

Auchenblae Messenger

Founded in 1999 by Donald B. Rennie

Winter Edition

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2016

From The Editor

Computers are a mixed blessing. Without them there would probably not be a messenger. For a while I was worried that this issue would not get to you as I had a real problem with mine. Many thanks to the publisher Kevin for sorting it for me. Thanks are also due to the contributors who had less time to deliver the goods than normal.

As usual there is a lot happening in Auchenblae. Never a dull moment.

Computer permitting I will be collecting for the next issue in mid May when contributions should be sent to barpollybar@gmail.com

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Memo Date

The Next Memo is scheduled for April 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 March 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 Parent Council will be holding their Summer Fair on 4th June, 1pm-4pm, everyone welcome.

Auchenblae After School Club (ASSC) will be holding an "Easter Egg Rush" 1pm-4pm in Auchenblae Den/Pavilion. Watch the notice board for the date. Young and young at heart are invited to join in the fun. Money raised from this event will go towards funding equipment for the after school club. Entry price £3.00 per person. Activities will involve an egg rush, duck race, raffle, balloons and lucky dip. Also available will be soup to keep you warm and cosy.

The ragbag collection bank is proving to be very popular. Thank you all for supporting this.

Our Windfarm funded shed has now been built and looks fantastic. Thank you Fred Olsen Windfarm for the funding available and the Auchenblae Committee for making time to go through applications.

Winner of the squares sold in January was Ara Murry. Well done Ara.

PC held a Santas' Grotto in the Village Hall and invited everyone, young and young at heart. A very special mention has got to go to Santa Bob for his jolly manner and for taking time to talk to all the children, and to Sandy from the Community Association for downloading the winter screen effect on the new and huge cinema screen in the hall.

Another thank you goes to David and his team from the tea shop and to the Clatterin' Brig. Along with sales from our stall at the Toddler Group Christmas Fair our Reindeer Sales raised £1267 which has been handed over to the school.

Coming soon to Auchenblae Primary School (AASC) will be a breakfast and after school club. For further information or to add your child's details to our list please contact **Paula Harris** email garynpaula@btinternet.com

A BIG "THANK YOU"

Recently I spent weeks in hospital after a major operation then was sent to recover with kind friends for a time when they gently helped me on my way to getting back to normal. I am now in my own house, looking after myself with help to get to Church, to meetings or to the shop for the P and J. I should like to thank all those who have driven me to these places and have encouraged me "to get on with it". They know who they are, It would be invidious to name names .

Ann Rennie

A BIG
THANK
YOU

Auchenblae Guild

We continue to meet on the afternoon of the third Wednesday of the month at 2.00 p.m. in the Church Hall. Our speakers cover a wide range of topics; for instance, coming up we have someone from Street Pastors Aberdeen and a talk by Helen Ritchie on bags. On March 4th we will be celebrating The World Day of Prayer at Glenbervie Church, an uplifting experience. On Saturday March 19th we are holding our spring coffee morning in the Village Hall at 10.00 a.m. There will be the usual stalls and also spring fashions by Encore of Fettercairn. Once again we are grateful to Carrie for giving up her time.

Meetings are fun as well as short devotions and the speaker there is time for fellowship over a cuppie and for any business that needs to be dealt with. If you decide to give us a try you will be made very welcome.

**Annual Work Day in the Den
Saturday March 26th**



Once again help is requested to tidy up after a long, wet winter

We know that most of you enjoy and make use of our beautiful Den so please spare a few hours to help members of Auchenblae Parks Committee prepare for the summer season. Lots of jobs to do, energetic or otherwise: by this time of course, you know the pattern! We've had great support in the past and feel confident this will be repeated.

An informal soup and sandwich lunch is served as usual as well as coffee and tea breaks whenever the need arises - and that's usually quite regularly!

If possible, bring your own tools, barrows, lawn rakes, forks, wellies, rubber gloves and spades, depending on the kind of work you choose to do. There will be a list for guidance.

Thank you in anticipation of a good turnout. If the weather is just too bad we'll try again the following day.

Auchenblae Friendship Group



Everyone needs a friend. We are a group of people who offer friendship to anyone who cares join us. We Enjoy the company of others and also offer support when it is needed. Our activities cover a wide range but always fellowship.

Come and join us in Wednesday mornings in the Church Hall from 10.00 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. We can promise that you will enjoy it. For more information please ring Barbara on 320911

THE VISITOR

Is anyone there? called the stranger as he
knocked on the old shed door,
Receiving no answer, silence, nothing stirred
only the creaking of the weather-vane that
slowly turned above the old shed door;
Peering through the shed window for any
sign of life,
All the stranger could see was a workbench
where a shaving curled up, lay by an old
drawknife.

