

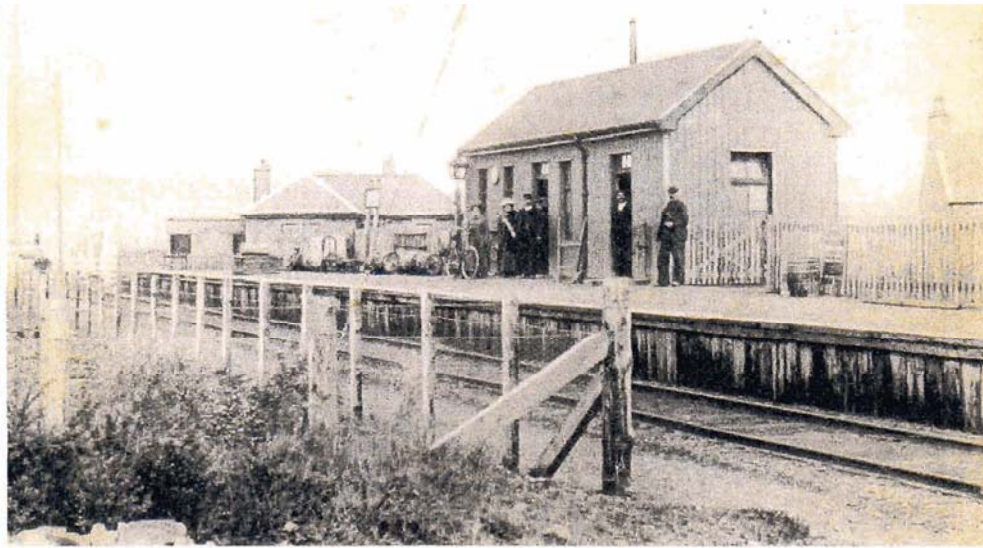


# EMBO NEWS

Established – December 1997

Issue no: 109 DECEMBER 2007 **50p**

We want to thank Donald Ross of Gate Street Embo for allowing us to use these pictures of OLD Embo. What a way to go out with our last issue.... We hope these bring back lots of memories to those of you old enough to remember



Left...  
EMBO  
STATION

unsure of  
the date

On the right are two views of Gate Street, in both these pictures you can see Donald's house, note on the first one the old post bike outside the Old Post Office which was Donald's house at this time and opposite you can just make out the garage where Donald's father used to hire out cars.



This used to be called MAIN STREET can anyone tell us when and why it was changed to Gate Street?

In the forefront of the bottom picture you can just make out the covered well on the ground.



**MORE PHOTOGRAPHS INSIDE...**

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAY SPOT



Linda Patterson		1st
Norma Mackay	25	2nd
Janette O'Connor		2nd
Amy Macdonald	25	4th
Billy Baird	24	6th
Donald Mackay		7th
Fraser Bonthrone		7th
Fraser Matheson	17	7th
Cheryl Timney		11th
Evelyne Peet		16th
Graham Ross		18th
Danielle Watt	9	20th
Carol Macrae	who knows how old!!	21st
Christine Mackay		22nd
Steve Smith		22nd
Laura Harkness	88	26th
Sarah Timney		27th
Laura Macdonald		30th
Lesley Watt		31st
George Clarke	5	31st

## JANUARY BIRTHDAY SPOT



Geordie Munro		1st
Brian Richards		2nd
Ann Masters		2nd
Andrew Lawson		3rd
Vicky More	19	4th
Catherine J Mackay		5th
Gayle Mackay	27	6th
Jenny Mackay		6th
Ellie Bonthrone	5	6th
David Corder		6th
Jimmy Calder		8th
Jamie Bonthrone	4	8th
Kevin Lewis	25	9th
David John Munro	5	9th
Kenneth Fraser		10th
Isabel Craik		10th
Gail McIntosh		12th
Colin Macdonald		14th
Jim Peam Campbell		15th
Wilma Macdonald		15th
Jean Clark		16th
Coral Mackay		18th
Dyanne Mackenzie		18th
Jimmy Anderson		19th
John Mackay	15	20th
Lorraine Ross		22nd
Becky Murray	15	25th
Mhairi Timney		25th
Ryan Lawson		26th
Donald Ross		29th
Lorraine McGillivray		29th
Hannah Riddell	6	29th
Leanne Timney		29th
Dianne Gunn		30th
Barrie Tulloch		31st

## DECEMBER

### Anniversary Wishes

Isobel & Archie Macdonald  
51 years married on 24th

\*\*\*

Madonna & Guy Ritchie  
22nd December

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## JANUARY

### Anniversary Wishes

Frances & John Munro  
22nd January

\*\*\*

Margaret & Ali Matheson  
22 years married on 25th

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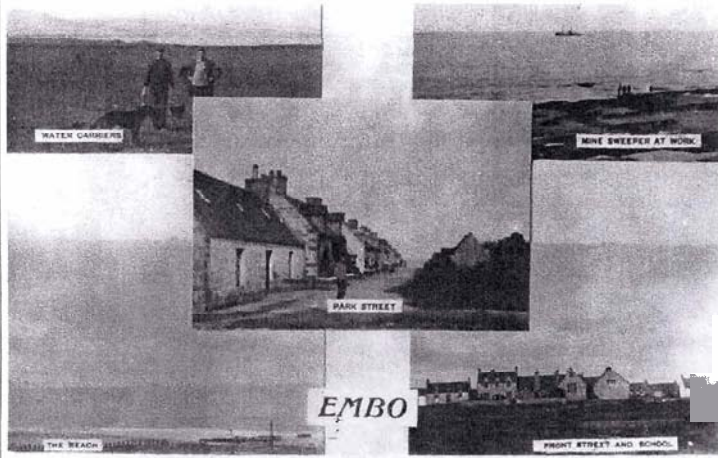
Iris & Jock Bonthrone  
33 years on 27th

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL

## CONGRATULATIONS

Bill & Dot Baird  
from Galashiels

on becoming grandparents  
Baby Alfie Scott Baird was born on  
15th November  
Weighing in at 7lb 14oz.  
Both baby and mum are doing well



In these pictures you can see more of old Embo, many memories will unfold I can feel..

