

Dates for your diary

Easter Egg Hunt—Pre-school group	The Den	30th March
Work in the Den	The Den	7th April
Den Opening	The Den	22nd April
Guild Meeting	Church Hall	18th April
Community Association Gala Week	The Den	27th May—2nd Jun



KLs Nails and Beauty By Toni Shand

After training in Acrylic Nails in September 2010, I began working as mobile nail tech in and around Aberdeen and Montrose. I then began offering make up and Weekend Lashes in March 2011.

I moved to Auchenblae in December and am now offering my mobile service in Auchenblae and surrounding areas with appointments available in comfort of clients home or mine.

Price List::

Acrylic Nails - £20 (for natural, French or coloured)
Manicure - £10 Make up - £20 Weekend Lashes - £15

Book Acrylic Nails + Weekend Lashes together and pay only £30

Opening Hours:

Mon- Fri: 5.30pm to 10pm; Sat: 10am to 6pm
Sun: 10am to 10pm

Contact Info: Toni Shand 07709120936

Kltoni08@yahoo.co.uk

Facebook: search 'KLs Nails-Beauty'

PLEASE NOTE: THE ADVERTISER HAS MADE A DONATION TO CHARITY FOR THIS ADVERT

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The publisher for this issue was **Kevin Newstead**



Auchenblae Messenger

Founded in 1999 by Donald B. Rennie

SPRING EDITION

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 1

APRIL 2012

From The Editor

Welcome to what is now the Global Messenger. In recent weeks I have had communications from Southport in England and from New Zealand, from people with ancestral connections to the village. They both found the Messenger on the internet. If you have friends and relatives overseas tell them to look us up. Hopefully we will receive items from them for inclusion in future editions.

It seems to be a bumper issue this time round. We are happy to accept articles from anyone who would like to contribute. Please submit items for the next one by **15th May**. To barbara_auch20002000@yahoo.co.uk

The Messenger Memo

The next Messenger memo will contain information about forthcoming events in May and any short reports of events that took place earlier. Please contact Ann Rennie at Mernis Howe, Inverurie St. (tel. **01561 320622**) before 15th April

Messenger and Memo Distribution

It is thanks to Ann Anderson and her team that the Messenger and the Memo are delivered to your door. We certainly owe them our gratitude. At times some members of the team may not be able to deliver for various reasons. Ann would be grateful if a few of you would volunteer to act as relief members. The rounds are short and should not take more than about 30 minutes a month. If you feel that you can help please phone Ann on **320524**.



'If you don't talk to your kids about drugs, who will?

Parents are the strongest, single influence in a child's life

We are now pleased to be able to offer you a 'How to Drug Proof your Kids' course in your area.

This is a community based course developed by the national charity, "Care for the Family". It gives parents the information and skills they need to encourage their children to have a responsible attitude towards drugs including cigarettes and alcohol and steer them away from their harmful use.

The DPYK course will be run by two local trained facilitators and will last for 6 two hour sessions.

This is what other parents have said about the DPYK course – "Great! I learnt a lot and really enjoyed it", "I really enjoyed this course and found it very valuable" another "This course should be made compulsory for all parents" and finally "The course is absolutely 1st class". Visit www.dpyk.org.uk or contact me on the number below for more information.

There are two courses running in the near future: one at Mackie Academy in Stonehaven beginning Wednesday 18th April from 7pm- 9pm and the other in Laurencekirk Community Centre beginning Tuesday 28th August 7.30pm – 9.30pm. To register your interest please contact **Trish MacEachern on 01561 321263**



Kincardine & Deeside Befriending

We all want to be happy in our old age

Yet hundreds of people spend their days feeling isolated and not seeing a person for days.

You can make a difference by making a donation or by giving a couple of hours of your time every week or fortnight to visit an older person. A number of people in and around Auchenblae are currently waiting for a befriender.

