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## WELCOME TO THE CHRISTMAS EDITION OF THE MESSENGER!



THE EDITORS, PUBLISHERS, PRINTERS AND DISTRIBUTORS  
OF THE "AUCHENBLAE MESSENGER" AND "MEMO"  
WISH YOU ALL A JOYFUL CHRISTMAS  
AND A HEALTHY, HAPPY AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR.



### Village Christmas Concert

Saturday, 2 December

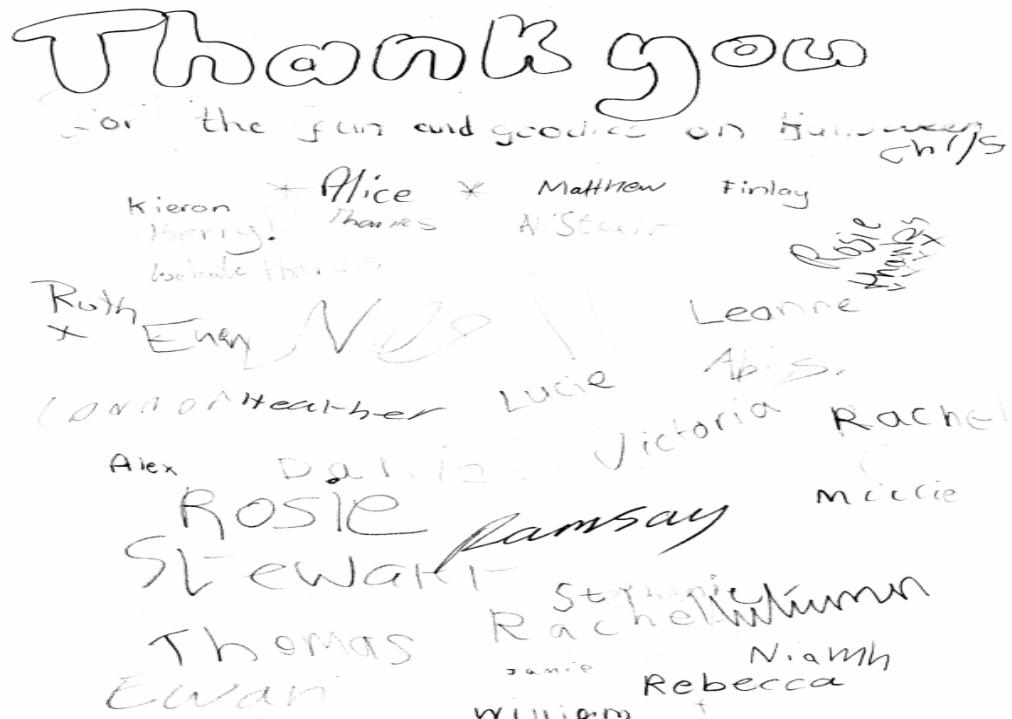
Want to Take Part

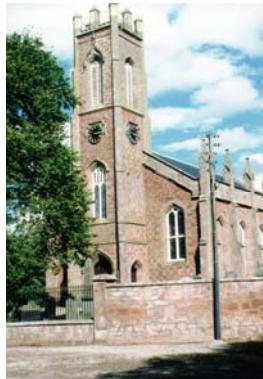
Phone Jenny Thomson 320245

Sallyanne Morrison 320650



### The Village Kids Are Saying Thanks for the Goodies from all Friends at Halloween





## West Mearns Parish Church

Minister : Rev. Catherine Hepburn

The Manse, Fettercairn, Tel. 01561 340203

### NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES :

**9.30a.m.** Every Sunday at Fettercairn

**11.00a.m.** First Sunday of the Month at Glenbervie

**11.00a.m.** Every other Sunday in the month

Service at Auchenblae Church.