Top left of this postcard from Embo are the water carriers. Many folk will remember having to go to the well in the street for the household water

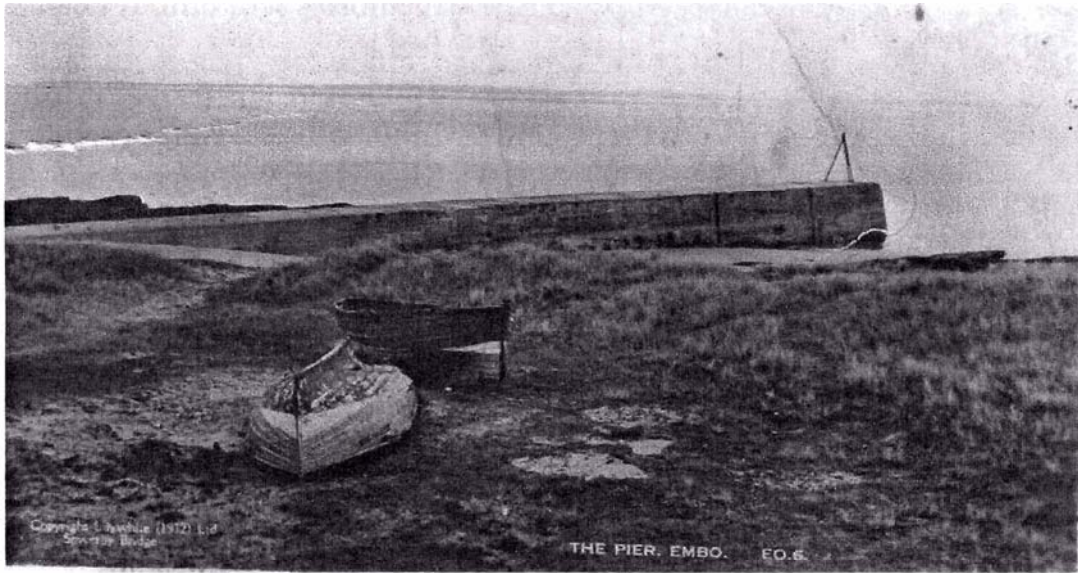
In this postcard on the right you get a different view of the Embo Station. Also Embo Pier. This is what is now known as the slipway



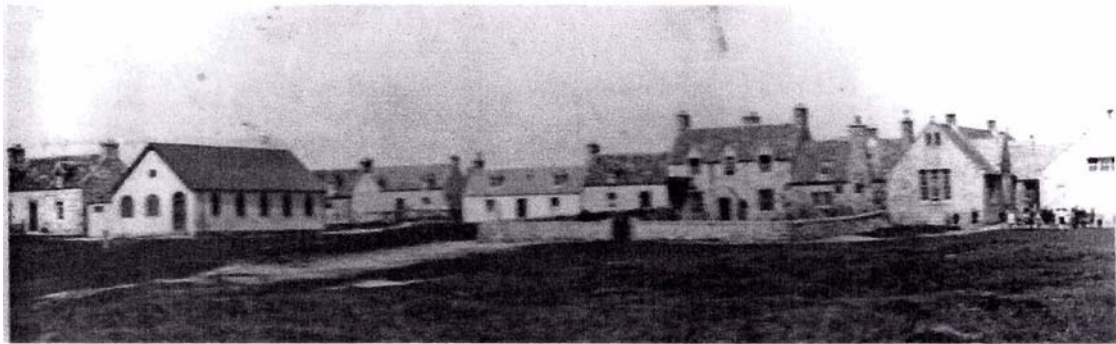
Above is a much later view of the top of Gate Street when some of the newer houses had been built, we think this is Mrs Bannigans house here with 'The White House' where the Mackay family live on the left hand side.

We hope you have enjoyed this trip down memory lane

## Embo Pier 1932



Above is a closer picture of Embo Pier (slipway), Donald thinks it was taken around 1932



Above is a picture of Embo School and the Village hall around about the same time, many a party was had in this village hall which is soon to be demolished.



And finally is a view of the front of the village from near the pier, the house nearest the forefront of this picture marked with a cross is,

**'Grannies House'**  
Now known as **Grannie's Heilan' Hame.**

# Embo School 1912



If you look closely at the plaques these children are holding outside Embo Public School, as it was known way back in

1912, there were 171 children attending at that time.

Although there aren't 171 children in the village today we



do have enough to fill it but times definitely change don't they? Sometimes for the best!!

# EMBO SENIOR CITIZEN FUND BONUS BALL - WEEKLY DRAW

In the future you will be able to see the winners of the Bonus Ball by calling into the Embo Shop & Post Office.

A big thank you to all who so readily contribute to the Embo Senior Citizen's fund, by buying a bonus ball each and every week at Mackay's Shop in Embo.

## NOVEMBER. WINNERS

Saturday 3rd	no. 4	Elaine Lindsey
Saturday 10th	no. 7	Belle Grant
Saturday 17th	no. 29	Elizabeth Whitham
Saturday 24th	no. 38	Moraig Murray

*The decision has been made that all bonus ball draw numbers must be paid for before the draw date. If a number comes up before it has been paid for, this will automatically be considered a rollover.*

## Embo Sweepstake

**Please note if it is raining on a Saturday from now on PLEASE MAKE YOUR WAY TO MARIE'S HOME TO PAY FOR YOUR SWEEPSTAKE NUMBERS. .... Bay View, 3 Hall Street.**

**If the numbers aren't paid for then they will be null and void.**

### CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Wilma Mackay who won £198 on 17th November

Wilma donated £5 of her winnings to the local charity collection

Thank you to everyone who has started paying a couple of weeks in advance as this saves Marie having to give up every one of her Saturdays. If you are able to pay more than two weeks in advance please do so.

On her rounds, Marie gladly receives any loose change anyone wishes to contribute. After there is a winner, this small collection is donated in rotation to the following groups - Youth Club, Luncheon Club, Senior Citizens Fund, Football Club, Bowling Club and I want to apologise here if I have missed any groups out.

ALSO, the winner of the "lottery" often donates a little bit of their winnings to this collection too.

**Marie will let Dave & Mary in the shop know who the winners are from now on.**

## Kye's Krack

With the dark Winter nights approaching and as the days get shorter I thought I would cheer you up a little with a few stories now.

This primary school teacher in Dornoch was complaining to her headmistress "How can I compete with televisions influence on children" she cried.

"I tell the class that fish have fins but they all insist they have fingers".

This man from Embo had a car accident with a magician.

He told the police "It wasn't my fault, he came out of nowhere".

This Embo lad was heading down the motorway to London and he stopped at a Service Station to buy a cup of tea, a sausage roll and a bar of chocolate.

Approaching the till he tells the cashier "I'm sorry, I only have a £20 note".

"Don't worry" she says "just put the sausage roll back on the shelf".

This little girl in Embo opened the house door and saw her teacher standing there. "Are your parents" in asked the teacher. "They was in" said the little girl "But they is out now". "They WAS in! they IS out!" exclaimed the teacher.

"Where is your grammar"! "In the front room watching telly" says the little girl.

Q - Why do bananas like sun bathing

A - Because they have tendency to peel

The Boy Scout from Embo was at a summer camp in Inverness when he got stung by a wasp. "I'm in agony" he told his pack leader. "Don't worry, we'll put some cream on it" "You'll be lucky, it'll be miles away by now".

