



# A VIEW OF CUMNOCK

*by Joy Tucker*




*A view of Cumnock from above Stepends*

# A View of Cumnock

by

Joy Tucker



1972

Published on behalf of  
The Town Council of Cumnock,  
Ayrshire, Scotland,  
by R. D. Hunter, M.B.E., Town Clerk.

Printed and made in Scotland by  
Smith Brothers (Kilmarnock) Limited,  
Caxton Works, Kilmarnock.



## Contents

---

|   | <i>Page No.</i> |
|---|-----------------|
| Foreword . . . . .                                    | 5               |
| Introduction . . . . .                                | 7               |
| Background . . . . .                                  | 8               |
| New Industries . . . . .                              | 9               |
| Housing . . . . .                                     | 10              |
| Parkland . . . . .                                    | 11              |
| Shopping . . . . .                                    | 14              |
| Education . . . . .                                   | 15              |
| Sports Centre . . . . .                               | 16              |
| Senior Cumnock . . . . .                              | 17              |
| Entertainment and Leisure — (mainly indoor) . . . . . | 17              |
| A Necessary Miscellany . . . . .                      | 17              |
| Visitors to Cumnock . . . . .                         | 19              |
| Holiday and Leisure — (mainly outdoor) . . . . .      | 19              |

## Illustrations

---

### Line Diagrams

(Devised and drawn by James M. Donaldson, Depute Burgh Surveyor, Cumnock.)

|  | <i>Page No.</i> |
|--|-----------------|
| Cumnock Street Plan . . . . .                  | 12 & 13         |
| General Location Plan . . . . .                | 20              |
| Cumnock District — Road Network Plan . . . . . | 20              |

### Colour Plates

(Photographs by John Merry, Staff Photographer, The Cumnock Chronicle)

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Cumnock from above Stepends . . . . .  | Front Cover |
| Old Parish Church, The Square . . . . .  | 7           |
| Caponacre Industrial Estate . . . . .  | 9           |
| Barshare and Drumbrochan Housing Developments from Glaisnock Viaduct . . . . . | 10          |
| Private Housing Development at Holmhead . . . . .                              | 11          |
| Broomfield Sports Pavilion . . . . .   | 14          |
| Shopping Development in Townhead Street . . . . .                              | 15          |
| Cumnock Academy . . . . .  | 16          |
| The Swimming Pool, Woodroad Park . . . . .                                     | 18          |

## Foreword

---

For many years we have felt the need for a well-informed, well-written book about Cumnock—a book designed to provide in an attractive form all the information that might be required by someone coming to live in the town, permanently or on holiday, or by someone thinking about setting up a new industry. Official Guides can be notoriously dull and astonishingly silent about the things people really want to know. I think "A View of Cumnock" is different, and would like to commend it to anyone who wants or needs to know something about the town.

Joy Tucker, who wrote the book, is a distinguished Scottish journalist and weekly columnist for the GLASGOW HERALD. A doctor's wife, she not only lives in our midst, but is involved in bringing up a young family who are all at the local school. I know that she has supplemented her own information by spending several weeks interviewing local industrialists, traders and people who have lived in Cumnock for many years so that her view of the town is an authoritative one.

I am sure you will enjoy reading this book, and hope that you find it most helpful.

Town Hall  
Cumnock  
1st September, 1972

(Sgd.) JOHN KING.  
Provost of Cumnock.

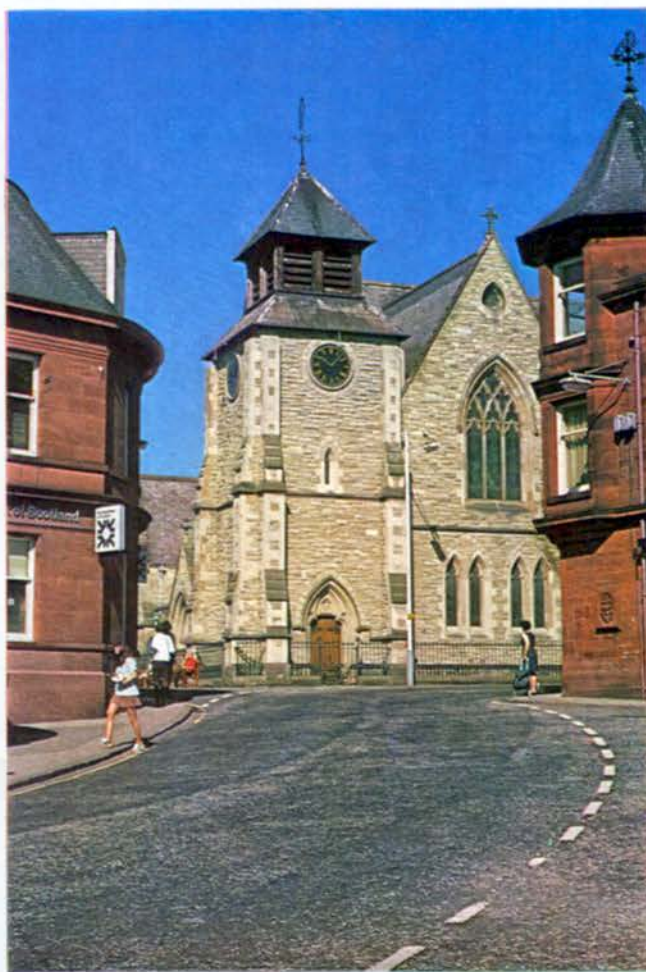


## A view of Cumnock *by Joy Tucker*

If you come to Cumnock, you come to a community—not a parochial, inward-looking unit, nor a carefully nurtured, though rootless, grouping of buildings, but a true community—where people care about their town, and about its proper place in the busy, competitive society of the 1970s. It is difficult to say exactly what gives this special quality to the town of Cumnock—just as community spirit cannot be mixed in with bricks and mortar, its essence is equally elusive to catch in words. Perhaps it is better not to try, but simply to tell you something about the town, its people and its surroundings, and leave you to form your own view.

Cumnock sits comfortably at 380 feet above sea-level, in a cupping of the Ayrshire hills. Its population is 12,000; the area of which it is the natural centre brings the total to over 42,000. The climate is temperate, with a moderate rainfall (35-40 inches a year), no fog, plenty of sunshine (6½ hours a day in recent summers), and comparatively mild winters. The prevailing wind is south-westerly. On the proverbial clear day, of which there are many in south Ayrshire, it is possible to see the blue mountains of the island of Arran from the higher houses and flats in the town.

Cumnock's geographical position provides many advantages. The countryside is close at hand, the sea 16 miles away by good clear roads. There are not many places in modern Britain where only half an hour's drive in one direction will take a family to a safe, sandy beach in summer, and in the other direction, to a snow-covered slope for skiing or sledging in winter. As a growth point, the geographical advantage can also be seen. In a century during which so many of our towns and cities have sprawled across the countryside, swallowing up places which once had a life of their own, Cumnock has managed to grow more gracefully, and at the same time to retain its individuality. There is no city looking over Cumnock's shoulder, draining it of life by day, reducing it to dormitory status by night. And yet the town is only 40 and 60 miles, respectively, from Scotland's two major cities, Glasgow and Edinburgh. The county town of Ayr, the more industrial centre of Kilmarnock, and the large new development of Irvine New Town are all within a radius of 25 miles. Communications with the rest of Scotland, by road and rail are good, and for more distant travelling, the international airport at Prestwick is only 18 miles away, and Glasgow Airport, for internal services, 40 miles.



*Old Parish Church, The Square*



From various vantage points around the town, its pattern has a compact, but well-spaced appearance. Framed by hills, which add a change of colour with each season, older typically Scottish stone buildings form the heart of the town, with newer modern shapes spreading out and upwards. The river Lugar threads its way through parkland as well as through busy streets, and is joined near the centre of the town by the smaller Glaisnock Water. A slender church-spire, and the striding spans of two elegant Victorian viaducts complete the picture. A closer view brings out the interest of the central pattern of the town, where the Old Church glowers in the middle of the Square, bright new shops jostle with comfortable old ones, wide modern roads go side by side with narrow lanes, car-parks have not been forgotten, and wherever there is space left over, park benches and patches of flowers and shrubs add comfort and colour. The new modern shapes are seen to be housing estates embodying up-to-date principles of town-planning and architecture, schools, sports pavilion, swimming-pool, and, on the southern edge of the town, an airy, spacious industrial estate, where a number of factories are already in well-established production.

When you come to Cumnock, you will soon decide which is your favourite view of the town. From most angles, it presents a pleasing picture of town and country, blending together in an Ayrshire landscape of fields, woods and hills; but, like all pleasing pictures, it is even more interesting once you come in closer and look at the detail.

### Background

Any town with a stake in the future has an advantage if its roots have been firmly established in the past. Cumnock is no exception. The town was made a Burgh in Barony, by royal charter, in 1509, became a Police Burgh in 1866, and a Scottish Small Burgh in 1929. It shared in, and survived, the religious troubles which swept Scotland in the 16th and 17th centuries. With the surrounding district it also unfortunately shared in the Killing Times of the Covenanting period.

During the last two hundred years, changes in Cumnock and its district can be seen almost as a microcosm of much of the social and industrial history of the country. From being a mainly agricultural area, dominated by the Earls of Dumfries, with small-scale industries and crafts, like weaving and shoe-making, pottery and snuff-box making, taking place in and around the town, the region went through a series of industrial changes. These were mainly brought about by the exploitation of the mineral resources of the land, first of iron-stone, then later, as the railway opened up this part of the country, of substantial deposits of coal. The political changes of the late 19th and 20th centuries were closely reflected in the area, the dominant figure of these more recent historical events being that of Keir Hardie, founder of the Labour movement, who lived in the Burgh from his youth in 1880 until his death in 1915, and who, as M.P. for West Ham in 1892 became the first socialist to enter Parliament.

