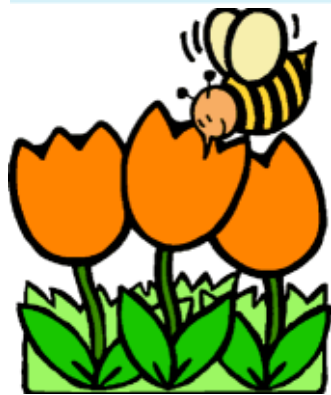


Dates for your diary

Den Opening Day	Den	30th April
Christian Aid Week	Collection	15th-21st May
Gala Week	Vill. Hall / Den	22nd-28th May
Auchenblae Open Gardens	TBA	30/31st July

May	June	July	August
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Messenger Distribution Team—Ann Anderson, Sheena Auld, Carol Nelson, Anne Caird, Sheree Caird, Therese Hendry, Ann Rennie, Trish MacEachern, Margaret Muiry, Lois McCormick, Moira Hutchison, Barbara Strouts

Messenger Production Team—Barbara Strouts, Kevin Newstead, Eddie Cairns

Memo Production—Ann Rennie

The publisher for this issue was Kevin Newstead



Auchenblae Messenger

Founded in 1999 by Donald B. Rennie

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 2

MAY 2011

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Open Gardens
- Christian Aid Week
- Vandalism
- Golf Lessons
- Gala Week

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Open Gardens 2
- Tennis Club 2
- Drama Group 2
- Gala 3
- Parks 4

From The Editor

After the really horrible winter it is so nice to see the whole village looking so spring-like, with the gardens full of flowers, the trees looking so fresh and green with their new leaves and the countryside also looking so good. We are really lucky to live in such a beautiful spot. It's a pity that a few vandals don't appreciate it and have to spoil it.

Some of you have been very complimentary about the new lay out of The Messenger. Thanks are entirely due to Kevin Newstead for that. I only collect the articles. He does the rest (aw, shucks!! :-) K.)

The next issue of The Messenger will be out at the end of August. If you wish to have anything included in it please let me have it by **15th August 2011**. I hope that by then my computer problems will be ironed out so please send to; themessenger@mearns.org or if you can't use e-mail you can ring me on 01561 320911.

Thank you.
Barbara Strouts

The Messenger Memo

The next Messenger memo will contain information about forthcoming events in August, and any short reports of events that took place earlier. Please contact Ann Rennie at Mernis Howe, Inverurie St. (tel. 01561 320622) before 15th July.

NEW LOGO COMPETITION

Well, it was disappointing to have received no entries for the competition. No youngsters with any artistic talent in the village?? So, our logo that has stood the test of time remains for the time being. We may run the competition again in the future and hopefully will get a better response.

Auchenblae Open Gardens 2011

This event, now in its 5th year, is planned for the weekend of 30th and 31st July.

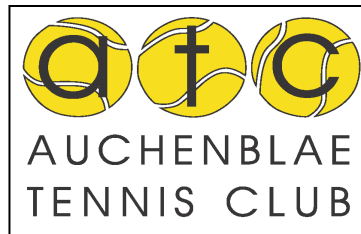
The gardens which are open to the public may not necessarily be weed free and immaculate but each one will be of interest for one reason or another.

There are already people busying away getting their gardens ready, so please put this date in your diary.

Entry to the selected gardens will be £5 (children free) and includes strawberry teas served in the village hall.

All proceeds will go towards church vestry renovation. For further information contact **Jenny Thomson on 320245**

Auchenblae Tennis Club



Auchenblae Tennis Club's outdoor season 2011 will commence in the Den on Tuesday 10th May. There will be sessions for most age groups running on Tuesdays & Wednesdays. New members are always welcome. Please contact **Gina Easter (320269)** or **Margo Titmuss (320808)** for further information.

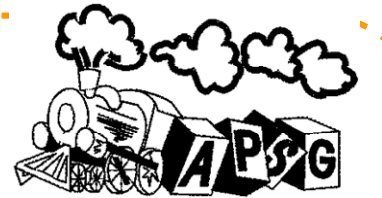
Auchenblae Drama Group



We are always on the look out for new members; people willing to have some fun on the stage are always welcome but we can also use other talents—joinery, painting, sewing, lighting, sound etc. Willing bodies are more important than skills—we can always teach you to use a light desk!

Call Kevin on 320471 or Craig on 07581 798732

Auchenblae Pre-School Group



Preschool for 3 and 4 year olds

Monday-Friday 9.15-12.45

Funded places available - Drop in sessions now available!

3 and 4 year olds welcome each morning

£5.40 per session, book in advance on 07530 743 663

Two's Group

Tuesday and Thursday 12.45-2.15

Please stop in to visit a preschool or two's group session.

