

# Auchenblae Messenger

Founded in 1999 by Donald B. Rennie

Summer Edition

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 2

JUNE 2016

## From The Editor

So much of what is happening is out of doors so let us hope that the weather will manage to sort itself out. The village is looking beautiful. The blossom trees and shrubs are better than they have been for years.

Please give your support to as much as possible. Auchenblae folks are good at that. I know of at least one person who tells other people that Auchenblae is a really good community for all that happens here.

I will be collecting for the September issue from mid August, Please send to **barpolly-bar@gmail.com** or phone on **01561 320911**.

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## 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

## MESSENGER & MEMO DISTRIBUTION TEAM

We are always looking for volunteers  
to assist in distribution. It doesn't  
take long and you get some exercise

& get to meet

people—how good is that!

Please contact Ann Anderson on  
**320524** to help



## Auchenblae Parent Council

Auchenblae Primary School Summer Fair is on 4th June at 1pm - 4pm.

Everyone is welcome. Entry is £3 for adults, £1.50 for children and pre-school free. Included in the price are strawberry tea, coffee or cake. For the young at heart we are having a mountain of fun packed stalls. Come along and join in the fun.

Auchenblae Primary School has opened its doors to a brand new after school club. The club runs from 3.15pm to 5.45pm. For spaces available please contact **Paula Harris on 07775434951 or e-mail [garynpaula@btinternet.com](mailto:garynpaula@btinternet.com)**

The club is registered with the care inspector, has first aid trained staff, food hygiene and bags of fun to be had.

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## Auchenblae Guild

June 15th sees us reach the end of another very successful season when friends from Ferryhill Guild in Aberdeen visit us for a soup and sweet lunch. This is an annual event and we look forward to it with pleasure. It will be our fourth meal of the season. Some people think that all we do is eat and blether. Not so. We have listened to some very interesting talks ranging from the slums of Calcutta, the work of the Street Pastors in Aberdeen, Malawi and bags.

We have held two very successful coffee mornings and saw in Advent with our annual Carols, Candles and Christmas Pies service. Meetings are always enjoyable and we would be very happy to welcome new members or welcome back people who have been with us in the past and who would welcome the fellowship and warmth of the Guild. Watch out for news about the new season starting in September in that issue of the Messenger and on the notice board, and do join us, whether male or female.



# Auchenblae Parks Committee



## **The Golf Course**

Despite the long wet winter, the course is looking good and the number of people renewing their annual membership shows that we must be doing something right! At a time when many courses are struggling our numbers have thankfully remained consistent. However, we cannot be complacent and every effort is made to have the course in as good a condition as possible. Hence, this subject is high on the agenda at each of our monthly meetings. Without the income from the golf course we could not fund the maintenance of the Den and other areas within our management.

## **The Den Work Day**

We must thank those who came along to help us get things ready for summer. They worked so hard and got through a tremendous work load despite the disappointing turn out. Perhaps the rescheduled date impacted on numbers so we will avoid school holidays next year. Thanks also to those who helped Gina to get the tennis courts ready for the new season.

## **The Activity Net**

By now our latest acquisition, the activity net, should be in place and will hopefully provide a new and exciting addition to the children's play area. This piece of equipment was funded after a successful application by the committee to Midhill Windfarm.

## **The Tennis Group**

In excess of seventy schoolchildren participate in the Tuesday and Wednesday coaching sessions. The new coach, Judith, is settling in well and gaining the respect of her students! Thanks must go to Gina and Lindsay for giving up so much time each week to run these classes for the benefit of our youngsters.

## **The Orchard**

The fruit trees, apart from the late fruiting varieties, are coming on well with new buds appearing daily. Eighteen trees in all were planted with a variety of apples, plums, cherries and damsons. A bee/bug hotel is on the cards for autumn.

## **The War Memorial**

The recent improvements to the path have increased accessibility and the view thereafter is well worth the climb. A seat donated by Aberdeenshire Council includes doves and roses in its structure and is indeed befitting of the area.

