

# Auchenblae Messenger

Founded in 1999 by Donald B. Rennie

Autumn Edition

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 3

SEPTEMBER 2016

## From The Editor

It is good to see that there is still a lot happening in the village. So many people giving of their time and effort for the benefit of us all. My thanks to all the contributors. You have made life easier for me by being well on time with your contributions.

Thanks are also due to Kevin, the publisher and to Anne and her delivery team, without them there would be no Messenger. I will be collecting for the December issue from mid November.

Please send to **barpollybar@gmail.com** or phone on **01561 320911**.

### Inside this issue

- Page
- 2. Parent Council
- 2. Guild
- 3. Parks Committee
- 4. Friendship Group
- 8. Art Show
- 11. Pre-School Group

## Memo Date

The Next Memo is scheduled for October 2016 if you have any upcoming event dates please send them to :

**auchenblae\_memo@hotmail.co.uk** or call Lindsay on **01561 320242**. by 20th September 2016

## GOOD NEWS & A BIG THANK YOU

Thanks to a good 'business case' submitted to the Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee our Publisher, Kevin, has secured funds to keep The Messenger colour printer maintained for at least 18 months.

A big thank you to **Bernie Melsom of Melsom Computing (Galloquhine)** for supplying the items at cost price to enable us to maximise our grant.

## Auchenblae Parent Council

Auchenblae Parent Council have had another fantastic year of fundraising and support from our great School, pupils, parents and the wider community.

We would like to thank:

Lynne Collier for offering us a brilliant Education Enterprise Package, Hedgehog Book Kits (made by folding books), Dave and the team from the local store, Old Post Office and Teashop for offering shelf space and window displays selling our wonderful driftwood boats. Will the reindeer be making a comeback?

Diary Dates for our next slot of fun are looking like this:

29th October 1pm - 3pm Scare Festival (Primary Age).

3rd December 2pm - 5pm Santa's Winter Wonderland. Last years wonderland was really magic. This year we promise to bring back more magic dust! Young and young at heart are welcome to this event. Entry is by a donation at the door.

Again we would like to thank our many supporters for baking, donating time and energy along with gifted items. We have volunteer groups run on a weekly basis without whom we wouldn't achieve half of what we have.

A reminder to all parents of Auchenblae Primary we run the following groups.

Swimming lessons - Qualified instructor and life guards

Football - trained instructor

Netball - trained instructor

See you at all forthcoming events.

## Auchenblae Guild

After what seems to have been a long summer break we are pleased to be starting our new session on Wednesday 15th September at 2.00pm in the Church Hall. For our first meeting there will be afternoon tea and Barbara will give an update on the Guild Projects.

Our theme this year is "Go in Joy" and with a variety of very good speakers we hope to do just that. I can honestly say that we do Go in Joy in our meetings. They are certainly not boring and there is a real feeling of fellowship when we meet together. We are always happy to welcome new members so do come and give us a try

## Auchenblae Parks Committee



The Den has been very busy during the summer with lots of families enjoying our wonderful facilities. The activity net in the kiddie's play area has certainly proved popular and the outdoor gym provides a welcome fitness facility for teenagers and adults. Instruction boards will be erected soon so that each piece of equipment can be used to full advantage.

May we suggest that anyone using the Den, particularly visitors, makes a small donation towards the upkeep of the area, either via the collection pole at the car park, or the honesty box at the pavilion? This would be appreciated.

We hate to bring this subject up again as we are well aware that most dog owners are rigidly responsible, but the den groundsman is finding certain areas most unpleasant to strim. This is unacceptable so if you can help us identify the culprits please let us know. If it is dogs let loose from a car, then get a number plate and we can follow it up.

Our policy is that dogs are welcome in the den, but must be kept under control and should not be allowed in either of the play areas however, in an effort to accommodate the four-legged members of the family, tethering posts will be installed on the verge opposite the swings etc. and, at both ends of the adventure playground.

The application for the bike trail and pump track will soon be with the planning department so hopefully there will be a favourable outcome to report in the next edition.

