



# Auchenblae Messenger

Founded in 1999 by Donald B. Rennie

*Summer Edition*

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 2

June 2014

## From The Editor

As usual there is a lot going on in Auchenblae. Surely there is something for everyone here.

My very grateful thanks to all the contributors. I needed everything earlier than usual and you supplied it on time. Without you there wouldn't be a Messenger and I know that it would be sadly missed if it failed to appear. Many thanks also to our readers who say such nice things about us. It makes it worthwhile.

The next issue will be for September.. I hope to start collecting for it by 15th August.

Contributions should come to [barpollybar@gmail.com](mailto:barpollybar@gmail.com)

A warm and sunny summer to you all.

Barbara

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## Memo Date

The Next Memo is scheduled for July / August 2014 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 10th July 2014

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## A Perennial Problem

Despite all the articles in the Messenger, dogs are still allowed to roam free or when out walking, their inconsiderate owners let them perform wherever they like without bothering to clean up afterwards. Recently I noticed two (filled) poop bags dumped on the doorstep of a family who own dogs but never would leave a mess. Why there? Why in the pend between two houses on top of a big dandelion plant? (Not in a poop bag - charming!)

Please, dog owners, remember you are part of Auchenblae community and we take pride in our village. Don't let us down any more.

## Auchenblae Friendship Group

“....always makes a birthday cake for which we are extremely grateful..



For the benefit of anyone who might have recently come to live in the village the Friendship Group is a group of people who meet once a week during school term time for a cuppie, a blether but most of all FRIENDSHIP.. People who come to entertain us tell us that we are well named. They feel the friendship as soon as they come through the door. We take part in various activities and try to provide something for everyone. We celebrate birthdays. One of our members, Adelaide, always makes a birthday cake for which we are extremely grateful.

We meet in the Church Hall on a Wednesday morning from 10.00am to 11.45am. If you are new to the village, or are at a loose end on a Wednesday morning do give us a try. For more information please contact **Barbara on 01561 320911**.

## Auchenblae Parent Council

A huge thank you to local businesses, parents and carers who offered raffle prizes for the Auchenblae Primary School Spring Fair. This was much appreciated. Also a massive thanks to all the mummy / daddy / carers and children who helped to make the event happen. You did a great job, without your leg work, time and efforts we wouldn't be able to offer so much activity and raise much needed funds.

### Bag2School

Another huge amount of clothing has been donated. Again a huge thank you goes out right across the community, working together we achieve so much.

Thank you, Thank you Thank you from the Auchenblae Parent Council



For those of you who don't know him Peter is a local, prolific poet. I know that there are more of you out there who are adept at writing, be it poems or prose. Why not give it a go and send something to future issues of the Messenger.



## SPRING RISE

Have you ever stood and watched  
first light come streaking across  
the sky?

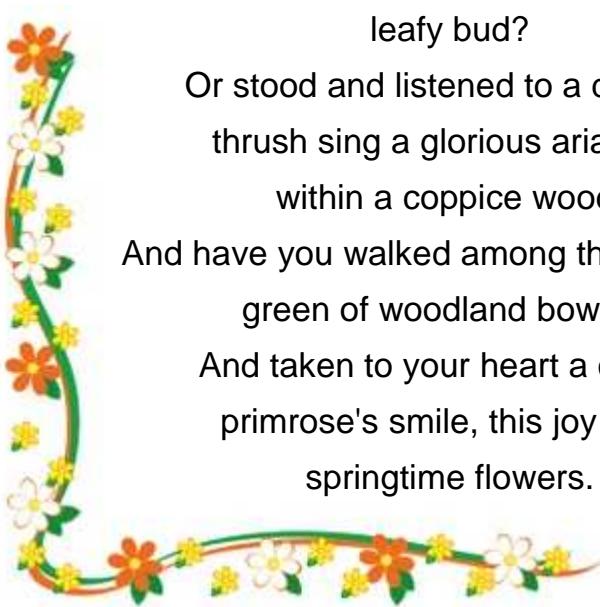
And at dawn listened to the poetry  
of the earth in full cry.

Or seen the swollen corms burst forth  
like a gathering of choirs,  
And listened to the day awake to a  
myriad of feathered lyres.

Have you ever watched the Sun  
resting on the bough, awake the  
leafy bud?

Or stood and listened to a dappled  
thrush sing a glorious aria from  
within a coppice wood;

And have you walked among the new-born  
green of woodland bowers,  
And taken to your heart a cheery  
primrose's smile, this joy of all  
springtime flowers.



*“....thank you to  
Mr and Mrs An-  
derson at Den-  
mill*

I thought it would be nice on behalf of everyone who passes by their garden on the way to Church or school to say thank you to Mr and Mrs Anderson at Denmill for the beautiful displays of spring flowers which we all enjoy. Over the years they have planted and relocated thousands of bulbs to make drifts of snowdrops, daffodils and now bluebells on the wooded bank behind their home.

Photo shows Head Gardener Andrea discussing a border with her Under Gardener Arthur.

