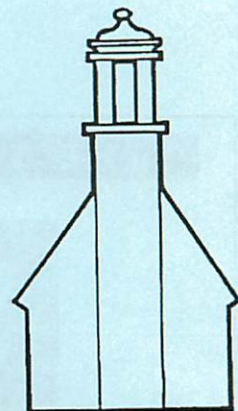


STONEHOUSE YOUTH FORUM

The Stonehouse Lantern

ANNIVERSARY EDITION



UFO close encounter with Youth Forum at the Boags

Stonehouse experienced its first encounter of a third kind when alien forces from the planet Heromus descended from the skies above and made contact with member of the Youth Forum who were holding a barbeque on the banks of the Avon.

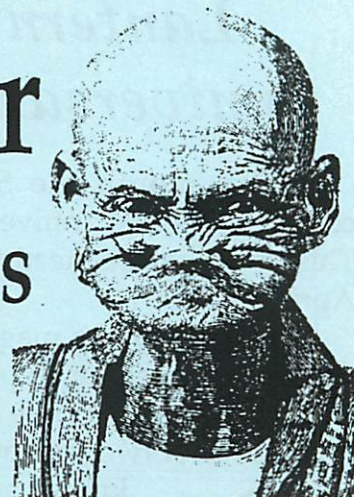
The alien spacecraft illuminated the skies and the ground shuddered as the ship landed.

Everyone stood aghast as a strange, hideous reptile like creature (not unlike a community education worker!) ventured out the doorway. Frozen to the spot, waiting for the creature to zap us into oblivion, it uttered its first words - "Gouranga" then "take me to your leader"!

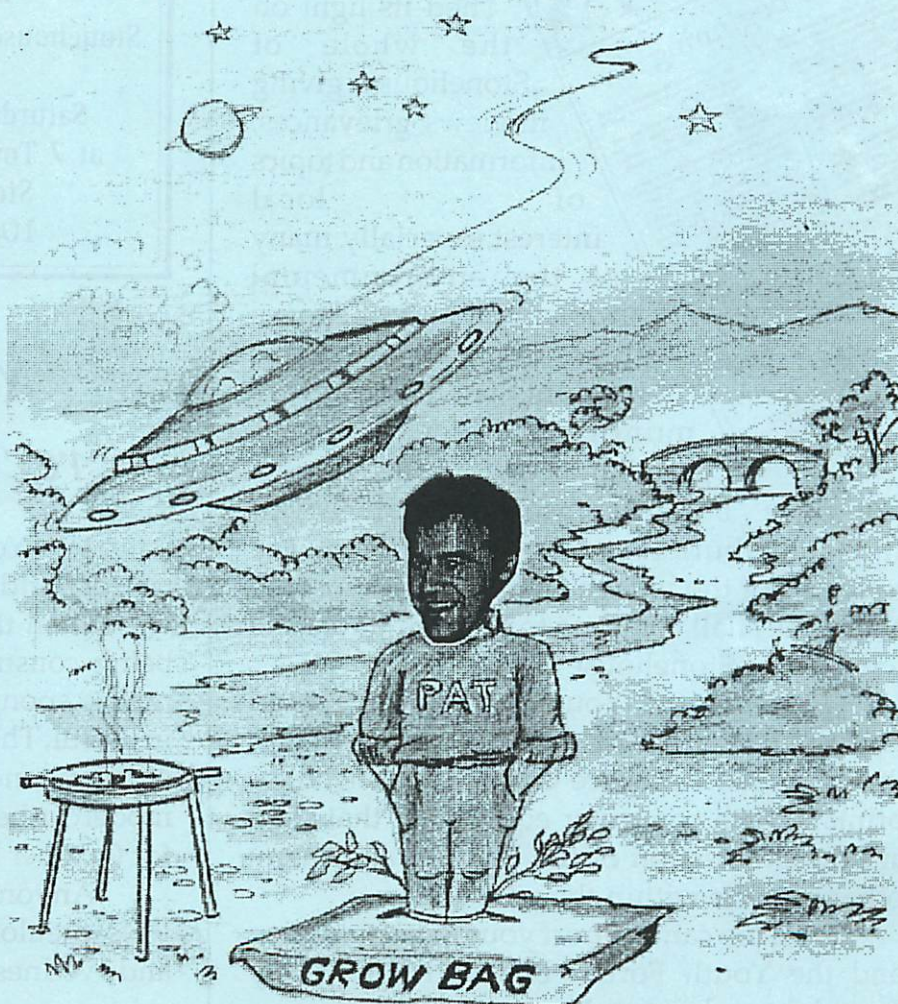
On hearing this we took the alien being to our illustrious leader Pat Whelan, and on meeting Pat the creature, known as Jakhor asked if we were a planet populated by dwarfs. Pat then got off his knees, coming face to face with Jakhors knee caps and said that if he made any more remarks like that he would set the Youth Forum on him. As the girls snarled and growled the creature stood back and apologised.