(His connection with the town was continued until recently, as his son-in-law, Emrys Hughes, also made his home in Cumnock, representing the constituency of South Ayrshire from 1946 until his death in 1969. The sitting member is at present James Sillars).

The consequences of these changes can be seen in the modern town, and in its attitudes. The agriculture is there, up-to-date mechanised dairy-farming flourishes in the district, with some beef-cattle and hill-sheep farming; coal-mining is still the major source of employment, although it now takes place well outside the town. (The two main collieries in production are Killoch, near Ochiltree, and Barony, near Auchinleck; both are modern mines, with high rates of production). In keeping with current industrial trends, and to counteract loss of employment due to the run-down in smaller coal-producing mines, a number of new industries have been attracted to the town—coincidentally two of them are the weaving of textiles and the making of shoes.

Signs of past history can be seen all around. Dumfries House, designed by the famous Adam brothers and completed in 1760, stands in a pleasant estate near the town, and still belongs to the Crichton-Stuart family, whose present head is the Marquess of Bute. Amongst the treasures at Dumfries House are a number of the snuff-boxes once made in Cumnock, and now collector's pieces. A bust of Keir Hardie, by Benno Schotz, R.S.A., takes a prominent position outside the Town Hall, and his house, 'Lochnorris' can be seen in Auchinleck Road. The remains of the celebrated Covenanting preacher, the Rev. Alexander Peden, are buried in the Old Graveyard on Barrhill Road, under the shadow of the tree still known as 'Peden's Thorn', and there are a number of martyred Covenanters' graves scattered on the surrounding hills. Amongst the many other sources of historical interest in the town are the Mercat Cross in the Square, a reminder that Cumnock was a 'shopping centre' even hundreds of years ago, and the Old Church, which stands close to it, a sign of the central place religion had in the history of the town. Bello Mill, at Lugar, is remembered as the birthplace of William Murdoch, the famous engineer and inventor of gas-lighting, who was one of the important figures of the Industrial Revolution. Cumnock, and the rest of Ayrshire, have past associations with many other famous figures of science and industry, and also with literature, mainly in connections with Scotland's national poet, Robert Burns; the town and district are mindful of these, and continue to contribute in many ways to the life of Scotland, and of Britain today.

("The New History of Cumnock", written by Dr. John Strawhorn and published by Cumnock Town Council in 1966, provides a fascinating account of the development of the town from earliest times until that date. It is a most readable history-book, is well-documented, and should answer any questions put either by the amateur or scholarly historian).





*Caponacre Industrial Estate*

### **New Industries**

The changeover from reliance on one or two major industries to a diversity of industries can be a difficult and sometimes desperate one for an area, but as times and the industrial patterns of a country change, it is a task which has to be undertaken to avoid stagnation. In the case of Cumnock, the transitional period has been eased by the extensive help and encouragement given to new industries by the town's officials, by the Town Council, and by the willingness of townspeople to adapt to learning new skills.

The first of the new industries came to Cumnock in 1948, when a branch of one of the oldest and largest firms in the British worsted industry (John Foster & Son Ltd.) built a factory to undertake spinning and manufacturing. The fact that the factory has since extended is typical of the pattern that was to develop in the town.

A knitwear manufacturing company (Cumnock Knitwear) followed, then branches of international shoe-making (British Bata Shoe Co.) and man-made fibre (Monsanto Textiles) concerns. Since the provision by the Town Council of land and facilities for the Caponacre Industrial Estate, (situated only  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from the town centre), new factories have been established for garment manufacture (Falmer Manufacturing Co. Ltd.), carpet manufacture (Kingsmead Tufted Carpets) and yarn spinning (Carpet Yarn Spinners), and precision-engineering of aircraft parts, including

parts for Rolls-Royce and the complete fuselage for the famous 'Jetstream' (Scottish Aviation Ltd.). Each of the factories has been extended from its originally established size, or is in process of extending. The latest recruit to the industrial estate is the firm of Ayrshire Welded Products.

The over-riding reason, given by the executives concerned, for the success of these new industries in Cumnock, despite what have been difficult years for industry generally in Britain, is the availability and the quality of the labour force. Although there is no existing pool of trained labour for the particular skills required, managers have found Cumnock workers adaptable and keen to learn. And it would seem that, where newer technologies are involved, a fresh approach by workers at various levels is a positive benefit.

Labour relations, an important consideration for any industry contemplating expansion to a new area, and very pertinent when the area is one with a long-standing and cohesive Trade Union connection, appear to be very good. This major factor, together with the staff facilities and training schemes provided by the various managements, combine to produce a pleasant, friendly and efficient working atmosphere. (It is interesting to note too, that some of the new industries have overseas, including European connections, providing Cumnock with ready-made links with the countries of the Common Market).

The factories themselves are bright, spacious



and airy, and benefit greatly from their surroundings of green hills and woodland. Housing is nearby; there is a modern drainage system and a plentiful supply of electricity, gas and water. Telecommunications are good, and there is ease of access to road, rail and air transport. Future road plans, when completed, will ensure direct access for the Industrial Estate to a new Glasgow to Carlisle motorway which will bypass the town itself.

The total employable population of the district has been estimated at 16,000. Mining still accounts for between 5,000 and 6,000; agriculture only 300 (excluding self-employed); and already over 1,500 are employed in the new industries. Service industries, e.g. transport (Western S.M.T. Co. Ltd.), power (Barony Power Station) etc. and the businesses of the town provide other employment, but it is hoped that further industry will come to Cumnock, and share in the success of those already established. Government assistance is available, under the Local Employment Acts, for the setting up of new factories. The labour, the land, and a welcome are waiting.

### Housing

If work is the most important provision for a happy town, housing surely comes next. Cumnock's town motto is "Prompt in Progress", and this is aptly expressed in the achievement of its Council housing programme. The first twelve Council houses were built as early as 1915, even before Government interest-free loans were introduced in the 1920s.

There are now over 2,000 Council houses in the Burgh, more than half of which are post-war buildings. The town can boast that it has no slum problem, no sub-standard dwellings, and, at the time of writing, no long-standing applicants' waiting-list.

The three main types of house offered for rent are 'cottage-style' houses, bungalows and flats. Older buildings have been modernised, and the newer ones incorporate many modern features, including electric ceiling-heating, and heating by warm-air ducts. Garage space, drying greens and play areas have been made available wherever possible, and each house has its own garden. (The soil is good; most vegetables and flowers seem to grow well, perhaps roses in particular, and add to the generally well-kept appearance of the streets of the town).

A particularly interesting aspect of Cumnock's post-war housing is that the design of the houses, and the planning of their groupings, was undertaken by the famous architect Sir Robert Matthew, (of Robert Matthew, Johnson-Marshall & Partners), engaged as advisor by the Town Council, and whose recent work includes the fine buildings of Stirling University. His work at Barshare in Cumnock gained the Saltire Society Award for the best designed Local Authority housing in Scotland in 1962, and a Civic Trust Commendation was awarded in 1965 for his Barrhill Road scheme. The same firm of architects has advised on the modernisation by stages of the town centre,



*Barshare and Drumdrochan Housing Developments from Glaisnock Viaduct*





*Private Housing Development at Holmhead*

dealing with aspects as varied as shop re-siting, changing the town square to a pedestrian precinct, the planning of a new bus-station, and, still in the future, the creation of a covered shopping area and a delightful riverside Civic Centre which will include a small theatre.

This architectural theme has provided Cumnock with a continuity to its changes, and has prevented the menaces of ribbon development and a hotch-potch of building styles, which can be seen in too many British towns and cities. The architectural continuity has also spread to private house-building; the architects have advised on the lay-out for a development of 48 new private houses, on plots to be sold by the Council, which allows for variation in style but preserves an attractive complementary appearance.

New private housing has undoubtedly lagged behind Council building in Cumnock in the past, but local builders are now putting this to rights, and the results are most attractive and very much in demand by townspeople and by newcomers to the town. House prices, even in the inflationary '70s, compare quite favourably with many other parts of Britain—and, as is the case with many of Cumnock's houses, Council-owned and private, old and new, there are the bonuses of a pleasant, open view and easy access to parkland or countryside, thrown in completely free!

#### **Parkland**

Parks are places which have an appeal for every-

one, and Cumnock has almost more than its share. Murray Park is a good, grassy space where children can run freely and enjoy kicking a football safely away from traffic. They can also go, as do the adults, to a good football ground at Townhead Park, where the local team, "Cumnock Juniors", hold their home games.

At the other end of the town, on the road to Auchinleck, are the Broomfield Playing Fields. They consist of a magnificent sweep of grassland, adjoining a stretch of the river, with well-maintained rugby, football, and hockey pitches, and a running track. The playing fields are used by local schools, by the local Rugby Club and by the youth organisations for many sporting events, and when not in use for these activities, make a pleasant place to walk in. There is a well-designed and impressive sports pavilion, provided by the Town Council, and equipped with showers, changing rooms, and an upstairs kitchen and refreshment-room, which, with windows on three sides, gives a panoramic view.

