

Auchenblae Messenger

Founded in 1999 by Donald B. Rennie

Spring Edition

VOLUME 21 ISSUE 1

MARCH 2019

From The Editor

Once again my thanks to all contributors to the Messenger. Without you we could not keep going. Every time we publish I get messages from far and wide congratulating Auchenblae on being such a lively, friendly place. There is so much to look forward to in the coming months and if this weather keeps up we will be able to enjoy all the outdoor activities.

I will collect for the next issue in mid May. It is for anyone in the village. New contributors are always welcome. I can be reached at barpollybar@gmail.com



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Memo Date

The Next Memo is scheduled for April 2019 if you have any upcoming event dates please send them to :

auchenblae_memo@hotmail.co.uk or call Lindsay on **01561 320242**. by 24th March 2018

The Messenger continues to be published online at www.mearns.org/auchenblae

The very few printed copies that have been requested are provided by the very kind assistance of **Joanna Fraser and Macphie.**

All the best,
Kevin



Auchenblae Friendship Group



"Friendships are the places where we gossip, explore and feel at ease with people who are similar to us and care about us."

We are lucky that we have only had to miss one meeting this winter due to the weather. It is good that we can continue to meet regularly. At recent meetings we have been introduced to a mini Burns Supper, which was hilarious. We have also recently been introduced to aspects of life in Japan. Coming up soon we are being taken to prison (!), a museum, with the promise that we will be released. Our grateful thanks go to all the people who come to entertain us. I think that it speaks volumes that so many are very happy to keep coming back because they enjoy the friendliness, fun and fellowship that we offer. If you haven't found us yet do come to the Church Hall on Wednesday mornings at 10 o' clock You will be made to feel very welcome. If you wish to learn more about us, or require transport get in touch with **Barbara at 320911** or talk to any member.

"Friendships are our lifelines and our support systems."

Auchenblae Guild

It is encouraging that people continue to support us on our new date. We now meet on the first Monday of the month in the Church Hall at 2.00pm. We have recently visited Luthermuir Guild and look forward to the World Day of Prayer on Friday 1st March.

Our next meeting will be on Monday 4th March when David Middleton will talk on his travels. We are always ready to welcome new members. You don't have to be Church goers and we don't ram religion down you, although meetings do start with a short act of devotion. What the Guild has been doing throughout it's long life and continues to do is to provide Fellowship and support in so many ways.

Do give us a try.



10 fun facts about spring!

1. The earliest known use of the term “spring cleaning” was in 1857.

2. We’ve used the word “spring” for the season since the 16th century.

3. The first day of spring is called the vernal equinox.

4. The first spring flowers are usually daffodils, dandelions, lilies, tulips, iris and lilacs.

5. Spring fever isn’t just a saying – experts say the body’s makeup changes due to different diets, hormone production and temperature.

FUN FACT!

6. There’s more daylight during spring because the earth’s axis tilts toward the sun at this time of the year.

7. In the USA “Tornado Alley” is at its most active state during the spring. The alley runs through 19 states!

8. Hurricane season in the USA begins in late spring.



9. On the first day of spring, the sunrise and sunset are about 12 hours apart everywhere on earth.

10. If you stand at the equator on the first day of spring, you’ll see the sun pass directly over-head. This happens only twice a year – the first day of spring and the first day of autumn.

Auchenblae Parks Committee

Auchenblae Golf Course **“Best value golf in Aberdeenshire”**



Turn up and play, no need to book a tee time

Full	£185
Senior (65 and over)	£175
Youth (18-21 years old)	£100
Family (1 adult & 1 junior)	£210
Junior (8 – 17 years old)	£45



We can offer a 6 month payment scheme

If you are interested in becoming a member, please email auchenblaegolf@gmail.com and an application form will be sent out by return; complete and return the application form which can be found on our Facebook page or pick up an application form from the golf pavilion.

Auchenblae Junior Golf

Auchenblae Golf Course has been running successful golf tuition for those aged 8 years old and above. The sessions take place on a Sunday morning and run for either an hour (£3.00) or 90 minutes (£4.00) payable in 4 week blocks.

Youngsters must be a member of Auchenblae Golf Course to take part in the lessons. For further details please contact auchenblaegolf@gmail.com

Auchenblae Den

The annual Den Clear Up Day will be held on Saturday 13th April 2019. Lots of jobs for all ages need to be done in order for the Den to be ready for the summer season. It's often commented that the day promotes a feel good community spirit and everyone gets stuck in and helps each other out.

As Auchenblae 'owns' the Den, the council does not provide any maintenance or upkeep to the Den or our surrounding green areas. We really do rely on people giving up their time to help our team of volunteers.

