Auchadunan Cottage – Carolanne Crawford

My husband Colin, myself, Carolanne, and our son Kevin moved into Achadunan Cottage in March 1989. Colin was at that time employed by the Findlay Family as a Shepherd. We moved on in March 1991 after hearing that the lease for the farm was going to be up in a couple of years. We decided that it would be better for Kevin to move before he started school in August that year.

During our time in the village we enjoyed taking part in most activities in the surrounding area, from horse riding at Arrochar to highland games at Inveraray. Kevin went to toddlers, then playgroup in Strachur. Colin competed in the Ardkinglas Dog Trials and I helped out in the smokery at Christmas and also helped at the local boarding kennels (Croft).

By far the biggest thrill of our time spent in Cairndow was the birth of our daughter. Carrie was born in May 1990 at The Vale of Leven Hospital and soon made her presence known throughout the village. The night before her christening in the village was spent in hospital, but she made it to the church on time, and a very relieved group of people had a brilliant time later that day.

We still keep in touch with people that we met in the area, although have not been back for a few years now. This is something that we hope to rectify soon!