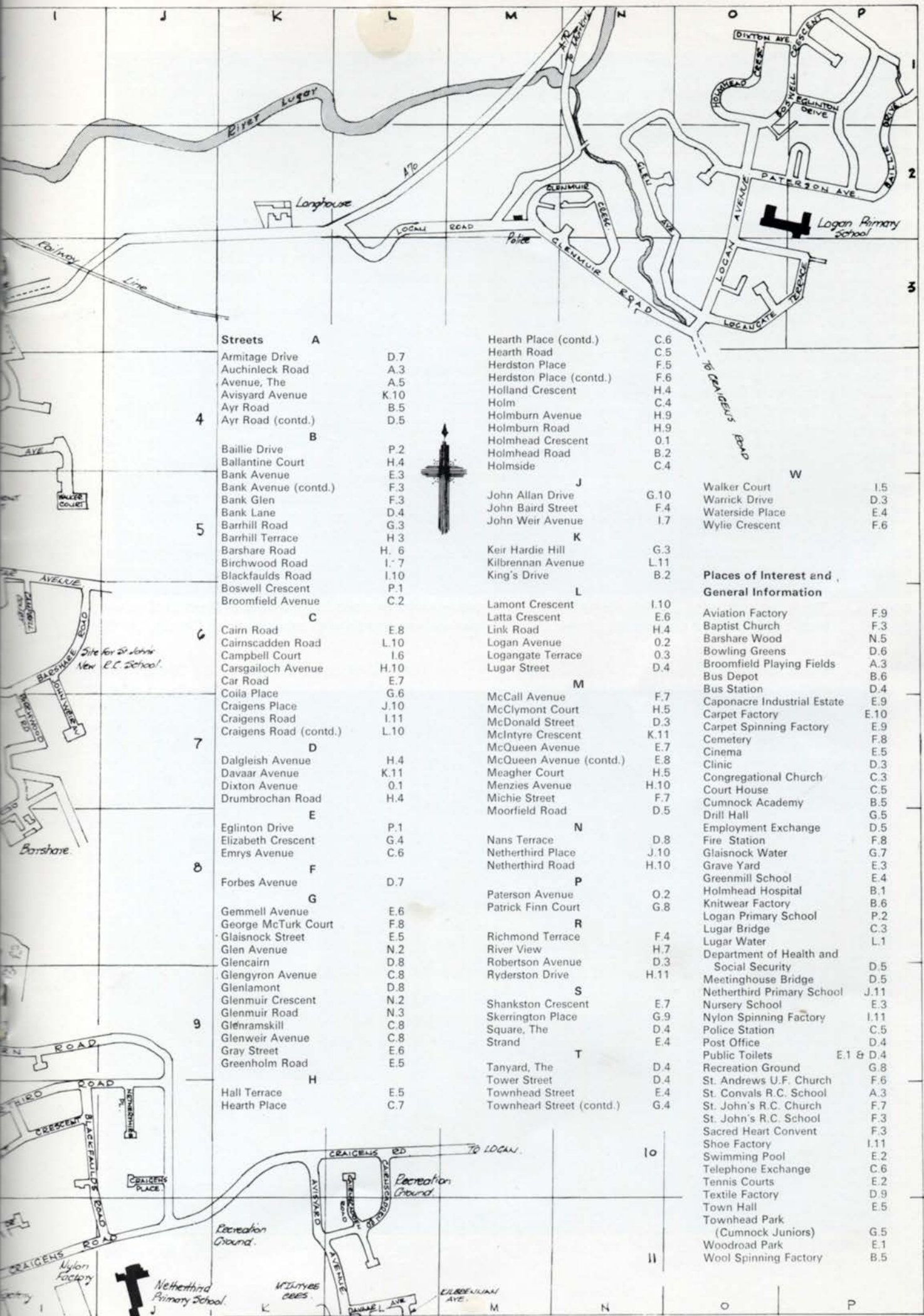
Woodroad Park is a favourite place with residents and visitors alike. River, woodland and grass come together in a wedge of countryside, making a delightful setting for pram-pushing, dog-walking, or bench-sitting at any time of the year. There are tennis-courts, putting-green, trampolines, table-tennis, an adventure playground for children, a camping caravan site, and last, but in Cumnock, certainly not least, the swimming-pool.

This pool had an interesting and most useful beginning; built during the years of the Depression









**Streets**

- Armitage Drive
- Auchinleck Road
- Avenue, The
- Avisyard Avenue
- Ayr Road
- Ayr Road (contd.)
- Baillie Drive
- Ballantine Court
- Bank Avenue
- Bank Avenue (contd.)
- Bank Glen
- Bank Lane
- Barrhill Road
- Barrhill Terrace
- Barshare Road
- Birchwood Road
- Blackfaulds Road
- Boswell Crescent
- Broomfield Avenue
- Cairn Road
- Cairncadden Road
- Campbell Court
- Carsgailoch Avenue
- Car Road
- Coila Place
- Craigens Place
- Craigens Road
- Craigens Road (contd.)
- Dalglish Avenue
- Davaar Avenue
- Dixton Avenue
- Drumbrochan Road
- Eglinton Drive
- Elizabeth Crescent
- Emrys Avenue
- Forbes Avenue
- Gemmell Avenue
- George McTurk Court
- Glaisnock Street
- Glen Avenue
- Glencairn
- Glengyron Avenue
- Glenlamont
- Glenmuir Crescent
- Glenmuir Road
- Glenramskill
- Glenweir Avenue
- Gray Street
- Greenholm Road
- Hall Terrace
- Hearth Place

- A
- D.7
- A.3
- A.5
- K.10
- B.5
- D.5
- B
- P.2
- H.4
- E.3
- F.3
- F.3
- D.4
- G.3
- H.3
- H. 6
- I. 7
- I.10
- P.1
- C.2
- C
- E.8
- L.10
- I.6
- H.10
- E.7
- G.6
- J.10
- I.11
- L.10
- D
- H.4
- K.11
- O.1
- H.4
- E
- P.1
- G.4
- C.6
- F
- D.7
- G
- E.6
- F.8
- E.5
- N.2
- D.8
- C.8
- D.8
- N.2
- N.3
- C.8
- C.8
- E.6
- E.5
- H
- E.5
- C.7

- Hearth Place (contd.)
- Hearth Road
- Herdston Place
- Herdston Place (contd.)
- Holland Crescent
- Holm
- Holmburn Avenue
- Holmburn Road
- Holmhead Crescent
- Holmhead Road
- Holmside
- John Allan Drive
- John Baird Street
- John Weir Avenue
- Keir Hardie Hill
- Kilbrennan Avenue
- King's Drive
- Lamont Crescent
- Latta Crescent
- Link Road
- Logan Avenue
- Logagate Terrace
- Lugar Street
- McCall Avenue
- McClymont Court
- McDonald Street
- McIntyre Crescent
- McQueen Avenue
- McQueen Avenue (contd.)
- Meagher Court
- Menzies Avenue
- Michie Street
- Moorfield Road
- Nans Terrace
- Netherthird Place
- Netherthird Road
- Paterson Avenue
- Patrick Finn Court
- Richmond Terrace
- River View
- Robertson Avenue
- Ryderston Drive
- Shankston Crescent
- Skerrington Place
- Square, The
- Strand
- Tanyard, The
- Tower Street
- Townhead Street
- Townhead Street (contd.)

- C.6
- C.5
- F.5
- F.6
- H.4
- C.4
- H.9
- H.9
- O.1
- B.2
- C.4
- J
- G.10
- F.4
- I.7
- K
- G.3
- L.11
- B.2
- L
- I.10
- E.6
- H.4
- O.2
- O.3
- D.4
- M
- F.7
- H.5
- D.3
- K.11
- E.7
- E.8
- H.5
- H.10
- F.7
- D.5
- N
- D.8
- J.10
- H.10
- P
- O.2
- G.8
- R
- F.4
- H.7
- D.3
- H.11
- S
- E.7
- G.9
- D.4
- E.4
- T
- D.4
- D.4
- E.4
- G.4

- Walker Court
- Warrick Drive
- Waterside Place
- Wylie Crescent

**Places of Interest and General Information**

- Aviation Factory
- Baptist Church
- Barshare Wood
- Bowling Greens
- Broomfield Playing Fields
- Bus Depot
- Bus Station
- Caponacre Industrial Estate
- Carpet Factory
- Carpet Spinning Factory
- Cemetery
- Cinema
- Clinic
- Congregational Church
- Court House
- Cumnock Academy
- Drill Hall
- Employment Exchange
- Fire Station
- Glaisnock Water
- Grave Yard
- Greenmill School
- Holmhead Hospital
- Knitwear Factory
- Logan Primary School
- Lugar Bridge
- Lugar Water
- Department of Health and Social Security
- Meetinghouse Bridge
- Netherthird Primary School
- Nursery School
- Nylon Spinning Factory
- Police Station
- Post Office
- Public Toilets
- Recreation Ground
- St. Andrews U.F. Church
- St. Convals R.C. School
- St. John's R.C. Church
- St. John's R.C. School
- Sacred Heart Convent
- Shoe Factory
- Swimming Pool
- Telephone Exchange
- Tennis Courts
- Textile Factory
- Town Hall
- Townhead Park (Cumnock Juniors)
- Woodroad Park
- Wool Spinning Factory

- I.5
- D.3
- E.4
- F.6
- F.9
- F.3
- N.5
- D.6
- A.3
- B.6
- D.4
- E.9
- E.10
- E.9
- F.8
- E.5
- D.3
- C.3
- C.5
- B.5
- G.5
- D.5
- F.8
- G.7
- E.3
- E.4
- B.1
- B.6
- P.2
- C.3
- L.1
- D.5
- D.5
- J.11
- E.3
- I.11
- C.5
- D.4
- E.1 & D.4
- G.8
- F.6
- A.3
- F.7
- F.3
- F.3
- I.11
- E.2
- C.6
- E.2
- D.9
- E.5
- G.5
- E.1
- B.5



to give work to the unemployed, it now provides a constant source of pleasure during the late spring and summer months. It is used for swimming tuition by several schools, and for Galas and other aquatic events. There is a swimming club, and a junior club which provides tuition for beginners. On special town occasions, midnight bathing sessions are arranged.