Anytime that can be given towards the Clear Up Day will be greatly appreciated (even if it is only one or 2 hours).

In return for working, refreshments will be provided throughout the day to keep the workers sustained. One worker was fed so well last year they didn't need any dinner that night!!

Please see Auchenblae Den Page on Facebook for further details and lists of jobs.

Auchenblae Pavilion

The pavilion is available for hire from mid April 2019 through to autumn time. The pavilion is a very unique party venue and very popular for children's parties! The cost of hiring is £25.00 plus a £25.00 refundable deposit (this covers any breakages). Dates are booking up quickly, for more information or to book the pavilion either email me on the email below or send a message via Auchenblae Den Page on Facebook.

Clare Ptaszek
Auchenblae Parks Correspondence Secretary
clare@ptaszek.co.uk

West Mearns Parish Church

Dear Friends

West Mearns Parish and in terms of readership, Auchenblae Church, is going through some exciting changes. Some of the highlights of these changes are more music events for the whole community, look out for a Speakers programme addressing topics of interest, and we are also looking for people with gifts in areas of art, or drama or music, to be involved in our Sunday Services.

The years seems to have taken off at a great pace and so here are the details for our Lent Series.

“Life in the steps of Christ”

How to become the best version of yourself

Our LENT SERMON SERIES is based on six streams for living a more meaningful life.

These are:

- 1) Prayer-Filled Life: Our heart's steady attention on God
- 2) Virtuous Life: Responding with integrity
- 3) Spirit-Empowered Life: Fuelling our lives from the presence and power of God
- 4) Compassionate Life: Extending compassion in every sphere of life
- 5) Word-Centered Life: Living the life-giving message
- 6) Sacramental Life: Encountering the invisible God in the visible world

10th March A HEART MINDFUL OF GOD “Living a pray-filled life”

17th March YOUR ARE YOUR OWN WITNESS “Living a life of integrity”

24th March NEEDING MORE “Living a Spirit-empowered life”

31st March JUSTICE, COMPASSION and PEACE “Living a compassionate life”

7th April DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW? “Living a Word-centered life”

14th April THE BEST VERSION OF YOURSELF “Living a Sacramental Life”

You are invited!

We all want to be the best version of ourselves and we don't need to settle for less.

Each Sunday there will be an invitation to engage a task or exercise during the following week. This will help us integrate the insights from the Sunday into our everyday living.

Lent is most often an invitation to give up something—well here is an invitation to take on something.

Take on the Sermon Series!**Experience COMMUNITY**

Everyone is welcome and young children are welcome to stay in the sanctuary during the service or be part of the children's activities

Enjoy WORSHIP

There will be something for everyone, a moment of silence, familiar hymns, new songs of worship, multi-media and hopefully some helpful input.

Receive HOSPITALITY

As part of our time together we love our coffee, tea and fine pieces

Stay for a while longer and join in.

If you want to know more, please contact me at 01561 340 203 or email Bsmith@churchofscotland.org.uk

Blessings

Rev Brian Smith

Auchenblae Bowling Club

Getting ready for bowling

Auchenblae Bowling Club members are looking forward to opening their new season in April and welcome new members of all ages.

At the club's annual meeting on 24th February, members agreed to meet on Monday 15th April at 6.30pm at the Den Pavilion to get ready for opening the green.



If you are interested to find out more, or to have a go trying out the game, you are most welcome to attend or just contact Club Chairman George on 07985 593374.

Club members plan to attend the Den Clean Up Day on 13th April to tidy up around the green.

Auchenblae Gardens Open 2019

As a change from the norm, the Annual Gardens Open event will be held in Spring this year: a time when many gardens are at their best.

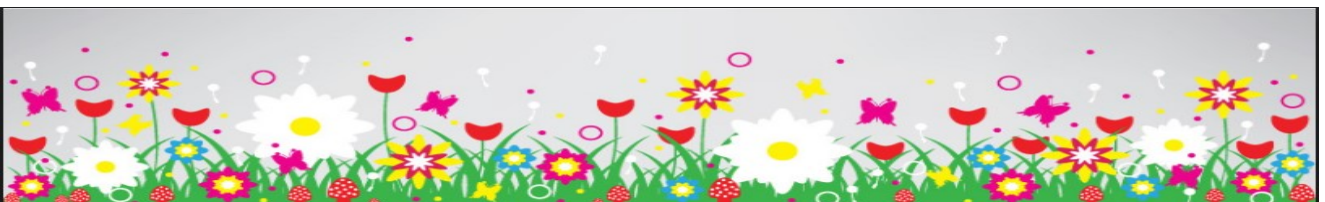
Kirklytham is a prime example when rhododendrons, sourced over many years by David and Frances Simmonds, are in full bloom. The undulating paths of the former manse, lead through a remarkable collection of beautiful and unusual specimens, many you may never have seen before.