Jakhor then told us of his reason for landing in this quaint little hamlet named Stonehouse. While travelling through the galaxy he had been collecting specimens

Cont. page 2



Jakhor the Alien



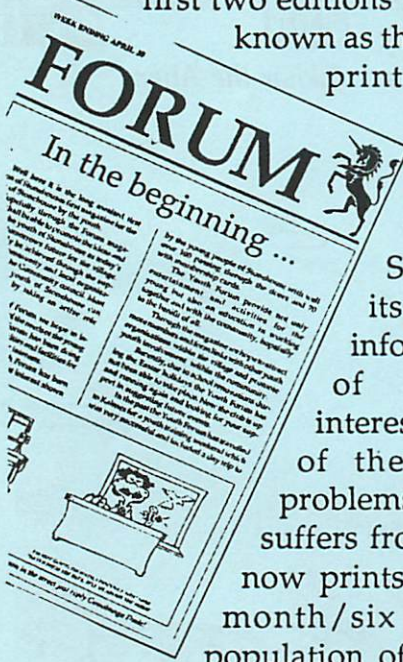
THE LANTERN : BY THE YOUTH FOR THE YOUTH



Lantern's first anniversary edition

This month the Stonehouse Lantern celebrates its first anniversary of its existence. This issue shall be the ninth since its launch on April 30th 1991.

Originally the magazine was produced only as a learning experience and for the entertainment of the Youth Forum. In the first two editions the magazine was known as the Forum and only printed 40-50 copies.



Since then the magazine has shed its light on the whole of Stonehouse, giving its views, grievances, information and topics of local interest, especially many of the environmental problems that Stonehouse suffers from. The magazine now prints 500 copies every month/six weeks in a population of 5000. Its success can only be put down to the encouragement and contributions made by many of the residents of the village. With this support the magazine shall continue to flourish under the wing of the Stonehouse Youth Forum.

Recently the Youth Forum have been successful in attaining grants of £4600 to equip the proposed Resource Centre in Stonehouse primary with computer equipment that shall aid the production of the Lantern and many other projects within the village.

You too can support your local magazine and the Youth Forum by contributing any material or adverts relevant to Stonehouse.

Continued from page 1

of various life forms. Thus he was looking for a prime example of an earthling. Pat replied to the creatures appeal and said he was sorry about the poor examples here but that Jakhor was more than welcome to take all the Youth Forum and dissect them at his pleasure.

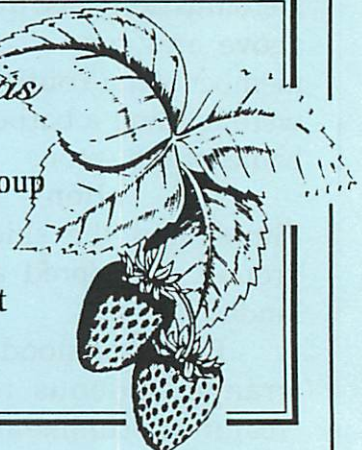
Jakhor declined the offer and said he would see what Larkhall had to offer!

As his spacecraft flew off into the distant stars he said that his encounter was an experience and left the Youth Forum a present of rare Lithium crystals and Pat received a 'grow bag'!

Pat is now hoping for rain and the Youth Forum can't get their Lithium crystals to work captain!

Strawberry Teas
in aid of
Stonehouse Heritage Group

Saturday 13th June
at 7 Townhead Street
Stonehouse
10am - 2pm



Youth Forum reconstruct park

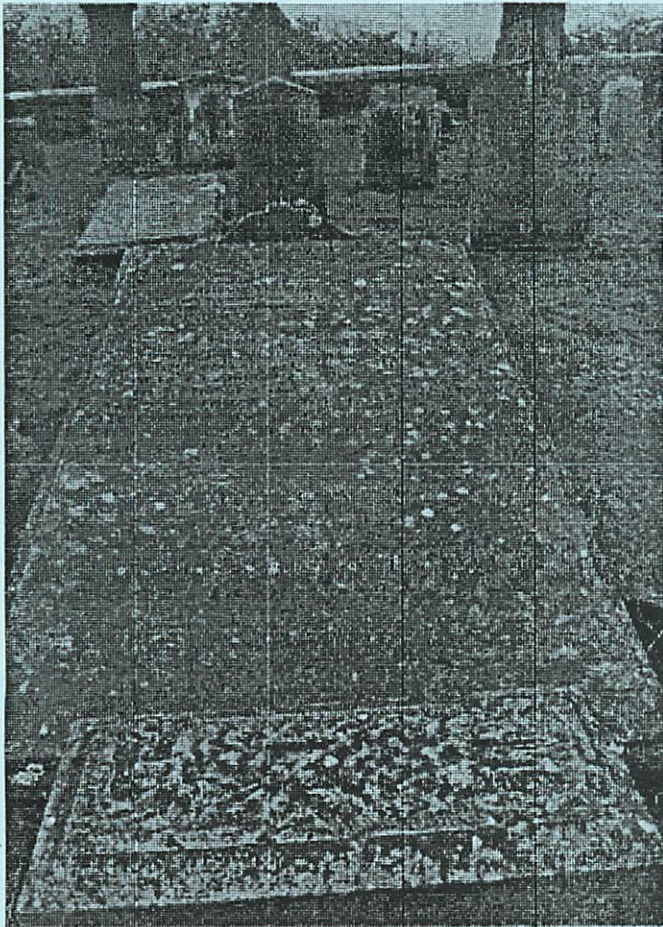
The Youth Forum have undertaken the task of building a model of the public park as it was when the chute was there. The model is being constructed from chicken wire, paper mache, sponges and almost anything that comes in useful. The plans have been drawn up from old maps and photographs. It is hoped that this model can be exhibited at the exhibition planned for October by the Heritage Group.