Visitors especially welcome at all services,

### SPECIAL SERVICES FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

DECEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup> First Sunday in Advent

9.30a.m. Fettercairn

11.00a.m. Auchenblae

DECEMBER 8<sup>th</sup> *CAROLS, CANDLES AND CHRISTMAS PIES*

Auchenblae Guild will hold their annual Carol Singing in the Church on **Friday December 8<sup>th</sup>** at **7.30p.m.** All are warmly invited to join in an evening of real Christmas Spirit before the big rush 'to get everything done' begins. After the Carols and Candle there will be the Christmas Pies and a chance to meet up with old friends and make new ones.

DECEMBER 9<sup>th</sup> On Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup> The Sunday School Christmas Party will take place in the Church Hall, Auchenblae at 2.40p.m.

DECEMBER 10<sup>th</sup> Second Sunday in Advent

9.30a.m. Fettercairn **White Gift Sunday**

11.00a.m. Auchenblae **for children in need**

2.30p.m. Fordoun Christmas Service

6.30p.m. Blue Christmas Service.

A Carol Service for those who find Christmas a difficult time.

DECEMBER 17th Third Sunday in Advent

9.30a.m. Fettercairn, Family Service with Nativity Play

11.00a.m. Auchenblae Family Service with Nativity Play.

2.30p.m. Queen Elizabeth Court (Fettercairn) Carol Service with Mince Pies.

6.30p.m. Carol Service in Drumlithie Village Hall

DECEMBER 24<sup>th</sup> Fourth Sunday in Advent **CHRISTMAS EVE**

9.30a.m. Fettercairn

11.00a.m. Auchenblae

6.30p.m. Children's Carol Service Auchenblae.

WATCHNIGHT SERVICES

11.15p.m. **Fettercairn**

11.00p.m. Auchenblae .(Informal Carol Singing until 11.30.

Watchnight Service 11.30p.m.)

DECEMBER 25<sup>th</sup>

CHRISTMAS DAY Christmas Morning Family Service 11.00a.m. Drumlithie Church

## **West Mearns Parish Church continued**

<u>JANUARY 7th</u>	Feast of the Epiphany	9.30 Fettercairn
	Epiphany Communion	11.00 Glenbervie.

**TO ANY OR ALL OF THE ABOVE SERVICES**

## THE LOCAL CHURCH EXTENDS TO THE WHOLE COMMUNITY

## THE WARMEST OF WELCOMES.

## Auchenblae Friendship Group



We started our activities again, after the holiday, with a visit from Ian Bell, on 1st November. We have a full and varied programme planned, leading up to Christmas, with something to suit all tastes.



If you are at a loose end on a Wednesday morning do come along and join us in the Church Hall at 10.15a.m, for a cuppie, a chat and an entertaining morning. You don't have to be a pensioner to join us. If you would have difficulty getting there you could travel on the school bus.

## Auchenblae Guild (West Mearns Parish Church)

The Guild got off to a flying start in September with an evening of fellowship during which we enjoyed a finger buffet supper followed by an interesting talk by Adelaide Murray on the origins of the Friendship Club which meets in the Church Hall each Wednesday morning. Our October speakers were Anne and Lynn who told us many interesting things about the Macmillan Cancer Centre at Stracathro. Avril MacDonald, a former Occupational Therapist was be the November guest speaker.

Please mark in your diaries **Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> from 10a.m. till noon**, when the Guild are to hold a Coffee Morning and Fashion Show featuring garments from *Encore* of Fettercairn, which will be modelled by ladies from Auchenblae and round about. Entry will be £2.00 (£1.00 for children), tea/coffee and home bakes will be served and there will be a produce stall, a Traidcraft Stall with items for Christmas and other fancy goods, and of course, a raffle! Takings at the Traidcraft Stall will go straight to Traidcraft for their work abroad which seeks to see that workers in the Third World receive a fair wage. All profits from the morning will go to Guild funds and will then be split between West Mearns Parish Church and our project for this year – *Borderline*. This is a charity which helps homeless Scots in London to get settled.

