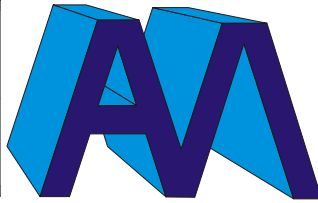


THE AUCHENBLAE MESSENGER
THE NEWSLETTER
FOR THE
AUCHENBLAE COMMUNITY



Messenger Distributors

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"Keeping you informed"

**The Publisher of this issue was
Eddie Cairns**

The Auchenblae Messenger Supplement

Monthly Memo

Date	Time	Location	Occasion
Thursday 1st May	7:30 pm	Drumtochty Arms	WRI AGM
Monday 5th May	5:30 pm	The Den	Tennis Coaching
Friday 9th May	7:30pm	Village Hall	Fashion Show
May 11th - 17th		Everywhere!	Christian Aid Week
Tuesday 13th May		Mearns Community Centre	Open Day
May 26th - 31st		Auchenblae	Auchenblae Gala
Saturday 31st May	7:30pm	Church	Anderson Singers
Sunday 1st June	10:00am	Around Village	Anchor Sponsored Cycle Run
Tuesday 10th June	8:00pm	Mutual Hall	Pre School AGM
Saturday 14th June		Auchenblae School	PTA Summer Fair
September 5th - 7th		Art Show	Auchenblae Village Hall.
September 7—8th		Edzell Base	Vintage Rally

Don't forget to leave contributions for the next issue of the **Auchenblae Messenger Supplement -**

THE AUCHENBLAE MEMO

To Ann Rennie (Mernis Howe) or in the box at the Post Office. The last date for inclusion in the next issue will be: **20th May 2003.**

Please note that the next edition of 'The Messenger' will be distributed by June 2003. The closing date for inclusion in this edition will be Friday 20th June 2003.

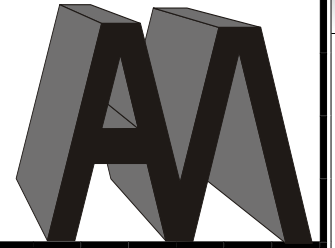
If you have access to e-mail please send to: **themessenger@mearns.org**

Otherwise, hand to Donald Rennie— Mearns Howe. If you have access to a word processor, a floppy disc version (PC only) would be appreciated.

Thanks from all the team!

The
Auchenblae Messenger
Volume 5 Issue 2

May 2003



Editor's Comments

Welcome to the 27th. edition of The Auchenblae Messenger and to all those who help in any way to 'make it happen', thank you for your continued support.

Have you noticed on your magazine heading 'May 2003?' For some time there has been confusion as to the month for which The Messenger is being produced. (Notably amongst the Production Team itself!) As your magazine reaches your doorstep at the end of a month and is largely concerned with the month to come, we have decided to avoid continuing confusion by retitling the month of issue. (i.e. Your present magazine is dated for May and the June production will be for July -- and so on.)

At this time of year, I'm sure that most of our community are already looking forward to all the various Village activities with which we associate the Summer Season; not least of which, being the 'Official Opening' of the Den. Sadly, the wanton destruction which we have now come to expect, is already well under way in the Den. Many of those concerned or associated with this vandalism are well known to us, and despite (I understand) increased Police activity, there seems to be no apparent way of controlling this important community problem. Effectively then, the community (in the name of the Parks Committee) must continue to bear the financial burden for reparation work. On the bright side, work is now underway to repair the paths in the Den previously damaged by very heavy rains.

As I write, the sun is rising in the sky for another day and Wordsworth's 'Daffodils' come readily to mind. Indeed, I have just had the pleasure of listening to an old recording of the Glasgow Orpheus Choir (as was) under their conductor the late Sir Hugh Robertson; singing 'All in an April Evening'. Yes, it's Springtime and Easter once again; with the prospect of Summer soon to come. Thoughts I am sure, to give cheer to us all. Wonderful. Enjoy your Summer.

Meanwhile, I hope that you will enjoy reading your copy of The Auchenblae Messenger.

