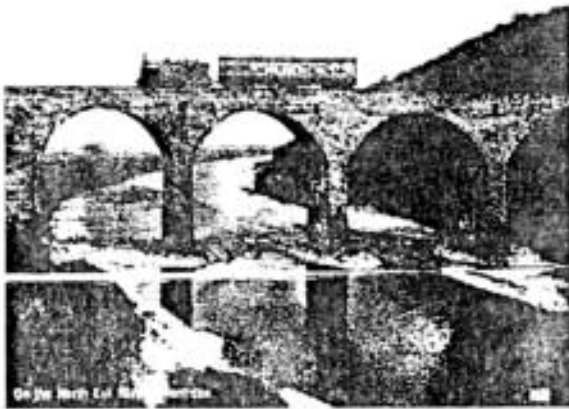


# ST CYRUS NEWSLETTER

Issue 3 February 2005

## LAST TRAIN



The above is an image from a postcard showing a train on the North Water Bridge. The line was opened on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 1865 by the Montrose & Inverbervie Railway Company, amalgamated with the North British Railway Company in 1881 which in turn was taken over by LNER in 1923. 25 years later the railways were nationalised. The St Cyrus station closed for passenger service on 1<sup>st</sup> October 1951. However, a special steam hauled train (0'6'0 locomotive No. 65647 ) visited the Inverbervie to Montrose branch line on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1966 apparently organised by a local housewife. Freight traffic finished in 1966.

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Please feel free to send any information about you or a business or gossip with a St Cyrus flavour for inclusion in the next newsletter. Maybe you have a question to ask or a poem to share or a joke to tell - or something for sale - get in touch with:-

Joyce Joy  
e-mail: [joycejoy@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:joycejoy@tiscali.co.uk)  
Tel 01674 850340

Or write to me at:-  
Rosefield House  
Beach Road  
St Cyrus  
DD10 0BJ

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Cliff Footpath.

Works are starting in late January to re-open the cliff path leading from Beach Road to St Cyrus Nature Reserve and beach. The cliff slope must be made stable before footpath contractors can begin work to repair and upgrade the footpath.

Following the advice of Jacobs Babbie Ltd (engineering company) SNH have employed rope access specialists - Trac International to scale loose rock from the cliff slope above the path. The rock will be removed to a stable position below the path.

The cliff path will remain closed to the public for the duration of both the scaling and path repair contracts. It is essential that people adhere to these closures and to the requests of the Trac International staff, as the area will be subject to provoked rockfall. Failure to comply with notices could result in serious injury or death.

Scaling is scheduled to begin on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January and end on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2005. Once completed path works are scheduled to begin on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2005 (weather dependant).

The path will be made wider, the surface improved and the steep sandy section at the base of the path will be easier to walk on. The latter will be welcome news to regular visitors who will be accustomed to working up a sweat trudging uphill in summer!

The path will re-open to the public in mid February 2005, with the southern leg remaining closed due to continued risk of rockfall. The southern leg will be monitored for any reduction in rockfall, with the possibility of re-opening in the future.

### HALL - AGM

The AGM will take place on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm in the Committee room in the hall. New members are needed to serve on the committee for 2005/06. Anyone interested in attending the meetings or joining the committee should contact Dorothy Tuck on 850 003. All are welcome to attend.

### St Cyrus Community Council - AGM

Due to stormy weather the January meeting for the above was cancelled and re-scheduled for Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February which is also their AGM

All are welcome to attend...

## CHURCH

### Tsunami Donations - £300

Congratulations and well done to all who helped with the church's collection of dry goods for the Tsunami disaster on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> January. The whole parish collected 90 boxes of food. In addition, Mrs Tuck gave St Cyrus hall free, Wendy Sparrow baked. Proceeds from coffee's and donations raised **£300** in St Cyrus to help pay Blythswood for the cost of transport. Well done to all who rallied around.

### St Cyrus Hotel

A collection organised by Jack Nielson in the Hotel on New Years day raised £111 for the Tsunami appeal.