We will pay a return visit to Denmill Cottage at the foot of The Sloch, where, from February onwards we are treated to the first flush of snowdrops, followed successively by waves of crocuses and daffodils. Arthur and Andrea Anderson have planted literally thousands and thousands of bulbs on this steep bank, and their hard work will surely be a legacy for generations to come.

We have also been invited by the Lawson family to visit their garden at Mossspark on the back road to Castleton. Apart from the lovely garden Tom and Anne have created, Mossspark's claim to fame is being the birthplace of James Taylor who introduced tea to Ceylon (Sri Lanka). We will hear much more about James in the coming months, especially when a bronze statue of him is unveiled in the square!!

The gardens will be open from 1 pm to 4 pm on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th May with Strawberry Teas served as usual in the village hall where there will be Produce and Book Stalls to browse. Get the dates in your diary!

Jenny Thomson



INNER WINDOW

When winter's persistent winds
chatter at my door,
There, by a homely fire's glow
and chimney's roar;
When in the comfort of my fireside
chair, I repose once more to gaze with
that inner eye,
A window of favourite images that
to a restful mind slowly idle by;
And to see again those images of
nature where my heart with fondness lies.
My heart lies in the valleys,
My heart lies in the hills,
My heart is with the bird song
in the morning still;
My heart lies among the heather
sweeping across the moors,
My heart lies with the high peaks,
whom the climbers' free spirits lure.
My heart lies in the forest and
woodlands where my fellows
are the trees,
My heart lies in the billows roll,
where white horses gallop the
wind blown seas.

©Peter Morriss

SPRING VIBES

The daisy rests his dapper head
among spring's pillows green,
To wide margins of a narrow lane
dandelions surge pristine;
The chiffchaff about the hedge
sparkle in chirpy glow,
From the wind rustled wood
harsh rooks to the grassy
meadow swoop low;
The cuckoo teases the lady smock
whose blooms regale their delicate hue,
Sand martins to a clear day scale
the morning blue.

©Peter Morriss



PUB QUIZ NIGHT

& DISCO! PUB QUIZ 16 & OVER
DISCO 18 & OVER

15 MARCH 2019 | 19:30
AUCHENBLAE VILLAGE HALL


Come join in the fun at our PUB QUIZ NIGHT!
Teams are invited to battle it out for prizes and to
raise funds for Auchenblae Pre School Group!

£5PP TICKETED OR £6PP ON DOOR

WELCOME DRINK INCLUDED WITH EVERY QUIZ ADMISSION!

£3PP NON-PARTICIPATING GUESTS (INCLUDES DISCO)

Tickets available from Premier News, Auchenblae
or contact Laura : 07585702718

 /AuchenblaePreSchoolGroup

Auchenblae Pre-School Group is a Registered Scottish Charity SCO21752

**RAISING
FUNDS
FOR APSG!**

Bumps, Babies and Toddler's Monthly Catch-up's.



**Thursday 14th March – Free play Session @ Auchenblae
Church Hall. 10.30am-12pm.**

**Thursday 18th April- “Easter Activities” @ Auchenblae
Church Hall. 10.30am-12pm.**

**Thursday 16th May- “Coffee, Cake and Play” @
Beechwood Garden Centre, Fordoun. 10.30am-12pm.
(£2.50 n/a)**

**Thursdays 13th June- “Play & Make” @ Auchenblae Den
Pavillion. 10.30am-12pm.**

**Thursday 18th July- “Pizza and Play” @ Auchenblae Den
Pavillion. 11am-1pm. (£2.50 n/a)**

***All Session £2.50 per family- Includes Snack for
children and tea/coffee and biscuits for adults.***

Dates for your diary

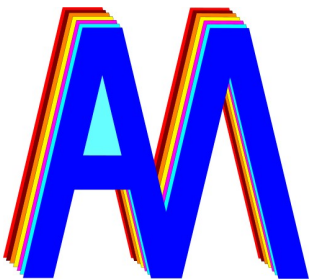
Auchenblae Guild
Den clean up day
Gardens Open 2019

Church hall
The Den
Various

4th March (note new day!)
13th April
11th/ 12th May



Check out the social community network online, advertise events, book the hall, promote your group and lots more: [www.http://theblae.org/](http://theblae.org/)



Also, did you know the Auchenblae Messenger is available online for convenient reading or ex-residents wanting to stay in touch. Find us at www.mearns.org/auchenblae



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