Anyone interested in model making is welcome along to the Youth Forum on Mondays and Wednesdays 6.30pm - 9.30pm.

L E T T E R S C O L U M N

Grave situation at Cemetery

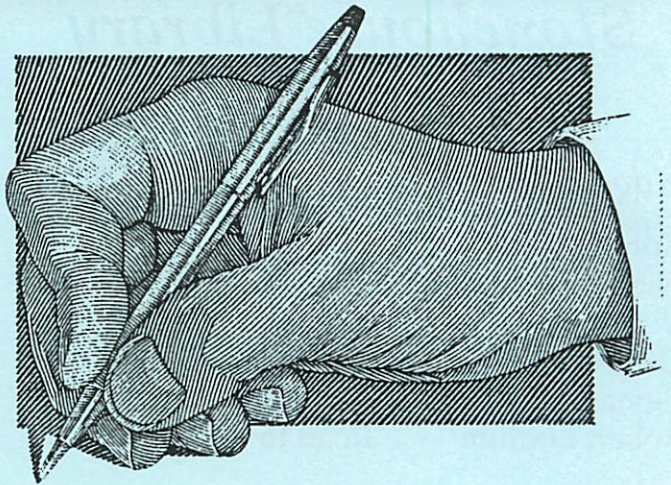
At a recent Community Council meeting it was pointed out that the cemetery was in bad disrepair. Several more stones had been toppled over, both by vandalism and the extreme weather conditions. The gable wall was also in need of attention as vandals have been building fires inside its wall causing the bricks to fall out and damaging the buildings structure.



The Covenanters stone in the old kirk commemorating the death of James Thomson who died at the Battle of Drumclog in 1679.

St.Ninian's, for now at least, remains to be one of Stonehouse's oldest remaining monuments of the past and unless steps are taken to protect it we shall lose yet another part of our history.

Half-brother of concerned resident



Open Cast worry

There is an ever increasing worry that the open cast excavation of coal from the Kittymuir site may be causing damage to the environment surrounding the area which includes the Avon.

One worry of residents and anglers alike is that silt and waste may be contaminating the river killing fish and wildlife as well as discolouring the rivers water. The rivers purification board are to be written too ask that close checks are kept on the disposal of the companies waste and the effects the mining is having on the river.

Another worry is that the £500,000 held by the bank on behalf of the mining company to return the site to its original state may not be enough to cover the costs of doing this. Especially now when the company is applying to extend the site.

Original surveys proved to be wrong, when the company discovered there was not as much coal as originally thought. Now they wish to extend the site deeper and wider to extract the coal. This of course would mean the site would have to remain there longer than originally proposed and thus further threaten the danger to the environment.

Note. We would also like to hear from other youth clubs or organisations within Stonehouse who would be interested in placing any articles in the magazine.

Stonehouse Library

Additions to stock April 92

Novels

Erin Pizzey	Morning star
Nicola Thorne	Rector's daughter
Virginia Andrews	Twilights child
Catherine Cookson	House of women
Bernard Cornwell	Shapes devil
Robert Ludlum	Road to Omaha

Crime

Ed McBain	Kiss
-----------	------

Romance

Robyn Donald	Golden Mask
Miranda Lee	Date with destiny

Westerns

Hullar, Link	Wheeler
Leo P. Kelly	A man named Dundee
Tex Larrigan	Misery Whips last stand



Bottle Bank investment

It is hoped in the near future that Stonehouse will be seeing the return of a bottle bank somewhere within the village. Hopefully it will reduce the number of bottles that litter the streets as well as being a means to recycle our waste.

Bottle banks have been a success in the past but a permanent bottle bank can only be established if we all become environmentally conscious and use this service to its full. This service can also go a long way to educate our youngest members of the community into keeping our environment clean.



Duckamania!

