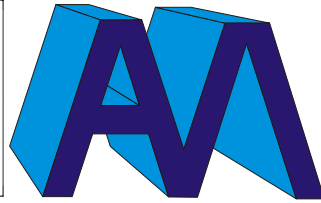


THE AUCHENBLAE MESSENGER
THE NEWSLETTER
FOR THE
AUCHENBLAE COMMUNITY



Messenger Distributors

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Copies of the Messenger can be collected from the local shops, Drumlithie Post Office and Auchenblae Surgery.

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"Keeping you informed"

The Publisher of this issue was
Eddie Cairns

**Auchenblae Messenger Supplement
MONTHLY MEMO**

Sat 24th April	Soup & Sandwich Lunch	Den
Fri 30th April	Fashion Show	Village Hall
Wed 5th May	Tennis Coaching Starts	Den
Thu. 6th May	WRI AGM	Village Hall
Sat 8th May	WRI Cookery Demonstration	Village Hall
Sat 15th May	Stars in your Eyes	Village hall
Wed. 19 th March	Auchenblae Guild Supper	Clatterin Brig
Sun 30th May	Light House Barbecue	Mayfield
Mon 31 st May	PTA Meeting	Auchenblae School
Sun. 6 th June	Sponsored Cycle Run	Village
Sat 19 th June	Guided Walk	Monboddo
<u>Community Association</u>	24 th - 29th May	GALA
	3 rd – 5th September	ART SHOW
	3 rd December	CHRISTMAS CONCERT
<u>Auchenblae School PTA</u>	31st May	PTA Meeting
	12 th June	School Summer Fayre
	18 th or 25 th	June School Sports Day (Weather permitting)
	21 st - 23 rd June	P7 Visits to Mearns Academy.
<u>CHRISTIAN AID WEEK</u>	9 th – 15 th May.	See page 7 for details!

ALL INFORMATION FOR INCLUSION IN THE MAY MEMO
SHOULD BE GIVEN TO ANN RENNIE, 'MERNIS HOWE' Tel. 01561 320622
BY 15TH MAY 2004

Please note that the next edition of 'The Messenger' will be published during June 2004. The closing date for inclusion in this edition will be Tuesday 15th June 2004.

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

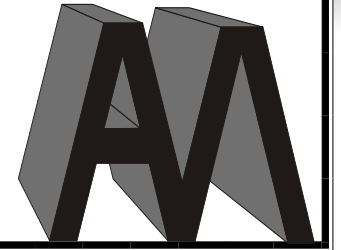
Otherwise, hand to Donald Rennie - Mernis Howe. If you have access to a word processor, a floppy disc version (PC only) would be appreciated.

Thanks from all the team!

We're on the web!
<http://www.mearns.org>

The
Auchenblae Messenger
Volume 6 Issue 2

May 2004



Editor's Comments

Welcome to the 33rd. edition of The Auchenblae Messenger and, once again, thank you for your continued support. Special thanks, as usual, go to all who contribute in any way to making The Messenger 'happen'.

The production of your magazine is now being more easily facilitated (thanks to further Lottery funding) by our recent acquisition of a new high-speed laser printer. The quality of the text, we believe, is much improved and our graphics can now be favourably compared with most of the professional 'Daily Press'.

In the March edition of The Messenger, you may remember that it was indicated that we might soon be in a position to produce a 'Colour Supplement' to accompany each edition of your magazine. The Production Team are pleased to tell you that we are now able to make this possible.

It seems, at last, that Winter has been more-or-less banished and that Spring is now firmly established. Isn't it a wonderful thing that a ray of sunshine can make us all feel so much better? Whilst there are good reasons for this, none-the-less, whatever our beliefs or indeed the absence of them, this will always remain as one of the eternal truths.

At this time of year, I'm sure that we are beginning to look forward to all the various Village activities that are associated with the Spring and Summer seasons. So let's be there and support all those who make these Village events possible.

Meanwhile, have a good Summer and enjoy reading your copy of The Auchenblae Messenger.

