

# People

## Novel trilogy has iconic village as local hero

BY CHERYL LIVINGSTONE

The British comedy Local Hero burst on to cinema screens in 1983 and bagged Bill Forsyth a Bafta for best direction the following year.

But closer to home, it had a much bigger impact: it made the small north-east village of Pennan a major tourist attraction.

The Hollywood smash was filmed partly on the Aberdeenshire coast and featured many of the village's landmarks, such as the red telephone box and the inn. Even now, more than 30 years later, tourists from across the globe travel to Pennan to see these "stars" in real life.

And now, the north-east village could experience another boost with the release of a new novel by a local author.

Glen Reynolds, who moved to the village in 2007, completed a series of three novels recently which have a Pennan theme. The books are creating a buzz online already, with a Facebook page dedicated to the series receiving 17,000 likes overnight.

And Glen is keen to ensure all aspects of the books profit



Glen Reynolds has written three novels which feature Pennan

the area, including finding a local publisher.

The 56-year-old said: "I want the deal to be good for the region as well as for me. The Monas novels all feature Pennan and nearby archaeological sites, plus places including Aberdeen and major global cities elsewhere, but the idea behind them is that, hopefully, they will form part of the growing literary and film interest being generated in the area.

"As an author, I want to be part of the regeneration that is

needed in the coastal villages of Aberdeenshire."

The contemporary setting of the novels combine religion, science and the paranormal, with a dash of modern-day politics, all focusing on the prospect of global conflict over water.

"I began several years back - maybe as a result of staring at the sea too much - to explore the basis of water as the next cause of international tension, after oil," he said.

The books have two unconventional main characters in a

relationship that, according to the author, "will hopefully kick down the door of stereotypes and prejudice, as they involve a partnership and unfulfilled love of a Muslim Iranian woman and a Scottish priest born in Aberdeen".

"Think Iranian woman with a shade of Amy Winehouse, and a Roman Catholic priest who is a Father Brown of the 21st century and you have a clue as to their chemistry," said Glen.

While he wrote and researched the novels, he had a temporary job in community safety with Aberdeenshire Council and worked as tutor in theology for Aberdeen University.

He added: "Pennan is a place that has changed from a few hundred people centuries ago, through the great storm of 1953 that ripped through the village, to the situation now, where there are only a dozen or so full-timers. It still attracts plenty of visitors and second-homers. Inevitably, visitors come because of the cult following that the film Local Hero still generates, but many people have a generational attachment to the area and the village."

# Who said

"I became an actor to be a rogue and a vagabond and play by my own rules, so I don't think it would be apt for the establishment to pull me in as one of their own - for I ain't."

Jeremy Irons, pictured.



"I never fit in. I am a true alternative. And I love being the outcast. That's my role in life - to be an outcast."

Rock singer Meat Loaf.

"It is, in fact, a voice that could curdle cream at 20 paces."

Labour MP Angela Eagle's "honeyed delivery", as described by parliamentary commentator Quentin Letts.

# Text today

"As Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the 12 disciples aside and spoke to them privately as they walked along." (Matthew 20:17)

He had much to say about the coming days. Would they understand? Would they be faithful? M.A.R.

# Junior club

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Sameera Angus (9), Dyce (pictured).



To submit a photo for the P&J junior club, send it in advance, along with your child's name, address and date of birth, to yourlife@ajl.co.uk or phone 01224 343335.

# Scottish life



Aurora Borealis over the Cromarty Firth, pictured from the Cromarty side looking over to Invergordon. Photograph: KENNY GAITTENS, OF FORTROSE

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### CODEWORD

Grid for Codeword puzzle with numbers 1-24 and some letters filled in.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Alphabetical list for Codeword puzzle with letters C, I, V in specific positions.

EACH number in our Codeword grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. You have three letters placed to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the grid, then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares. Check off the alphabetical list of letters as you identify them.

Yesterdays solution for Codeword puzzle: R U H O G Q S V A C Y Z I X P F K J M W D L N T B E

### SUGURU

Grid for Suguru puzzle with numbers 2, 3, 4, 5.