Since I had my 50 plus something birthday again last month, I thought I would tell you some things you should have learned by middle age.

If you're too open minded your brains will fall out.

Don't worry about what people will think, they don't do it very often

Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.

It isn't the jeans that make your bottom look fat.

The idea of housework is to sweep the house with a thorough glance.

No evidence supports the notion that life is serious.

If you look like your passport picture, you could probably do with the trip.

Bills and accounts travel through the post as twice the speed of cheques.

A balanced diet is a biscuit in each hand.

**Well if this is to be the last version of the Embo News, I would like to say it has been a sheer and utter delight to contribute stories and local krack to this wonderful magazine. This magazine has been a tremendous contact for people, not only in and around Embo, but far and wide throughout the country and beyond.**

**I sincerely hope that someone will come to the rescue of this special paper.**

**My best wishes and good luck to you all.**

**Al Willie Mackay, MBE**

## **A little piece of information!**

**Communication between the sexes are still at an all time low, read on to find nagging gets us nowhere girls!!**

MEN INSTRUCT, WOMAN NAG goes the old joke. But for many couples it can still be no laughing matter. So what's the problem in this era of equal partnerships and househusbands, where we're all supposed to show each other some respect and take it in turns to listen? Whether nature or nurture is responsible for our differences - and we're still arguing about that - it seems some of the sexist clichés around how we communicate remain. And nagging (mostly by woman) comes top of the list, followed by men being rather less keen to talk about their feelings. Those who nag are often in denial, claiming all they are doing is asking their partner to co-operate and do their bit for the relationship.

### **WHY NAGGING DOESN'T WORK.**

The person nagging, whether a woman (nag) or a man (bossy patroniser), always becomes the bad guy, even if they believe that their behaviour is justified.

Nagging threatens a man's independence and also his manliness, so he becomes defensive. Men are simply not OK with repeated orders unless they're in the army.

Nagging upsets women as it comes across as controlling and bullying. It tends to become a viscous cycle. When someone is lectured to, especially a male, they close up and tune out, which makes the nagger angry, and isolated. The nagger feels disrespected and unloved because they are being ignored. Nobody's happy at the results

Nagging is disrespectful, even if he or she is taking the micky. The nagger would probably be just as upset if the situation were reversed. Constant criticism becomes personal, creating henpecked husbands and downtrodden wives.

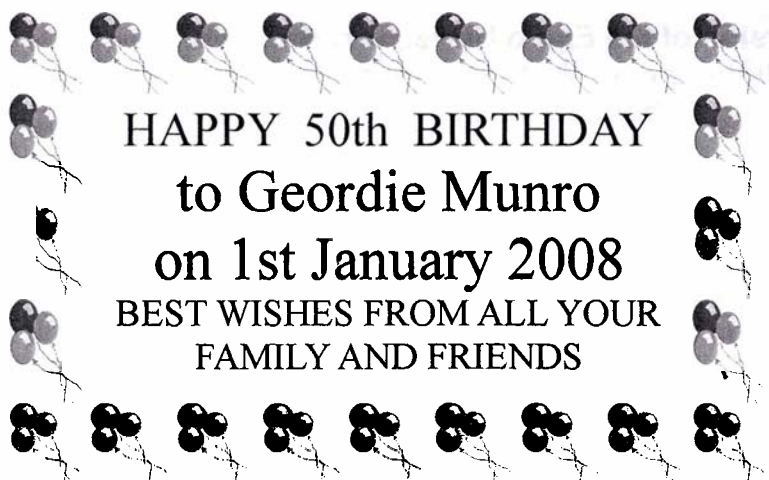
### **DID YOU KNOW**

Research challenges the belief that women talk more than men. Using electronic conversation monitors on 400 student found that women spoke on average 16,215 words each day compared to 15,699 for men. **BIG DEAL!**

### **DID YOU ALSO KNOW**

Apparently women use five vocal tones to change subject or emphasise a point. Men unfortunately can only recognise three so they just shut down under verbal assault that jumps between topics.

**THIS EXPLAINS SUCH A LOT FOR US LADIES DOESN'T IT!!**



**HAPPY 50th BIRTHDAY  
to Geordie Munro  
on 1st January 2008**

**BEST WISHES FROM ALL YOUR  
FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

**GET WELL  
SOON  
LAURA  
HARKNESS**

**We all wish you a speedy  
recovery Laura**



A MASSIVE THANK YOU  
TO ALL OUR LOYAL ADVERTISERS  
OVER THE YEARS.  
ALSO TO EVERYONE OF OUR READERS  
WHO PURCHASED THIS NEWSLETTER  
WITHOUT FAIL EVERY MONTH.  
THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUBSCRIBERS  
FROM FURTHER AFIELD TOO.  
BOTH MARION AND MYSELF WILL MISS  
EDITING THIS NEWSLETTER BUT FEEL IT IS  
NOW TIME FOR 'NEW BLOOD'  
TO TAKE IT ON  
WE LOOK FORWARD TO BEING ABLE TO  
BUY IT OURSELVES IN THE FUTURE.  
PLEASE BE AWARE THAT WE WILL HELP  
WHEREVER WE CAN BUT  
10 YEARS IS ENOUGH FOR US BOTH!  
WE FEEL SO SAD THAT SO FAR THIS WILL  
BE THE LAST EVER ISSUE.  
LETS HOPE SOMEONE COMES  
FORWARD SOON TO CONTINUE  
WHERE WE LEFT OFF  
BYE BYE READERS..... X

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO RUTH AT DORNOCH  
ACADEMY FOR PRINTING THE LAST FEW ISSUES OF THE  
EMBO NEWS. I'M SURE YOU WILL ALL AGREE WITH US  
THAT SHE DID A WONDERFUL JOB?  
I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW MUCH WORK THIS TOOK OFF MY  
SHOULDERS, AND THE QUALITY OF THE PRINTING WAS  
SO MUCH BETTER THAN THE , OLD WORN OUT  
PHOTOCOPIER WE HAVE. - MANY THANKS RUTH -  
FROM KAREN & MARION X

I received this lovely note from Jeanette Lippoldt, (who many of you will remember as a teacher in Embo School) I felt I had to share it with our readers and hope you enjoy reading it as much as I enjoyed receiving it. Many thanks Jeanette for your kind words. Karen x

Dear Karen

I was sorry to hear that the 'News ' is in danger of folding but couldn't let this information pass without extending many many thanks for all your hard work over the last ten years. You really have been like a breath of fresh air, being so supportive relating news from Embo lovers who live further afield' Of course ' you deserve a break and a chance to pass on your mantle, although you would be a hard act to follow . . I'm sure I express the sentiments of many of your readers when I wish you well in all your future activities and thanks for the many interesting reads over the years. I hope we can still keep in touch by email as I love all your wee jokes and stories. take care and know that you have definitely left your mark on dear old Embo !!! Lots of love Jeanette

Email received from Lorna Lomas, another subscriber...