November 19<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> is designated Guild Week in Scotland. The Coffee morning and the service in Auchenblae Church on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November taken mainly by members of the Guild, is our way of recognising it.

Ann Rennie.



## ***“Parlez-vous Francais?”***

### **THE YOUNGER THE BETTER!**

The picture shows some of the local children learning French under their tutor Catherine Hunter, who suggests that the title of the photograph might be “Our Young Local Linguists playing with their new friends from La Jolie Ronde. Minou le chat and Trottine la souris.” - and if you don’t know what that means, why not ask some of them, for *they know*.



Catherine Hunter is running two classes for Primary school children aged 5 – 11 in the Auchenblae Village Hall on Mondays and Tuesdays in the afternoon. Catherine writes : “Learning French comes easily to young children. They have a keen ear and are very receptive. At this very young age, the strategies and language learning skills which they use for developing their own language are very active. It is an ideal time to familiarise them with sounds and patterns of a new language. With La Jolie Ronde, classes are small and children are grouped according to age. They will enjoy a variety of fun and lively language learning activities.”

This kind of activity is worth more than a mention in the *the Messenger*. Sometimes if we are lucky enough to go abroad to Europe we discover how desperately insular we are, and how embarrassing it can be when we get tongue-tied trying to speak another language – perhaps because we didn’t have the opportunity to learn it when we were very young and receptive. But who knows, maybe even some the “crinklies” could benefit from the chance to brush up our French. For further details about what the youngsters are up to, contact Catherine Hunter on 07817 691568..

### **LIGHT HOUSE.**

As Christmas gift and food items flood the shops we’re driven, as usual these days, to think ahead to the festive season. Light House will celebrate with a party on December 10th after which we’ll break until some time in January, to be announced later.



Many thanks to all the mums and dads for the caring support for us during testing times. And Mr. Piggy thanks you for supplying coppers to keep him well-fed by the children. He’s promised to cough it all up later to help the poor and needy.

Light House now has an international flavour with the arrival in our ranks of 4-year-old Bruno Santos from Portugal. Other children between the ages of 4 and 12 of any nationality, race or creed continue to be welcome on Sunday mornings from 11a.m. to 12 noon. Call at The Willows or phone Charles and Bren on 320371.

### **PUBLIC SERVICE INFORMATION – HIGHWAY CODE**

#### ***MORE ON PARKING – DID YOU KNOW?***

That unless it is in a marked and designated parking space, it is **ILLEGAL** to park at night (after dark) facing **AGAINST** the direction of traffic flow.

If you park on a road with a speed limit in excess of 30 mph you **MUST** use parking lights at night.

**RECOMMENDATIONS.** The highway code suggests the following:

- avoid parking within 10 metres (32 ft) of a junction.

**Children should enter and exit vehicles by the kerb side doors whenever possible.**

## **From this Month's Editor—Craig Sandeman**

Welcome to the festive 2006 edition of The Messenger. Where did 2006 go? I must be getting old because there hasn't even been enough time this year to break my new year's resolutions? In fact I must be getting older than I thought because I can't even remember what those resolutions were!

Anyway here we are again on well worn territory for yourself and virgin turf for myself. I volunteered to take over Ross's soon to be vacant position thinking I would just be one of many names in the mix for the lucrative position. Alas I am afraid you have been stuck with me as Ross's replacement.

We came to the village just over two years ago and wanted to be involved in the community. Not wanting to change it but to be a part of it and to contribute to it. That is what attracted us to the village most, the sense of community that seems to flow through everything.

I am sure over the coming years we will get to know each other very well but for the time being I think I have yapped enough. I will let you go and read this month's edition but I will sign out with a huge thank you to Ross for the work he and Donald have done, to Donald for helping me find my feet with this issue and to the whole machine behind this wonderful publication.

**CRAIG**

## **AUCHENBLAE DRAMA GROUP**

Following the success of "Frankenstein's Guest" the group took a well earned break from activities to reacquaint themselves with their own lives! Three weeks was long enough and we are all back together and meeting in the Drumtochty Arms lounge most Wednesday evenings.