What do Donald Duck, Daffy Duck, Ed the Duck and Howard the Duck all have in common? Well if you don't already know they'll all be appearing on the banks of the river Avon on the 27th June at the Great Duck Race as part of the Gala Day celebrations.

All you have to do to enter is purchase a raffle ticket which will be available on the Gala Day then go along the following Saturday to the Avon and collect your duck which will then be numbered and released along with 300 other contenders for the prizes of £30, £15 and £10 respectively. You even get to keep your duck to keep you company in the bath or perhaps you can train it for next years race!



Vampires Gary and Fiona attempting to drain the blood from Scott Mackie only to find he's wearing his Garlic aftershave!

STONEHOUSE GALA DAY 20th JUNE 1992

Athletics Track

So far little progress has been made on the athletics track being built in Alexander Memorial Park. It is thought that the track should be complete by September of this year. To date the track has been levelled off and the foundations of the running track have been laid.



This track will enable both Avonside and Stonehouse Amateur Athletic Club to train without the dangers of the A71 which both clubs have had to endure over the years. Having to run on the main roads has meant that the clubs have had to put out money which both clubs can ill afford.

The building of the track will further boost the hopes of the Stonehouse clubs to produce more Scottish team members in the future as well as enabling the clubs to hold their own track league meetings.

Bogus Collectors

Have you been the victim of bogus collectors? Recently there have been a spate of unauthorised collectors going round the area collecting for false charities. Unfortunately this does not help those charities who collect with good intentions, as it can only make us suspicious of collectors. The only means of identifying real collectors is to ask to see identification. If you are suspicious of a collector in your area call the police immediately at Larkhall on 881100.



CRIME
TOGETHER WE CAN CRACK IT

• *News Bulletins* •

- Lockhart Street and New Street are to receive black top pavements to replace the existing broken pavements which are often the cause of minor accidents as well as a hazard to many older members of the community.
- Townhead Street is to receive bollards along its pavements preventing parking, and cutting the risk of accidents to residents as well as many pupils along the busy A71.
- The church manse at the top of Vicars Road is to be turned into another old folks home.
- Camnethan Hall in Camnethan Street is to be demolished despite appeals from several organisations which include Historic Scotland Trust. Unfortunately yet again Stonehouse has to lose part of its past and heritage. This is what is known as progress! What is the point of having a conservation area when we can't conserve the buildings within its boundaries?

environmental issues

Rural Tipping

As in many other rural communities Stonehouse too suffers pollution and destruction of its environment due to tipping and the dumping of waste material such as unwanted furniture.

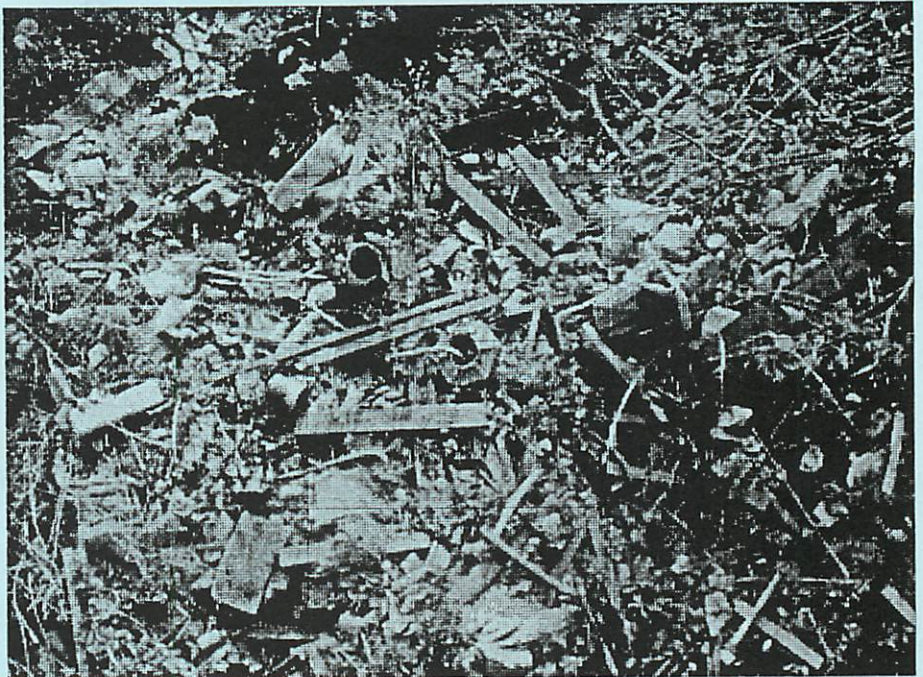
This destruction of our local scenery can most obviously be seen under many of our railway bridges throughout the village and at Canderside bridge where often lorries have been seen disposing of waste packaging and other unwanted material.