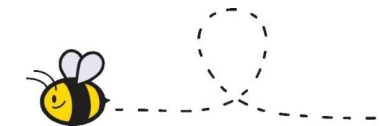
We are upstairs in the Village Hall. Press the buzzer to be let in.

Or call **Ara on 01561 320 278**, or email auchenblaepreschool-group@gmail.com for more information

Parent and Toddler Group

Meets every Friday in the Church Hall - 9:15 a.m -11:15 a.m.

Please stop by or phone **Gayna on 07946 328267**



Registered Charity no SC021752

Thank You.....

I would like to thank everyone who sent me get well wishes, cards, gifts, etc. during my recent stay in ARI and Stracathro, after suffering a stroke. Special thanks go to my family and staff for keeping everything running smoothly during my absence and my continued recovery.

Angela Metelski



"All Welcome"

West Mearns Parish Church

**WORSHIP AT WEST MEARN'S PARISH CHURCH:
AUCHENBLAE, FETTERCAIRN, GLENBERVIE**

SUNDAYS

9.30am: Fettercairn
11am: Glenbervie – first Sunday of the month
11am: Auchenblae - other Sundays
2.30pm: Queen Elizabeth Court, Fettercairn – last Sunday of the month

"All welcome"

Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion
29th May at Fettercairn: 9.30am and Auchenblae: 11am
5th June at Glenbervie: 11am



**CHRISTIAN
AID WEEK**

Christian Aid week this year is from 15th to 21st May. A house to house collection will take place in Auchenblae. Please be courteous to the collectors. It takes a lot of courage to go round knocking at doors. And please give generously if you can - the money goes to the neediest people in the world and with wars, earthquakes and tsunamis their need is very great.

Auchenblae Gala 2011 22nd-28th May



Sunday 22nd - Kids & Kites (Football Pitch 2pm)



Monday 23rd - Family Treasure Hunt (Hall) 6.30pm



Tuesday 24th - Gala Quiz Night – (Hall) 7.30pm



Thursday 26th - Car Treasure Hunt (Hall) 6.30pm



Friday 27th - Children's Evening in Hall



5-6pm – Pre school 6.15-7.30pm – 5-7yrs 7.45-9pm – 8yrs & over

Saturday 28th - Gala Day in the Den – 1pm



Tea in the Pavilion



BBQ



Tombola



Cake,



Craft,



Plant, Bric-a-Brac & Family Fun

Stalls



Duck Races and Bowling Competition



Auchenblae Parks Committee

Den Opening Day

This popular event, when Auchenblae residents come together to celebrate the opening of the Den, will be held on Saturday 30th April. As usual the committee will be serving soup and sandwich lunches in and around the pavilion between 11am and 2pm: £3.00 for adults; £1.50 for primary school children.

The bowling green and tennis courts will be open for anyone to have a go; either for the first time or to get their hand in for the coming season.

There will be a Sales Table and Raffle and donations to both would be most welcome.

Could your child be responsible?

This incident took place (we suspect) on Sunday 27th March. The picnic bench, constructed for us by Bill Barry, was broken as a result. Bill and Roy have suspicions as to the perpetrators and could have done with their muscles when struggling to get the bench out of the burn. An appeal for help along with a photograph* was displayed at Metelski's, but was subsequently removed from the noticeboard, probably by those responsible. By publishing this image we hope to enlist local help in reducing the expense of repairing vandalised items. This money could be better used elsewhere. We make great efforts to maintain the Den as a place where local people of all ages can enjoy the facilities, so it is very disappointing to see this wanton destruction. More recently the wall which held the sluice gate between the lade and the old dam has been targeted. This is an ancient structure and it is so disappointing to find it damaged in this way. We ask for your help by informing us of any incidents of vandalism or concern in the Den

Please Telephone: **John Nicoll (our Chairman) on 320215** or **Bill Barry (our Den Convener) on 320749**. Any information forthcoming, will be treated in confidence. *PICTURES OPPOSITE

Golf Tuition

Just a reminder to parents of youngsters aged 8 and over, that free tuition by a qualified coach is available at the Golf Course every Saturday morning during the summer season. Ken Marvellly has a wonderful way with youngsters and it is disappointing that most of his prodigies come from out-with the village. He will gladly run a session for beginners coming from Auchenblae. Junior membership to the course is £65, but a taster rate could be arranged and prospective golfers would need to have a set of junior clubs.

If your child has an interest in golf this is an opportunity not to be missed. For further information contact the Secretary **Jenny Thomson 320245**.

".....so it is very disappointing to see this wanton destruction"

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Auchenblae Friendship Group

Come and join us at our regular time, Wednesday mornings, 10.00am to 12 noon, in the Church Hall, for a cuppie, a chat and other activities. All are welcome. For more information phone me at **320911**.

Barbara Strouts