Hi Karen,

Just a quick note to say thank you for all your efforts in the Embo news, in the few months I have been subscribing. It has been a pleasure to receive it and brightened up my day whenever it fell on the door mat.

It will be a sorry day when you stop publishing it, if no one takes over from you. I wish you every happiness in the future and good luck in finding a replacement.

Here's hoping Decembers issue will not be the last.

Many many thanks

Lorna Lomas

**Thank you Lorna for taking time to send this.**

Note from Helen & Dunc Robertson.....

Dear Karen

I hope the Embo News is going to continue. It will be sorely missed by us as we are not able to come to Embo now after 40 years of visiting. The newsletter kept us in touch with the village and old friends.

All the best

Helen & Dunc Robertson

**Thank you Helen for taking time out to write to us.**

Letter from one of our newest subscribers Olive Hussey from Wallasay..... Thanks Olive

Dear Karen,

As a new subscriber I am so sorry to hear December may be the last Embo News. I hope it does not happen and someone will step in and come to the rescue. My son and daughter in-law have just spent a week at Grannie's Heilan Hame and I was green with envy as they were in my favourite part of the country. I'm getting ready to book a visit to the Dornoch Hotel for next year, being on my own the Shearing Coach Holidays are ideal for me.

My son told me that when they were staying at Grannie's while walking on the road back to Embo from Dornoch a kind gentleman gave them a lift in a Renault Espace car which was from Dornoch Central Garage, it was very kind of him and they would like to thank him through these pages.

Well Karen I'll say a special prayer that the Embo News will drop through my door in the New Year, if I lived in Scotland I would help out in any way I could. Thank you from me for such a good newsletter and good luck in your future.

Olive.

An email received from Jessie Sutherland.....

Dear Karen, Thank you so much for our Embo News, Christmas card and your letter. We are very sorry and sad to read that there will only be one more Embo News. We have loved getting it each month, it has helped us to keep in touch with home and we have loved the news, anecdotes, cracks and especially the old photographs and putting us in touch with childhood friends. Also helpful has been the addresses at Christmas time and all sorts of helpful items. We have enjoyed having it popped through our letterbox at the beginning of each month and relaxing with it. It has been like a comfortable old friend and we shall certainly miss it! We just want to say a special thank you to you personally for all your hard work and the time given up to producing it and we send you our very best wishes. It has been a great achievement for you and one that you can be proud of. We do hope that someone else will take over and that we will still be able to enjoy the Embo News. Wishing you and your family a very happy Christmas. Alex and Jessie (Grant) Sutherland.

The following is a note from Barrie Tulloch, Inverness. Thank you Barrie.

Dear Karen, Thank you for your letter and card received with last months 'Embo News'. I was sorry to hear that you are unable to find a replacement who can carry on your excellent work in having your local paper printed. I looked forward so much to receiving it and I am sure there are many others with similar regrets.

Thank you all for your hard work and hopefully someone may yet step forward to carry on your very successful effort.

Many good wishes for Christmas and the coming year. Barrie Tulloch.

P.S. I have just received a phone call from U.S.A to say that Dorothy, daughter of Sandy McFarlane has died in a Texas nursing home. She had been suffering from Alzheimer's for some time.

The following is from a thank you card we received from Liz Wilson.

Dear Karen

Just a few lines to say a big thank you for the wonderful job you have done these past ten years with the Embo News.

All the great stories, lots of laughter and sadness and I know it's a lot of hard work.

Also I would like to thank Marion, Frances, Iris for their work too with the Embo Youth Club and Embo News.

Best wishes to you all

E. Wilson

Thank you Liz, we all appreciate you sending us this thank you.

We would like to thank Willie Kye from Caithness for his contributions for 'KYES KRACK'. His funny stories and jokes gave us all a good laugh.

Thank you too, to Bryan Jones for his 'ON THE COAST' contributions, we have all enjoyed reading what the coast guards get up to.

**REGRETTABLY WE WILL NOT BE DELIVERING CHRISTMAS CARDS THIS YEAR AS THIS HAS BECOME SUCH A MAMMOTH TASK, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE FOR THE SENIOR CITIZENS OF THE VILLAGE ONLY.**



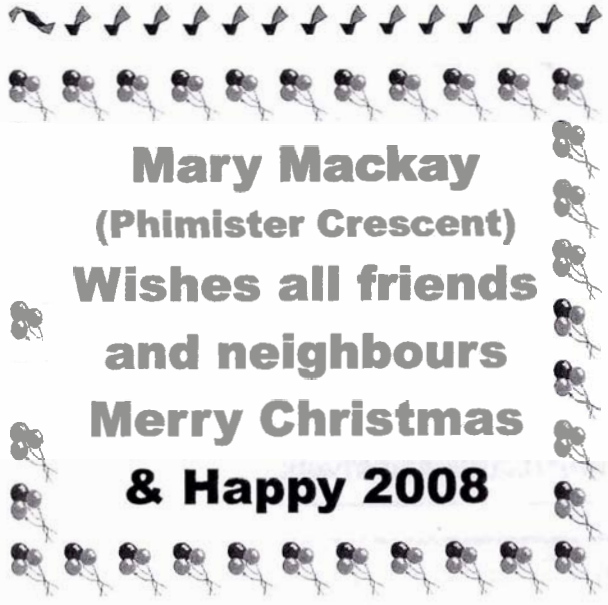
Helen & Dunc  
Robertson want to wish  
Sheena & Jimmy Calder  
and ALL other friends a  
very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year