Heavy fines are imposed on those caught in the act of dumping but too often the dumping takes place in the middle of the night or by people passing through the village rather than the local residents. Unfortunately fines don't seem to be a good enough deterrent and that this may not be the solution to the problem.

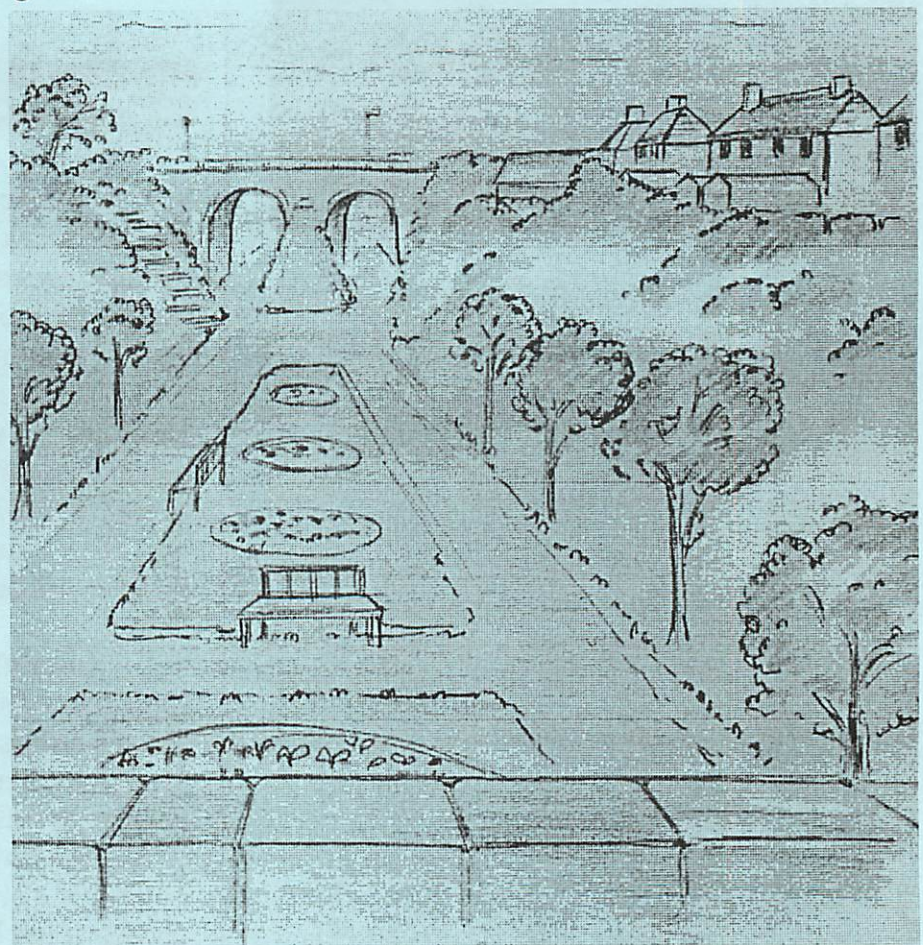
One suggestion to the problem might be that instead of punishing potential dumpers, we encourage them and others by improving those areas which are potential and obvious outlets for dumping.

This can be achieved through landscaping our railway embankments turning them into walkways for the general public providing a cleaner and more attractive environment for the village and acting as a deterrent for tipping.

It is hoped that the Avonside Walkway will be extended to Glassford Bridge and that a clean up of its banks would be part of the improvements. This can only enhance the image of Stonehouse and make our surroundings more attractive.



If you have any comments or suggestions for improvements to our environment please write to the Youth Forum and don't forget to send your ideas or criticisms to the Director of Planning in Cadzow Street, Hamilton, for what we don't ask for we don't get.



Top. View of the waste dumped from bridge at Sidehead Road today. Above. View of what could be a transformation of the old railway line.

environmental issues



Village Centre ?

It is the aim of the Stonehouse local plan that after the construction of the Stonehouse bypass that the village cross is developed into a more attractive centre.

It is plain to see at present the village centre holds little attraction, and is often an eyesore with vandalised seating, phonebox and discarded rubbish. A project such as this may reduce vandalism by making the village centre a cleaner more attractive environment encouraging others to respect and maintain its appearance within the community.

Projects similar to this such as in Forgewood and the east end of Glasgow have had a great deal of success in redeveloping areas of deprivation and decay.

