

# Penninghame POST

Issue No. 1 15th November 1994

Welcome to the new Weekly News, and Views Centred on the Penninghame Community. Our aim is to keep you informed of all that is happening in Penninghame, by publishing a weekly diary of events and by keeping everyone in touch with the work of the various committees and the council. We hope that we will have the support of everyone at Penninghame in producing this newsletter, as it will eliminate many of the difficulties of communication which has been a failing in the past. This newsletter is about what happens in Penninghame so please help us to keep people informed.

The first order of Business is to find a suitable name for this Newsletter, perhaps titles would range like;

*Penninghame Community Times,*

*Penninghame Weekly News,*

or some other appropriate title. Please forward any suggestions to the Education Unit. Unfortunately we cannot give any Prizes for the most imaginative suggestion but please do not let that stop you from sending one in.

**Health and Hygiene Warning:** For those who intend to use this newsletter for an other purpose rather than read it!! The ink on this publication will stain when it comes into contact with wet surfaces so please avoid contact with sensitive areas!!

**Diary for week beginning Monday 14th November 1994**

**Monday 14th November 1994 Launch of weekly Newsletter ( Provisionally called the Penninghame Post ) as stated overleaf suggestions for an alternative title are welcome.**



**Christmas Leave  
Will be**



**from 23/12 till 29/12 1994.**

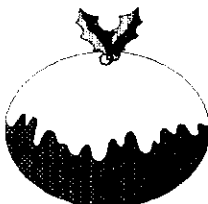
**Not quite for this week! P.O. Pete Williams is looking for volunteers to help organise an open day at Penninghame for next Summer. Ideas and suggestions for fundraising activities, as well as your views on what would make the day a success are sought. Could all who are interested give their names to the General Office as soon as possible to enable planning to get underway.**

**Please read the back page if you are interested in doing a business study type course , now, or in the near future.**



**Chicken will now be served on a weekend when there is no home leave to ensure everyone receives their portion, and not just one group as has happened in the past.**

**Tuesday night six-a-side football**



**Could someone please organise the Christmas Competitions ? If interested see Officer Chic McDowall for details.**

# Community Council Information

## Penninghame Sub-committees Remit

All complaints should first be pursued through the normal channels or grievance procedure. However ideas for improvements or changes to the present system should be given to the appropriate Sub-committee which covers the area of the suggestions. There are a number of ways for ideas to be put to the appropriate Sub-committee: the normal procedure would be to put your idea in writing and deposit it in the suggestion box, another way would be to approach a member of the Sub-committee and give him/her your proposal or alternatively ask the co-ordinator to put your proposal in writing and forward it to the appropriate committee meeting.

### To All Concerned

- 1) All complaints/requests that require to go through the G.P. procedures cannot be dealt with by a sub-committee or the council.
- 2) Any complaint/request of a less serious nature should be dealt with through normal channels (gate/personal officer) before consideration by a sub-committee or the council.
- 3) All complaints/suggestions **must** first have been considered by a sub-committee and then submitted **in writing** with relevant comments/considerations. Written complaints/suggestions by individuals on their own **cannot** be considered by the council.

## **Visits and Welfare Committee**

**Visits**

**Welfare Awareness**

**Local Leave**

**Home Leave**

**Catering on Visits**

**Creche**

**Play Area/Aviary**

## **Public Relations Committee**

**Community Link**

**Placements**

**Voluntary Work**

**Hope**

**Koestler Awards**

**Visitations/Guest Speaker**

**Open Day**

**Chaplaincy**

**Prison Fellowship**

## **Sports & Recreation Committee**

**Budget Awareness**  
**Equipment**  
**Trips**  
**Education**  
**Hobbies**  
**Entertainment**  
**Gymnasium Management**  
**Sporting Areas**

## **House Committee**

**House Cleanliness**  
**Vicinity Around the House**  
**Mail & Papers**  
**Catering**  
**Canteen**  
**Laundry**  
**Medical Matters**  
**General House Concerns**

**Council Members**

**F. Reilley, P. McNair, K. Boyle and J. Kelly. Plus duty S.O. and  
M. McKie. (sub C. McDowall)**

**Visit Sub-Committee**

**A. McKenna, T. McGinnis and R. Rodgers. (sub M. Stapelton)**

**House Sub-Committee**

**P. Hogg, J. McArthur and K. Lumb. (sub S.W.O. Cassidy)**

**Sports and Recreation Sub-Committee**

**D. McEwan, P. Mackin and C. McDowall. (sub W. Stewart )**

**Public Relations Sub-Committee**

**C. McIntosh, S. Garty and P. Williams (sub W. Stewart )**

**Coordinator**

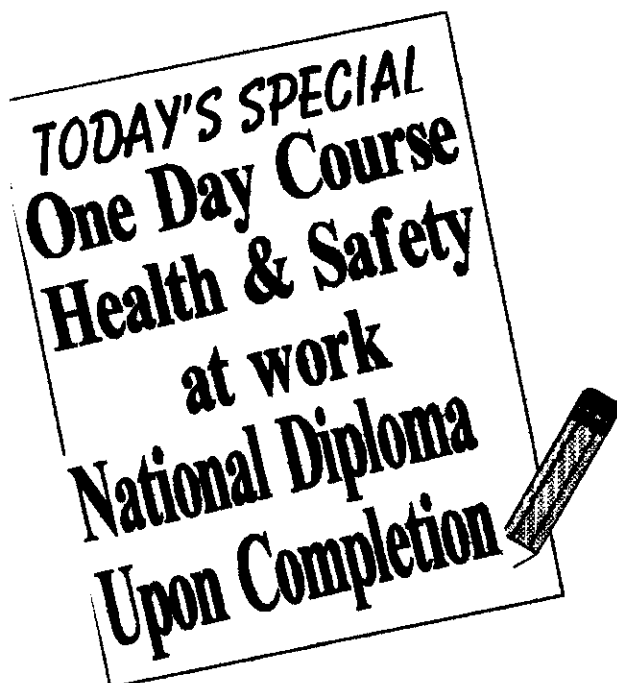
**C. Smith.**

## **Council business**

The Community Council held their first meeting last week. The business conducted was, primarily, to agree the areas of responsibility for each Sub-Committee and publish a "remit" with this information as well as listing the members of each Committee and the Council). The Sub-Committees meet every week and they report to the Council who assemble on a fortnightly basis; the meetings are held in the quiet room. Minutes of each meeting are taken, then submitted to the co-ordinator who will keep a record of them.

Although there have been no actual issues addressed yet (as the system is still defining a working method), it is envisaged that suggestions and complaints will be quickly brought to the attention of the authority. This will resolve personal problems for the individual and initiate changes for the benefit of the whole community.

Some "teething troubles" may occur at first, try to be patient.



**TODAY'S SPECIAL  
One Day Course  
Health & Safety  
at work  
National Diploma  
Upon Completion**

**Starting Date  
28/11/94.**

**See Educ.  
Notice Board  
for further  
Details**

# *What next?*

What do you intend to do after Penninghame?

**A Business Course with a difference!**

**Skills Needed ?**  
**Exploring Business Ideas**

**Opportunities and Challenge**  
**(for you and your Family)**

**Business Plan**

**Finance,  
Info. and Help with  
Loans and Grants etc.**

**If you have not already signed up please put your name on the poster on the Education Notice Board. Further information from Education Dept.**

**Starting Date Mon. 5th Dec.1994**



# Penninghame POST

Issue No. 2. 21st November 1994

## MUSEUM TRIP

Mr Stewart took a party to the Transport Museum on Friday of last week. We have been asked to say, this excursion, and others of a similar nature, will in future, be done on a rota basis to afford the opportunity to both groups, and thus eliminate any possible bias to any group or individual.

## GLASGOW TRIP ?

At the meeting of the Visits and Welfare Committee on Wed 16th Mr. Rodgers explained the remit of the Families Contact Development Committee and how it differed from the V & W Committee (The F.C.D Committee meets every 3 months and the V & W every week although they have the same agenda and concerns).

Other business included a request for residents to be able to travel up to Glasgow on the "home leave " bus and take the opportunity for a one hour visit while the driver has his rest period. This could happen on the Friday and the Sunday as well. No expense would be incurred as the bus is going anyway.

This suggestion is pending a decision at a higher level.

There was also a question about the difference in time between a "lifer" and a "sentenced man" has to wait before being eligible for a day out at Ayr.

Again, this question will be given consideration at a higher level.

Would all who are interested in taking part in Christmas competitions please put their name down on the posters in the snooker room. A.S.A.P.

## **Diary**

**Monday 21st November 1994**

**1)The next meeting of the Council will be Weds. 23rd Nov at 7.00pm at a venue to be announced.**

**2)The next meeting of the House Committee will be on the 25th Nov. 1994.**

**3)East Lodge will be opening on the 2nd of January 1995, it will have 4 spaces for independant living.**

**4)Would anyone interested in playing Chess please give their name to the Sports and Recreation Sub-Committee members as it is intended to start a Chess club for to play against the local club in Newton Stewart.**

**5) Canteen will be closed on Wednesday this week.**

**6)New face in the general office this week will be the new Admin. assistant Fiona.**

**7) Would anyone who has special travel arrangements for the Christmas leave please see Pete Williams as soon as possible, and could everyone who wants to take P.P.C. with them on this leave give details also to alleviate a last minute rush, thank you.**

**8) Anyone still in doubt as how to claim for benefit on home leave please see the Social Work Unit this week to claim for the Christmas leave and other leaves unclaimed for.**

**9) A meeting of the sport and Rec. Comm. took place last Weds. Some good ideas were put forward and are being looked into for consideration for the Council. Please keep the ideas flowing to the Sub-committee, thank you.**

## **Council business**

The Visit and Welfare Committee have nominated A. McKenna to be the "link man" for informing this organ on his Committees' activities. This is an invaluable help to us; I would like to thank him for this initiative and suggest that other Committees follow suit.

On the P.R. front, several suggestions were forwarded to the Governor for his consideration during the week. Among them the proposal that private cars be made available to the residents (old second-hand ones) so that they can gain experience in maintenance and basic driving skills: Mr. Ross agreed to get the cars but disallowed any driving in the grounds on "health and safety" reasons. He also agreed to make lunch boxes for work placement parties more appealing as requested. The suggestion of taking residents out for attendance at day-release classes in Stranraer College is pending the consideration of the head of education at Penninghame. Ideas for guest speakers and entertainment acts at the O.A.P.s Christmas party are sought by Messrs Garty and McIntosh.

The house Committee met with Mr. Rodgers to debate cooked breakfasts when it was explained that to provide this would "eat into" the budget for the other meals and affect the quality/quantity of lunch and dinner, as it was a minority who requested the cooked breakfast the decision to the council was to leave things as they stand. The T.V. reception in the West Lodge was not noticeably improved by the fitting of a "booster" to the antenna: residents of the lodge will require to stay in the main building during repairs to the heating system, arrangements have to be finalised.

The visit committee are happy to report that St Vincent De Paul have donated a large quantity of toys and computer games to the creche, they will be installed when a secure cupboard has been fitted to keep them in at the clubhouse. This should keep children of all ages out of mummys' hair and happily amused during weekend visits.



# VT CATERING

*Curry Fever !*

*In, the Stew ?*

## Learn to Cook

**SCOTVEC MODULES :-** There are recurring vacancies in the kitchen with the opportunity to learn catering and do the appropriate **MODULES**. If you are interested in learning then see the cook and he will put your name on a list and you will be employed in the kitchen whilst you learn when vacancies occur.

There will be a whist - drive here at Penninghame on Monday the 28th of November 1994 in the Social Club at 7.00pm prompt, all are welcome to attend. All proceeds from the night will go to the local H.O.P.E. group to enable them to pick residents visitors up from Barrhill Train Station and return them after the visit. If you can play Triumphs then you can play Whist, come on lads show the Card Sharks from Newton Stewart and Wigtown that they have some opposition! Tea or coffee with sandwiches and biscuits will be served during the interval, and you could win a Prize. Please Help H.O.P.E. to help You.

# Penninghame POST

Issue No.3. 28th November 1994



**Pensioners' night-in !**



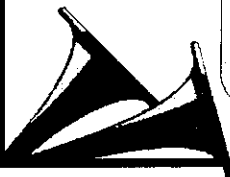
**Wednesday 7th December 1994**

Volunteers are required to help with this evening-in for a group of local pensioners. The evening will be a series of games (dominoes, cards etc.). Your help is needed to make the night a success, as some of the O.A.P.s may need assistance to fully participate in these events.



**Names to Pete Williams  
(general office)**





**All Competitions  
To Be Finished  
Before Xmas Leave.**

**Good  
Luck**

**Please Remember that There Is A Whist - Drive Tonight in The Social Club. Which Starts at 7pm Prompt. So please be AT LEAST 5 MINUTES EARLY. Hope to see you there.**

## **Diary**

**Monday:- Health & Safety Course in Club.**

**Tuesday :- Scottish Skills Testing Group To Gardens.**

**Wednesday :- Sentence Planning Board 10.30am**

**Friday :- Visiting Committee meeting in Club 10.30am**

**1) Tuesday the 6th December 1994, this will be the start of a Fly tying class held in the High School in Newton Stewart, if you are interested please see Mr W. Stewart for Details on the duration of the class etc.**

**2) The canteen will be closed on Friday this week, as the canteen officer is on early shift on Sunday there will be no canteen on Sunday evening for those returning from Home Leave.**

**3) Penninghame six-a-side team will play Kings' Coaches on Tuesday at 6 pm. Penninghame are second in the league with 20 points from 12 games behind Central bar who have 23 points from the same number of games.**

**4)Olaf Richardson the Social Worker will not be in the Prison on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week.**

**5) Please note that meal times are as follows Mon - Fri. inclusive 12 noon and 5pm Sat. & Sun. 11.30am & 4.30pm,**

## **Committee business**

Mr. J. Kelly would like to remind Committee members that suggestions/complaints to the Council should be submitted in writing for their consideration.

The next Council meeting will be on 7th December at 7pm. (the venue is yet to be decided upon)

**News and adverts  
are welcome in  
this space !**

## **Lodging Allowance**

For claiming lodging allowance for your family over the christmas holiday (and other weekends) obtain a form "SF300" from the front desk and also the SPS form for "the social fund officer" then see the social worker who will advise you on how to fill these out (SPS form also requires an S.O.s' signature). You can claim money for yourself in addition to this and that means getting a "B1" form as soon as you arrive at home on the friday, then waiting a month for the Girocheque. It sounds a bit complex but you are entitled to this money, so don't be put off by paperwork.



# Well Man Clinic

For every man of 30 years of age and over

A confidential Service for the residents of Penninghame, carried out on a Thursday afternoon by N.O. Brian Mars in the surgery.

Here are some questions and answers which, hopefully, will explain any queries you may have.

**Q.** What is a well man clinic?

**A.** It is a medical examination with the aim of early detection and, hopefully, prevention of both minor and major illnesses. It also allows discussion of various risk factors.

**Q.** What happens if any of my examination results are abnormal?

**A.** If this happens it may be necessary to carry out further tests to determine the cause.

**Q.** What will I gain from the Well Man Clinic?

**A.** If your examination is normal you will have peace of mind, if not; the full backing of the S.P.S. and the N.H.S. to rectify any problem.

**Q.** How quickly will I be given my results?

**A.** Immediately.



**Q.** Who will know the outcome of my examination?

**A.** Only yourself, the Nurse Officer and the Prison Doctor

If you Want an appointment

Then see the Nurse Officer.





# Penninghame POST

Issue No.4. 5th December 1994

The residents band will be playing their debut gig on Wednesday night in the Diningroom to an audience of pensioners so the repertoire will consist of rock standards of the 50s and 60s. The set is to be four guitars with:- F. McKinley (lead): K. Allen (rhythm): P. Hogg (bass and vocals) and A. Jordan (rhythm and harmonies). The band have been inspired to call themselves "The Innocents". A concert for the residents is planned to be staged between now and Christmas. Don't miss it!



## THE INNOCENTS

# WANT TO LEARN FIRST AID ?

See Mr. Mars about doing this four-hour course in life saving and first aid and gain a certifi-

cate from the red cross which is valid for three years. He requires ten or a dozen people to make it workable so get into it (the life you save might be your own).

## **Diary**

**Monday:-** A new girl starts in the General Office today, her name is Kirsty Lees.

**Tuesday :-** Olaf the social worker is not in all day today.

**Wednesday :-** An evening of music and entertainment for O.A.Ps is planned for 7pm. in the clubhouse.

The L.R.C. meet today at 10am to consider candidates for parole next summer.

**Thursday:-** Governor Ross and the N.O. will be away at the Park Hotel at a conference for much of the day.

**Friday :-** An inspector calls today, Mr. Fairweather (Inspector of Prisons) is paying a visit . Best behaviour please!

The "Fly tying" classes advertised last week have had to be postponed due to unexpected ill health on the part of the instructor. We wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to a resumption of the course in the near future.



## **JOB PROSPECTS ON RELEASE ?**

Why not see Mr. Sam Dow of APEX who can help to collate and have printed a C.V. for you as well as giving invaluable advice on future career moves. After all, we have been in full employment (and gaining good, current work experience) for some time now and our timekeeping records are impeccable. See the social worker for more details. Advice on rehabilitation and welfare rights can be gained here as well.

## **Committee business**

There have been no Committee meetings this week (as far as I know) and there has been no feedback from the membership.

It should be pointed out that these committees were set-up to bring about changes for the betterment of conditions for the whole community. Any suggestions should be given to the relevant members; if you don't use it, you may lose it. These committees only meet when there is a topic to debate.

Your Committee members are :-

<b>VISITS</b>	<b>HOUSE</b>	<b>SPORTS</b>	<b>P. R.</b>
<b>A. McKenna</b>	<b>P. Hogg</b>	<b>D. McEwan</b>	<b>C. McIntosh</b>
<b>T. McGinnis</b>	<b>J. McArthur</b>	<b>P. Mackin</b>	<b>S. Garty</b>
<b>R. Rodgers</b>	<b>K. Lumb</b>	<b>C. McDowall</b>	<b>P. Williams</b>
<u><b>Substitute</b></u>	<u><b>Substitute</b></u>	<u><b>Substitute</b></u>	<u><b>Substitute</b></u>
<b>M. Stapelton</b>	<b>O. Cassidy</b>	<b>W. Stewart</b>	<b>W. Stewart</b>

During your' six-hour visits you may want to go to:

**Glenluce Motor Museum, Glenluce, Wigtonshire. (closed Monday and Tuesday).**

There are a great many other places of interest in the area but unfortunately most of them only open for the summer season (April to October). Others don't open on Saturday and Sunday and some have heavy admission charges.

The Penninghame football team were playing distinctly "off form" last week when they allowed themselves to be beaten by five goals to two in a match with Kings Coaches. Better luck next time. Dropped to 3rd in the league.



XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**A VACANCY HAS ARISEN FOR A COOK**, the hours are flexible and the wage is £9 per week (6 days). See your personal officer and obtain an application form. The position needs filling now. It is a nice, warm job for the winter months.

Volunteers and helpers are still required for Wednesdays' O.A.P.s night. They will only need to play a few games of dominoes and serve tea and biscuits. There are cash prizes for the dominoes and they will see and hear the *fab four* (The INNOCENTS) so give your name to PETE WILLIAMS

### **The CRETIN FACTOR**

Disturbing reports are coming in to the effect that there has been some damage caused by vandalism on the "happy bus" last Friday during the trip to Glasgow. The toilet was broken, blocked up and the ashtrays emptied over the floor. This

*Inside next weeks' post there will be a separate sheet, compiled by the social worker, detailing the procedure for making your' claim for living allowance from the D.S.S. Take it with you for reference when you go out and that should eliminate mistakes and possible delays.*

# Penninghame POST

Issue No.5. 12th December 1994 .

## NEWSLETTER POLICY .

The following policy was agreed at a meeting between representatives of Penninghame Council, P. R. Sub-Committee, Education Unit, Tony Connor and Chic Smith. This will be reviewed after three months.

- The Newsletter will be produced and circulated, weekly on Fridays whenever possible.

- Diary - The S.O. on duty on Thursday backshift will be responsible for giving relevant items from the Staff Bulletin to whoever is producing the newsletter.

- Community Structure - The newsletter will mainly report decisions made at the different Sub-Committees and Council. When something is being referred on, or looked into further, it can be included, as long as the situation is made clear, to enable everyone to see how it is progressing through the system.

- Responsibility for supplying information to be included in the newsletter, rests with a link person from each Sub-Committee and the Council.

- Anyone else wishing to put information etc. , should hand it in to the Education Unit, **IN WRITING**, by Thursday noon.

- Editorial Responsibility will be shared by:-

**P. Williams OR W. Stewart (P.R. Sub-Committee)**

**M. Hopkins (Education)**

**C. Smith OR Education Passman (Producer)**

**PLEASE NOTE:-** The small business course this Monday will be held at the education department in the main house and not the Clubhouse as last week. The reason is that a Christmas party for O.A.P.s is being held in the club on that day.

## Diary

**MONDAY:-** Xmas party for O.A.P.s at the club this afternoon.

**TUESDAY:-** Six-a-side football tonight.

**WEDNESDAY:-** Mr. Pearce, the area Divisional Officer is visiting.

**THURSDAY:-**

**FRIDAY:-**

The bad news this week begins with the shock revelation that the INNOCENTS have decided to "disband"! This disappointing blow comes ahead of their inaugural concert scheduled for 7th



December (last week). A spokesman for the group told the "Post" that the root cause for the move stems from the "intransigence of some staff members". Not allowing time off work for rehearsals was cited as one of the prime reasons. It was felt that two days full-time practice was the absolute minimum time required for any kind of production and when the guys were prepared to allocate their own free time to do this, then the authority could reciprocate by allowing a couple of days off from the gardens etc.