Jean & George  
Fraser  
Wish ALL  
Friends &  
Neighbours  
Merry Christmas



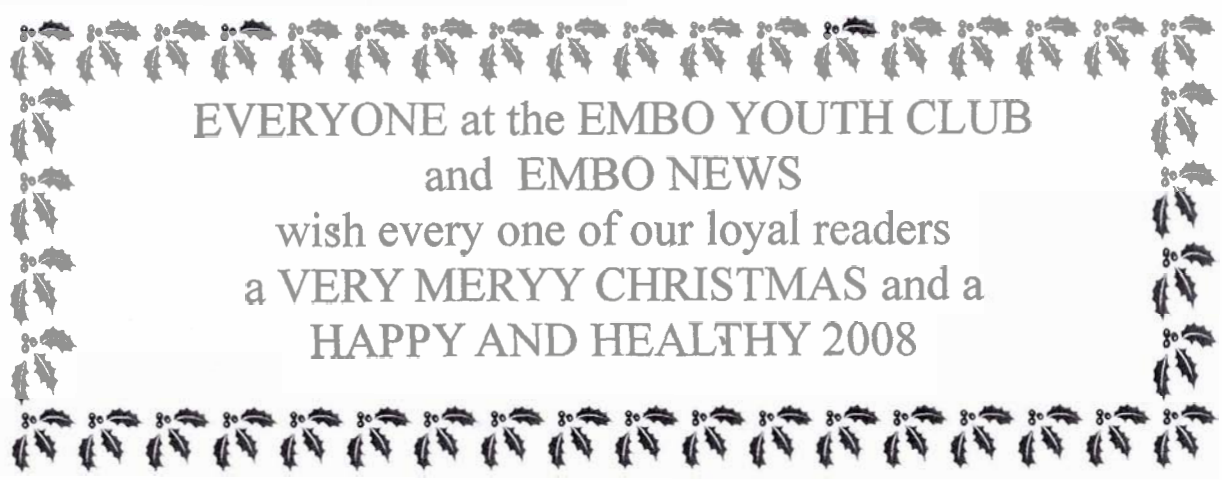
Marion, John, Amanda & Christine MacDonald  
Would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas  
& Happy New Year



**Mary Mackay**  
**(Phimister Crescent)**  
**Wishes all friends**  
**and neighbours**  
**Merry Christmas**  
**& Happy 2008**



Karen and Family  
Wish all our friends in the  
village and farther afield  
A VERY HAPPY  
CHRISTMAS and  
Much happiness  
in the future



EVERYONE at the EMBO YOUTH CLUB  
and EMBO NEWS  
wish every one of our loyal readers  
a VERY MERYY CHRISTMAS and a  
HAPPY AND HEALTHY 2008

## THANK YOU

Geordie and Cheryl would like to take this opportunity to thank their friends and family, who supported them throughout Geordie's time in hospital, plus the ongoing attentiveness they have received since he came home.

A special thank-you to Mary & Sandy Park, & Sarah Banks (RGN) for their constant heartening support, while Geordie was in Aberdeen R. I.

We would also like to thank the caring staff of the 'Meadows Care Home' for being there for Cheryl throughout this period.

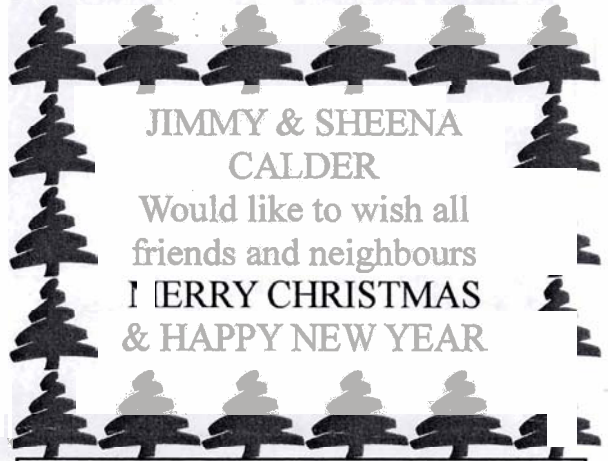
Everything that everyone did from visiting, taxi-ing, phoning, texting, Bonnie walking, cards, gifts has been greatly appreciated, we cannot thank-you all enough.

All that's left to say now is that Geordie is recovering well, and we would like to wish everyone, 'A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HEALTHY NEW YEAR'.

We send our best wishes to Geordie too for a speedy recovery.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Trevor & Gayle Mackay  
on the recent arrival of their  
baby daughter 'Michaela'  
BEST WISHES  
TO ALL THE FAMILY



JIMMY & SHEENA  
CALDER

Would like to wish all  
friends and neighbours  
A MERRY CHRISTMAS  
& HAPPY NEW YEAR



LIZ WILSON  
wishes all friends  
and neighbours  
A VERY MERRY  
CHRISTMAS

Wilma, Jessie & Donald  
4 Gate Street  
Want to wish friends  
and neighbours  
A very Merry Christmas  
and New Year



**BOB & ISABEL CRAIK**  
would like to wish  
their family, friends and  
neighbours a  
Merry Christmas  
and a Healthy 2008



Merry Christmas &  
Happy New Year to  
ALL from  
Ian, Marie and  
John Paul Roach

# On The Coast

## Definitely The Last Report???

I am aware that this is the final last report as no one has taken on the job, which is a pity, so here is my final report of, "On The Coast".

## Recruitment

Gone well since the last report with two new members joining the Dornoch Team. This now brings us up to full compliment, but still two short at Helmsdale, so if any Helmsdale readers would like to be part of the Team please contact either myself or Catherine Whitehead, on 01431-821246.

## Over the Year



Dornoch was the busy Station with around 15 callouts of one sort or another, though luckily nothing serious this year as last year, except the incident involving the Coastguard boat off Helmsdale, when a member of the crew injured themselves and had to have a couple of days in Hospital, luckily with no serious injury.

(See Photo)

The last incident this year, involved a small craft sitting half a mile off Golspie. There was concern with there being no lights or signs of life onboard.

The Dornoch Inshore Rescue boat was called, but before they could launch, Aberdeen Coastguard made contact by radio and established there were three persons onboard fishing and all was well, though it is not good practice, in fact against the Law to be on the sea at night without lights. The local Coastguard team were not involved.

## Training

As I previously mentioned all our new Rescue Ropes had to be returned for testing as a possible fault was found in one. These are the ropes which go with the new type equipment which is not yet in use. We still have the older equipment for incidents.

This has not stopped training in the new equipment, which is steadily proceeding, though before teams are qualified, will take a few months.

**Bryan Jones**

**HM Coastguard 01862-810525. 07917808539 Mobile**

**(Thanks for your input Bryan)**

Sorry about the delay in letting you all know who won our last ever competition back in October, this was something I actually forgot to do. Because there were only nine entries you will all receive something through the post very soon.

Congratulations to you all. Joey Mackay, Vhairi Mackay, Helen Robertson, Georgie Moore, Billie Corder,, Andrew McLaren, Kayleigh-Ann Christie, Minnie Murray and finally Lorraine Currie.

Although it wont be an extravagant gift it will be the last ones we will be sending out.

## EMBO'S NAME-SAKE

We were contacted recently by Bill Swanson from Dornoch but originally from Embo, King Street. He told us about a racing pigeon called of all things 'EMBO'. Bill who is a keen 'bird fancier' contacted the man who was selling this bird who was named after our village and had a good old chat with him.

Mr Bury, who was selling this bird lives in Canterbury, Kent and was fascinated to know there was an actual village by the name of Embo and was delighted that Bill had taken the time to ring him and tell him all about us here in the Highlands. The following is the insert from a pigeon magazine were 'Embo ' was being sold. I'm sure you will be as amazed as I was to find out how much some birds can be sold for if they have the right breeding.... Bill informs us that this is quite a reasonable price and they can be bought and sold for a lot more than Embo's price.