While the evening was a success we are still very keen to welcome new talent to the group. This 'talent' need not be on stage for the shy among you but from ticket sales to painting sets we encourage all to come along.

The group met on the 25<sup>th</sup> October to discuss the way ahead and the ideas flying around were ambitious and impressive. There is a bright future ahead for the group and a very entertaining one for the village. Our aim is to perform two productions per year and also to enter the competitive arena representing Auchenblae in the Scottish Community Drama Association competition in February.

We have not decided on our next project but by the time this Messenger has hit your coffee table the AGM will have been held, the committee appointed and the future assured.

We hope to see you either at our meetings or at our next performance. Our thanks go to the community for the huge support given to our first production and we hope all our endeavours will be met with a similar positive reception.

## **WINTER WEATHER ADVICE**

You **MUST** be able to see, so clear ALL ice and snow from your windows.

You **MUST** ensure that lights and number plates are clean.

**EXPECT the UNEXPECTED.**

**BE SAFE.**

## **MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING**

I would like to thank everyone who came to my Macmillan Coffee Morning last month, those who helped, especially Gina and Margo and all those who kindly baked and gave donations.

In all we raised £300. many thanks.

Carol Shea

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING, GREETINGS AND INFORMATION**AUCHENBLAE POST OFFICE**

Elizabeth, Susie, Doris and Annie wish you all  
A Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.  
Thank you for your continued support, and also  
for using our Banking Services at the Post Office

The Post Office is closed on Christmas Day,  
Boxing Day, January 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. The shop  
will be open for papers on Boxing Day, on  
January 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10 – 11.30a.m.

**WILLIAM LINDSAY BUTCHER**

*Kintore Street, Auchenblae*

**Tel. 320228**

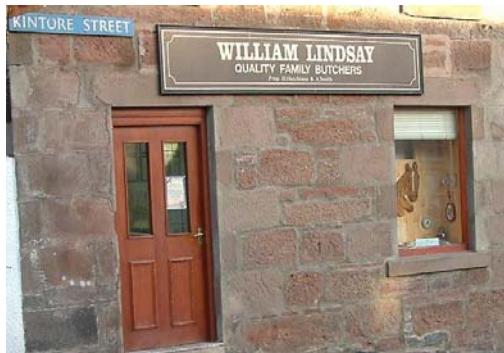
David and Andy would like to wish  
all their customers a Merry Christmas and  
a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Thank you very much for your custom.  
Closing dates.

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January and

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January

**METELSKI'S STORE****Angela, Ludi and Frances**

would like to wish all our customers  
a Happy and Holy Christmas and a  
prosperous New Year.

Many thanks for your support over the past year.

For special opening or closing times  
during the Christmas and New Year period  
please see the notice in the shop window.



## Food for Thought - Season's Eatings!

Welcome to the *NOTHING ABOUT CHRISTMAS*, food page. Sorry editors. But I imagine that our readers are split between those who have a standard Christmas set up and don't need recipes, those that go elsewhere or don't celebrate it and those who are new to 'doing' Christmas. For the latter there are dozens of magazines offering the same old, or variations of the same old, annual recipes, so I am offering a Christmas Free zone in the food page this month.

We have a simple family meal recipe, courtesy of Margo Titmuss and the scone recipe I use, which always goes down really well at Coffee Mornings

SEASONAL BEST— Shellfish, Lamb, Beef, Halibut, Fennel, Celery, Mushrooms, Parsnips, Turnips, Pomegranates, Figs, Pears, Clementines and Satsumas.