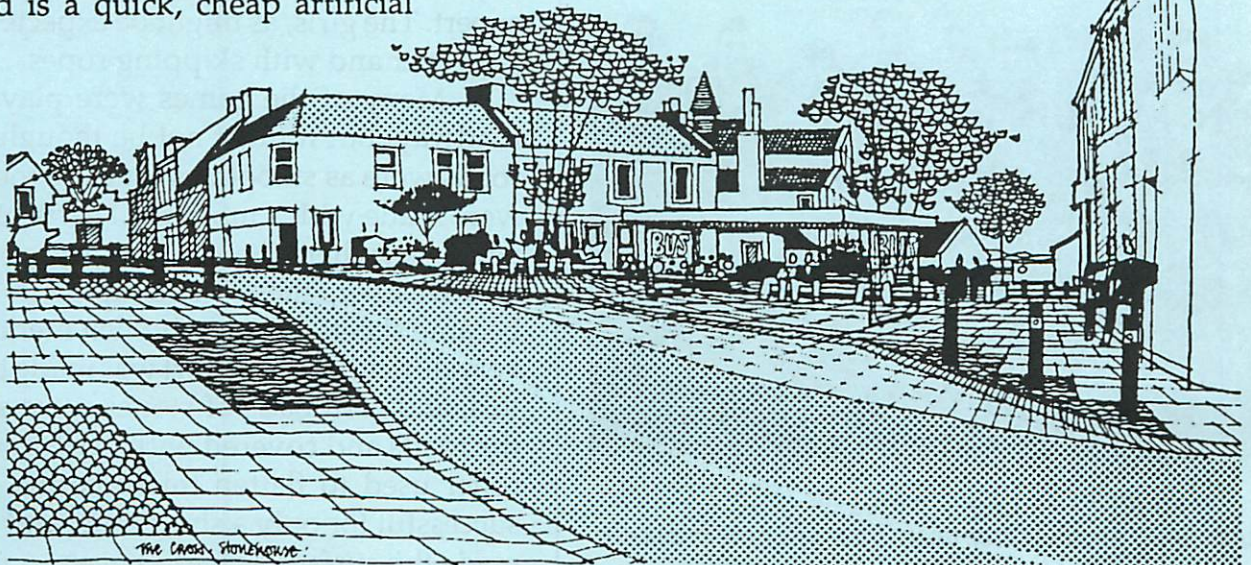
When and if the village cross is developed the planners will need to cater for the needs of those who use the cross regularly. What we don't need is a quick, cheap artificial

facelift. Any reconstruction will need to keep in character with the surroundings and possibly introduce some greenery in the way of trees and shrubs to brighten up the area. Planning would also have to consider traffic to the cross. At present there are two sites which if tarmaced could accomodate the problem, at the left of the Old Ship and next to the Royal Bank.

None of this can take place without money. There are several sources of raising this money such as the Lanarkshire Development Agency or The European Development Fund which enabled Larkhall to carry out improvements to its main street.

This may all be in the land of dreams , as until the bypass is built no progress can be made. Unfortunately there's more chance of Sean Connery becoming President of Scotland than the bypass starting!

2000



THE CROSS, STONEHOUSE



Stonehouse Heritage Group

Venue hopeful for exhibition

The Heritage Group recently met to discuss the organisation of an exhibition aimed for October of this year. St.Ninian's Church have shown an interest in the exhibition and the heritage group are hopeful of holding the event in the church hall. Several of the photographs hoped to be used for the exhibition are of the construction of St.Ninian's in the 19th century.

We are still receiving information and memorabilia every week but we are still looking for artefacts and information of the weaving industry in Stonehouse, so please get digging in your grannie's attic for any objects that may be of interest and are relevant to Stonehouse.

Any enquiries or information can be directed to the Heritage Group at 3A Kirk Street, Stonehouse, ML9 3LR or the Youth Forum at Stonehouse Primary on Mondays and Wednesdays.



Stonehouse Violet in the year 1928-29. Violet were only formed three years later after the break-up of Stonehouse United.

Memories of Stonehouse Part 1 by John H. Thomson. Aged 94 As told to Robert Campbell (Newfield Primary)

In Stonehouse about the year 1895, five year old children were educated at Greenside School which consisted of 2 rooms, and since both teachers were ladies it became known as the Ladies school. The children were taught reading, writing and arithmetic, but when they were a little older they were transferred to Cambusnethan Street School or Townhead School, and additional subjects taught there were History and Geography.

In those days Stonehouse children were much poorer than the children of today. Often the families were large, and the boys seldom had more than one suit, and this was worn until it was really tattered. The girls wore long dresses, usually made of cotton, woollen stockings, and, like the boys, they wore boots.

Today in schools great care is taken of children's health, and they are examined regularly by dentists and doctors. Long ago there were no visits from doctors and dentists and diseases like scarlet fever and measles, which are easily treated today, were very serious diseases indeed.

There were of course no cinemas, transistors, T.V., tennis courts, or any of the things we take for granted today, but those children were usually quite happy. They played football, rounders, hide and seek, but the main game for boys was marbles, and some of the boys were expert. The girls, as might be expected, played at peever and with skipping ropes.

Many of the games were played in the roadway, but it must not be thought that the roads were as smooth as they are today. They were made with a mixture of earth and stones and everywhere there were large potholes. In wet weather, these filled up with rain and became sheets of water, which made walking very difficult. Some effort was made to remedy this, and cart loads of stones were spread on the roads and covered with earth and a steam roller used to flatten this mixture. This was successful for only a short time, and soon rain made the surface as bad as ever.