### VACANCY FOR EDUCATION PASSMAN

The duties include:- Cleaning the unit, producing and distributing the timetable, helping with the newsletter production and assisting the education staff in a variety of ways.

It is a part-time job and the successful candidate will be expected to follow a programme of study for the remainder of the working week.

For more details see notice board. Anyone interested should contact Meg Hopkins in the education department by Wednesday 14th December.

## WELFARE RIGHTS

Procedures for prisoners wishing to claim:-

- 1 If you have a partner - common-law-wife/wife, etc. - they can claim "change of circumstances", i.e. single to couple allowance.
  - 2 If you are unfit for work you can claim income support by sending in an A1 form to your DSS office - forms and letter which is to be attached will be available from the gate officer.
  - 3 If you are single and not unfit:-
    - a) Contact your local job centre on 20.12.94 and find out if the office is open on 23.12.94. If **not**, send in an A1 form as at 2 above. If **yes** - contact the office and ask for an appointment timed for your arrival on 23.12.94.
    - b) At the office on 23.12.94. register for employment and as being available for work.
    - c) Complete a B1 form and pass it on to the DSS (income support section).
- N.B. Your licence from prison does not disentitle you from working when on home leave. Also, being a prisoner does not disentitle you from claiming income support. **NO FALSE CLAIMS PLEASE !**

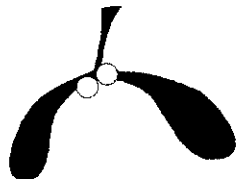
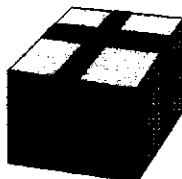
Numbers 1, 2 and 3 above do not affect your relative/friend claiming a Community Care Grant on form SF300 (93).

Further copies of these details are available at the gate and the social work unit.

**GOOD LUCK AND A MERRY CHRISTMAS.**

Additional info - If you have been contacted by the Child Support Agency and you accept that the child(ren) are yours, you are exempt as a serving prisoner - unless you are rich and wealthy with a traceable private income !!!? You can contact the social work unit for advice if you wish.

Don't forget 'SAFE SEX' - be responsible for your body !!



## Committee business

We have been asked to state that:- Mr. S. Garty and Mr. C. McIntosh have resigned from the P. R. Committee in exasperation at "non co-operation from the staff" (quote). We don't yet know if this spells the end of the Committee as such, or whether someone else will take these positions over.



To the House Committee,

There appears to be some confusion as to the opening times of the canteen.

At present it should be 5pm. - 6pm. opening earlier on Thursday from 4 - 4.45, as well as above times.

Due to meal times being changed, and also staff meal times, these times need to be revised, then a notice displaying opening times clearly, would be put on the canteen door.

My suggestion for opening times would be as follows:-

Mon. Tues. Wed. and Fri. 5.15 - 5.30, (allowing phone cards to be bought for using at 6pm.).  
7.00 - 7.30

Thursday - 4pm. - 4.45;  
followed by above times.

Saturday & Sunday 1.15 - 2.15.

It will be closed one day as at present, which will be displayed and changed weekly.

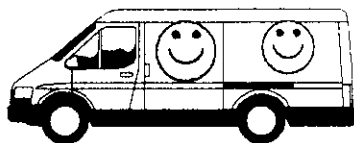
Comments and suggestions please.

[To the House Committee members.]

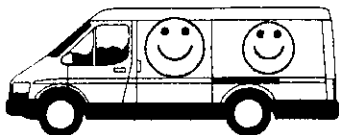
STAY WARM THIS WINTER. GET TORE-IN TO SOME HARD GRAFT IN THE GARDEN.



Last weeks' report on damage to the Glasgow bus has been refuted by some of the passengers on that trip. They state that the seat of the toilet was already broken and the toilet became blocked-up during the journey as a result of normal usage. Also the ashtrays were already half-full at the start of the journey, so after three hours, were overflowing. It has been suggested that the company made the



complaint in order to get the prison to pay for "routine maintenance" by making scapegoats of the passengers.



### VACANCY IN THE LAUNDRY

The position of Laundry Passman will become available in the near future. Applications (through your personal Officer) should be submitted before 7th. Jan. 1995, the wage is £9.32/week.

### STORES

There is also a vacancy for a Stores Passman in the works department, forms for this post should be in for 15th Dec 1994.

### KITCHEN

The vacancy for a cook, advertised last week, still has not been filled. The rate is £9/week and the hours are flexible (6 day week). All the usual perks should make this a desirable post.

Pete Williams would like to thank all those who participated in last wednesdays hospitality night for the pensioners and handicapped organised by the C-LINK group...

All concerned had a good night of singing and dominoes, particularly Gracie who won the £5 first prize, and everyone took home one of Penninghames' plants kindly donated by the garden party.

*Mr. Williams would like to remind anyone taking money (from PPC) or property home this Christmas to contact him at the General Office during the course of next week to arrange the necessary paperwork in good time.*

# Penninghame POST

Issue No.6. 19th December 1994 .



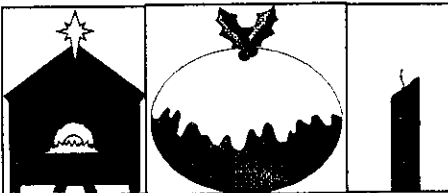
If anyone wishes to participate in the scheme where their visitors have to be picked up at Barrhill train station, they should take note that as from January 95 there will be a book kept behind the front desk where they will have to book-in the day, date and time of the visit. This is because the people who **volunteer** to do the driving have to be notified in plenty of time since they have things to do themselves, so we will have to *come and go* with them in this respect.

Contact Paddy or Teddy to get it organised; Thank you.

P. Boyle. *Merry Xmas.*

## HOPE LINE PERSON?

HOPE are looking for someone who will take on the responsibility for liaison between them and the residents (and families too, of course), this post was formerly a task for Tony Connor who left us at short notice recently. If interested contact the General Office for further details.



## **XMAS CARDS**

*If you have to go into town to get Christmas cards You will have noticed that there seems to be no inexpensive ones available. Wouldn't it be good if you could buy a packet of cards at the canteen? or individual ones at 50p or thereabouts?*


## Diary

**MONDAY:-** *Mr. B. Farley is teaching the Small Business Course this morning at the Clubhouse.*

**TUESDAY:-** *The Social worker is not in at all today.*

**WEDNESDAY:-** *A meeting of the Sentence Planning Board to be held at 10am. today.*

**THURSDAY:-** *No Social Worker this afternoon.*

**FRIDAY:-** 

Letter to the Editor

With reference to your Issue No 5 dated 12, 12, 94 where, there were 2 references to intransigence/non co-operation of staff, in the spirit of equal opportunities another voice should be heard. The issue in question, Time off Work for the Innocents to practice, raises a number of interesting points.

1. If the current attempts to make life on the inside as near as possible to life on the outside ie phones; longer/better visiting conditions; home leaves etc then surely members of a band practice in their own time. Any employer faced with this request would only agree to it along with an issue of a P45!

2. The many people (inside and out) who are involved in "good deeds" generally have 2 things in common a) they tend to do things quietly b) they tend to sacrifice some of their own time.

3. Everyone is disappointed that the Innocents felt it necessary to disband prior to the Old Age Pensioners night. However, there were many practice hours available before their promised concert for residents. (Post Issue No 4).

4. During talks between groups for any deals/changes/improvements the business of the day can usually be summarised by 4 answers.

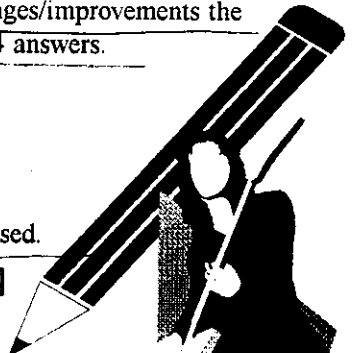
1. Yes

2. No

3. Wait

4. Yes but not in the way or time first proposed.

[ Hamish Ross Governor. ]



## Committee business

"Glasgow Bus" update:- Following on our story last week about the complaint of damage to the facilities on the coach; it has been decided that a member of staff will inspect the vehicle interior, both, prior to and after each journey. It has been suggested that a member of either the House or Visiting Committee should accompany this officer in order to witness the condition of the bus and note any faults, thereby ensuring fairness in the assessment. This member need not be a passenger on that trip or the same man every time. Anyone interested should contact the Committee or Pete Williams.

### NOTE

*The Governors of the Open Prisons met last Wednesday [9th] to discuss conditions and opportunities within their establishments. This was the first of regular meetings with the aim of making sure that there is parity throughout the system.*

### EDUCATION UNIT

CLOSES 19th DECEMBER  
OPENS 9TH JANUARY

**THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING IS ON 21st DECEMBER 94. THE VENUE IS YET TO BE DECIDED UPON.**

### A MESSAGE FROM MR. MARS

*If you see any empty medicine bottles knocking around the dormitory please return them to the surgery. In future don't break or dispose of these little items, they can be re-cycled. Thank you.*





### CAROL SERVICE

*There will be a Carol Service today (19th) in the Clubhouse at 7.00pm. Residents are welcome to attend, there is a buffet and local people are expected.*



The Post, and the Organisers, would like to extend their thanks to all those who assisted at last mondays Christmas Dinner for the Old Age Pensioners held in the Clubhouse. There were well over a hundred guests and everyone had a good time. The guys did well in setting-out and clearing up afterwards.

## New Years Day Menu for Residents

### MAIN COURSE

Fruit Juice, Tomato Soup  
Roast Turkey Breast  
Roast potatoes, Creamed potatoes  
Brussels Sprouts, Gravy, Carrots

### SWEET

Christmas Pudding, Brandy Sauce

### BREAKFAST

Bacon, Sausage, Egg, Tomato, Potato scone; Cereal and Milk.

### TEA MEAL

Individual Steak pie, Chipped potatoes, Sweetcorn, Peas; Choc Ice.

### SUPPER

Shortbread, Mince pie, Fruit, Biscuit.

It was suggested to us that Penninghame should be delivering firewood to the local pensioners all year round, charging a minimum fee (50p/£1 per bag) and not only at Xmas time. This would help to offset the ever increasing cost of coal. The lads would be happy to do it.

**Keep the stamps off your Xmas post to help train Guide Dogs for the blind**

THESE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MORAG McILWRAITH OR HANDED-IN TO THE FRONT DESK.

*PenninsShame*  
**POST**

Issue No.7. 16th January 1995 .

Wishing all our readers  
a Happy  
and very prosperous

**NEW YEAR!**



From the Editor  
and staff of the  
education depart-  
ment. let's hope  
95 is a better vin-  
tage year.....

## Diary

**MONDAY:-**

**TUESDAY:-**

**WEDNESDAY:-**

**THURSDAY:-** *The Governor is attending I.C. meeting at Greenock*

**FRIDAY:-**

Pauline, in the General office, is leaving us to take up a post at Longriggend on Thursday this week. We wish her well and good luck in her future career.

### HOPE POSITION.

The liaison job advertised in last issue has been filled by Mr. Kenneth Allen. To remind you; when you see a car in the car park (one week ahead of time usually) and he will arrange for your visitor to be uplifted from the station at Barrhill.

### EAST LODGE.

Work is in progress at the building to repair the plumbing. The most dangerous work to be done in the building is expected in a few days.



A number of complaints were filed during the weekend regarding the lack of heating in the clubhouse during visiting times. The explanation for this is that; the heating system is working fine, has sufficient fuel and is efficient in operation. However, over Xmas the system was closed down causing the timer to "lose" the settings (computer control), this was only noticed at the weekend when it was also noted that the controller is locked away and accessible only by the maintenance fitters who are not available over the weekends. We are assured that the timer has been re-set (to include visiting afternoons) and the problem rectified. We apologise to all those who had to sit in their cars or keep overcoats on during the visits.

## **Committee business**

A suggestion was forwarded to us for the Sports and Recreation Committee to consider; To organise five-a-side football games at the clubhouse during the week. This would give the Penninghame team more practice sessions (not to suggest that they need them) during this cold weather and amuse other interested residents.

### **HAS ANYONE SEEN A COMMITTEE MEMBER LATELY?**

*We would remind residents that this newsletter was initiated to report on the community council and committees good works for the betterment of conditions for the whole of the community. It should be pointed out that we have had no feedback from any of these bodies for a number of weeks now. What happened to the enthusiasm and good intentions expressed in the beginning?*

### **PROGRESS at CLUB**

The secure cupboard for the kids toys has been installed by the joiner in the hallway of the clubhouse, (some shelving remains to be fitted though). This means that the toys can be in place before next week. In addition to toys a video recorder has been kindly donated for screening cartoons, however another TV set may be necessary for full utilisation of this VCR. It is planned that the video should remain at the club permanently.

The electricians working in the house presently are installing the strip lights with proximity switches that put on the light automatically when someone enters the room. It must be an attempt to cut down on electricity consumption.



# CHANGE AT THE KITCHEN

Plans are afoot to initiate a new system of menu selection by residents. In place of the weekly choice sheets there are to be monthly ones. It is in response to criticism about "repetitious" diet; we are told that you won't find the same dish twice in the same month. It should also assist the Chefs in planning the budget by streamlining the paperwork. ( we wonder if it will be the same sheet every month ? ).

## EDUCATION NOTICES

### EVENING CLASSES

At the  
DOUGLAS EWART  
High School  
in  
NEWTON STEWART

There are a selection of courses available ranging from wood-work to "open university", beginning from the sixteenth of January 1995.

watch for the adverts on the education noticeboard for further details of classes and how to apply.

### EDUCATION COURSES

at  
PENNINGHAME  
In February 1995.

- 1/ Health & Safety (1 day)
- 2/ Communication.
- 3/ Counselling Skills.

Check noticeboard for dates and lists of applicants (you put your name on the poster to apply for these courses)

# IMPORTANT !

Residents are asked to keep checking  
notice board for details of  
all classes

# Pennington POST

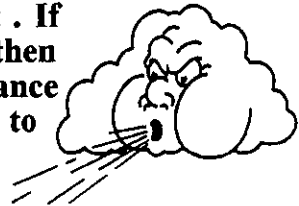
Issue No.8. 23rd January 1995 .

## Gamblers Anonymous.

### "PROPER MEETINGS"

Some residents from here attend meetings at the Community Centre in Newton Stewart with the aim of addressing their gambling addictions. One of these men would like to bring to light apparent problems in the arrangement; initially, there are no professional counsellors at these meetings and this group cannot help themselves to get over the problem (they have already made the first, brave step of admitting the condition exists). Secondly, it was felt that the venue was far too big for the size of group involved and the suggestion forwarded (to the Post) that meetings would be better attended here at the house in a less formal atmosphere which would also save the establishment money (from the hire of the hall). We hope that, by printing this here, someone will take the initiative to provide counsellors and a more comfortable venue for the weekly meetings.

The Recent Bad weather has been responsible for a number of problems felt all over the estate during last week. The Television picture disappeared on all four channels for a couple of days because the transmitter was damaged by high winds. The whole Newton Stewart area was affected by this. On Wednesday night the electrical power for the estate suffered intermittent breakdowns as well. All the timers for the heating systems etc. had to be re-set . If we can moan about these *acts of God*, then we can sympathise with the maintenance crew who had a lot of extra work to complete in rectifying these faults.



## Diary

**MONDAY:-**

**TUESDAY:-** *Olaf, the social worker, is not in today.*

**WEDNESDAY:-** *Mr. Sam Dow from APEX is here today.*

**THURSDAY:-** *Fellowship meeting at the club tonight.*

**FRIDAY:-** *Visiting Committee meeting at clubhouse 10am.*

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The Penninghame Five-A-Side team played Central Bar last Tuesday and, in a hotly contested game, were held to a three-all draw, (their last meeting with Central ended in an eight nil defeat, making this something of a *grudge* match). D. Rock scored two and J. Shade the other goal. Next week (24th) they play Barholm Arms. A resounding victory for Penninghame is predicted for this match.

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## INCOME SUPPORT FOR HOME LEAVES.

This scheme has had a success rate of an estimated 80% with payments of just under £7 per day. However there have been worrying reports about some people being talked into admitting "mental illness" or stress conditions so that the D.S.S. can pay them from a separate fund (and a little less money too); we strongly advise against this expedient because, while it may be thought alright at the time, problems will arise over the longer term. Getting back off this register will require a doctors' certificate (who is going to take the word of a mental case seriously, after all), this looks like a political "dirty trick" on the part of the local D.S.S. office. Another dodge of theirs' is to offer you a "Crisis Loan" which will, of course, have to be repaid; not in instalments (as you may expect) but in one lump sum off your' Release Grant, which they know you have got. Reactions to claims vary from one office to another but you are entitled to Income Support for the couple of days at home so don't settle for loans or sickness benefits and remember that the same rules apply equally at every D.S.S. office.

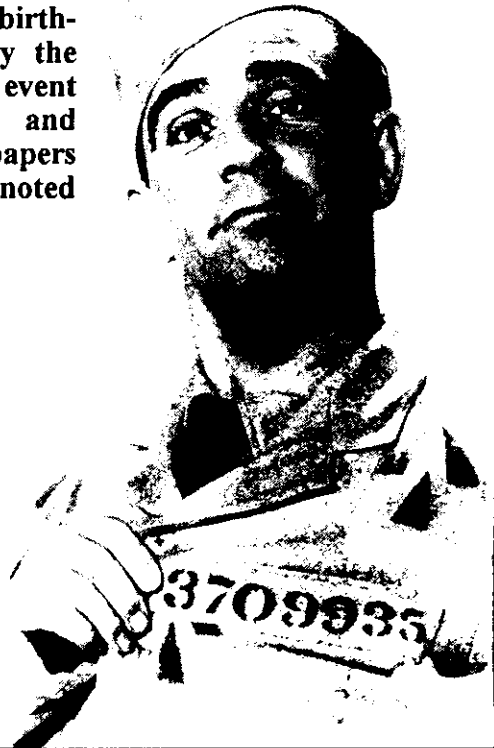
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## Committee business

The Visiting Committee are to hold a meeting soon to debate the issue of day trips to Ayr (why lifers get the opportunity for outings like this sooner than *sentenced* residents). The suggestion of trips to Queen Street has been refused because the officers on the bus have to take a rest period on arrival and cannot be responsible for supervision at the same time.

## Norman Wisdom Children's Hospice *Help break a record for charity*

Norman Wisdom is eighty on the 4th of February and he supports this charity. He would like to break the Guinness record for community singing and at the same time raise money for the kids, so he has arranged for football crowds and prisoners all over the country to sing "happy birthday" at 2.50pm on Saturday the fourth of next month. This event will no doubt be televised and reported on radio and newspapers so your participation will be noted (of course the staff will be singing along too). The charity you won't have heard of because their money is not used for publicity being only for good causes. They build hospitals and care centres all over the third world as well as running convoys into war zones and setting up farming projects in deprived countries. So come on lads and sing your hearts out. Any fund raising ideas should be put to Morag A.S.A.P.



We have a correction to last weeks' item in this space:- The menu sheets will still be filled out on a **weekly** basis and the monthly planning is geared to take account of the home-leave cycle and let everyone have the chance of choice dishes. I also feel I should apologise for my facetious statement about "*the same sheet every time*" (EDITOR).

The RED CROSS course on life saving and first aid still needs a couple of bodies to make up the numbers. This course takes only one day, gives you a certificate valid for three years and costs £53 on the outside. As an added incentive you get a Wee badge. The course is called "**First Aid at Work**" and you can apply through the Social Work Department.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITY

The position of Welfare Rights Co-ordinator is going to be created in the near future. The social work unit, here at the house, are planning to make an extension to the existing office by knocking a doorway through the wall into an empty storage space; installing heating, carpets and furniture, then setting-up an advice shop for residents there (open two days per week, at first). The Stranraer Welfare Rights Agency, a council body, will train the successful applicant and Olaf will be available for help and advice during the initial phase. This is a permanent job with good career prospects on release, your' responsibility will be to liaise with the Stranraer office and hassle various D.S.S. departments throughout the country on behalf of residents here, as well as keeping records and assisting with filling out forms etc. It will take a lot of workload off Olaf and you will become a qualified, and experienced, Welfare Rights Officer after a number of months; which means you can walk into a secure job when you get liberated since these agencies are non-discriminatory bodies (government funded). Sounds good to me: see Olaf !...

## EMPLOYMENT FOCUS COURSE

Mr. Sam Dow of APEX will be here for a week from Feb. 13th to conduct a course for job hunting on release, to be held at the clubhouse. The topics will be:- Pre-Release concerns and responsibilities; Welfare rights and issues; Employment prospects and job seeking. You don't need to be near your' liberation date to gain the benefits of this class and you won't lose any pay either. 9am to 4pm. Mon. to Fri. Contact Olaf.

# Penninghame POST

Issue No.9. 30th. January 1995 .

## RANDOM TESTS *At Penninghame*

At a quarterly community meeting in the dining hall last Thursday the Governor addressed the issue of drug testing among other, more general, points of committee business. The following is his written guideline for this procedure:-

### RANDOM DRUG TESTING

The question of whether HM Prison Penninghame should be a "drug free establishment" has been raised on a number of occasions by both staff and residents. I will pursue this concept from a Scottish Prison Service viewpoint, but meanwhile I propose, having consulted the Medical Officer, Social Worker and Staff, to introduce random drug testing. As a number of establishments already do this we have several sets of guidelines to "copy".