### Margo's Easy Supper Dish (serves 4?)

Ingredients: ¾ lb meat (chicken or pork) diced & browned, 2- 3 oz grated cheese, 1 chopped onion, 2 bags crushed unsalted crisps, handful frozen peas or sweetcorn, 2 tins condensed soup (celery, mushroom or chicken) small amount of water blended with above, more crushed crisps and grated cheese to decorate. Peaches to decorate, optional)

### Method.

Place ingredients in oven proof casserole dish as follows: Crushed crisps on base. Scatter over browned meat. Next add chopped onion, then frozen peas or sweetcorn. Sprinkle over grated cheese. Pour soup mixture over evenly. Cover with foil and bake for 20 minutes until beginning to bubble. Add cheese and crisps to top and brown under grill. Serve with your favourites salad and crusty bread.

### Lily's Scones.

*This recipe is from Nigella Lawson's 'Domestic Goddess' Book. It is oh so simple and, for a keen cook but clumsy baker, as I am, seems to turn out beautifully every time.*

**Ingredients:** 500g plain flour, up to 1 tspn salt, 2 tspns bicarbonate of soda, 4 ½ tspns cream of tartar, 50g cold unsalted butter, diced, 50g Trex in teaspoooned lumps (or use another 25g butter), 300 ml milk

**Plus** – 1 large beaten egg for glaze. 1 baking tray, lightly greased. 6 ½ cm crinkle edged round cutter.

**Method:** Preheat oven to 220°C/mk 7. Sift flour, salt, bicarb and cream of tartar into large bowl (or add to goblet of processor and whiz for a few seconds to sift/combine. Rub in (or process) fats until like damp sand. (At this point you can cover and leave overnight. Before mixing milk I spend a minute or two 'lifting' mix with very cold hands to aerate. This allows me to make mixture, roll and have several trays ready for popping into the oven a dozen at a time!). Add milk all in one go. Mix in (I find a regular dinner knife great for this, cutting it together.) briefly (the less handling the better. Now tip onto lightly floured board, bring all bits together and knead lightly for a minute or two to make smooth dough. Roll out to 2 ½ - 3 cm thick. Dip cutter in flour and cut at least 10 scones from dough. Re-roll for further 2 – 4 depending on thickness. Place very close together on baking tray (they should touch as they cook), brush with egg wash and cook for about 10 minutes until risen and golden. Serve warm with your favourite topping. Mine is whipped cream and chunky Strawberry Jam. Nigella loves Clotted cream with black treacle (called Thunder and Lightning). What's yours? ENJOY!

*N.B. I find this recipe freezes beautifully. Just warm through in the oven from frozen for a few minutes. Almost as good as fresh baked! So make a batch and pop in bags in freezer for that home from school snack, unexpected guests or to create a wonderful ambience if you're selling your house!*

### IN YOUR LOCAL STORE

Metelski's have a new range of organic curry sauces worth a try.

Butcher - Lamb is cheaper now, sweet and tender and well suited to Autumn cooking. They also have a new 'Beef' recipe booklet with lots of casserole and stir fry recipes.

The Post Office has a delightful range of 'fashion' handbags at super prices.

USE IT – OR LOSE IT.

**A DESPERATE REQUEST** Some of the busiest people in modern society are young mums, regardless of whether or not they go out to work. So come on, share with us some of the secrets of putting out a quick, tasty and reasonably healthy meal for the family.

Children climbing the war memorial. Do enjoy yourselves in the village. Its good to see young folk having fun and making friends but it would be so easy for one of you to fall, or for the statue to get damaged. Thanks



People out after dark wearing dark clothing.

Children on bikes without lights.

Cars not putting lights on in poor/dull weather.

Chewing Gum and cigarette ends on street.



To Barbara Strouts. Wearing an illuminated jacket during hours of dusk/darkness.

## Bouquets



## KATIE WHYTE

On Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November a big congregation gathered first in the Church and then at the cemetery in Auchenblae to bid a last farewell to Katie Whyte – one of the most colourful and loved personalities in the village. At the age of 87 Katie, in spite of her diminished mobility, loved nothing better than her weekly visit to the Friendship Group or “the Clubbie” as she preferred to call it – and the highlight of that was when our musician friends Sandy and Phyllis came with their programme of Scottish music and though Katie’s dancing days were long past, she couldn’t wait to get her foot tapping in time to “Caddam Woods”! And how many 87-year-olds could tell you, as Katie could, the names of the TT motor-cyclists or the Formula One racing drivers? Yet she would be glued to the telly when the racing came on and could tell you all about it afterwards.



