

KINTAIL, RATAGAN

I do hope the following Notes will be of help and that you will have a most enjoyable holiday.

FULL ADDRESS: "Kintail", 4 Forestry Houses, Ratagan, Kyle, Ross-shire, IV40 8HR Tel: (01599) 511238

GUESTS WILL NEED TO BRING WITH THEM PLEASE:

- BATH AND HAND TOWELS
- TABLE NAPKINS
- SOAP POWDER FOR AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINE

LINEN HIRE

If guests wish to hire Towels please ask Caroline. The Charge is Â£4 per person; a Bath Towel and Hand Towel are provided. Guests travelling from abroad or from a distance may find this service of use. A J-Cloth, Towel for Guests to dry their hands on whilst in the Kitchen and Tea Towels are provided without extra charge and if you should require more, please ask Caroline.

KEY HOLDER

Caroline Hannah who lives at No.3 Forestry Houses, Ratagan, Ross-shire IV40 8HR Tel: Glenshiel (01599) 511406. Caroline has a job for part of the year and if telephoning between March and November and there is no reply when you telephone, it may be better telephoning back that evening when she is most likely to be in. Please let her know when you expect to arrive, whether or not you would like her to get in for you any milk or bread and if you would like her to turn on the Central Heating and Hot Water so that the House is warm when you arrive. If you would like the lights turning on, please mention this to Caroline and she will be happy to do this. If you would like to use a waterproof single bed mattress protector, Travel Cot and/or High Chair, please also mention this to Caroline.

MESSAGES

If you are unable to reach Caroline Hannah by telephone, Roddy Macaskill (01599) 511206 will always take a message and pass it on to Caroline.

The cost of OIL and ELECTRICITY is included in the Rent.

If you wish to hire Towels, please tell Caroline and give her the money £4

per person or £8 if staying longer than say a week and you will require replacement of Towels.

TELEPHONE

Calls to Land Line Telephone Numbers in the UK are FREE as are 0845 and 0870 Numbers. NB Premium Rate Calls, International Calls and Calls to Mobile phones are blocked - Please therefore use your Mobile phones for these.

BROADBAND

Broadband is FREE but we only have a LIGHT USER PACKAGE so please do not download files, films etc. I get an itemized paper bill, so if charges are made, guests will be asked to reimburse any BT charges. You will need to know the Wireless Key for your laptop.

CD PLAYER AND DVD PLAYER are available for Guest's use.

TRIP SWITCHES AND ELECTRIC ISOLATION SWITCH ARE TO BE FOUND IN THE CUPBOARD ADJOINING THE BATHROOM DOOR.

Details of the name and address of the Owner are given below and are also shown on the Confirmation of Booking sent to the Guest by Country Cottages in Scotland.

HOUSE OWNER Mr VR Vyner-Brooks, Middle Barrows Green, Kendal, Cumbria, LA8 0JG. Tel: (015395) 60242.

MOTORING INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE SOUTH SUGGESTED BAD WEATHER ROUTE

Take A9 to Inverness, A82 to Invermoriston, then take A887 (SP Kyle of Lochalsh) which joins A87 to Shiel Bridge.

MOST DIRECT ROUTE

Leave Glasgow on M8 to Junction 30, briefly join M898 to Erskine Bridge then join A82 and stay on it to Invergarry or leave Glasgow on A82 and stay on it to Invergarry, on reaching Invergarry then take A87 (SP Kyle of Lochalsh) to Shiel Bridge.

SCENIC ROUTE

Leave M9 near Stirling at Junction 10. Follow Sign Posts to Callender. Take A84 to Locheanhead, then A85 to Crianlarich. Take A82 from Crianlarich via Fort William to Invergarry. From Invergarry take A87 (SP Kyle of Lochalsh) to Shiel Bridge.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTE

Take A9 to Perth, then take A9 Sign Posted to Inverness. Leave the A9 at the turning for Dalwhinnie A889, go through Dalwhinnie on A889, join and turn left on to A86 to Spean Bridge. Then take A82 to Invergarry. In Invergarry take A87 (SP to Kyle of Lochalsh) to Shiel Bridge.

The Scenic, Most Direct and Alternative Routes are not recommended in Fog or Bad Weather.