At the golf course, income from visitor's fees is noticeably down: most certainly a reflection of the local economic climate. Unlike other villages in Aberdeenshire, Auchenblae Parks Committee, finance, manage and maintain all our recreation areas with minimal help from the Council. In these difficult times we, the individuals who comprise the committee, ask for the support and encouragement of our community.

Jenny Thomson, Correspondence Secretary

---

**CHRISTIAN AID**



Christian Aid Week this year once again showed an amazing response from the people of West Mearns. Christian Aid works with the poorest of the poor, regardless of religion, race or gender. People like Morsheda, who lives in fear of the river. Every year, floods threaten to destroy her home and leave her and her children with nothing. But because of the time, talents and money from the people of West Mearns, Morsheda and her neighbours who live on islands on the river can be helped to raise their homes 6 – 8ft above water level, giving them a safe place to live.

This year a fantastic £3,277.29 was raised. So thank you to all who helped to raise this life saving amount.

# Auchenblae Friendship Group



Two quotes to start with:

"I believe in friendship at first sight."

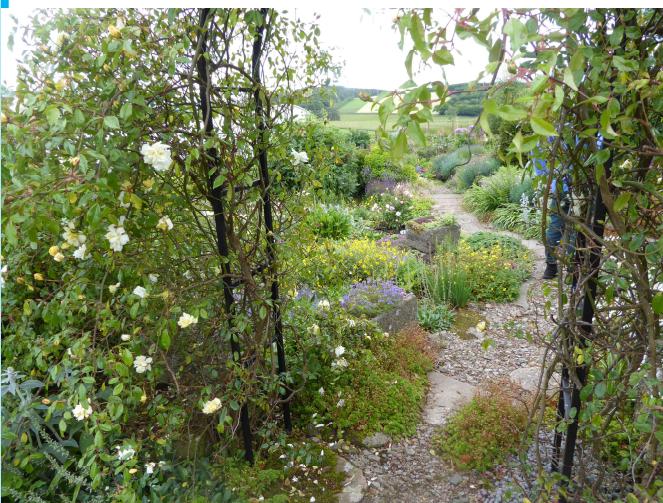
"Friends are all that matter."

Everyone needs friends and that is what the group is all about. We meet together to enjoy ourselves and to be entertained. We also support each other when support is needed. We are not a closed group. We are always happy to welcome newcomers. It doesn't matter if you don't know any of us. You will still be made to feel welcome and will soon feel that you are one of us. We have a varied programme prepared with old friends and new faces to entertain us. Give us a try on Wednesday mornings in the Church Hall from 10.00am to 11.45am. If you would like more information ask any member or phone **Barbara on 320911**.

---

## Gardens Open Weekend 2016

The weather played a significant part in the success of this year's Gardens Open Weekend. People came from all directions to view the wonderful gardens making the hard work of those taking part so much more worthwhile. Without the willingness of these gardeners it would have been impossible to hold the event so our sincere thanks must go to Margaret and Roy at Crann-Tara, Sue and Donald at Glensaugh Lodge and Jenny and Alistair at Bridgend. A total of £2,257 was raised which exceeded all expectations. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way. It was such a happy occasion. We hope the photographs do the gardens justice!





## West Mearns Parish Church is looking for **musicians** to be part of a Worship Team

*Play often or on occasion as and when you are available*

**Contemporary  
Worship**

**Contact:**

Brian Smith @ 01561 340203  
BSmith@churchofscotland.org.uk  
for more information

## REACH series

Finding the sacred in the secular

Join in for an hour of contemporary worship  
as we journey through making sense of living better today

Sundays in September 2016 @ 6:00pm

4 <sup>th</sup>	Auchenblae	Sacred vs Secular
11th	Fettercairn	Reaching up
18th	Auchenblae	Reaching in
25th	Fettercairn	Reaching out

*Bus transport is available between venues*

West Mearns Parish  
Church of Scotland  
Rev Brian Smith  
TEL 01561 340203 or  
BSmith@churchofscotland.org.uk

**There is a rather nice short footpath  
behind the new houses on Hillview  
Road. Unfortunately walks are spoilt  
by people who walk dogs there and  
don't clean up after them. The other  
day I counted at least six 'events' on a  
relatively short path. It only takes sec-  
onds and there are plenty of bins  
around the village in which to deposit  
the bags. Please think about others  
and don't spoil their walks.**



## The man behind the church clock.....

After almost 30 years as volunteer clock winder, Bob Jamieson has somewhat reluctantly decided to call it a day.