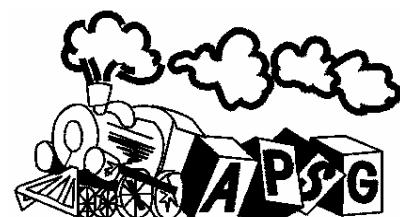
Although in many ways she had had a hard life, working in hotels and on farms, she will be remembered by a whole generation of pupils at Auchenblae school as the “dinner Lady” – which she was for twenty-five years at the “Soupie” (now the church hall). She also had a superb collection of photographs of Auchenblae stretching back through her long life, and we are grateful to her family who have agreed that the Heritage Society will be allowed to make copies of many of them.

To Ian and Colin Whyte and to all the members of Katie’s family we extend our heart-felt sympathy and renew our gratitude for the privilege of having shared a part of life’s journey with one who will long be remembered among us.

## **Auchenblae Pre-School Group**

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Autumn Fair on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. The event raised almost £500 – a great start to the year. The group caters for children from birth (or a bit before!) up to the age of four. For further information, please contact any committee member.

Sue Barrie, Group Chairperson



## N.E.O.S. 06

Who spotted the yellow signs for N.E.O.S. in September this year and wondered what it was all about?



### WHAT?.....

N.E.O.S. stands for North East Open Studios.

An event now in its third year opening the doors of artists / craftsmen, studios / galleries to the general public. This year 142 artists in the North East of Scotland from Nairn to St Cyrus participated. It is to date the largest event of its kind in Scotland.

### WHEN?.....

For a week in September including two weekends.

Artists choose their own comprehensive catalogue advertising the event. From this you can plan your route to visit as many artists as you like.

### WHY?.....

Of course artists love to sell their work! But primarily this is an opportunity for you to come and see what we actually get up to in our garrets! Over a cup of tea / coffee it's an informal way to ask us about the techniques we use and how we work with no obligation to buy. We are promoting our work but love to get your reaction to it. We have a friendly open doors policy and hope to see you next year.

Local participants;

Margaret Pitt and April Pressley (Templehill)

Martin Nelson (Drumlithie), Jenny Watt Colbeck (Auchenblae)

aberdeenshirearts

Aberdeenshire COUNCIL

## AUCHENBLAE & DISTRICT HERITAGE SOCIETY

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2006

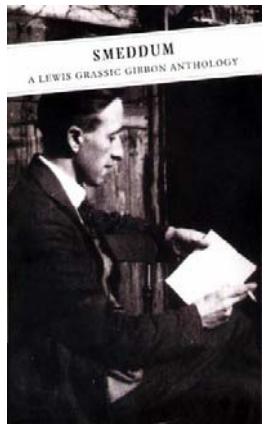
7.30 pm

*Crantara (Templehill)*

*Glenfarquhar Estate*

“Smeddum”

1976 BBC Scotland Film



See some of Auchenblae as it was

Alex Gourlay, who helped make the film, will tell stories of this work of Lewis Grassic Gibbon.

ALL WELCOME

Refreshments to follow

Members free – Visitors £1.50

See you there

If you need a lift to the venue phone

Gillian (Secretary) 320360, before the night.

## “FRANKENSTEIN’S GUEST”

On the 29th and 30th September Auchenblae Drama Group reopened the curtains of Auchenblae Village Hall to a local amateur dramatic performance.

Fittingly the play chosen to signal the rebirth of the local dramatics group was “Frankenstein’s Guest” a comedy by Martin Downing, inspired loosely by Mary Shelly’s “Frankenstein”.

