advertising. Neil Paterson for the roof. Ocean Graham for artwork and compiling and all who helped put it up on the day.

Finally thank you to the local businesses who advertise your contribution is valuable.

The adverts are offered at a very reasonable £20 for 10 cm sq. ad for 2009/10 and you can book yours with

Ocean 511351

Please sign up

Free Cycle, Car Share, Broadband speed survey

Glendale Free Cycle Directory.

The List will be posted in the Glendale Post Office and the GT website (once it is up). You can add more items on the back of this sheet, to add or remove items from the list later contact Nancy Bell at the Glendale shop and Post Office 511266.

1. **Description of Item given/wanted:** (delete one)

.....
.....

2. **Description of Item given/wanted:** (delete one)

.....
.....

Contact name.....Contact number.....

Glendale Car Share

This is intended for those who don't have transport and for those that have a vehicle and wish to share petrol costs and reduce carbon emissions. If you are able to give someone a lift even if your trips aren't regular, please sign up. If you need a lift sometimes please sign up. To add or remove an insert from the list later contact Ocean 511351

I want/can give a lift (delete one)

To.....On.....

Pick up from.....At.....

Example:

'I want a lift to Portree on Mondays from Lephin Bus stop at 10 am'

Contact name..... Contact number.....

Survey of broadband connection speeds in Glendale

This information is for a survey on internet speed in the Glendale area. You can get your internet speed from www.thinkbroadband.com

1. Do you currently have broadband internet access into your household?.....
2. If so, who is your service provider (ISP), for example "BT" , "AOL", etc.?.....
3. Are you happy with the reliability of connection for the usage that you require of the internet?.....
4. Given your current usage of the internet, would you rank your current access speed as being "slow", "adequate", or "more than adequate"?.....
5. How do you see your usage of the internet changing in the next 3 years, "less", "same", "more"?.....

Contact name..... Contact number.....

Please hand this form in to Glendale Post Office