Ross Muiry

Inside this issue:

West Mearns Parish Church	2
W.R.I.	3
ANCHOR Cycle Run	2
WRI AGM	3
1st Auchenblae Scout Group	4
Auchenblae Over Sixties Friendship Group	7
Auchenblae Community Association	10
Auchenblae PTA	11

Special points of interest:

- Mearns Community Centre 3
- West Mearns Guild 4
- Community Camera 6
- Light House 7
- Beavers 8
- Tennis 8
- Pre School 9

OAP Christmas Fund

Can you help keep this excellent idea going? If so turn to page 2

Christian Aid

More funding required see pages 5 and 6

Third Shop Saved

Page 11

West Mearns Parish Church & Auchenblae Guild



West Mearns Parish Church

Services : 9.30a.m. **Fettercairn Church** every Sunday.
11a.m. Service at **Auchenblae Church** each Sunday
except the First Sunday of the Month when the
service is at **Glenbervie**

Visitors and friends are welcome at all services.

Minister : Rev Catherine Hepburn
The Manse, Fettercairn
Tel. 01561 340203

**Catherine reminds us all that there have been in recent days
a number of funeral services, and the parish church would want
all who have lost loved ones in recent days to know that they are
in our thoughts and prayers.**

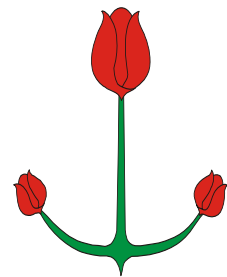


Auchenblae Friends of A.N.C.H.O.R.

Sponsored Cycle Run

Sunday 1st June—Time 10 am,
Start : The Square Auchenblae
Finish 15 Mackenzie Avenue
Distance Approx 20 Miles
Raffle & Barbecue

A donation of £250 will be made to
Auchenblae Primary School



OAP CHRISTMAS FUND

Stall At Vintage Rally At Edzell Base

Is anyone interested in helping to transport stall frames, tables and boxes
of bric - a - brac, books etc. on Friday night, September 5th 2003?
Please contact M Jamieson Allenbank 320 383



AUCHENBLAE SCHOOL

PTA



The Summer Fair will be held on Saturday 14th June, 2003 at the school. The Theme this year is "FANTASY & FICTION". There will be cake & candy, bottle stall, raffle, guess the dolls birthday, sweet trail, netball and football comp, fancy dress comp., Aberdeen Satrosphere Magic Show, Plants, Second hand clothes/videos and much much more. Come along for a fun afternoon. Teas and cakes served all afternoon. There will be posters up in the village to tell you more about times nearer the date.

The school would like to thank every one who helped with donations for **the blue bag collection** we had a great response. As yet we have not had a total amount but we certainly collected many more bags this time. If anyone was unable, this time, to collect we will be planning another collection some time after the school summer holidays so watch this space.

Also a big thank you to everyone for collecting the **Vouchers for schools** and sending them in. The box in the Post office has already been emptied twice. The cartridges are still being collected. One box has been filled and sent back and we are busy filling another. Again we do not know how much we have raised but will keep you informed once the Cheque arrives.

Anchor Cycle Run hopefully some parents will be taking part in the Cycle run held on Sunday 1st June. Mrs Pat Mennie is the person to contact for more details.

The school football team have played in their new strips which were kindly sponsored by Mr Chapman from 2 M Autos, Joiners Croft, Thornton, Laurencekirk.

The school are appealing to anyone who has a bit of free time and has **a musical talent** they could share with the children during school time. If you are the person contact Mr Adamson on 01561 320249

The school sports will be held Friday 20th June 2003 or if it rains the following Friday.

THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE ON TUESDAY 27TH MAY, 2003 AT 7.30P.M. IN THE SCHOOL ALL PARENTS AND COMMITTEE ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

Three Shops Continuing

The Messenger is happy to report that Angela Metelski is renting the shop from Kirsten at the beginning of May 2003. Therefore we shall no longer lose the third shop as had been forecast in the last Messenger.



