



Auchenblae Messenger

Founded in 1999 by Donald B. Rennie

Summer Edition

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From The Editor

When I first came to live in Auchenblae people from outwith the village would say "Auchenblae's special." You only have to read this issue of The Messenger to realise just how true that is. So many people give of their time and money to make things better for others. It is good to know that in some special places here is still a strong community spirit.

My thanks, as ever, to all the contributors. The next issue will be the September one. Contributions please to

barpolllybar@gmail.com

by 15th August. it seems so far away but will soon be here.

Barbara

Memo Date

The Next Memo is scheduled for August 2015 if you have any upcoming event dates please send them to :

auchenblae_memo@hotmail.co.uk or call Lindsay on **01561 320242**. by 20th July 2015

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GARDENS OPEN WEEKEND

August. Date to be finalised.

Gardens Open Weekend.

9th anniversary of this event.

WOW!

AN ALMOST EMPTY PAGE!

**WHAT IS YOUR GROUP DOING? TELL
THE VILLAGE & SURROUNDING AREA**

**THE MESSENGER REACHES 250 HOMES
WITH ITS PRINTED COPY AND MANY,
MANY MORE WITH THE ONLINE EDITION.**

**CONTACT BARBARA AT
barpolllybar@gmail.com**



Busy-busy with 20 Guides in our unit now but we are not just knot tying, as well as our weekly meetings ;

Some of our Guides went to PGL in Perthshire for an outdoor weekend, favourite activities were climbing, canoeing and a night hike.

We like to offer the Guides a wide range of activities so their latest outing was to HMT Aberdeen to see the musical Wicked. County Guiding have booked to take over Stonehaven outdoor pool for an evening in June for a pool party.

Now the light nights are here we will be doing our traditional outdoor activities which we hope to include a camp weekend.



Didn't they grow well ! Rainbows planted bulbs last Autumn as part of their Seasons badge , we crammed the bulbs in layers, first we had purple crocus' then these lovely daffodils , they are so pleased to share them with everyone who passes by. They hope to have more surprises for summer.



Auchenblae Friendship Group



I have been a member of the group now for 14 years and intend to stay with them for many years to come. We still have some of the original members with us. As the name suggests we meet together in friendship. We enjoy various activities including slide shows, films, music, talks, craft sessions, bingo and games. We usually manage at least two outings a year for lunch.

We do have room for new members. You do not have to attend every week. You do not have to be a senior citizen.. If you have nothing better to do on Wednesday morning, (forget the housework), come along to the Church Hall from 10.00am to 11.45am. You will be made to feel very welcome. We do not have an annual subscription. We pay just £2 a week to cover all expenses including our lunch outings Our regular entertainers love coming back. They say that we are well named They feel the friendship as soon as they come through the door.

Do come and join us.

Auchenblae Parent Council

Auchenblae Parent Council will be hosting Kids & Kites 24th May 2-4pm available will be Kite competition , races , snacks ,drinks , name the bear and lots of fun. This brings in the start of the Gala week.

Auchenblae School Summer Fair takes place on 6th June adults £3.50 child £1.50 1pm-4pm

Stalls include Critter Keeper , Bouncy Castle , Bake Off, Cup Cake Comp, Pig race , Face paints Tea & cake and lots lots more . This years fair has a real pirate theme to it so bring your sea legs and join in the fun.

Thank you to everyone who donated hats , sheets & dress up items the school children are having a great time role playing and den making.

Thank you

Auchenblae Parent Council.

Silent Auction and the Clock

Sincere thanks to those who attended the fundraising event held on May 2nd, in aid of the refurbishment and replacement of the clock faces at Auchenblae Church.

To everyone who kindly contributed items for the auction and the sales tables, thank you very much. Proceeds from the day amounted to a total of £2,582.73.

Thanks also to the many, many people who have generously donated money for the cause, bringing the total to a staggering £3,829!

It has come as a total surprise to discover the amount of support this project has generated. Monetary help has come, not only from locals, but people from further afield who have Auchenblae connections. It has made all the hard work worthwhile.

The framework behind each of the three faces has now been replaced, and the clocks are now in Bernie's workshop awaiting finishing touches and repainting. Advice on the best products to use is being sought before this work can start. Local artists Elaine Gowans and Katrina Melsom have kindly agreed to undertake this hugely important task. Another wonderful gesture indeed! We hope to have the clocks back in situ as soon as possible.