## **Den Convener**

We would greatly appreciate help in finding the right person to take on this important role. If you can suggest someone, please contact the committee. We already have separate conveners for the golf course, tennis courts, tennis pavilion and the bowling green. However, we do desperately need someone to oversee the Den in general, especially during summer months.

## **Ranger Event in the Den**

On July 9th, Aberdeenshire's country ranger will be holding another 'splash about' in search of water beasts in the burn. For further details or to book a place contact Helen Young on 01569 768292.

Jenny Thomson *Correspondence Secretary*

# Auchenblae Friendship Group



According to the dictionary a friend is someone who rejoices with you when times are happy and commiserates with you and supports you when things are not so good. That is what we are at the Friendship Group. Our meetings are full of laughter. We might be playing games, listening to a talk, enjoying music, watching a film, out for lunch, or doing gentle keep fit exercises, but we are enjoying ourselves.

We meet every Wednesday morning in the Church Hall, apart from during school holidays. During July and the beginning of August we are usually on holiday. We certainly have room for more people to join us. If you don't know many people and feel a bit shy about mixing with strangers don't worry.. You will very quickly fit in with the rest of us. You don't have to be a pensioner. We are there for everyone who is at a loose end. For more information phone Barbara on 320 911 or ask any member, and do give us a try.

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## Kincardine & Deeside Befriending

**Honorary Treasurer needed to support us in our quest to reduce loneliness in older people**



We are looking for a Committee Member with financial experience to oversee the organisation's financial affairs.

The Treasurer will be working in co-operation with the Administrator in the Stonehaven office, and will guide and advise the Management Committee on all matters relating to the financial administration and charity accounting of Kincardine & Deeside Befriending. The Treasurer will be a member of the Management Committee, and will need to attend its meetings (2 hours every 6-8 weeks).

Anyone interested should call the office on **01569 765714**.

42-46 Barclay Street, Stonehaven, AB39 2FX

Scottish Charity No. SC032594

# Pre-School

The Playroom, Auchenblae Village Hall

## Baby & Bump

Parent & Baby Holders  
Friday 2.15pm - 10.15am  
Church Hall

## 2s Group

Monday & Thursday  
9am - 3pm

## Pre-School

Monday - Friday  
9.15am - 12.25pm



*For more information*

*Call-07817505657*

*Email-[apsg@inbox.com](mailto:apsg@inbox.com)*

Website

[auchenblaepreschool.wix.com/apsg](http://auchenblaepreschool.wix.com/apsg)

*news - events - information*



Find us on Facebook [AuchenblaePreSchoolGroup](#)

## **Auchenblae Gardens Open Weekend July 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.**

To celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Gardens Open event we are to stretch the boundaries somewhat to include a couple of 'out of town' gardens.

Donald and Sue Barrie have offered us the unique chance to visit their home at Glensaugh Lodge where we can wander through the garden they have been restoring over the last 15 years.

The upper garden contains a mixture of herbaceous perennials and shrubs and on a lower level we will find the productive kitchen garden, fruit trees and the working poly-tunnel.

In summer Sue harvests, freezes, pickles and jams much of the produce, as well as looking after guests staying in the holiday apartment which she operates in one wing of the Lodge.

The work at Glensaugh Lodge is very much a family affair with youngsters Eliza and Adam getting stuck in to help their Mum and Dad in this extensive project.

Nearer to home lies another interesting garden, at Crann-Tara adjacent to Glenfarquhar Lodge. Previously an accommodation block for the Templehill Community, the house had lain empty for several years before Margaret Pitt and Roy Vobes moved in.

During the first three years their work was concentrated on removing "every weed known to man" from what was meant to be the garden. Since then they have converted two paddocks into magnificent grounds filled with herbaceous borders, cut-out beds, bushes, heathers, perennial plants as well as a wild flower area and woodland.

There will be lots more interesting things to see, both at Glensaugh and Crann-Tara, but we must keep some surprises for the weekend!

Collect your entry tickets, which are priced at £7.00 and include delicious Strawberry Teas, from the village hall. Gardens will be open from 1pm and 4pm on both Saturday and Sunday and you are welcome to spread your visit over two days. Transport will be on hand if required.