THE LANTERN : SHEDS LIGHT ON YOUR VIEWS

Stonehouse Male Voice Choir

The choir has just completed another very successful season which has seen them perform twelve concerts in places as far apart as Falkirk and Fenwick as well as taking part in the Massed Choir Festival in Hamilton and participating in the last night of a 'Promenade' series of concerts in the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall as part of the recently formed 'Scottish Massed Choir' which featured on television last year.

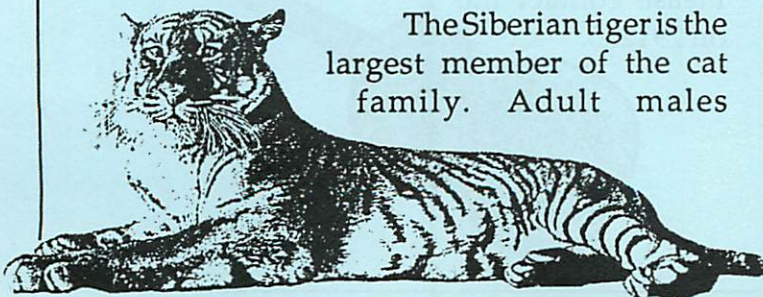
The choir has presently over fifty members and the last concert was the third largest choir in the country, a remarkable statistic considering the size of the village! It should however be mentioned that more than half the members come from outside Stonehouse, and this is something only the male population of the village can alter!

The new season begins in September and the choir are challenging the men of Stonehouse to turn out on Tuesday nights and redress the balance. No musical experience is necessary and there will be no auditions. The choir would like to make a special appeal to the younger men of the village to come along as they are very keen to see the younger element established themselves in the ranks of the 'Blue Jackets'. Watch this space for further information.

Gordon Millar

The Siberian Tiger

The Siberian tiger is the largest member of the cat family. Adult males



measure about 3.15m (10ft 4inches) from nose to tail. They live in China and Korea but are very rare in the C.I.S. There are less than 200 surviving in the wild, but over 500 in zoo's. They eat wild Bore, deer, hares and snakes etc. The tiger gets hunted for her fur and some peoples amusement. One day the tiger will be completely extinct and we will only have photographs to remind us of this beautiful beast.

Gillian Fox

1992

THE LANTERN : THE VOICE OF STONEHOUSE

Poetry Column

An ode tae England

Scotland Free, a vision past,
A fading dream that never lasts

You stole oor hope, you stole oor freedom,
You tell us that we dinna needim

Oor lochs, oor glens belong no more,
Ye cannie hear the lions roar

You raped oor land, oor wealth ye reap,
Oor whiskeys watered, oor glasses deep

Oor hearts, oor souls, oor pride you break,
You never ask you always take

Well take nae more the Scots are rising,
This time there'll be nae compromising

For on distant glens the pipes they play,
They echo the coming of independence day

True Scot

Clyde Valley Clean up

On June 7th there will be an attempt by the people living along the river Clyde to get into the Guinness book of records.

The plan will be to get 20,000 people to take part in a clean up of the river Clyde and its tributaries, such as the river Avon.

Rotary clubs and youth organisations throughout the area will be organising and taking part in the event.

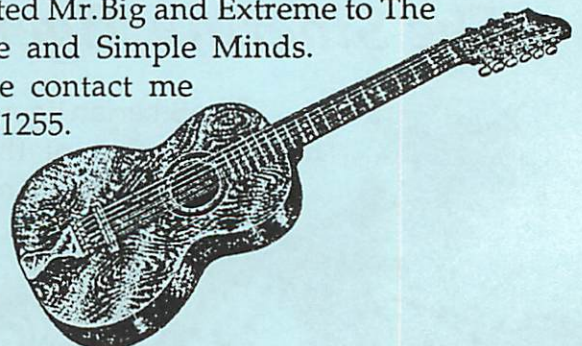
Over the years there has been a constant build up of waste along the river banks, and what better way to clear it up than to break a world record at the same time. It will also make our river banks more attractive and environmentally safer for wildlife and children alike.



If anyone is interested in joining in the record breaking attempt and would like more information, then you can write to the River Purification Board in East Kilbride.

Please Help !

My name is Roland, age 19 and I play the guitar. I am looking for like minded musicians with a veiw to joining/forming a band. I have previously been in a band where we recorded our own material in a semi-pro studio and played live in Cardiff and London. My influences are wide and varied from the talented Mr.Big and Extreme to The Police and Simple Minds. Please contact me on 791255.