Every Wednesday night since 1987 (apart from holidays) Bob has kept his date with the clock. Summer and winter and in all weathers, this good man has made his way to the church tower to crank up the heavy weights that keep the mechanism ticking.

During these years we '*reliably*' set our watches from the time on the church clock - it may not have been quite as accurate as Big Ben, but it wasn't not far off - and in Bob's words "*never mind Greenwich Mean Time - this is Auchenblae time*" - and who's to argue with that?

To mark our appreciation for Bob's sterling service to the community, boxes will be placed in the village shop and the church, where donations can be placed. A presentation will take place some time in October. Look out for the notices, not necessarily on the internet!

West Mearns Parish Church, Auchenblae



## Auchenblae Primary School Lifesavers

Auchenblae primary school has been very fortunate to have been gifted a sum of money by MacPhies of Glenbervie, this has allowed them to purchase a defibrillator to be housed within the school premises. The plan is to engage with staff and all the children to help educate them on what to do in an emergency and how to use the defibrillator if the need ever arose. Parents will hopefully be invited to participate at a date to be arranged. I'm very Grateful to John Forrester(Head Teacher) and Aberdeenshire council for being so supportive with this project.

Mark Strickland

# CHARITY ART SHOW

AUCHENBLAE VILLAGE HALL  
FRIDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> – SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER



All Proceeds will be shared between: Kincardine & Deeside Befriending & SNAC (Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children)

FRIDAY 2<sup>nd</sup>: Opening Evening – 7pm – 11pm

Tickets £10 (age 18 years & over), Cheese & Wine/Beer (includes First Drink), Catalogue, Cheeseboard. Raffle.

SATURDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> & SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup> – 2pm – 4pm

Admission: Adults £3: Children (under 12) £2 Pre School – Free  
Includes Tea/Coffee & Home Baking. Raffle.

**\*\*CHILDRENS ART DISPLAY \*\*PRIZE GIVING - 3pm SATURDAY\*\***

Christmas Cards and Blank any occasion cards will be on sale with all proceeds going to the chosen charities. These cards are from original designs by local artists Grace Dumphie and Margaret Muiry

Alice Morgan/Sue Hodgson/Margaret Muiry/Gina Easter

Tickets/Enquiries: Contact Alice – Tel: 01561 320081 [alicemorgan@btinternet.com](mailto:alicemorgan@btinternet.com)

## North East Open Studios

This event is held 10th – 18th of September.

Look out for the free catalogues around the Mearns.

We have seven artists around Auchenblae taking part this year.

You are welcome to visit our two venues view the art work and meet the artists.

For further information go to: [www.notheastopenstudios.co.uk](http://www.notheastopenstudios.co.uk)

## SOMETHING FISHY OF A KIND

I fancy fish 'n' chips for dinner tonight She said

Good idea! so do I He said

Later-

After spreading salt and vinegar on his fish supper, Holding his fork with a large chip stuck on it-

Do you remember the good old days when fish 'n' chips were wrapped up in old newspapers He said

Those were the days when you could ask for a pennyworth of fish bits with your chips, They don't seem to taste the same anymore She said

Speaking with a mouthful of chip-

Do you know what the best thing about fish 'n' chips out of an old newspaper was? He said

What was that? She said

Remember how the print used to come off the paper? You could eat a chip and read one at the same time; Also why was the paper someone else's chips were wrapped up in more interesting to read than yours? He said

Oh! be quiet! and eat your fish supper She said

The chip shop fryer groaned  
Mushy peas sighed.