Procedures are written for staff to adhere to and will be as follows:-

1. Resident/s identified.
2. Strip searched.
3. After dressed resident will choose 2 sample bottles from 12.
4. Once the urine sample has been given the first bottle will be sealed in presence of resident and passed to Medical Officer, the second sample is sealed and is for the resident to send to a Doctor of his choice if he wishes and if he can pay for it. Meanwhile the sample will be kept in the medical refrigerator.
5. Should the sample be positive then one of 2 options will take place.



Continued on back page



**MONDAY:-**

**TUESDAY:-**

**WEDNESDAY:-**

**THURSDAY:-** Prison Fellowship at Club 7.30.

**FRIDAY:-** Two new residents arrive today. uplift from Barlinnie.

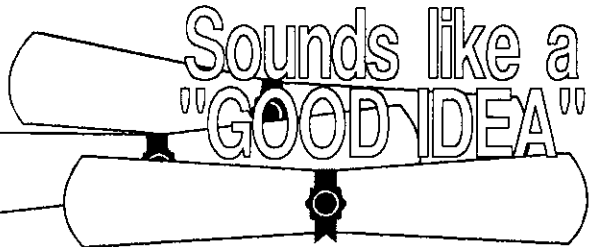


Last Wednesday's 5-a-side match was a 3 - 2 defeat for Penninghame. Big Rocky scored both goals. Nae luck.



## HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK

There is a one-day course being held at the clubhouse on Monday 6th February on the topic of Health and Safety at Work. This is an easy paper (multiple choice) and gains you a certificate from **The Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland**. We need about fifteen guys to fill the class, see the noticeboard outside the Education Department or contact Dr. Hopkins to enrol.



### Notice to all residents:-

It is your responsibility to keep the dormitories clean and tidy and to make sure they are in a neat condition before going to work in the morning at 8am. (it may be a good idea to do the bulk of the work the night before). Bins should be emptied; carpets hoovered; surfaces wiped; duvet covers spread neatly; clothing/washing put away; no foodstuffs or dirty utensils/cups etc. to be left out and curtains opened. Thank you:- *STAFF*.

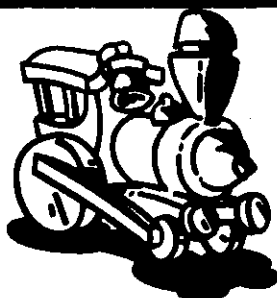
## Committee Business

### The HOPE GROUP:

Residents requiring the services of this organisation should, in future, contact Paddy Boyle or Big Ted to arrange their lifts and not Kenny Allan as reported a few weeks ago. Remember to leave seven days clear notice for the drivers.



The large selection of toys donated by *St. Vincent De Paul*, Have been installed at the clubhouse for kids to play with during visiting. The video for cartoons will have to wait for the building of a shelf (or box) for safekeeping.



### Other points brought up with Mr. Ross:-

1. The question of 6-hour leaves at Ayr was discussed (how come lifers get there sooner than sentenced men?). Cost considerations and transportation problems were blamed for lack of movement on this point. ie hire a bus for 2 or 3 men? or use a prison van and officer?.
2. Microwave ovens and toasters for use at night by residents was suggested. Problems may arise with Health & Safety people because a fridge would be needed too (pushing the cost up). Mr. Ross is considering the suggestion of a wee "howff" on each landing for preparing snacks after lock up.
3. Lunch money for outworkers instead of packed lunches was debated, the budget was (again) cited as the stumbling block. It was also pointed out that people on placements would be getting more than estate workers and that may cause grumbling.
4. The lack of adequate heating at the West Lodge was brought up too. The heating goes off too early at night and the heaters in the rooms ineffective. Maintenance staff pointed out: the boiler is only big enough to run a finite number of radiators; the automatic timer is set to reduce running costs (figures were quoted too); the room heaters should have the capacity to heat to the minimum of 55 deg.F. ? This problem is yet to be resolved.

Most of these matters should be handled by the committees.



# RANDOM DRUG TESTING continued

1. The MO will decide on the basis of the testing laboratory's findings if the resident can be treated within Penninghame House. He may well consult the Social Worker. If the decision is not to treat then the resident will be returned to closed conditions (RTCC) along with the usual action eg inform Parole Board.
2. Should the Medical Officer/Social Worker decide that a course of treatment/therapy is possible, and if the resident agrees (if unable to agree RTCC) then this will go ahead with the possibility of future testing.

6. Refusal to give a urine sample will be taken as an admission of guilt.
7. In the event of the resident claiming to be unable to give a sample he will be placed apart for about 2 hours by which time he should be in a position to produce a sample.

The reason for this course of action (all establishments will eventually go on to drug testing) is twofold A. to protect and to be fair to those residents not involved in drugs, B. to offer protection and treatment to those residents who are involved in drugs and therefore seriously endangering their health and perhaps the health of others.

A quote from Prisoner Information and Guidance Leaflet:-

**WHAT IF I AM UNABLE TO PROVIDE A URINE SAMPLE ?**  
**If you are unable to provide a urine sample when requested you will be permitted a maximum of 2 hours to do so, and then complete procedure ie strip search etc, will be repeated.**

*The kitchen staff are planning to change the arrangement for evening tea buns (which often do not get eaten) to the provision of weekly packets of biscuits which can be taken to the dormitories and will keep good for days, even after opening. They are also saving the profits off fresh milk sales with the aim of buying steaks for the residents occasionally. The sum of £80 is needed to get the meat packs; so these dishes will come around every couple of months or thereabouts.*

# Penninghame POST

Issue No.10. 06th. February 1995 .

The picture of a hypodermic syringe in this space last week has caused some consternation among residents who think it implies the use of injections here. We apologise for any misunderstanding (it was the only appropriate graphic on the computer) and we have been asked to state *that:-*  
"There are no I.V. drug users at Penninghame". *Editor*

## Random Testing

There will be a period of grace until the first of March before the introduction of random drug testing proper. There are several reasons for this delay; (teething troubles)

1. The test equipment presently available is not considered suitable for the purposes of treatment (of addiction) since it only indicates the presence of a substance in a sample and not the quantity of. The policy at Penninghame is to treat people with drug problems and not simply to send them back to closed conditions (as happens at other places) so an indication of consumption is needed for monitoring progress.

2. A period of training for Officers to acquaint themselves with the new method of sampling and testing, presently samples are sent to an outside body for analysis with the res-

ults coming back in a few days. The new method will allow security/discipline officers to take test samples and not just the M.O. as at present

3. The question of randomness (ie how often the same guy can be tested in a given period, or how many samples to analyse in one week etc.) has to be discussed with Mr. John Pearce of the department. He will look at the legality of the methods and define a system of working with the approval of the S.P.S. The new equipment and procedures should be in place (and have S.P.S. sanction) in a couple of weeks.

Some points to bear in mind are:- It is not illegal to have drugs in your system (although it is against prison rules). If you are caught with drugs in your possession you get returned (no question).

Continued over



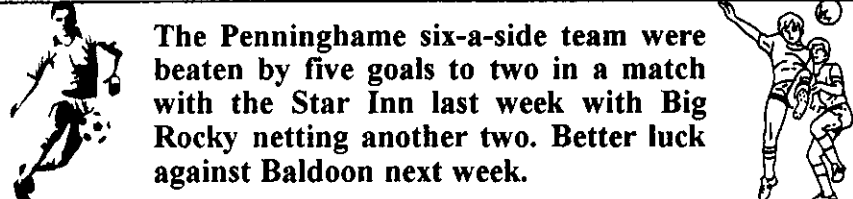
**MONDAY:-** The canteen closes all day today.

**TUESDAY:-**

**WEDNESDAY:-**

**THURSDAY:-** Prison fellowship at 7.30 in Club tonight.

**FRIDAY:-**



The Penninghame six-a-side team were beaten by five goals to two in a match with the Star Inn last week with Big Rocky netting another two. Better luck against Baldoon next week.

**Random Testing Continued:**

Some drugs remain in the system longer than others. The time period depends on the individuals tolerance, consumption levels and metabolism (general health etc.) The following is a rough guide from Mr. Mars:-

Hash; between 2 & 30 days.

Heroin; seven days.

Alcohol; 12 to 24 hours.

Temsgesic, Speed, Valium, Temazepam etc; seven days.

Channel four news expressed concern that prohibitive testing might push people towards the harder drugs (heroin, cocaine etc) because it is clear of the system sooner.

In future all intakes at Penninghame will have signed a document declaring a willingness to become party to the testing and screening programme (as a part of the 312 form). They will be tested for drugs on arrival here.

After the testing programme has been running for six months there will be an evaluation of results with a view to making improvements. This will be done by the Medical Revue Board. To provide input from the residents at this revue it was suggested that a "Drugs Liaison Group" be set-up with members of the existing house committee or council, these men would also take part in negotiations with the establishment during the trial period and convey any suggestions, constructive criticism or comments. There will be at least three Officers to represent S.P.O.A.; Discipline and Security in addition to Social Work, Medical and Management representation. Anyone wanting to participate should contact the Social Worker.

The policy is to rehabilitate drug users during their sentences to assist re-integration to society on release.

## Committee Business

### *A question from the visits committee.*

Regarding the six-hour leaves (where residents can travel up to thirty miles away for the day), "Is it still once a month or is it on a weekly basis now"? with six going out on Saturday and another six on Sunday?

This point is being discussed and a decision will be communicated in the near future. *Staff.*



### **These people award prizes for creative works from prisons**

Categories include:- Art (watercolour, drawing, cartoon art, oils, and designs for greeting cards and posters); Ceramics (clay pots, sculptures etc.); Craft, Woodcraft, Soft Furnishings/toys; Needlecraft; Matchstick models; Mixed media models; Prose; Establishment magazines; Poetry; Playwriting (stage, radio, television) Calligraphy; Recycling; Music Composition; Music Performance (including cassette tapes); Photography; Computer skills; Engineering (and Designs); Furniture; Dressmaking/Tailoring; Physical Education.

**The closing date for entries is 01st April 1995.**

Other prizes:- 1st-£60; 2nd-£40; 3rd-£30; and ten merits of £20.

(The £100 prize is for Outstanding work in each category)

*Contact the Education Department with any ideas.*

# FORTHCOMING EDUCATION

## Counselling Skills Course

Mondays 13th Feb. - 27th  
Mar.  
9.45am. - 4.00pm.

There are a few places still available on this course, if interested contact Meg. Hopkins at the education unit.

## Employment Focus Course

Monday 13th Feb.

Mr. Sam dow of APEX

will be conducting a course for residents due for release in the near future on topics like job-hunting, C.V.s and Welfare rights issues.

## HEALTH and SAFETY COURSE

(Mon. 6th Feb. 95) Those who did not get places on this class will be included on the next course in April. Watch the notice board for the time and date.

## RESIDENTS MOVE INTO EAST LODGE

*Last week four residents from the house moved into the new east lodge (near the walled garden). This building has solid fuel fired central heating and all the necessary amenities for independent living. These lodges are provided for residents to get into the habit of cooking for themselves; budgeting the housekeeping; shopping, cleaning and laundry etc. prior to release. They are only open to people with less than twelve months to serve of their sentences and they are a part of the "sentence planning" scheme. They make extra work for residents but the benefits are independence and privacy as well as choosing your own menu.*

SO  
SORRY

# Penningshame POST

LATE  
AGAIN

Issue No. 11. 13th. February 1995

**Wishing all our readers a happy Valentines Day, We feel sure that the place will be snowed under with bags of mail tomorrow. Apologies for the unusual appearance of this weeks "Post", It is due to a technical problem with the new computer which means this copy had to be done on a less sophisticated system. It should be all better by next week so don't worry.**

## HEADSHRINKER EXPANDS MINDS.

At a community meeting last Thursday, held in the dining hall, Mr Allan Howarth and Mr Ian Rowen (from barlintonle and greenock respectively) addressed the assembly and invited anyone who wanted to; to attend at a five-day "Workshop" designed to help people come to terms with bereavement, personal loss and trauma. This is organised and presented by "The Elizabeth Kubler-Ross Foundation" and will take part over five days at Greenock Prison from the 13th to the 17th March. Participants are selected from residents and staff (12 in number) who, along with four "facilitators", will stay for five days in a closed section of that establishment and share dormitory accommodation. It is an intensive session of psychological readjustment, self-expression and soul-searching aimed at "healing

the past" and preparing offenders for the rigours of normal life upon release. Absolute confidence and privacy are guaranteed (obviously) and no records taken; It sounds like a chance to let off steam in a safe, and constructive way with no chance of getting a report. These five days will be no holiday but it should improve you'r outlook and, at the same time, expand the horizons of psychology. All interested parties should hand in the completed forms before the end of the week.

## LIBRARY VISIT

The members of the Midweek Club are going to the library in Newton Stewart this Wednesday morning in order to research the history of Penningshame House from as far back as the existing records will allow. All members on this visit should assemble at the front gate for 9.40 on Wednesday. The findings will be the subject of next week's debate.

THE CLUBHOUSE PRESENTS

C O U N T R Y

*AL and JOYCE*

DAVIDIO

FROM

The

U. S. A.

G O S P E L

Thursday 16th. Feb at 7.30pm.

Everyone welcome to attend  
absolutely free admission.

# EMPLOYMENT FOCUS COURSE

During this week a course for residents due for release is being held at the Clubhouse. It is being conducted by Mr. Sam Dow of APEX and the topics will include welfare rights, jobhunting, self-employment etc.

YOU ARE ADVISED TO START USING THE DISPOSAL BOXES FOR USED RAZORS. These are provided to avoid refuse workers, passmen and others from getting nasty cuts when they handle the bins. Since the boxes are empty it was assumed that the old blades must have went into the "waste paper" baskets.

## CORRECTION!!

Last week we stated that the East Lodge was for people with twelve months or under to serve. **WRONG**; it is for sentences of over twelve months (long-term residents get priority). West lodge is for under twelve months. **Ed.**

**HOPE**- Anyone wishing to use the Hope pick up facility at the week-ends; would you please be in the club house along with visits for 3.15pm. for return trip.

TAKE A COURSE IN  
FIRST AID

AND GAIN A CERTIFICATE!

Would all those who applied for this course in the past please give their names to Elaine at the Social work Department as soon as possible. Anyone else interested should submit their names as well but you may have to wait a while because the classes have to be a minimum size and more applicants are needed to make up a second course.

PLEASE NOTE that the Social Worker is off all week this week but Elaine will be here from Wednesday onwards.

Mr. Rodgers would welcome any (serious) suggestions for recipes or menu ideas from residents. Ideally these should be put in writing and handed into the kitchen office for consideration.



*AT THE CLUBHOUSE*  
*A WHIST DRIVE*

*ORGANISED BY THE*

**H. O. P. E.**

*GROUP*

**ON MONDAY 27th FEBRUARY 1995.**

**AT 7.00 pm. til 9.15pm.**

**admission 50p per head.**

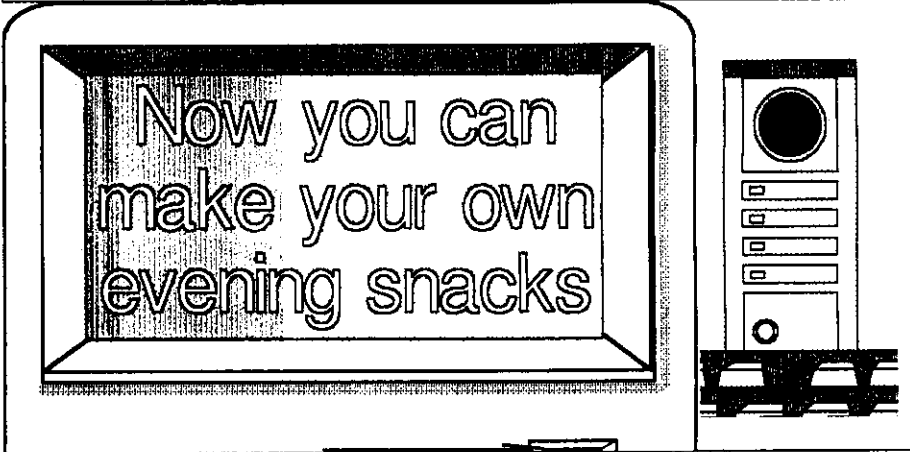
**(bring your own mugs for coffee)**

**playing in pairs (a wee bit like "bella")**

**Come early for a good seat !**

# Pennine Shama POST

Issue No.12. 20th. February 1995 .



It has been decided to install a microwave oven, fridge, and toaster in the dining hall for residents to use in the evenings (up till 9.30pm.). Bread and butter will be provided instead of the tea "riot" buns (which often do not get eaten), however no food is to be taken into the dormitories. It is the resident's responsibility to keep this area clean and tidy. Additional sandwich fillings will have to be bought from the town during library trips on Monday and Fridays. It has been suggested that the canteen might extend their product range to include items like tins of ham, tuna, cheese spreads and pickles etc. but this is still just a suggestion at present.

**There is an open day planned for the 5th August this year.**

Pete Williams would like to hear from anyone with ideas for sports events, fund raising schemes or other ventures. He is also looking for volunteers to help out on the day (a Saturday).

Any interested parties should contact the General Office and leave their names.



**MONDAY:-** Sue Brooks is coming today to interview applicants for the Greenock workshop.

**TUESDAY:-** Pete Williams is off today and tomorrow, Olaf is off today as well.

**WEDNESDAY:-** Six-a-side tonight (weather permitting)

**THURSDAY:-**

**FRIDAY:-**

# LET'S HAVE A

When the Community Committees were set-up initially, it was agreed that each committee should have a set of Committee Members. Since it has been more than three months, and some have been liberated and some have resigned; we have decided to hold elections for each committee plus a space for any nominations (fill it in and return to the office).

### Visits

A. McKenna; T. McGinnis; R. Rodgers; (sub M. Stapelton)

### REMIT

Visits, Welfare awareness, Local leave, Home leave, Catering on Visits, Creche, Play area Aviary.

### NOMINATIONS

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### House

P. Hogg (*liberated*); J. McArthur (*liberated soon*); K. Lumb; (sub S.W.O. Cassidy)

### REMIT

House cleanliness, Vicinity around the house, Mail and papers, Catering, Canteen, Laundry, Medical matters, General house concerns.

### NOMINATIONS

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# MUG OF THE WEEK

After coming close to it on a couple of occasions, Scott Brownlie has eventually won Mug of the Week. Sheila in Social Work said it never came from her - but it did really!

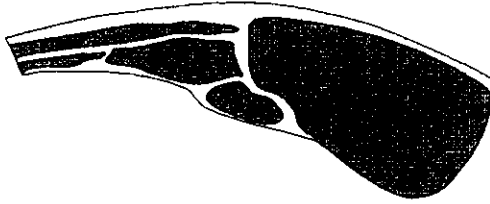
Anyway, the script is that Scottie was expecting a parole interview. When the lady arrived, he dashed away and dug out the Governor's best china to give the lady a wee cuppa like a right lap. After delivering the tea and coffee on the best china, he discovers he'd went to all that effort for a common old social worker who'd come to visit Bob Barr. Well done Scottie, you are Mug of the Week!

## NOTICE

*You may have noticed two strange gentlemen walking around the estate today ( that's gentlemen who are strangers rather than strange!) . They are both members of the Visiting Committee who arrived unannounced. They told me they do that so that it's not possible for the prison to get everything ready to impress them.*

*Anyway, one of the chaps is a new member of the VC,. He is a retired G.P. and his name is Dr. John Marshall.*

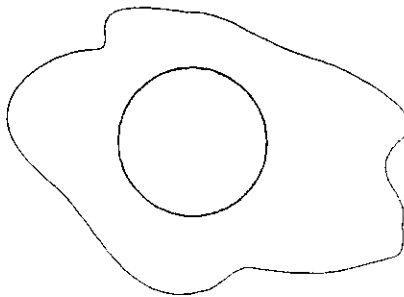
# COOKS CORNER



Roy has a few points for all to note this week. First of all, as most of you will be aware, this Monday saw the start of the new milk for soup exchange scheme. Roy would like everyone to think about what they would like to happen for the winter. He can carry on giving the extra milk, or he can swap it back for soup when the winter comes. Have a think lads, you've got plenty of time to do it!

Roy will shortly be running one day courses on Elementary Food Hygiene for those who are about to move into the new lodges. He hopes eventually to provide this for every new arrival during the Induction Week. Wattie will also be doing a short Health & Safety course, and there will also be short cooking courses for anyone who would like to learn a bit about the various forms of cooking.

Next week everyone will be required to do three menus to cover the week before and the week after the home leave. He urges everyone to get these filled in as soon as possible.



## **SOCIAL WORK NOTICE**

Our Bob wants everyone to note that he'll be off on holidays on the following dates:-

- 1) Monday 17th June
- 2) Friday 21st June
- 3) Monday 24th June

### **OFFENDING BEHAVIOUR**

Bob would like everyone to think about what they require for parole purposes. It is far better to get these things done before going up for parole, rather than waiting until you are told to go on some type of course(s).

He also underlines the fact that his courses should not be feared. There is no need to be wary of his programme, as all the courses are designed to help people with a genuine desire to stay out of prison after their release.

### **FROM THE SUPERVISORS**

The S.O.'s would like everyone reminded about making sure their property cards are all in order and in accord with whatever property they have in use by the time we come back from summer leave.

I've also been asked to let everyone know that 400 coat hangers have been ordered and should be here pretty soon. This is so that nobody can complain about being unable to hang their clothes up properly.