Just get in touch with Kincardine & Deeside Befriending on 01569 765714 or visit www.kdbefriending.org.uk. Mileage expenses are reimbursed.



HOLY WEEK + EASTER SERVICES:

for those whose names are given to the minister and the ministry of healing touch.)

MAUNDAY THURSDAY

5th April; 7.30pm – Fettercairn Church Hall

Jesus said: 'A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, as I have loved you.' (John 13:34) This act of worship includes the celebration of the Sacrament of the Last Supper and a sandwich supper.

GOOD FRIDAY

6th April; 7.30pm – St Palladius, Drumtochty

God showed his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

(Romans 5:8) A joint act of worship, with our brothers and sisters in Christ of West Mearns, Aberluthnott linked with Laurencekirk and the Scottish Episcopal Church reflecting on the events of Good Friday. The service is followed by hot cross buns and refreshments.

EASTER DAY

Sunday, 8th April: Fettercairn: 9.30am Auchenblae: 11.00am

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Each of these family services will be followed by a short celebration of communion for those who wish to stay on. All are welcome.

FETTERCAIRN GUILD COFFEE MORNING

Saturday, 14th April, 10 – 11.30am in Fettercairn Public Hall.

SUNDAY, 20th MAY, 2.30pm

The short afternoon service at Queen Elizabeth Court, Fettercairn will celebrate the Diamond Jubilee

SUNDAY, 27th MAY (at the start of Gala week for Fettercairn and Auchenblae)
11am: Fettercairn – a Diamond Jubilee Gala Songs of Praise

(followed by a Street Party)

6pm: Auchenblae - a Diamond Jubilee Gala Songs of Praise

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

On Sunday 3rd June at Fettercairn: 9.30am and at Glenbervie at 11am

On Sunday 10th June at Auchenblae at 11am



West Mearns Parish Church

WORSHIP AT WEST MEARNS PARISH CHURCH: AUCHENBLAE, FETTERCAIRN, GLENBERVIE

SUNDAYS

- 9.30am: Fettercairn
- 11am: Glenbervie – first Sunday of the month
- 11am: Auchenblae - other Sundays
- 2.30pm: Queen Elizabeth Court, Fettercairn – usually last Sunday of the month—"All welcome"

SPRING DIARY: SERVICES + EVENTS

UNITED SERVICE AND CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, 25th March: 10.00am (Please note time and that clocks change this morning) at Auchenblae Church followed by refreshments in the Church Hall

GLENBERVIE CHURCH COFFEE MORNING

Saturday, 31st March, 10 – 11.45am in Drumlithie Village Hall.

LENT + EASTER MEETINGS AT THE MANSE (Fettercairn, Tel: 01561-340203)

Any one interested in exploring these topics (any one or all of them) is welcome. No church background required; just bring yourself, your questions, + an enquiring mind.

19th March, 7.30pm – 9.30pm: Monday Evening at the Manse on **The Lord's Prayer**

25th March, 4pm – 6pm: Sunday Afternoon at the Manse on **I don't believe in...**

2nd April, 7.30pm – 9.30pm: Monday Evening at the Manse on **The Apostles' Creed**

15th April, 7.30pm – 9.30pm: Monday Evening at the Manse on **Resurrection Life**

23rd April, 4pm – 6pm: Monday Evening at the Manse on **Being the Church**

Links to the Village Grocer of the 1880's?

Kiwi, Doug Gibbs and ex Zimbabwean Wayne Lawton will be chasing some 200 years of history when they visit Auchenblae with their wives about the 26th of May 2012.

Descendants of 1880's village merchant Francis Legg and his wife Helen Burness, the cousins would like to find Legg family graves and visit their ancestor's shop and home at 9 High St. Also they would be interested in sighting any papers, advertising, photos or other memorabilia or documents of the time relating to the Legg family.

