

# Auchenblae Messenger

Founded in 1999 by Donald B. Rennie

## Winter Edition

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 2017

### From The Editor

As usual there is a lot happening in Auchenblae during the festive season. There should be something for everyone. I hope that the weather will be kind so that we are able to get together, and are not confined to home. I have recently had to stay home for quite a long period and was definitely suffering from cabin fever.

I will start collecting for the next issue in mid February. Where has this year gone? A Happy Christmas and prosperous New year to you all.  
Barbara

Note from Kevin—we still have a serious problem with the Messenger printer and so, once again this issue is electronic. If you know of anybody without access to the internet and would like a 'hard' copy please contact me—[kevin@auchenblae.com](mailto:kevin@auchenblae.com)

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### Memo Date

The Next Memo is scheduled for February 2018 if you have any upcoming event dates please send them to : [auchenblae\\_memo@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:auchenblae_memo@hotmail.co.uk) or call Lindsay on 01561 320242. by 20th January 2018

## 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!

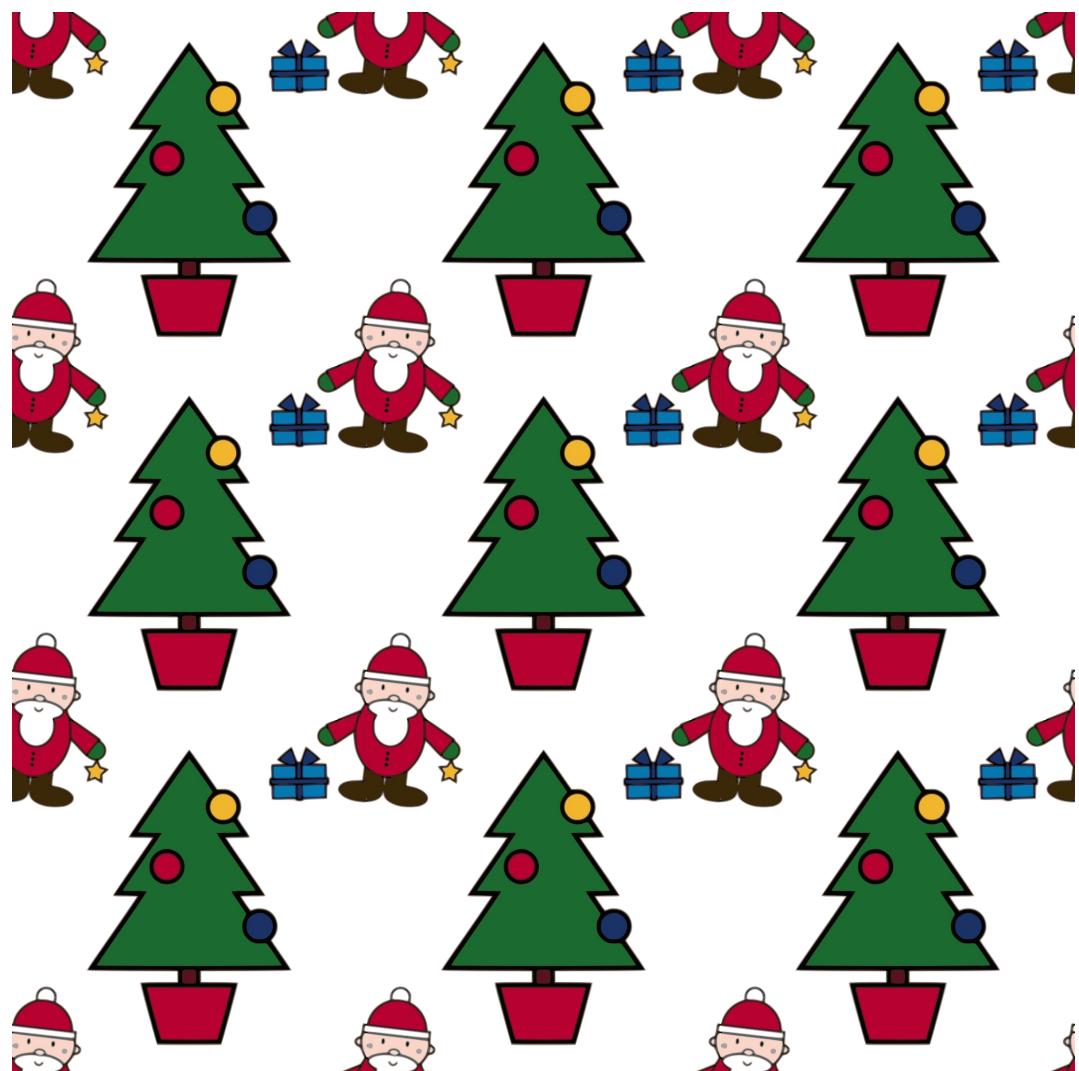
Please contact Ann Anderson on 320524 to help



