

THE LOST VILLAGE



GLENCRAIG

THE LOST VILLAGE OF GLENCRAIG

THE BOUNDRY AT LOCHGELLY AND THE FIFE COUNCIL BELOW GRAINGER SQUARE

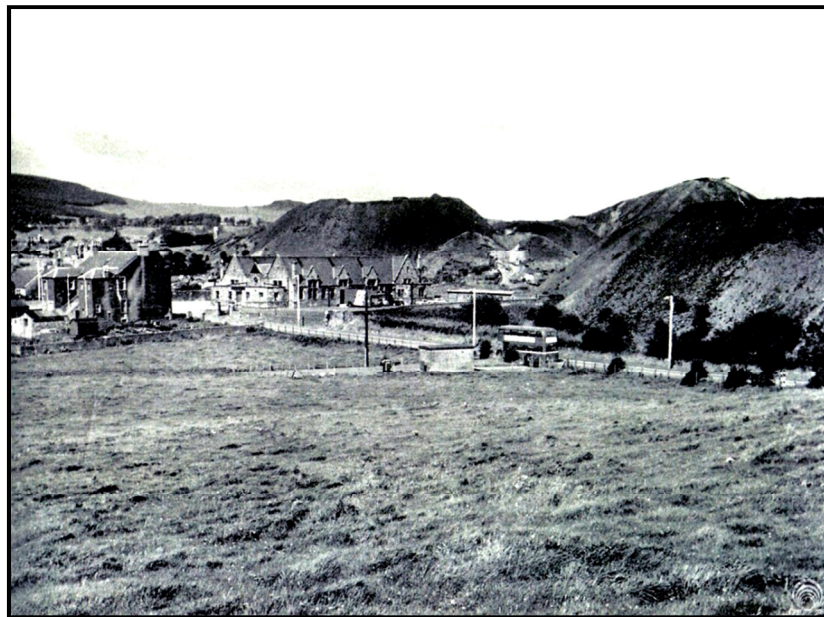


Walking from Lochgelly Station to Glencraig the right hand side was the Nellie pit bing . A well known Glencraig man Lawrence Daly was walking his new wife to his home for the first time in the snow which had covered the pit bings she remarked about the beautiful hills I never did hear Lawrence say what her response was when the snow melted. The left fields of Cartmore Farm which was farmed by Mr. Duncan McVean and later his son Mathew, on the potato harvest two bags were taken to Ballingry Church as a tithe, The Lochgelly High School now stands on the land adjacent to the road.

STARTING LANDSCAPING NELLIE COLLIERY



**NOW AN INDUSTRIAL SITE
APPROACHING GLENCRAIG**



Taken from Cartmore Farm Road (below the present Lochgelly High School)

GLENCRAIG

The name Glencraig means meadow of the rock and consists of four small estates Inchgall, Contle, Clune and Templelands. The name Contle was used for the row of houses in the square of South Glencraig running parallel to the the Fitty Burn usual called the Glencraig or Cluny Burn, the Clune was land situated North of Glencraig Burn to the Ore Burn, Inchgall Farm situated to the rear of where Glencraig Colliery was, and Templelands Farm situated to the south of the Ore Burn situated just north of St.Kenneths Chapel sadly now demolished.

Although Glencraig was originated sometime in the 1830/1840s it was not until the sinking of Glencraig Colliery in 1895 that the village started to expand.

The building of the Rows in South and North Glencraig, the entry to South Glencraig beside the local Co-op and North Glencraig beside the site of Glencraig Miners Institute.

The single story houses had two rooms (kitchen and bed room with scullery and inside lavatory) the double story houses in South Glencraig they had no scullery with the lavatory out side. The kitchens had a partition that acted as a screen between two beds (usually wooden boards) and fire place that was used to heat the house, cook and heat water to wash the miner on his homecoming (no pit bathes then) after his shift. The most common floor covering was a rag rug (made with old pieces of cloth that could'nt be re used as cloths) on a piece of canvas from a sack (a no fitted carpets). Wash days were a real hazard for the housewife lifting a huge wooden tub heating water on the kitchen fire the any ironing done with solid metal irons heated in front of the fire.

It was in the late 1930s when electric lighting was installed but only three lighting points in the kitchen, scullery and room (not the toilet) no power points were allowed.

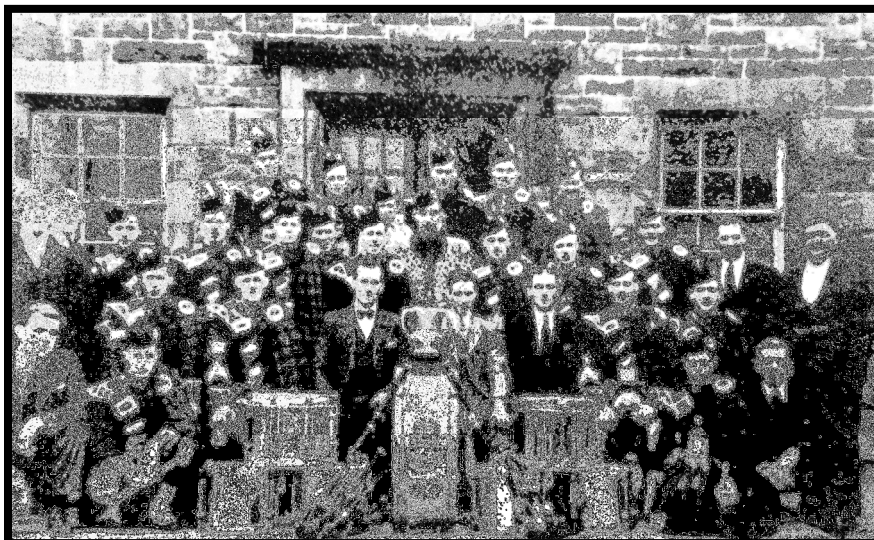
In South Glencraig the double story buildings had communal wash houses which had a coal fire boiler which came in handy for making dumplings for birthdays and Christmas.

THE VILLAGE

As you enter the village the first building on the right hand side was Glencraig Village School on the left Long View which is still inhabited today.

In the 1930s two people on the staff of the school become very well known the Headmaster Mr. John Dougary who managed Cowdenbeath Football Team in the 1930s and Miss Jeanny Lee who entered politics and eventually become a Minister in the Harold Wilson government and was knighted she was married to Aneurin Bevin who was instrumental in putting the NHS into operation during the Attlee Government.

GLENCRAIG PIPE BAND OUTSIDE GLENCRAIG SCHOOL



Owen McGuire, James Glencross, Danny Murphy, Jimmy Forrester, Jimmy Marr, Mr. McLean, Alex Moffat, Pipe Major Walkinshaw, Drum Major Charles Scott, George Mackie, Chick Scott

GLENCRAIG PIPE BANND



In front centre Mr. Sam O'Hare along with Pipe Mmajor Tom Jackson

GLENCRAIG SCHOOL 1927



Lindsay Ogilvy

GLENCRAIG SCHOOL 1928



Lindsay Oglivy

GLENCRAIG SCHOOL 1928



Lindsay Oglivy

GLENCRAIG SCHOOL 1929



GLENCRAIG SCHOOL 1929



Joan Gibb,

GLENCRAIG SCHOOL 1948



**Jean Gray, Mima Malvenan, Andrew Hodge, Freddy Feely, William Clark, Ian Begg, Jonney Hodge, Margaret Hodge, Margaret Fenton and Minnie Campbell.
Ella Watson, Betty Early, Dorothy Malcolm, Margaret Gibson, Mary Moyes, Nettie Henderson, Divina Chalmers, Jean Reith, Jeannie Duncan, Jean Devlin, Jimmy McKean, Helen Cowan, David Benson, Robertson, Roy White, Isobel Cook, John Carroll, Nancy Raeburn and George Adams.
John Failds, Nancy Blair, Nancy Johnstone and Arthur Clark.**

MAIN STREET GLENCRAIG



On the left side Kingston Cottage, Largo Cottages and Curries Cottages on the right corner of Artella Cottages, Almar Cottages, Strathmore Cottage and Curries Buildings.

MAIN STREET GLENCRAIG

TAKEN FROM CURRIES COTTAGES



Looking towards Crosshill, the first building on the right is Curries buildings the single storey building on the right hand side is Mitchell's Cycle Shop. Mr. Mitchell played a very important part in communications in the 1920/30s as the radios were powered by an accumulator which had to be charged regularly and this was the only shop in the village to give this service. On the left is the corner of Walkingshaws Cottage and the gable of Gordon Place.

MAIN STREET GLENCRAIG



On the left Gordon Cottages and Meadowfield Cottage on the right Burnside Cottages
BURNSIDE COTTAGES



The first Wilson & Clyde Coal Company houses on the approach from Lochgelly

MAIN STREET GLENCRAIG
LOOKING TOWARDS LOCHGELLY



On the left side Hunters Inn, Burnside Cottages and the gable of Curries Buildings, on the right hand side with the tradesman standing at Charles Barclay Chemist, Meadow field Cottage, Gordon Place, Walkingshaw Cottage and Curries Cottages. Charles Barclay was advisor to the villagers on what medication they required as a visit from the Doctor cost two shillings and six pence (which few could afford) a large amount in the 1920/30s (the miners had one penny a week deducted from their wages for the doctors)

MAIN STREET, GLENCRAIG



The first shop on the left Charlie Barclay Chemist then Mr. Crieghton Clothier and then John Hunters Grocers is the east side of the Square South Glencraig and the housing repair workshop. The building on the right is Lochgelly Co-op opened in 1903.

MAIN STREET GLENCRAIG



John Hunter in front of his Licensed Grocers prior to the building of Hunters Inn on the opposite side of the road,

SPORTS

Although football has always figured largely in Glencraig from the early 1900s A local lad Alex McIntosh signed with Wolverhampton in 1936 a team that was surrounded by controversy about using “Monkey Gland Treatment what ever that was. The village have had sportsmen in many fields the three Morris brother who played golf one in the open championships. The well known Scottish runners the Allan brothers, Harry Hutchison and Watson, the Gallacher brothers in boxing, Dan Gallacher the RAF athletic display team, John Michie the British Army Acrobatic team and no doubt many others. Also a popular game was hand ball played against the gable end of the double block end in South Glencraig similar to squash using your hand instead of a racket; it must have been an nightmare for the tenants, a ball hitting the wall for hours at a time. Glencraig also had a Quoiting Club situated towards the burn front of the institute behind Selbies Buildings. Then another “SPORT” was popular “Pitch & Toss” the venue was usually behind the pit bing (slag heap) with a look out for the local bobbies (policemen) were they looking for their share of the stakes.

FOOTBALL

Bore Park has been the venue situated on the west side of the village behind South Glencraig, where many local stars showed their skills before moving on to greater things. Glencraig Celtic probably the most successful of any club in the locality, winning the Fife Cup 1909, 1910, 1911 and 1915, the Cowdenbeath Cup 1909, 1911, 1914, 1915, and 1916, The Dunfermline Cup 1910, 1912, and 1913, The Fife Shield 1909, 1910 and 1912.