From CA Mollyson's book "The Parish of Fordoun: Chapters in its History (1893)" they have found confirmation of part of a family legend which had Francis' father, Andrew, at the Battle of Quebec. According to Andrew's great great granddaughter's notes, he helped carry General Wolfe from the field of battle wrapped in a flag now at Chester Cathedral. The flag exists but whether Andrew was involved is unproven.

It is these little snippets of information which makes tracing family trees so interesting. Therefore the cousins would like to meet any one who could contribute to their knowledge of their ancestors, or indeed may even be distant relatives! Doug Gibbs can be contacted at gibbsdj@actix.co.nz

Auchenblae Gardens Open 2012

To date our Gardens Open event has raised £5,783 for church fabric funds and we are indebted to those who have allowed access into their private space.

Over the last five years we've visited many gardens, both large and small, but each one has been hugely enjoyed and appreciated for one reason or another.

To enable us to hold this popular event again this year we hope to find some previously unseen gardens. I'm sure there are many, hidden away from public view, but we've no way of knowing unless you tell us!

Do you or your neighbour have a garden, not necessarily of horticultural merit, but of interest in one way or another to others? If so, we'd love to hear from you in the next week or two.

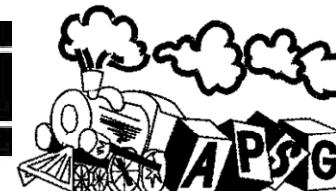
To add to the enjoyment of the Gardens Open Weekend we serve delicious strawberry teas in the village hall.

Please contact either **Jenny Thomson (320245)** or **Rev. Catherine Hepburn (340203)**

n.b. Next year, in a change of format, our gardens will be 'open' in late spring when bulbs and rhododendrons are in full bloom.



Auchenblae Pre-School Group



The children of Auchenblae Pre-School Group have had a busy few months and they are finishing off the term with an Easter Egg Hunt and Sponsored Walk. This will be taking place at the Den on Friday 30th March. The children will also be planting sunflowers, which they have grown from seed in their designated garden patch. Look out for them blossoming during the summer months!



Registered Charity no SC021752

Auchenblae Calendar

It is hoped to once again publish a calendar depicting scenes in and around Auchenblae, as a fund raiser for the church.

The church fund raiser is open to all so please get snapping.



Entries will be gathered in early autumn.

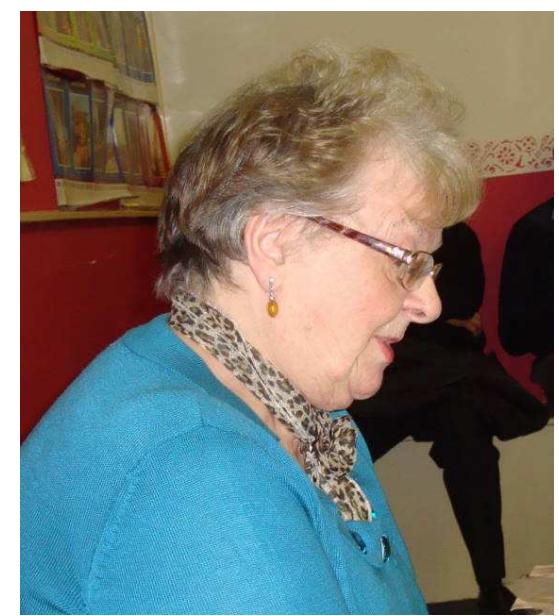
Auchenblae Heritage Society

Amazingly, the last two talks at the Heritage Society were both given by committee members - commitment indeed, and impressive too. In fact the second talk broke the record of people in attendance - over forty, with the milk at the tea-break even running out!