THE HOUSE

Is one and a quarter miles from the Petrol Station and Village Shop at Shiel Bridge. Turn left over bridge (SP Glenelg and Letterfearn) follow this road for 1/2 mile and fork Right at turning SP Letterfearn and Ratagan, go down the steep slope to the Lochside and follow this road for 3/4 mile. The House, called "Kintail" is on your left approx. 150 yards BEFORE reaching the Youth Hostel and a few yards AFTER passing the Pillar Box.

RANGEMASTER 110 ELECTRIC COOKER WITH A CERAMIC HOB

The Do's and Don'ts are on a card which I hope you will find near the Cooker. It would be greatly appreciated if Guests would be kind enough to look BOTH at these Notes before using the Cooker AND the FULL INSTRUCTIONS in a DRAWER by the Fridge.

An OUTSIDE OIL FIRED CENTRAL HEATING BOILER BOX has been installed near the kitchen window. The Boiler heats the water and provides the house with oil-fired Central Heating.

HOT WATER is supplied by the Central Heating Boiler but if Guests want a large quantity of Hot Water or much hotter water than is being produced at that moment, they are welcome to use the Immersion Heater in the cupboard in the Breakfast Room. Please remember to turn this OFF after use.

THERMOSTAT FOR THE CENTRAL HEATING is on the left hand side of the Bathroom Door in the Hall.

THE KITCHEN

This was originally the Wash House of the Old House but has been made into an excellent Kitchen with superb views over Mam Ratagan at the back and the Sea Loch and Mountains at the front.

HEATING IN THE KITCHEN

There is a Wall Heater just to the right at the top of the Back Door which is operated by a cord. In addition to that, there is a Central Heating Radiator on the left of the Cooker and to provide Guests with instant heat, under the Kitchen window, is a Convector Heater. In one of the Kitchen Drawers you will, I hope, find instructions on all the various gadgets and appliances in the House which you may find of help.

FRIDGE, AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINE AND DISHWASHER

These are to be found under the work surface in the Kitchen. It would be wise to ask Caroline to show you how and when to open the Dishwasher, please. Please note the Tumble Dryer part of the Automatic Washing Machine does NOT work.

Please do not pull the Automatic Washing Machine out as it is difficult to get back. Please note the Drawer on the right DID NOT open but as the new Automatic Washing Machine is smaller than its predecessor, Jimmy has made it possible for it to open halfway. Please do not try to force this drawer.

AIR EXTRACTORS

There are three in the Kitchen. One is on the wall above the radiator and is operated by pulling a cord. The other two are in the Hood above the Electric Cooker, one for each half of the Hob. These are operated by switches. It is essential please to have the Cooker Air Extractors on when using the Hob to avoid cooking smells getting into the adjoining rooms. The smell of Curries, for instance, lingers for some considerable time if there is no proper ventilation in the Kitchen. N.B The third switch under the Cooker Hood is to operate the light.

MICROWAVE This is on the work surface. Please do not use gold rimmed China in the Microwave.

ELECTRIC KETTLES AND TOASTER

These are to be found on the work surface. Caroline has a spare toaster available if the one in the Kitchen goes wrong.

FIRE EXTINGUISHER is on the wall on the right of the Cooker.

FIRE BLANKET is on the left of the Back Door in the Kitchen.

EMERGENCY LIGHTING A re-chargeable Torch is to be found on the wall on the right of the back door.

STOP TAPS

Hot Water - in the Morning Room Cupboard next to the Immersion Heater

Cold Water - in the Morning Room on the wall near the floor opposite to the Kitchen

Shower - Under wash hand basin in the Bathroom

CLEANING AIDS

Are in the cupboard under the Sink. If you should run short, please ask Caroline for what you need. There are also cleaning aids to be found for use in the Bathroom under the wash hand basin.

SWING BIN AND PEDAL BIN LINERS These are in a Drawer under the work surface.

CHILDREN'S AND DOGS' GATE

Is to be found in the Understairs Cupboard and is for guests to use to put up by or near the entrance from the Morning Room to the Kitchen, enabling guests to restrict movement of children and dogs.

