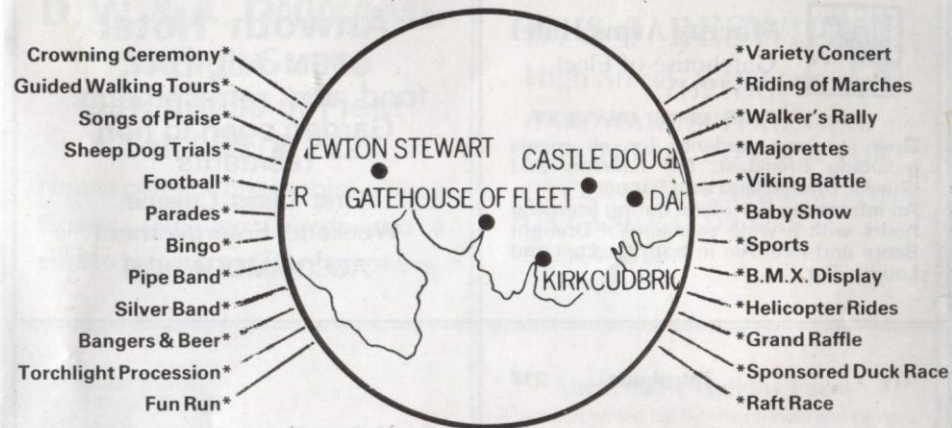


GATEHOUSE OF FLEET



Sunday 28th July to Sunday 4th August, 1985

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME



★ Special Star Attraction 'Viking Invasion' by the Eastbourne Sea Dragons. ★

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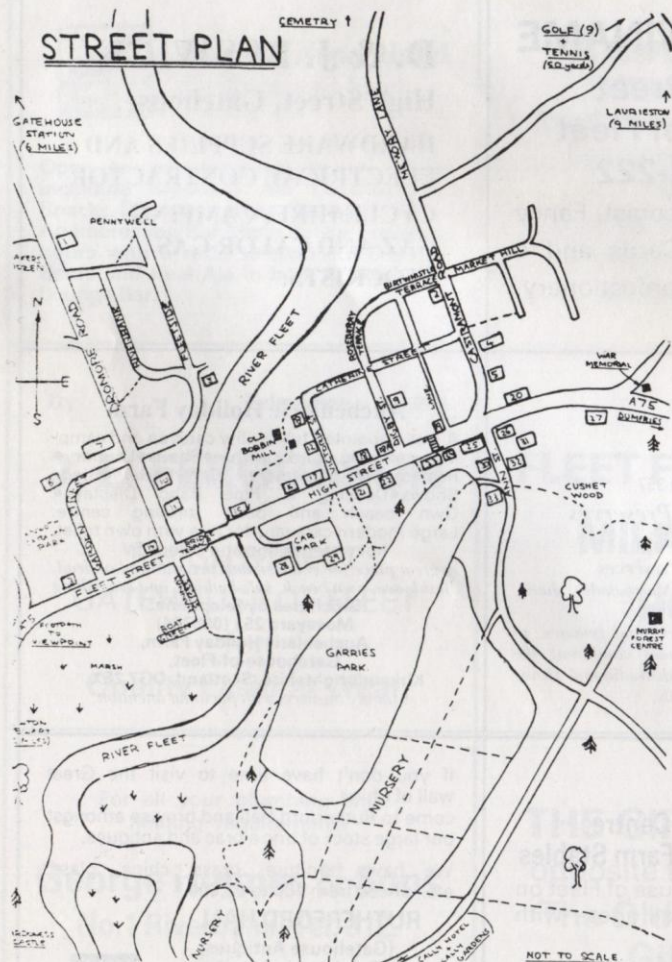
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GUIDED WALKING TOURS

Each conducted tour commences from the War Memorial daily at 10.30 a.m. from Monday 29th July through to Friday 2nd August.



- | KEY | PLACE |
|-----|------------------------------|
| 1 | Fire Station |
| 2 | Abbeyfield Home |
| 3 | Roman Catholic Church |
| 4 | Public Lavatories |
| 5 | Girthon Church |
| 6 | Doctors Surgery |
| 7 | Primary School |
| 8 | Police Station |
| 9 | Scout Hall |
| 10 | Telephone Kiosk |
| 11 | Scottish Episcopalian Church |
| 12 | Blacksmith |
| 13 | Garage |
| 14 | Anwoth Hotel |
| 15 | Bus Stop |
| 16 | Library |
| 17 | Post Office |
| 18 | Bank O' Fleet Hotel |
| 18A | Cafe |
| 19 | Bank of Scotland |
| 20 | Bus Stop |
| 21 | Angel Hotel |
| 22 | Telephone Kiosk |
| 23 | Bobbin Guest House |
| 24 | Chemist |
| 25 | Bus Stop |
| 26 | Murray Arms Hotel |
| 27 | Garage |
| 28 | Tourist Information |
| 29 | Public Lavatories |
| 30 | Coffee Room |
| 31 | Coffee Room |
| 32 | Masonic Arms Public House |
| 33 | Green Bowling Club |