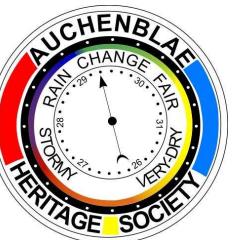
On 5 December 2011, Auchenblae's very own historian, **Jenny Thomson** gave her long awaited talk and video presentation of "The Bell", postponed because of the previous year's atrocious weather. Jenny began by setting the scene in the lead up to celebrating The Millennium in the village, which included the refurbishment of the church bell's mechanism. Bob Jamieson was the main man in this venture, assisted by Jenny's husband, Jimmy. All this activity in the bell tower was videoed, leaving us with a great record of that special build up to the successful ringing-in of 2000. The video also captured the quiet time in the village leading up to mid-night when afterwards, lively communal singing of Auld Lang Syne outside the church took place and many "Happy New Years" being said. The whole flavour of the video was one of great charm and community spirit, coupled with a real sense of historical importance. A wee gem.

"Childhood in Drumtochty Glen" was the title of **Sheena Auld's** talk on 5 March 2012, and it did exactly that. An absolutely packed hall was held spellbound by Sheena's many stories from her arrival in the glen in 1943 to her leaving school aged 15. Sheena had taken great trouble and put in many hours writing out her memories in a delightful, flowing, straightforward, descriptive style, told with fondness, sensitivity and humour, making it easy for the audience to simply sit back, listen and enjoy. Copies of a poem about her childhood were available to take away as a memento of the talk. Much handling of Sheena's family photos, which were on display, completed the visual record of her childhood for all in attendance. A nice touch, was the presence of three of Sheena's grand-daughters, who were very proud and impressed with their Gran's talk - as were the rest of us.

At a short AGM preceding Sheena's talk, a presentation of a book on William Blake was given to **Gillian Siddons** in recognition of her 12 years as a committee member and secretary of the Heritage Society.



Jenny Thomson and Sheena Auld



Nearly New Sale

On Saturday 11th March 2012, Isabelle Riddoch and Gillian Milne, along with a willing band of volunteers, held their 13th Nearly New Sale at Auchenblae Village Hall. Over the last five years, the sales have attracted a growing and loyal group of buyers who come along on the day to take advantage of the wonderful bargains on offer. This sale was no different and on the day, more than 130 people attended and the sale made just over £1,200.00 before expenses.

Gillian and Isabelle, had agreed that the main beneficiary on this occasion would be the Stroke Unit at Stracathro Hospital, with further donations being made to Chest, Heart and Stroke, Scotland; Auchenblae Primary School and other local charities.

The girls chose the nominated charity, as sadly two people they (and probably you) know well in Auchenblae had been admitted to the Unit at Stracathro following a stroke. Thankfully both survived their stroke and went on to make a good recovery. Both spoke very highly of the treatment they received at the Unit and as such, Gillian and Isabelle were happy to support the Unit through fundraising. Sister Debbie Robertson from the Unit was delighted when she was told of the fundraising total and advised that the donation would go towards the purchase of specialist chairs.

Gillian and Isabelle would like to take this opportunity to thank all our supporters, whether that be as volunteers, sellers, buyers or residents who put up with the influx of people/vehicles on the day!

The next sale will be held in September and will be advertised locally in advance. Should you wish any information on how the sales operate, or have any knowledge of a worthwhile cause, please contact **Gillian Milne on 01561-320685 or Isabelle Riddoch on 01561-320759.**

THANKS

Kenny, Alice and family wish to thank everyone for their get well cards, letters, phone calls, emails and enquiries in the past few months. Your kindness, help and support has been very much appreciated.

Kenny is now home, continuing his convalescence and looking forward to a 'barbecue summer'!

Our thanks and best wishes to you all.

Auchenblae Parks Committee

Work Day in the Den is scheduled for Saturday 7th April starting at 10am. The burn is in need of particular attention this year as 'the weed' has all but choked it in some stretches. Roy is appealing for as many able bodied persons to join him in tackling this unsightly problem. He'll gladly give instruction on how to get it out by the roots. Watertight wellies and gloves essential! There will of course, be plenty less strenuous jobs for others.