In the meantime, more good news. After a visit to the tower to see what was involved, Jamie Hendry willingly accepted the job of clock winder, taking over from Bob Jamieson who has tended the clock with loving care, for almost thirty years. Not that Bob has hung up his boots entirely, as he'll be on hand to see the clock faces back in place and connected to the mechanism, ready for action.

In a departure from those of late, I've chosen photographs taken inside the tower showing the intriguing mechanism.

Jenny Thomson



Scotland seems to be much more in the UK news what with the general election results. However, long before Scotland emerged as a nation the *“Ecclesia Scoticana”* as it was called existed. The ecclesiastical entity “The Scottish Church” long pre-dates the political entity. There has also in recent years been something of an emphasis on “community” – maybe an indication that we were and are losing it. Our forefathers had little need to emphasis such: they simply and perhaps unconsciously were it and had it.

Thinking of “community” by far the oldest community is the Church. Much of all this is exemplified in Auchenblae or more exactly in the parish of Fordoun in which Auchenblae is a kind of kirk-toun. Here we have the strong legend of St. Palladius (a Latinised form of a “Paldy”) possibly a Pict rather than the man described in 431 as being *“the first bishop to the Scots who believed in Christ”* - the Scots then a tribe in Ireland! Here we have the more physical evidence of the magnificent 8th century Pictish Cross-slab discovered in the re-building of the parish church and which is to be seen in the vestibule. Then, there are the restored remains of the old parish kirk: “St. Palladius Chapel”.

Then, there are the oldest “community” records of various kinds – meriting some deciphering, study, and interpretation. And of course “the Church” as a physical building still stands, with the clock faces not yet replaced, literally a “timeless” witness to the eternities. The Church not just a building but as a people continues: *“A citadel of hope on the edge of despair”; “an anvil that has worn out many hammers”*. A witness of past times to be sure; and a witness to a new and abundant life. Something of a Messenger to us in Auchenblae and to everyone!

Douglas Lamb



AUCHENBLAE PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

Scottish Registered Charity SC021752



Pre-school news

The Grand total raised for Red Nose Day was £83.40 Thank you to all who donated. The Red Nose Day winner was Kirsty Clarke who won £17. Well Done Kirsty.

For world Book day we collected £12 which will go towards buying books for underprivileged children.

The children will be learning about Spring this term. The children have made collages with the contents of the spring baskets they brought back after the Easter Holidays. We have planted seeds which we will watch grow and hopefully get some lovely salad leaves for snack.

We are also learning about lifecycles as part of our chick egg incubation and caterpillar to butterfly projects. Hopefully we shall have some new additions to our playroom before the summer!



Toddler Group

The Toddler group continues to be held in the Church hall on a Friday morning between 9:15 and 11:15. Older siblings are most welcome too.



Committee News

Thank you to all who helped and supported the Nearly New Sale café and Pamper night. A lot of fun was had by all who attended. We raised £614.

Our next fundraiser is at Auchenblae Gala Day on Saturday 30th May. We shall have a stall and shall also be running a Beer Tent. Please keep the date free to come along, have some fun and raise some funds for the playgroup.

A butterfly hunt is being organized for the 19th June in the Den weather permitting. Toddlers, 2's and Pre-school children are all invited to attend. More information will follow.

GLENBERVIE HORTUS CLUB

Picture shows Tom Hutson from Auchenblae with the silver cup he won for the Best Exhibit in junior floral art at 2015 Annual Bulb Show.

There is still time for adults who live within 7 mile radius of Glenbervie to join the Hortus club and exhibit at the Flower Show on Saturday 15th August, schedules or information available from **Evelyn Richardson - 320362**
Lorna Bey. - 320298



LUTHERMUIR CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL

Not our village but a near neighbour, if you love a Flower Festival this will be held on ;-

Friday 29 May 10am - 4pm and 6pm - 8pm

Saturday 30 May As above

Sunday 31 May. 11am to 4pm

If anyone would really like to go but does not have transport , I am happy to taxi back and forward on the Sunday , please give me a call before the day to arrange.

Evelyn Richardson 320362

Could you provide some companionship for an older person in your community?

Kincardine & Deeside Befriending are looking to recruit Volunteer Befrienders to support older people who are socially isolated.

Volunteers are recruited, trained and matched on a one to one basis with an older person. They meet regularly to go out and about, to share hobbies and interests or just to enjoy each other's company. For a person experiencing loneliness, the support of a Befriender can make a real difference.