# QUIZ

Hello again lads, and welcome to the ever popular quiz. I'm pleased that there has been a gradual increase in entrants over the last couple of issues. Usually, it's the same three or four people who give me entries for the quiz, but on this occasion I am pleased to announce a virgin winner! The last quiz was won by Big Branny - a reader who's never won the quiz before. Congratulations Branny, and here's your questions for this week.

- 1) Who scored the first goal of Euro 96?**
- 2) What is the smallest species of bird to be found living wild in this country?**
- 3) A frog lies at the bottom of an empty well. The well is thirty feet deep. In order to get to the top of the well, the frog can ascend at a rate of three feet per day. However, each night when it stops to rest, it slides down two feet. So, each day the frog climbs three feet and loses two feet each night. How long does it take the frog to get to the top of the well?**

## Committee Business

**Mr. Mark Stapelton** the families co-ordination development Officer (assistant) is also the chairman of the visiting committee and he would like to invite anyone with problems, complaints, constructive criticisms or ideas for improvements (pertaining to families/visits) to approach him with these suggestions where they are guaranteed his full attention and complete application.

*Thank you.*

# N ELECTION !

need to hold elections after three months for the eight positions of  
in view of the facts that some members have been, or are about to  
is for the posts. In the four boxes below are the remits and members  
rn to education department).



### **Sports & Recreation.**

D. McEwan; P. Mackin; C.  
McDowall; (sub W. Stewart)

#### **REMIT**

Budget awareness, Equipment,  
Trips, Education, Hobbies,  
Entertainment, Gymnasium  
management, Sporting areas.

#### **NOMINATIONS**

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### **Public Relations**

C. McIntosh (*resigned*); S.  
Garty (*resigned*); P. Williams;  
(sub W. Stewart)

#### **REMIT**

Community link, Placements,  
Voluntary work, Hope,  
Koestler awards, Visitations  
guest speakers, Open day,  
Chaplaincy, Prison fellow-  
ship.

#### **NOMINATIONS**

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**Vacancy in the laundry,**  
See Mr. Williamson (gar-  
dens) for the job details,  
Wages are £8.55 + O.T.  
Application form at gate  
("change of work party"  
form) should be given to  
Personal Officer. Closing  
date 23:02:95.

## CHANGE AT THE TOP

The education department  
here now comes under  
Motherwell College who are  
taking over from Dumfries  
and Galloway region. We  
don't expect this to alter any-  
thing, other than the name at  
the top of your certificates.



Consider these suggestions and develop (or add to) them between  
now and August (ideas and volunteers to P. Williams).

- 1:- Bouncy Castle (hire one, young kids love them).
- 2:- Treasure Hunt (will utilise the extent of the grounds).
- 3:- Aunt Sally ("Artiste" puts head through hole in large board and people pay money to chuck wet sponges/soft fruit at it. Could make a packet with the right "volunteers").
- 4:- Tombola/Lucky Dip (I think these are the same thing?).
- 5:- Establish a collection fund to give resident's kids free ice cream, crisps and juice (a big jar on the canteen counter for donations; remember, we have months left).
- 6:- Celebrities, comedians etc. (Dungavel got Rab C. Nesbit to contribute, is Jimmy Boyle busy that week-end I wonder?).
- 7:- Attempting to throw ping-pong balls into small glass jars (we know it is virtually impossible but the kids will try anything).
- 8:- Beat the goalie; Crazy golf/putting; Throw darts at the tattooed lady and knock over coconuts with plastic blowpipe darts.

*There is plenty of time to make stalls/side-shows and design other amusements, ping-pong balls, cricket bats, various items at Club.*

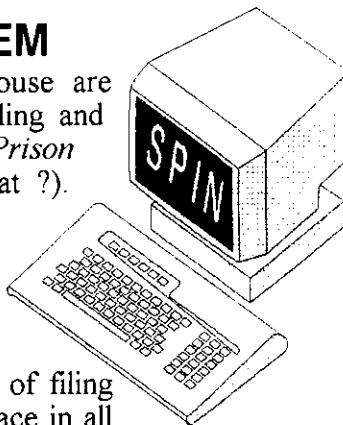
# PENNINGSHAM POST

Issue No.13. 27th. February 1995 .

## NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM

Some of the workmen about the house are installing the cables for a computerised filing and data system called "SPIN" (*Scottish Prison Integrated Network*, or something like that ?).

There will be terminals in each office in the building; plus one on the gate, and they are linked to all the other prisons in the country. This updating with modern equipment will speed up record keeping, transfer of information etc and put a pile of filing cabinets, and paper, in the trash; saving space in all prison offices. We don't yet know how long the work will take.



The other squad of tradesmen are installing double-glazed window units in the top floor rooms. These look just like the old ones but will be draught proof and better sound insulated, they have to keep the appearance of the exterior facade the same because Penninghame House is a "listed"

building (of historical interest). The residents of the top floor are obliged to sleep in dorm seven during the renovations, it is planned to replace *all* the windows in the house but no estimate of the time factor was forthcoming (we balked at the cost factor; so didn't ask).

## MICROWAVE USE : TAKE NOTE:-

The microwave installed in the dining hall is to be used only during regular meal times and after five o'clock in the evenings, use of the toaster is restricted to evenings only.

Please observe the safety notices on the wall,

*Thank you.*

**MONDAY:-**  
**TUESDAY:-**  
**WEDNESDAY:-**  
**THURSDAY:-**  
**FRIDAY:-**



Have you ever seen a good vacancy in the jobcentre ? Then taken the card down and hidden it so as to be the only applicant (thereby enhancing your chances of employment) ?

Well you can't do it here any more since a "tamper proof" box has been installed on Friday to keep the job notices in. What a rotten trick ! Still, it gives the joiner something to do I suppose.



## **The Wigtown District Council Cup**

On Wednesday The Penninghame five-a-side team played a first round, cup match against Craignelder and, surprisingly, were defeated by six goals to three. There is to be a return match next Thursday, we need to win 4-0.

*Among other notices falling off the board this week we rescued this message from Mr. Ross.*

**In accordance with the new Prison Rules I am required to publish a list of privileges for all to see, and know. It should be noted that privileges are those activities which may be limited/ stopped if abused.**

### **PRIVILEGES**

- (1) Ayr visits;
- (2) 6 Hour local leaves;
- (3) Family visit to Penninghame for weekend by a bus;
- (4) Outside activities eg swimming, hill walking, football, running, fishing etc;
- (5) Independent units;
- (6) Outwork and voluntary work;
- (7) Attending at local High School for education and evening classes;
- (8) Use of hobbies centre;
- (9) Use of Games Hall and Gymnasium;
- (10) Use of own clothes.

We are planning to install a wee postbox for Committee nominations, ballot papers, news items and general suggestions outside the education department. *Please use it .*

## Committee Business



*The following is the complete text of the Governors notice:-*

### **WEEKEND LOCAL LEAVES (BUS)**

1) Two new systems of visits are being introduced from 1 March 1995.

Families wishing to visit Penninghame can be uplifted at Queen St. Railway Station Glasgow by the prison bus delivering home leaves at 11.30am. on a Friday. They can be transported free of charge to Newton Stewart where they can be met by yourself. Accommodation must be paid for overnight by the family. (A list of accommodation and prices will be published). A local leave will be granted from when the bus returns until 4.30pm. on the Friday to allow prisoners to meet families, fix accommodation etc. Uplift will be 4.30 Dashwood Square with outworkers. Saturday a local leave will be allowed 9 - 4.15, again uplift Dashwood Square.

Sunday families will leave Newton Stewart with the bus, prisoner to arrange uplift time Dashwood Square with the driver, stop at Penninghame to uplift Officer and travel to Glasgow.

This scheme is for families with transport difficulties using the bus only.

The use of this system must be agreed with the Social Worker, accommodation must be booked and agreed prior to the weekend of the visit.

The limit is 6 leaves per weekend for this scheme.

A book will be held at the Gate with the prisoners requesting leaves listed in it. Priority will be granted to admissions for their first allocated visit. Priority will then be given to anyone not having had a visit during the calendar month, after that it is first come first served.

**CONTINUED OVERLEAF**

All applications for weekend local leaves (bus) must ensure they apply at 7 o'clock Sunday of the weekend prior to local leave, this will only be done by personal booking. No more bookings will be accepted after Sunday evening regardless of whether or not all places are filled.

Please note:- Responsibility to be present for uplifting for the bus lies with the family. The prison will not accept responsibility for families stranded in Newton Stewart or Glasgow because they missed or did not organise the bus.

In the exceptional event of the Prison having to make arrangements due to the bus being missed and costs being incurred, these will be claimed back from the wages of the prisoner involved at £5 per week.

Remember SACRO can provide transport to and from the prison as per their latest brochure.

The radius for this type of visit is 30 miles.

This scheme is operating with the goodwill of the bus company who are making no charge for the transport. If problems arise they could withdraw the service.

This system starts on 1 March 1995. Booking under this system must therefore be in on Sunday 26 February 1995.

### **6 HOUR LOCAL WEEKEND VISITS BACK TO BACK**

2) From 1 March 1995 six hour local leave will be allowed every weekend. The allocated allowance at the moment is one per month so further leaves will have to be on a rota basis. Anyone seeking a local leave visit Saturday and Sunday of the same weekend must apply through the usual channels.

The limit is 6 leaves per day.

A book will be held at the gate with prisoners requesting leaves listed in it. Priority will be granted to admissions for their first allocated visit. Priority will then be given to anyone not having had a visit during the calendar month, and after that it is first come first served.

All applications for 6 hour local leave must ensure they apply at 7 o'clock Sunday of the weekend prior to local leave, this will only be done by personal booking. No more bookings will be accepted after Sunday evening regardless of whether or not all places are filled.

Remember SACRO can provide transport to and from the prison as per their latest brochure.

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# Pennington POST

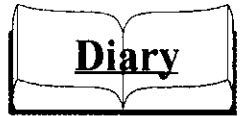
Issue No.15. 13th. March 1995 .

## HEATING PROBLEMS

We apologise to all those visitors who had to sit in a cold clubhouse last Sunday. This break down was caused by maintenance work which interrupted the timer controls, there is a new fuel tank being fitted at this time and the engineers wanted to run the old tank empty before moving it (less weight to carry; less chance of spillage or pollution too). This procedure will take some time to complete and we will try to ensure that breakdowns do not coincide with visiting times or classes.

## EASE UP ON THE LAUNDRY MEN

The workers in the laundry are getting a lot of extra work because of the breakdowns and mechanical problems with, almost, half of their capacity out of commission all the time (*we are told that some of the faulty machinery is so old that replacement parts are difficult to find*). The effective running of the department is being further hindered by residents sending down bags with mixed washes instead of adhering to the timetable (Posted in every dormitory). We have been asked to remind you that :- "Towels are washed on a Tuesday only" (these require a long time drying) ; and "Stick to the timetable regarding whites" (when bleach is being used it is best to do everything at the same time because the bleach needs to be rinsed out of the drum before the next load). These guys put in a lot of extra hours at night. You can relieve the workload by putting out the correct items on the right days. dead easy really!



MONDAY:-

TUESDAY:-

WEDNESDAY:-

THURSDAY:- First Aid Course at clubhouse today.

FRIDAY:-

WIN  
WIN  
WIN

Enter this essay competition, organised by THE PRISON REFORM TRUST and win cash prizes. Somebody has a good yarn or two to share? All entries in by 30 Sep. 95. (plenty of time to think of one)

£500

£250

£125



We got this sweet letter in the post this week

6:3:95

Dear Sirs,

I would like to take this opportunity to say "THANK YOU" to the men who rescued me on Sunday 26th. Feb. I understand they had been returning from weekend leave when my son waved down the bus. I now fully realise that if it were not for them lifting my car off me I would have died. So once again I want to say "Thanks for saving my life".

Yours Sincerely

Diane McAllister.



## Committee Business



### NEW SPORTS EQUIPMENT ORDERED

Mr. Stewart along with a member of the Sports & Recreation Committee were away pricing mountain bikes and ancillaries this week. They plan to purchase six machines, protective clothing, haversacks and helmets in the near future. The outline plan is for five residents to go out on orienteering trips accompanied by one Officer. This is to avoid anyone getting lost in the wilderness around Newton Stewart and not, as you may think, in case anyone absconds with a new bike. *(You'd make Glasgow in 2 days).*



Mr. Lockie has been busy too, he has been looking at angling equipment with a view to kitting out for sea fishing trips in the summer. Watch this space for more details. The new tax year has added impetus to these spending sprees, we think.

### GYMNASIUM EQUIPMENT

Also on the shopping list were some items for the gym (ordered last week and awaiting delivery and installation). These are "Aerobics Steps" and "Pro Climber Steps" both of which are portable and can be taken to the club if so desired. We are told they are for "cardiovascular" exercises. *(sounds sore to me).*

### POOL/SNOOKER

A tender has been accepted for the re-covering of both tables in the games room. This should happen in the near future, it is expected that the purchase of some good, new cues etc. will go along with the new "green stuff"



C'MON YOU: REF THE TABLE !

In the not-too-distant future the "stables" area is to be set up for residents to play snooker, cards, chess and darts. The present games room is to be moved and extended in other words. This will be after the work on the new lodges has been completed but planning will done at the same time. The venue will be open until 9.30pm. You will try not to annoy the upstairs neighbours with the noise, won't you now?

Leisure Complex





## **PHONEMOAN**

Residents have voiced opinions about the payphones in the hall and highlighted several criticisms. Initially; people can wait for up to an hour (or more) to get making calls at certain popular, times of day. Would the authority consider installing another phone (or two) - perhaps in that empty, walk-in cupboard on the top floor?

The second complaint is the lack of privacy involved in using the "upstairs" phone; there is no booth or cubicle for this instrument and other people can hear what you are saying over the phone (and sometimes the callers voice too). This can be awkward and inhibiting as well. The installation of a sound-proofed booth is recommended here as is double glazing or better sound insulation for the downstairs payphone .

These points of concern will need to be addressed by the appropriate Committee if any progress is to be gained. ED.

# Pennington POST

Issue No.16. 27th. March 1995 .

This paper will, in future, come out every two weeks. This is because there is not usually enough material to fill the pages. This should improve the interest and quality of articles as well as allowing more time to compile them.

## QUIET ROOM FIRE !

The Governor wishes to thank the residents who tackled the blaze in the reading room last week, it was due to their prompt and brave action that the damage sustained was not much worse and that nobody got injured. The fire appears to have started in one of the easy chairs just inside the room; was noticed within a few minutes; occurred shortly after six in the evening; and, sadly, seems to have been deliberately set.

The source of the conflagration is about four feet into the room and directly in front of one of the large bookcases (where the encyclopedia britannica was located), there is superficial damage to the floor boards there. Investigation reveals that a quantity of papers had been stuffed behind cushions on the other two chairs and, since the quiet room is a no smoking zone, this led to the conclusion that the fire was a calculated act of arson. This reckless deed could well have caused death or horrible injury to people and the destruction of a listed building.

It would also have meant that all residents get relocated in other jails. The culprit was not caught.

The structural damage sustained was slight (being cracked window panes and smoke staining) thankfully, because of the quick reactions of Staff and residents (who modestly remain anonymous). However the entire collection of books (some of them nearly a hundred years old) had to be disposed of as did the carpet and furniture. An estimate in the thousands for repairs and replacement of the library can be anticipated, and this after a burning of only half an hour or so. We shudder to think of the implications if the building itself had caught fire as there is a dormitory directly underneath this room. The fire brigade responded quickly but the blaze had been all but extinguished with the emergency equipment kept in the house by the time they arrived. The local police were also on the scene to take statements and photographs etc. We were lucky.



**MONDAY:-**  
**TUESDAY:-**  
**WEDNESDAY:-**  
**THURSDAY:-**  
**FRIDAY:-**

## The pros and cons of Drug Testing

The drug testing programme has been running now for a number of weeks at Penninghame and has caused some worry among residents and changes to the regime. People have been "breathalysed" after disembarking from the Glasgow bus (testing for alcohol), roughly one in ten at random, and the results recorded. So far no positive results have been noted and disciplinary action not required but drunkenness would not necessarily mean a return to closed conditions. One prominent case (the first) has been returned to Saughton. At a community meeting on Wednesday 15th at five pm. Mr Ross told us about the reasons for this move: apparently the resident had been caught in possession of a hypodermic syringe which he could have declared to the M.O. or social worker but neglected to do so, naturally the staff take a dim view of this level of drug use. Attention was drawn to this resident when one of the officers noticed a strange smell in his dorm, then an odd lethargy about the man. He was asked to provide a sample and, during the strip searching,

the "set of works" was found on his person. The Governor had to return him. Another man who admitted an addiction problem to the medical staff a couple of weeks ago (and after testing positive for a variety of substances) was put on a methadone "dettox" programme. He is the first to do so at Penninghame and staff are waiting to see the results of this case before admitting others. This man has signed a contract agreeing to certain conditions (regular sampling/testing was one of them) any breach of this contract will see him returned directly to closed conditions. Being on a methadone programme means that he is not allowed to operate machinery or drive vehicles A mid-sentence career change but better than Shotts eh?

**Income support for home leaves has been stopped by an act of parliament. This takes effect after April 10th. (short notice or what ?) The same applies to clothing grants with the DSS insisting that the SPS should provide for us during home leaves. Full story in next issue.**

## Committee Business

The Community Council elections seem to have "died a death" through first degree apathy. The first set of nominations sheets got filled with fictitious names, the next set were removed totally and vanished without trace (we think someone "needed" the drawing pins). It must have been a daft idea in the first place to hold elections.

---

### COMMUNICATIONS

A course will be starting in a few weeks at the Clubhouse, It is on Mondays only and runs for eight weeks. Carol Stanley is teaching "communication skills" and it is an extension of the counselling course but can be taken on it's own. See Dr. Hopkins at the education dept to apply.

### OPEN DAY

*Pete Williams is still wanting to hear from anybody who is available to lend assistance at the summer open day. The duties will be varied and suited to the individual volunteers. Names to the general office A.S.A.P.*

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### FIRST AID COURSE

The course on emergency first aid last Thursday was a complete success with all attending it achieving the standard required. Mr. J. Johnston, who tutored the class, was able to introduce a note of levity to the gory business of dressing wounds and broken limbs which made the day a relaxed and productive one. Among the skills learned was the artificial respiration and heart massage needed to keep a patient alive until professional help arrives (which is the prime purpose of first aiders), this was practiced on two "rubber torsos" provided for the purpose. There was also the correct way to tie a triangular bandage for various types of wound. Congratulations boys! your certificates are in the post.

---

### THE GREENOCK WORKSHOP

***This was cancelled at short notice after the interviews had been conducted. The reason given is that because a lot of people from Penninghame "dropped out" there were no longer enough participants to make organising a workshop worthwhile.***

## GYM EQUIPMENT

Some new pieces of equipment have been purchased, floor mats and aerobic steps are installed at the clubhouse where it is planned to start circuit training as well as the badminton which is proving very popular with some of the residents. It will soon be the weather for bowling etc.

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## SNOOKER TABLE

Both the pool and snooker tables were re-covered, to a high standard of workmanship, on Tuesday afternoon. The cost was about £350 but the tables are like new with good, responsive cushions and smooth fabric. There was also a delivery of new cues

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## VACANCY

*The position of Clubhouse passman has recently become available. Interested parties should apply through their personal officer or see Mr. Rodgers in the kitchen. The rate is £9 per week and weekend working is expected. it is mostly light duties.*

## PHONE ANSWER

Following on from last issue's "phonemoan" article, we have been told that British Telecom can only provide one phone for every fifty residents. This is a hard and fast rule so we only get allocated two at Penninghame (*there is only one on each flat of eighty cells at Shotts?*). Regarding the soundproofing and privacy; the upstairs phone is going to be moved into the adjacent cupboard on the landing, this is planned for the near future. The booth for the downstairs phone is double-skinned and supposed to be sound insulated, however the works will be looking to improve the structure as soon as it is practicable to do so while leaving one or the other in service. Regarding waiting time and "phone hogging", it is up to the House committee to set rules for limiting the time any individual can be on the phone.

**Strangers in Wellyboots ? It's OK;  
the fishing season has started.**

# Penninghame POST

Issue No.18 5th June 1995

Editor: Judas Goebbels

Price: Cheap

## SMALL ADS

Couple of real heavy dudes paid a visit to the "Post" HQ the other day, asked me to inform the world that the laundry-men will only take items for washing as per the laundry timetable posted in each Dorm. From now on, any unscheduled items in the bags will be returned unwashed. Too many people in the House these days to do it any other way.

*A reminder from On High that all home leaves must now be booked a fortnight in advance, please look for the relevant notice buried somewhere on the notice-board.*

Pete Williams tells me that we're getting a new Coke machine, to be placed (as soon as it arrives) alongside the existing coffee machine outside the dining hall. (Prices will presumably be the same as the canteen, but don't quote us on that.) Not exactly the Great Leap Forward, but welcome nonetheless.

*From Brian Blair, (Sports & Rec Sub-committee), news of a fitba' match to be played on Sunday, 11th June, Penninghame Posers v Local Yokels, (in other words, nobody knows yet who the opposition are), a good chance to give your mates some serious verbal. Also, word that the Gaffer is trying to arrange regular outings to the Barcaple Outdoor Activities Centre, all future trips to be paid for at the rate of £4 a dash, remainder to be met from the Common Good Fund. (More details as soon as they're available.)*

And finally, a mention for Phil "Greenpeace" McGhee, who still hotly denies that he shot Bambi's mum. The young deer that he "rescued" from abandonment was collected by the PDSA, and will be taken to an appropriate sanctuary once it's capable of fending for itself. As for who actually *did* kill Bambi's mum, the Post can exclusively reveal that it was Saddam Hussein. (Well, he gets the blame for everything else, so why not?)