## Auchenblae Guild

We are approaching what, for me, is one of the most enjoyable evenings of the year. Quite a few years ago now the Guild decided that we would hold an evening of carols, candles and Christmas pies on the approach of Christmas. All these years later it is still a really enjoyable evening and we welcome more people to it every year. The Church looks beautiful, lit by candlelight. We are all able to have a goods sing of favourite carols and there is fellowship afterwards with refreshments. We hope to see many of you there, in Church, on Friday 8th December at 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

We have had some very interesting speakers at our regular meetings, and have learned about the Carib people of Dominica, and about the work of the Soroptimists, both at home and overseas. Our next meeting on Wednesday 13th December will be our Christmas lunch, held this year at the Sauchieburn and our January meeting will be our winter lunch. I promise you that we do do other things as well as eating. Do come and join us and find out more about us. The Guild is so much more than a lot of wfies and loons bletherin'

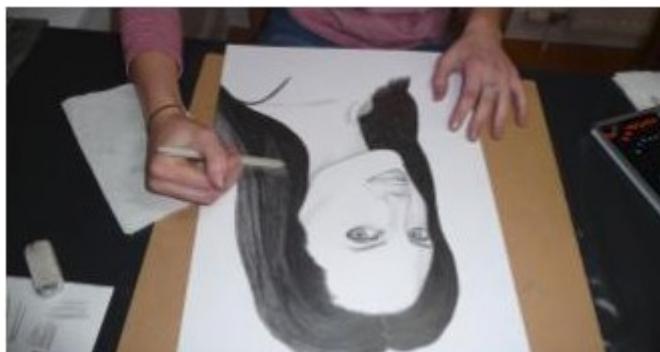


NEWS FROM JENNY AT BRIDGEND STUDIO, AUCHENBLAE.

ART CLASSES FOR KIDS AND TEENS STILL HAVE SOME SPACES FOR THE NEW TERM IN JANUARY.

THE DRAWING CLASSES FOR ADULTS ARE VERY POPULAR BUT THERE ARE STILL A FEW SPACES HERE TOO.

IF MY SIGN IS OUT ON THE ROAD-SIDE THEN PLEASE FEEL FREE TO VISIT THE STUDIO. HERE YOU WILL FIND A SELECTION OF MY PAINTINGS, ART CARDS, COASTERS AND A SMALL SELECTION OF ART MATERIALS FOR SALE.



TO BOOK PLACES IN THE CLASSES PLEASE CONTACT ME ON

**01561 320998,**

**jennycolbeck1@gmail.com**

**[www.jennywattcolbeck.co.uk](http://www.jennywattcolbeck.co.uk)**

## Auchenblae Friendship Group

"I believe in friendship at first sight".



We are a mixed bunch of people in the Friendship Group, but there is one thing that we all have in common. We really enjoy getting together once a week for fellowship and to be entertained. Between us we enjoy a wide range of activities. The main thing is we are there for each other.

It is important that we meet with other people. We must not sit at home and mope all day, every day. At our last meeting someone came to tell us about Clan, the cancer drop in centre in Aberdeen. That evening I received an email from her thanking us for having her and saying that she really enjoyed the morning with such lovely people. Come along and be one of the "lovely people", on Wednesday mornings in the Church hall. Phone Barbara on 320911 for more details. We are always ready to welcome new members.

A Happy Christmas to all of you from all of us.

"We cannot really love anybody with whom we never laugh"



### AUTUMN SONG

Along the tired creaking bough,  
 The song of autumn the wind is strumming now!  
 The scent of the maple, the sweetness of the beech,  
 Nature's symphony of colour to their autumn skies reach.

Season's colours blaze their glory,  
 Creaking boughs speak their autumn story;  
 The Mearns wears her cloak of many colours,  
 A landscape adorned with shades of vibrant colour.