### Dowry Brides for 2004

The St Cyrus Dowry Brides for 2004 were :-  
Zoe Wiggin (nee Harrod)  
Tessa Hourston (nee Craig)

### Montrose and Grampian Police

Please note the village is covered by the Grampian Police and the tel number 0845 600 5700 should be utilised for calls concerning any type of minor crime etc. e.g petty vandalism, anti social behaviour, minor road traffic issues etc. The Police appreciate any information, no matter how trivial it may seem, so that they can do their utmost to keep the village crime free. N.B. If a caller phones the Montrose office about matters in St Cyrus they will be re-directed to Grampian Police, which means a short delay and sometimes frustration for the caller.

Gary Jobson (Special Constable)  
St Cyrus

## GOING ON A GAP !!!!!!!

### Peter Gettings

Hot on the trail of Hannah Openshaw, another St Cyrus teenager has been selected by Project Trust for a Gap Year to South Africa this year. Peter aged 17 of Upper Warburton Farm will be working with street children, mainly boys 6- 16 yrs who for whatever reasons have been excluded from mainstream education.

Peter has already raised £1030 of the required £3950. He has done this by selling plants, attending car boot sales and by holding a bottle stall at the Montrrose X-Mas extravaganza, which raised \$251.00 This year Peter intends to sell plants again in the Spring so look out for the sign going up. He intends to hold more car boot sales, a balloon race, a village dance - hope to see you all there, and a giant teddy raffle at his school - Mearns Academy. Peter would like to thank the people of the village for their generosity, which they have already shown him. However he still has a long way to go and donations for future raffles, bottle stalls etc. would be very much appreciated.

Contact Peter on 01674 850483 and e-mail peter-gettings@yahoo.co.uk

### Sarah Joy

Blazing her own trail is Sarah Joy - 17yrs old from Beach Road - who on December 2004 was selected by Link Overseas Exchange (a Scottish Charity Group based in Dundee (charity No. 22028). Sarah will go overseas in August 2005 for 6 months. Sarah will take part in a community based scheme - most likely teaching conversational English to children and she will be fully integrated into the culture of the hosts.

Her particular location will be revealed in April - it could be India, China or Sri-Lanka - she hopes it will be Sri-Lanka. Sarah is to raise £4020 which covers air tickets, food, accommodation, immunisation, back up, admin etc. So far she has raised £1500. Sarah will be arranging local fundraising, including a Primary school party/disco later this year. Details available in local press.

Sawadli Ka from Hannah Openshaw in Phrae (Thailand)  
(Hannah was not affected by the Tsunami as she is 13 hrs from the sea)

Hannah did manage to have a Turkey Christmas lunch - with the head, legs and wings all attached as an extra surprise - Mmm tasty. On Christmas day she had pizza. Her school celebrated X-Mas by doing a nativity play and singing carols including actions taught by Hannah and her buddy Rebecca. She has also been teaching her class to sing "Rudolf" - she herself sang in front of the school audience of 3500 people which included 20 random American people and an Alaskan church group. She had two days for New Year in Bangkok, travelling with a friend. They took an 11 hour night train to Bangkok, going 3<sup>rd</sup> class cost 150Baht (£2.13) staying at a youth hostel. They managed to visit Siam square and then went to Thailand's tallest building which is a hotel. On one of the higher floors is a revolving roof with amazing views - so lots of photos taken that day. New Year celebrations were low key for obvious reasons. Hannah has also been visiting a world heritage site - Temples, Budah etc which was very peaceful. Her weather is a lot cooler now especially in the mornings - just like St Cyrus really....She has also discovered being told 5 times a day "you are beautiful" can be very wearing (must make a note in my diary to go there myself - soon - my ego needs it.)

Hannah has been in Thailand almost 5 months now and one of the few things she does miss is - wait for it - a cheese sandwich, with proper bread - well who can blame her (! remember having a cheese and tomato sandwich in Nairobi 20 years ago - what can I say) She finds a lot of the food quite sweet.

Good to hear her news and to know she is safe.....

## PROFILE OF A "LOCAL"

Name.....**Tom Kelso**

Age.....well kept secret.....

Occupation... **Retired Captain Shipping Corporation of India**

WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO St CYRUS AND HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED HERE??  
My wife's home village - 1983.