A page out of history and heroes straight out of the Viking sagas will be re-created for us in Garries Park, Gatehouse of Fleet, on Saturday. The Eastbourne Sea Dragons will re-enact a scene from the Dark Ages, involving real-life characters who live on in Celtic and Icelandic legend. A pageant from those far-off times will unfold before our eyes, culminating in a spectacular Viking battle, very much as it may really have happened . . .

THE BATTLE

The date is 1005 A.D. A Viking war band, led by Sigurd Hlodver's son, the Earl of Orkney, has sailed from his northern isles to harry the coast of Galloway, the 'land of the Stranger Gaels.' The Earl, known as Sigurd the Stout because of his valour, makes such raids every summer, and the sight of his longships with their raven banner is dreaded throughout the Western Isles and the coasts of Wales and Ireland.

The fearsome raiders have anchored in Fleet Bay and Earl Sigurd has gone ashore with his war band to seek out the richest pickings. His three longships have been left in the care of Sigurd's son, Einar Wry-mouth and a handful of men. Young Einar, flushed with the excitement of his first pillaging expedition, has imbibed a skin of the local 'water of life.' Understandably, his companions do not believe him when he says he has seen a man walking across the sea to the mainland!

However, Einar's eyes did not deceive him. The man he saw was the holy hermit of Fleet Isle who, having seen the longships, crosses the causeway while the tide still covers it in order to warn the nearby village. Once they realise the priest is a mere mortal, Einar and another guard give chase, catching up with him as he nears the village. But they soon find the holy man is no easy prey . . .

Village life is disrupted at the priest's dire warning. Einar is captured and a runner is sent to summon help from McCuchullin, the laird of Cardoness. When McCuchullin arrives to find Sigurd's son his prisoner, he is torn between triumph and anxiety — this will mean trouble, with a capital T! He hastily drills the villagers and his men into some sort of battle order.

Sigurd and his warriors arrive. The Earl demands his son's release, vowing to leave the village unharmed if Einar is freed. McCuchullin, reckoning the odds are pretty even, holds the defensive position and proposes a bargain — Einar in exchange for all the loot captured on Sigurd's raid. The proud Earl rejects this impertinent suggestion, but is reluctant to force an all-out battle and tries another ploy. A battle of champions, with the victor's side taking the spoils, would be an honourable solution — but how much honour is there among these particular Gaels and Vikings? Very little, it seems. There is treachery and a deadly battle ensues . . .

Many are slain. The clash of steel rings across the field. A pall of smoke covers the carnage, through which can be seen the Valkyries, those unearthly maidens who carry the souls of the Viking dead to Valhalla, the heroes' paradise.

McCuchullin retreats to his fortress. Sigurd raises his raven banner over the village, which he and his men occupy for the summer, making frequent raids into the surrounding countryside until it is time to sail home to Orkney for the harvest.

THE MAIN CHARACTERS *

SIGURD HLODVER'S son, Earl of Orkney, known as the Stout, married the daughter of Malcolm, King of the Scots. He lived on to fight many a battle, his raven banner fluttering before him. Legend tells that his mother, a sorceress, wove the banner and predicted that its owner would always win the day although the man carrying it into battle would be slain. So this proved. Sigurd's stout heart was finally stilled at the battle of Clontarf (1014) after he had seized the banner from its fallen bearer. Also at Clontarf died the great Brian Boru, King of Ireland, although his troops were victorious. Both heroes were descended from the mighty Finn MacCoul, whose fierce blood still runs in the veins of all true Gaels.

MCCUCHULLIN, laird of Cardoness, was also descended from Finn MacCoul, as his surname (later McCulloch) suggests. The McCulloch family seat was Cardoness Castle and many legends surround the clan, among them the story of the Golden Cradle.

EINAR WRY-MOUTH carried on his father's tradition of plundering in Ireland, Scotland and Wales each summer. He was a ruthless and successful fighting man and shared the Earldom of Orkney with his brothers amid constant family feuding.

THE HERMIT, a shadowy figure based on historical fact. During early Christian times, priests often lived in seclusion on off-shore islands and archaeologists have found the remains of a hermit's cell on Ardwall Island in Fleet Bay.

* Historical facts taken from the Orkneyinga Saga.

A delightful way to see and learn more about this fascinating town.