# OPEN DAY

Penninghame's by-now-annual Open day will be held on Saturday, August 5th this year, which means that we now have slightly less than nine weeks to get the whole thing organised. There is, (as there always seems to be around here), an organising committee for the event, chaired by the Gaffer, and consisting of some staff, some troops, and some very nice civvies who have already given up a large amount of their spare time to help get this gig together, both this year and in the past. Which is all very nice, but bearing in mind the fact that camels have been described as "horses designed by a committee"; you'll appreciate that even the best-intentioned of committees needs a bit of help to get it right. Which, in the present situation, means that you, dear reader, must get off your butt and get active if you want the day to be a success.

## **IDEAS**

First off, we need some ideas for what you think constitutes appropriate entertainment for an audience that will (hopefully) include not only Residents' families and friends, but also local worthies whose bump of curiosity will draw them to have a look at some real, live Bad Men. At the moment, ideas being discussed include various stalls, (to be run both by the prison and various local charities and organisations), a Fire Brigade caravan, a bouncy frog for the (ahem) kids, a merry-go-round and fairground stalls (knocking goldfish down with coconuts, that sort of thing), an Archery demonstration, possible demos by the TA and Sea-Cadets, a Pipe Band, a Rock band, a Tea-Room, Barbeque, and, generally, all the fun of the Fair. (Ideas NOT being discussed include a Miss Wet T-Shirt competition, Dwarf-Throwing, sponsored Cross-Country running and Body-Piercing, either your own or anyone else's.) If you think you can add to the above list, (which is by no means final, nor even guaranteed), see either Pete Williams in the General Office, or Judas, but do it quick. (Like, before the end of next week, for preference.) We really are running out of time to get this thing organised.

# Community Council Information

## Penninghame Sub-committees Remit

All complaints should first be pursued through the normal channels or grievance procedure. However ideas for improvements or changes to the present system should be given to the appropriate Sub-committee which covers the area of the suggestions. There are a number of ways for ideas to be put to the appropriate Sub-committee: the normal procedure would be to put your idea in writing and deposit it in the suggestion box, another way would be to approach a member of the Sub-committee and give him/her your proposal or alternatively ask the co-ordinator to put your proposal in writing and forward it to the appropriate committee meeting.

### To All Concerned

- 1) All complaints/requests that require to go through the G.P. procedures cannot be dealt with by a sub-committee or the council.
- 2) Any complaint/request of a less serious nature should be dealt with through normal channels (gate/personal officer) before consideration by a sub-committee or the council.
- 3) All complaints/suggestions **must** first have been considered by a sub-committee and then submitted **in writing** with relevant comments/considerations. Written complaints/suggestions by individuals on their own **cannot** be considered by the council.



## **Visits and Welfare Committee**

**Visits**

**Welfare Awareness**

**Local Leave**

**Home Leave**

**Catering on Visits**

**Creche**

**Play Area/Aviary**

## **Public Relations Committee**

**Community Link**

**Placements**

**Voluntary Work**

**Hope**

**Koestler Awards**

**Visitations/Guest Speaker**

**Open Day**

**Chaplaincy**

**Prison Fellowship**

## **Sports & Recreation Committee**

**Budget Awareness**  
**Equipment**  
**Trips**  
**Education**  
**Hobbies**  
**Entertainment**  
**Gymnasium Management**  
**Sporting Areas**

## **House Committee**

**House Cleanliness**  
**Vicinity Around the House**  
**Mail & Papers**  
**Catering**  
**Canteen**  
**Laundry**  
**Medical Matters**  
**General House Concerns**

**Council Members**

**F. Reilley, P. McNair, K. Boyle and J. Kelly. Plus duty S.O. and M. McKie. (sub C. McDowall)**

**Visit Sub-Committee**

**A. McKenna, T. McGinnis and R. Rodgers. (sub M. Stapelton)**

**House Sub-Committee**

**P. Hogg, J. McArthur and K. Lumb. (sub S.W.O. Cassidy)**

**Sports and Recreation Sub-Committee**

**D. McEwan, P. Mackin and C. McDowall. (sub W. Stewart )**

**Public Relations Sub-Committee**

**C. McIntosh, S. Garty and P. Williams (sub W. Stewart )**

**Coordinator**

**C. Smith.**

# **PRACTICALITIES**

Having sifted ideas, obtained commitments, advertised the event, got in the necessary supplies, and generally organised the event, we're still going to need bodies to actually man the stalls, direct the traffic, serve the teas, and do all the (hopefully) hot, sweaty work while everyone else is enjoying themselves. The ideal solution would be for everyone to volunteer for the work so that it can be split into shifts, enabling as many Residents as possible to enjoy as much of the day as they can, but, let's face it, we're still in jail, so that's not going to happen.

What WILL happen is that a list will go up on the Notice Board in the not-too-distant future, asking for volunteers to help out. The more people who come forward, the less work the volunteers will be asked to do, but nobody will be asked to spend time working when they want to be with their family and friends. Which brings me nicely round to the problem of

## **TRANSPORT**

Last year, apparently, the Big White Chief listened to many people who complained that their visitors would have great difficulty getting down here for the Open Day, and so, in his benevolence, ('cos he's a good guy really, grovel grovel kiss kiss), he arranged for a couple of buses to be laid on from Glasgow for Residents' families, at a cost of several hundred pounds. Only a handful of people used the buses, and the Common Good Fund was seriously depleted to pay for what would have been a great idea if everyone who'd booked a place on the buses had actually used them. The fact remains, however, that without assisted transport, many Residents will have no visitors on what's supposed to be a day of fun and frivolity for the whole Camp. So how do we get the visitors down here?

One idea put forward, (and it is only an idea at this stage, so for God's sake tell somebody on the Organising Committee what you think of it), is for the Prison to lay on buses as before, but to charge a nominal deposit for booking seats, the deposit to be returned when your visitors show up for the bus; that way, if you book seats for people who don't turn up, at least we've got something to contribute towards the cost, while those who book and show up will get free transport. Any other bright solutions to this problem will be more than welcome, so speak soon, or forever haud yer wheesht.

# SKOOL STUFF

Mistress Meg invites you to share the wonders of Education, by offering you the chance to participate in any one (or all three) of the following classes, absolutely FREE of charge, with a guarantee of your money back if you're not completely satisfied:

The Midweek Club, (Tuesday mornings, 9:45 to 11:45), a discussion group where you can voice your opinions and thoughts on subjects as diverse as you care to make them, because what gets discussed is entirely up to you.

Drop-In Time: If you're wondering what the Education Unit can do for you, this is the place to find out. Information and advice on how and where to get career qualifications, Further Education, or simply on subjects that interest you. Mondays between 9:45 - 11:45.



Art Play: Anne Nimmo will run a four-day class aimed at building bridges between parents and children through Art. The emphasis is on using cheap, readily available materials to stimulate a child's development and self-expression in a playful way that's fun for both parent and child. Tuesdays, 6th - 27th June.

9:15 - 11:45

For more details of what's going on in the Education Unit, watch this space AND the Education notice-board. (Please?)



# COOKHOUSE CRACK

ROY says: Here, Wattie, Ahve got this eejit here, claims he's the Ace Riporter fur thi Pennin-gum Pose or summat. Wants tae ken if wiv got ony whinges fur this week's rag.

WATTIE says: Whinges? Us? Aye, we huv. Start wi' the butter.

ALJO says: Right boss!

ROY says: No' you, daft-works. An' yir no' supposed tae pit butter in custard. 'E's on aboot some o' they bampots that ur stealin' butter tae yase as sun-tan lotion.

WATTIE says: Aye, right Roy. Ye better tell thum thir's aw sorts o' bacteria in butter thit kin really screw thum up if they let it fester in thi sun like that.

ROY says: Aye, tell thum if they want a tan, yase Ambre Solaire, the cheapskate toerags.

ALJO says: Ambre Solaire in custard? You're potty, Roy.

WATTIE says: An' wan ither thing, naebody but cooks ur allowed behind the servery fae now on. So warn thum, right?

(More whinges next Post)

# Pennington POST

Issue No.19 19th June 1995 .

Editor: Judas

Price: Cheap

## SMALL ADS

Following two cases in the Orderly Room last week, Bob White has asked us to draw your attention to the map of the grounds that's situated in the gate-house, above the signing-out book. This map now shows very clearly the areas within which you can walk with your visitors, so please try to spare everyone the embarrassment of being put on Report for being out of bounds with your guests. And if you're not happy with the boundaries as they are at present, see the relevant Committee member(s) to try to get them changed.

*We've also been asked to express the appreciation of the troops who've been out on the regular fishing trips, usually taken by either George Hyslop or John Lockie; thanks to them, and all the staff who go out of their way to take troops on trips out into the big, wide World.*

We were hoping to bring you a match report from last Sunday's kickba' match between Pennington Posers and whoever they

were supposed to be playing, but yet another no-show left the team with a bad case of offpissedness. Maybe one day we'll find a team that can get out of bed to play us.

*Notices went round the Dorms last week about the new scheme for short visits to Ayr, while the Bad-Bus turns around in Glasgow. It's a good idea, given the isolation of Camp Whoopee, but you may not be aware that it was achieved through the Community Council, which creaks along slowly as we try to get it functioning properly. Until further notice, **THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL IS NOT DEAD!** You may be sceptical about its worth, but it'll still keep working for you.*

And finally, a word from Pete Williams in the General Office: Would anyone wishing to draw either PPC or Valuable Property for the coming summer, please go see him ASAP. Don't leave it until the last-minute, 'cos sure as eggs is eggs, if you do, so will everyone else. Ta.

## STRAIGHT FROM THE GOVERNOR'S MOUTH

At last, news from the Gaffer's office that should go a long way towards lifting the siege mentality that's been afflicting a lot of the troops, following the recent spate of shippings back to Closed Conditions. Many people have asked what would happen if they were to provide a urine sample for analysis which proved positive for hash, but no other drugs; until now, the only answer has been, "I don't know", which isn't much of an answer on which to make decisions about your lifestyle.

This state of affairs was brought up in a recent conversation between His Gaffership and Judas, and was settled in very definite fashion when Bwana assured Judas that anyone who tests positive for cannabis only *will not be RTCC*, at least for a first offence, although they may well end up in the orderly room, and the Parole Board notified. Any subsequent offences will be treated according to the degree of good faith shown by the guilty parties in addressing their "Offending Behaviour", to use the trade jargon.

In real terms, then, if you restrict your drug use to purely dope smoking, you'll get at least a second chance if you're captured, and you won't have to put your hands up beforehand to earn it. For the rest, the rules as explained in a previous issue of the Post apply.

One very important last point: the above only applies to a positive urine test, i.e. to cannabis in your system; possession remains not only certain to get you shipped, but also highly likely to face criminal charges. So now you know.

# VISITORS

Today (Monday): Some members of the Parole Board will be visiting Penninghame today, on their annual round of Scottish prisons. They'll be talking to staff and prisoners as well as senior management, and it might be interesting to hear their views on recent developments in the drugs policy that has been/is being developed here and nowhere else. (Anything else they say is likely, in Judas's opinion, to be the usual platitudinous bullshit.)

Also this week, on Wednesday, Dr. Jolliffe, the SPS Chief Medical Adviser, (and a prime mover behind the current Penninghame policy) will be visiting the House. Unfortunately, he's not interested in talking to mere prisoners, he's only here to harangue the Drugs Council. (Who? Ed.)

# POPEYE LIVES!!

While you're all out on your five (or seven) days' summer leave, living a life of riot and dissipation, spare a thought for one man who'll actually be hard at work, and dreaming of his return to Camp Whoopee where he can lie up and rest. Gary McQueen, of West Lodge infamy, has been taken on by Stena Sealink to try his hand at cooking spinach, with a view to getting a regular berth as a trainee ship's cook once he's released. Ten out of ten to all concerned, both here and at Stena, for working hard to get a good man a better-than-even break.

Anyone else out there got any bright ideas along similar lines? If so, tell somebody about it; you could just talk yourself into a job.

# MEN WITH A MISSION

Senior management deserted the jail *en masse* last Monday, bound for Edinbro and the Lifers' Section of the Department, to see how they're taking the drugs-related shenanigans down here. The Great White Father, together with Bob White, Sandy O'Connor and the bold Olav, came back with cautiously optimistic opinions about the fate of those who are damned if they do, and damned if they don't, but (as usual), no hard and fast promises that owning up to a drug problem won't cost a lifer his date. The *status quo ante* thus prevails, and lifers come forward at their own peril.



## A A

Got a tip-off from an unknown source that there's an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting being held in the Education Unit on Sunday, June 25th. As usual, all welcome. See the notice-board for details.

## C C

Being a member of the Community Council these days is more than a bit frustrating, as I was saying to my man Hamish the other day. I wasn't totally surprised to find that he agreed with me, suffering as he is from a wee bit of offpissedness at the apparent inability of the Council to actually meet, let alone decide anything. O.K., so we've managed to get one or two articles onto the statute books, he said, (he didn't really, but this ain't a tape transcript, and anyway, have you never heard of artistic licence?) but the whole thing could do with some streamlining so we can get it moving properly.

Standby for CC Mk III, coming your way soon.

NB: Jimmy Kelly's imminent departure is nothing to do with the streamling exercise. Honest.



## COOKHOUSE CRACK

*ROY says:* You again? Kin' ye no' fill yir rag wi'oot comin' here tae interrupt us at wir wurk?

*TONY says:* Aye, get oot wir road, kin ye no' see wir busy?

*WATTIE says:* We'd be a lot less busy if some o' they spamheids oot there wid return thir plates tae the servery wance they've finished eatin'.

*TONY says:* Quite right, Wattie. Wiv got enough work tae get the meals ready an' wash up eftirwards wi'oot ha'ein' tae go tubin' fur they idle \*\*\*\*\*.

*ROY says:* Git oan wi' yir wurk, you, an' mind yir language. 'E cannae print wurds like \*\*\*\*\* in 'e's rag.

*TONY says:* Naw, but 'e kin move 'e's erse so's Ah kin git mah wurk done.

*WATTIE says:* Right enuff. Beat it you. An' while yir oan yir wey, make a wee note o' the fact that wu'll be gettin' a different brand o' orange juice fae now oan. The price o' thon Kulana stuff's burstin' wir budget.

(More whinges next Post)

# *Pennington* **POST**

**Issue No.20      28th June 1995 .**

**Editor: Judas**

**Price: Cheap**

## **SMALL ADS**

Don't blame Pete Williams for the malfunctioning Coke machine, (says Pete Williams), the fault lies entirely with the Coca-Cola company who've supplied us with a dodgy piece of merchandise. A replacement is on the way, but god knows when.

*It appears that there are quite a few people in the house who are fond of putting their names up for various outside activities (e.g. hill-walks, forest walks, swimming, etc.) and who then can't be annoyed turning up when it's time to go. That'd be cool if it weren't for the fact that all these activities tend to be over-subscribed, so any no-show is actually depriving someone who really wants to go. Think about it before you stick your name down, please.*

Gordon Webster has asked me to inform everyone that there will be a Dorm inspection before the Happy Buses leave this weekend, and until all rubbish is cleared from all Dorms, the bus just ain't going.

Makes sense, really; who wants to come back to a Dorm stinking of festering rubbish? Clean it up before you go, guys, it'll save time.

*Look out for a notice going up quite soon about a new class, to be run in the Autumn term. It's about solving problems, and that doesn't mean Maths. It's about real Life problems, how to solve them, or even, (better still), how to avoid getting into some of the worse ones.*

Anyone wanting to book a six-hour local leave for the first weekend after the summer leave should do so on Thursday evening, (29th June). As usual, first come, first served.

*And finally, Judas wishes everyone a nice holiday, the best of whatever it is that you get your rocks off to, and a pleasant stock of memories to drag back to Camp Whoopee with you. You'll probably need all the good memories you can get by September.*

# RA COONCIL

Following last week's statement about the need for the Community Council to at least meet on a regular basis, more than one or two guys have approached Judas to ask whether or not this Council actually exists anywhere other than in the Propaganda files of the Scottish Home and Health Department. While it would be very difficult to blame anyone for such a pessimistic viewpoint, it's the job (or one of the jobs) of the Post to keep you informed about activities within the House, including the workings of the Community Council; the fact that very little of any substance has been reported about the doings of ra Council can be attributed to two main problems:

1) The Council has only met once since it was re-constituted a few weeks ago, a state of affairs which has been noted and will be rectified after the summer leave.

2) Several of the points that were raised at the one and only meeting needed farther investigation, consultation, or permission from outside bodies before they could be implemented; and no-one bothered to keep the Post informed of how quickly or slowly, well or badly, these negotiations have been going. Again, senior management have been made aware of this, and have agreed to make every effort to achieve and maintain a steady flow of information to Post HQ.

From next month onward, the Council (comprising the four prisoner representatives of the four sub-committees, i.e. Judas, Brian Blair, Wullie Scott and Jim Kelly's replacement), will meet with the duty S.O. (sorry, Supervisor) twice a month, and any business that can't be sorted out at these meetings will be held over for discussion with Our Lord and Master, to see if it can be resolved there. That, in theory, is how Ra Council is supposed to work, but hang onto your scepticism; you might still need it.

Very shortly, we'll need a replacement for Jim Kelly, who's away to TFF next month. Jim's been doing his bit on the Visits and Welfare sub-committee, working with Roy Rodgers, so if you're interested in trying to make this a happier place to be, see either Jim or Roy. Cheers.

# THE EDUCATION UNIT

**WILL CLOSE FOR THE SUMMER ON**

**Friday, 30th June**

**GRAND RE-OPENING AND ENROLMENT DAY**

**Monday, 21st August**

## **DRESS**

A reminder from the cooks that it's unwise (as well as being against House rules) to eat in the dining hall without wearing adequate clothes for your protection, i.e. shirts and trousers rather than bare torsos and shorts. ( This warning brought to you by Wattie's Whinges, Inc.; it should have been on the back page, but I ran out of space there.)



Here, Rocky, this is what a goal looks like!

## **OPEN DAY**

Very soon now, a notice will be going up to ask for volunteers to help run the Open Day on August 5th. We'll need people to man the tea-bar and most of the stalls, help run the games & sports, patrol the river bank throughout the day, act as car-park guides, and form a healthy clean-up squad for the Sunday.

The idea is to get enough bodies to ensure that nobody's asked to spend the whole day working, so if you're going to have any spare time at all, please muck in. Won't look too good if we invite hundreds of people and can't entertain them.

# grants

I didn't think it was all that much of a grant myself; twelve quid for five days? So I went along to query this, and was told that the statutory award for prisoners on leave is two pounds per day, as it has been since 1984, (or so I believe), so there's no cause for complaint, is there? (The extra couple of quid is for the journey, a quid each way, to pour Coke or whatever down your neck, if you're that way inclined.)

## ACE REPORTER IN TOWN!

### Shock! Horror! Probe!

The Penninghame Post spares no expense to bring you the best news coverage in the House, as was proved recently by the addition of Davie "Scoop" Whitelaw to the Post's journalistic staff.

A man of undisputed integrity, Davie will be moving among you to track down the *REAL* news, as it happens, and to report that news, without fear or favour, in the pages of your favourite newsletter. Remember, for real news about real people, the Post's the place.



## COOKHOUSE CRACK

ROY says: Here Wattie, thon specky eejit's back lookin' fur news fur 'e's rag.

WATTIE says: Ye kin start by tellin' wir clientele tae look eftir they new chairs an' tables wiv jist got.

ROY says: Aye, there's a healthy chunk oot o' the jail budget tae provide thum, so go easy, guys. Nae carvin' yer names oan thum.

KITTY says: Aye, Kitty's Bistro disnae tolerate vandalism. Yis'll be barred if yis dinnae screw the nut.

WATTIE says: Git oan wi' the washin' up, you. Roy, gonnæ tell thum about the meals fur when they come back fae thir leave?

ROY says: Aye. Yis'll huv noticed thir's a light tea laid oan fur the Friday when yis get back. If yis think it's a good idea, let wis know, an' wu'll lay the same oan fur every weekend leave comin' back.

(More whinges next Post)

# Penninghame POST

**Issue No.22. 2nd November 1995 .**

Welcome to the rebirth of the Penninghame Post. The newsletter has not been published for some time due to there being nobody to do the job. I am now taking up the challenge, so to speak, and hope that we can make the most of the Post and the opportunities it offers us in terms of being able to communicate to the rest of the establishment.

My intention is to offer a slightly different Post to that which previous administrations provided. As well as the usual stuff about the establishment and what's happening, I would like to see the residents using this medium as a means of communicating with the rest of the establishment. Any budding writers out there who would like to have something published, get in touch with either Meg or myself and we'll do our best to fit your work in.

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Stewart Malone, but I have noticed that previous editors have used a nickname of some sort. Since I am the best goalkeeper this place has ever seen, and the six-a-side team has actually started to win games since my arrival, I shall henceforth refer to myself simply as The Cat.

Well lads, I hope that you will all make an effort to help us get something out of this publication. I firmly believe that every resident should and will be able to appreciate and enjoy the Post, but we must view it with the correct attitude and not be complacent when it comes to submitting material.

Anyway, I've said enough for now, so I'll leave you all with the hope that I will be hearing from and collecting material from, as many of you as possible. Take care everyone, and enjoy your Post.