Q. What is your favourite film?

A. All the James Bond films

Q. Who is your hero?

A. Clinton

Q. What makes you cry?

A. Onions

Q. What is your favourite meal?

A. Sweet and sour king prawns

Q. If you win the lottery what would you buy first?

A. Equipment for Stracathro Hospital

Q. What book are you reading at the moment?

A. Himalaya - Michael Palin

Q. Who would you most like to be stuck on a desert island with?

A. Lennox Lewis (Dolly Parton was my first choice)

Q. Who's music do you like just now?

A. The Corrs - Irish folk singers

Q. If you had to live in another country where would it be?

A. India

Q. Have you met anyone famous?

A. Lord Mountbatten

Q. What do you like best about St Cyrus?

A. Lovely countryside, friendly neighbours and the Garden Birds.

## A SHORT WALK TO THE NORTH OF ST CYRUS

This walk takes you along the cliffs and optionally crosses the A92 just below the road bends coming into St Cyrus. Please take care at all times and observe the Country Code.

Starting from the car park at the top of St Cyrus cliffs, walk North along the wide path to the Woodston Fishing Station B & B. Continue along the new cliff path away from the B & B in the direction of Johnshaven. This part of the path gives fine views along the length of St Cyrus beach and over the cliffs down to the sea.

At the boundary stone just before going downhill to the old stage-coach bridge you can catch a spectacular glimpse of the remains of the ancient Kaims of Mathers lower through a gap in the cliffs created by the Woodston Burn. At the boundary stone, carefully detour 20 metres or so to the right to a lovely view of a small water falls in the burn. Note that this is not the cliff waterfall which can only be properly observed from sea level and not from this walk.

Go back to the main path and proceed carefully down the path which can be slippery to the old stage-coach bridge. Here is real evidence of the old coast road that existed long

coast the whole way. Can you imagine the vehicles of the time sliding down the slope you've just walked and then climbing up the other side?

Climb up the steps on the far side of the bridge and enjoy more fantastic views. Proceed another 200 metres or so until you see at close quarters the ruins of the medieval Kaims of Mathers castle. The castle is perched 60 feet above the sea on top of a perpendicular and almost inaccessible rock. It is separated from the land by a deep chasm. The elements have pounded at the rock and castle for centuries so that there is not much left now. The castle can be approached by an isthmus which was described two hundred years ago as narrow and almost inaccessible. Today it is even more so and the approach is not recommended. David de Berkeley built the castle in the 13<sup>th</sup> century as a stronghold and refuge after he had taken part in a conspiracy to murder the Sheriff of Kincardine.

Having enjoyed the views of the castle continue another 300 metres to the end of the cliff path. Now we have two options. Option 1 - turn round and go back the same way, or make your way back to St Cyrus via a round trip walk

Back towards the A92. At West Mathers farm go left through the farm complex and proceed along the farm road past some houses until reaching the old railway embankment. Climb up onto the embankment and follow the well trodden footpath back towards St Cyrus remembering that trains travelled along here for over 100 years from Monroese to Bervie, the last being in 1966. We can't follow the old railway embankment all the way back to St Cyrus as the farmers are reclaiming the embankment soil. So drop down from the embankment opposite the side road off the A92 just before the bends into the village and carefully cross the road and take the back roads into the village.

More historical background to St Cyrus can be found in Archibald Watt's book "Highways and Byways round Kincardine".

Submitted by Charles Mossman

**Sadly there were no winners to the quiz from the last edition but the answers were as follows:- Bambi, Alien, Kes, Poltergeist, Barbarella, Tootsie, Jaws, Dune, Gandhi, Ghostbusters, Lassie, Psycho, Titanic, Zulu, Octopussy, Wstworld.**

**THURSDAYS IN THE HALL (SMALL) SEATED GENTLE EXERCISE CLASS-ESPECIALLY FOR OLDER PEOPLE, BUT ALL AGES WELCOME. - 10: AM TO 11.30 AM - £1.20 CONTACT M5orag on 01674 850 656**

For your supply of Aloe Vera health drinks, personal care, cosmetics and skin care products contact:-

Charles and Paula Mossman on 01674 850646.

Our products are grown to organic standards, not tested on animals and carry a 60 day money back guarantee.



## Babysitter...

I have previous experience. Will work any night.

Contact me, Sarah Joy: 01674 850340

All pay goes to funding my gap year!!

Looking for a unique gift?

**Cathy Gillies**  
Stained Glass

Individually themed pieces made to order: Mirrors, Photo Frames, Window Art.

**Tel: 01674 850607**

### FREE

Everyone is welcome for this simple service of worship and teachings of the Christian faith. At the moment, we are studying the "I am" sayings of Jesus. We also hold "Christianity explored" courses, Bible studies and other activities. Why not ask some friends to one of these?