OLD PANTRY

This room leads off the Morning Room and has now been converted into a Drying Room with heaters in it. We have installed a Spin Dryer which should NOT please be turned on when the Heaters are switched on.

When not in use as a Drying Room, this Room, with its north facing window, makes an excellent Pantry for the storage of fruit, vegetables etc.

MORNING ROOM

This was the old Kitchen of the original House, it adjoins the Kitchen and has a table and chairs for use by Guests. Table mats are to be found in the Alcove by the table and/or in the Kitchen; there is also a table cloth for use by Guests. Cutlery can be found in the Kitchen. There are local Maps on the wall in this Room.

SITTING ROOM

This Room has an open fire but as there is always with wooden houses, a great fire risk, it would be appreciated if Guests could please not leave the fire unattended without using the Fire Guard and please do not build it up so high that there is a risk of a chimney fire.

OPEN FIRE

Guests must please provide (or buy) kindling wood, coal or newspaper to light the fire and fire lighters. Coal is available locally, including the Inverinate Garage.

Kindling wood - we frequently get ours by gathering it from the side of the Loch or going to Sallachy on Loch Long where there is plenty.

Please put cold, but not hot, ash from the fire in the dustbin. Please tip into a bag before putting it in the Green Bin. Guests will find an Ash Bucket and Shovel in the Back Porch. Dust Bin men will refuse to empty a bin with loose ash in it.

SOFA

An interesting piece of Scottish Furniture Circa 1850, excellent for Guests with back or posture problems; for correct use by Guests (particularly those of 5'3" or more in height) please remove cushions and sit well back in it.

CIRCULAR OCCASIONAL TABLE To prevent staining it, please use the small drink mats to be found in this room.

SIDEBOARD

In the cupboard on the right, books for Guests to read. In the top drawers are Tourist Information and a List of Emergency and Useful Telephone Numbers, Walks etc.

DINING ROOM

Is approached through Sliding Doors from the Sitting Room, the Dining Room overlooks the Loch and has spectacular views from it. It would be appreciated if Guests would please note that:-

- a) the door from the Dining Room to the Hall does NOT open and that the only means of access to the Dining Room is through the Sitting Room; and
- b) the middle window does NOT open.

The Sideboard contains table mats and cutlery for use in the Dining Room as well as Games which Guests are most welcome to enjoy.

COLOUR TELEVISION

Is in the Dining Room. Occasionally there are problems with the Transmitter which affects Reception; it would be appreciated if Guests did

NOT attempt to retune the Set. Sky Channels are now available and by accessing Channels 1 to 5 via Sky you can get an improved digital reception as well as having the benefit of several extra Sky Programmes.

CUPBOARD

The Cupboard on the left of the Bathroom contains spare light bulbs; please replace any which burn out by bulbs of the same wattage. This cupboard also contains fuses and other similar items as well as batteries for the Kitchen Clock, Sitting Room Clock and for the TV and Sky remote controls. We also keep the Hoover in this Cupboard.

UNDERSTAIRS CUPBOARD

The Deep Freeze is to be found in this Cupboard and when TURNED OFF it would be appreciated if Guests could please ensure it is KEPT OPEN.

We also keep the Deck Chairs in this Cupboard. Guests may hang outdoor clothing there and in the Back Porch.

HELP IN THE HOUSE AND BABY SITTING

If Guests would like a Babysitter, Caroline has said that she would do her best to find one, please therefore speak to Caroline direct. If Guests would like cleaning done or help in the House, Caroline has kindly said, if she is free, she would be willing to be of assistance, please approach Caroline direct. Please settle the bill for the above with Caroline/ the Babysitter.

BATHROOM leads from Hall.

SHOWER is over the Bath and is operated on the Cold Water. There is a cord to be pulled to turn the Shower supply on, on the right of the door as you go into the Bathroom. The Shower itself is operated by manipulating the switches under the Shower itself; there are Instructions for this purpose on the Unit.

WALL HEATER

There is a Wall Heater above the Heated Towel Rail; again a cord switch operates it.

TOWEL RAIL can be heated by turning on the wall switch.