Lot 2, Rhino Blue. This cock is truly an outstanding specimen, he has the lot, silky feathering, balance, strengthen in abundance and full of winning genes, scored in Club and Fed.. Sire EMBO 36, 6 x 1st Clubs, 2 x 1st Open, now at stock producing Club/Fed winners. He is the great grandson of Santa Vosse and Vic's Fed Hen, these two must be responsible for well over 200 x 1st prize winners between them at all levels. Need I say more £150

Although I don't really understand some of the terms used here I certainly get the gist of what is being said. We are very grateful to Bill for thinking about us and are more than happy to print this little story. We hope you find it interesting to read.

Bumper sticker of the year:

"If you can read this, thank a teacher!

When I was young we used to go "skinny dipping,"  
now I just "chunky dunk."

I signed up for an exercise class and was told to  
wear loose-fitting clothing.

If I HAD any loose-fitting clothing, I wouldn't have  
signed up in the first place!

What Love means to a 4-8 year old . . . Slow down for three minutes to read this. It is so worth it. Touching words from the mouth of babes. A group of professional people posed this question to a group of 4 to 8 year-olds, "What does love mean?"

The answers they got were broader and deeper than anyone could have imagined.

See what you think:

"When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love."

Rebecca- age 8

"When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different.

You just know that your name is safe in their mouth." Billy - age 4

"Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other." Karl - age 5

"Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs." Chrissy - age 6

"Love is what makes you smile when you're tired." Terri - age 4

"Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK." Danny - age 7

"Love is when you kiss all the time. Then when you get tired of kissing, you still want to be together and you talk more.

My Mommy and Daddy are like that. They look gross when they kiss" Emily - age 8

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen." Bobby - age 7 (Wow!)

"If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate,"

Nikka - age 6 (we need a few million more Nikka's on this planet)

"Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it everyday. Noelle - age 7

"Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well." Tommy - age 6

"During my piano recital, I was on a stage and I was scared. I looked at all the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared anymore." Cindy - age 8

"My mommy loves me more than anybody You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night." Clare - age 6

"Love is when Mommy gives Daddy the best piece of chicken." Elaine-age 5

"Love is when Mommy sees Daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford." Chris - age 7

"Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day." Mary Ann age 4

"I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones." Lauren - age 4

"When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you." (what an image) Karen - age 7

"You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget." Jessica - age 8

And the final one -- the most caring child. The winner was a four year old child whose next door neighbour was an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife.

Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there.

When his Mother asked what he had said to the neighbour, the little boy said,

"Nothing, I just helped him cry"



# **STEERING GROUP COMMITTEE UPDATE**

**Tuesday 30th October 2007 at 7.00 p.m.**

**Present:** George Macdonald-Chairman, Jeanette Cumming-Secretary, Liz Robertson, Nancy Weymouth, Sandy Gunn, James Mackay, Nancy Collett, Gerry Fitzpatrick.

**Absent:** Some of the following were absent because they did not receive an email Jeanette sent as her computer was playing up:

Karen Holmes, Donald Hadden, Rhona Grigg, Fraser Bonthron, Gayle Mackay, Joyce Collett, Michelle Rafferty, Stan Collett, Kathryn Davidson. **APOLOGIES:** Shirley MacDonald.

## **Previous Minutes & Updates**

Jeanette distributed these to the committee prior to the meeting. There were no matters arising.

## **New Member**

Liz Robertson introduced new committee member Gerry Fitzpatrick.

## **Draft Plans**

The background for the stand alone building was discussed by those attending, as well as the Architect's draft plan for this proposed building.

The committee found the measurements confusing and a number of questions were raised regarding materials to be used, maintenance, storage, fittings, etc, so it was decided to invite the Architect to the next meeting to discuss these issues.

**ACTION:** Liz emailed Iain Macbeath on 31/10/07 to arrange a suitable date

## **Education Department**

Concern was raised regarding the paperwork in connection with the handing over of the old school property, therefore, Liz Robertson to chase up the progress on this.

**ACTION:** Liz emailed Helen Houston on 31/10/07 to contact Education Department.

## **Ltd Status**

Jeanette Cumming to find out what stage this is now at since the last amendments went in.

**ACTION:** Jeanette to contact Douglas Graham for an update on progress.

## **FUND RAISING**

Jeanette Cumming raised the point that fund raising should now be a priority

## **AOB**

Meeting ended

8.25 pm

Next Meeting

Wednesday 5th December 2007 at 7.30 pm

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**Subject:** FW: ECC DRAFT PLANS

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**From:** Iain Macbeath [mailto:im@kindeace.plus.com]

**Sent:** 01 November 2007 09:27

**To:** Robertson, Liz

**Subject:** Re: ECC DRAFT PLANS

Hi Liz

Looking at the plan on the email I see what you mean. All the dimensions on the plan seem to have been altered by a scaling gremlin in the cad reduction process, which we haven't noticed. The correct sizes are on the typical section ie 7.8m across the hall. (We are not suggesting a hall at 39m by 80m!)

I have attached a plan with the right sizes on, and will also post it out.

Brief answers to your questions at the moment:

1. Wood cladding would help with the "sustainability" credentials although the design could be done with block/ render exterior if necessary. We have not obviously looked at the the full elevational design ( until the general principle of the scheme are agreed) but at this stage I would envisage a combination of block render / timber cladding, as used on a lot of similar halls. If we use larch boards the cladding would have a reasonable lifespan, and it has been used successfully for quite a few buildings in recent times. I would suspect the costs are similar for both finish materials.

2. I would envisage inner walls would be done in high impact plasterboard material ( a bit more expensive) for the hall at least.

3. As above

4/6 This is a very early feasibility and the £400k is merely the budget already discussed for the overall hall project. I am proceeding on the understanding that this is the maximum feasible budget that can be realistically funded, so we will have to work backwards from this figure if it has to include all the "add ons" as well as the basic building cost. The normal building costs would include kitchen etc but not loose furniture, so a budget for this will have to be allocated within the 400k.

At this level of budget for this scale of hall I suspect that we would have to be reasonably economic with the specifications. External car park etc would have to be included ( I would hope we could get it tarred) but not any fancy landscaping such as Caithness slabs etc

We will have to try and form a view on the likely initial costs for all the various items as early as possible to try and fine tune the scale of the proposals as early as possible.