GLENCRAIG CELTIC



Back Row – J. Ross (Trainer) Wm. Fraser, Wm. Wood, Wm. Currie, J.Nunn (Treasurer), G. McLay, T. Welsh, A. Nicol, Wm. Flockart, J. Martin, A. Young, P. Murphy, G. Wilkie, and D.Wilkie (Trainer)

Middle Row – D. Fraser, D. Moffat (President), Wm. Montgomery, G. Fraser, M. McConnell, J. Gardener, H. Russel (Captain), J. Forte (Hon. President),

Front Row – J. Welsh and P. Dougan.

The Trainer John Ross speaking about his playing days against the legendary player Alan Morton said you canny play fitba Ross replied true but I can stop you.

GLENCRAIG ROVERS 1912



Back Row J. Flockart, A. Muir & J. Snee
Middle Row J. Brockie (Trainer), M. Gilhooley, J. Fenton, J. Logan, A. Lockart, P. Aird, R.
Rowan & W. McCann (President)
Front Row M. McCallum, J. Ross, J. Greenlees, J. Chalmers & J. Dempsey.

GLENCRAIG CELTIC A.



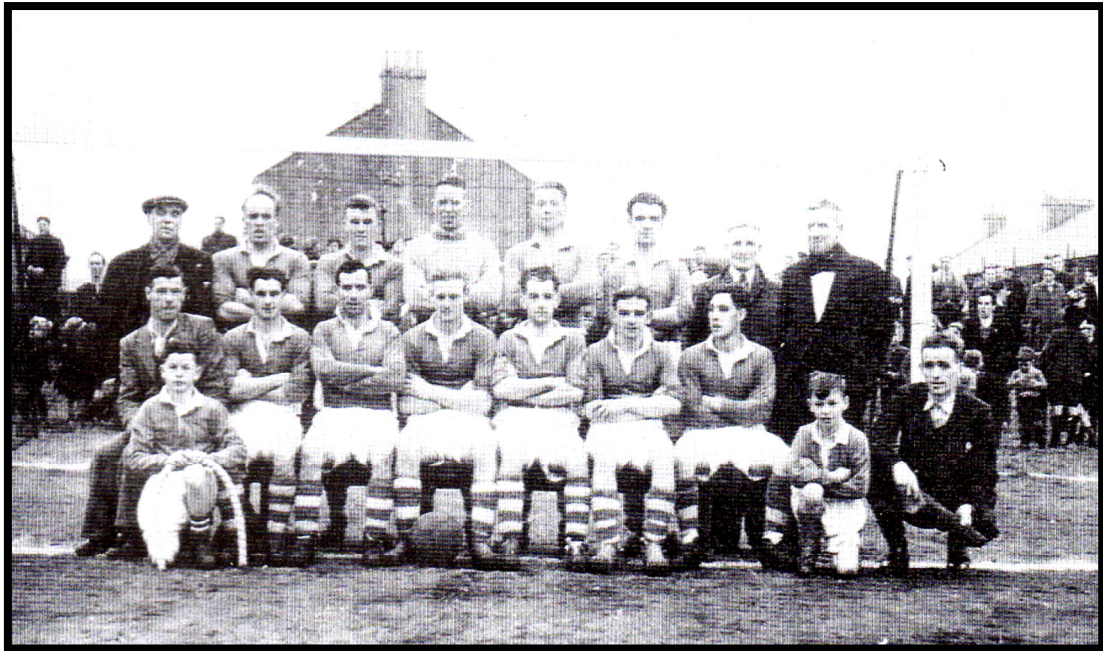
GLENCRAIG LADIES FOOTBALL TEAM 1921



Back Row: R. Salmond, G. Garry, C. Riddle, I. Scott, Dr. Sinclair, M. McCormack, N. Anderson, W. Cameron and J. Salmond.

Front Row: J. Miller, M. Park, L. Park, M. Walkinshaw, C. Moodie, C. Shaw, M. Gillespie, M. Glencross and H. Melville>

GLENCRAIG F.C. 1948



GLENCRAIG COLLIERY FC.



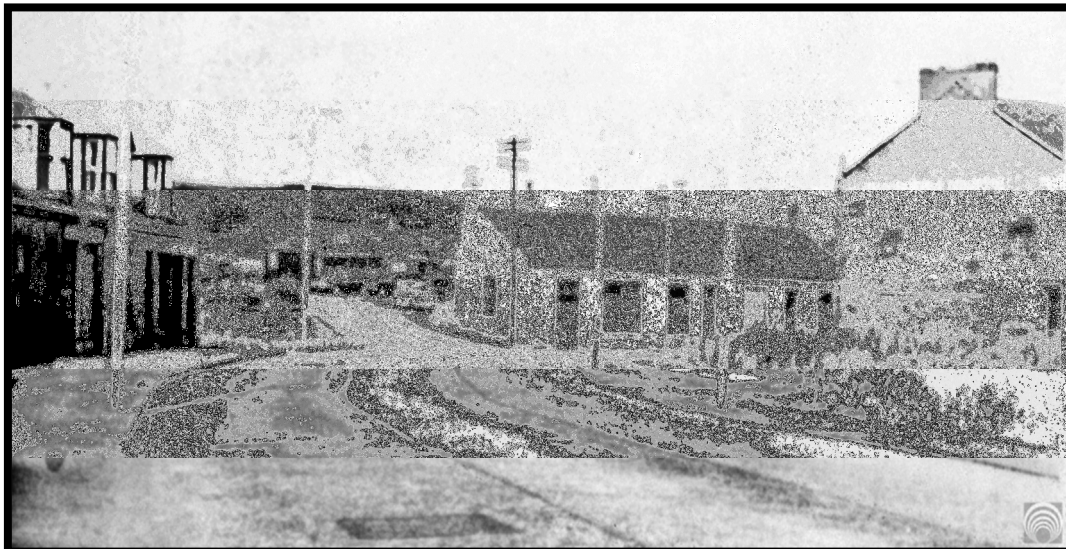
**Bob. Berwick, Bill Millar, Tom Donnachie and George Hobbs,
William Abbot, David Mackie, David Gilchrist, Edward Tucker**

**LOCHGELLY CO-OPERATIVE
GLENCRAIG BRANCH 1903**



The Co-op was always the main supplier of goods in the village at its peak the Lochgelly Co-op employed over 500 of a staff. Amazing that if you ask most elderly people what the family Co-op number was it is still embedded in their minds. Of course the dividend was always an attraction and in 1937 it was three shillings and seven pence in for every pound spent.

MAIN STREET GLENCRAIG



The first site of the Gospel Hall was through a passage in the building to the right in a hall know Lynas Hall and later moved to the opposite end of that building

SOUTH GLENCRAIG 1930s



Back Row. Mrs White & Baby, Bunty White, Mrs. Caufield, Mrs. Cooney & Brenda Mrs. Sneddon, Mrs. Geddes & Catherine, Mrs, Kent, Mrs. Graham with puppy Nell, Mrs. Livingson with pram & Jimmy. Mrs. Hodge,
 Second Row. Reg. White, Rena Feeley, Mary Feeley, Rena Galloway, Margaret Kent & Doll, Jean Kent & Doll, Marlyn White, Alison Galloway, Wilma White, ?, Edward Cooney. Next Row. Billy Feeley & puppy Darkie, Betty Coates with Baby, Joe Sneddon on bike, Two Whyte sisters, William Gibb, ?, Front Row. Robin Sparling, Berty Feeley, Two Cawfield Boys, Billy Flockart, Caterine Gibb.

THE SQUARE SOUTH GLENCRAIG 1930s



Mrs. Ann Hodge, Mrs. Reith, Elsa Malcolm, Mary Malcolm. Ann Hodge,

SOUTH GLENCRAIG 1930s



SOUTH GLENCRAIG



SOUTH GLENCRAIG 1937



Standing: Bernard Hamilton, Andrew Montgomery, Thomas Potter, John Copland, James Smith and Walter Provan
Sitting: Jack Finlay, John Hamilton, William Hamilton, James Hardy and Alex. Findlay

JOHN BAYNE BUTCHER



MAIN STREET GLENCRAIG



In the building on the right was Long View a Billiards Hall, Co-op Drapery Nevay Hairdresser the Gospel Hall moved into the empty shop which had been used as a house which was renovated for their purpose. Over a long period in time the Munro Family spent all of their time and energy to the running of the gospel hall and providing financial support. Malvenan Baker occupied the shop in the next building McMenamins Buildings.

THE GLENCRAIG CHILDRENS GALA

The Annual Gala was the highlight of the year for the children and also many adults, of course the amount of planning and hard work that went into the organization of the event was due to the tireless work by many miners throughout the year ensuring a memorable day for the youngsters.

GALA COMMITTEE 1920s



THE GALA DAY

Starting the day with a parade lead by George Morris over a period of many years, from the schools through the village turning in Lochcraig and finishing at Bore Park the football ground situated to the west of South Glencaig. Then the bags of buns and a small bottle of lemonade was supplied and drunk quickly to collect the new penny that was presented on returned on the empty bottle (Hense the saying to describe a mean person he still has his first Gala Penny). Then a day of events from Five A Sides Football various races Highland Dancing all the prizes were clothes, the highlight being the Marathon the prize being a suit of clothes.