Anyone who is over 18, who enjoys talking and listening to older people and who has a couple of hours every week or fortnight to spare is welcome to apply. Volunteer Befrienders attend an informal interview and a short introductory course. They will also have to undertake an enhanced disclosure check. Having your own car to take an older person out for a cup of tea or for a short run would be of benefit. Travelling expenses are provided as well as ongoing support. Volunteers are sought from the Kincardine and Mearns areas. More information and an application pack is available from the organisation's website : www.kdbefriending.org.uk. For further queries please contact the Kincardine Co-ordinator on **Tel: 01569 765714**

Community defibrillator update

Through generous donations from the local community and council, we have enough funds to purchase a defibrillator and cabinet. Positioning of the defibrillator is still to be decided but we have 2 central locations that we may use.

I'm now looking for names of people who would like to learn to save a life, times and dates of training sessions still to be confirmed. If you're already a first aider, want a refresher or have never done anything like this, now's the perfect opportunity to try something new. It's the perfect opportunity to learn some lifesaving skills.

Email mark.strickland@nhs.net with your name and previous experience you may have if you're interested.

Thank you

Auchenblae Guild

After a very enjoyable season we have now closed for the summer. We were able to listen to some excellent speakers. Special thanks to Margaret and Jenny for giving such interesting talks. We still have a buffet supper at the Clatterin' Brig to come, and also an outing to Ferryhill Guild in Aberdeen for our annual meeting with our friends there.

We will be starting up again in September and will meet in the Church hall as usual on the afternoon of the third Wednesday of the month. We look forward to meeting existing members and anyone else who decides to give us a try. Meetings are a mixture of fellowship, fun and community spirit. Do come along.

Auchenblae Drama Group

Our traditional pantomime, Mother Goose, was performed in January and was very well received—we were even in the unfortunate position of having to turn away people on one night due to lack of room in the hall!! We would like to think the high attendance was due to the reputation of the group for putting on well rehearsed and well presented shows. Certainly this and future performance are enhanced greatly by our new sound system in the hall and we have planned more fund raising to make some more major improvements to the lighting and stage are—so watch out for these.

Many people ask why we only do a panto every second year as they are so popular; the answer is simple, rehearsal really needs to start after the summer holidays, September at the very latest, costumes have to be made (too expensive to hire in!) scenery needs to be made, backdrops painted, props acquired or made and a huge amount of work goes on back and front stage. Often the people on the stage are helping with construction, painting etc. All this while trying to learn lines and find time for their full time jobs, family etc. So, while we love what we do, one every two years it will have to be—of course, if we had some more volunteers..... :-)

This year we will be performing an evening of one act plays so watch for news of that.

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

Auchenblae Gala Week Schedule

24th of May through the 30th of May 2015



Sunday the 24th
 10:00 – 13:00
Car Boot Sale at
 Auchenblae Primary
 School grounds.
 14:00 Kids & Kites
 at the football pitch



Thanks to the AGSG, this year we
 will have a Beer Garden supported
 by Burnside Brewery!



Monday the 25th
 18:00 - Family
Walking Treasure Hunt
 at the Village Hall.
 Entry £0.50 per person
 & Tuck Shop

Tuesday the 26th
 19:00- (19:30 start) **BINGO**
 Entry £2.00 per person
 Bring your own drinks,
 nibbles are provided and
 Raffles.
Over 18's only please!



Thursday the 28th
 19:00- (19:30 start)
Quiz Night
 Entry £3.00 per person
 Maximum 6 per team.
 Licensed Bar & Raffles.
Over 18's only please!

Friday the 29th
 Children's Parties
 18:30 – 19:15 ages 4-7
 19:30 – 21:00 ages 8+
 Entry £1.00



Saturday the 30th of May
 13:00 – 17:00 in the Den
 Live Music from "The Trybe", Pavilion Teas, BBQ, Spin the
 Wheel, Baking Stall, & Family Fun Stalls, Plant stall, Duck Races,
 Raffle and much more!



Dates for your diary

Gala Week	Village	24th-30th May
School Summer Fair	School	6th June
Butterfly Hunt	Den	19th June
Gardens Open	Village	TBA (AUGUST)



Messenger Distribution Team—Anne Anderson, Sue Barrie, Anne & Sheree Caird, Hilda Findlay, Therese Hendry, Jeanette Hoedl, Trish MacEachern, Gillian & William Milne, Carol Nelson, Barbara Strouts.

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The publisher for this issue was **Kevin Newstead**