It is an open-air swimming-pool; its main terrace faces south to catch the maximum sunshine; its sterilised, filtered water is kept heated at a comfortable temperature. Well-maintained and clean, its dimensions are 100 ft. in length, 45 ft. in width, and the depth is graduated from 3 ft. 6 in. for beginners to 10 ft. for the experienced swimmer. High diving boards, spring boards, heated changing cubicles, a small shop, a cafe and a seating capacity for 2,500 spectators are just some of the other features which go to make the pool a favourite spot in Cumnock. The fact that in an average season of only four months, the total number of admission tickets sold is 200,000 is proof of this popularity.

### Shopping

Shopping in Cumnock can become more of a hobby than a chore. It is possible to shop quickly, to push a wire-basket round well-stocked supermarkets as in any other town, but this style of shopping can be mixed with a more leisurely approach. There are still many smaller shops in the town. Both types line the pavements of the

main shopping streets, form two sides of the Square and appear here and there in other parts of the town. There are all the kinds of shops you would expect to find in a town of its size, and some that you would not. Plans are in hand to increase the total number; one that would be welcomed is a book-shop.

The shops act as a sort of barometer of the town. Just as they reflect the time of day, quiet in the early morning, bustling by midday, or the time of year in their window displays, they seem to reflect the mood of the town. News is passed back and forth across a number of counters; it would be very difficult to do a normal day's shopping and not come home with a good idea of what are the main talking topics, local and national. Shop-keepers and their staff are mainly friendly and efficient. They seem interested in people as well as in goods, and the resulting atmosphere prevents shopping from becoming the boring, impersonal task that it can so easily become in some other towns. And the same characteristics of interest and efficiency are to be found in most businesses and trades in the town.

The quality of the produce is good; some of it originates locally, supply markets are within easy reach. Meat, fish and vegetables are all of a high standard, and a large proportion of bakery goods is baked locally. The bakers' shops are worth a special mention, as we are inclined to take our local bakeries for granted in Scotland, at least until comparisons are made with other parts of Britain. A



*Broomfield Sports Pavilion*





*Shopping Development in Townhead Street*

good Scottish baker-shop is perhaps more like the French 'boulangerie-patisserie', with a variety of loaves, as well as the ubiquitous wrapped-and-sliced, trays of mouth-watering cakes and pastries, and a selection of particularly Scottish items, including mutton-pies, potato-scones, strawberry tarts, and even nearer home, 'Cumnock tarts'.

A number of travelling shops tour the town and the outlying district, a particular help for mothers of young children in winter, and they too carry friendship and news along with a good selection of items. Service is still an integral part of shopping in Cumnock. Several shops take orders by telephone and make deliveries. Goods not in stock are willingly obtained for customers.

The luxury of opening the front door in the morning to find newspapers, milk, and newly-baked morning-rolls already waiting on the step is one which many people in larger towns have forgotten long ago. It is enhanced in Cumnock by the knowledge that it can happen in the same town where it is also possible to go out and buy a product advertised on television, or a dress seen in a national fashion magazine!

(Early closing day is Wednesday. For details of shops and services in Cumnock, see Advertisers' Index).

### **Education**

Educational facilities, under the aegis of Ayr County Council, are excellent. Cumnock's New Academy,

with a roll of 1,500 pupils, is one of the largest and most modern schools in Ayrshire. All the latest ideas and equipment of the modern comprehensive system in Britain are there, laid firmly on the foundations of the old and respected traditions of Scottish education. (This can equally be said for Auchinleck Academy, another large new school in the district, with provision for 1,700 pupils). Pupils enter the Academy from a number of sound primary schools in the town and surrounding district, and a good percentage of senior pupils is presented for S.C.E. (Scottish Certificate of Education) and C.S.Y.S. (Certificate of Sixth Year Studies) examinations. There is a Parent Teacher Association, and the schools involve themselves closely with the activities of the community. As is the custom in many Scottish towns, senior and junior schools are provided for children of the Roman Catholic faith.

For the very young there is Cumnock Nursery School, which, with well-qualified staff, provides separate morning and afternoon sessions for the 3 to 5 year olds. (The nursery school is conveniently situated close to the largest of the primary schools, Greenmill, in the centre of the town; a geographical consideration important to busy mothers!) A 'Tufty Club' for road-safety education for young children is organised by the Salvation Army. Private tuition is available for music and dancing. Glaisnock Rural School is a residential agricultural school, in what was once one of the stately homes of the district, Glaisnock House.



A special school for handicapped children is at Cronberry, where a dedicated staff deal with this specialised branch of education in a happy and cheerful atmosphere.

A number of higher education centres are within daily travelling reach, including Technical Colleges at Ayr and Kilmarnock, a Teachers' Training College (Craigie) at Ayr, the West of Scotland Agricultural College at Auchincruive, and, of course, the Universities and Colleges of Glasgow. A 'Study Centre' of the Open University is in operation on weekday evenings throughout most of the year at Ayr Technical College.

A thriving Further Education Centre exists in Cumnock, allowing many of the facilities used by school-children during the day to be available to other members of the community in the evenings. Classes in a variety of subjects, academic, vocational and recreational are well-attended, and occasional series of lectures are also arranged through Glasgow University's Department of Extra-Mural Education.

### **Cumnock Sports Centre**

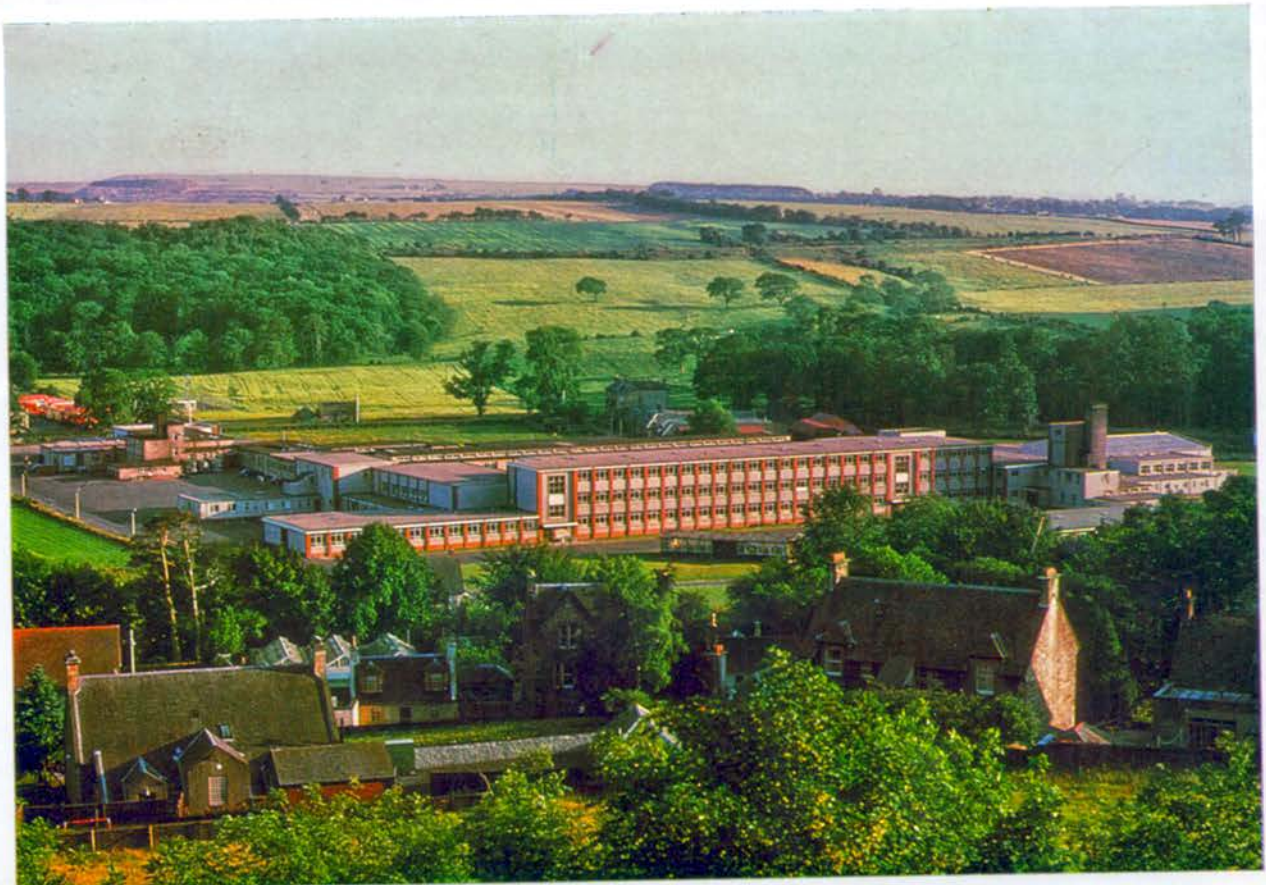
One of the recent ramifications of Further Education in the district, and a most enterprising and exciting one, was the establishment of Cumnock Sports Centre. This is based on the well-equipped gymnasium of Cumnock Academy, is staffed by qualified specialists, and is open four evenings of the week to anyone over the age of 14, at a modest annual subscription.

There are facilities and expert training for a large variety of sporting activities, including volleyball, basketball, football, badminton, table-tennis, trampolining, judo, archery, gymnastics, 'keep-fit', athletics, golf and tennis. Special training is also given to young people for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme.

Membership covers a surprisingly wide age-range; special classes for 'Ladies' Keep-Fit' and 'Men — Over 35's' are very popular. Following the Cumnock industrial trend of establish, then expand, an additional suite of rooms, providing comfortably furnished lounges with refreshment facilities, has been built on to the school for use by members of the Sports Centre. These rooms can also be hired by organisations to house meetings, and may be used in the future for day-time classes, perhaps for housewives and retired people.