5. These storage areas are reasonably generous and would be adequate for these items

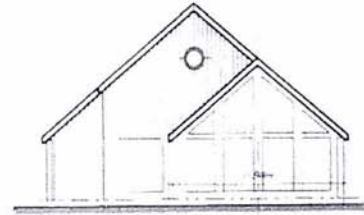
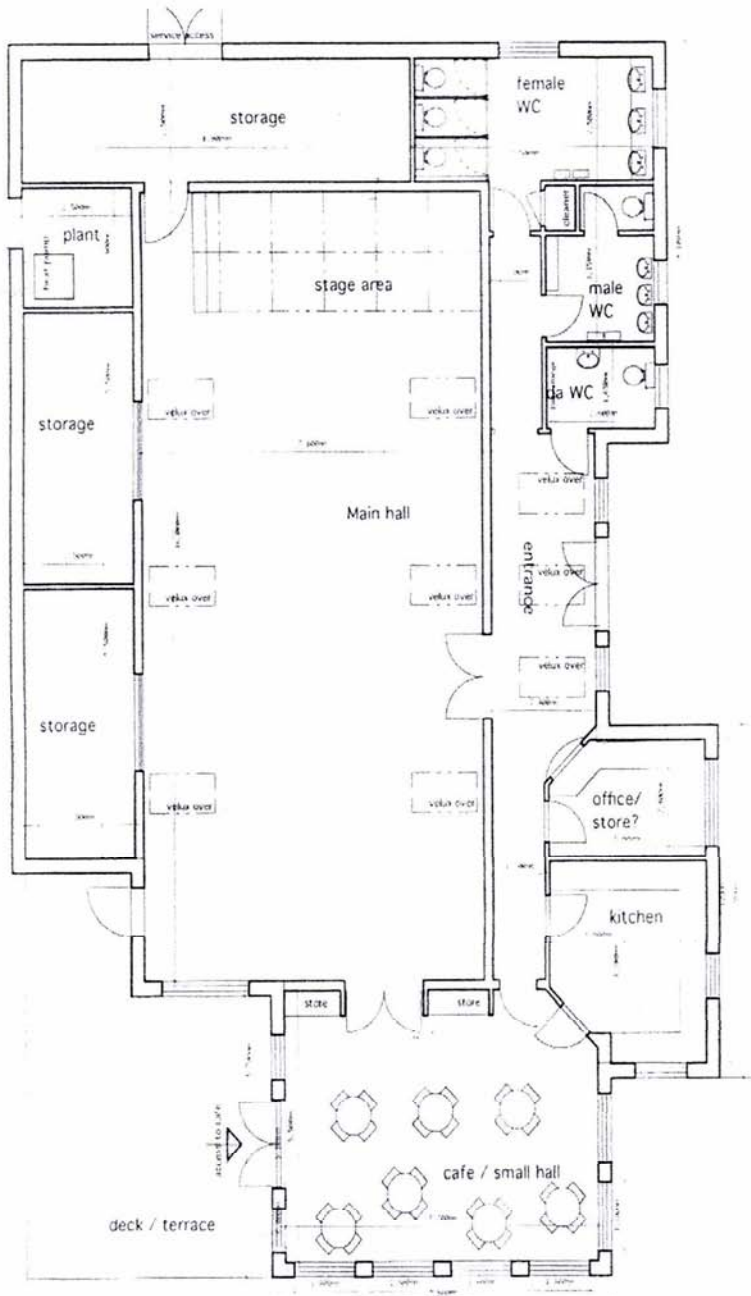
We can discuss all these and other issues at our meeting

Kind regards

iain

Iain Macbeath ,  
Macbeath Associates Architects , 5 Clayton Court , Invergordon , Ross-shire , IV18 0SB  
(01349854590 )

# DRAFT PLANS FOR THE NEW EMBO COMMUNITY CENTRE, when the final plans are available they will be held at Mackay's Shop in Embo.



*Handwritten:* 1/18/07

Floor area 306m  
November 07

Copyright  
The design of this building is the property of the  
Embo Community Centre. It is not to be used for  
any other purpose without the written consent of  
the Embo Community Centre. The design is the  
property of the Embo Community Centre. It is not  
to be used for any other purpose without the  
written consent of the Embo Community Centre.

- Proposed location
- Approximate site plan
- Working drawings
- Final Working drawings

Dr. no. 00/0000  
September 2007

**GROUND FLOOR**

Client  
Project  
Proposed Community  
Embo Sutherland

Architect  
**MACBEATH ASSU**  
5 Clarendon Court Blythwood  
Newcastle NSW 1570  
Tel: 02 4966 6666  
www.macbeath.com.au

GROUND FLOOR PLAN  
Scale 1:50

Floor area 306m<sup>2</sup>

THESE ARE ONLY DRAFT PLANS  
AND ARE TO BE REVIEWED  
BY THE STEERING GROUP COMMITTEE

**The following two pages are the revised plans of development for Embo.  
These can be seen at the Meadows Council Buildings  
by any member of the public.**

## **INSET 1.2 : EMBO**

Position in Settlement Hierarchy	Small Village
2007 Estimated Population	300
Housing Completions 2000-2006	1
Primary School Capacity (roll/physical capacity)	
Water Capacity (allocations versus capacity)	Limited capacity
Sewerage Capacity (allocations versus capacity)	Capacity

Embo was a planned village with a coherent street structure, which can still be clearly seen in the original 5 streets of Fishertown. Embo was formerly a fishing village with its origins in the Bronze Age - a fine example of a burial cairn can be seen in the centre of the village -and which has been laid out in narrow lanes and rows of houses running parallel down to the beach. The settlement relies on commuting primarily for employment, although many trades work out of Embo.

### **Prospects**

Embo's attractive seaside setting, tourist facility, and commuting distance from Dornoch and Tain ensure a steady demand for housing in the area. This demand combined with a low level of new build housing has created pressures on the existing limited housing supply with high house prices and a significant waiting list for the available Council housing. There is a need to have an effective supply of housing land in the village to seek to address the shortfall of available housing. Availability of developable land is an issue and land has been allocated within the settlement boundary for these purposes as outlined below.

The potential for a community land buyout is being pursued by the Embo Trust offering an opportunity for the re-establishment of crofts in the area offering both employment and housing opportunity for young local people. This local initiative is aimed at providing both economic benefit and housing opportunities for local people. Proposals centre on the creation of forest crofts at the Fourpenny Plantation; the provision of a masterplan indicating the scale and form of the initiative should be prepared by the community trust to inform forthcoming proposals.

The community is seeking to fund the development of the old school to provide to provide a community centre to serve the settlement.

Grannies Heilan' Hame lies along the coastline to the east of the settlement, taking advantage of the beach and dune systems and attracts many visitors to the area. The caravan park creates increased pressure on the road infrastructure and water supply during its operational period. The road serving the holiday park was constructed as a bypass to remove traffic from the narrow street pattern in the village.