Further details will appear on the Village Noticeboard beside the cafe, Auchenblae Noticeboard on Facebook and press reports nearer the time. The attached photograph shows the wild flower meadow at Crann-Tara.



## Palestinian Picnic

**Saturday 18th June 2016**

Upper Cairnhill

Inverurie Street

Auchenblae

1pm until late. Come any time

Fun for all the family:-

~~ Palestinian/Scottish lunch

~~ Cairn building

~~ Stone painting

~~ Tibetan prayer flag painting

Wind and weather permitting we'll have a bonfire, so don't come in your best clothes. If wet we'll have the picnic inside. My wee house has elastic walls.

Please let me know if you are coming so there'll be enough lunch and paint for you. There's tea enough for every one at any time.

**Gillian Siddons 01561 320360.**Zaytoun ( olive in Arabic ) produce for sale.

Donations for Gillian's Cycle Palestine Challenge which is to take place next year 2017 in Palestine, to raise money for Medical Aid for Palestinians.



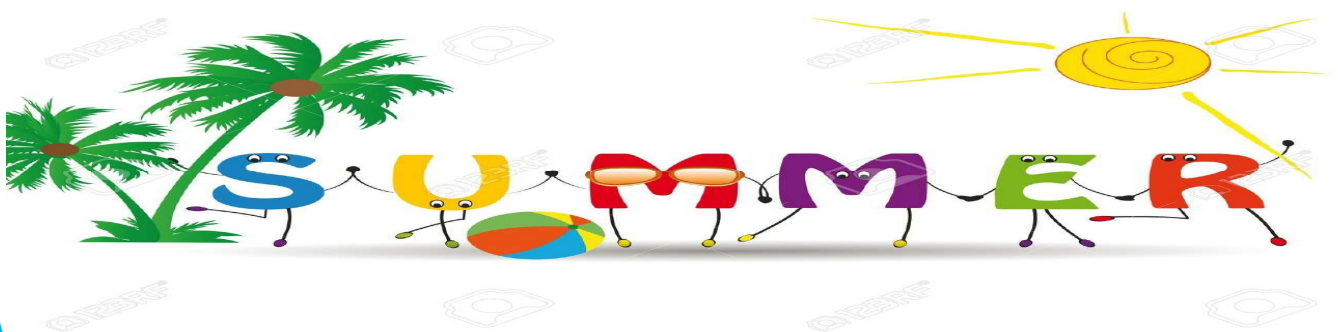
# PARENT, BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Come for a chat, a cuppa and a play!

**AUCHENBLAE CHURCH HALL**

**Fridays 9.15 – 11.15am**

1<sup>st</sup> session free/£2.50 per session including snacks.  
For more information email [apsg@inbox.com](mailto:apsg@inbox.com)  
[www.facebook.com/AuchenblaePreSchoolGroup](http://www.facebook.com/AuchenblaePreSchoolGroup)





## New minister for West Mearns Parish

Following the sad death of Catherine Hepburn in March last year we are very pleased that a new minister will be formally “inducted” to West Mearns Parish on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at a special service at 7pm in Auchenblae Church, all are Welcome. The West Mearns Parish includes Drumlithie, Fordoun, Fettercairn and Edzell Woods as well as Auchenblae and we have churches with regular services in Auchenblae, Glenbervie (opposite Macphees) and in Fettercairn. Auchenblae’s services are at 11am each Sunday except for the first Sunday of each month.



Rev Brian Smith has recently come to Scotland from South Africa where he was a Methodist minister and he has now completed his familiarisation with the Church of Scotland. His wife, Dr Linda, is now a lecturer in Social Work at the Robert Gordon University.

Brian plays the guitar, has a private pilot's licence and enjoys 4x4 off-roading and sailing. He seems to be full of ideas for how to develop the parish and is very excited about coming here.