As always we treat our volunteers to lunch and fly cups at the pavilion. If you haven't been before and can spare a few hours to give the Den a kick start for the new season, please come along. It's lots of fun as well as hard work and we all go home with a sense of achievement by the end of the day. See notice board for details.

Den Opening Day Sunday 22nd April. Come for lunch?

Auchenblae is such a busy place this year and we've had to move to a Sunday so that we don't clash with other village events.

Someone asked why we called it the Opening Day when the Den is never officially closed. Well, that may be true, but it does give us a good excuse to come together and celebrate the coming of spring in this unique and beautiful setting. In the interest of accuracy though we do 'open' the tennis courts, putting green, bowling green and toilets that day.

We'll be serving soup and sandwich lunches between 11am and 2pm. Charge will be £3 for adults and £1.50 for primary school children. There will be a baking Sales Table and Raffle. Donations to both will be gratefully received.

Golf Course Although we have a waiting list at the golf course, anyone living within a two mile radius is allowed automatic membership. Annual adult rate is £140 and junior (aged 8 to 18) £70. We are fortunate that we can offer golf tuition at a modest price to junior members on Saturday mornings. Ken Marvelly has a wonderful way with youngsters and it is slightly disappointing that most of his prodigies come from out-with the village. This is an opportunity not to miss if your child has a genuine interest in the game.

Recently elected office bearers are as follows: Chairman Bernie Melsom; Vice Chairman Ewan Riddoch; Treasurer Margo Titmuss; Minute Secretary Julie Benstead; Correspondence Secretary Jenny Thomson. Conveners as follows: Tennis, Gina Easter; Bowling, Roy Palmer; Den, Bill Barry; Golf, Mike Moir; Trees, Ann Galbraith.

Committee: Hazel Wiseman; John Nicoll; Sandy Bean; Hon President Vera Watson.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend to Kenny Morgan, our former green keeper and committee member, our very best wishes for continued progress in his recovery



Christmas Village Panto

CHILDREN NEEDED

AGED (9 - 15)

(Younger if Very Keen)

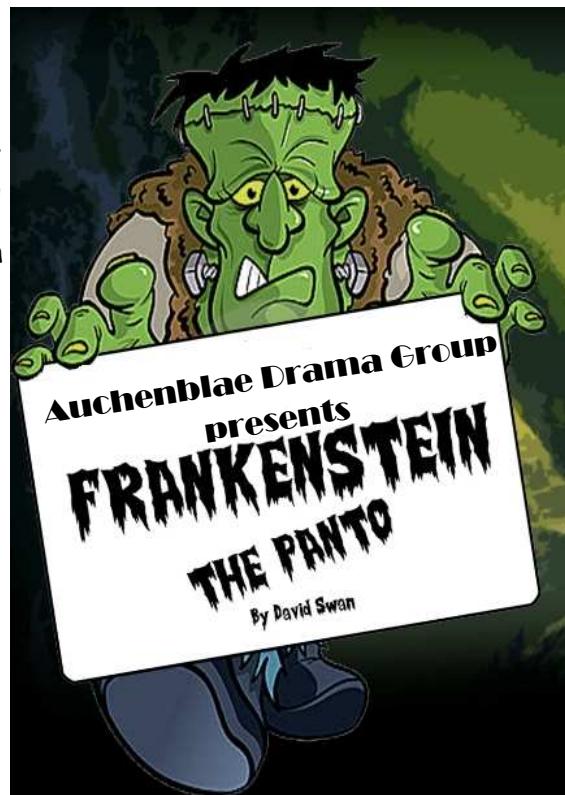
To sing, dance and have fun!

We need lots of children to take part in the chorus and village scenes for "Frankenstein the Panto"

We also need ADULT help with backstage, scenery, props etc.

Rehearsals start September 2012 to be performed December 7th, 8th and 9th 2012.

If interested please contact Judith on – 01561 320 222



Heritage Project

A heritage Project managed by Forest View Centre, Stonehaven, will enter a new phase on Wednesday the 28th March, with the opening of a new heritage Gallery in the Clatterin' Brig Restaurant, Fettercairn.