Frances will stay on and the Messenger can reveal that a number of the shops customers had asked that some mention was made of her work with Kirsten in keeping things on an even keel to date.

Kirsten told the Messenger that she hopes the whole village will support Angela in her new venture.

Auchenblae And District Community Association

New

Auchenblae Village Hall Hire Rates

Please be advised that new hall rental rates shall apply with effect from 1st April, 2003.
The new rates to be applied are listed below:

Description	Hall	Hourly Rate	Lump Sum	Reduced	Electricity
<u>Commercial Rates</u>					
	Main	£10.00			Y
	Mutual	£6.00			Y
	Main & Mutual	£15.00			Y
<u>Local Rates</u>					
Evening Dance/ Function	Main (From 6 pm)		£35.00	£20.00	Y
Daytime/Evening Event	Main (2-4 hrs)		£25.00	£15.00	Y
Meetings/AGMs	Main/Mutual		£12.00		Y
Meetings/AGMs	Meeting Room		£12.00		N
Children's Parties	Main		£12.00		Y
Sports/Bowling	Main (1 hr or less)		£5.00		Y
Sports/Bowling	Main (1 hr plus)		£10.00		Y
Youth/Pension Groups	Main/Mutual		£5.00		Y
Playgroup	Mutual		£2.20		Y

If you have any queries or would like any further information, please contact Gina Easter (320269), Treasurer, Auchenblae & District Community Association.

Auchenblae Gala Programme

Sunday 25th May	Kite Spectacular & Family Games
Monday 26th May	Family Treasure Hunt (under 8's to be accompanied)
Tuesday 27th May	Bingo
Wednesday 28th May	Childrens Mad Hatter Party
Thursday 29th May	Car Treasure Hunt
Friday 30th May	Cheese/Wine Pub Quiz
Saturday 31st May	Gala Day - Duck Race, Barbecue ,Stalls etc.



* See posters prior to Gala for further details

** Auchenblae Hall - surplus to requirements - pine benches, suitable for stripping/garden furniture available to purchase £25.00 o.n.o..

Broadband Internet Access

As Auchenblae only has some 30 people registering with BT for ADSL, BT's form of broadband, with a probable break even point of some 400 users' per exchange, it would seem unlikely that BT will install ADSL anytime soon in the Auchenblae exchange.

If you are already online why not register with Hydro Electric who will be installing the system via the mains in Stonehaven. It will cost you nothing more than visiting their website to register.

<http://www.hydro.co.uk/broadband/>

You will get a message back saying we are not in the area but it might just be a good idea to register.

Auchenblae W.R.I

A.G..M.—May 1st Drumtochty Arms 7:30 pm

“Pampered Chef Demonstration”

Competition - Fish Plate

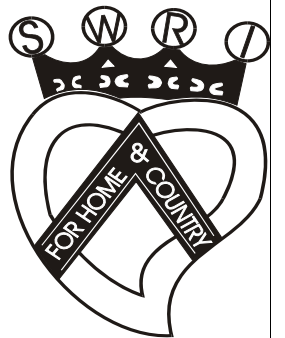
Novelty—As many words as possible from “Pampered Chef

Duty Committee Member : Pat Mennie.

May 17th—Outing to Falkirk -

Seats still available on coach

Tel 01516 320589



Mearns Community Centre

Mearns Community Centre Open Day

The Community Centre will be holding an Open Day on

Tuesday 13th May. We hope to have many people drop in for a cup of coffee and to view the wide range of activities and opportunities available at the centre.

There are opportunities for all age groups from pre-school through to retirement. The groups who meet at the Community Centre will also be represented with activities ranging from Brownies to the 50+ Walking Group.

Please feel welcome to come and join us and perhaps place any special requests or enrol in a group or class.

For further details contact us on 01561 378298.



Auchenblae Scouts



URGENT URGENT URGENT URGENT URGENT URGENT URGENT URGENT URGENT
 HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP
 HELP HELP
 PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE
 PLEASE PLEASE

Leaders required for **ALL** Sections of Scouting in Auchenblae to keep a friendly, active group open.