**THE CAT**

# *Calligraphy*

ANYONE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE ABOVE CLASS, PUT YOUR NAME ON THE SHEET ON THE EDUCATION NOTICEBOARD.

## **SOCIAL WORK NOTICE**

Do you have a problem with drugs? Alcohol? Controlling your anger? Relationships perhaps?

If you have a difficulty with any of the above, or anything else for that matter, don't hesitate to get in touch with Bob the social worker. He assures us that he can help with anything or, if he can't, then he's sure to know someone who can.

Bob would like to advise everyone that these issues are best addressed before the time comes to go up for parole.

ANYONE WISHING TO SEE BOB SHOULD PUT THEIR NAME IN THE BOOK WHICH IS KEPT AT THE GATE.

## **FOOTBALL ROUND-UP**

The six-a-side team won its last match 5-3. Leading 3-0 at half-time, we fell apart in the second half, due mainly to an ill-advised double substitution. Steph scored a hat-trick, and was his usual greedy self. Paddy was subbed, as was John, while they were both playing pretty well. Wee Eddie moaned like Hilda Ogden, while The Dagger has developed a persecution complex about the referee. The Cat was his usual magnificent self.

NEXT WEEK- Eddie King becomes official football writer.

## **Committee Business**

A house committee meeting was held on Wednesday, 25th October. A number of issues were discussed. My mole in the committee has furnished me with the relevant details.

In attendance on behalf of the residents were Paddy McGarry, Wullie Scott, Brian Blair and Rab Smith. The main issues discussed were;

1) It has been decided that a vending machine for dispensing phonecards is to be installed at the gate. It will cost £300, and this sum shall be extracted from the common good fund.

2) There was also discussion of a confectionery machine being purchased. This was also agreed, but this won't be purchased until a later date.

3) All residents have been asked if they are willing to contribute 25p per week from their wages in order to fund the reconnection of Sky TV. This money, it is planned, shall be deducted from wages.

4) We are still awaiting news of when the Christmas leave period will be this year, and how long it will last. We have been promised news in the near future.

5) The good old Common Good Fund will also be providing a new video machine for the recreation room. The machine which is there at present is broken. Before anyone asks, the old machine is to be repaired and placed on exhibit in Dorm 11.

6) The governor has decreed that the mountain bikes are not to be used without staff supervision. This is, apparently, to comply with Health & Safety Regulations.

7) Since weekend visits have been moved to the house now, it has been decided that the Social Club can be used for PT purposes at weekends.

8) Finally, swimming rights have been restored! However, the rogues who caused the hassle in the first place by terrorising the public remain banned.



# **SOOKS COOKS**

Roy would like to bring everyone's attention to a few brief points;

- 1) He would like everyone to welcome the new cook, Mr. Baxter. Apparently we are very lucky to have Mr. Baxter, as he has been head cook in a few places, Roy assures us.
- 2) Roy would also like everyone to take note of the Governor's instruction that the toaster is not to be used during the day???
- 3) The kitchen is also considering the possibility of providing the packed tea on a daily basis. We are to think about this and let the cooks know whether or not we fancy the idea.
- 4) Roy also reminds us that he is always open to new ideas regarding the menu. However, he points out that we are constrained by the budget of £1.50 per day per person.

**EDUCATION**  
**COMING SOON**

**COMMUNICATIONS 1, 2 & 3**

**WATCH THIS SPACE**  
**&**  
**THE EDUCATION NOTICE BOARD**

**Details to follow soon.**

# Penninghame POST

**Issue No.23, 30th November 1995 .**

Hello lads. Welcome to the latest edition of the Penninghame Post. Inside you'll find a larger publication than usual. I'm optimistic that we can keep to this new eight-page layout, but we'll require you lot to keep submitting ideas and/or material.

Unfortunately, I still haven't finished negotiating with the cartoonist I mentioned in the last issue. However, we have almost reached agreement and I am certain that we'll have him in place for the next issue.

I do, though, have a few new things this time. This week sees the start of our new feature "Hamish Replies". This is where we all get the opportunity to put our questions to the governor. If any of you wish to submit any questions for the governor to answer, then see the Cat and I'll do my best to get them into the next issue.

Also new this week is the quiz. Hamish has agreed to put up a phone card for the winner. I intend to have the quiz in every issue, so there's a phone card up for grabs for the first all-correct entry drawn from the hat on Thursday 7th December.

To enter the quiz, all you have to do is put your answers down on a piece of paper and give them to me (The Cat) before next Thursday at 6.00pm. The winner will be the person with the most correct answers. In the event of a tie, all the entries with the most correct answers shall go into the hat and the winner selected at random.

The quiz will have to be run fairly lads, so please don't try to bully the answers out of me. Enjoy your Post and we'll be back in a fortnight.

**THE CAT**

# GARDENS

## V.T. HORTICULTURE

From 8.1.96, our botanical person Kirstin begins teaching this new course. She will be teaching a different module each month. Anyone who would like to do any of the modules should fill in a change of work party form.

N.B. Bear in mind that you will have to re-apply each month as a new module begins.

ATTENTION SNOOKER PLAYERS!

Our resident expert in sport, manager supreme and simply super dude, Mr. Gillies Cooper (last issue's holder of Mug of the Week award), has decided to start up a snooker league.

Anyone interested in competing should put their names on the sheet on the notice board by 6.00pm on Friday 8th December - at the very latest!

*The education unit shall close for Christmas on 21.12.95, and reopen on 8.1.96.*

## NEWS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Hamish hasn't got much news for us this week. The SKY TV saga continues, and there's a message for us regarding the Christmas leave period.

1) A delegation from SPS Headquarters met with the SKY people on Monday of this week, in order to thrash out some sort of deal. Hamish has been promised news as soon as there is anything concrete to report. We wait with bated breath!!

2) Hamish would also like everyone to know that the Scottish Prison Service has made all of its hotels available to us residents in case of difficulties during the home leave period. Seriously though, the message is that if anyone has problems at home, e.g. if we have a fall-out or get flung out or anything like that, then we should hand ourselves in to our nearest prison. Hamish assures us that, if for any reason any of us find ourselves with nowhere to stay, then we should go to our nearest nick and Hamish will give us back the time we've lost. So, let's suppose someone gets flung out of their house and goes to his nearest prison when there's 3 days leave left. Once we all come back to Penninghame that person will be owed 3 days leave. However, Hamish regrets that this offer cannot apply in cases where there has been police charges involved.

MR. O'CONNOR WOULD LIKE EVERYONE TO KNOW THAT THERE WILL BE A PRE-CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 20TH DECEMBER AT 1.45pm.

## MUG OF THE WEEK

This week we almost never had a Mug of the Week. However, popular demand gives the award to Sid. Apparently he flung a wee tantrum because he was getting beat at snooker. Stormed out of the competition while 28 points behind with 7 reds left on the table.

# ***SOCIAL WORK NOTICE***

## **IMPORTANT**

Bob would like it to be known that, contrary to misguided rumours, he is, in fact, a social worker and not a parole officer.

He lists his statutory duties as;

Writing parole reports.

Analysing offending behaviour.

Helping to decide upon appropriate action for individuals to undertake in order to address offending behaviour.

Addressing social work problems which CANNOT be dealt with by personal officers.

***BOB HOPES THIS WILL HELP TO CLARIFY ANY MISUNDERSTANDINGS ABOUT HIS ROLE.***

## **EDUCATION COMMUNICATIONS**

***This new class begins on Thursday 7th December.***

***Check education timetable for names.***

# QUIZ

- 1) When was the first soccer World Cup held?
- 2) Who won it?
- 3) Who was the lead singer with the group PHD?
- 4) How many balls are required to play a game of snooker?
- 5) What is the capital city of Outer Mongolia?
- 6) Who manages the Penninghame football team?
- 7) What is the second highest mountain on earth?
- 8) Where is the southernmost point in Scotland?
- 9) Anagram - What six-letter word can be made from the word "Monday"?
- 10) What is the second largest city in Great Britain?

# FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

*Tues 21st Nov, Penninghame 2 - Pensioners 6*

A dreadful night for the lads, with almost everyone performing below par. The only one to escape blame in this debacle was John Adams. Gilly was, as usual, beeling!!! He's threatening us with a dropping if we don't pull our socks up.

## MAN OF THE MATCH - JOHN ADAMS

*Tues 28th Nov, Penninghame 7 - Glentrool 0*

The boys got back on the winning trail this week with a convincing victory over Glentrool. This performance had goals with excellent build-up play, orchestrated from the back by Jamie the Dagger, and duly dispatched into the net by a sharp-looking Ed King. Eddie buried 4, Steff 2 and John got 1. Poor Paddy ended up in hospital for the cause. He suffered torn ligaments from the close attention the opposition gave him. It looks like the bold Paddy may be out for a spell, giving someone else the chance to stake a claim for a place in the starting line-up. The Cat kept a clean sheet, which speaks for itself.

*MAN OF THE MATCH - THE DAGGER. Jamie was playing so well that he could even afford to show off. He teased the opposition in a manner unseen since Jim Baxter's performance against the auld enemy in 1967.*

**I have been asked to remind everyone of the existence of the Hobbies Room. It's only four weeks until Christmas, and anyone who wishes to make any presents should begin as soon as possible.**

### NOTICE

Would residents who are in Newton Stewart awaiting transport from the square please refrain from using the MacMillan Hall, as there has been a complaint from the Hall staff regarding the mess left by some residents.

**W. HAINING**

# HAMISH REPLIES

This is the page where we all get an opportunity to put our questions to the governor. Hopefully, this will be a well-used feature.

Q) What procedures exist for re-electing the members of the House Committee?

A) Residents should convene a meeting and have a vote.

Q) If management are considering purchasing fridges, what was the point of wasting resources on the cool boxes? Furthermore, wouldn't the money be better spent installing video recorders into the dorms?

A) The cool boxes were a temporary measure to satisfy Health and Safety regulations. Fridges are now attainable because the money is now available to purchase them. Videos are out of the question because the money for the fridges cannot be spent on anything else.

Q) Other establishments in the SPS have replaced the traditional "supper bun" with packets of biscuits. Why do we get provided with neither at Penninghame?

A) Hamish cannot answer this question, but suggests we take it up with the kitchen. Apparently one of the members of the House Committee is responsible for dealing with catering issues, and that person should bring it up.

Q) Considering the recent changes to the criteria for coming to Penninghame, i.e. 10 years and over, are there any plans to address the limited work opportunities available, particularly in regard to V.T. courses?

A) Next month sees the start of a V.T. course in Horticulture, and a V.T. course in catering will soon be available in the kitchen. Apart from these, SPS Headquarters do not think Penninghame warrants the expense of a V.T. instructor.

*CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE*



**Q) Are there any official statistics on parole success rates at Penninghame and, if not, can they be obtained?**

**A) Unfortunately, these statistics are not available. There are figures available relating to the system as a whole, but these are not split into individual establishments. Anyone who would like to see the figures which are available should look in the education unit for the "Report of The Parole Board for Scotland".**

**Q) Why do residents lose wages when they happen to be off work through illness?**

**A) When someone happens to be off work, then they are paid a minimum wage. This is seen to be fair to the people who are at their work. However, SPS Headquarters are presently reviewing this issue and changes may be in the offing.**

# **DANCE CLASS**



**Wee Solly's dance class shall be held in the social club twice a week.**

**Monday - 6.00-6.30pm**

**Saturday - 1.00-2.30pm**

**The class is being restricted to ten people, and there are already nine applicants, which means of course, there's only one place left. Anyone who wants it had better be quick.**

**THE CLASS HAS A PROVISIONAL START-  
ING DATE OF MONDAY 3rd DECEMBER**



# Penninghame POST

Issue No.24. 14th December 1995, Xmas Edition

Welcome to the Xmas edition of the Penninghame Post. This issue is quite a quiet one this time. Everyone is out for Christmas leave this week - in case anyone had forgotten! There is little to report this week in the way of news, so I'll just take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and, most importantly, a good leave.

As this edition is only a short one, I haven't got space for the quiz this week. However, it will be straight back in the New Year when we get back to normal again. The phonecard for the last one was won by Mr. Bob Brodie for the only all-correct entry. Vinnie merits a mention for his second place with nine out of ten.

Anyway, lads, we'll all be home in four days time. The governor is holding a community meeting on Wednesday afternoon. I think it's so we can all be told about the silly things we've not to be doing while we're out. We've not to get drunk, stoned or arrested or we'll be in big trouble. I suppose we'd be as well staying in here then!

As for the Mug of the week award, a few people will be relieved to find out it goes to someone no longer with us. All I'm saying is that Rab Lafferty and the Dagger can consider themselves lucky. I'll see you all in the New Year when the Cat goes political - if they'll let me. Merry Xmas.



## THE CAT



# ***FOOTBALL ROUND-UP***

## **TUES 5th DEC, Penninghame 6 - Star Inn 1**

On a cold and miserable night, under a heavy snowfall, Penninghame produced what is arguably their best performance yet in this league. The Star Inn are a highly rated team who lie second in the league. The performance can be described as nothing less than thoroughly outstanding.

After five minutes, the Star Inn opened the scoring with a well worked goal. By half-time, however, the lads had clawed their way back into the game and turned round with a 2-1 lead. Obviously the Star Inn are too used to being in control of games, because they came out in the second half to lose their discipline completely, allowing the lads to exploit the situation and score another four before the final whistle.

Paddy, Eddie and John all scored, whilst Steff picked up another hat-trick. The Cat was kept busy at the back, and had some really crucial saves to make.

***MAN OF THE MATCH - The award this week goes to the team for a faultless collective performance.***

## **TUES 12th DEC, Penninghame 1 - Galloway Bar 2**

This game saw a truly dismal performance from the lads. Went down 1-0 to a first-minute goal and, despite equalising during the second half from an Eddie King penalty, it just wasn't our night and we soon went down again. After such a good result last week, this result is very disappointing.



## **NEWS FROM THE GOVERNOR**

Hamish hasn't much news for us this month either. He does, though, wish everyone a Merry Xmas, a Happy New Year, and hopes sincerely (so he says!) that none of us encounter any problems when we are out on leave.

He regrets to inform us that the negotiations with the SKY TV people are not going too well. It seems that the present situation suggests that SKY are wanting something in the region of £100 per month to provide us with satellite TV. Negotiations are continuing and we will be kept informed.

Another piece of bad news is that the facilities in the Education Unit will no longer be available to us during weekends and evenings. This is because people have been messing about with the computers and have disrupted the systems.

### **SURGERY**

The purchase of medication from Newton Stewart or elsewhere for personal use in the prison, must cease forthwith.

The only medication for use in the prison will be issued from the health centre.

The only other medication allowed, will be that which is prescribed by your G.P., if you take ill while on home leave, this should be declared on your return to the prison to be entered on your medical records.

There is no excuse for being found positive in a drugs test for anything other than that which is prescribed from the health centre or G.P.

### **PETE WILLIAMS SAYS .....**

As you know, you will be getting £7 on return from Xmas home leave. However, this will not be paid until Friday 29th Dec.

MERRY XMAS

# EDUCATION

COMING SOON

## Health & Safety

Early in the New Year, the Education Unit will be organising a one day course for the Certificate in Elementary Health and Safety. The course will be run the Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland and will last for one day.

Details to follow soon.

Mr. O'Connor would like to wish everyone a SAFE and SUCCESSFUL RETURN from Home Leave.



# Penninghams POST

Issue No.25. 18th January 1996.

Happy New Year and all that from your Penninghame Post. The Cat's still trying to get into the swing of things again, hence this publication being the shorter version, rather than the double pager which I hope will be the regular format as of next edition.

Inside you'll read all about the award we've all won for our good behaviour during Christmas leave. I've got a tear in my eye as I write this lads, but Hamish is so proud of us all. See inside for further details.

Well lads, it's not been too good a year for us so far. We've got a chief in the house, the fitba team's playing rotten and January seems to be a really bad month for going out on weekends to spend other people's money.

Anyway, enough from me. Have a good year everyone - win the lottery, get parole and start giving me your news and views for the Post. Enjoy!

## THE CAT

## MUG OF THE WEEK

This first award of the New Year has to go to the Tea Leaf who's been nipping in and out of dorms. We are not amused! RAT!!!

# ***FOOTBALL ROUND-UP***

## **TUES 9th JAN, Penninghame 2 - Barholm Arms 2**

On a cold damp night, Penninghame fought back from a 2-0 half-time deficit to earn a draw in what was a tough, no-quarter-given encounter. Wee Eddie and John Adams scored late goals to earn us the point.

***MAN OF THE MATCH - THE CAT, for pulling off some outstanding saves which undoubtedly earned us the draw.***

Team ; The Cat, The Dagger, John, Paddy, Steff (sub. wee Dougie), wee Eddie

## **TUES 16th JAN, Penninghame 2 - Creetown Rovers 5**

Even the sight of a travelling support (that was Bob Barr, the social worker) failed to lift the lads for this one. A victory would have seen us jump to a possible third place in the league. A defeat ensured we stayed at sixth. The entire team performance was poor, so poor that we don't think anyone deserves the Man of the Match award. John and Steff scored one each to make the score look a bit more respectable. Trust the lads to have a howler the week the Galloway Gazette covered our game.

Team; The Cat, The Dagger, John, Paddy (sub. wee Dougie), Steff, wee Eddie.



***Our sports writer is Eddie King.***

## NEWS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Hamish seems to be in a good mood this week. All his news is apologies and thank yous. So, here they are;

1) Thank you all for coming back from the Christmas leave. (He's serious lads, honest!). In fact, it seems we've won some sort of prize. I hear on good authority that we are the only open prison in Scotland to have everyone come back from home leave. Not only does Hamish lift this coveted title, but he lifts it for the third year in a row.

2) It gets better. Hamish is also very sorry about the bus breaking down.

3) He also apologises for the heating problems when we came back.

4) He is also sorry about East Lodge having to close down temporarily.

5) The Sky saga drags on. The latest is that they want to charge 40p per prisoner per week for the basic service, and 45p a week for the fuller service. This would work out at either £96 or £108 per month. Barlinnie's bill goes up by £2070 per month.

5) Remember we have a Burns Supper on Monday 22nd January. Everything except a piper has been arranged already. Alistair Macdonald will be in attendance. Our thanks to Bill McGibbon for organising the event.

Last, but not least, Hamish takes the greatest of pleasure in telling us that the dolly-bird seen in the house on last Thursday was an interviewer and not an applicant for Mr. Mars post. So she will most definitely not be our next nurse.



# EDUCATION

*Some new news from the education department this week.*

*1) Around mid-February, a class designed to help people develop a strategy for handling stress will begin in the education unit.*

*2) Also coming soon is a Maths class, which intends to provide Scotvec modules at all levels.*

*3) We have a provisional starting date of February 14th/15th for the Health and Safety course.*

*4) Evening classes - there is now four evening classes available, woodwork, videography, vegetarian cookery and keyboard playing. Anyone interested in any of these should report to Meg at the education unit at 11.30am on Monday 22nd January.*

**If you have any queries about any matters educational, GO AND SEE MEG!**

## Q U I Z

Just three questions this week. First all-correct entry drawn at 6.00pm next Thursday wins a phonecard. All the best.

- 1) Who scored the winner in last year's Cup Winners Cup final?**
- 2) What is the capital city of Brazil?**
- 3) Who killed Franz Ferdinand?**

# Penninghame POST

Issue No.28. 20th March 1996.

Welcome to issue 28 of the Penninghame Post. This week's Post will be a bit more sombre than usual, due to the sorrow I'm sure we all still feel in the wake of the Dunblane massacre. For this reason, I am unable to feature a Mug of the Week this time.

The residents in here are certainly no angels, but this atrocious offence has affected each and every one of us. I am particularly pleased to be able to inform you all that our collection for the Appeal Fund has raised £80, and the governor would like one of the residents to go down and hand the donation in to the bank. This money comprises of £48 which was collected last Thursday, and a further £32 which came from the Sky TV fund.

The fact that the vast majority of prisoners contributed from our limited earnings says a great deal about how this affair has affected us all.

I would like to finish this week by extending the heartfelt condolences of each and every one of us to the families of all the little children.

**THE CAT**

# QUIZ

Welcome to this week's quiz. The winner of the last one has just made history by winning the quiz twice in a row. I know that Gilly Cooper will be calling foul play, because he put in an entry last week and never won. I refused Gilly's offer of half the phonecard if I would fix it for him to win. You should have known that I am above bribery Gillies! Anyway, the draw was made by Mr. Bob Barr this week in the presence of myself and Sheila. Congratulations, Mr. Jamie Kenny.

Anyway, here's the questions for this week.

- 1) Who is the only person ever to have won two Penninghame Post quizzes?*
- 2) What is the longest war that the U.S.A. has been involved in?*
- 3) What is the state capital of California?*

## NEWS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Hamish has a few pieces of news this week;

1) Hamish commends everyone on their generosity towards the Dunblane Appeal.

2) A new fire alarm system will be installed in the main house.

3) New boilers are to be fitted very soon, and Hamish trusts this will solve the heating problems in the main house.

4) A full heating survey is being carried out on West Lodge, with the eventual aim of solving the heating problems.

5) A painting programme will begin in the next few weeks for the Lodges, and then the main house. Everyone will have to move temporarily in order to allow this work to be carried out.

6) The two windows which are broken in the weights room will have to remain screwed shut until they have been replaced. Hamish reminds us that we should report breakages to staff in order that they can be attended to sooner.

7) The new vending machine should be back in use within the week.

8) There will be a community meeting on 23rd April to address two issues;

a) the criteria for the new accommodation units.

b) a No Smoking policy.