**Services** - First Sunday of each month in Village Hall. 6<sup>th</sup> February, 6<sup>th</sup> March (all 3.00pm)

**Christianity explored** - Tuesdays, dates T.B.A.

**Bible studies** - Daytime and evening

Contact D Gillies 01674 850607

Online audio sermons -

[http://www.stpeters-Dundee.org.uk/online\\_sermons.htm](http://www.stpeters-Dundee.org.uk/online_sermons.htm)  
(David Robertson, Dundee)

## WHO'S JOB

THIS IS A STORY ABOUT FOUR PEOPLE NAMED **EVERYBODY**, **SOMEBODY**, **ANYBODY** AND **NOBODY**

THERE WAS AN IMPORTANT JOB TO BE DONE AND **EVERYBODY** WAS SURE THAT **SOMEBODY** WOULD DO IT. **ANYBODY** COULD HAVE DONE IT, BUT **NOBODY** DID IT.

**SOMEBODY** GOT ANGRY ABOUT THAT, BECAUSE IT WAS **EVERYBODY'S** JOB. **EVERYBODY** THOUGHT **ANYBODY** COULD DO IT, BUT **NOBODY** REALIZED THAT **EVERYBODY** BLAMED **SOMEBODY** WHEN **NOBODY** DID WHAT **ANYBODY** COULD HAVE DONE !!!!!!!

\*\*\*\*\*

## Sheriff soup

Until 1420 the Arbuthnots of Arbuthnot were vegetarians by choice and by descent. In that year they first tasted meat having made a gruel of the Sheriff of the Mearns - a Melville. This tasted so good that Sheriff soup was constantly simmering at the Big Hoose until they ran out of Sheriffs. Thereafter any other piece of scraggy or braxy meat would do for the main ingredient and garden or riverside gathered herbs were added to taste. The recipe also varied with the seasons but was basically as follows:-

1lb Veg - carrots, turnips, onions, potatoes  
 ½ oz butter  
 ½ tbs chopped parsley  
 ½ tbs flour  
 1 bunch freshly gathered herbs  
 Pepper and salt  
 ½ pint milk  
 1 ½ pints of stock (made from stock cubes if Sheriff is not available)

Cut veg finely. Melt butter in saucepan. Add prepared veg, toss, cover and sweat on low heat for 20 mins. Add stock and seasoning. Bring slowly to the boil, add herbs and simmer until vegetables are soft (20 mins). Blend flour with a little water and thicken soup (adding hot to cold first). Add milk, stir well and bring slowly to the boil again, and stir for 3 more minutes. Remove bunch of herbs. Serve hot by placing chopped parsley in a soup tureen and pouring in the soup.

The Viscount of Arbuthnot, CBE, DSC  
 Lord Lieutenant of Kincardineshire.



## DONATIONS

### Newletter

Post Office £21.55  
 St C. Hotel £13.02  
 St C. Filling station £6.81  
 St C. NNR £

### Mail

WRI £372.11  
 Tea Dancers £250.00  
 Bowling Club £170.00

A big thank you to everybody for all of these very kind donations which are greatly received as always. Many thanks.

## NEW HOPE TRUST

On behalf of the above Wendy Sparrow wishes to thank everyone who contributed and helped and everyone who came to the Coffee Morning held on November 2004 to raise the grand sum of £520.00. Also for the wonderful collection of Christmas Shoe Boxes for the Orphans in Moldova. Other donations of bedding was gratefully received.

## CATS

Did you know that Stonehaven Cat Protection has a 5 pen foster unit in St Cyrus?

We usually have at least 5 cats available for re-homing. At one point last year we had 18.... The cats and kittens are all looking for a safe home with lots of love and attention. Some of the cats are never able to adapt to life indoors and so if you need a good "mouser" and you can provide a sheltered spot outdoors then give us a call. We have lovely young cats at the moment perfect for that job.

While the cats wait for that new home we are in desperate need of donations of wet and dry food, bedding, towels, cat toys and also bric-a-brac for fundraising. An open day is planned for Springtime with all the usual stalls, refreshments, pony rides and a chance to meet all the cats and kittens. Any saleable goods would be greatly appreciated for that day, as would any practical donation to the cats at any time.