If you have thought about it, **Please, Please, Please...** (Oh alright, that's enough begging) contact me and I will try and tell it to you straight. I can promise no one will be forced or cajoled. It's not in our interests to have a leaders who would rather not be there. We can try and fit in your availability with our needs so if you work shifts, travel etc it need not be a problem. Please just contact me for more information.

Experience is not essential, though in the older sections, it is useful to have or gain quickly some outdoor qualifications. **ALL training and support** can be offered locally, regionally or even nationally. What we need most of all is a dedicated, enthusiastic and willing team of volunteers to continue a wonderful tradition that can do so much for young people in our communities. However much or little time or skill or talent you feel you have, you can put it to good use in Scouting.

We shall be holding our AGM in May (Watch noticeboards for Date) when there will be a chance for any interested parties to find out more about what we do in Scouting Today. Come along and join us and see what the boys and girls get up to.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU..... You get the Picture!!!

Carol Shea – BSL
 Group Scout Leader (Acting)

West Mearns Guild

Already we are approaching the end of the Guild session and a busy month lies ahead of our members. The last meeting took place on April 16th when Sandra Scott, formerly of Glesnaugh and now a student in Edinburgh showed slides of the work done during the project she worked on in Botswana last summer.

On **Wednesday, May 7th**, about half of our members will join other guilds at the Presbytery Council Rally in Ardoe House Hotel. We leave the Square at 5.30 pm, travelling by bus with ladies from Aberluthnot and Laurencekirk.

Then on **Friday May 9th** at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall there will be the return of Christine and Carrie of "Encore" in Fettercairn when they will present a selection of beautiful garments modelled mainly by ladies of Auchenblae. There will also be a Raffle A glass of wine will be served at the beginning and tea/coffee and shortbread at the interval. Proceeds will go to support our project which is to help provide residential quarters for nurses at the Rainy Hospital in India, and to church funds. Tickets (price £3.00) will soon be available.

Wednesday, **21st May (7.00 pm for 7.30 pm)** will see us at the Clatterin' Brig Tea-room with our sister guilds of Fettercairn and Glenbervie to enjoy an evening of good food and fellowship while on Saturday 31st May we will be manning (?) the usual Cake and Candy stall at Auchenblae Gala Day.

Auchenblae Pre-School Group

Auchenblae Pre-School Group AGM 2003



will be held in the Mutual Hall on
 Tuesday 10th June 2003 at 8pm
 (Refreshments will be provided)

**All parents of current and prospective 2's Group
 and Playgroup children are encouraged to attend**

Contact Liz Leigh on 320703 or Judy Robertson on 320815 if you require more information.

Pre-school Group Sessions

at the Village Hall

Parent & Toddlers

Mondays, 1.15pm – 2.45pm

2's Group

Tuesdays, 1.15pm – 2.45pm

Thursdays, 1.15pm – 2.45pm

Play Group

Monday to Friday,

9.15 - 11.30/ 11.45 am (flexible pick-up)

For further information Contact :

Judy Robertson (320815)

Drumtochy Highland Games Barn Dance & Bar-B-Q

Homfield, Fettercairn

Live-Music by Carcary

Saturday 10th May 8p.m. till late

Licensed Bar and Raffle

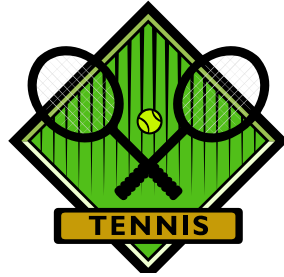
Admission by ticket Only £ 8.00 including a free sumptuous B-B-Q

Tickets available from Games Committee

or phone 01561 - 377252 or 378120 or 340409

or get one at the Drumtochy Arms Hotel or the Post Office in Auchenblae

Auchenblae Tennis



Following on from last year's successful summer season we will be recommencing outdoor tennis sessions with a qualified coach from Monday 5th May at the Den courts in Auchenblae (weather permitting!). There will be two sessions as follows:

5:30 - 6:30 Beginners and 5 – 10 year olds
6:00 - 7:00 Intermediate and 10 – 15 year olds

The cost will be £1:00 per session and each child will require a 2003 season ticket for the tennis courts. (These will be available at each session at a cost of £4.00). Everyone will be most welcome – just turn up on the day!