LOCH BEDROOM

This is situated on the First Floor with glorious views of the Loch and Mountains. There is a double bed and single bed, all have bedside lamps. Each bed is fitted with an electric blanket though Caroline may remove

these in hot weather, putting them in boxes under the beds concerned.

MAM RATAGAN BEDROOM

This is situated at the back of the House with views of Mam Ratagan, it again contains a double bed and a single bed, with electric blankets and bedside lamps.

BLANKETS

There are blankets available for each bed for Guests who would like them; please ask Caroline for them or look in the Bedroom Wardrobe/Chest of Drawers, please.

DUVETS

Duvets, Duvet covers, Bottom Sheets, Pillows and Pillow cases are provided and no extra charge is made. If Guests who are staying for a second week would like a change of Linen, could they please tell Caroline in advance of their arrival.

OUTSIDE LIGHTS AT THE BACK OF THE HOUSE

To turn them on, please first turn on the light in the Back Porch, switch is in the Kitchen and then the switch for the outside light which is in the Back Porch.

BACK PORCH

Guests will find it useful to keep fruit and vegetables in the Back Porch as it is nearly always cool, except in High Summer.

INNER BACK DOOR

The Door from the Kitchen to the Back Porch has an old Lock, to close it without banging please pull it to and move the handle down and then up.

OLD GARAGE

Guests may find it useful to store a Pram, Skis, and Bicycles etc. in it, to which access is up the path and through the rear garden gate. Your Key is to be found on the Bunch of Keys Caroline gives to you. As both Caroline and the Gardener may require access, they will retain a key.

VILLAGE STORE & OFF LICENCE (01599) 511221

Open 7 days a week from 7am, closing times may vary during the year and sells wines, spirits, bread, eggs, milk, fresh fruit, vegetables and an extensive collection of frozen foods, ham and a very wide variety of items

including Newspapers. It is possible to order Groceries, Milk, Bread, Potatoes etc. in advance and if you wish to collect groceries on the day of your arrival, may I suggest you telephone the Shop and give an Order making arrangements over collection of the Groceries, particularly this will be necessary, if you arrive after the Shop closes that evening. The Petrol Station on the Forecourt serves Petrol and Diesel during the hours which the Store is open.

SHOPPING IN FORT WILLIAM

if coming via that town. Fort William is the main shopping area for the Lochaber District. There are excellent shops in the Main Street and on the north side of the town, which you will drive along on the A82 which adjoins the harbor, is to be found the excellent MORRISONS store with a petrol station.

CHURCHES

Please check Service Times with the Clergy.

Roman Catholic Church at Dornie

Turn right at T-junction before crossing Bridge and follow road at side of Loch Long. Sunday Mass 12.30pm Holy Days - Mass at 6.30pm. At present the Priest also says a Saturday Vigil Mass at Broadford at 6pm and a Sunday Mass at Portree at 10am. Please contact the Priest to confirm details on (01478) 613227.

Episcopal Church at Nostie

Between Dornie and Auchertyre on the left of the main road going towards Kyle. Sundays 10.30am. The Eucharist is celebrated whenever a Priest is available with a Lay Service on the other Sundays. Further information from Christine Dodd (01599) 555368 or the Rural Dean at Dingwall (01349) 862204.

Church of Scotland (Presbyterian)

Inverinate - Every Sunday 10.30am

Glenelg - Every Sunday 12.15pm The Minister for the above Churches is Revd D Scott.(01520) 744263.

EVENING MEAL ON DAY OF ARRIVAL

Guests may find it helpful to know that on the A87 twenty minutes before reaching the House, it would be possible to have a Bar and Restaurant

meal at the CLUANIE INN (01320) 340238.

One mile after the Turning to Letterfearn and Glenelg, is the KINTAIL LODGE HOTEL which also serve Bar and Restaurant meals (01599) 511275. Very near the House, literally a 200 yard walk from it in the Letterfearn direction and immediately opposite the Youth Hostel, is GRANTS AT CRAIGELLACHIE which has a Restaurant (01599) 511331. Booking is essential but they will take last minute bookings, if they are able to do so.

ADDITIONAL HOUSE NOTES DEALING WITH RESTAURANTS, WHAT TO DO AND SEE, SIGHTSEEING ETC. ARE TO BE FOUND IN THE HOUSE.