EVELYN RICHARDSON



# Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August

## Auchenblae Gardens Open Weekend

### With Strawberry Teas

Anyone who would like to enter their garden and hasn't done so before, please contact Jenny on 320245 asap



Gardens Open from 1pm till 4pm both days.

Collect your map of the gardens from Auchenblae Village Hall.

Entry to all gardens and Strawberry Teas just £6.00.

Choose when you want to have a break or if you prefer,  
spread it over two days.

\* Savoury Produce Take-Away Stall\* \* Marmalade\*  
\* Raffle \* and \* Plant Stalls \*

Strawberry Teas only £3.00

Proceeds in aid of Auchenblae Church Fabric Work

# Auchenblae Community Association



## VACANCIES – ADVANCE NOTICE

At the AGM in October 2014 some long serving members, including office bearers, will be standing down from the Committee of the ACA. **New members will be needed to enable the committee to continue.**

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month.

In addition to being a forum for village issues, ACA are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the Village Hall which provides a venue for most village activities. Substantial fund raising throughout the year not only covers maintenance costs (e.g. hall insurance is currently £1,500 per annum), it helps ACA subsidise affordable hall rental.

Currently, with the help of friends and other volunteers, ACA organise Gala Week, the Art Show, Drumtochty Games catering, Curry Night, Burns Supper, Christmas Tree, Santa's Grotto and planting of Village Tubs. For those new to the village, the community involvement in both the organising and attending of these events provides an excellent opportunity to get involved and meet new people.

**Interested parties need to come along to an Emergency General Meeting to be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of the Village Hall. For further information please contact any committee member, or email: [alicemorgan@btinternet.com](mailto:alicemorgan@btinternet.com)**



 <h1>AUCHENBLAE GALA 2014</h1> <p>25<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> May</p>		<p>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Kids &amp; Kites Football Pitch 2 pm Kids Races Football and Games Refreshments</p>	<p>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> Family Treasure Hunt Hall - 6.00pm Walk round the village and find the clues 50p Entry Tuck Shop</p>	<p>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Quiz Night Hall (over 16's) 7 for 7.30pm Licensed Bar &amp; Raffle</p>	<p>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Gala Bingo Hall (over 16's) 6.30 - 7.00pm Licensed Bar &amp; Raffle Entry £1</p>	<p>Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Children's Disco Hall 6.30pm £1.50 Entry Tuck Shop</p>
						

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> Gala Day in the Den – 1 - 5pm**  
 Live Music from "The Trybe" Pavilion Teas, BBQ, Tombola, Cake, Bottle & Family Fun Stalls  
 Duck Races, Raffle and Bowling Competition  
 Village Hall - Gala Ceilidh 8pm-Midnight – Licensed Bar

## Caledonian Challenge 2014

A group of us local girls have decided to enter the above challenge, which will see us trek through some of Scotland's spectacular countryside in support of Foundation Scotland. Foundation Scotland is a grass roots, grant funding charity, which supports local community groups (It has previously given a grant to the "Fettercairn Community Allotment"). The team is called "Auchenblae Chicks with Sticks" and is made up of Sue Barrie, Ara Murray, Gillian Milne, Isabelle Riddoch and Margo Titmuss. The Challenge itself is a 54 mile hike in 24 hours and follows routes through the Great Glen Way and the West Highland Way, on June 14th this year. We have been training in earnest for months. As well as bagging several local Munros, we have been steadily increasing the distance of our walks. On the weekend of 17th May, we are off on our biggest training walk yet and are walking from Aviemore to Glen Clova through the Lairig Ghru and Jocks Road. The Lairig Ghru is the best known hill-pass in Scotland. It climbs to an altitude of 835 metres and crosses through the central Cairngorms. In total we will walk over 40 miles during the weekend. It will be followed by an overnight walk two weeks later when we will set off at 7 in the evening and walk until around 6/7 the next morning. This is to prepare us for the challenge itself when we will walk the 54 miles and must complete it within 24 hours - no sleeping at all that night!! As part of the Challenge, we have to raise a minimum of £2000.00. We have already raised over £900 of that, through the proceeds of the Nearly New Sale we held in March and also from a very generous donation of £100 from Clare Ptaszek, the proceeds from a recent Phoenix Card Party she hosted. We are also holding an afternoon tea at Fasque House, near Fettercairn, on Saturday 8 June between 3pm - 5pm. The 100 tickets for this event were an instant sell-out. We are very excited that so many of our friends and families will be joining us for what we anticipate will be a wonderful afternoon tea of savoury and sweet treats in sumptuous surroundings. We feel very fortunate to be extended the opportunity to use this venue and would like to thank the management of Fasque House for this.

We are also running a Grand Raffle - "The Auchenblae Chicks With Sticks Draw" which will be drawn at Fasque House on the day of the afternoon tea. Even if you are not joining us on the day, we would be delighted if you would support the raffle by purchasing some tickets. We have been very fortunate to be donated some wonderful prizes. Please see the attached poster for details. Tickets are available now from any of the team and tickets have also been left in the Village Shoppe. Alternatively, if you would like to sponsor our team, you can do so through our online fundraising page via the following link:

<http://www.aledonianchallenge.com/teams/AuchenblaeChicksWithSticks>

Thank you so much in anticipation of your kind support.