# GARDEN PLOTS!

Mr. Gillies Cooper is attempting to start up an allotment scheme. He hopes to convince the governor that there is a demand for an opportunity for residents to grow their own plants/ vegetables. Hopefully, if there is enough interest shown, some land will be provided for the purpose.

If you are interested, see the Gilly fella and give him your name. Farmer Cooper will do what he can!

## EDUCATION

*The Education Unit will be close on 1st April for two weeks. It will re-open on Monday 15th April.*



### NOTICE

Roy Rogers, our cook, wishes to start up a catering committee and is looking for volunteers to participate. If you are interested in serving on this, then go and see Roy.

He also requires one volunteer to sit on the already established Visits Committee.

# Penninghame POST

Issue No.29. 27th March 1996.

This week sees a bonus edition of the Post. This is because the Education Unit is closing for a fortnight. The main news this week is the withdrawal of beef. News arrived yesterday that the SPS is, until further notice, suspending all purchase and use of beef products. Residents in the lodges are asked to heed the advice, but to make up their own minds about whether or not to use beef.

Gilly Cooper attempted to get Pete Williams to organise a quiz team to take on a residents team. Ideally, he wanted a team from the office, and possibly a staff team, so that we could have a competition. It seems that Pete has taken cold feet and no longer wishes to play! Gilly reckons that publication of his fear might just shake Pete up enough to get a team together. Here's hoping!

The only other thing left to mention is the quiz. Last week's quiz is still open until 1800hrs tomorrow, which is why I can't yet tell you the winner. I can tell you that Jamie Kenny is so far the only person to enter. So, unless you get your finger out and give me an entry, Jamie will be the winner for the third week in a row. I am letting you all know this to try to avert shouts of foul play!

Be lucky!

**THE CAT**

# QUIZ

As I've already mentioned, we don't yet know this week's winner, as I have to wait until tomorrow to see if there are any more entries. Nevertheless, there will still be a quiz this time, as there will not be another Post for at least three weeks.

This time there is only one question. There are ten ways for a batsman to get "out" in the game of cricket. Next week's phonecard goes to the person who can tell me them all, or to whoever gets the most of them. Good luck, and the deadline this time is 1800hrs on Wednesday 3rd April.

# CHEER!O!

Three of our residents will be leaving during the next week, and I'd like to take this opportunity to wish them all the best of luck.

*Vinny Graham goes to TFF.*

*Jimmy Hynes gets released on parole.*

*Big Gary McQueen gets liberated without parole.*

**All the best lads!**

Big Ron sends Gary his best wishes from Portobello beach.

## **NEWS FROM THE GOVERNOR**

Hamish has a few pieces of news this week;

1) At long last, a quote has arrived from the Sky TV people. The charge to Penninghame for the service is £1.80 per prisoner per month plus VAT. This works out at around 50p per week per person.

2) Hamish has discovered that a large proportion of the TVs which need repairing require new circuit boards. This suggests that they are being ill-treated, i.e. banged or dropped. Hamish reminds us that money for replacing TVs is limited and won't last for ever. He hopes that nobody would break their TV in order to get a remote control replacement, and points out that we are getting near the time when he won't be able to replace them at all.

3) Work has now started on the new boilers. This should solve the heating problems in the main house.

4) Efforts are presently being made to get the numbers up here at Penninghame.

5) Present plans are for the summer leave to be taken on 1st July.

6) From 22.6.96 until 7.7.96 the army are having an exercise called "Able Condor". They have permission to erect their tents on the concrete square on the way to the football park. This area will be doubly out of bounds for the duration of the exercise.

7) New heating and a new kitchen are to be installed in the Club.



# MUG OF THE WEEK

This week's award should actually be a Mug of the Century! A certain gentleman was using a Vick's inhaler on Sunday evening. A couple of the lads pretended that the inhaler actually contained opiates and could therefore cause one to fail a drug test. The gentleman in question never got a wink of sleep on Sunday night, and was first down to the surgery come Monday morning - to "own up" to using a Vick's inhaler. Guess who the gentleman was?

***Take a bow, Mr. Peter Weldon! Mug! Mug! Mug!***

## NOTICE

*Roy Rogers is still looking for volunteers to participate in a catering committee. If you are interested in serving on this, then go and see Roy.*

*He also requires one volunteer to sit on the already established Visits Committee.*

## **EDUCATION**

***The Education Unit will close on 1st April for two weeks. It will re-open on Monday 15th April.***

# Penninghame POST

Issue No.30, 17th April 1996.

Hello everyone. Welcome to the thirtieth issue of the Penninghame Post. This week we hear details of the football team's defeat in the cup final. We also have a particularly good Mug of the Week this week. The winner of Mug of the Week is to be told that he was nominated for the award by the "hole-in-the-wall" gang!

Other major news this week centres on the latest about the ban on beef. New developments on this front can be found on "Cook's Corner". It should be stressed that this is only the latest news on the matter. Apparently the Department are preparing something today to update the situation. Keep your eyes on the notice board for further developments.

As usual, we have the quiz . Not to be outdone by the tabloids, here at the Penninghame Post we also provide big, big prizes for the luckiest of our readers. For those of you who don't already know, every quiz wins one of our lucky readers a phonecard. I am presently negotiating with Hamish for a £10,000 annual budget to enable us to play Post bingo!

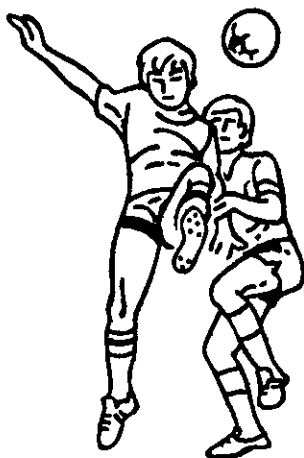
Anyway lads, enjoy you Post - particularly Rab Lafferty, as it will be his last.

**THE CAT**

# FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

## Minnigaff Knockout Cup Final

### Creetown Rovers 4 Penninghame 3



Penninghame started the match well, and played a very good game. With less than ten minutes to play, Penninghame were up 2-1 with two goals from Steff. Then came the collapse. It should have been 3-1 when wee Eddie rounded the keeper and slid a nice shot into the net. The ref saw fit to disallow the goal in very controversial circumstances, then caused further frustration when he refused to give Penninghame two stone-wall penalties. These three dodgy decisions caused the Penninghame team to lose the place a wee bit, and within a few minutes Creetown scored three

goals to go 4-2 up. In the dying minutes Steff scored his hat-trick to make it 4-3. But, alas, it was too little too late.

Nevertheless, the lads done well to reach the final, and we all received a nice trophy. That ends the football season for us, and that's us finished until the new season starts again.



# QUIZ

Welcome to this week's quiz. The last phone-card was won by Mr. Paddy McGarry.

This week's quiz follows the usual rules. Answers to the Cat by 6.00pm. next Wednesday. All the best.

- 1) Which 1980s band was fronted by Martin Fry?*
- 2) Who is the only Scotsman to have won the European Player of the Year award?*
- 3) What does D.C. stand for in Washington D.C.?*

COOKS CORNER

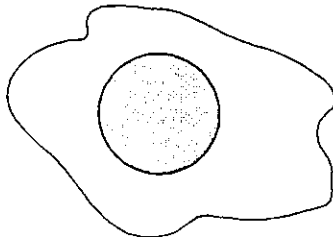


### BSE SCARE

This week brings some news on the BSE business. Roy has received new instructions from the Department regarding the purchase of beef products.

As of now the ban on beef and beef products has been partly lifted. Roy is now able to purchase what is known as joints of beef and primal cuts. Beef in this form is reckoned to be perfectly safe.

This situation will remain until such time as Roy receives new instructions from the Department.



# NOTICE

## SWIMMING

Because of difficulties in arranging monies when the office is closed at the weekend, it has been decided that anyone who wishes to attend the swimming pool on a Saturday afternoon should book their place on a Thursday at the gate.

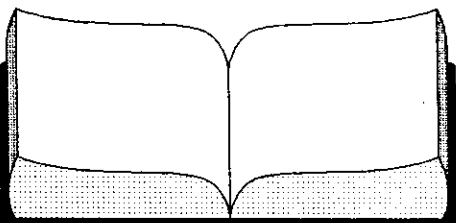
This basically means that if you want to go swimming on a Saturday, you must inform the gate on the Thursday beforehand.

# CHEER!O!

This week sees the release of big Rab Lafferty. Rab's another one of those dudes who aren't cliques (honest boys!), but who still managed to get a fair chunk of parole.

Anyway, all the best Rab. We hope we don't see you in a place like this again. Take care.

# EDUCATION



*Meg would like everyone to note that there are spaces available in two existing classes.*

*The mid-week club meets on a Tuesday morning to discuss a wide variety of topics. Anyone interested in this discussion group type of class only has to go and see Meg to get on this class.*

*There are also a few spaces available for the maths class. If any of you wish to brush up on your maths, see Meg about joining the class.*



## NEWS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Hamish's news this week is unusually little.

1) He reminds us that there is a community meeting on 23.4.96 to discuss a No Smoking Policy and suggestions for the criteria for entering the new unit. Hamish assures me that no criteria has been set yet, and is eager to hear our suggestions at next week's meeting.



2) He is sorry about the heating problems at present. There is currently work going on to replace the old boilers, but we are presently stuck with an old one which doesn't work too well. He hopes to have the situation resolved as soon as possible.



3) Hamish is still looking for two volunteers to sit on the Drug Liaison Committee. He would like one lifer and one long term to come forward before the next meeting, which is on 24.4.96. This group only convenes four times a year, and Hamish is very keen for prisoners to be represented at this committee.

4) He also sends his condolences to the football team for losing last week's cup final, but congratulates them on getting there.



# MUG OF THE WEEK

*This week's award makes another piece of history in Penninghame Postlore. For the first time, Mug of the Week goes to a member of staff.*

*A certain member of staff was being wound up by a couple of the boys, to such an extent that he lost his temper and kicked a hole in the wall just beside the canteen.*

*The man was initially coy in interview, but eventually admitted that he had been on report for the offence, and was going to have to pay for the damage.*

*Of all the people to lose their temper in this manner, imagine it being Mr. Anger Management himself! Take a bow, Mr. Bob Barr! You are - Mug of the Week!!!*

# Penninghame POST

Issue No.31. 1st May 1996.

Welcome to the 31st edition of the Penninghame Post. This week sees a lot of trivial notices I'm afraid, but I do have an amusing Mug of the Week to cheer you all up. Auld Gilly's in the huff with me again. For those of you who have only recently arrived, I should explain that Gilly is an egomaniac who simply loves seeing his name in print. Every time I allow three issues in a row not to mention him, he pulls me up and goes in the cream puff. So, to keep him happy, he gets a wee mention every now and again. We have to humour our elder citizens, don't we?

You will also see that Jamie Kennie picks up the quiz prize yet again. This is because of a lack of interest on the part of most of our readers. Every week there's a phonecard to be won. Jamie wins his third one because his was the ONLY entry for the last quiz. I'm hoping that I receive more entries in future, as I'm worried that the governor might withdraw the prize if interest doesn't pick up a bit.

I've also been doing a bit of digging around since last week's community meeting, and I have discovered the constitution of the Community Council. You'll find it printed inside - I hope it lets everyone see how things are supposed to be done around here.

Anyway, as always, enjoy!

## THE CAT

# QUIZ

Jamie Kennie this week becomes the first person in history to win the quiz hat-trick. He collects his third phonecard for winning the quiz this week.

Anyway, here's your questions for this week. Entries should be on a piece of paper with your name on it, and held to the Cat by 6.00p.m. on Wednesday 8th May.

- 1) *Where would you find the Sea of Tranquillity?*
- 2) *Who are the least defeated football team in Britain this season?*
- 3) *How many times in a row have Rangers won the Premier League Title?*
- 4) *What do Jamie Kennie and Gazza have in common this week?*

*Best of luck lads, first all-correct entry out of the hat wins a phonecard.*

# **EDUCATION**

As Wullie Scott is being released in two weeks time, Meg will soon require a passman for the education unit.

The job requires someone who can perform general cleaning duties, general running about and dogsbody duties, plus a wee bit of computer work. So, if you think you could do this job, either speak to Meg or watch for the job being advertised and apply.

Meg also invites suggestions for any new courses you would like to see in the education unit.

If you do have any ideas for new courses, go and speak to Meg.

# **SOCIAL WORK NOTICE**

Bob Barr would like it to be known that he goes on holiday to America this week. He is going to that place Lynnyrd Skynnyrd and Neil young fell out about - Alabama! He goes away on Friday, which means that he will be unavailable after tomorrow, Thursday 2nd May, and will not return until Friday 17th May.

He has made arrangements in case of any social work emergencies. People can, through their personal officers, see a social worker from Castle Douglas. They will be seen by either Joy Usher or Ron McKenzie, who can be contacted on ; 01556 504101.

Bob also informs us that Sheila will be around on her usual days.

## **COMMUNITY COUNCIL CONSTITUTION**

The community council will consist of one executive committee and four sub-committees. The executive committee will be known as the council committee and will consist of four residents, one S.O. and one officer, who have been duly elected to serve.

The four sub-committees will be known as;

- 1) House Committee
- 2) Visits and Family Welfare Committee
- 3) Sports and Recreation Committee
- 4) Public Relations Committee

Each sub-committee will consist of two residents and one officer who have been duly elected to serve. The executive reserve the right to increase the size of any sub-committee to look into different aspects of any changes or problems which may arise, and also to co-opt anyone who has specialised knowledge to help to solve problems in their field.

### **SUB-COMMITTEES**

Each sub-committee will deal only with issues relevant to their remit.

Each sub-committee will meet at least once per week. Relevant time to be allowed.

Any resident will have the right to forward any suggestions, complaints or views to any member of the relevant sub-committee concerned with that remit.

It will be the duty of the sub-committee to deal earnestly, where possible, with all issues put to them by the residents. The sub-committee will try to resolve all issues at their level.

Any issues that cannot be resolved at sub-committee level will be forwarded to the Council committee.

It will be the responsibility of each sub-committee to put forward reasoned arguments backed by relevant documentation where appropriate, when forwarding issues to the council committee.

The sub-committee will have the right to reject any issues they feel to be irrelevant or unworkable providing their decision is sustainable. This decision will be taken by means of a vote.

### **COUNCIL COMMITTEE**

It will be the duty of the council committee to review all proposals put forward by the sub-committees and to try and resolve all issues at council level. Any issues that cannot be resolved by the council will be forwarded to the Governor.

The council will have the right to reject any proposals they feel to be irrelevant or unworkable. This will be done by means of a vote. The council committee will elect a chairman at each meeting who will have the power of a casting vote where required. All decisions must be substantiated.

The council committee will have access to relevant documentation, stationary and equipment in order to put forward properly formulated issues to the Governor. The council committee will meet once every two weeks to discuss and resolve any issues put forward by the sub-committees.

The council committee will meet once per month with the Governor to update him on any relevant decisions taken, and to put forward to him any issues they could not resolve.

The council committee will meet on the 2nd and 4th Weds, of the month. They will meet on the 3rd Weds, of the month with the Governor.

### **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE**

All officers and residents will be eligible to serve on the council committee or any of the four sub-committees.

Notice for forthcoming elections and for willing candidates will be posted on the notice board at least 7 days prior to the election. Anyone interested will put their name on the posted sheet. All candidates will be subject to a ballot with those attaining the highest number of votes being elected into office. If any positions are not filled from the notice board then proposals will be accepted from the body of the hall. All officers and residents are eligible to vote.



Roy has only the one grumble this week. Clearly he is getting mellow in his old age!

Re people who are going out at weekends on privately organised fishing trips and things like that; you must let the kitchen know at least five days in advance if you are going to require a packed lunch.

#### **CO-ORDINATOR / RECORD KEEPER**

It was decided at the inaugural meeting that an election should take place for a co-ordinator / record keeper, whose post will include the duties of keeping the flow of information between the various sub-committees and the council. And also be responsible to the council for the preparation of proposals from all the committees to the Governor. And of course the keeping of records, and decisions made for future reference. The post will be on the same terms as the posts on the council and sub-committees.

#### **NOTICE**

Pete Williams wishes everyone to remember that, since the canteen is now closed down, stamps can be purchased from the general office. However, this will only be possible on Thursdays when the wages are being distributed. This starts as of 2nd May.

## NEWS FROM THE GOVERNOR

This week I have been unable to see Hamish. He is off today and is deputised by Mr. Bob White. Apparently there is very little news this week, but he does make the following three points;

- 1) The new units, provisionally known as the stables, are experiencing some technical problems. *Surprise! Surprise!* Mr. White gives a rough guess that they will be ready for occupation around early June.
- 2) He also urges anyone who is interested, and who would like the opportunity to influence decision-making,, to come forward to take part in the committees which are *supposed* to be in existence.
- 3) Mr. Pearce, the Area Director, is due to visit this week, and Mr. White has no doubt that he will have some input into the deciding of the criteria for entry into the Stables complex.

### NOTICE

Mary would like to remind everyone returning from the work parties in the evening that they are supposed to enter the house through the back door. There is to be no more coming back from work through the main entrance. Anyone stupid enough to disobey this rule is to be shot at dawn.

By Order of Mary, leader of the Passman Gang!



# MUG OF THE WEEK

This week's award goes to a certain gentlemen for his antics during a forest walk last weekend.

Whilst strolling around the wonders of Glentool, this particular man spotted a gold ring glittering from the bottom of a small river-bed. Alas, the water was too deep to reach the ring, so clothing was removed and the body in question was lowered into the pool to retrieve the ring.

He should have remembered the warning William Shakespeare gave us when he wrote that, "all that glisters is not gold".

Big Brian Lees got wet, freezing and embarrassed when he soaked himself for a piece of fitting for a copper pipe. Take a bow, Brian, and accept "*MUG OF THE WEEK*".

## NOTICE

All prisoners are to be reminded to be on their best behaviour whilst visiting Newton Stewart. The behaviour of some people at the library has been unsatisfactory, and we are reminded that abuse of privileges may result in them being withdrawn.

Also note that the recreation room is presently out of use. Anyone wishing to play pool or darts can use the social club. I have also been asked to remind people that the club can also be used for the playing of badminton.

# Penninghame POST

Issue No.32, 15th May 1996.

Welcome to the 32nd Penninghame Post. This week's Post is a bit of a serious affair, I'm afraid. I can't even produce a decent Mug of the Week!

This week's news is all stuff from the governor - stuff to do with the new lodges, with the Community Council, and with telling us all to behave ourselves.

It appears that we've now got a Committee up and going - and they're already active, as you'll discover inside. I hope that the lads can make something of their new appointments and produce some results which will benefit all of us. I would urge you all to support them as much as you can - don't be shy to go to the boys with any ideas, or even complaints, that you may have. Hopefully, we now have an effective medium for dealing with the issues which affect all of us.

Anyway lads, as usual, enjoy your Post, keep those quiz entries coming, and enjoy your weekends if, like me, you're out this week and choking for Friday to come!

*P.S. Cheerio and allthe best to Wullie Scott, who's out on Friday.*

## THE CAT

## **GOVERNOR'S GRIPES**

As you will all have noticed, Hamish has lots of news this week. So much, in fact, that he is using a whole four pages of the Post to fit it all in. Because of this, I have decided to give him a page exclusively for moans.

1) Hamish is getting very upset at reports of noisy dorms during the night. He is so concerned at this that he would like to remind us that:-

**Noise attracts attention  
Attention attracts reports  
Reports attract closed conditions**

2) He also made mention of the now famous bottle which was discovered last Sunday morning. Such matters merely focus staff attention and can only cause hassle.

3) Hamish is still unhappy about the state he finds some of the dorms in, and asks that everyone pays attention to tidiness of dorms.

4) He is also unhappy that someone has been in the new lodges and stolen the keys. Whoever took them will not be able to use them, as it only means that the locks have to be changed. Furthermore, waiting on the locks being changed will only hold up the opening of the new lodges.

## **NEWS FROM THE GOVERNOR**

Hamish has several points for us all to take note of this week.

1) The new lodges are to be called Wallace and Bruce lodges. Like West and East lodges, their main purpose is to break the habits of institutionalisation in people who have served long periods of imprisonment. As most of you should already know by now, the criteria for entry is that you must have been at Penninghame for a minimum of three months and have less than two years left to serve. Each application meeting this criteria will be considered on its own merit.

2) The opening of the new lodges is being delayed by what Hamish calls a Snag List. Apparently this is a list of problems which the prison insists the contractors remedy before they will take possession of the building. Still, Hamish expects to open them sometime next month.

3) We will all know that the snooker room is being decorated at the moment. The news is that the snooker table is being dismantled in order to allow work to proceed in the recreation room. It won't be re-assembled until the new recreation area opens. The new area will be in the downstairs part of the stables, i.e. underneath Wallace and Bruce lodges. When this opens, the snooker table is being put back and done up like new.

4) Hamish is still working on his No Smoking policy, and will let us have it as soon as he is finished it.

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# ***COMMITTEE NEWS***

HAMISH INFORMS ME WE NOW HAVE A NEW HOUSE COMMITTEE, AND HAS ASKED ME TO PUBLISH THE FOLLOWING DETAILS;

The committee consists of four prisoner members who each have an area of responsibility. Any problems or queries should be taken to the person responsible for that area. Members of the committee take their issues in the first instance to the Supervisor on duty at the time. If, however, they fail to resolve the issue with the Supervisor, then they will be able to take the matter up with the governor himself.