The curtain opened amid creepy music to Kirsty Newstead as Mary Shelley telling the sold out theatre of her story. Aided with sound effects from young and old amid the audience she retold the classic story and left her “friends” from Auchenblae to complete the rest.

The cast consisting of Kevin Newstead, Craig Sandeman, Gillian Siddons, Simon Leigh, Judith Houghton, Jess Garrett, Gayna Sandeman, April Pressley and Roy Vobes played their respective parts of Ygor, Baron Victor von Frankenstein, Elisabeth Frankenstein, Harry Talbot, Frau Lurker, Countess Ilona Bathory, Isabel Channing, Phantom of the Opera and Count Dracula.

The play was directed by Tracey Harrison-Lewis with Danielle Fraser providing makeup expertise and prompting. Bernie Melsom as Technical Director coordinated sound effects and lighting with Arne Hansen as Stage Manager and Karen Newstead on props.

As a special closing night spectacular event Ygor, the ever youthful and mirthful Kevin Newstead, playfully tore ligaments in his shoulder in the very first scene ensuring that the hump and familiar slouch of Ygor was nothing other than perfectly natural for the die-hard actor.

With the group being small in numbers much of the backstage work was undertaken by the cast outwith the twice weekly rehearsals. Programmes, tickets, licensing, writing the Mary Shelley piece (by Jess Garrett), set design and construction all combined to make the performance truly memorable for the cast and the audience. Hard work in bar was supplied in generous amounts by Michele Renfrey and Jamie Isted.

Both nights saw a tremendous response from the audience and comments received since have been very positive and Auchenblae Drama Group are delighted how the community have reacted to their venture.

## SCOTTISH WOMEN’S RURAL INSTITUTE

### Coming Events

#### Auchenblae Branch

**7<sup>th</sup> December 2006**

*Sweets from Julianotti’s*

Competition: 3 Truffles – 1 Variety

Novelty: Xmas Photograph

Duty Committee Member: Elizan Fyfe



**10<sup>th</sup> December 2006**

*Christmas Party*

**11<sup>th</sup> January 2007**

*Slides with Alan Thomson*

Competition: Tartan Pin Cushion

Novelty: Miniature of Whisky

Duty Committee Member: Margaret Kemp

**1st February**

*To be Confirmed*

Competition: Valentine Sponge – Filled

Novelty: Valentine Verse

Duty Committee Member: Margaret Muiry

## AUCHENBLAE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The AGM of the **Community Association** was held on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September**. The Chairman Sallyanne Morrison opened the well attended meeting by welcoming those present. The Chairman's Report highlighted the various successful fund raising events and the ongoing programme of refurbishment in the hall. The Treasurers Report, together with a report from the Fabric Convener, advised that an important expenditure had been the installation of new lighting in the main hall, some new flooring and high performance roof insulation which is already proving an advantage in reducing the time required in heating the hall. A new committee was elected followed by a meeting to elect the Office Bearers:

Chairman: Sallyanne Morrison. Vice-Chairman: Allan Mills. Secretary: Alice Morgan. Treasurer: Sue Hodgson. Committee: Jenny Thomson (Fabric Convener), Gina Easter, Simon Leigh, Tracey Harrison Lewis, Trevor Hodgson, Bel McCoig, Graham Milne, Carol Nelson, Marjory Simpson, Sandra McDonald, Christine Thow, Alan Richardson and Sheila McIntosh. Several of those present, although unable to join the committee at present, intimated their willingness to assist at fund raising events. Gina Easter, the outgoing Treasurer, was thanked for her excellent work over the last 5 years.

The Community Association will of course continue to deal with all village matters presented to the committee.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Art Show** – The **Art Show** was our most successful to date – sales of over £3,000 reflecting the high standard of art on show. Thanks to all who assisted in making this a tremendous weekend.