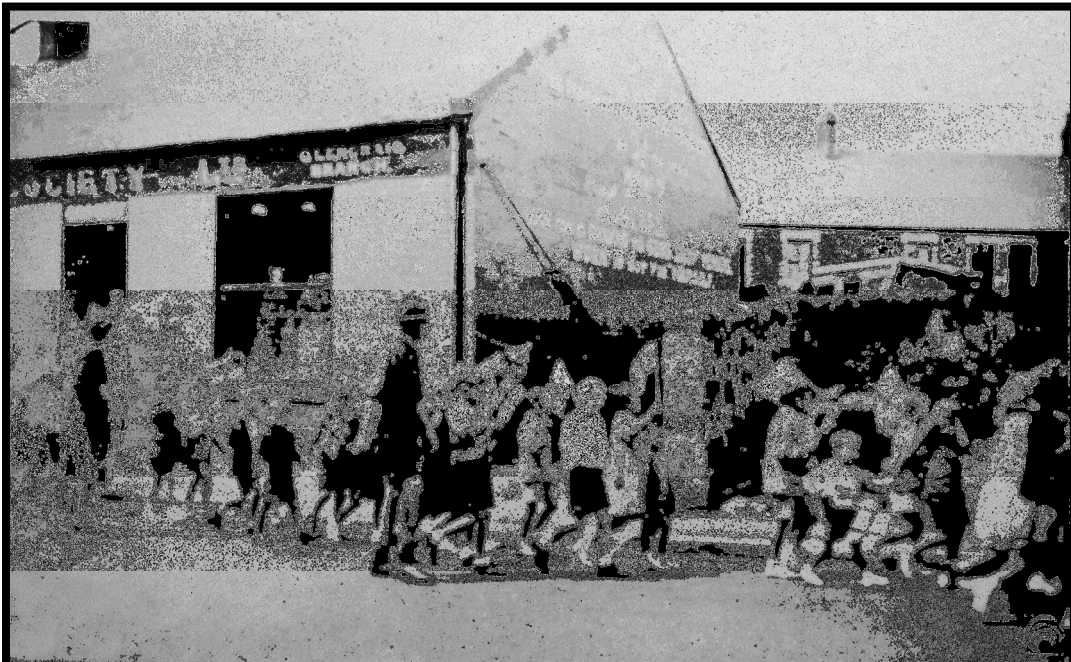
GEORGE MORRIS LEADING THE GALA PARADE



GLENCRAIG GALA 1934



GLENCRAIG GALA DAY 1937



GLENCRAIG GALA 1937



Lochore and Crosshill Brass Band



GLENCRAIG GALA 1937



Miss Foote the infant head mistress at Crosshill School

GLENCRAIG GALA 1937



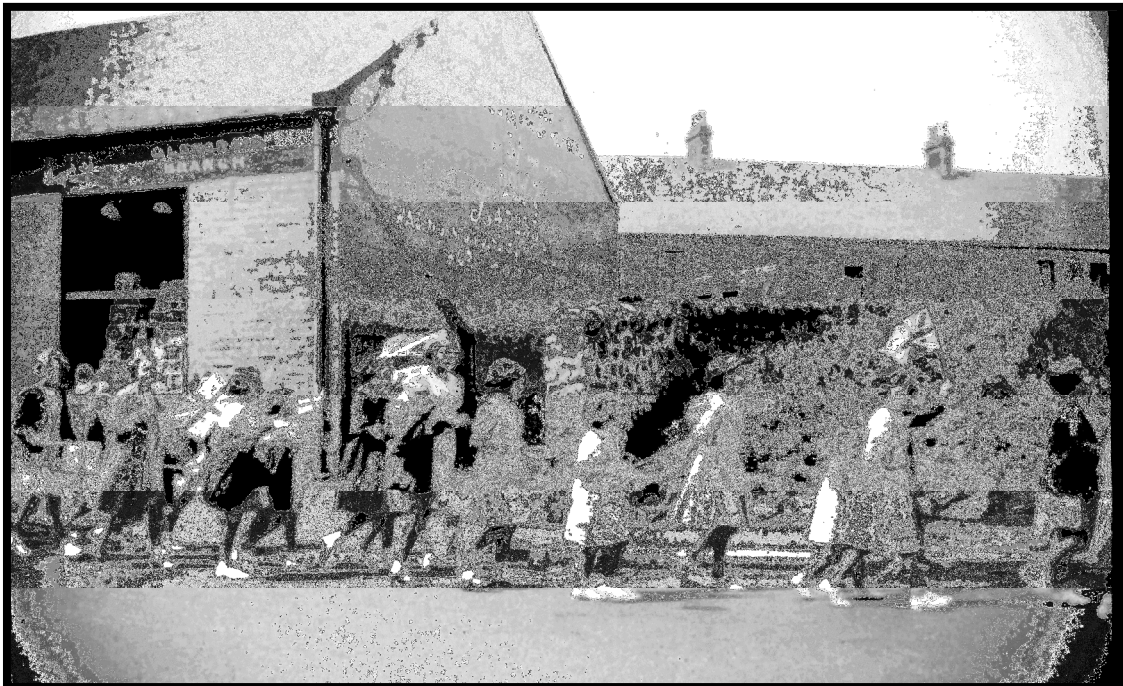
JAMES GLENCROSS



GLENCRAIG GALA 1937



Michael Scott acted as cook at all the scout camps in the 1930s.



GLENCRAIG GALA 1937



Mr. Malcolm and Glenraig Pipe Band

GLENCRAIG CHILDRENS GALA 1938



Glencaig Pipe Band



SCOUT JAMES SPENCE

GLENCRAIG GALA 1938



GLENCRAIG GALA DAY 19



MALVENAN BAKERY



On the ground in the forefront of the picture on many occasions was used for public meetings and a favourite place for Abe Moffat the man who led the Miners Union with great extinction especially during the enquiry into the Knockshinoch Disaster

MALVENAN BAKER



McMENAMINS BUILDINGS



**George Robson, Baby Geddes and three other Geddes, Bridget Rush
Sarah McCormack Charles McCormack**

THE BURN FROM THE CLUNE



**The Fitty Burn meanders its way towards Glencraig showing Clune Terrace on the left
and to the right Glencraig and the Nellie pit bings**

CLOCHRAT BRIDGE (GLENCRAIG BRIDGE)



The bridge is reckoned to have been built around 1671 and it possibly replaced a three span bridge shown on the Betson family crest.

SAYINGS BY LOCALS

Tam Jackson (Pipe Major) a house without a garden is worth twice the rent.

Andrew Crowe (Manager Glencraig Colliery later General Manager Wilson & Clyde Coal Co.) More coal stripped (produced) in Nevay's Barber shop than in Glencraig pit.

Billy Greenlees I never seen him wear a coat and in cold weather On coming into the shop he head for the fire lifting his jacket and pushing his rear to the fire exclaimed it was cold enough for snow and after a pause its bloody cold enough without it.

Sandy Moffat I've trusted many to my sorrow. So pay today and trust tomorrow.

BARBER SHOP DEBATING

The barbers shop was one of the village debating venues especially on a Saturday afternoon with topics so varied it was unbelievable from politics, poetry, coal and football of course. Two people usually holding much attention were Chick McCormack and Dan Twaddle from Scotlandwell. I have seen about fifty crammed into the Salon to hear there words of wisdom and banter about so many topics it seemed to be unreal.

The longest debate that I can remember was between John Stewart a well known Miners Union stalwart and Robert Neilson a Lochgelly Coal Merchant, on going to open the salon one Saturday morning at 8.30 am the two had started debating then and at 1 pm. I put them to the door, returning at 2 pm. They were still putting the Coal Board to rights but shortly afterwards they disappeared had the pangs of hunger caught up with them or had they parted agreeing to disagree.

After Chick McCormack's return from his adventure to fight against Franco in Spain his stories were most enlightening unlike his colleague James Howie who was fairly quiet about his period in Spain, Chick volunteered for the army early in the war in 1939 where he became an instructor, James volunteered for the Merchant Navy speeding his time on the dangerous task of Atlantic convoys.

VILLAGE CHARACTERS

Who better to head the list of characters than George Morris a gentle giant (until roused) who lead the children's gala parade over a period of many years.

Bump Holland the village Jester, his main aim to create fun and laughter.

Tam Lockart the fisher about the one that got away, many household was glad to share the ones that didn't get away.

Frankie Gibb the village chimney sweep a work alcoholic who had no secrets as you had to shout to let him hear you, he knew ever chimney in the district and how many rods were required for cleaning.

George Reid the children's favourite who made jumping jacks (two arms, two legs a body head with head attached and string to make it jump when the frame was made with wood and painted as an acrobat). Many children this would be the only Christmas present.

Tam Leghorn the Pit Policeman everyone loved to hate, chasing would be raiders trying to get a bag of coal from the wagons at the pit sidings.

John Burnside who every night went round the village with a long pole turning on the street gas lights then later returning to turn them off.

William Black (Boris Karlof) manager at Glenraig Colliery in the late 1930s a man who had travelled a bit and took part in the Australian Gold Rush a tough character.



TAN MOFFAT

Tam Moffat worked as a hairdresser for many years from 1940s. One morning a early arrival of customers meant the coal fire had not been lit, bring forth some livid comments to which Tam replied that some one had stolen all the coal during the night and that the price of a haircut was increased to cash and a raker (a large piece of coal) of coal, by lunch time the coal cellar had a months supply. On meeting a girl at the dancing on Saturday night the bold Tam arrived at her door on Sunday telling her mother he had been invited to tea, after spending a pleasant night he started to walk from Cardenden to Glenraig near midnight on passing the Lochgelly Cemetery he was haled by someone shouting Tam on entering the cemetery in his best Burns quote he described the witches and warlocks dancing and sitting on his coffin one of his clients who had died two weeks earlier, he didn't stop running until was safely home. Tam liked nothing better than a glass of Guinness telling stories reciting Tammy Shanter or singing about Russian warrior that had some hundred plus verses, his rendering of "Tam-O- Shanter" especially the first verse.

POLITICS

The Village was part of West Fife Constituency which for many years was represented by the only Communist MP Willie Gallacher in UK. politics played an important part in the community and was always a great debating subject, as was displayed in the late 1940s/early 1950s when Glenraig Institute catered for some 400/500 people turning up to hear Lawrence Daly (Communist and Trade Union activist) and Robert (Bob) Harrower Labour and Gaffer Glenraig Colliery) debating on the latest topic, Bob not only debated politics but on one occasion when the cage at Glenraig Colliery was stuck in the shaft for some hours he recited "Burns". I think I should also mention two Glenraig men, the late Norman Graham who was an outstanding Councillor over many years and Willie Clark who has worked tirelessly for the area and is possibly the longest serving Councillor ever in the area. John George from Garry Park on nationalisation of the Coal Industry he went to Canada returning after a brief period to manage Alloa Glass Works, the first year increased the production by 500%, John eventually becoming Sir John leader of the Scottish Unionists (Tories).

NORTH GLENCRAIG FROM THE BRIDGE



On the right hand side Glenraig Gothenburgh just visible McIntyres Chip Shop the next building the Post Office. On the left side Houstons Buildings Flachert General Store, Dawson Hairdresser, Lala Penman Chip Shop, Mrs. Cannon Drapery then in the next building Selby. Newsagent and Selby Cobbler.

GLENCRAIG HOUSE



Prior to Glencraig House being built on the site another house stood called Cluniecraig House which had been built in the seventeenth century by the Betson family.

One of my early recollections is of Saturday nights the Glencraig Pipe Band under the Pipe Major Tom Jackson playing at the lovely tree lined avenue (later to be covered by the bing) to Glencraig House, then before closing time adjourning into the Gothenburgh. Of course the Pipe Band was not the only band in the village we had a couple of dance bands one a family group the Rush Family and the other John Feely both extremely popular and always in demand for dances through out the area.

MAIN STREET GLENCRAIG LOOKING SOUTH



On the left the corrugated building was a chip shop owned by Mr. & Mrs. McIntyre but was dismantled around 1928, then the Gothenburgh, on the right Selbies Newsagent and Houstons Buildings the shops being occupied by Cannon, Penman, Dawson and Flacarty. In the centre of the picture immediately behind the tramcar is McMenimens Buildings the course of the burn had to be altered away from the road side to allow the building of them and Lofty View, Excelsior Buildings and Hunters Inn.