Ross Muiry

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The 'Den Opening' 2004 Sat 24th April



Soup & Sandwich Lunches
served 11.30 – 2 pm
Adults £2 Children £1
**** Sales Table ** Raffle ****
**** Donations Welcome ****

Trees and shrubs were planted in the Den from last year's proceeds. Come along and lend your Support !.

Broadband News

Auchenblae now has a Ready for Service Date 23/02/2005. Auchenblae and Laurencekirk need a new main data cable. Bervie gets hooked up 4/08/2004, they hit their trigger 3 days earlier than Auchenblae but no major works are required to ADSL enable that exchange. Drumlithie is scheduled for the 21st of March. Fettercairn will have their date by the end of April.

AUCHENBLAE SURGERY

Travel Vaccines



If you are planning a foreign trip either for business or for a holiday please seek early advice on any travel vaccinations required. We need at least 4-6 weeks notice for most trips but if your travel involves several destinations or is for a long period of time, 8-10 weeks is advisable. Some courses of immunisation can take up to 8 weeks to complete and there are some vaccines that we have to order as needed. There is a travel advice form for you to complete to enable the nurse to determine which immunisations are required. Please ask for the form at the practice reception.

Auchenblae Over Sixties Friendship Group

We are now ready for our Spring/Summer session. We have a full programme planned to entertain you. Keep coming if you want to know what we are doing.

It is good to see that our new members have decided to stick with us. They obviously enjoy our mornings. If you over sixty and would like to join us, either come along to the Church Hall at 10.15 a.m. every Wednesday, or come up on the school bus. If you let someone know, that can soon be arranged.

I was given a new name for the group the other day_ "The Yellow Bus Club"!

Barbara Strouts



Auchenblae Community Association

Stars in your eyes

Saturday 15th May

Village Hall

Please phone

Elizan Fyfe on 320707

or **Susie Brown on 320755**

for further information



AUCHENBLAE PRE-SCHOOL GROUP



Toddlers – Mondays 9.30 – 11.30 am

2's Group – Tues & Thurs 12.45-2.15 pm

Playgroup – Mon – Fri 9.15 – 11.45 am

For availability please contact Trish on 340 534 or Pam on 320 168

PRE-SHOOL GROUP CLEANER REQUIRED

We require a cleaner for approx 2 hours per week.

Summer Hours may also be available

For Further Information please contact Pam Sellar on 01561 320168

Our Hero's

I would like, through these pages, to offer huge thanks to ALL of those people who turned out in the most appalling weather in late February to keep the rest of us going.

Our local shops ALL opened ALL of the time. Thank you W. Lindsay, Post Office and Metelski's. Even our socialising was catered for through the Drum. Our doorstep deliveries of milk didn't fail.

Our mail made it through (most of the way even on the worst day). Our doctors and nurses and health visitors were out doing their jobs. Our bins were emptied. Our roads and pavements were cleared. Coal and Oil was delivered and suppliers for our shops made the effort to get through. Most of the time the buses that are the life line to many, got through something that must have resembled the Cresta Run at times.

And if I've forgotten anyone (and I will have) thanks to you too. All of you.

AUCHENBLAE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Auchenblae Community Association

The **Gala Programme** has yet to be finalised but provisional arrangements are:

Sunday 23rd May - 2 pm - Family Fun Day - Kids & Kites

Monday 24th May - 6.30 pm - Family Walking Treasure Hunt

Tuesday 25th May - 7 for 7.30 pm - Bingo

Thursday 27th May - 27th May 6.30 pm - Car Treasure Hunt

Friday 28th May - Childrens' Party & Disco

Saturday 29th May - GALA DAY - Duck Races - Barbecue - Teas & Home Baking - Stalls - Bric -a-Brac - Bouncy Castle - Bowling - Raffle - Tombola - Whisky Trail - Pony Rides - Entertainment for all!!

**** See Posters for the Full Programme ****

Auchenblae Community Association would like to thank all those who helped raise £389,000 at the recent "Buttery Morning"

AUCHENBLAE GUILD

We have come almost to the end of the session – how time does indeed fly!