Gilly, Isabelle, Ara, Sue and Margo AKA "Team Auchenblae Chicks With Sticks"

# Auchenblae Chicks with Sticks

## Draw



**Help us reach our fundraising target, and get the chance to win one of the following great prizes:**

## **1st Prize – One hour Flight in a Light Aircraft**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Mini Break at Glensaugh Holiday Apartment**

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – Wine Tasting for 15 People**

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize - £100 Cash**      **Plus many more**

**Tickets can be bought from Margo, Isabelle, Gillian, Ara or Sue or from Auchenblae Shoppe.**

**To be drawn at Fasque House, Fettercairn on Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> June**



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

The Revd. A. Douglas Lamb

As quite a few will know, what with the illness of the parish minister, The Revd Catherine Hepburn, Mr. Lamb is acting as in her place - albeit as locum. Living in Laurencekirk, he can be in most places of the parish within ten minutes. Though technically working in a part - time capacity he is more or less "on call" most of the time. He has said "Ask me for anything - except money!". He can be contacted on 01561 376816.

He will be leading worship every Sunday at 11a.m. at Auchenblae (except the first Sunday of the month when he will be at Glenbervie).

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## *Auchenblae Pre-School Group*

Scottish Registered Charity SC021752

Summer term 2014.

APSG numbers are very good across the three groups and after a successful AGM on the 8<sup>th</sup> May we now have a new committee to keep the group running smoothly for the next year. Thank you to everyone for their support over the year.

Parent and Toddler Group meets every Friday from 9.15-11.15 in the Church Hall.

2s Group sessions are Monday and Thursday 1-3pm

Playgroup for 3-5 year olds runs every morning 9.15-11.45. Funded places are available.

Contact **Kirsty Clarke** for information about the Pre-School Group on **01561 321172**.

Dates for your diary –

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June Butterfly Hunt in the Den. All welcome.

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July Charleton Fruit Farm Montrose for APSG summer outing. Meet at 10am.

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August Open Day at the Village Hall to register your child and meet the Committee and staff.

## Auchenblae Rainbows



Mearns District held a Thinking Day Fun Day at Luthermuir hall , various activities were set up round the hall and

each group were scored on completing the tasks and how they worked together, these included a tower of marshmallows and spaghetti , wrapping someone up in gift paper and ribbon as a present, making a handprint tree and making a keyring.

Auchenblae Rainbows and Brownies won their respective sections.

Non Guiding people may be interested to know that , Thinking Day is celebrated by Guiding around the world on February 22<sup>nd</sup> which was the joint birthdays of our founder Lord Baden Powell and his wife Olave.

Rainbows are for girls aged 5-7 if you would like your daughter join our unit after her 5<sup>th</sup> birthday you can put her name on waiting list by going to [www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus).



## Auchenblae Guild

After another very successful season we are now taking our summer break. We do have one more date on the calendar. On June 18th our friends from Ferryhill Guild in Aberdeen will be joining us for our annual get together which takes the form of a soup and sweet lunch. This is always a very enjoyable occasion and we would ask as many members as possible to come along and lend your support.

We wish you all a very enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing you all again in the autumn.

## Dates for your diary

Gala Week	Village	25-31st May
Open Gardens	Village	9th&10th August
Community Assoc. EGM 7.30pm	Village Hall	10th June

## Auchenblae Drama Group

The Drama Group is not just about putting on quality shows, we are also here to promote the performing arts in any form. As many of you will have read, following our successful fundraising last year the Auchenblae Drama Group have installed a state-of-the-art 7.1 surround system in the hall. The system is of professional quality and for the technically minded it can blast out 8000 watts although we use considerably less for most events! ☺



Most of the hard work in the specification & installation was carried out by our Technical Director, Sand Noble (with a little help from others) and we have had two professional sound engineers make some very favourable comments about the system. We can confidently say it is the best in the Mearns in a non-commercial environment.

To celebrate the new system we held a Rock Band night in April which saw an almost full hall enjoy 3 local bands putting the system to test. This was well received and we have plans to hold another. In May we organised a Jazz bar at which a lively crowd enjoyed a well stocked bar, some delicious tapas and danced the night away With the Cindy Douglas band until midnight. If you didn't manage to make those nights we are planning a family ceilidh in the summer.

We have already started plans for this years pantomime, Mother Goose, and we are hard at work making costumes, scenery and learning lines. **WATCH THIS SPACE!**

**Messenger Distribution Team**—Anne Anderson, Sue Barrie, Anne & Sheree Caird, Therese Hendry, Jeanette Hoedl, Trish MacEachern, Carol Nelson, Barbara Strouts, Peter Thornton.

**Messenger Production Team**—Barbara Strouts, Kevin Newstead, Eddie Cairns

**Memo Production**— Lindsay Cochrane

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