MAIN STREET GLENCRAIG



photograph must have been taken in the early 1900s

This

The Tramcar

By James Rowan

How well I remember those days of pre-war
When life was much slower but never a bore
We seldom did wander abroad or afar
Content just to travel in the dear old tramcar
That green and cream goddess who ambled each day
Rocking and swaying on its metallic railed way
Rumbling its protest with frictional wail
As bogie wheels slipped on high polished rail
But time has rolled on and the tram is no more
Only memories remain of this steel dinosaur
It served its public for many a day
But was sacrificed to progress and was forced to make way.

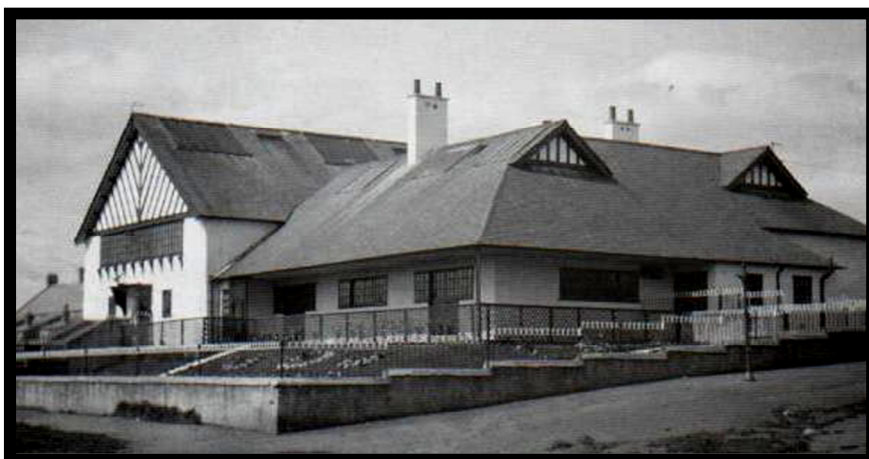
THE ORIGINAL INSTITUTE



The Glenraig Institutes were a popular venue for dances mainly run to raise funds for the various local organisations such as Hostess Whist Drives and Dances (a lady would take a table of four inviting guests to pay two shillings and six pence which went to the charity, the Hostess would be free as she supplied the food.) .

The Institute had a card room, billiard saloon and had a library service, the later in my opinion showed in the quality of debates that took place in the locality. The Caretaker of the Institute Mr. John Martin who had been a well known footballer in his youth A great interest in the political debates that took place during the 1945/1950s period when Laurence Daly versus Robert Harrower debated in front of an audience of three hundred upwards, in those day's politics played an important part in village life. For many the caretaker of the Institute was John Martin under whose guardianship was an asset to the community, John had been a footballer in his younger days and had a Scottish Cup Winners Medal.

INSTITUTE WITH THE CINEMA



The Cinema attached to the Institute was originally built by Glenraig Gothenburg Society latterly used as the Institute Hall.

THE PACKY MAN

Sometime called the Shilling a week man played an important part in the lives of many people who had to exist on a very low income there were many people carried out this service. Although a Mr. Rifkind and his son Jack, Jewish men seemed to out live the many in the Glencraig area. Mr. Rifkind's grandson Malcolm become well known as the Secretary of State for Scotland and as Foreign Minister in the Thatcher Government. There were also many Indians who toured the area selling small items of clothing.

NORTH GLENCRAIG



**Bobby Conroy, Narky McCormack, John Skillen, Paddy Lynas,
Jim Carr & Andy Wallace.**

**Mick McDermot, Chris Lawson, Andrew Steel, Alan Steel, Alan Berry, Jim Berry, Jim Salmond
& Walter Rowan.**



NORTH GLENCRAIG



Moira Malvenan, Margaret Mackie, Christine Mackie, Gavin Bell, Jean Hodge

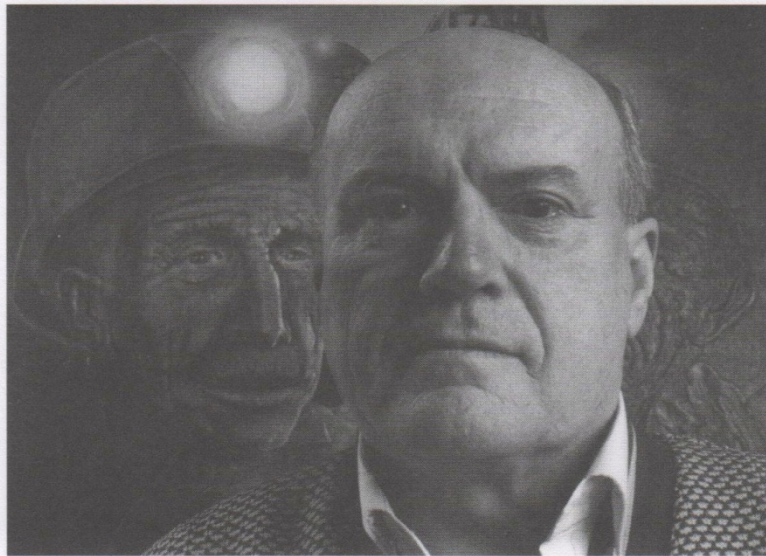




A Memorial to
Lawrence Daly (1924-2009)

General Secretary, NUM Scotland Area 1965-1968
General Secretary, NUM 1968-1984

Thursday 20th August 2009
Dunfermline Abbey



A handwritten signature in blue ink, located in the bottom right corner of the page.



A Memorial to

Lawrence Daly (1924-2009)

General Secretary, NUM Scotland Area 1965-1968

General Secretary, NUM 1968-1984

—
Tributes by The Rt Hon. Gordon Brown MP & Rannoch Daly
Music from The Croy Male Voice Choir & Pipes of Kelty & Blairadam Pipe Band

—
Thursday 20th August, 11am - Dunfermline Abbey, Dunfermline KY12 7PE

*Please either return the enclosed card or telephone 0131 665 4111 to confirm your attendance.
Please also bring this invitation with you to the Abbey if you are able to attend. Doors open at 10.30am.*

WELCOME

Angus Hogg, Session Clerk

INTRODUCTION

Reverend Hugh Ormiston

The Road to The Isles

The Croy Miners' Choir & Congregation

LAWRENCE DALY: THE NUM ACTIVIST

Ian Lavery, NUM President

Take Me Home (The Miners' Song)

The Croy Miners' Choir

PERSONAL MEMORIES

Rannoch Daly

Coorie Doon (A Miner's Lullaby)

The Croy Miners' Choir

EULOGY

The Rt. Hon. Gordon Brown MP

Ae Fond Kiss

Cathy Peattie MSP

CLOSE

Reverend Hugh Ormiston

A Man's a Man for a' That

The Croy Miners' Choir & Congregation

As we leave the Croy Miners' Choir will sing

The Working Man

Over The Sea To Skye

Red, Red Rose

**Following the Memorial Service everyone is invited for refreshments at the
Glen Pavilion, Pittencrieff Park. The Choir will be providing music.**

Front Cover Photograph: 'Lawrence Daly, 1990' by Jonathan Hughes. National Portrait Gallery, London (NPG x35948).

CLUNE TERRACE

Laurence Daly although born in Kilty coming to Glencraig as a youngster he lived in this area for many years becoming involved in politics at a very early age, starting work in Glencraig Colliery becoming a trade union activist gradually working until he held the secretary position for UK.



Jean Duncan, Margaret Carr, Isabella Cook, Jean Higgs. Nancy Johnston, Betty Smith, Jean Cotter,

Clune Terrace was the only Council Houses built in the Glencraig village and was only built in the late 1930s



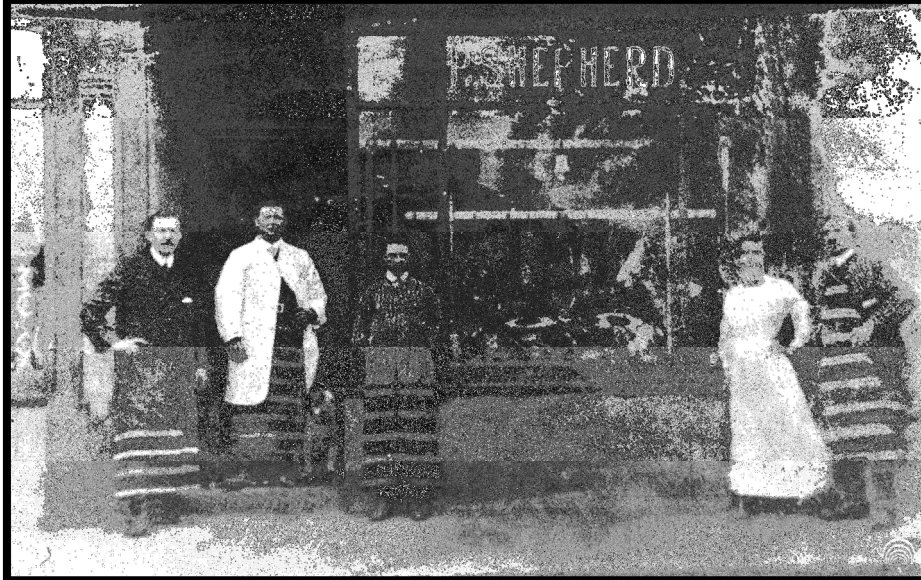
WHERE! – OH WHERE

BY

JAMES ROWAN

Where are the "Raws" – the old 'But and Ben'
Where's the barefooted, - 'the Hide and Seek' den
Where are the tinkers, - who peddled there wares,
Where's the lamplighter – who ignited the flares,
Where are the mothers – with babes in the shawls.
Where's the old wooden cradle – the beds in the wall,
Where are the Rounders – the bat and the ball,
Where is the 'Leave O' – the 'I spy You' call,
Where's the Musselburgh Fishwife – with creel on her head,
Or the horse drawn hearse – to bury the dead,
Where is the tramcar – its loud clanging bell,
The wash-house, the Midden – the old village well,
Where is the wringer – the tub, and tub stool,
The old leather belt – we got at the school,
Where's the horse and its cart – the solid tyred car,
The old silent pictures – we watched at the 'Star',
Where is the Palais – the old 'Happyland'
The Saturday night dancing – to Jack Cunningham's Band,
Where are the old names – we once knew so well,
Like Maggie, and Mary – and Katie and Nell,
Where are the Ecks – the Tams we once knew,
The Wullies, the Dods – the Jocks and the Hughs,
And where are our hearts – if we ever forget,
The moleskin clad miner – all coal dust and sweat,
For he is our roots – our life, our seed corn,
And the God Given Reason – our village was born.

ROBERT SHEPHERD BUTCHER



Robert Shepherd owned the business until 1947/48

GEORGE STAHLY



George Stahly a member of a well known Lochgelly family of butchers who took over the business from Robert Shepherd on his retriial.

1939/1945

As war once again engulfed the country, after the claim from 1914/1918 that “that was the war to end all wars”.

