

# Newtonmore Camanachd Club

Newsletter

April/May 2019

**1] On the Field** It was always going to be a challenging season defending both league titles and four out of the five cups, but after a shaky start we have had a string of good results, are still in all the cups and are positioned well in both leagues. Although Kingussie and Lovat are going well it is Kyles Athletic that are in the best position at the moment in the Premiership.

The 1<sup>st</sup> team's defeat of Kingussie in the Mactavish cup semi final felt like a pivotal moment as it reversed the earlier league defeat and gave us the chance of four in a row. The final will be against Glenurquhart on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June in Inverness at 1600 and is also on BBC Alba. We will start as favourites as Glenurquhart are now in the National Division, but they are going well and it was them that handed us a 3 - 1 defeat in 2015.

This Saturday sees a tough opening tie in the defence of the Camanachd Cup against our opponents in the last two finals Lovat

With some injuries giving opportunities to second team players to step up the second team has found its resources stretched, but suffering only one defeat so far while giving experience to lots of youngsters is better than could have been anticipated. We are indebted to some 'retired' players for coming back to help out on occasion.

**2] Williamson 6's Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 1800** sees the start of one of the most eagerly awaited competitions in the calendar. Colin Stewart has confirmed that we will have 15 teams taking part this year in the three competitions... the Alvie Cup, The Gergask Trophy and the Williamson itself for the senior primary school pupils.

We are grateful to Creag Meagaidh for the donation of burgers and the loan of the BBQ; we are also fortunate to have received a donation of the rolls plus fresh fruit from Tesco's in Aviemore and two of their staff are coming along to the event. All we need now is some decent weather!

**3] Texas Scramble Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June** This is the rearranged date so make sure you keep it clear. Teams of 4 cost £80 and you can get your slot by contacting Jazza [jamesbrannan73@outlook.com](mailto:jamesbrannan73@outlook.com) We are hoping to have a high value raffle and of course the top three teams on the day will all get an excellent prize.

**4] The Crown** We have been contacted by the location manager for this series looking for somewhere to film a Braemar Highland Games re-enactment and our new field seems suitable. They are also looking at other locations as well, but if it does go ahead it will be filmed in September.

**5] Summer raffle** Tickets for this will go on sale on the last week in June with the prizes being drawn at the **Veteran's 6's on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August.**

**6] Highland Games** I am looking for a few volunteers to take a stint either at our stall or selling 50/50 raffle tickets. A big thank you to Sandra Grant in particular for selling 50/50 tickets at 1<sup>st</sup> team home games....we raised £236 on this fundraiser at the Kingussie game.

**7] Slave auction** We have not made as rapid progress on this as we had hoped, but we are hoping to confirm details of this in the next few weeks.

**8] Ad boards** We have had some interest, but little new business this year for what is an important regular recurring income for the club. If you would like one, or if you can persuade a business to take an ad board please do so! It is still only £350 for three years, including the provision of the ad board, with an option to pay in three annual installments.

**9] Volunteer still wanted** Could you do the lottery on a Saturday evening from approx 8 till 9 pm either every 4 or every 8 weeks! Its not complicated and you meet some interesting people! It would be great to get some new people involved ... full training will be given!

**10] Clubhouse redevelopment** We are a long way from being in a financial position to redevelop the clubhouse, but it always pays to start planning for it. Thanks to Charlie Girdler for producing initial drawings for what would be a very significant building scheme! However you never know, as if someone left us a substantial legacy [which is what enabled Kinlochshiel to start their major project] it could become viable. We are going to discuss alternative options with Charlie and get an indicative price tag.

**11] Club Honours** Over the last few years we have been trying to fill in the blanks in our record keeping after the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War [from 1945 if you didn't do history!]. We want to ensure we have all the Cup winning and losing teams and if you look at the Honours section of the website you will see some gaps. We are looking in particular at the Strathdearn Cup and the Mactavish Junior Cup as Rob reckons he can fill in the Mactavish blanks.

**12] Pitch maintenance** The Dr Johnnie Cattanach Field was cross seeded the other week. Parts of it are quite lush, but other parts needed this. At the same time as fertilising the Eilan we had some additional seeding done for the first time that anyone can remember!

**13] Generous donation** Many thanks to Howdens who have continued their long term support of the club and increased it to £500 this year.

**14] Fence damage** On two occasions an irresponsible dog walker has cut the new fence round the Dr Johnnie Field to allow a dog access. This has damaged our fence and allowed lambs to escape from the field. If anyone has any information about who might be responsible please let me know.