Cumnock Sports Centre has proved a most worthy experiment, and is typical of the excellent work done for the town and district by the Ayrshire Community Development Service. They also provide supervision of a number of youth clubs, young people's organisations and community centres.

One more particular example which must be mentioned is the scheme to provide Outdoor Youth Centres. There are three centres at present; Craigie, 4 miles south of Kilmarnock, Lendalfoot, on the coast 7 miles south of Girvan, and Craigmalloch, on the shores of Loch Doon, 8 miles from Dalmellington. At these centres, young people



*Cumnock Academy*



can enjoy supervised hill-walking, camping, canoeing, swimming and field-studies—all in settings which can only help them to appreciate and value the beauty of the countryside.

### Senior Cumnock

For the elderly, as well as for the young, the quality of life is considered important in Cumnock. The Senior Club, started in 1965 in new, purpose-built premises provided by the Town Council, and situated just off the Square, ensures that no retired or elderly person in the town need be lonely. The club is run by 'senior citizens' themselves, is open every day, and gives the chance for conversation, indoor activities, arranged entertainments, the continuation of old friendships and the making of new ones, to take place in warm, comfortable surroundings.

A more usual type of club for old age pensioners is organised by the local branch of the W.R.V.S. It has a large membership, devoted helpers, and holds weekly meetings, an annual party, and occasional entertainments and excursions. One of the admirable activities of its members is to help raise funds for needy charities!

A 'Meals on Wheels' service is financed by the local authorities and operated by voluntary organisations. Both the County's 'Home Help' scheme and District Nurse service are widely used. The elderly can expect priority for smaller houses, or ground-floor flats, and plans are in progress for a 'Sheltered Housing' project. To cope with possible home emergencies, small portable 'buzzers', with a distinctive note which can be heard at a distance, are issued by the Town Council to elderly residents. Holmhead Hospital, on the edge of the town, is a geriatric, long-stay hospital, with 50 beds.

Perhaps most important of all to the older people in the town, and a future reassurance to others, is that, although they have their own clubs and facilities, they are not separated off in any way from the mainstream of town life. They too enjoy the parks and the other clubs, and are encouraged to share as fully as ever in the activities of the town that they have helped to make.

### Entertainment and Leisure — (mainly indoor)

Various entertainments go on all the year round, and there is something to cater for most tastes. The Cumnock Picture House, which has seating for over 600, is fitted with wide screen, Cinemascope and Vistavision, and has a change of programme usually twice weekly. Special Saturday morning shows are popular with children. Regular variety shows and weekly dances are held in the Town Hall. During the summer months band concerts are arranged to take place on occasional Saturday mornings in the Square, and sometimes, on Sundays, in Woodroad Park. The Town Council, in conjunction with the Scottish Arts Council, arrange for occasional orchestral concerts and performances by Scottish Opera to be held in the Town Hall.

Further afield there are cinemas in Ayr and Kilmarnock, and two theatres, variety and repertory

in Ayr. Cumnock's advantageous position makes a 'night out' at a theatre in Glasgow quite possible, and gives the opportunity to attend the outstanding musical and dramatic events of the annual Edinburgh Festival.

There are a number of licensed Working Men's Clubs in the district, cocktail lounges in the local hotels, and a variety of other licensed premises.

Much of the leisure activity in Cumnock stems from its large number of clubs and societies. A recent survey of the town estimated that 45% of the population belonged to at least one such organisation. Cultural clubs, social clubs, specialist interest clubs . . . the list is a long one. One of the oldest is the Cumnock Burns Club, established in 1887, 'at an annual subscription of one shilling'. It is a member of the Federation of Burns Clubs, and achieved some fame when its annual Burns Supper was televised in 1961.

The Cumnock Music Club, which held its first season in 1948/49, is well-known in Scotland for the consistently high standard of the concerts it promotes throughout the winter months. Each year the music-lovers of the town can enjoy performances by some of the best artistes and ensembles in Europe.

There are strong local branches of many national and international organisations . . . Rotary, Round Table, Ladies' Circle, Townswomen's Guild, Business and Professional Women's Club, Women's Rural Institute, Young Farmers, British Legion . . . which, in addition to full programmes of social activities, contribute in many ways to charities within the town and district.

Specialist interest clubs range through the alphabet from 'Aquarist' to 'Wine-making', and there are clubs which cover most sporting interests too. When anyone has time to stay at home, piped television, for all channels and in colour, with 'built-in' radio, including good VHF reception, is available in most areas of the town.

### A Necessary Miscellany

*The churches* still form a strong link in the community. There are a number of them in the town and district. The Parish Church of Cumnock (the Old Church), which has a commanding position in the town square, and Crichton West Church, in Ayr Road, whose spire can be seen from many parts of the town, are both Church of Scotland. St. John's Church is the local place of worship for Roman Catholics, and there are also United Free, Congregational and Baptist Churches, a Salvation Army meeting place and places of worship for the Plymouth and other Brethren. Holy Trinity Church, in Ayr, is a Scottish Episcopal Church, in full Communion with the Church of England.

The churches hold the usual Sunday services and Sunday Schools; some of them have creches for infants to enable both parents to attend services. There are choirs, youth clubs, branches of youth organisations and Church Guilds. Their various activities are woven into the fabric of town-life,



and the clergy continue to be enthusiastically involved in a wide range of community interests.

An important ingredient of and contributor to community spirit is a local newspaper. *The Cumnock Chronicle* has succeeded in giving the news and reflecting the views of the town and its locality since its inception in 1901. Published weekly, with a circulation of 8,000 (giving a probable readership of 3 or 4 times that number), it is a most effective voice of the community and an excellent advertising medium for the district. What is even more important to its readership is that it is eminently readable and impresses with the quality and interest of its photographs.

*Professional services* are well-represented . . . banking, accountancy, legal, pharmaceutical, veterinary, dental and medical. Both the dental and medical group-practices use all-day appointments system, with special provision for emergency treatment. A Local Authority Child Welfare Clinic is held regularly in the town, and ante-natal clinics at Ballochmyle Hospital, the general hospital (321 beds) for the area, near Mauchline. For maternity services there is a specialist obstetric unit at Central Hospital, Irvine, and a maternity home at Kilmarnock. Seafield Hospital at Ayr is the children's hospital for the district; mental illness is treated at Ailsa Hospital, near Ayr. A good ambulance service operates throughout the area. Future hospital plans include the building of two District General Hospitals at Ayr and Kilmarnock.

The Family Planning Association holds a weekly clinic in Cumnock. There are a number of District Nurses, and there is good cover for the district by the services of the Social Work Department. The Disabled Club, at Auchinleck Community Centre, provides daytime services and a midday meal, and has its own transport. An occupational therapist is in attendance. Future plans of the Social Work Department include a hostel for the disabled, and a children's home, both to be built in Cumnock. Both the Social Work Department and the Community Development Service have offices in Auchinleck.

Cumnock Public Library is a branch of the Ayr County Library. Unfortunately, it operates on a part-time basis only, having particular opening times each day. It is hoped that a full-time library service, in improved premises, will soon become available. The Baird Institute contains a small local museum, reading room and billiards room.

The Burgh is a judicial centre for the area, and has a burgh court, a J.P. court and a Juvenile Panel. There is a new Police Station and Court building. The members of the Police Force become involved in the community to a much greater extent than in larger, more impersonal towns, and take an interest in various activities. Local policemen run a 'Cycling Proficiency' training scheme for school-children, which is much appreciated by children and parents.

Bus-transport is catered for by Western S.M.T. Co. Ltd., which provides local services, and regular



*The Swimming Pool, Woodroad Park*



services to Ayr, Kilmarnock, Dumfries, Carlisle and Glasgow, operating a fleet of 100 buses. There is a Goods railway depot at Auchinleck; the nearest passenger railway stations are at Ayr, Kilmarnock and Kirkcubright, (each approximately 16 miles from Cumnock).

The Post Office is centrally situated; smaller offices are distributed throughout the district, Cumnock telephone exchange is included in the STD system; its national network code is 0290. There is a modern Fire Station; local firemen provide a good service, and have an excellent record for getting there quickly.

Arrangements for refuse collection deserve a special mention, as they compare so favourably with those of many other parts of the country. There are collections in the town twice weekly, and an extra one for 'gardening refuse' for half the year. This is one of the services which causes many visitors to Cumnock to remark on the clean appearance of its streets.

There is a District Council Office, and Registrar in the town, and branches of the Department of Employment and Productivity and the Department of Health and Social Security.

The Town Clerk, Town Chamberlain and Burgh Surveyor all have offices in the town. The Town Council, a group of 8 Councillors and the Provost, who have, with a series of their predecessors, figured again and again throughout the pages of this account, meet in pleasant and well-appointed Council Chambers in Cumnock's Town Hall.

### Visitors to Cumnock

Tourists are welcome in Cumnock. As a town which has contributed its share, in a more difficult past, to the Scottish emigration figures, it has strong links with many other countries, and this perhaps adds to the welcome townspeople extend to visitors. People always seem willing to stop for a moment to direct a sightseer to a point of local interest, and are often ready to invite foreign visitors into their homes. The summer months bring a touch of internationalism to the streets. Returning exiles, their original Ayrshire accents overlaid by Transatlantic tones, mingle with French children from the Ayrshire-French school holiday exchange, which has its base in Cumnock Academy, and with families on touring holidays from other parts of the British Isles and from Europe.