The opening ceremony will be part of a heritage fair, which will take place at the Clatterin' Brig between 10.00am and 4.00pm with the Lord Lieutenant of Kincardineshire, Carol Kinghorn, performing the opening ceremony at 12.00

A Mearns Heritage is a two year project by Aberdeenshire Council, funded by LEADER Aberdeenshire, and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The project is designed to involve adults with learning disabilities and the community, in researching and recording the history of the Mearns over the last thirty years, which also covers the time scale in which Forest View Centre has provided specialist day care services.

Jane Taylor, Manager of the Clattering Brig, has generously provided gallery space for the display of heritage material produced by the project, and this will involve a wide range of individuals and groups contributing to a display reflecting thirty years of a Mearns Heritage.

Members of the public are invited to bring along photographs, exhibits and memorabilia of the Mearns, or even just their memories of people, places and events in the Mearns

Forest View service users from the Project, and a team of researchers, will be joined on the day by local primary and secondary pupils, to chart and record the material which people bring along.

A set of photographs produced from old glass negatives will form part of the display, and members of the public will be invited to identify time, place and people who appear in the photographs, in order to capture vital information about the Mearns, which might otherwise be lost or forgotten.

Dave Ramsay, Project Officer said, "Coming at almost the end of the first year of the Project, this is a fitting way for the community to contribute to the Project and a Mearns heritage, and the use of the gallery space in the restaurant will form an on-going display over the life of the Project. It also demonstrates the integrated approach of the Project through adults with learning disabilities, the wider community, and heritage groups"

Auchenblae Friendship Group



*....we must be
doing some-
thing right!"*

We have now been in existence for about 11 years. Even though we have lost some members in that time our numbers remain pretty much the same as when we started. We must be doing something right!

Do come and join us on Wednesday mornings, from 10.00am to noon, in the Church Hall. You will be made to feel welcome. We are a friendship group and we offer friendship, a cuppie, various activities, and a birthday cake when appropriate.

Barbara Strouts

Auchenblae Guild

Before long we will have come to the end of another season with the Guild. We have a meeting in April on Wednesday 18th, in the Church Hall at 2.30pm. It will take the form of "A Matter of Opinion" and the people taking part are Rev. Catherine Hepburn, Mrs Margaret Muiry, Mr Alex Hidalgo and Mr Graham Milne. There will also be a short AGM. It should be very interesting. On May 2nd there is the Kincardine and Deeside Annual Rally in Banchory. Also probably in May there will be the Combined Guilds' Summer get together and at a date to be announced Ferryhill Guild will be visiting us for lunch. These are all enjoyable occasions.

The Guild is celebrating its' 125th birthday, surely a quite a milestone in its' history. No longer the Womans' Guild, we now welcome men in the ranks. Do come along and give us a try. Meetings are fun.

Grassic Gibbon Writers Group

A new creative writing group has been launched at Grassic Gibbon Centre in Arbuthnott.

Grassic Gibbon Writers Group has been set up by manager, Isabella Williamson, and is being led by local poet, playwright and short story writer Catriona Yule.

Meetings are on Friday mornings from 10.30 to 12.30. Each informal session is aimed at supporting and encouraging new writers with workshop exercises and constructive feedback. Anyone is welcome to come along. For further information, contact the **Grassic Gibbon Centre, Arbuthnott. Tel: 01561 361668.**



Attention!

This year's Gala will be timed

to coincide with the

Queen's Diamond Jubilee

27th May – 2nd June 2012

All the usual stalls plus more!

Look out for posters with details nearer the time

Auchenblae Brownies

Brownies are for girls aged from 7 - 10 years. We meet weekly during term time in Auchenblae.