©Peter Morris 27.02.2016

## National Poetry Day 2016 Thursday October 6th

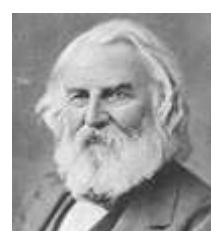
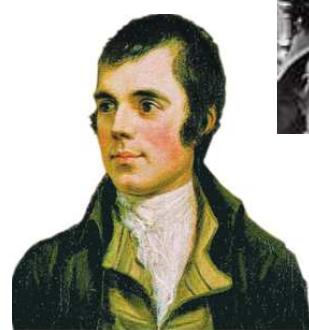
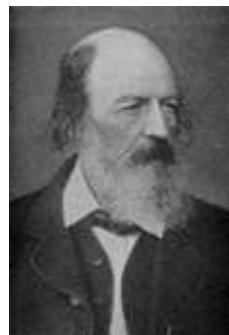
### Theme- Messages

**Meeting will be held at the Church Hall 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm Followed by coffee/tea and a fine piece**

**All welcome -Admission free**

**Come along for a friendly evening celebrating National Poetry Day**

**Bring your own poems to read or you can have them read for you**





## BABY AND BUMP

PARENT, BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Come for a chat, a cuppa and a play!

AUCHENBLAE CHURCH HALL

Fridays 9.15 – 11.15am

1<sup>st</sup> session free/£2.50 per session including snacks.

For more information email [apsg@inbox.com](mailto:apsg@inbox.com)

[www.facebook.com/AuchenblaePreSchoolGroup](https://www.facebook.com/AuchenblaePreSchoolGroup)

KIDS AND TEEN ART CLASSES  
WITH ARTIST JENNY WATT COLBECK

There are a few spaces left for the classes below;

S1 Mondays 4.30-5.30pm

P4 Tuesdays 3.30-4.30pm—P5 Tuesdays 5-6pm

S3 Wednesdays 5.30-6.45pm

P6/7 Thursdays 3.30-4.30pm—S2 Thursdays 5-6pm

Cost is £8 per hour and £10 for the S3 class.



ADULT DRAWING CLASSES FOR BEGINNERS AND INTERMEDIATE LEVEL.

These classes will be starting at the end of September.

Anyone interested in developing their drawing skills in a small group setting please contact me for further information.

ALL CLASSES ARE HELD IN BRIDGEND STUDIO, THE WATERS, AUCHENBLAE.

CONTACT JENNY ON 01561 320998 [jennycolbeck1@gmail.com](mailto:jennycolbeck1@gmail.com)  
[www.jennywattcolbeck.co.uk](http://www.jennywattcolbeck.co.uk)

# Pre-School

The Playroom, Auchenblae Village Hall

## Baby & Bump

Parents, Bumps – 2yrs  
Friday Mornings  
9.15 – 11.15

Auchenblae Church Hall

## 2s Group

Ages 2 -3  
Mon & Thurs 1 - 3pm

## Pre-School

Ages 3 – 5  
Mon – Fri 9.15 – 11.45

See What's happening  
at *APSG* - visit our

**NEW  
WEBSITE!**

[auchenblaepreschool.wix.com/apsg](http://auchenblaepreschool.wix.com/apsg)

news – events - information

Call Amy: 01561 320343

email: [cowaofmearns@gmail.com](mailto:cowaofmearns@gmail.com)



Find us on  
Facebook /AuchenblaePreSchoolGroup

# Dates for your diary

**Art Show**  
**Auchenblae Guild**  
**National Poetry Day**

**Village Hall**  
**Church Hall**  
**Church Hall**

**2-4th September**  
**15th September**  
**6th October**

## Mearns Community Council

Community Councils give local people a say about what goes on in their area. They play a vital role in representing the views of their community to Aberdeenshire Council and other public bodies.

Community Councils are statutory consultees of the Council and are therefore able to make comment on any proposals put forward by the Council including planning applications.

We can also advise the Council of any local issues such as roads requiring repair, streetlights etc. although it might sometimes be quicker for residents to report these directly to the Council.

The Community Council meets on the last Monday of the month at Mearns Community Campus, 7.00pm. Meetings are open.

The Auchenblae representatives are:

Susie Brown, [Susie.mearnscc@gmail.com](mailto:Susie.mearnscc@gmail.com) 07719 755534

Trevor Hodgson, [trevor-hodgson@sky.com](mailto:trevor-hodgson@sky.com) 01561 320755

Nathan Purrott, [Nathan.purrott@icloud.com](mailto:Nathan.purrott@icloud.com) 07940 051001

**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**