## **VISITS AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**VISITS**

**WELFARE AWARENESS**

**LOCAL LEAVE**

**HOME LEAVE**

**CATERING ON VISITS**

**CRECHE**

**PLAY AREA/ AVIARY**

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

**COMMUNITY LINKS**

**PLACEMENTS**

**VOLUNTARY WORK**

**H.O.P.E**

**KOESTLER AWARDS**

**VISITATIONS/ GUEST SPEAKERS**

**OPEN DAY**

**CHAPLAINCY**

**PRISON FELLOWSHIP**

# ***COMMITTEE NEWS***

## **SPORTS & RECREATION COMMITTEE**

**BUDGET AWARENESS**

**EQUIPMENT**

**TRIPS**

**EDUCATION**

**HOBBIES**

**ENTERTAINMENT**

**GYMNASIUM MANAGEMENT**

**SPORTING AREAS**

## **HOUSE COMMITTEE**

**HOUSE CLEANLINESS**

**VICINITY AROUND THE HOUSE**

**MAIL & PAPERS**

**CATERING**

**CANTEEN**

**LAUNDRY**

**MEDICAL MATTERS**

**GENERAL HOUSE CONCERNS**

## **YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE:-**

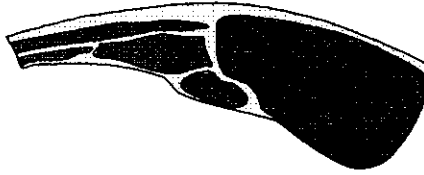
**VISITS & WELFARE - J. BRANNAN**

**PUBLIC RELATIONS - A. MacDONALD**

**SPORTS & RECREATION - P. WELDON**

**HOUSE COMMITTEE - K. DUNCAN**

# COOKS CORNER

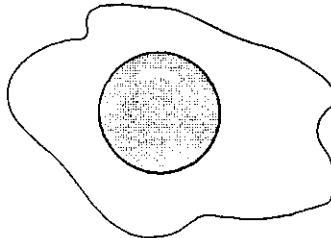


Only one snippet of news coming from the cookhouse this week. It is , though, an interesting piece of news which demonstrates that our new committee is active and producing results already.

After meeting with Roy, the House Committee have struck a deal which means that, from 1st June, there will be no more soup provided at meal times. Instead, each prisoner will be issued with a 500ml carton of milk every day Monday to Friday.

For those unfamiliar with metric measurement, 500ml is a fraction less than a pint. So, you have all basically swapped your soup for some extra milk.

N.B. This will not apply at weekends, when you will receive the usual small carton of milk.



# MUG OF THE WEEK

*Mug of the Week this week almost went to big Steff Boyle for coming up to West Lodge and pleading to never having peeled a tattie in his life. However, just as I was going to press, Mark Stapleton came running in with a Mug of the Week for Donnie McIntyre (you didn't think I was going to leave your name out of it did you, Mark?).*

*Anyway, the story is that wee Donnie was watching the gardeners letting the lawnmower run down the hill then pulling it back up with a rope. Obviously unaware that the lawnmowers run on petrol, the bold Donnie thinks they're electric. He goes to his colleagues to report the "idiot" who's pulling a lawnmower around by its electric cable.*

*Wee Donnie is now the laughing stock amongst the staff, and jokes are flying around about 400 metre extension cables - see Donnie if you want one!*

*P.S. Donnie asks that we don't tell anyone about this!!!*

*Donnie, take a bow ,you are - Mug of the Week!!!*



# QUIZ

The last quiz was won by Mr. Paddy McGarry. His name was first out of the hat, duly and legally selected by the Supervisor Mr. Webster. I believe this is Paddy's second success in the quiz.

Anyway, here's the quiz for this week;

- 1) Which football team are nicknamed "The Red Lichties"?*
- 2) Who wrote Beethoven's Fifth Symphony?*
- 3) Which animal has the highest blood pressure?*

# Penninghame POST

Issue No.33, 30th May 1996.

Welcome again to the Penninghame Post, lads. This week's edition is packed with allsorts of nonsense for you all to feast your eyes upon.

Notable inclusions this week are a member of staff picking up Mug of the Week AGAIN, a few important notices from the high heid yins, and a notice about the Dunblane Snowdrop Petition.

Inside you'll find a piece from Meg about this petition. All I can say is that Meg has the petition, or a part of it rather, in her office. Read the notice carefully, and decide for yourself whether or not you wish to append your own name to the appeal for a change in legislation. If you do wish to sign, pop into education and see Meg, who will be happy to let you put your name on the petition.

We also have the usual quiz featured, and some important news about personal property. I would strongly urge you all to read this piece very carefully, and get yourselves sorted out by the time we return from summer leave.

Anyway lads, as always, enjoy your Post, and , for those of you lucky enough to be on leave this weekend, enjoy yourselves.

**THE CAT**

# COMMITTEE NEWS

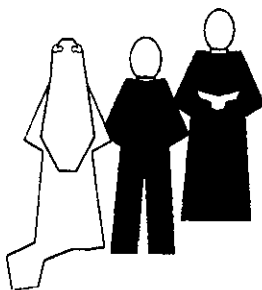
This afternoon there was a meeting of prisoners to discuss issues for the new House Committee to raise at conference. I was present myself, and must say that the turnout was pretty disappointing. The guys on the committee are there for the benefit of everyone, lads, and we should show them our full support.

The Committee have asked me to inform everyone that if they have any problems, or wish to have any issues raised, they need only approach a member who will be only too happy to do what they can.

We hope that once the committee has had some time to establish itself we will be able to fill a page with committee business in every issue of the Post. So, until then, give the lads a chance, and don't be shy about using the lads - that's what they're there for!

This is another first for the Post - it's the first time we've had a wedding to announce. Paddy McGarry gets married tomorrow, and I'd like to take this opportunity to wish him and his bride every possible happiness and prosperity.

I only hope he makes a better husband than he does a football player. All the best, Mr. and Mrs. McGarry.



# IMPORTANT

## PROPERTY

Senior staff are expressing concern about the amount of property some people have in the dorms. They are also concerned about the property which is not officially recorded on property cards.

Because of these concerns, it has been decided to take the following two steps:-

1) As of now, clothing and other property in use will be limited to the amount which can be contained in the available space in the provided units. They are unhappy about the amount of clothing etc. which is left lying around dorms. The new rule is basically that everything must be able to be put away.

2) Once we all return from summer leave, it is intended that all property in use must correspond with what is on the property cards. This means that we all have between now and the summer leave to make sure that we take excess belongings home, and ensure that we get everything recorded onto property cards.

At some point after the summer leave, staff will be going round the living areas to check property off against what is recorded on the cards.

# IMPORTANT NOTICE

## DUNBLANE SNOWDROP PETITION

In the aftermath of the Dunblane tragedy, a group of parents set out to try to prevent such a thing happening again. With this in mind they organised a petition to support them in getting the Firearm Laws changed.

Knowing how deeply shocked many of you were on hearing about the massacre, I thought you might want the opportunity to sign the petition.

The petition asks that the law on ownership and usage of firearms be amended so that :-

- 1) All firearms held for recreational purposes for use in authorised sporting clubs be held securely at such clubs with the firing mechanisms removed.
- 2) The private ownership of handguns be made illegal.
- 3) Certification of all firearms be subject to stricter control.

MEG HOPKINS

# QUIZ

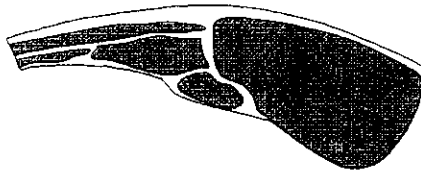
The prize for the last quiz was won by Mr. Bob Brodie, who submitted the only entry. The Dagger must have been on holiday last week!

Remember that there's a phonecard up for grabs with every quiz, and all I can say to those who shout it's a fix, "if you don't try, you can't win!

This week's quiz is as follows;

- 1) Which of our illustrious colleagues gets married tomorrow?
- 2) Gordon Durie scored a hat-trick in this year's Scottish Cup Final. Who was the last player to achieve this feat?
- 3) How many items make up a gross?

**COOKS CORNER**



## MEAL TIMES

It appears that there has been some confusion surrounding official meal times, and I have been asked to clarify matters. Times are as follows:-

### BREAKFAST

Mon - Fri - 7.15 - 7.30a.m.

Sat, Sun - 8.15 - 8.30a.m.

### LUNCH

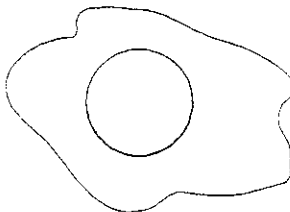
Mon - Fri - 12.00 - 12.15p.m.

Sat, Sun - 11.30 - 11.45a.m.

### TEA

Mon - Fri - 4.45 - 5.00p.m.

Sat, Sun - 4.30 - 4.45p.m.



## *NEWS FROM THE GOVERNOR*

Hamish is absent this week for personal reasons, so Mr. White is Governor in the meantime. Bob informs me there's not a lot of news - he reckons the place is quietly awaiting the arrival of the summer leave period.

He does ask that everyone take note of the regulations for summer dress which have just been released.

He also informs us that there is still no definite date for the new lodges opening. However, six of the ten spaces have already been taken, and another two applications will be considered at today's Sentence Planning Board. If they are successful, there will still be two spaces unfilled. Anyone who wishes to apply can see their personal officer providing they meet the criteria.

## *MEDICAL CENTRE*

A reminder that the surgery operates a Well-Man clinic. This scheme is for prisoners over the age of 35 who wish to have a general medical examination, with subsequent advice etc. on how to remedy any apparent problems.

Anyone who wishes this check should contact the nurse officer, who will arrange a convenient time for the check to be made.



# MUG OF THE WEEK

This week we had a few contenders for Mug of the Week. For those who aren't familiar with my modus operandi, each contender is awarded a mark out of ten on the Mug scale, and the highest wins the award. However, because we prisoners are supposed to be stupid, and staff so clever, I have decided that any staff contenders receive a three point start - a bit like a handicap, for those who play golf!

Anyway, this week's award,(relax Scott Brownlie and Bob Mason) goes to Chic McDowall for reversing the van into the bent lamp post you can see out the back of the house.

**Take a bow Chic, and accept Mug of the Week.**

Incidentally, this is the first time the Mug of the Week award has been awarded to a member of staff twice in a row!\_

# Penninghame POST

Issue No.34. 12th June 1996.

Welcome again lads, to the latest issue of the Penninghame Post. For those of you who've only recently arrived, the Post is the prison's newsletter, written and edited by the Cat - the greatest goalkeeper this side of the Cree! Remember that this is YOUR newsletter, and I am able to include basically anything that you'd like to see published. I don't normally get too much help, but if any of you have anything you'd like to see in the Post, just come and speak to me. I also have the opportunity to put questions to the Governor himself, so if you want to put anything to the Governor, let me know and you'll get his reply in print in the next issue.

Anyway lads, this week's is not the most interesting Post as things are pretty quiet around here just now. There will only be one more issue before the summer leave, which is getting ever closer now. Two weeks and two days to be precise. I've no doubt you're all choking for it as much as I am. I've also got a weekend on Friday, and I'd like to wish myself and everyone else who's out a most enjoyable weekend. Once we get back summer leave will be one week and five days away.

Well lads, enjoy your Post, keep the noses clean, and hope that we all make it to the summer leave without incident. All the best.

**THE CAT**

## *NEWS FROM THE OFFICE*

Pete Williams has a few points to make this week regarding the forthcoming home leave.

- 1) The grant for the five day home leave period will be £12.
- 2) Those getting out on the Friday for seven days will get the normal weekend grant on top of the £12. This means that those getting out on the Friday will receive £19.
- 3) Any requests for PPC withdrawals to be made as soon as possible to allow time for processing.
- 4) Because we are all away for the week, it transpires that we are not entitled to a wage for that week. However, Pete has made arrangements for us all to receive a bonus of £8, which we will find waiting for us when we return on the Friday.
- 5) Pete also asks that if anyone has any problems regarding transport for their home leaves, then go and see him as soon as possible.

## NEWS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Due to personal reasons, Hamish is absent again at present. With Mr. White being on leave, the Numero Uno position has fallen to Mr. Colin McShannon. Being unused to the workings of the Post, Colin couldn't really think of much to put on this page this week. To be honest lads, it was like trying to draw blood from a stone. However, after some cajoling, I eventually got him to say something - otherwise the Post would have been empty this week.

Tomorrow the establishment will be visited by Prof. Hans Toch. For those of you who don't remember him, Professor Toch is the wee guy with the foreign accent (Dutch, if I recall correctly) who has been advising the S.P.S. on turning prisons into communities.

Anyway, my information is that he visits tomorrow, and again on Friday, when he'll be accompanied by the Area Director, Mr. Pearce. Professor Toch is to be honoured on Friday by having the new Community Room (the old rec. room) named after him. The room is to be known as the Hans Toch room, though he doesn't know this yet! Apparently he is coming to officially open it on Friday.

The only other piece of info I could draw from Colin was that two Departmental officials are coming next Wednesday (19.6.96) to discuss the new lodges with the Governor. As yet there is still no opening date, but perhaps after this meeting we will have some more news.

~~Ham~~ / June 96 H 34

## NEWS FROM THE GOVERNOR

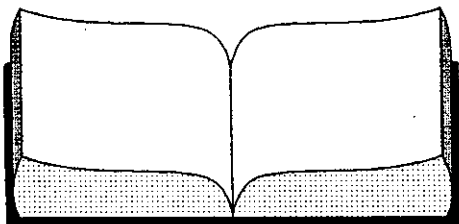
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# EDUCATION



The Education Unit will be closing shortly for the summer holidays.

It will close after classes on Thursday 27th June, and will not open

again until Monday 19th August.

Meg is looking for ideas about what types of class to provide in the new term. She intends to publish some suggestions in the next issue in order to assess interest. However, she will listen to any ideas at all, and will try to accommodate anything which would appear to generate enough interest to make it worthwhile.

So have a think about what you would like to see in the Education Unit, and speak to Meg about anything you do think of.



# Penninghame POST

Issue No.35. 26th June 1996.

Welcome again to the Penninghame Post. I'm sure everyone must be as excited as I am about the forthcoming summer leave. The Cat would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable time next week. I know I'll have a great time at any rate!

You'll find this issue is largely concerned with matters relating to the summer leave. You will find, though, that those who were hoping to move into the new lodges after the leave may have to wait a bit longer than they expect to. You'll find out why if you read the Governor's page inside.

I've also been asked to remind everyone to get their property cards sorted out for coming back from the home leave. Remember that we've all to ensure the property in our possession is to match the stuff on our cards by the time we get back.

Another thing I've been asked to mention is that we have finally found chaplaincy replacements for the Rev. McRreadie who retired last December. From now on there will be two Church of Scotland ministers who will visit the prison - their names are Roger Dean and Neil Campbell. Negotiations are currently under way to find provision for a Roman Catholic priest. Watch this space for further news.

Enjoy your Post lads, and have a great leave.

## THE CAT

# QUIZ

**The only correct entry for the last quiz was submitted by Mr. Stephen Boyle, who wins the phonecard. Contrary to popular opinion, the smallest species of bird in this country is the goldcrest and not the wren. Well done Steff.**

**Anyway, since this is summer holiday time, I'm giving you an easy quiz this week.**

**In fact, technically this is not really a quiz at all. What I'd like you to do is write your name on a piece of paper along with the team you think is going to win Euro 96.**

**The semi-finals are being played today, but the final won't be played until Sunday. What I want is for you to give me your prediction before we go for our summer leave.**

**As usual, first correct name out of the hat when we return wins the phonecard.**



## SOCIAL WORK NOTICE

Our resident social worker, Mr. Bob Barr, has a special message for everyone prior to going on home leave this week.

Firstly, Sheila and Bob wish everyone a happy and enjoyable home leave.

Secondly, Bob has a special plea to make to us all. His message in a nutshell is, "don't be selfish". He asks us to remember that for the vast majority of the year, we are not at home. Because they only see us occasionally, our wives, girlfriends, parents etc. tend to make a special effort to ensure we enjoy ourselves. Bob would like us to be aware that it can't always be like that. Our families often make sacrifices on our behalf, and whilst that may be okay for a weekend, we might find that our families are unable to maintain this effort for an entire week.

Basically, then, Bob is asking that we think of our families before ourselves, and prepare for what might be a week of ordinary life, rather than the special occasion we're used to on weekends etc. Bear in mind the sacrifices which are made by our families for us, and make the effort to give THEM a special occasion this time, rather than waiting for them to give US a good time.

## MARY'S MOAN

Mary is most unhappy this week about the increased number of plates being left lying around the sections, i.e. in dorms, on fire hoses etc.

The first point she would like to make is that foodstuffs should not be taken upstairs at all, but those of you who do sneak food upstairs, please remember to return your plates to the kitchen.

Mary would like to remind everyone that it is NOT the duty of the passmen to clear up plates which have been left behind by inconsiderate people. The passmen are there for general cleaning duties only!

## OTHER NEWS

I am asked to inform everyone to take notice of the notice which has been circulated regarding the emptying of bins and the tidying of bins prior to the bus leaving for the home leave this week. Apparently they are serious about not allowing the bus to leave until they are happy with the house.

On Thursday 27th June (tomorrow), there will be a committee meeting in the Hans Toch room at 2.00 p.m. I will publish details of the outcome of the agenda after the home leave period.

## NEWS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Hamish has a few bits of news for us this week:-

- 1) Military exercise Able Condor has now started, and the army are using part of our premises, i.e. the concrete area near the football park. Hamish would like to remind everyone to stay in bounds, and only use the football pitch with a supervising member of staff for the duration of the exercise.
- 2) There are still a few problems with the new lodges, meaning that as yet no definite opening date can be given. Hamish tells me the contractors are now on a penalty clause, and it's up to them to solve the problems. For those of you unfamiliar with the notion of competitive tendering, a penalty clause comes into effect when a contractor fails to uphold their end of a bargain. For example, a fee can be agreed to have a building ready for a certain date, but if the contractor fails to hand over on the correct date, they are sort of fined so much for every week they are late. Hamish tells me the contractors are now paying the prison money for their lateness - but it doesn't get the new lodges opened any sooner!
- 3) The downstairs area in the new lodges is going to be turned into a TV room, games room and toilets. This has now been agreed, the only hiccup being over when the work will start. Watch this space for more news.
- 4) Hamish also informs me that Mandatory Drug Testing is unlikely to begin at Penninghame for some time yet. The news is that the open prisons are going to be the last prisons to be dealt with for MDT. However, our own programme will continue with only one slight change. In future any tests required here are going to be sent to the same laboratory which the Department is using for MDT, thereby replacing the existing method of testing.
- 5) Finally, Hamish wishes us all a happy and enjoyable summer leave, and hopes that we all come back, and return on time.

# COOK'S CORNER

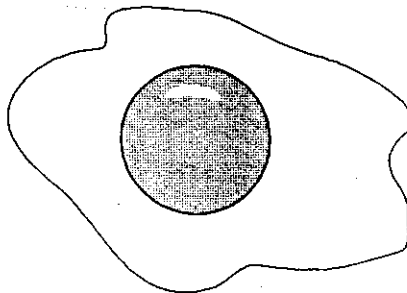


For any of you who are wondering about the new arrangements for accessing the kitchen, Roy tells me that there has been a problem with people entering what's supposed to be a sterile area without wearing the correct clothing, i.e. whites.

Because of this, the doors to the dining room and the hotplate area will be locked except during meal times. Outwith meal times, all kitchen business will be dealt with through the side door at the blue corridor.

Roy would also like to know what people think about the idea of him providing a salad option every day for the duration of summer, and will discuss this matter further with the catering committee.

Finally, on the Friday night we return from home leave, everyone shall receive a packed tea because there won't be anyone there to cook a hot meal.



## NOTICE

This week we have a very positive story to report. Since the last issue was printed, one of our readers saved the life of a child down in Newton Stewart.

It was during a bicycle run, whilst passing the suspension bridge over the River Cree, that Mr. Raymond Allan noticed a young boy had fallen into the river and was experiencing serious difficulties.

Without hesitation, Raymond leapt into the water and helped the lad to safety.

I think it was a commendable act for Raymond to perform, and we should thank him for the positive publicity he has given Penninghame. During my time here, I'm afraid to say that publicity for the prison has been negative more often than positive, and it makes a nice change for the local population to see that prisoners can do some good deeds.

Whilst on this subject, I feel I should also mention those who have volunteered their time at the weekends to help with various activities in the local community. Such gestures go a long way to winning the good will of the general public, and enhancing the reputation of Penninghame prisoners in general. Keep up the good work lads.

P.S. Raymie's heroics are detailed in this week's Galloway Gazette.

# ODDS & ENDS

Mr. White has informed me that, beginning after the summer leave, new licenses shall be coming into effect. I have been given a sneak preview of the new home leave licenses, and have noticed that they are several pages long.

All in all, the extra wordage is not to make new restrictions, but rather to make things a bit clearer regarding what we can and can't do. I personally think that they don't really make much difference. - they just seem to go into greater detail.

We will all see these new licenses after the summer leave, but there is one point I think is worth bringing to your attention. As far as I can gather from what I read, the rule about not entering licensed premises seems to have been abolished. However, it does state that the drinking of alcohol is still forbidden, but at least it seems to allow us to enter licensed premises.

Please bear in mind I am only offering my own interpretation here at present, but it does seem to be suggesting that we can, for example, go for a bar lunch - providing we don't consume alcohol.

Anyway lads, we'll all see it in full for our next leave after the summer one, so don't worry too much about it. Have a super leave!!!