This term the Brownies have enjoyed a trip to Satrosphere in Aberdeen. The girls took part in scientific activities to gain their Science Investigator badge. Thanks to Greg who kept them interested. We are currently exploring issues with an Olympic theme and this will continue after Easter. With the Queen's jubilee coming up in June, we will be joining with other members of the Guiding family in Kincardine and Deeside to hold a joint event - something that the girls enjoy. This helps them meet with all ages of the Guiding family. We are looking forward to some good weather and lighter nights after Easter, when the girls can make use of Auchenblae's superb environment for their activities.

Anyone interested in joining us can contact **Tracy Fraser - our District Commissioner - on 01561 378328, or myself - Lorna Yates on 01561 320489**



Auchenblae Community Association

Since the last Edition of the Messenger the Auchenblae Community & District Association held the Open House in January which was well attended and enjoyed by the Community. People had a chance to look around the Village Hall and provide the Association with feedback by means of a questionnaire. We have read and discussed the feedback and comments provided and will try and incorporate where possible the feedback to enhance the services available. Several suggestions were made for other activities and events the Community would like to see in the Village Hall and the Committee will look at the possibility of introducing new activities. We had further offers of support to help host and staff the activities which is greatly appreciated as we can only offer events if we have enough helpers.



“....we hope you will enjoy everything on offer

Burns night was another sell out this year with over 90 people attending the fabulous evening. The speakers were on form and the Haggis did everyone proud. The difficult thing now is that we have to wait until 2014 until the next Burns Night Supper! Thank you to everyone who attended the evening and made it such a success.

We are now gearing up for a busy social season; the 17th of March was the 3rd annual Curry Night, the much loved Gala week will run from the **27th of May until the 2nd of June** with a special Jubilee Theme and the Art Show after Summer holidays.

This year the Gala week will honour the Queen's Diamond Jubilee! See the special notice in this edition and posters which will be out nearer the time announcing the activities during the week. Suggestions for activities in the Den and help with hosting the stalls would be fantastic as we would like to make it a memorable celebration for all!

During the Christmas and New Year break some work was completed in the Village Hall; we were able to have the entrance hall and stairs as well as the kitchen repainted and new flooring put in the kitchen. We have also installed an over door heater above the door to the main hall, so when you come in you'll be warmly welcomed. A new, larger extraction fan has been fitted in the kitchen since we are more frequently catering for larger groups and the kitchen is seeing more use. The maintenance program is on-going and the Association is making every Pound stretch as far as it will go to ensure we keep the hall going.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Spring/Summer events and we hope that you'll enjoy everything on offer.

Auchenblae Surgery



Easter Closing dates

Due to a public holiday the surgery will be closed all day on Monday 9th April.

Please phone NHS24 on 08454 24 24 24 for urgent medical advice.

Staff

We are delighted to welcome back Dr Claire Lindsay from maternity leave.

Dr Claire Lindsay will be consulting on Tuesday mornings and all day Fridays.

A list of the new consulting times is as follows:

Monday

Morning-Dr Joanna Green (open surgery 8.30-10am)

Afternoon-Dr Joanna Green (booked appts 4-5.30pm)

Dr Keith Pirie (booked appts 4.30-6pm)

Tuesday

Morning- Dr Keith Pirie (open Surgery 8.30-10am)

Dr Claire Lindsay (booked appts 9.30-11am)

Afternoon-Dr Keith Pirie (booked appts 4.30-6pm)

Wednesday

Morning-Dr Keith Pirie (open Surgery 8.30-10am)

CLOSED from 10am

Thursday

Morning-Dr Joanna Green (open surgery 8.30-10am)

Afternoon-Dr Joanna Green (booked appts 4-5.30pm)

Dr Keith Pirie (booked appts 4.30-6pm)

Friday

Morning-Dr Claire Lindsay (open surgery 8.30-10am)

Afternoon-Dr Claire Lindsay (booked appts 3.50-5.30pm)

Dr Keith Pirie (booked appts 4.30-6pm)

Saturday and Sunday

CLOSED