An adult session (16+) will run on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 – 7:30 starting from 7th May (weather permitting!). Adult court membership will be £8.00 and the coaching fees will be shared amongst those that attend each session. Please call for further details/session costs, or just turn up at the courts on the day.

For any details or further information please contact:
Gina Easter (320269) or Carol Shea (320748)

1st Auchenblae Beavers are 10 years old.

On **Saturday June 21st** we will be holding our Birthday Party in Auchenblae Den and Pavilion (or Village Hall if wet). Further details of the format of the event will be available soon, but it will take place between 1.30 and 4.00pm. **ALL** current and Ex beavers and their families are invited to join us and we would be delighted if any of you have any specific memories of your time involved in Beavers. Photo's, items you've made, stories, badges etc will all be welcomed to help us celebrate.

Carol (01561 320748), Colette (320310), or Shirley (320112) would love to hear from you.

This party will also be a time to say a sad but fond farewell to Sue Grayston, who has been involved with Beavers for close on 8 years. Anyone wishing to make a contribution to a farewell gift can do so by contacting any of the above.

Thank you – Carol Shea – BSL – 01561 320748

From Far off Pathhead

I wonder if you could put a special hello in the Messenger; to Sandy & Helen Brand.

From
Jimmy Brand jnr.
nr.Pathhead
jimmy@brandj.fsnet.co.uk



Christian Aid Week this year is from the 13th to the 18th May



Christian Aid
We believe in life before death

SOME THOUGHTS ON CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2003 (11th - 17th MAY)

On several occasions during these past months I have unfortunately had to spend time as a patient in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, and not once, but many many times, I have reflected on how unbelievably fortunate we are to have a health service in this country which, when you're on the receiving end of its attention, is quite magnificent. I am lost for words to praise the skills, the commitment and the sheer friendship of the staff that I have encountered at every level.

But as well as reflecting on our own good fortune I have also been made painfully aware just how ill-divided this world is.. In fact, while in hospital, I filled in the little form on which we apply for all the materials we need to run Christian Aid Week in West Mearns, and as I filled in the details- a thousand little red envelopes- fifty posters, twentyfive sets of collectors' notes etc, etc...I couldn't help thinking that what was on the form wasn't just about bits of paper - it was about millions *and millions of people* for whom what I was receiving - medical attention, nutritious meals, clean sheets, a jug of fresh iced water three times a day - is *luxury beyond their wildest imagination*.

But instead of throwing up our hands in horror and giving up because the problems of poverty, malnutrition and disease are totally beyond us, Christian Aid gives every one of us an opportunity **to light a candle rather than curse the darkness..** To carry out that bit of the work that *we* can do successfully in West Mearns, we need about twenty-one collectors. The lists will be in the three churches from Sunday 20th April when the appeal for helpers will be made. We've lost one of two of the stalwarts from previous years who have moved out of the area, so we really do need some new folk this year.

All of us have been made painfully aware of the horrendous task of reconstruction ahead in war-torn Iraq. But I wonder how many folk were aware that all the time the bombs were pounding Basra and Baghdad Christian Aid has been quietly supporting work among the stricken Kurds in Northern Iraq through a partner organisation called REACH (**R**ehabilitation, **E**ducation, and **C**ommunity **H**ealth). This is almost always the way Christian Aid works - through local on-the-ground organisations who really know what the needs are, and how best they can be met.

And of course, while the spotlight has been on the suffering of the people in Iraq, Christian Aid has been at work in over 60 different countries where the need is greatest, helping people regardless of their religion, and believes always that local people are best placed to solve local problems. Our task in Christian Aid is to provide funding (aid *without any strings attached*) to enable projects to take place that meet the immediate and long term needs of some of the poorest people in the world.