All was silent nothing stirred only the sound
of birds pecking for seeds on the woodland floor,
So the stranger hearing no reply, again on the
old shed door knocked once more;
No one answered, no one came,
So the stranger before returning in the
direction from whence he came-
Through the dark swirling mist of the open
moor,
He left a note that he pushed under the old
shed door.

Before the Moon is full I'll call again,
the message read,
They told me I'd find you here,
the stranger quietly said.

The shed lay still beneath the silence of
the trees,
The stranger turned and in a moment was
gone, a shadow that faded silently with the
murmur of the breeze.



Christian Aid Week: the week we love every neighbour

Picture a young mother of four. Her husband has left. She has no land. No assets. No savings. And the only work she can get is backbreaking manual labour for as little as 74p a day. Her home has been flooded several times, and last August it flooded again. This is Morsheda. She's our neighbour, and she desperately needs our help.

From 15-21 May, our church will join with more than 20,000 others across the country for the sake of people like Morsheda. Across the UK and Ireland we will deliver 7 million envelopes to our local neighbours to raise money for our global neighbours in need. It's an opportunity to reach out to our community, and to make sure some of the world's poorest people have enough to eat and a safe place to live.

A Home Safety Package from Christian Aid could raise Morsheda's home on an earth plinth, safe from the flood plain, and give her resources to invest in things like farm animals, seeds and a composting kit – giving her the tools she needs to build a better future. A new chance at life for Morsheda costs as little as £250.

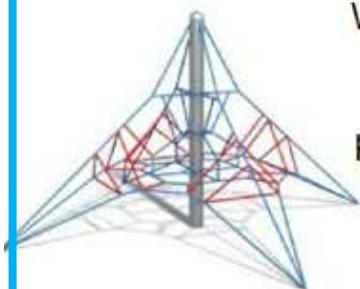
Can you deliver and collect Christian Aid envelopes to your neighbours to help our church raise money this Christian Aid Week? Contact June Scott (01561340482) if you can get involved.



We believe in life before death

UK registered charity no. 1105851 Company no. 5171525 Scot charity no. SC039150
 Christian Aid Ireland: NI charity no. NIC101631 Company no. NI059154 and ROI charity no. 20014162 Company no. 426928. The Christian Aid name and logo are trademarks of Christian Aid. Christian Aid is a key member of ACT Alliance.
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AUCHENBLAE PARKS COMMITTEE THINGS ARE ABOUT TO GET EXCITING!



Funding has been secured for the erection of a 4 metre activity net within the children's play area.

Work has begun on a pump track around the periphery of the football pitch. Funding has been sought to move this project forward. Look out for more news in the next few months



Continued investment in machinery to maintain all recreation areas to the highest possible standard. Latest addition being a new "rough mower".

A community orchard is being planted in the den with the help of volunteers from the village and primary school



Funding is being sought for the addition of an outdoor gym within the dam area of the den. The community showed a keen interest in this project



If you are interested in getting involved, would like more information or, simply want to show your support, please come along to the monthly meetings held on the fourth Tuesday of each month, 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of the Village Hall.

New members are urgently required to ensure the continued success of projects such as those specified. A warm welcome will be extended to all.



There is a dinner and movie curry night on the 12th March at the Village Hall. Take away will be available from 18.00 to 19.30 and dinner will be served from 19.00 to 20.30 followed by film. Tickets are £10.00 and bar will be available. (Film is still to be confirmed but will have a Indian twist to it).

Citizens Advice

Christmas and New Year are over for another year, but what about the fall out? Clearing up, sobering up and reducing the waist line! Along with this comes counting the cost. Perhaps you received (or gave) a gift that was faulty, what are your consumer rights? Or did you over spend as well as over indulge? Do you need some money advice on how to make the accounts balance after that pre-Christmas splurge? Perhaps the winter storms have affected you and the process of claiming is not quite as straight forward as you had hoped?

Kincardine and Mearns Citizens Advice Bureau, based in Stonehaven, has been open since 2009. We are on hand with a range of advice from consumer rights, debt, pension and benefits help. The latest addition to our bureau is an Outreach service which we are running on an appointments basis, from Mearns Academy Community Campus, Laurencekirk, one day a week. A specialist Benefits Adviser will be on hand for the morning appointments with a generalist adviser available for afternoon appointments.

To make an appointment call Kincardine and Mearns Citizens Advice Bureau on 01569 766578.