However it was going to shape a far different life to the village which no one anticipated at the start.

The mining industry once more was called upon to produce as much coal as possible, placing a great burden on the miner to work miracles after the hardships they had endured since 1927.

Not only in their normal working day but by helping out in the various voluntary service set up to protect the community during that time such as the Home Guard (prior the LDV), Air Raid Wardens, Fire Fighters and First Aid and others.

Then of course many of the young men and women (many in reserved occupations) in the area joined the various services, some unfortunately some paying the ultimate price.

SONS OF GLENCRAGG

Lost To War

1939 - 1945

MONKEY GREENHILL

ANDREW MCCORMACK

CHARLES MCGREGOR

CHARLES MULARKEY

THOMAS PAGE

STANLEY PATERSON

ANDREW SHARP

WILLIAM WATSON

GLENCRAIG COLLIERY WILSON & CLYDE COAL Co.

The colliery was sunk in 1895 and started producing coal the following year until 1966 reaching its peak production in 1950 being the main employment in the area, employing various numbers up to 1,500 men during its seventy years working.

“THE TRUE COST OF COAL”

Mining is a dirty dangerous occupation and over the years claimed many lives in Glencraig Colliery, the only records I can find are from 1900 to 1936

1900 James Brannigan

1902 James Crichton, Robert Wilson, Andrew Marshall, Peter Adamson and John Parker.

1903 David Carver,

1904 William Murray.

1905 Bernard Hulskramer and James Gilchrist,

1906 David Brown.

1911 William Hughes.

1914 Frank Murphy

1915 Thomas Paterson.

1916 John Dowds, Anthony Kelly,

1929 John Finlater.

1930 James Moore.

1933 Alexander Westwater

1936 Andrew Peattie

1938 James Connelly

Others from memory after 1936 were Sandy Coombe, Sandy McGregor, James McKinnon, William Adams and Peter Chalmers.

WHAT VALUE A LIFE

In 1930 Mr. James Moore sued the Colliery for the death of his son James Junior he was awarded £400.00 which amounted to three years wages at that time.

In 1938 the widow Mrs Connelly was awarded for the death of her husband the princely sum of six hundred pounds in the Kinross Sheriff Court to keep herself and raise twelve children.

The accident that occurred during 1902 with the loss of four men namely Adamson, Crichton, Marshall and Robert Wilson in the rescue team also included a Robert Wilson under manager who it would appear to have received a medal some six months after the accident.

STRIKE 1926

Although providing employment it was also a hard taskmaster the strike was a great hardship to the entire village with many even landing in jail for their part of the 1926 strike such as George Armstrong and James Holland sentenced to one year, Thomas Malcolm, Peter Aird and James Ogle to nine months and Michael Coney, Joseph Stewart, Charles Marcinkowitch (Mitchell) James Moffatt, Donald Fraser, John Hunter, Robert Fleming, James Keicher, Augustus Keicher, William Maguire and William Menzies to eight months.

After the 1926 strike the Coal Owners did not restart many of the strikers to their jobs and of course with no income were unable to pay rent for their homes the sum quoted in one case was £15.6d. The court was asked for the eviction from their homes to be delayed, that the then MP David Adamson was still negotiation with the coal company but the degrees were granted.

One miners leader addressing striking miners said the streets were a washed with blood earning him six months in jail but a colleague continued to use the same terms but used the alleged and saved himself from prosecution.

An early recollection as a boy it was the frightening sight of policemen with large batons on their shoulders and steel helmets parading through the streets.

The miner is always conscious of his work mates as his life may at anytime be dependant on them in an emergency and this creates a strong bond between them to my knowledge that only exists in the armed services during war.

This bond also spills over some times bringing rifts within families, one case to my personal knowledge was a family with three brothers working in Glencraig Colliery prior to the 1926 strike one brother worked one day during the strike, immediately the strike ended the three sail to New Zealand on the same ship but the two brother would not recognise the brother who had worked. Although settling in the same town they never spoke during their lifetime, in 1960s a sister on a visit was on the opposite side of the street would not cross to speak to her brothers' widow. Only at the turn of this century the families got together again after seventy years.

GLENCRAIG STRIKES

Tune "When Mexico gave up the Rumba"

Way down in Glencraig pit in the high bottom,
striking is the thing.

You can find them drinking over in the Club, or gambling round the
bing.

From the Delegate there comes a frantic shout come on boys we'll go
down the face.

Before you know what's cooking their up and their looking at the
runners in the two o'clock race.

Chorus "One two and then Strike
It's the story that we all know
The week that the High Bottom
Was always stopping to try and get more Dough"

When the backshift comes, big Peter he'll run
He'll pick up the telephone.

But he's not scared when he sees Wullie Aird
And the rest of the boys going home

From the canteen there comes a frantic scream
Come on boys we'll all make a stand

Before you know what there about,
Their up at the Tute

Playing Housey and Coo-can.

Chorus
When Friday comes you'll see them run,

Just to get their dough

To pay the wife, and pay the rent, some to pay big Joe, when its
Monday you'll hear them say,

Whether its hail, snow or rain

If we don't get satisfaction we'll have to take action

There out on strike again.

BOYHOOD PRANK

In the late 1920s early 30s carbide was still in use in several collieries and as boys we would place some carbide in a syrup tin add some water clamping the lid on and run as fast as possible before the explosion burst the tin, I don't know if we were lucky or fast runners.

GLENCRAIG COLLIERY





**William Aird, John McKean, John Bremner, Mick Connie, Ronnie Ewans, Davie Ritchison,
Jimmy Smith, John King, John McNeil, John Duff,**

NUMBER 2 SHAFT GLENCRAIG COLLIERY



**J. Conway, H. Curry, T. McIntosh M. Geddes, P. Connelly.
J. Hunter, J. Rowan, J. Clark.**

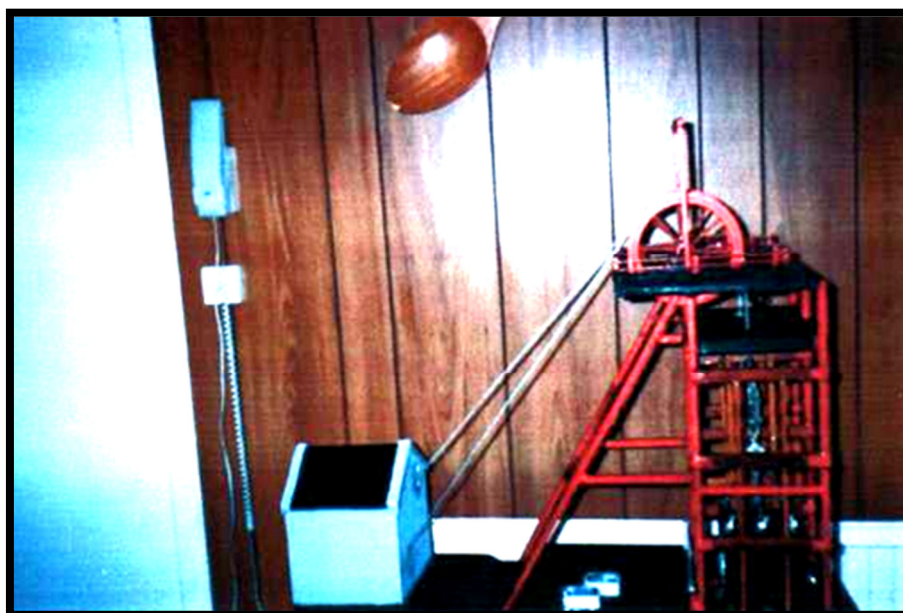
BLACKSMITHS



William Simpson, Cyril Forbes David Farmer Norman Stewart, Heriot Nunn

The training in the colliery workshops was of a high standard as it produced many accomplished trades who later turned to other companies outside mining, to mention a few Alex Bremner and Tom Braid who both were in charge of large areas for the electrical industry David Chalmers honoured by the American Government for his contribution to the war.

WORKING MODEL CAGE, PULLEY WHEELS & ENGINE HOUSE



Made by Jim Spence a Blacksmith at Glenraig Colliery, now in the museum at Kirkcaldy.

THE FOREMEN



Blacksmith David Farmer Joinery David Ogilvy

GLENCRAIG COLLIERY PITHEAD



GLENCRAIG COLLERY CANTEEN



**Sally Page, James Feely
Sarah Melon & Jeannie Moffat**

OPENING GLENCRAIG COLLIERY BATHS



Messers Parr, Potter, Tuper, Crow.

The pit baths opened in 1919 prior to that the miner had to travel home where he had to wash in a bath probably made of tin and his wife had to heat the water on the top of an open fire in crowd confines of a small house. Some of course had to travel by public transport much to the worry of a lady with her Sunday dress.



John Carson, William Black, Patrick ?, Frank Shaw, William Telfer, John Duncan, William Howden, Col. Holdworth, W.A. Wilson, James Brown and J.K. Park

GLENCRAIG COLLIERY CAR 1905



The make was Alldays & Onions, in the front seat John Duncan and James Melvile, in the rear seat Guy Gordon and William Strang.

PAY SLIP

No. 88 Pay Ending 19

GLEN CRAIG COLLIERY.
WILSONS & CLYDE COAL CO., LTD.

Dr. to George Justice

TONGS	CWT/L	FMS.	SHIFTS	RATE		
WAR WAGE						
TOTAL £						2 18 9

OFF-TAKES										TOTAL £		
Insurance M'ch (Unem)	Cash Ad'ced	Ambul. Wagon	Carlow Home	Dr Bar. nurse's Homes	Miners' Welfare	Pipe Band	N'ra'g Assoc'n	Coal b'gs	Trav'g L'mps Tk'ts			
Hops Rest	Rates	Light	Coal in Carts	Hos- pitals	Medical Fees	Tool Sharp'g	Explos- ives	Mater- ials	Baths			
Nett Sum Paid, £												2 16 11

SAFTY CHECKS



Before going down the pit each man was given his checks one being collected by the banksman before going under ground the other for identification so that in case of accidents they knew exactly who was underground.