On Easter Sunday Evening an enthusiastic congregation gathered in the Church to sing favourite Easter hymns led by the Kirkton Singers (augmented for the occasion) with one of our Guild members at the organ. The Sunday School children who were not away visiting Granny also took part and there was a violin solo item so the programme would not be all vocal. Our Minister very ably led us through the service which was followed by tea and Hot Cross Buns (courtesy of Macphie of Glenbervie). The Church was beautifully decorated with

daffodils and greenery (donated by kind friends at Drumlithie, Glenbervie and Auchenblae) and coloured Easter Eggs. All were invited to take a bunch of daffodils home when they left. An offering, taken for Christian Aid, raised £170.

The final meeting took place on Wednesday April 21st when there was a short AGM followed by a DIY programme based on the discussion topic for the year – "*Who cares?*" and a special cup of tea.

This *Messenger* may be in your hands before the end of April, so don't forget the Fashion Show by 'Encore' of Fettercairn in the Village Hall on Friday 30th at 7.30p.m., tickets (£4.00) will be on sale at the door. Ladies – you may find just the outfit you require! Proceeds are in aid of Guild funds and project for the year.

ON Wednesday May 5th, Auchenblae will join with members of other Guilds throughout Kin-cardine and Deeside when they meet at Ardoe House for the AGM and Annual Supper Rally organised by the Presbytery Guild Council. Eight members plan to attend this event. A special bus will stop at the Square in Auchenblae.



(Time still to be confirmed at time of writing).

The Clatterin' Brig Restaurant will find us enjoying a buffet supper along with friends from Glenbervie and Fettercairn Guilds on Wednesday 19th May. Transport arrangements are yet to be made. We look forward to June 9th when our Guild Link partners from Ferryhill Church in Aberdeen will visit us for lunch and (weather permitting) a walk in the Den followed by tea back in the Church Hall.

Free Desk Top Publishing Course

As a result of the funding the Messenger has been awarded by Direct Grants, we will be running a Desk Top Publishing course towards the end of May 2004 or early June.

The main reason for the course is to let any interested people have a go at producing a Messenger or simply if someone wants to increase their computer knowledge.

The Course will be aimed at users who are confident at using a computer and a mouse, no other computer skills are required.

The course will be at a trainers near Arbroath, transport and lunch will also be provided free. Contact Eddie Cairns on 01561 320494 if even slightly interested for a chat.

If you want to go on the course without a commitment to join the Messenger Team you are welcome. We can run two courses if there is the demand. There is also funding to pay for child care while attending the course if required.

Colour Supplement

We have also been granted funding to produce a year's worth of Colour Supplements. This should be the first issue with a Colour Supplement, if not we will have colour in the Summer issue and for 5 future issues.

Would any organisation wanting their activities displayed in colour in one of the future issues contact Eddie Cairns on 01561 320494. Remember the Messenger Digital Camera is available and can take 300 high quality, 2 Mega pixel pictures on the installed memory card.



AUCHENBLAE SCHOOL

SCHOOL FAYRE



SATURDAY 12TH JUNE 2004
1-3 pm

BOTTLE STALL # RAFFLE
CAKE & CANDY
WHISKY TRAIL # CHOCOLATE TRAIL
HOT DOGS

FANCY DRESS COMPETITION
& LOTS MORE!

ENTRANCE FEE; ADULTS £1.50 CHILDREN 50p
(THIS INCLUDES REFRESHMENTS)

EVERYONE WELCOME

AUCHENBLAE W.R.I

AUCHENBLAE BRANCH

Thursday 6th May 2004

Annual General Meeting

*"Talk on His Travels by
John Burleigh"*

Competition: Vase of Flowers
Novelty Competition: Novelty Key Ring

Duty Committee Member: Pat Mennie



COOKERY DEMONSTRATION

Saturday 8th May
Auchenblae Hall
10.30 am

by
"The Two Fat Laddies"

Entry Fee £1 open to non
members



AUCHENBLAE SCHOOL PTA

With our summer term well underway, the school is entering a busy period.