Woodroad Park becomes a lively tourist centre, providing, at its most attractive end, a large grassy level site for 50 camping caravans. This caravan park is a particularly pleasant and convenient one. The river Lugar, framed by trees and the huge stone arches of a viaduct, flows along one side, while a wooded hill gives a sheltered background. The swimming-pool is close by, as are the tennis courts, putting-green, trampolines and adventure playground. A new block for toilet facilities has just been added and there is a small cafe and shop for basic requirements. All this, in a quiet, country setting, and yet the shops and town centre are only a few minutes' walk away, on the other side of the river.

A small road turns off the A76 into Woodroad Park and provides access for cars and caravans. Prices are very reasonable. Normally a time limit of 14 days is applied; most caravanners only mean to spend a few days in Cumnock, but usually stay longer when they discover the very pleasant surroundings, and the ideal natural centre which the town makes for a holiday spent touring Ayrshire and south-west Scotland.

There are a number of *hotels* in the district. The two larger hotels in the town are the Dumfries Arms, an attractive building which was once a coaching-inn for the stages passing through on the road to the south, and the Royal Hotel, which has an enviable central position in the Square. The Dumfries Arms will have 27 bedrooms when current modernisation is completed; the Royal Hotel has 14 bedrooms. Both have 2 star A.A. rating and offer comfortable accommodation and excellent food for the tourist who prefers not to have wheels under him or canvas above his head. They also cater for many of the social needs of the town, having facilities for wedding-parties, dinner-dances, club-meetings, and pleasant cocktail lounges and coffee-rooms. The Black Bull Hotel is being modernised to provide 6 bedrooms, and is being renamed the Mercat Hotel. There are several other inns and licensed premises and restaurants, and the standard of these, and of private accommodation, bed and breakfast etc., is generally good. Details can be found in the Advertisers' Index.

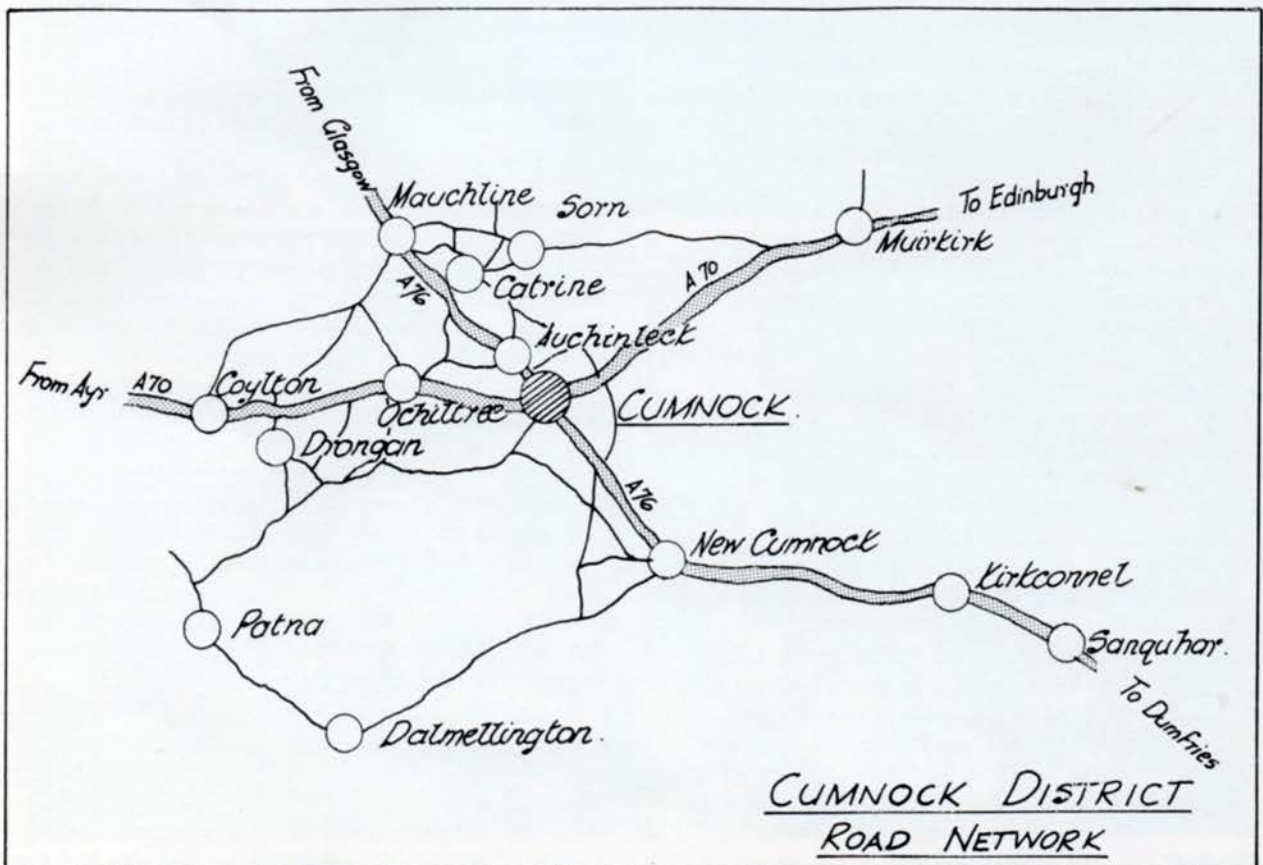
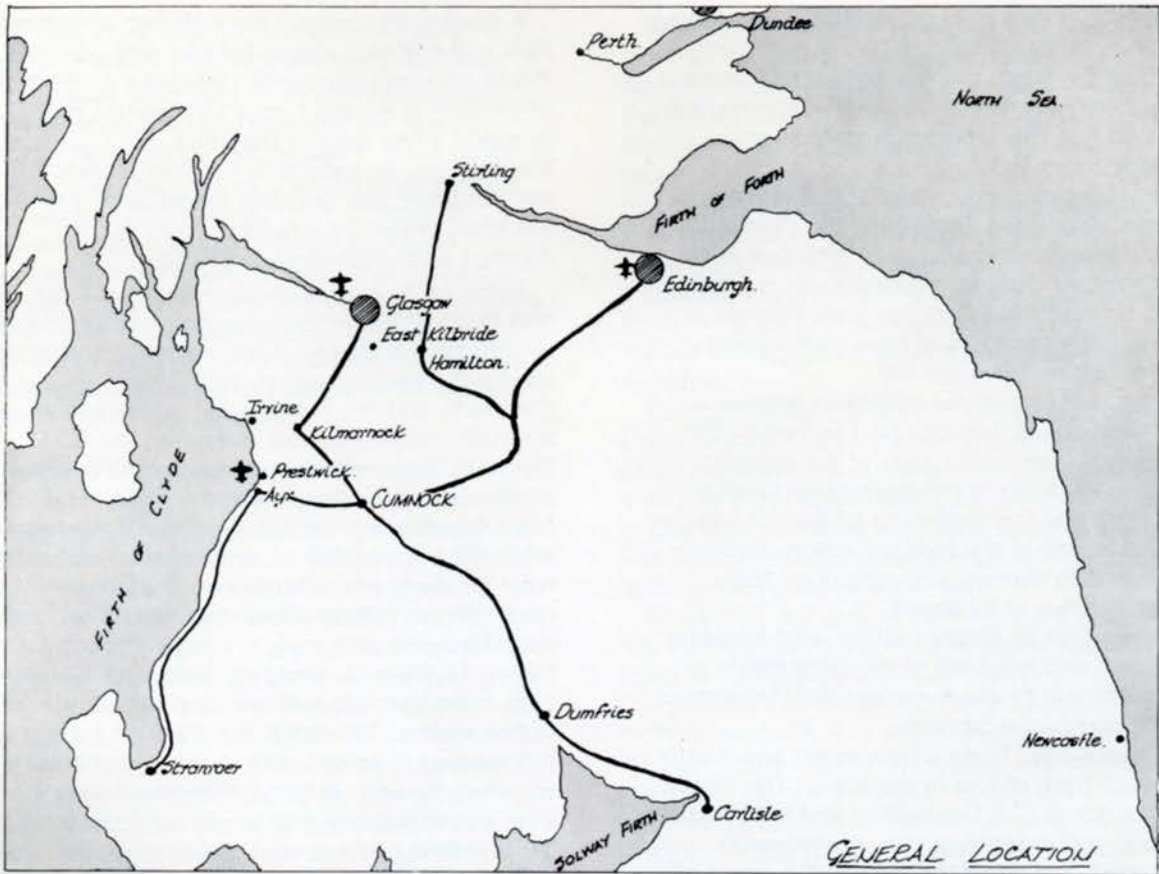
### Holiday and Leisure — mainly outdoor

From the tourist's point of view, or that of the resident spending his leisure time, the surrounding district suits a wide variety of tastes. The busy county town of Ayr (Ayrshire's main holiday resort and the second largest resort in Scotland), is easily reached, as are the smaller resorts of Prestwick, Troon, Largs and Girvan, all providing excellent, mainly sandy beaches, and all the usual seaside attractions. In addition, Ayr has its nationally famous race-course, and the interest of a cattle-market (Tuesdays) and a working harbour. Butlin's Holiday Camp, open for day-visits, is on the coast just south of Ayr. The tiny fishing village of Dunure offers, as well as a chance to see fishing-boats at close quarters, the picturesque ruins of an old castle on its cliffs, and an interesting variety of semi-precious stones on its rock-strewn beach. Crossraguel Abbey, which dates from the 13th century, and Culzean Castle, set in beautiful grounds of seashore and countryside are nearby.

A recent Ayrshire innovation is that of 'Nature Trails', which have been attractively planned in the Country Park at Culzean, on the Rozelle Estate in Ayr, and at Enterkine Wood Wildlife Trust Reserve, between Annbank and Stair.