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### **N.E.O.S. North East Open Studios 10th – 18th Sept .**

Local artists, Margaret Pitt, April Pressley, Audrey Dargie, Jenny Watt Colbeck and Martin Nelson will be showing their work at Crann – Tarra Studio at Templehill near Auchenblae.

Our venue will be open from 11am to 5pm daily where you will be able to view prints, paintings and sculpture. You may also watch some of us at work.

This free event is a relaxed opportunity for the general public to meet artists and view or buy their work in an informal setting.

We look forward to meeting visitors who should follow the N.E.O.S. signs out of the top of the village to find our venue.

For more information go to  
[www.northeastopenstudios.co.uk](http://www.northeastopenstudios.co.uk)





AUCHENBLAE CINEMA CLUB  
VILLAGE HALL  
AUCHENBLAE  
meeting every second Wednesday of the month

"A BIZARRE AND FASCINATING TRUE STORY. A TOTAL DELIGHT SO RARE IN MOVIES TODAY.  
MAGGIE SMITH GIVES A SPECTACULAR PERFORMANCE."

-Rex Reed, NEW YORK OBSERVER

ACADEMY AWARD WINNER  
MAGGIE SMITH

ALEX JENNINGS

# THE LADY IN THE VAN

DIRECTED BY NICHOLAS HYTNER

SCREENPLAY BY ALAN BENNETT FROM HIS MEMOIR



**Showing at 7.30 p.m. on Saturday 18th June**

A MOSTLY TRUE STORY

This year's

# CHARITY ART SHOW

*Will be Held on*

**2nd, 3rd & 4th September**

Tree of Life



*Following last year's success and support, we are planning to hold our 2nd Charity Art Show this September with all the proceeds going to a local charity (yet to be confirmed). In addition to last year's format we will be having a Sunday afternoon opening. Local artist Jenny Colbeck has kindly offered to arrange a Kids and Teens Art Competition P1 up to S6. An opportunity for our young artists to show how creative they can be. All entries will be displayed during the exhibition and prizes*

*awarded for each age group. **Contact Jenny for details and entry forms on 01561 320998 or at jennycolbeck1@gmail.com. If you wish to be involved or exhibit please contact Alice Morgan on tel.320081 or alicemorgan@btinternet.com***



# Dates for your diary

|                                 |                 |               |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Palestinian Picnic              | Upper Cairnhill | 18th June     |
| Cinema Club—The Lady in the Van | Village Hall    | 18th June     |
| Charity Art Show                | Village Hall    | 2nd—4th Sept. |
| NEOS                            | Various         | 10-18th Sept. |



AUCHENBLAE CINEMA CLUB  
VILLAGE HALL  
AUCHENBLAE  
meeting every second Wednesday of the month

Pretty much a full house for the last blockbuster—Star Wars VII The Force Awakens. Plenty of action, drama and humour. New heroes, New Baddies and some familiar faces all combined to make this a very entertaining film appreciated by all that attended.

Watch for posters in the hall for our next offering for a kids film and check out page 10 to see details of our next film

*Auchenblae Cinema was first conceived in 2010 and has been 5 years in the making. Our aim was to bring the full cinema experience to Auchenblae and surrounding villages without the expense of traveling to Aberdeen. We have installed a permanent professional 7.1 surround sound setup, full HD projection system and 5.5 meter screen to give what we think is the best cinema experience in the Mearns. Add soon we shall be getting delivery of our new upholstered seating.*

*Our screenings are held once a month on Saturdays with an afternoon family friendly matinee and an evening film. Tickets are sold on the door or can be booked in advance through our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/auchenblaecinema>*

*We operate a membership loyalty scheme for £10 per annum that entitles you to a £1 discount on tickets, a free bag of popcorn and hot drink per screening.*

*The Auchenblae Cinema Club is a not for profit organisation run by volunteers we meet every second Wednesday of the month in the hall to organise programs etc. all are welcome.*

*For more info contact the admin here at <http://theblae.org/> or email [cinema@theblae.org](mailto:cinema@theblae.org)*

*Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/auchenblaecinema/>*

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

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

**Memo Production**—Lindsay Cochrane

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