HM Inspectorate of Education will inspect the school. As part of a national sample, the inspection is to find out about the school and evaluate the quality of the education it provides. It is not to test individual children. All parents have received a questionnaire and the inspectors will be in school 10th – 13th May 2004.

Our School Fayre takes place on Sat 12th June 1-3 pm. Any donations for the bottle stall or raffle can be dropped off at school anytime.

School Sports Day will take place on Fri 18th June – weather dependent (25th if postponed)

Mon 21st – Wed 23rd see our **P7's visiting Mearns Academy**, with a meeting for their parents on the Monday evening at 7 pm.

Thank you to everyone who donated to our recent **Bag – 2 – School collection**. Once again the village showed great generosity and a cheque for school funds will arrive soon.

Some of the children are participating in **Cycling Proficiency Training** at the moment. Thanks to Mrs Bulman, Mrs Sellar & Mrs Wood for making this possible.

A few of the children held a small **bric-a-brac sale** a while back; the sum of £10 was raised. It was decided to donate this to 'The Friends of Carronhill School'.

Please note that **parking is not allowed** on the yellow zigzag lines or in the bus stops at school.

The next PTA meeting is on Mon 31st May at 7.30 pm.
All parents are invited to attend.

Dates for you Diary

Mon 10th – Thu 13th May – HMI School Inspection

Mon 31st May – PTA Meeting

Sat 12th June – School Fayre 1-3pm 'The Olympics'

Fri 18th June – School Sports (25th if postponed)

Mon 21st – Wed 23rd June – P7's visit to Mearns Academy.

Mon 21st June – Meeting for P7 Parents at Mearns Academy.



WEST MEARN'S PARISH CHURCH



Minister: Reverend Catherine A. Hepburn—Tel. 01561 340203

Every Sunday: Fettercairn Church 9.30 a.m.

and

Every Sunday (except 1st) 11.00 a.m. Auchenblae Church

VISITORS AND THEIR CHILDREN WELCOME AT ALL SERVICES

Auchenblae Tennis



Due to a potential clash with football training we have now changed the proposed small group tennis sessions to the following:

Wednesdays	5:00 - 5:30 pm	Young Juniors
Wednesdays	5:30 – 6:30 pm	Junior All-comers

Commencing: Wednesday 5th May, 2004

The **Young Juniors** session will be for youngsters who are just beginning to play and are still developing hand/eye coordination and rudimentary ball control skills. This session will be run without a trained coach and will cost 50p per child per session (plus annual courts season ticket).

The **Junior All-comers** session will be for all other youngsters of all ages. This will be managed by Wendy Byres (our LTA qualified coach) and will cost £1.50 per child per session (plus annual courts season ticket).

There will also be an **Adult** session on Wednesdays commencing on **5th May from 6:45 to 7:45 pm**. ALL participants of ALL abilities will be most welcome. Any costs will be shared between the participants and annual season tickets will be available from Gina Easter.

Should you have any queries or would like any further information, please call Gina Easter (320269) or Carol Shea (320748).

AUCHENBLAE & DISTRICT HERITAGE SOCIETY

The Heritage Society is going very well indeed and there are a lot of interesting plans for the future, including a guided walk round Monboddo on 19th June.

Another project is the restoration of the old Auchenblae Hearse House near the Church. It was recently discovered that the thick ivy which has covered it for many years had peeled itself back to reveal brickwork in fairly good condition underneath... see the picture. This was a pleasant surprise, and plans are afoot to set-to and give the house a hand in its obvious eagerness to be restored to its former glory! We are seeking professional advice on the next step, but hope to make progress soon.



I should like to thank all those who have supported the society by their attendance at meetings, or their service on the committee. Without the efforts of all of you to preserve our heritage our successors in the village would be infinitely poorer.

CHARLES GORDON - Chairman.

LIGHT HOUSE

As summer approaches, the Light House is getting ready for the holiday break after a year of laughter and learning for boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 12.



Our teaching on Jesus' Sermon On The Mount may be slightly off-beat, but the new Sunday School material we're using certainly gets the message home!