The larger of the identified sites within the Plan lies on the other side of the by-pass, development in this area will need to address traffic management issues through preferably re-routing of the by-pass to the west and south of the village or investigate the potential of utilising traffic calming measures, this to be undertaken as part of the development. This site also has potential to support small scale business/industrial units or workplace homes (house with associated business unit).

Improvements to the Dornoch – Embo Road remain a priority for the community.

Scottish Water is investigating works to augment the water supply serving Embo and Dornoch.

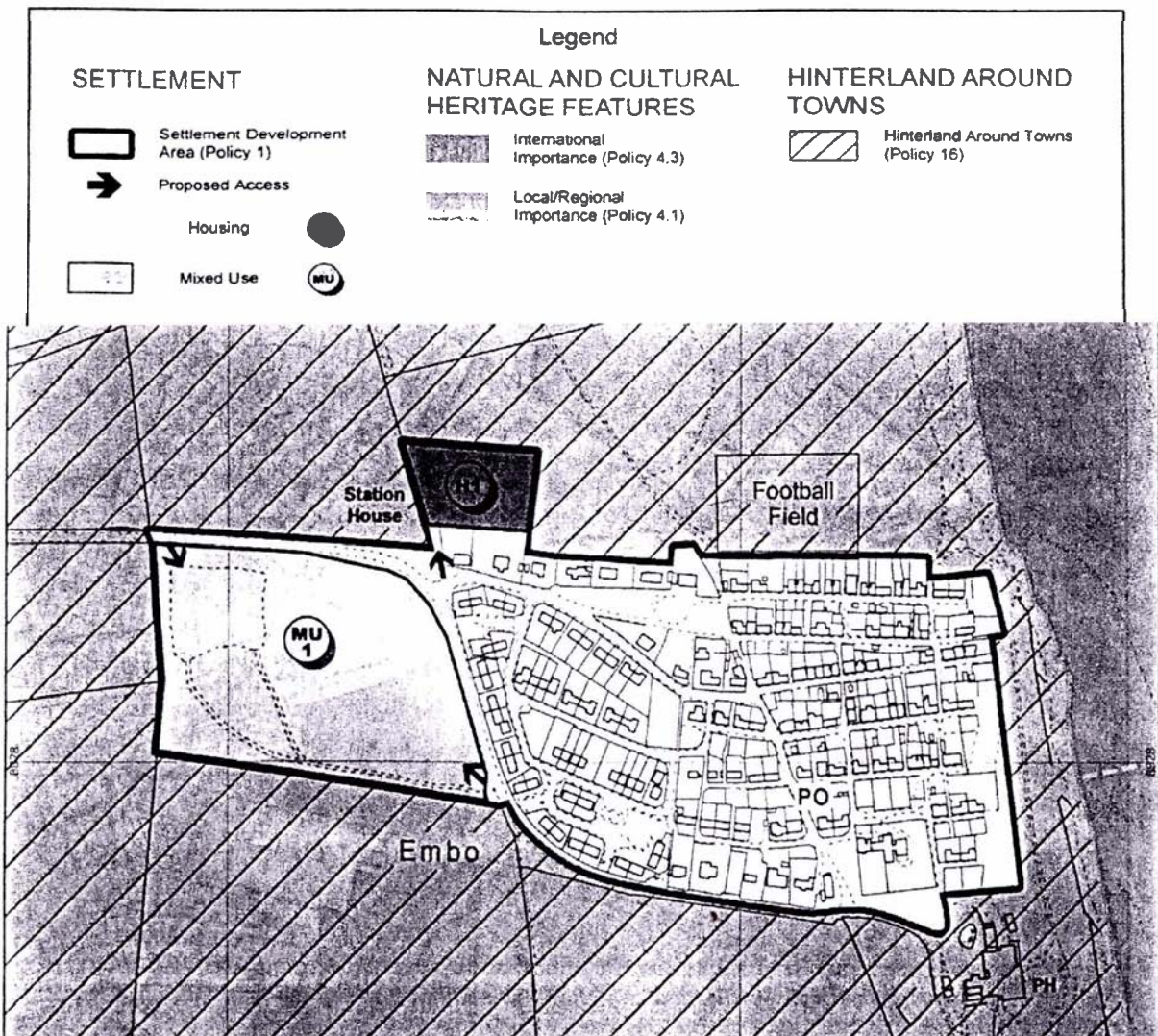
## Development Factors

- Need to address by-pass road issues;
- Land availability/accessibility issues;
- Potential for development of new crofts as part of a community-led initiative to address both economic and housing requirements;
- New development should respect design cues from the historic core of the village;
- Coastal location adjacent to the Moray Firth SAC.

## Site Allocations

Site Ref.	Site Area	Location	Housing Capacity	Developer Requirements
H 1	0.6 ha	North of Station House	10 units	Constrained access limits level of development, suitable for small courtyard development or lower density housing.
MU 1 (H/I)	3.9 ha	West Embo	60 units	Phasing of development of the site. Provision of suitable access – traffic calming or preferably re-routing of bypass road to west and south of site. Suitable surface water drainage arrangements. Screening along the western boundary, path network to village. Improvements to Dornoch – Embo road where required. A site history considering previous uses is required and dependent on this an assessment of potential contamination issues may be required.

(Housing capacities are indicative only and given on the basis of likely development densities.)



## **DRAFT CORE PATHS PLAN - SUTHERLAND**

As part of The Highland Council's duty, under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, to develop a Core Paths Plan, a formal draft for Sutherland is being published for the 12 week statutory consultation period. The plan will be available for viewing from the 29th October 2007 at all Service Points and Libraries throughout the county and at some post offices in areas where no council office is close by. See list over page.

Route suggestions for inclusion in this plan were put forward at a series of drop-in events in Autumn 2006 and through questionnaires returned over the summer and early winter of the same year. A suite of "Core Path Criteria" has been used to assess these suggestions and those routes fulfilling the criteria were put forward for consultation as candidate routes in a Consultative Draft during June and July 2007. Comments from this consultation and discussion with the Sutherland Local Access Forum have led to the development of this formal draft.

The Draft Core Paths Plan for Sutherland comprises of an introduction, a set of overview maps covering the area and a series of more inset maps showing proposed core paths in more detail. Your comments, suggestions and feedback on the network proposed are welcomed. Formal Objections to the plan can also be made using a separate form.

The plan and comments form will be available on the council website and to individuals as a CD copy on request.

Comment and objection forms are welcomed up to the 25th January 2008, no late objections will be considered. The Access Officer for Sutherland can be contacted on 01549 402729 and email if you have any questions relating to this formal draft.

See the plan at <http://www.highland.gov.uk/leisure/countryside/countrysideaccess/corepathplans.htm>

Matt Dent  
Access Officer Sutherland  
01549 402729

[matt.dent@highland.gov.uk](mailto:matt.dent@highland.gov.uk)