The hills around Cumnock provide good walking and rambling country, with always the promise of another lovely view beyond each summit. Wild-life is still much in evidence in this part of the country. Without trying very hard at all, it is possible to see a variety of species, including foxes, badgers and the







occasional deer. On the higher moor roads around Muirkirk in winter, a frequent and sometimes startling sight is the white mountain-hare, ghostly in the beam of a car's headlights!

Trees in and around the town encourage the presence of a large number of the usual garden birds. Wood pigeons coo in the trees by the river all the year round, barn-owls are more of a night noise-factor than traffic, and our cuckoos are as early as anyone's! In summer a hawk can often be seen circling high above the trees in the park, and close to the town it is quite commonplace to see curlews, oyster-catchers and herons. In early spring, mallard ducks make a home on the small pools high on the hills to the south of Cumnock, where incidentally, the tadpoles are especially good! For the really ambitious bird-watcher, there is the challenge of seeing the golden eagles in the hills around Loch Doon, another unspoilt beauty spot, within easy reach of Cumnock.

In addition to the outdoor activities already mentioned, there are several others available in the district. There is a bowling-green in the town, and golf-courses near Mauchline and New Cumnock (both at a distance of 6 miles). The famous Ayrshire seaside courses will already be known to the keen golfer. Pony-trekking can be arranged from the Crown Hotel at New Cumnock. There is trout and salmon fishing in local rivers; at one particular time of the year the salmon can be seen leaping in a pool of the river alongside one of Cumnock's busier streets! Sea-fishing, as well as the over-the-harbour-wall variety can be had along the coast. There are excellent dinghy-sailing and yachting facilities in the Firth of Clyde, with the number of enthusiasts increasing each year. A sea-trip to the island of Arran, or to a port on the Argyllshire coast will be a lasting holiday memory.

For the literary-minded, there are all the pleasures of tracing the associations of this part of Scotland

with our national poet, Robert Burns. So many places nearby were immortalised in his songs and poems. Cumnock itself; the river Afton, which still flows gently past the neighbouring township of New Cumnock; the banks of the river Doon. "Poosie Nancie's Hostelry" in Mauchline was frequented by Burns and his friends; Alloway, near Ayr, contains the cottage where the poet was born, and the old 'haunted kirk' of "Tam o' Shanter". There is the farm of Mossgiel, where Burns lived, near Mauchline, and, in the neighbouring county, the town of Dumfries, where the poet spent his later years and where he died.

Other literary associations are to be found in Auchinleck, home of the 18th century writer, James Boswell, perhaps most famous as the biographer of Dr. Samuel Johnson. Boswell lived in Auchinleck House, the home of his father, the Scottish judge, Lord Auchinleck, and is buried in the church there. The village of Ochiltree contains "The House with the Green Shutters", immortalised by James Douglas Brown in his book of that name.

There are several small pretty villages which are a pleasure to visit, each with its own interesting features . . . Sorn, Stair, Tarbolton . . . and many others. The Ordnance Survey Map of the area, No. 67, is a useful piece of holiday or leisure-time equipment.

Perhaps the main pleasure in making Cumnock a centre for a touring holiday is part also of what makes it such a pleasant place to live in—being able to pick and choose from town and country, bustle and peaceful quiet, beaches or hills, history or wildlife, shops or sport . . . in fact, in being able to ensure that there is something to please each member of the family.

Cumnock, October, 1972.



# Classified Directory of Trades, Services and Industries

## Accountants

J. Hunter Faulds & Co., Chartered Accountants,  
Clydesdale Bank Chambers, The Square,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20333  
J. Hunter Faulds, C.A.  
Stewart J. Brown, C.A.

## Architects and Surveyors

J. W. McGirr & Glendinning, Chartered Sur-  
veyors and Property Valuers, 6 Moorfield Road,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 21438  
J. W. McGirr, F.R.I.C.S., F.R.V.A.  
R. T. Glendinning A.R.I.C.S. .. Tel. Ayr 0292 67287-8  
Stevenson & Ferguson, Chartered and Registered  
Architects, Surveyors and Valuers,  
46 Townhead Street, Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 21159  
J. Vallance Stevenson, L.R.I.B.A., A.R.I.A.S. Tel. Ayr 0292  
David Ferguson, L.R.I.B.A., A.R.I.A.S. 67347  
A. M. Buchanan, A.R.I.B.A., A.R.I.A.S.

## Bacon Curers

Robert White & Co., Greenholm, Cumnock .. Tel. 20200

## Bakers and Confectioners

W. & R. McJannet, 11 The Square,  
Cumnock (Kilnholm Bakery) .. .. . Tel. 20044  
Stevenson's Dairy Farms,  
3 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 21155  
Robert Stoddart, 12 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock Tel. 20127

## Banks

Bank of Scotland, 1 Ayr Road, Cumnock .. Tel. 20316  
Clydesdale Bank Ltd., 30 The Square, Cumnock Tel. 20280  
The Royal Bank of Scotland Ltd., 65 Glaisnock  
Street, Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 21651  
The Royal Bank of Scotland Ltd., 1 The Square,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 21615  
Cumnock Municipal Bank Ltd., Town Chamber-  
lain's Office, 47 Townhead Street, Cumnock .. Tel. 20443  
The Savings Bank of Glasgow, 31 Townhead  
Street, Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20244

## Boutiques

Castel San Angelo, 34 Ayr Road, Cumnock .. Tel. 21268

## Building Contractors

S. T. Connell & Co., 55 Ayr Road, Cumnock .. Tel. 20494  
David King & Son, 66 Glaisnock Street,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20052  
John F. McCall & Son, 4 McCall Avenue,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20990

## Bus and Coach Services

Western S.M.T. Co. Ltd., Ayr Road, Cumnock .. Tel. 21930

## Butchers — Wholesale and Retail

John Climie Ltd., 10 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock Tel. 20391  
John Climie Ltd., 37 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock Tel. 21003

## Chemists — Dispensing

Cockburn & Co. Ltd., 21/22 The Square,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 21632  
John Maclean (Chemist) Ltd., 27 Townhead  
Street, Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20107

## Children's and Infant's Wear

Anne's, 20 The Square, Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20075  
Smart Tots, 23 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock .. Tel. 20262

## Cleaners and Dyers

Pullars of Perth, 27 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock

## Coal Merchants

Charles Duncan, 149 Townhead Street,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 21085

## Dairy Products

Stevenson's Dairy Farms, 42 Ayr Road, Cumnock Tel. 21155  
Working Dairy, Changue, Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 21155

## Decorators Supplies — Retail

McDonald's Wallpapers, 24 Glaisnock Street,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20846

## Draper's

Isobel's, 20 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock .. Tel. 20739  
M. Lindsay & Co., 53 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock

## Electricity — Appliances, Equipment,

## Contracting Repairs and Supply

Afton Electrics Ltd., 29 Townhead Street,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20753  
British Relay Ltd., 38 The Square, Cumnock .. Tel. 21474  
Cowan and Pantan Ltd., 54 Ayr Road, Cumnock Tel. 21733  
21663  
D. Macrae & Son, 42 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock Tel. 20438

Ross's T.V. Service, Town Hall Forecourt,  
62 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 21603  
South of Scotland Electricity Board, Showroom,  
12-14 The Square, Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20340  
District Office, Old Toll, Holmston Road, Ayr Tel. Ayr 0292  
68981

## Electricity — Group Buying Distributors

Radio Electrical Supplies (Scotland) Ltd.,  
Drill Hall, Townhead Street, Cumnock .. Tel. Ex. Directory

## Fabrics

Mary's Fabric Shop, 19 Glaisnock Street,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20373  
Townhead Textiles, 9 Townhead Street,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20373

## Fishmongers

J. & J. McJannet, 17 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock Tel. 20075

## Footwear and Leather Goods

High Walk Shoe Co. Ltd., 9 The Square,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 21966  
John McGrady, 43 The Square, Cumnock .. Tel. 21885

## Fruit, Flowers and Confectionery

James Goudie, 1a Townhead Street, Cumnock Tel. 21186

## Garage Services, Car Sales and Accessories

Central Garage, 89 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock Tel. 20577  
(Morris, Wolseley and M.G. Agent) 21683  
Cowan & Pantan Ltd., 54 Ayr Road, Cumnock Tel. 21733  
(Ford Agents) 21663

Discount Tyre Service, 5-9 Barrhill Road,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 62829  
21883

James K. Thomson, Barrhill Road Garage,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 21456  
(Austin, Wolseley and M.G. Agent)

## Gas — Sales and Service

Scottish Gas Board, 95 Glaisnock Street,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 21607  
Western Group, 131 Renfrew Road, Paisley Tel. Paisley 887  
1100

## Grocers and Confectioners — Wholesale

Galbraith's Cash and Carry, Cairn Road,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20889

## Grocers — Licensed

James Drury, Wylie Crescent, Cumnock .. Tel. 20948  
Livingstone's of Cumnock, 9/11 Lugar Street,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20406  
A. McCartney, 153 Barshare Road, Cumnock Tel. 20989  
J. & J. McJannet, 18 The Square, Cumnock Tel. 20075

## Guest Houses

Mrs. J. Fleming, The Brae, 21 Ayr Road,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20218

## Haulage Contractors

Anderson Brothers, Black Bull Garage, Cumnock Tel. 21407  
21551  
20824

John Baird (Transport) Ltd., 55 Barrhill Road,  
Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20966  
21500

Houston Brothers, Riverside Garage, The  
Tanyard, Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20510

Alexanders M. Houston & Sons, 12 Holmhead  
Road, Cumnock (Rigg Farm Garage) .. .. . Tel. 20000  
20125  
20225  
21912

## Hotels

Dumfries Arms Hotel, (A.A., R.A.C.\*\*),  
54 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20282