Contact for re-homing - Sandy on 07050266568      contact for collection or drop off donations - Ruth 01674 850483

## HORSES

Large and loveable mare W.L.T.M experienced rider because she is bored and unfit hanging about in a field with her mother.

Keen and experienced person would be ideal - Tel 01674 850241 if you are interested.

### St Cyrus Flower Show - Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2005

The committee have chosen to hold the show on a Sunday (for the first time) in the hope that it will attract many more exhibitors and visitors than in previous years on the usual Saturday date. It was felt that other local events that usually coincide with the Show, e.g. Johnshave Fish Festival etc may have been responsible for declining numbers.

Show schedules are now available from Mrs Aileen Mott ram (Show Secretary), Westholme, Main Road, St Cyrus Tel 01674 850388

### Friday 11<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY - "GARDENING AT GLENBERVIE" slide show

The Flower Show Committee are holding a Slide Show evening presented by Head Gardener at Glenberrie - Kevin Whyte, at 7.30pm in the St Cyrus H with a gardeners question time session to follow. Kevin will be on hand to answer any horticultural questions including tips for showing at the annual Fk show. He is very knowledgeable gardener as he worked at "Duninald" near Montrose for many years before taking up his new position at Flerberrie a couple of years ago. The Flower Show Committee are hoping for a large turnout as they are sure it will be a very enjoyable and informative evening, with refreshments being served and also a fund raising raffle. Posters will be displayed in the village prior to this event and all are very welcome.

### St Cyrus W.R.I.

February 7<sup>th</sup> Wicked chef - Bread making, Competitions - jar marmalade, cruet, bulbs

March 7<sup>th</sup> - Complimentary medicine - Sheelagh Cameron Competitions - pair of fancy socks, 4 oven scones, flower of month

April 4<sup>th</sup> Family history - Aberdeen & NE Scotland Family History Society - competition - bracelet, old family photo, flower of month

May 2<sup>nd</sup> A.G.M. Members night - competition - evening bag, Fettercairn show item, flower of month



## CONTACTS

Meams Coastal Church ** Session Clerk	Sunday - 11.30	St Cyrus/Johnshaven	Rev. G. Hastie 01674 850 288 Marshall Halliday 850549
St Cyrus Friendship club	Wednesday - 10 am	Village hall - use the side door	Mr Gavin 01674 850 288
Tea Dance Club	Friday - 2 -4pm	Village hall	Nan Mills 01674 850314
Scottish Country Dance Club	Monday evenings - 7.30 - 9pm	Village Hall	Joan Davidson 01674 850367
Outdoor Bowling	.....	.....	Mr M J Wilson 01674 850824
Indoor Bowling	Thursday - 7 - 9pm	Village hall Sep - Apr	01674 850 352
St Cyrus Comm Council Meetings	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in month	Village hall	01674 850371
Whist	Wednesday - 6.30 -9pm	Village hall Sep - April	01674 850417
OAP	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday in month	Village hall Oct - April	01674 850417
Playgroup	Tue & Wed 9-12	Village hall term time	01674 850723
Parent & Toddler	Friday 10 -12am	Village hall	01674 850821
St Peters Free Church	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in month		01674 850607
Sunday School	.....	.....	01561 362787
Keep Fit	Wednesday - 8-9pm	Village Hall	.....
Gentle Exercise	Thursday 10.30 - 11.30 am	Village hall	.....
WRI	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday in month 7.30 pm	Village hall Sep - May	01674 850739
Youth Club	Friday - jnr (p5-7)- 6.30 - 8.15 Snr (s11-3) 8.30 - 10pm	Village hall term time	01674 850607
Hall Committee Meetings	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed in month - 7.30 pm	Village hall	01674 850 003
Hall Bookings	Margaret Slessor	.....	01674 850726
Cubs			
Beavers			
Girl Guides			
Brownies			
Rainbows			
Flower Show	.....	.....	01674 850388
St Cyrus & Meams Youth Football	.....	.....	01674 850371
Scottish Natural Heritage	.....	.....	01674 830736
Aberteesshire Council	Bill Howatson	.....	01674 830746

**\*\*Meams Coastal Church - no service Sun 13<sup>th</sup> February (10 am communion service Johnshaven instead) Baptism inquiries should go to Rev. G. Hastie**