GLENCRAIG JOLLY BEGGARS



Before leaving Glencraig we have a few houses before we enter Lochcraig, from the pit road northwards. On the west side starting with Anvil Cottage now demolished and replaced with a new bungalow situated behind was Jimmy Muir's fruit and vegetables store and stable next Glendale Cottage (noted for many years for the slogan on the north side "God is Love") moving north the Quarry used for many years by the Fife Council as a dump to store road material

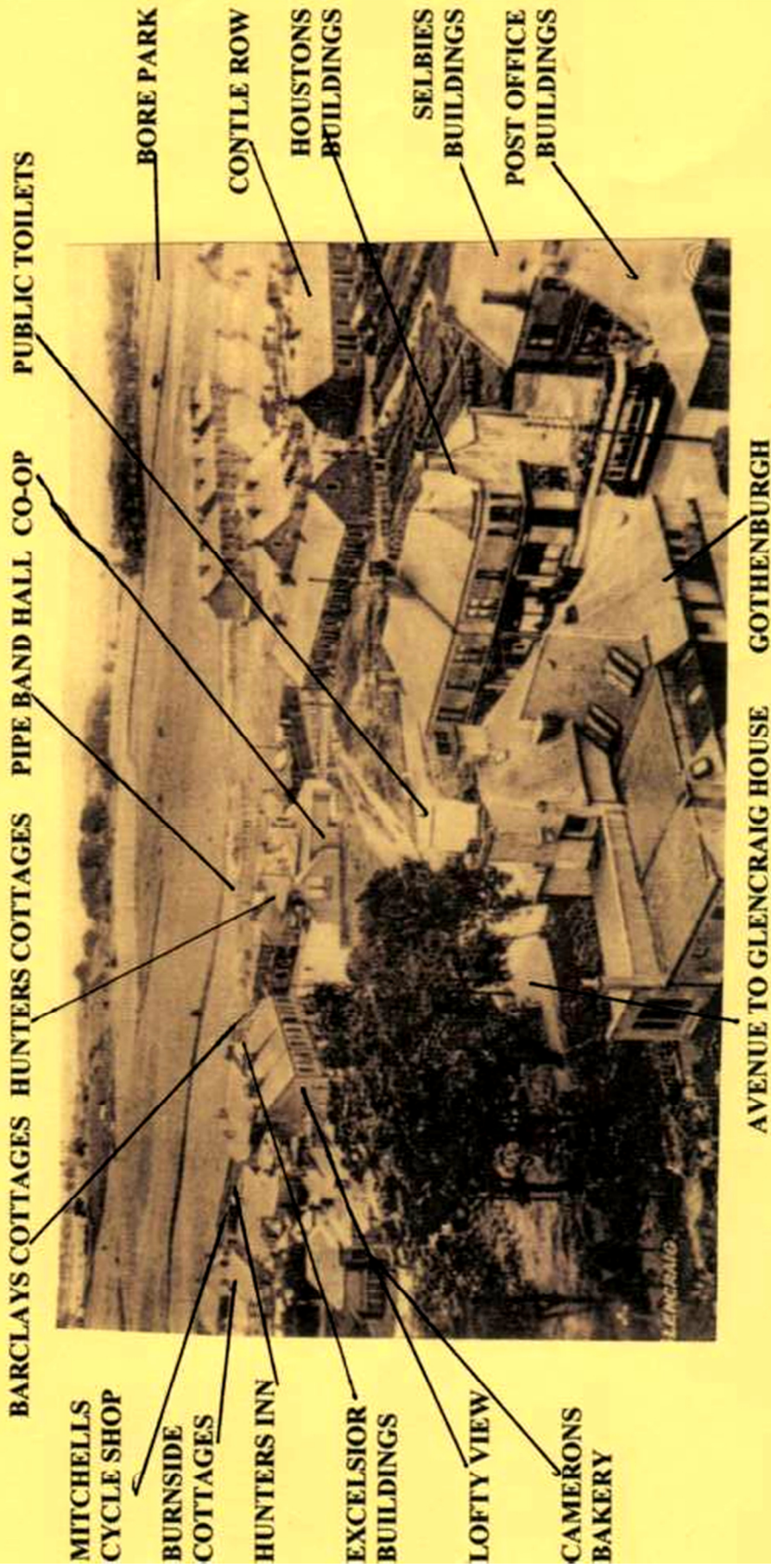
GLENCRAIG VILLAGE

BY

JAMES ROWAN

T'was 10 am on an August Morn,
The sky was blue-The sun shone warm,
To the "Meadows" Park - I made my way,
Yet To the hill of Clune - My feet did stray,
I stood upon - Its summit high,
Watched Fitty's waters - Flowing by,
Twisting it's way - First left then right,
Under Clochríte bridge - And out of sight,
So I spread my gaze - Past either shore,
Remembering it - In days of yore,
Where cattle now graze - Miners rows stood there,
Like the "Double Blocks" - And the famous square,
The "Gaffers Row" - And so many more,
Barclay's Chemist - Lochgelly Store,
Nevay's the barber - Joe Gizzie's Club,
Wilson's chip shop - John Hunter's pub,
Then I movemy eyes - To a higher line,
Where the Colliery chimney - Spewed smoke and grime,
And the winding engine - With it's awesome whine,
Sent the cage a plunging - Down the mine,
The burning bin - It's sulphurous coals,
The old "Pug" engine - The fireholes,
But all have gone - These many years,
With lowered eyes - Now filled with tears
Retraced my steps - With a heavy sigh,
Its so sad to see a village die.

GLENCRAIG



GLENCRAIG

NORTH

EAST

WEST

COLLIERY & INCHGALL
FARM ROAD

FOOTPATH
TO KELTY

ST. SAULVE

SHEPHERD
BUILDINGS

NORTH
GLENCRAIG

INSTITUTE

WILSON
BUILDINGS

SELBIES
BUILDINGS

HOUSTONS
BUILDINGS

FITTY BURN

CO-OP
BUILDINGS

SOUTH
GLENCRAIG

HUNTERS
BUILDINGS

BORE PARK

BARCLAYS

MEADOW
COTTAGE

GORDON
PLACE

WALKINSHAWS
COTTAGE

CURRIES
COTTAGES

LARGO
COTTAGES

KINGSTON
COTTAGE

RAILWAY
SIDINGS

GLENCRAIG
COLLIERY

NORTH
GLENCRAIG

THE COTTAGE

POST OFFICE
BUILDINGS

McINTYRES
HUT

GOTHENBURGH

AVENUE TO
GLENCRAIG
HOUSE

McMENIMENS
BUILDING

LOFTY VIEW

EXCELSIOR
BUILDINGS

HUNTERS
INN

BURNSIDE
COTTAGES

MITCHELLS
COTTAGE

CURRIES
BUILDINGS

STRATHMORE
COTTAGE

ARTELLA
COTTAGES

ALMAR
COTTAGES

GLENCRAIG
SCHOOL

LONG VIEW

SOUTH



SHOP LOCATIONS

WEST SIDE FROM THE SOUTH

CURRIES COTTAGES
CURRIE SISTERS SWEET SHOP

GORDON PLACE
WOODS CHIP SHOP

BARCLAYS
CHARLES BARCLAY CHEMIST

MR. CRIEHTON CLOTHIER
LATER HOUSE

HUNTERS BUILDINGS
JOHN HUNTER LIC. GROCER
LATER CHIP SHOP
LATER POST OFFICE
LATER WILLIE MICHIE CHIP
SHOP

DAVID GIBSON COBBLER

CHARLES KEICHER BARBER
LATER ADAM CROWE

CO-OP BUILDINGS
BUTCHERY
BAKERY
GROCERY (OFFICE)

HOUSTONS BUILDINGS

FLACHERT GENERAL
LATER MURPHY
LATER NORA DEVINE
LATER CATH. HUGHES
HAIRDRESSERS

DAWSONS HAIRDRESSER
LATER JAMES NEVAY
LATER MR. MCGLADE COBBLER
LATER BAKER

PENMAN CHIP SHOP
LATER MRS MITCHELL
CROCHERY STORE

CANNON DRAPER
LATER ALEX. PENDER
CHIP SHOP PENDER
LATER TWO AMERICANS
LATER HUGH FOLEY

SELBIES BUILDINGS

SELBIE NEWSAGENT
LATER GEO. MITCHELL

SELBIE COBBLER

WILSONS BUILDINGS

WILSONS CONFECTIONARY

WILSONS CHIP SHOP
LATER MILLER & INNOCENTI

SHEPHERDS BUILDINGS

ROBERT SHEPHERD BUTCHER
LATER GEO. STAHLY

AGNES PORTER GENERAL
MRS. REID
MRS. SHEPHERD
MRS. DUFF
LATER PUD CLARK
LATER
PETE WARD SECONDHAND

EAST SIDE FROM THE SOUTH

CURRIES BUILDINGS
MRS. MORRIS GENERAL

**MITCHELLS
COTTAGE**
MITCHELLS CYCLE SHOP

HUNTERS INN
JOHN HUNTER
LATER PETER CAVANACH
LATER PETER FOSTER

EXCELSIOR BUILDINGS

NISBETS DRAPER
LATER POST OFFICE
LATER LOWS STOCK ROOM

SCHOLAR GROCER
LATER WILLIAM LOW & CO.

JOHN BAYNE BUTCHER

TO THE REAR LYNAS HALL
SALE ROOM
LATER THE GOSPEL HALL

LOFTY VIEW

JOE GIZZIES BILLARD HALL
LATER MARTIN GILFEATHER,
LATER JAMES MUIR
LATER WILLIAM MICHIE.