7 Bedrooms 3 Cocktail Bars  
Dining Room, 45 persons 1 Public Bar  
Function Room, 100 persons Car Park, 40 cars

Mercat Hotel, The Square, Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 21587

8 Bedrooms (3 with private bath)  
1 Public Bar Lounge Bars  
Dining Room, 50 persons Car Park, 4 cars

Royal Hotel, (A.A., R.A.C.\*\*),  
1 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock .. .. . Tel. 20822

13 Bedrooms 2 Cocktail Bars  
Dining Room, 60 persons  
Function Room, 120 persons  
Car Park, 10 cars



## Classified Directory of Trades, Services and Industries (continued)

|  |                     |  |
|--|---------------------|--|
| <b>House Furnishers — Retail</b>   |                     |  |
| Masons House Furnishers Ltd., 79/81 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock .. .. .  | Tel. 20450          |  |
| <b>Ironmongery, China, Crystal</b>   |                     |  |
| A. F. Borland Ltd., 12/16 Ayr Road, Cumnock  | Tel. 20155          |  |
| <b>Ladies Hair Stylists</b>  |                     |  |
| Henry M. Fyfe Salon, 22 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock .. .. .  | Tel. 21533          |  |
| <b>Legal Firms</b>   |                     |  |
| Brakenridge & Graham, Solicitors and Notaries Royal Bank Buildings, Glaisnock Street, Cumnock .. .. .                                | Tel. 21484          |  |
| Peter K. Drummond<br>Christina M. Graham<br>R. D. Hunter & Co., Solicitors and Notaries Royal Bank Buildings, The Square, Cumnock .. | Tel. 21185          |  |
| R. D. Hunter, M.B.E.<br>Agnes B. F. Farquhar, LL.B.  |                     |  |
| <b>Licensed Social Clubs</b>   |                     |  |
| Cumnock and District British Legion, Keir Hardie Hill, Cumnock .. .. .   | Tel. 20070          |  |
| Cumnock Working Men's Club, 78 Townhead Street, Cumnock .. .. .  | Tel. 20078          |  |
| <b>Licensed Restaurants</b>  |                     |  |
| The Country Club, 11 Townhead Street, Cumnock .. .. .  | Tel. 20101          |  |
| <b>Men's and Women's Outfitters and Drapers</b>  |                     |  |
| Breckenridge & Henderson, 18/22 Ayr Road, Cumnock .. .. .  | Tel. 20550          |  |
| T. L. Murray, 2 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock ..   | Tel. 20262          |  |
| <b>Newsagents and Stationers</b>   |                     |  |
| D. Connell & Co., 8 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock  | Tel. 20687          |  |
| Gibb's Printery, 19 Lugar Street, Cumnock ..   | Tel. 20530          |  |
| Alexander McKechnie Ltd., 49 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock .. .. .   | Tel. 21467          |  |
| <b>Newspapers and Printers</b>   |                     |  |
| The Cumnock Chronicle, 49 Ayr Road, Cumnock  | Tel. 21633          |  |
| <b>Plant Hire, Drainage and Demolition Contracting</b>   |                     |  |
| Shankland Plant Hire, Avisyard Farm, Cumnock   | Tel. 20144          |  |
| <b>Plumbers and Heating Engineers</b>  |                     |  |
| R. J. Andrew, Templand Mains, Cumnock ..   | Tel. 21711          |  |
| <b>Shoe Repairs</b>  |                     |  |
| Frank Loy, 13b Glaisnock Street, Cumnock (Craighead Close)   |                     |  |
| <b>Sports Outfitters</b>   |                     |  |
| Wallace Thornton Sports, 32 Ayr Road, Cumnock  | Tel. 20331          |  |
| <b>Travel Agents</b>   |                     |  |
| A. T. Mays, 39 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock ..  | Tel. 21759<br>21732 |  |
| <b>Factories</b>   |                     |  |
| Ayrshire Welded Products Ltd., Warrick Drive and Old Station Estate, Cumnock .. .. .   | Tel. 21010          |  |
| <i>Manufacturers and suppliers of welded steel fabrications to agriculture and industry.</i>   |                     |  |
| British Bata Shoe Co. Ltd., Craighens Road, Cumnock .. .. .  | Tel. 21960          |  |
| <i>Footwear Manufacturers.</i>   |                     |  |
| Carpet Yarn Spinners Ltd., Caponacre Industrial Estate, Cumnock .. .. .  | Tel. 21888          |  |
| <i>Yarn Spinners for the carpet industry.</i>  |                     |  |
| Cumnock Knitwear Co. Ltd., Ayr Road, Cumnock   | Tel. 21344          |  |
| <i>Manufacturers of fashion knitwear garments for men, women and children.</i>   |                     |  |
| Falmer Manufacturing Co. (Scotland) Ltd., Caponacre Industrial Estate, Cumnock .. ..   | Tel. 21577          |  |
| <i>Light clothing manufacturers.</i>   |                     |  |
| John Foster & Son Ltd., Bankend Factory, Ayr Road, Cumnock .. .. .   | Tel. 21585          |  |
| <i>Worsted Spinners.</i>   |                     |  |
| Kingsmead Carpets Ltd., Caponacre Industrial Estate, Cumnock .. .. .   | Tel. 21511          |  |
| <i>Manufacture of tufted carpets.</i>  |                     |  |
| Monsanto Textiles Ltd., Craighens Road, Cumnock .. .. .  | Tel. 21721          |  |
| <i>Synthetic fibre processing.</i>   |                     |  |
| Scottish Aviation Ltd. (Cumnock Division) Caponacre Industrial Estate, Cumnock .. ..   | Tel. 21822          |  |
| <i>Aircraft and general engineering.</i>   |                     |  |

This directory is not exhaustive, but includes only those firms which asked to be entered.

## List of Useful Addresses and Telephone Numbers

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| S.T.D. Code for Cumnock 0290.   |                       |
| Town Clerk's Office, The Square, Cumnock ..   | Tel. 21185            |
| Town Chamberlain's Office, Townhead Street, Cumnock .. .. .                         | Tel. 20443            |
| Burgh Surveyor's Office, Townhead Street, Cumnock .. .. .                           | Tel. 21488            |
| Town Hall, Glaisnock Street, Cumnock .. ..  | Tel. 20129            |
| Swimming Pool, Woodroad Park, Cumnock ..  | Tel. 20803            |
| Ayr County Council, County Buildings, Ayr   | Tel. Ayr 66922        |
| Sheriff Clerk's Office, County Buildings, Ayr                                       | Tel. Ayr 68474        |
| Electoral Registration Office, 8 Wellington Square, Ayr .. .. .                     | Tel. Ayr 60411        |
| Ayrshire and Bute Water Board, Wellington Square, Ayr .. .. .                       | Tel. Ayr 68511        |
| Cumnock District Council Office, Millbank, Cumnock .. .. .                          | Tel. 20666            |
| Registrar Births, Deaths and Marriages, Millbank, Cumnock Clinic, Millbank, Cumnock | Tel. 20666            |
| Library Service, Millbank, Cumnock  |                       |
| Department of Health and Social Security, Ayr Road, Cumnock .. .. .                 | Tel. 20802            |
| Department of Employment, Ayr Road, Cumnock   | Tel. 20267            |
| Cumnock Head Post Office, Lugar Street, Cumnock .. .. .                             | Tel. 21310<br>20798   |
| Cumnock Sub-Divisional Police Station, Ayr Road, Cumnock .. .. .                    | Tel. 20755            |
| Local Doctors, The Surgery, Townhead Street, Cumnock .. .. .                        | Tel. 21157            |
| District Nurses, 6 Forbes Ave., Cumnock ..  | Tel. 21570            |
| 22 Blackfaulds Road, Cumnock ..   | Tel. 21689            |
| Ballochmyle Hospital, Mauchline .. .. .   | Tel. Catrine 281      |
| Holmhead Hospital, Cumnock .. .. .  | Tel. 21754            |
| Seafield Sick Children's Hospital, Ayr ..   | Tel. Ayr 65161        |
| Irvine Central Hospital (including Maternity)                                       | Tel. Irvine 2491      |
| Kilmarnock Maternity Hospital .. .. .   | Tel. Kilmarnock 23371 |
| Local Dentists, The Surgery, Millbank, Cumnock                                      | Tel. 21226            |
| Cumnock Old Church, The Square, Cumnock ..  | Tel. 20769            |
| Crichton West Church, Ayr Road, Cumnock ..  | Tel. 20119            |
| Congregational Church, Auchinleck Road, Cumnock .. .. .                             | Tel. 20634            |
| St. Andrew's United Free Church, Glaisnock Street, Cumnock .. .. .                  | Tel. 21976            |
| Baptist Church, Barrhill Road, Cumnock ..   | Tel. 20022            |
| St. John's R.C. Church, Glaisnock Street, Cumnock .. .. .                           | Tel. 21031            |
| The Salvation Army, Townhead Street, Cumnock  | Tel. 21280            |
| Cumnock Academy, Ayr Road, Cumnock ..   | Tel. 21228            |
| Greenmill Primary School, Barrhill Road, Cumnock                                    | Tel. 21352            |
| St. Conval's High School, Auchinleck Road, Cumnock .. .. .                          | Tel. 20595            |
| St. John's R.C. Primary School, Bank Ave., Cumnock .. .. .                          | Tel. 21066            |
| Netherthird Primary School, Netherthird, Cumnock                                    | Tel. 21980            |
| Logan Primary School, Logan, Cumnock ..   | Tel. 21916            |
| Nursery School, Barrhill Road, Cumnock ..   | Tel. 20642            |
| Emergency Service for Police, Fire and Ambulance                                    | Dial 999              |



Price 15p each