© Peter Morriss 17.11.2017

## AUCHENBLAE CALENDAR 2018

Images of Auchenblae, some quite rare, dating from the early 1900s, feature in this 'souvenir edition'. Price - £6.50



Available from Auchenblae Stores; Michie's Chemist Laurencekirk; Laurencekirk Post Office; or Jenny Thomson (01561 320245)

Proceeds will be used for fabric improvements at Auchenblae Church



## **Santa Is Coming to Auchenblae – All welcome**

Santa is on his way to Auchenblae.....  
Greet Santa as he arrives at Auchenblae Village Square  
( Bruce Fountain) by horse and carriage on

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm.**

All welcome to join in as we sing festive songs at the square whilst Santa makes his way to the Winter Wonderland in Auchenblae Village Hall. Here you can meet Santa and his elves between 2-4 pm.

Festive bakes, teas and coffees will be available for a donation.

All proceeds to Auchenblae Primary School.  
Run by Auchenblae Primary School Parent Council in conjunction with Halymires Stables, Stonehaven.

# AUCHENBLAE 'HOGMANAY HOOTENANY'

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 7pm - Midnight**  
**Auchenblae Village Hall**

♪ ♪ ♪ **LIVE MUSIC** ♪ ♪ ♪

**Full Cash Bar Service from BURNSIDE BREWERY**  
**'Tuck Shop' from ISABELLE'S POP UP GRUB**

**Ticket include Light Supper (or Kids Snack)  
&**

**Glass of Bubbly / Soft Drink at the 'Bells'**

**Ticket Only Event** **ADULT: £17.50**  
**CHILD: £ 7.00**  
**Infant Under 2: Free**



**Tickets Available: BURNSIDE BREWERY or ISABELLE RIDDOCH**

**(Tickets are CASH ONLY - Sorry No Refunds!)**

**This is a Family Friendly Event - Please note that all under 18's MUST be supervised by a responsible Adult**

## Did you know?

1. US scientists calculated that Santa would have to visit 822 homes a second to deliver all the world's presents on Christmas Eve, travelling at 650 miles a second.
2. ROBINS on cards were a joke 150 years ago when postmen wore red tunics and were named after them.
3. Although now mostly vegetarian, in Victorian times, mince pies were made with beef and spices.
4. The tradition of putting tangerines in stockings comes from 12th-century French nuns who left socks full of fruit, nuts and tangerines at the houses of the poor.
5. Despite the tale of three wise men paying homage to baby Jesus, the Bible never gives a number. Matthew's Gospel refers to merely "wise men".
6. Carols began as an old English custom called wassailing, toasting neighbours to a long life.
7. Carols weren't sung in churches until they were introduced by St Francis of Assisi in the 13th century.
8. Hanging stockings out comes from the Dutch custom of leaving shoes packed with food for St Nicholas's donkeys. He would leave small gifts in return.
9. There is no reference to angels singing anywhere in the Bible.
10. Nearly 60 million Christmas trees are grown each year in Europe.
11. The word Noel derives from the French expression "les bonnes nouvelles" or "the good news".
12. The abbreviation Xmas isn't irreligious. The letter X is a Greek abbreviation for Christ.



## Christmas Wordsearch

No prize, just a bit of fun!

### MERRY CHRISTMAS Wordsearch

Search for the words going up, down, left and right.



T	U	K	E	B	S	N	Y	Y	V	G	I	I	O	X
L	D	P	Y	O	O	V	F	Q	S	N	O	G	N	U
U	S	G	N	I	T	E	E	R	G	I	W	Q	Z	B
J	D	X	D	E	J	O	W	E	I	L	L	T	K	R
J	J	O	B	E	K	T	O	D	N	O	W	N	E	Q
Q	U	S	R	R	N	E	B	D	G	R	R	E	C	K
Q	S	A	N	T	A	L	R	M	E	A	E	M	X	V
P	R	E	S	E	N	T	S	X	R	C	A	A	I	Y
I	Z	M	J	X	F	S	F	U	B	M	T	N	Y	U
J	E	D	Q	T	E	I	Z	B	R	C	H	R	M	L
X	B	D	N	R	L	M	M	C	E	K	V	O	K	E
M	L	M	X	S	T	R	M	F	A	X	N	I	Q	T
M	S	Z	Z	E	Q	S	W	U	D	N	L	Q	I	
H	I	H	A	N	U	T	C	R	A	C	K	E	R	D
V	R	F	A	B	K	W	T	S	E	V	L	E	N	E

YULETIDE  
GREETINGS  
CAROLING  
PRESENTS

WREATH  
NUTCRACKER  
TREE  
MISTLETOE

SANTA  
GINGERBREAD  
ORNAMENT  
ELVES



womanofmanyroles.com

## Carols, Candles and Christmas Pies

To welcome the arrival of Advent and the Joy of the Christmas Season, our annual Carols, Candles and Christmas Pies evening will be held in Auchenblae Church on Friday 8th December.