EACH cell in an outlined block must contain a digit: a two-cell block contains the digits 1 and 2, a three-cell block contains the digits 1, 2 and 3; and so on. The same digit must not appear in neighbouring cells, not even diagonally.

Yesterdays solution:

Solution for Suguru puzzle: 4 2 4 5 2 1 3 1 3 1 3 5 2 4 2 5 2 4 1 3 1 3 1 3 2 4 2 4 5 2 5 1 3 1 3 1

SOLUTIONS TO ALL TODAY'S PUZZLES WILL APPEAR IN TOMORROW'S EDITION

### NONOGRAM

HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from this Nonogram? Each word must use the central letter, and each letter may be used once only. At least one nine-letter word can be found. We found 31 words - can you do better?

Any word found in the Oxford Dictionary of English is eligible with the following exceptions: proper nouns, plural nouns, pronouns and possessives; third person singular verbs; hyphenated words; contractions and abbreviations; vulgar slang words; variant spellings of the same word (where another variant is also eligible).

Yesterdays solution: Acute, amuse, auto, cause, chum, chute, costume, custom, cute, house, mahout, moue, mouse, MOUSTACHE, mouth, much, muscat, muse, mush, must, mute, ouch, ouse, oust, sauce, sauté, scout, scum, scut, shout, shtum, shut, smut, south, such, suet, sumac, sumo, thou, thus, touch, touché, tush

### FUTOSHIKI

FILL the blank squares so each row and column contains all the numbers 1 to 5. Use any given numbers and the symbols telling you if the number in the square is larger (-) or smaller (<) than the number next to it.

Grid for Futoshiki puzzle with numbers and symbols.

Yesterdays solution: 2 4 1 1 3 5 4 5 2 1 3 5 2 3 4 1 3 1 4 5 2 1 3 5 2 4

### SUDOKU - Easy

Grid for Sudoku puzzle.

THERE is just one simple rule in Sudoku. Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box. This is a logic puzzle, and you should not have to guess.

### SET SQUARE

ALL the digits from = 27 1 to 9 are used in this grid, but only once. Can you work out their positions in = 54 the grid and make the sums work? = 23

Grid for Set Square puzzle with numbers and symbols.

### CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS: 1 An uproar in motion (5) 4 Article trapped in barrier beside animal (7) 9 Mexican dish - trial lot is ruined (8) 10 Hideous wild guy, about fifty (4) 11 Sultanate where Ruben and I settled (6) 12 Large antelope from eastern country (5) 13 Land in America created (4) 15 Short and leaving shandy (3) 16 Wise person finding herb (4) 17 Jewish scholar's tailless bunny (5) 19 Sneaky person found by west stand (6) 21 Policeman you start to imitate (4) 22 Provoke girl into weird rite (8) 23 Relieve pain of donkey with terrible ague (7) 24 Tree planting machine heard (5)

DOWN: 2 Scrub clean with acid round top of cistern (5) 3 Deeply emotional in the past, perhaps (7) 5 College to give prize for picture (7,5) 6 She's left with distinctive character (5) 7 Canine finding centre of target to follow (7) 8 Areas of level ground suffering, no problem (5,7) 14 Boxes of funny drawings, nothing taken away (7) 16 Resolve to go around a city in America (7) 18 A buoy thrown into swamp (5) 20 Lesser actor, giving more (5)

Grid for Cryptic Clues puzzle.

QUICK ACROSS: 1 Bit of dirt (5) 4 Taken for granted (7) 9 Relating to the past (8) 10 Feel concern (4) 11 Get back (6) 12 Month after March (5) 13 Bottle stopper (4) 15 Recent, modern (3) 16 Encourage (4) 17 Clean with a brush (5) 19 Cut, decrease (6) 21 Walkway along the seafloor (4) 22 People of the same generation (3,5)

QUICK CLUES: 23 Covered porch (7) 24 Sharp tip of a needle (5) DOWN: 2 \_\_\_ minister, top politician (5) 3 Fashion show platform (7) 5 Employee of the welfare services (6,6) 6 Painful mouth sore (5) 7 Device worn to block out sound (7) 8 Clothes-pressing surface (7,5) 14 Carefully watch (7) 16 Be subjected to, suffer (7) 18 Latin-American dance (5) 20 Large milk can (5)

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