GALA WEEK PROGRAMME IN DETAIL

Sunday, 28th July:

- 3.00 p.m. Crowning Ceremony of 'Miss Gatehouse 1985'. Elaine McClymont attended by Elaine Grieve and Dawn Pickthall will be crowned by John Jameson.
- 6.30 p.m. Songs of Praise with Creetown Silver Band in Girthon Parish Church (near town clock).

Monday, 29th July:

- 10.30 a.m. Guided Tour of Gatehouse starting at War Memorial (opposite Crosbie's Garage).
- 2.30 p.m. Monday Club in Murray Arms Hotel.
- 6.00 p.m. Sheep Dog Trials in Garries Park. Judge: E. Blackstock. Time Keeper: N. McFegan.

Tuesday, 30th July:

- 10.30 a.m. Guided Tour of Gatehouse starting at War Memorial (opposite Crosbie's Garage).
- 2-4 p.m. Children's Fancy Dress Competition at the school.
- 6.30 p.m. Green Bowling at Gatehouse Bowling Green (at top of Ann Street).
- 7.00 p.m. Junior 5-a-side football in Garries Park.
- 7.30 p.m. Bingo at Gatehouse Primary School. Admission 30p. Bingo players require to be 18 years and over.

Wednesday, 31st July:

- 10.30 a.m. Guided Tour of Gatehouse starting at War Memorial (opposite Crosbie's Garage).
- 7-9 p.m. Kirkcudbright & District Pipe Band Display and Highland Dancing in the Car Park. (Information Centre).
- 9.00 p.m. 'Bangers and Beer' disco in Garries Park. Beer and Hot Snacks. Music by Noky's Disco.
- 10.00 p.m. Torchlight Procession to Garries Park starting at Gatehouse Primary School. Torches may be purchased in Car Park at 7.30 p.m. during Highland Dancing Display.

Thursday, 1st August:

- 10.30 a.m. Guided Tour of Gatehouse starting at War Memorial (opposite Crosbie's Garage).
- 6.00 p.m. Fun Run. Six mile run starting and finishing at Gatehouse Primary School. Three water/juice stations. Challenge Trophy for outright winner. Medals for 1st 2nd and 3rd male in each group and for 1st female in each group. Shields for 1st Local and certificates for all finishers. Entry fee: Junior groups—50p. Senior groups—£1.00. Entry forms from G. Macnamara 10a Catherine Street, Gatehouse of Fleet. Tel. Gatehouse 594. and local shops — Giftie Gie Us, Post Office and Masonic Arms. presentations 7.30 p.m.

- 8.00 p.m. Variety Concert at the School. Good local talent. Doors open 7.30 p.m. — commence 8.00 p.m. Admission £1. Children and O.A.P.s 50p.

Friday, 2nd August:

- 10.30 a.m. Guided Tour of Gatehouse starting at War Memorial (opposite Crosbie's Garage).
- 6.30 p.m. Riding of the marches commencing from Garries Park. 'Miss Gatehouse' in horse and carriage flanked by outriders.
- 6.45 p.m. Walkers Rally.
- 7.00 p.m. Senior 5-a-side football in Garries Park.

Saturday, 3rd August:

- 1.30 p.m. Grand Gala Parade (assembly outside Gatehouse Primary School for judging at 1.00 p.m.) Prize money for floats ranging from £2-£50.
Parade through town with
 - *Miss Gatehouse.
 - *Kirkcudbright and District Pipe Band.
 - *Creetown Silver Band.
 - *Majorettes.
 - *Best Decorated Float Entries.
 - *Concourse d'elegance.
 - *Pedestrian Fancy Dress.
 - *Horses — Decorated cars, cycles etc.
 - *Vikings.
- All afternoon in Garries Park.
 - *Bonnie Babies Competition.
 - *Majorettes Display.
 - *Children's Sports.
 - *Concert by Creetown Silver Band.
 - *Display by Kirkcudbright & District Pipe Band.
 - *R.N.L.I. stall.
 - *B.M.X. Display.
 - *Helicopter Rides (£9 for 5 minute ride).
 - *Historic Viking Battle Display.
 - *Archery Stall.
 - *Refreshments.
 - *Grand Raffle.
- 5.30 p.m. Duck Race. Starting point: Fleet Bridge Finish: 6.00 p.m. at Boat Green.
- 6.30 p.m. Men v Ladies football in Garries Park. ('Des's Disasters' v 'Batchies Bouncers') Ref: D. Dougan. Linesmen: H. Holmes and J. Wood.

Sunday, 4th August:

- 3.00 p.m. Raft Race—up stream from Port Macadam to fleet Bridge.

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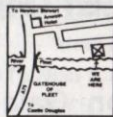
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