This is a family service and everyone is warmly invited to come along and join in the singing of our favourite carols, in the ambient light of flickering candles. You may notice something new this year!



As well as a short selection from the Bell Ringers, an accomplished group of local musicians, including Brian our minister, will add to the enjoyment of the evening.

Don't worry; there will still be time for lots of singing ourselves to the wonderful accompaniment of our organist, Helen.

After the service, Mulled Wine, Mince Pies, Shortbread and Teas will be served by the ladies of Auchenblae Guild.

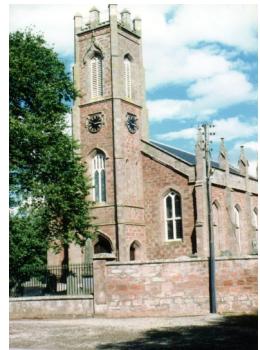
Local transport can be arranged by calling 320245.

Doors open at 7pm with singing starting at 7.30 pm. Come early to soak up the atmosphere.

**Merry Christmas**

# West Mearns Parish Church

A group of children were asked to describe love. Various opinions were offered. Billy, aged 4 said, "When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth." Rebecca, aged 8 said, "When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love." However, the one that caught my attention was Bobby, aged 7, who said "Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen."



It is that time of the year again. Apparently, Black Friday in the UK alone, is expected to see £2.5 billion in sales and then the shopping starts. Whilst all that is good and well, Christmas invites us to think about our world in a different way for a while. Christmas invites us to think about being a better person for someone else. Next time you look in the mirror, will you notice that YOU are probably the best gift given. A person who loves is better than anything wrapped.

For the Church, Christmas is less about presents and more about a person. Christmas is the time that we celebrate Jesus Christ, born in a cattle trough, celebrated by wise men from the east, pondered by Shepherds from the fields, caused anxiety for the King of Judea and proclaimed by the Angels. It is a good time.

Consider coming along to celebrate, it would be lovely to welcome you.

## CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

### Christmas Tree Festival

Fettercairn Church on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd December 10.30am- 4.00pm

Carols, Candles and Christmas Pies

8th December @ 7:00 for 7:30pm Auchenblae Church

### CHRISTMAS EVE

Carol Service 24th December @ 6:00pm Auchenblae Church

Watchnight Service 24th December @ 11:15pm Fettercairn Church

### CHRISTMAS DAY

11:00 am Service Glenbervie Church

11:00am Service Auchenblae Church

# Dates for your diary

Santa Visit  
Auchenblae Guild Xmas Lunch  
Auchenblae Hootenany  
Carols Candles Xmas Pies

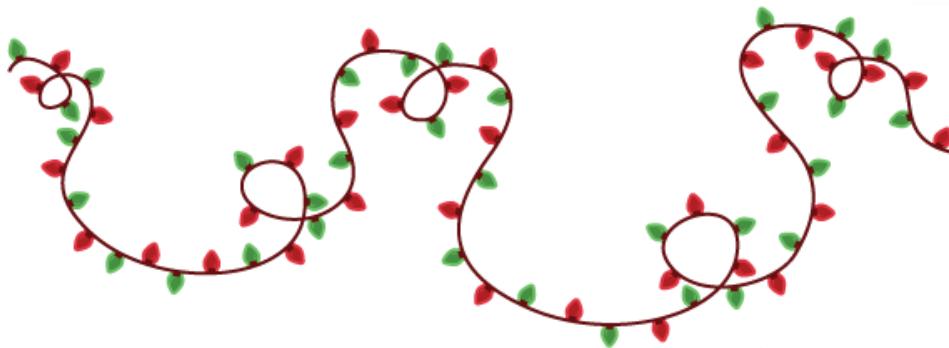
Village Square 17th December 1.30 p.m.  
Sauchieburn 13th December  
Village Hall 31st December  
Church 8th December



**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](http://www.mearns.org/auchenblae)



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