The Light House family Barbecue and Prize-giving will be at Mayfield on Sunday May 30 at 12 noon. There will be a Light House meeting at The Willows in the morning as usual from 11 a.m.

Even though we're nearing the end of term, newcomers will always be warmly welcomed, and a special welcome would be given to any brave teenagers or young adults willing to come and give a hand with the hectic games each week!

Please telephone Charles or Brenda Gordon on 320371.

AUCHENBLAE PARKS COMMITTEE

The Den will officially open for the Summer Season on Saturday 24th April

As usual, to mark the occasion a Soup and Sandwich Lunch will be held in the pavilion. Proceeds from last year's event were used to buy many of the new trees and shrubs you'll see throughout the Den. Thanks to Margaret Muiry for organising this and for her work as Den Convenor over the past two years. Our new Convenor is Bill Barrie with the help of Nicola Hendry who has this year, completed a course in Play Equipment management. Hopefully a good turn out on the 24th will enable us to further enhance the area.



Work Weekend in the Den

Despite the heavy rain of Saturday 3rd April, two valiant souls turned up, just as we decided to abandon the day's work plan! Thank you Allan and Arthur. Although we all ended up like drookit rats, we worked well together and all in all, it was surprising just how much we got done by five o'clock. Sunday's weather was much kinder to us, but the turn out was disappointing considering how many people use the Den, one way or another. However, we were not altogether disheartened, as those who did come, worked really hard. Thank you to them.



The Golf Course

The Golf season is now in 'full swing', with members from as far a field as Aberdeen, Dundee, Aboyne and even London, happy to be back on the Course after winter.

Remember, local youngsters up to the age of 18 can try their hand for just £5 for a full day's play. If they find they enjoy it, a year's Season Ticket costs £50.00 and their day ticket expenses will be reimbursed.

Adult membership costs £90 and Senior Citizen's £70. In the interests of safety, children between the ages of eight and twelve must be accompanied by an adult.



The Den Early April Work Day



IST AUCHENBLAE BROWNIES



New Brownies getting ready for their Promise ceremony with help from Young Leader Kathryn Nicoll. They invited family and friends along and served tea as part of their hostess badge.

Back row from left to right ; Charlotte, Rebecca, Kirsty, Rosie and Isabel,
Front row from left to right ; Micheala , Kathryn and Gemma.

Part of our Brownie programme is enjoying the out of doors. We are so lucky here in Auchenblae being able to take the girls out to look at nature and play wide games, especially in the Den. So, please, please could the dog owners clean up after their pets.

Evelyn and the team.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

THIS YEAR

IS FROM

9th – 15th MAY



By supporting it, you are among millions of people who believe **poverty is a scandal we do not have to accept.**

Every year in the month of May people from West Mearns Church in Fettercairn, Auchenblae, Drumlithie, Fordoun, and latterly Edzell Woods have appealed to the community among whom we are set, to make a contribution to the work of Christian Aid – and as more and more people have come to understand what Christian Aid is about, our gifts have continued to increase.

Christian Aid is an agency of all the main-stream churches in the UK and Ireland who seek to expose the scandal of poverty in the world and contributed over £14 million last year towards its eradication.

In Christian Aid we are well aware that what we contribute is only a tiny part of the answer to the enormous problems created by poverty, but we do not give up because our resources seem so small. We support development work around the world, wherever the need is greatest irrespective of religion. We challenge the root causes of poverty by exerting considerable pressure to change the trade rules that keep poor people poor, and we seek to bring about a better and happier world by building a movement for justice and fairness for all men, women and children regardless of race, religion, culture or nationality.

In Christian Aid Week we seek to do our part – yes, right here where we are – to bring that ideal nearer to a reality.

We're counting on everyone to do – and to give – what they can in Christian Aid Week 2004 from 9th – 15th May.

Thank you all, in advance.

Anyone, young, old or in between who would like to help, and who hasn't helped before should contact the local organiser who will make sure there is a part for you to play.

The local Christian Aid Organiser is :

Donald Rennie, Mernis Howe, Inverurie St. Auchenblae,
Tel. 01561 320622.