CO-OP DRAPERY

NORMAN NEWSAGENT

LATER RUSH CHIP SHOP
LATER NEVAY

HOUSE
LATER GOSPEL HALL

**McMENIMEMS
BUILDINGS**
CAMERON BAKERS
LATER MALVENAN

POST OFFICE BUILDINGS

NORTH GLENCRAIG

MRS. STEEL GENERAL
MRS. DEVELIN

SOUTH GLENCRAIG

M/S. MICHIE

LOCHCRAIG

ATTACHED TO MASONIC
BUILDING NOW DEMOLISHED
MRS. CHALMERS GENERAL
CURATI CHIP SHOP
LATER SPENCE FAMILY

KIRK- HA COTTAGE
M/S CISSIE HENDERSON
CONFECTIONERY

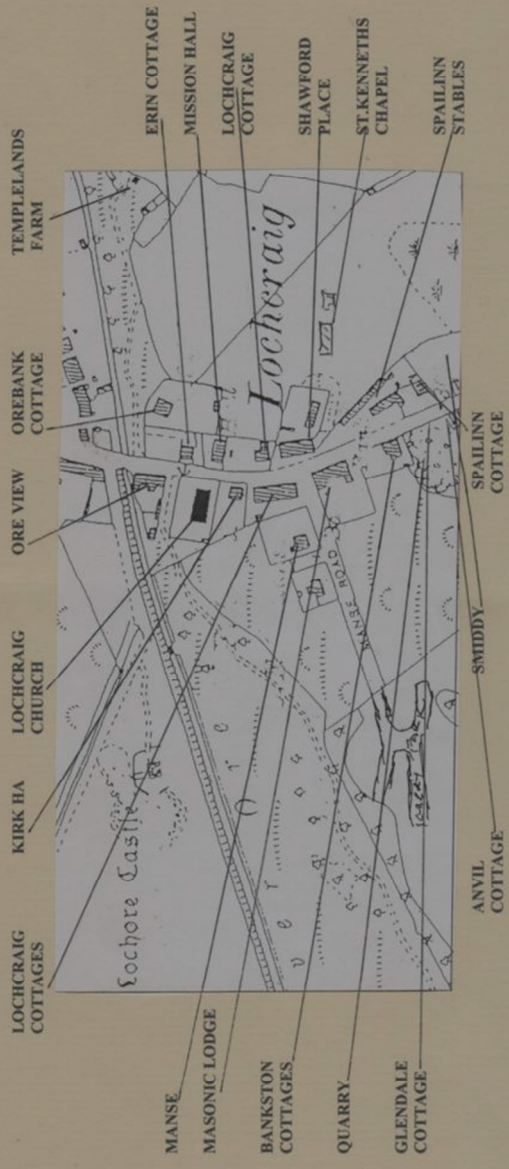
ORE VIEW
ROBERTSON CYCLE SHOP
FIFE COUNTY RATES OFFICE
LATER MILLER GENERAL

LOHCRAIG

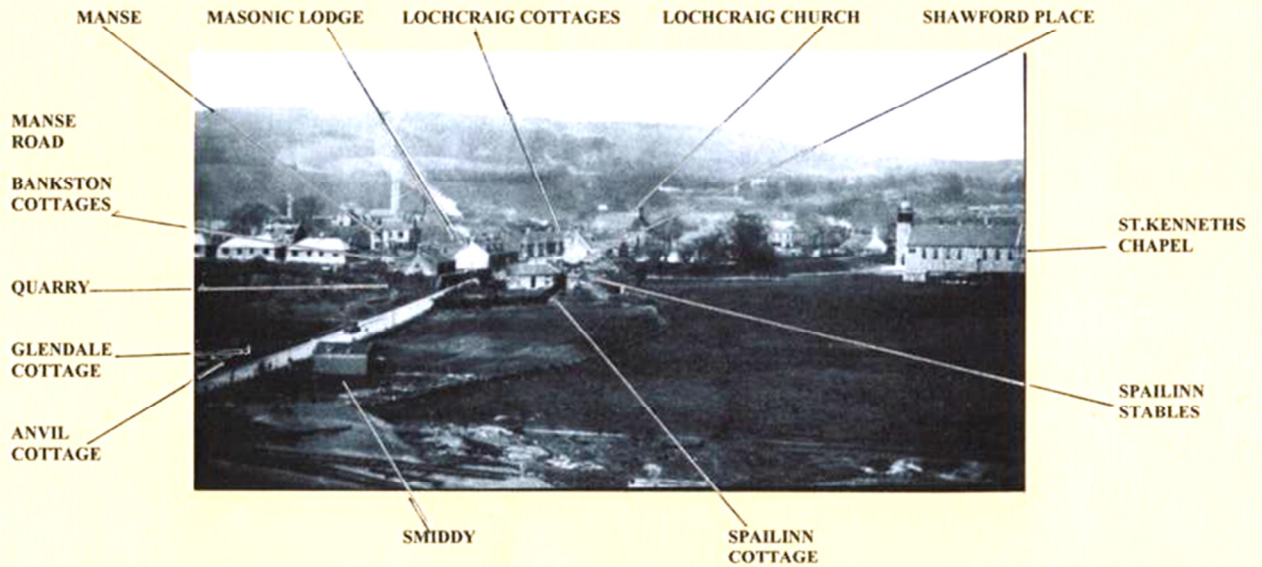
The name Lochcraig was given to the part of Glencraig appears to have started in the latter 1880s from the Spail Inn to the Ore burn (river or Stream) then Bankston Cottages followed by the Masonic Hall which was part of a four house row, two being demolished. The entrance to Manse Road and beyond Garry Park Continuing north Lochcraig Cottages and Kirk Ha then Lochcraig Church on the north boundary a footpath exists that takes you across the Clunie to Kelty the last houses before Crosshill was the Ore View a double story block to the rear the local depot for the scaffes.

The first building on the east side of the road was the Smiddy but disappeared sometime late 1920s the next building was Spailinn Cottage then the stables called the same name Spailinn was for many years the yard for the Goodwin family who delivered coal from Glencraig Collery to the miners employed there, then the entrance road to St. Kenneths Chapel then travelling north Shawford Cottages then Lochcraig Cottage occupied by Doctor Todd one of the local medics he was also acclaim as a very capable dentist and was adept at extracting teeth next the Mission Hall then Erin Cottage then just before the Ore Burn the road to Templelands Farm with the Orebank Cottage near the main road.

LOCHCRAIG



LOHCRAIG



WILLIAM GOODWIN

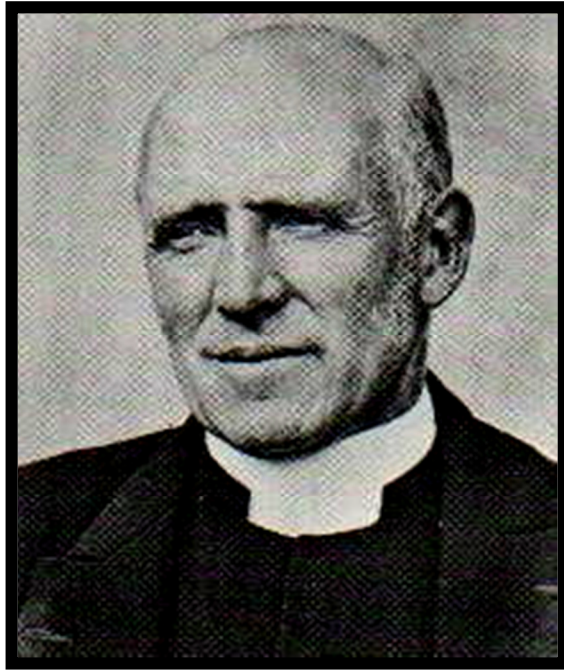


The Goodwin family from Spail Inn delivered coal from Glencaig Colliery to the miners in their carts.

**THE FIRST CHURCH LEADERS
IN ST.KENNETHS CHAPEL & LOCHCRAIG U.F. CHURCH**



Father Malheron



Rev. Charles Mason

**ST.KEN
PARADE ST.PATRICKS LOCHGELLY TO THE
DEDECATION OF ST.KENNETHS CHAPEL**



**SOME OF THE WORKERS BUILDING ST.KENNETHS
CHAPEL
1924**



ST. KENNETH'S CHAPEL



The building of St. Kenneth's Chapel at Lochcraig was the exacting work of Father Malhearn and as most of the work was voluntary a great tribute to him as the local Priest. The Bell Tower I believe was a copy of a European Church and is the only one in UK sad that this historical local building is to be demolished.

ST. KENNETH'S CHOIR 1933



LOURDES DAY CELEBRATION

ST. KENNETHS CONGEGATION AT CRAIGLOCKART LATE 1940s

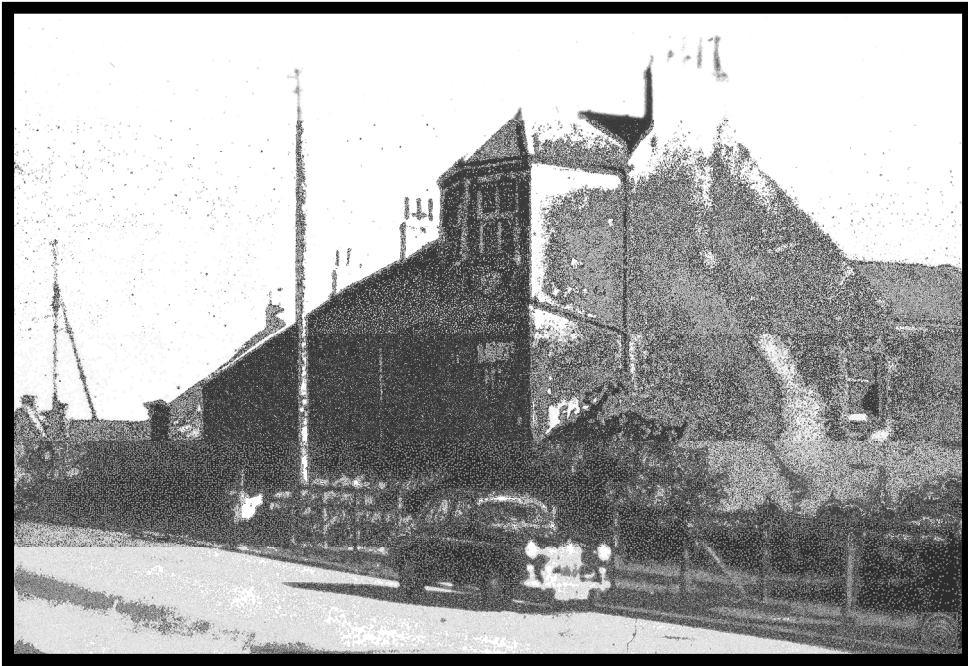


From the front: Ann-Marie Kelly, Margo Clark, Owen McGuire, Ella O'Donnell and Margaret O'Hare

Bill Carr, Betty Carr, Mrs. Thomson, Pat Brogan, Bernard McGurk, Fr. F. Lynch, D. Sherry, Mary Rush and William McGill.

Mrs. M. Clark, Mrs. Kelly, Barney Fanning, Fr. Keirman, Mrs. Sherry and Mrs. Mooney, Mrs. Kirby, Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Burnside, Mrs. McGuire and Maggie Gibbons. Mrs. McGurk, Mrs. O'Donnell, Margaret Kirby, Helen Sherry, Davie Diamond, May O'Hare, Mrs. Fanning, Mrs. McGill and Nan Welsh.

SHAWFORD PLACE LOCHCRAIG



LOCHCRAIG COTTAGES



THE MANSE LOCHCRAIG CHURCH

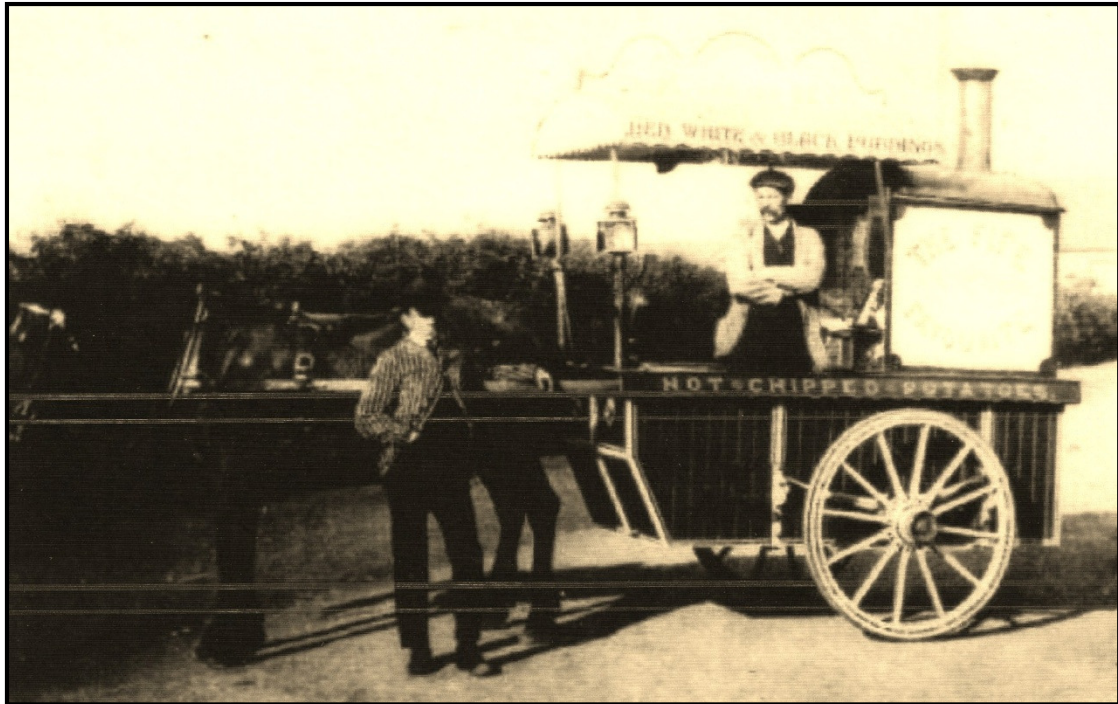


GARRY PARK



Garry Park was named in honour of Councillor Garry (Proprietor of the Rosewell Bar Lochore) the building was in several stages from 1923/1927.