Auchenblae Pre-School Group

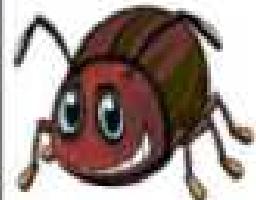
Beetle Drive



Auchenblae Village Hall

Sunday 28th February

2pm - 4pm



Prizes up for grabs

£1.50 entry or £5 for family of 4

Everyone Welcome - Tea/Coffee Shop

Scottish Registered Charity SC021752

Pre-School

The Playroom, Auchenblae Village Hall

Baby & Bump

Parent, baby, toddlers
Friday 9.15am – 11.15am
Church Hall

2s Group

Monday & Thursday
1pm – 3pm

Pre-School

Monday – Friday
9.15am – 12.25pm



Find us on
Facebook /AuchenblaePreSchoolGroup

Midhill Windfarm Community Benefit Fund

It is with great pleasure that we can reflect on the award of funds to various village groups as a result of the Midhill Windfarm Community Benefit Fund for 2015.

A total of around £29,000 was available to be assigned to purchases and projects. There were 12 very worthy and high quality applications made by a variety of village groups. These offered the selection panel a difficult and wide choice of ways to award the money. It was pleasing that awards were able to be made to all village groups that applied. The following funding applications were successful:

- An activity net in the den for the enjoyment of all village children
- Replacement (hopefully more comfortable) chairs for the village hall
- Funding for pre school equipment
- New tennis racquets for the tennis club
- A cinema system for the showing of films in the village
- A storage shed for the school parent council
- New crockery available to all those using the village hall

We hope that you agree that the awards cover a wide range of age groups and activities in the village, from the younger and more active amongst us, to those wishing a little more comfort while watching a good movie!

The further good news, of course, is that 2015 was just the first year of this Community Fund. There are many more years to come! Application forms for 2016 will be available soon, so please start thinking about possible group applications. These should benefit as many as possible in the village and provide an element of self-funding if possible.

We are also keen to hear from those who would like to help on the selection panel for this year, whether you are from groups that apply or not. We are anxious that this panel should be as democratic and independent as possible, and the more offers of assistance, the more varied the panel can be. If the panel is oversubscribed, we can randomly select panel members to reduce the risk of vested interests.

Finally, I'm sure that we would all like to thank Natural Power and Fred Olsen for providing the funding that makes the Midhill Community Benefit Fund possible. Good luck with your 2016 applications!

Auchenblae and District Community Association.





CHAIRITY AUCTION

In support of the amazing work Macmillan does, we are hosting a **Chair-ity** Auction to raise donations.

**On Saturday the 30th of April
at Auchenblae Village hall**

The theme for this Chair-ity auction is "Comfort & Joy". People could us comfort; a place to allow them to feel safe and experience a few moment of peace, relaxation and joy through reading a good book or watching their favourite program and for a moment forgetting their troubles.

A chair-ity fundraiser revolves around fundraising with chairs, new or used, it doesn't matter. What matters is simply the presentation. That is, what gets added to the chair in the way of decoration, accessories, and enhancements.

If you think you could make a difference by painting, upcycling and redecorating an old chair please do let us know. These can be old chairs, kitchen chairs, children's chairs any type and size. We can use your support to gather enough chairs to raise funds.

To participate and donate a chair, please contact Jacqueline on 07525966196 or join the facebook page – **Macmillan Chair-ity Auction Auchenblae**. Please join and keep up to date with news about the event.

The evening will start with a preview from 18:00- 19:00 which is free entry. There will then be a drinks reception from 19:00 followed by the auction at 20:00.

Tickets will be required for the drinks reception and bidding numbers to participate in the auction.

Tickets are: £5.00 for adults and £3.50 for under 12's for the reception and £5.00 for a bidding number. Bidders may leave a bid with the auctioneer if they cannot attend the auction in person, but a bid number must be purchased in advance.

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

Dates for your diary

Beetle Drive	Village Hall	29th February
Dinner & Movie Curry night	Village Hall	12th March
Guild Coffee Morning	Church Hall	19th March
Annual work day	Den	26th March
'Chairity' auction	Village Hall	30th April

Auchenblae Drama Group &



If you missed the cinema club's latest offering, **Kingsman**, then you missed a riotous & funny film. It had more than its share of violence and a couple sexy bits, enough to gain a 15 rating but nothing more than you could see in the average James Bond film.. In fact I would go as far as to say that Colin Firth is more of a gentleman spy than James bond! Quite gory in parts but it was hard to be too offended when there was frequent portions of a lisping Samuel L. Jackson playing the evil genius who gets sick at the sight of blood!! His henchwoman Gazelle, played by Sofia Boutella, was even more deadly than Oddjob with her prosthetic blades; she certainly gave one character a split personality!

All in all a fast paced, humorous spy movie bordering on the spoof but holding back just enough to be a good versus evil in its own style.

With our state-of-the-art sound system, high definition projector & professional screen the Cinema Club offers an experience that rivals many cinemas at a very reasonable price and right on your doorstep!! The hall should have its new comfortable chairs by the next performance and it wont cost you a penny extra !

Be sure & watch out for future performances for adults and family.



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**