To the folk of West Mearns I express the thanks of Christian Aid for your generous support in the past, and confidently appeal to your generosity yet again in Christian Aid Week this year.

Donald Rennie
Local Christian Aid Organiser.

THE ANDERSON SINGERS IN CONCERT

In Auchenblae Church
Saturday 31st May 2003

At 7.30 p.m.

Tickets £3.00

All proceeds to Christian Aid

All who in past years have enjoyed the performances of this group of singers and musicians will be glad to know that after a time when they experienced difficulties finding sufficient singers, they are once again back up to strength. It is hoped that they may also be able, as in past years, to participate in the Sunday worship.

Tickets available At the churches at Fettercairn, Auchenblae and Glenbervie, or contact Donald Rennie tel. 01561 320622. They can also be bought at the door of the church on Saturday 31st May

1st AUCHENBLAE BROWNIES AND GUIDES



Girlguiding UK

Guiding in Auchenblae continues to thrive.

Brownies now meet on Monday nights 6 pm – 7.30 pm. The Brownie programme has just been updated and is now called 'Brownie Adventure'. All part of making Guiding more appealing to today's girls.

We will be joining other Brownies from all over Kincardine and Deeside on May 24th for Brownie Revels at Newtonhill.

Guides are still meeting Wednesday 6 pm-9 pm and we are looking forward to getting outdoors now the light nights are here again. We shall be hopefully learning new outdoor skills but mostly having fun.

We will be having our annual camp this year, hopefully a dry one.

I have had an enquiry from a Mum about Rainbows, so we are looking into the possibility of getting started again.

We have a good team of leaders who I think have more fun than the girls, especially my Young Leaders (no need to mention names !!) They are working on a Leadership scheme as a qualification for their CV and also one as part of the service part of Duke of Edinburgh.

Any new girls wishing to join Brownies age 7 +, Guides age 10 + please give me a call.

Evelyn Richardson
Guide Guider
320362

<http://girlguidinguk.co.uk/>

LIGHT HOUSE

More children are coming to the Light House to have fun, play games, sing songs and learn about the wonderful things in the Bible.

Because we're growing, we need helpers who love children and don't mind playing the fool! Teenagers willing to help would be especially welcome.

Those with musical talents or a love of music and singing would also be welcome - age no barrier! Come and share some love and laughter!



Our new session (starting Sunday, April 27th) will lead us into the Summer break, finishing with a barbecue in early June. Lots of good things are planned. If you, or your child, would like to join us, pick up the phone and dial (320371) or call at The Willows, and ask for Charles or Bren.

Light House meets in the old banking hall at The Willows (opposite the village store) on Sunday mornings from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. It is principally for children between the ages of 5 and 12 who have no regular church connection. It is non-denominational, but supported by the local Parish Church. Anyone having a problem with lifts in and out may be able to get transport.

Light up your life at the Light House!

Community Camera

The camera is available for loan at no charge. It has a memory card that can hold some 80 full quality, 2 megapixel pictures. Pictures will be returned on CD ROM if required. You can then print them via your computer or hand the CD into most photo processors for printing.



It is easy to use and an instruction card is provided as well as two sets of rechargeable batteries.

Contact Eddie Cairns on 01561 320494

Auchenblae Over Sixties Friendship Group

Are you over 60 and have time to fill on Wednesday morning? If so come and join us in the Church hall from 10:30 to 12:00. You can have a good news over a cup of tea or coffee, with biscuits and, if anyone has a birthday, with a piece of birthday cake. We have a varied programme of activities to keep you amused.



In the coming weeks we have visits from old friends like George Day with his beautiful slides, and Philly's and Sandy. Their music will certainly get your feet tapping. There are lots of other plans to take us up to the Summer break, including our third outing of the year. All this for only £1 per week to cover expenses. There is no joining fee as we are not a club. We are just a friendly group of people who are there to offer friendship to anyone who needs it.

Barbara Strouts