

SLATEST ADVENTURES

THE BALLACHULISH SNOWMEN ESCAPE

All of the good boys and girls in Ballachulish received a special treat of Chocolate Snowmen for Christmas from the Community Support Group. Hopefully they were enjoyed. A word of warning though, if left unattended, the Snowmen are liable to escape. The spare box we had at Elf HQ was found empty, and all we are left with is a few tantalising photos of their adventures and escape...

Did yours get up to anything?



The Snowmen had got fed up of being trapped in their cardboard box, so when they thought it was safe they made good their escape.



First they took a look out of the window to see what the rest of the world looked like.

Then they found a climbing rope to help them get down the stairs. It was a long way down and there were lots of stairs so it was slow work.



Once down the stairs, they took a look in the kitchen, checking out the sink, which meant they had a lot of climbing to do, but they were enjoying it.

Next they explored the Christmas Tree, marveling at all of the pretty lights. They were glad of the cable though which helped them climb!



Finally they found the front door, and made their way out of the letterbox. By now they were expert climbers and were soon outside!



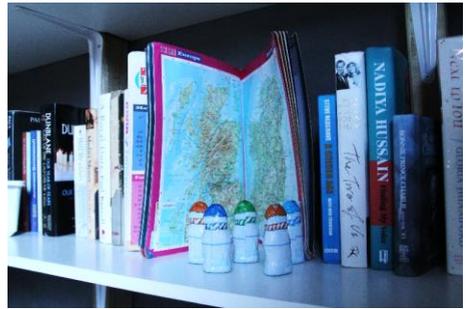
On Boxing Day the Snowmen went out on the Jubilee Park when no one was watching and had a game of Shinty. It was snowing a bit, but that didn't bother them!

Next they made their way down to the Wellbeing Shed and used their expert rope skills to climb the steps.



Once inside, they investigated all of the lovely treats that were on offer, like these cakes and fruit. Snowmen are strong supporters of #stopfoodwaste.

They also had a look at what else was on offer, and particularly liked the look of this DVD, if only they had a TV and DVD player! They wondered if there was an Ice Age 1-3 they should watch first though.



Over on the book shelves they found an Atlas and used it to find where they were and look at where they could go next.

Back outside they consulted the bus timetable and were dismayed to find that on Boxing Day they had a long wait for the next bus, so they had to look for something else to do.



They went down to the TIC, but it was closed due to Coronavirus and tier 4. They hoped that Snowmen couldn't catch coronavirus.



However, they found the map which told them about some of the exciting things they could do locally.



And there was also the board telling them about the Quarry, which was enormous and scared them when they were so small!



Next they went over to the village hall to see what they could find.



Somehow the naughty snowmen got into the village hall and went to explore the Wellbeing Larder.

They found lots of nice treats but hopefully they didn't eat everything as they only have small appetites!



We don't know whether they were making friends with Olaf or scared of him though, as they always seem to be smiling!



They also found the freezer, which was lovely and cold, just the way they like it!



The next day they headed to Glencoe for some adventures at the Lochan. First they followed the trails, enjoying the views.



It was nice and cold at the Lochan, with the water all frozen over. They enjoyed the walk, but had to take lots of breaks as it was a long way.



The frozen lochan meant they could try a bit of ice fishing, using their climbing rope, but they didn't catch anything.



The orienteering course required some teamwork to climb up the posts and then stamp the cards – they had to jump on the punch to make it work because they aren't very heavy.



They then enjoyed a picnic from the viewpoint, so they must have taken something from the wellbeing larder!



The next day the snowmen flagged down a passing truck and hitched a lift.



The truck was big enough for them all to fit in the back and enjoy the views as they drove round.



The truck driver took them into the big scary quarry, but it didn't seem so bad after all. He offered to take a photo of them all together in front of his truck.



They set off out of the village, but where were they going next, what adventures were they going to have?



Their first stop was at St Johns Church, where they admired the fine building and the panoramic views of Loch Leven.



Then they continued along the coast, taking the scenic route. Their driver owned a four wheel drive truck for a reason!



He let them out to stretch their legs and take in the views several times as they travelled north.



And in return the snowmen had to help guide the truck when the way forward was particularly difficult



They successfully managed to navigate their way around the fallen tree though, and were soon on their way again.



And soon the road was easier once more and the snowmen were able to stay in the truck as it sped along towards the North Pole.



The closer to the north pole the snowmen got, the snowier the landscape became, until everything was just white.



Everything was frozen, and icy, just the way they liked it. There was no risk of them melting now.

We are also pleased to report that the Snowmen successfully made it home to the North Pole, where the temperature is always cold enough for them, but they have asked us to tell you that they really enjoyed their time around Ballachulish, and they think it is a great place to come on holiday. They hope to come back soon, although maybe not until next winter. They also said that they hope that we are soon out of Lockdown, and can look forward to the summer weather (which they hate)!

WHAT'S YOUR SLATEST ADVENTURE?

If you have enjoyed this pull-out special in Slatest News please let us know. We have certainly enjoyed producing it! If you have an idea for a Slatest Adventure, please get in touch, we would be very happy to include a cartoon strip, short story or other adventure in a future edition of Slatest News.



Slatest News is on Facebook, so look out for some more adventures in the future.