STONEHOUSE : A VILLAGE WITH AN ATTITUDE

Start Rite Nursery

Six years ago parent looking for nursery provision for their children had to travel out with Stonehouse to Strathaven, Netherburn or Blackwood. A group of teachers with young children of their own fought long and hard to find suitable premises in the village to set up a pre school nursery. As a last attempt they approached St.Ninian's Parish Church and were delighted to be allowed to have the use of the halls four mornings per week. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday to layout a nursery unit.

Now five years later Start Rite Nursery have seen about 250 children through their doors and due to the demand for their places last year had permission from the authorities to increase the numbers of children per session from 20-24. This also allowed them to increase the staffing level from three to four members.

The staff are very conscious of the selection procedures for state nursery places, only a percentage of the children managing to be accepted, this way keeping the cost per session to a minimum for the parents having to pay for nursery provision for their children. The current charge at Start Rite Nursery is £3.00 per session. This is well below the average cost of a nursery place, being £5, even £6 in some areas.

At the nursery there is never a dull moment for staff and children alike. The activities are planned in advance to try and cover all aspects of the preschool skills children are at an advantage to have the experience of, before they start school. i.e. colour and shape recognition, counting and easy numbers and listening and looking at alphabet sounds.

The group keep up to date with new ideas and were congratulated on their Christmas activities recently by a pre school magazine. They are presently staging three small displays of the children's art work in the village as part of a national exhibition organised by the Scottish Pre School Play Association (SPPA). During "Play Week" paintings by under fives will be seen all over Scotland to allow communities to

see the learning, the fun and the companionship that goes on in under five facilities.

Anyone interested in further details is welcome to call in to the nursery in St.Ninian's between 9.30am - 11.45am or visit Start Rite Nursery's Open day on Wednesday 3rd June at 1.15pm - 2.15pm. Children will be made most welcome.

Margaret McMeekin

SOFT FOCUS PHOTOGRAPHY

Soft Focus Photography is based in Stonehouse Lanarkshire and offers the Bride and Groom a Professional Wedding and Portrait service tailored to meet today's modern couple.

We offer a large selection of Wedding Photography Packages and with a choice of more than 40 albums have a price and package to suit almost everybody. We can even tailor a package to your individual requirements.

All our Photography is backed by our inhouse processing facility enabling us to produce work to a very high standard and if necessary very quickly. We can have your Wedding Photographs back at the reception for your guests to view and order saving the Bride and Groom time on returning from their honeymoon.

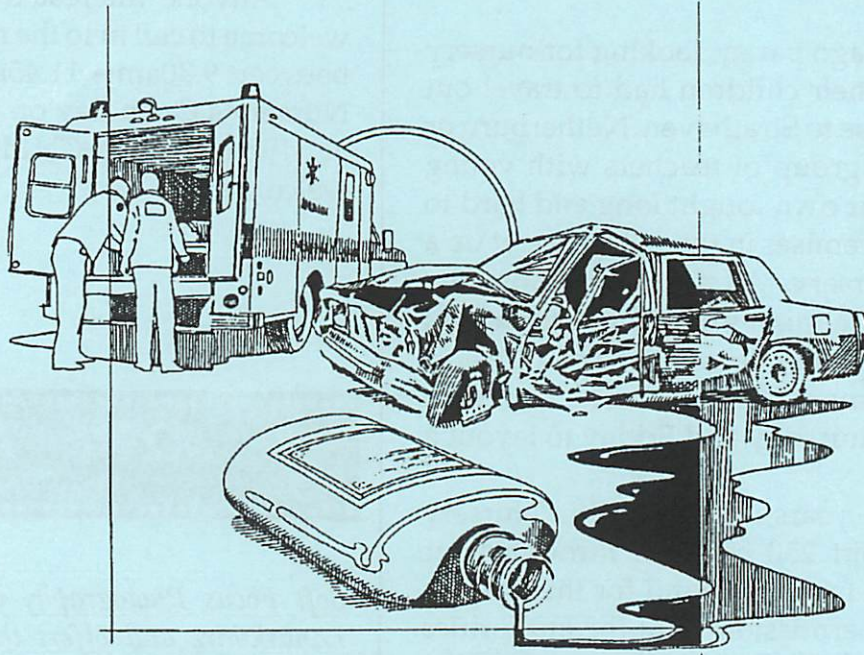
As part of our service we can also arrange your Wedding Stationery. Just phone us and we will deliver the catalogues and let you choose in the comfort of your own home.

If you would like further details on any of our services please phone for our current Brochure and Price List.

• PLEASE NOTE WE ACCEPT ACCESS AND VISA CARDS •

Telephone : (0698) 792945

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE



IT WRECKS LIVES



Harry Krishna's Helpful Hints

1. Never light a match when your eating Heinz Beans
2. Never forget to feed your Rottweiler
3. Always remember to tighten the lid on your sauce bottle before shaking it
4. Never squash a slug! You may come back as one, when you've been reincarnated
5. Learn to play the tambourine! You never know when it may come in useful