FISH & CHIP CART



This is not a local chippy, but Mrs. Dick from Templands Farm, Lochgraig prior to 1939 was a regular nightly visitor to Garry Park with her cart to supply the locals with fish and chips

GARRY PARK RIGHT FORK



Ethel Anderson & baby, Tom Donachie, Ian Robertson, Andrew Marshall, John Kelly, James Kelly, James Kirby, Patrick Kirby, -, -, Jean Harris, -, -, Annie Jarvis, May Muir, -, -, May Crowe, -, Jannette Crowe, -, -, -, Denis Kirby, -, -, -, -,

GARRY PARK LEFT FORK



William McKenzie, Andrew Page, Tom Leghorn, Robert Fraser, Jim Spence, Jim Henderson , Annie Innes with Betty Muir, Janet Miller with baby, Helen Gibb, Flora McLean, Rae Henderson, Mary McLean, Dick Innes, Agnes Gibb, Alexandra McLean, Joan McGinlay, Margaret Miller, Annie Braid, Murial Hutt, Grace Harrower, Andrew Spowart, Jackie Sandilands, John McGinlay, James McGinlay, Sam Gibb, George McLean and John Innes.

GARRY PARK BELLES



Betty Smith, Betty Muir, Janette Crowe

EDDIE HENDERSON



Signing his book “The History of Lochoreside” in 1988 probably the best and most detailed history of the area, Eddie lived with his parents at Kirk Ha Cottage over a long period

KIRK HA SWEET SHOP



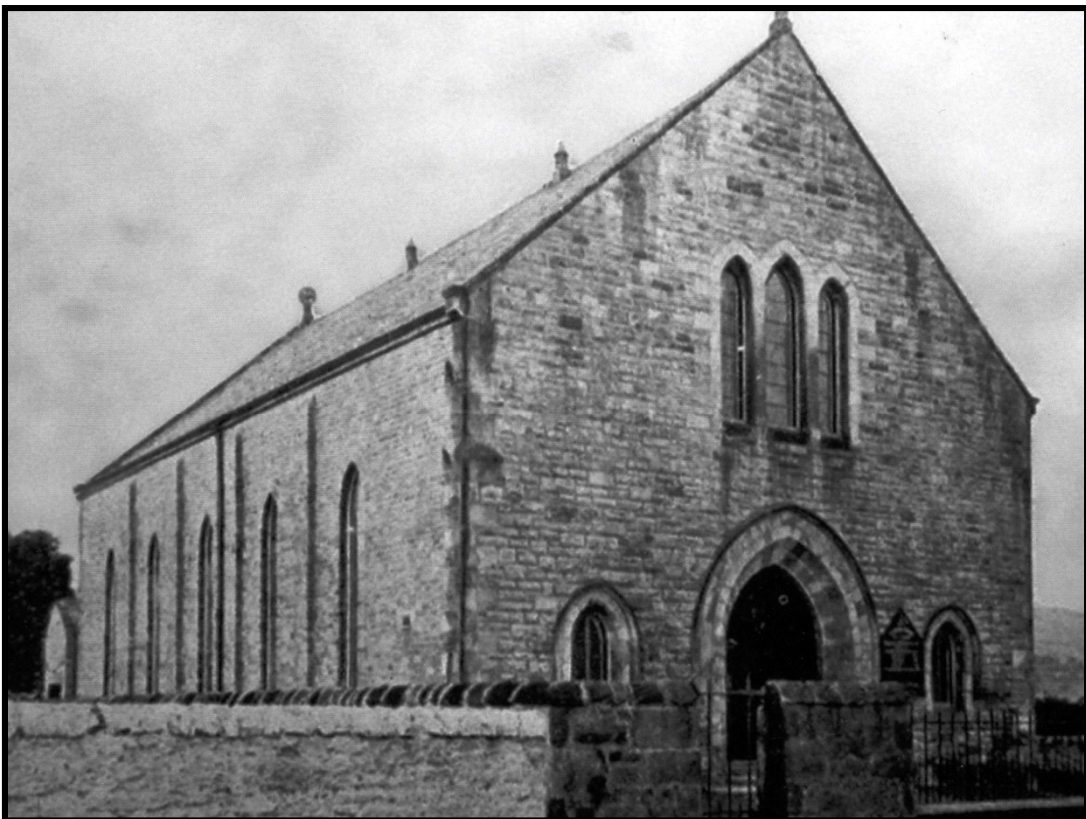
Cissie Henderson at her sweet shop in the grounds of the cottage next to the Lochcraig Church.

HORSE CARRAIGES



The horse coaches taken in front of Kirk Ha Cottage probably date about 1910/1920.

LOHCRAIG CHURCH



The Rev. Charles Mason who was the first minister of the Lochcraig Church in the early 1900s and unfortunately now demolished.

LOCHGRAIG CHURCH





LOCHGRAIG CHURCH



Day outing

SUNDAY SCHOOL TRIP TO BURNTISLAND IN THE 1930s



LOCHCRAIG CHURCH



Bunt Justice, George Justice, Jean Finlayson, Rev. Andrew Ireland, Rev. Mrs. David Butters, May Binnie, Edith Ford, Margaret Wilkie, Evelyn Smith, Betty McDonald, Alice Moffat, Beth McManus, Jim McManus, Nurse Fortheringham, Ella Moffat, Ethel Muir, Florence Wilson, Jeanie Brown, J. Morrison, J. Pratt, Amy Murray, D. Adams, J. Scott, M. Easton, Rev. J. Dick, J. Paterson, T. Currie, R. Pratt, E. Pratt, J. Penman, B. Brannigan and Jan Adams.

MISSION HALL



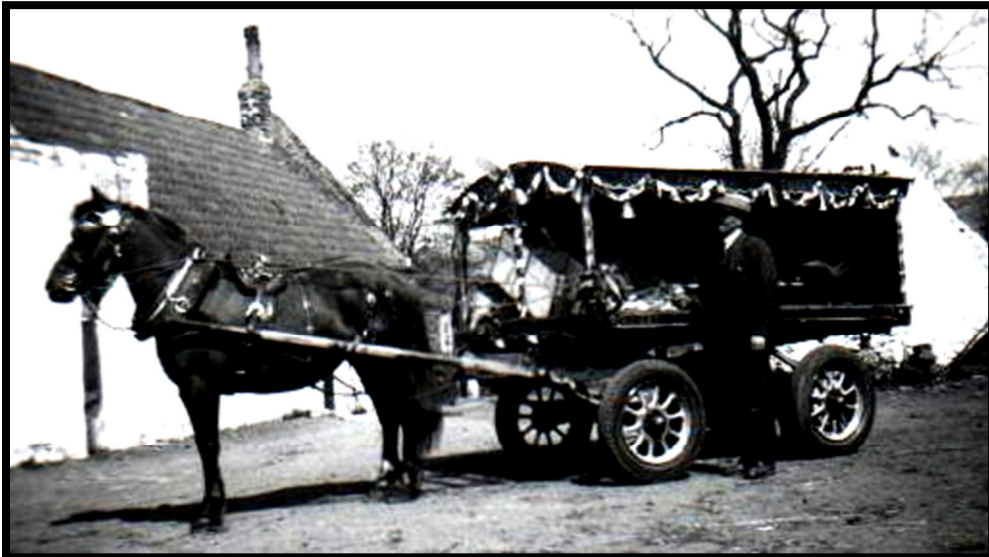
The Mission Hall was a off shoot from Ballingry Church and was use for Bible Classes and various other church activities prior to being taken over by the Order of the Eastern Star. Eventually it was demolished and replaced by two houses. It was situated north of Lochcraig Cottage and south of Erin Cottage

SCAFFY SERVICE



One of the carts use to collect the household waste which in the main was ashes as it was all coal burning fires, what a pleasure to sit in front of a coal fire on a cold winters night.

ROBERT DICK FRUIT CART



Mr. Robert Dick of Templands Farm sold fruit and vegetables in the surrounding area with his cart.

THE GLENCRAIG BARD

James Rowan



What better way to end than quote from "James"

And so,- sadly, the mining village of Glencraig, has ceased to exist, but with the tearing down, of those miners rows, a "way of life" had ended, for gone with the bricks and mortar, went also, the intimate neighbourliness, and true friendships, created by living and working so close together, bonded often by sheer poverty. May it still live in the hearts and minds of all who once lived there, and in the history and heritage, of those who follow on?

This is the ramblings of a four score and eight year old, with the hope of jogging a few memories of the not so young and give the younger some insight to conditions that existed in the past, my name is Arthur Nevay and cannot claim to be a Fifer born in Glencraig as my birth Town was Kinross but as child of some months old my father bought a Hairdressing Business in Glencraig in 1921 where I have lived since, unless for period 1940/45, I have mentioned some people who made up the fabric of village life during my life time in GLENCRAIG.

Many people have allowed me to use photographs and the many who have supplied names of people on the photographs to which I am most grateful.

To Mrs. Rowan who gave me permission to use James poems.

Mrs. Tucker for her party piece the "Strickers" The Big Peter (Peter Johnston Glencraig Colliery Manager, Willie Aird (Trade Union Activist). Big Joe (Barman Glencraig Institute).

UPDATE 2011 Arthur Nevay

Arthurnevay@yahoo.com

NEW PICTURES

CLENCRAIG CELTIC A



**MR. PENMAN (SECY), j. COONEY (TRAINER), T. GLENCROSS, M. GEDDES, J. GEDDES, T. MOFFAT. T. CONNER,C. REIDY (ASS. TRAINER)
LAING, F. McGIRR, M. McGOWAN. A. COONEY (CAPT.) , D. DOCHERTY, J. SCULLION.**





BURNLEY FOOTBALL CLUB



STANDING THIRD FROM LEFT JOHN AIRD