\*\*\*\*\*

**Christmas Concert:** We are organising a Christmas Concert on **Saturday 2nd December** – a showcase of local talent! Want to take part? Contact Jenny Thomson 320245 or Sallyanne Morrison 320650. See posters nearer the date.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Christmas Hamper:** A **Luxury Christmas Hamper**, comprising items donated by members of the Community Association, will be displayed in the local shop – tickets on sale early December.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Christmas Card 2007** – Remember to take your camera on winter walks – the Auchenblae Christmas Card will be chosen at next year's Art Show.



\*\*\*\*\*

**Dedicated Craft Show.** There will be a dedicated Craft Show to be held in early April – an opportunity to show and sell your crafts. More details in the next *Memo*.

## DRUMTOCHTY ARMS HOTEL

- The Drumtochty Arms Hotel was purchased by Mr Charles Anderson in September of this year. Mr Anderson is also the owner of Drumtochty Castle, a very popular wedding venue which incidentally won the best wedding venue in Scotland award last Monday at an event held in Glasgow.

- The pub will be kept open whilst a major refurbishment is undertaken. The refurbishment will consist of the bedrooms being converted into stylish rooms with en-suite facilities, new kitchen facilities, a new restaurant and lounge bar together with a beer garden which should prove popular with tourists and families in the summer months. All going well, building work should be finished by April of 2007.

- Locals should not worry about the Hotel becoming too 'fancy' as many have expressed. There will be a public bar cum games room and as always they will be made to feel most welcome as their custom is greatly appreciated.

- The aim of the new Hotel is to provide excellent meals using as much local fresh produce as possible with prices to suit most budgets. Also the new Hotel will not be just another old tired looking country pub but an asset to the local community providing jobs and prestige to the area. This will be a place more normally found in a city, modern, clean and sleek in design.

Whilst we will be keeping the Hotel open during refurbishment, inconvenience and disruption will be kept to a minimum for our customers and the management look forward to welcoming both old and new customers in the coming years.





**THE AUCHENBLAEE MESSANGER  
THE NEWSLETTER  
FOR THE  
AUCHENBLAEE COMMUNITY**

**Messenger Distributors**

Anne Anderson, Sheena Auld, Carol Nelson, Anne Caird, Sheree Caird, Therese Hendry, Colette Hoggmascall, Ann Rennie, Trish MacEachern, Margaret Muiry, Barbara Strouts, Lois McCormick and Moira Hutchison.

**Copies of the Messenger can be collected from the local shops and the Drumlithie Hotel**

**Auchenblae Messenger Supplement—MONTHLY MEMO**

**PRODUCTION TEAM**

Craig Sandeman  
Donald Rennie  
Ann Rennie  
Eddie Cairns  
Kevin Newstead  
Anne Anderson  
Barbara Strouts  
Colette Hoggmascall  
Carol Shea  
Gina Easter

Email: the messenger@mearns.org  
"Keeping you informed"

The Publisher of this issue was  
Eddie Cairns

DATE	EVENT	PLACE	TIME
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec.	Christmas Concert,	Village Hall,	7.30p.m.
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	Heritage Society Meeting	Cran Tara, Templehill,	7.30p.m.
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December,	Carols, Candles and Christmas Pies,	Auchenblae Church	7.30p.m.
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Sunday School Christmas Party,	Church Hall	2.40p.m.
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	Children's Carol Service	Auchenblae Church	6.30p.m.
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	Informal Carols	Auchenblae Church	11.00 p.m.
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	Watchnight Service	Auchenblae Church	11.30p.m.

For all other Advent, Christmas and New Year Services see the detailed list on West Mearns Parish Church Page..

**MATERIAL FOR THE JANUARY MEMO**

**SHOULD BE DELIVERED, OR TELEPHONED TO**

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**BY DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> AT THE LATEST.**

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**THE NEXT EDITION OF *THE MESSENGER* WILL BE PUBLISHED IN FEBRUARY 2007, AND MATERIAL SHOULD BE IN THE HANDS OF CRAIG SANDEMAN, 'DUNBEG' HIGH STREET BY JANUARY 15<sup>TH</sup>**

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