



Auchenblae Messenger

Founded in 1999 by Donald B. Rennie

Christmas Edition

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 2016

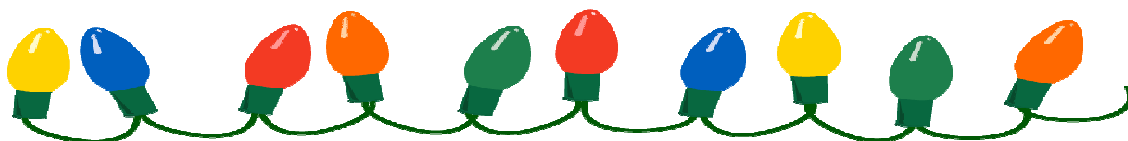
From The Editor

As you can see, once again there is a lot going on in Auchenblae. One of the regular visitors to the Friendship Group says that he tells all he meets what a marvelous village Auchenblae is, with so much happening and such very friendly people. I think that we can pat ourselves on the back.

I shall be collecting for the next edition in mid February. Please send to me at **barpollybar@gmail.com**

Have a good Christmas and an enjoyable 2017.

Barbara



Memo Date

The Next Memo is scheduled for February 2017 if you have any upcoming event dates please send them to :
auchenblae_memo@hotmail.co.uk or call Lindsay on **01561 320242**.
by 20th January 2017

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GOOD NEWS & A BIG THANK YOU

The Messenger has been successful in obtaining funds from the Midhill fund which will be used to update the aging computer system and restock the dwindling paper & toner supply. This should keep us going for a couple of years.

A big thank you to Susie Brown and the members of the committee who helped secure this funding for us.



Auchenblae Guild

We have just gone through a tiring but very fulfilling time for the Guild. First of all a big thank you to all who helped and supported us at our Autumn Fair on the 12th November. We made the magnificent sum of just over £977. Very well worth while.

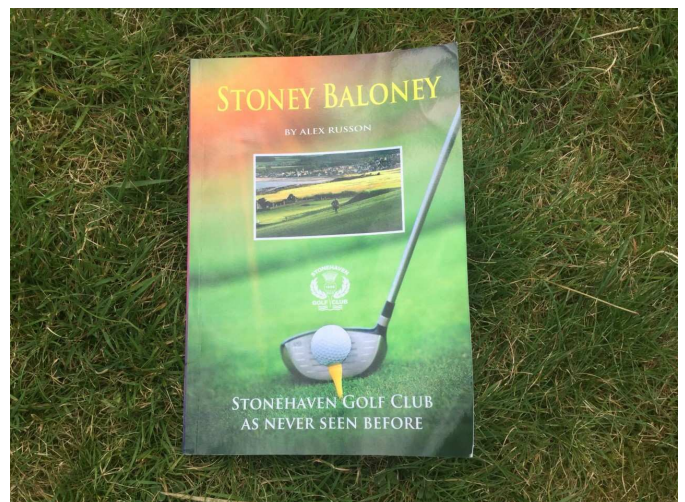
Our thanks also go to Vhari Campbell for her very interesting insight into life in an orphanage and with handicapped young people in Rwanda. In spite of everything we see and hear on the news it is only when you meet someone who has been there that you realise just how bad it is.

Our next offering to you all is our evening of Carols, Candles and Christmas Pies in Auchenblae Church on Friday 9th December at 7pm for 7.30pm. Do come and join us for a really good sing.

May the Joy and Peace of Christmas be with you all.



Auchenblae author Alex Russon has published his latest book 'Stoney Baloney' which is raising funds for local charities RNLi and the Rotary. It's a light hearted account of life at Stonehaven Golf Club and the perfect gift for a golfer in your life! The book includes memories of life growing up in Stonehaven and is available at The Old Post Office Tearoom or from Alex directly at alexrusson555@gmail.com priced £7. All proceeds will be shared equally between RNLi and Rotary



Advent and Christmas Services – West Mearns Parish

27th November - Advent 1 9:30 am at Fettercairn, 11am at Auchenblae

3rd & 4th December – Auchenblae Christmas Tree Festival – tree to be up before then

4th December - Advent 2 9:30 am at Fettercairn, 11am at Glenbervie

9th December - Carols, Candles & Christmas Pies – 7pm for 7:30pm at Auchenblae

11th December - Advent 3 9:30 am at Fettercairn, 11am at Auchenblae

18th December - Advent 4 9:30 am at Fettercairn, 11am at Auchenblae – Ordination of new Elders

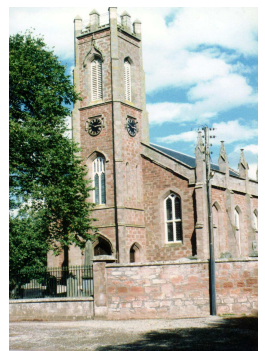
24th December - Christmas Eve 6:30 pm Carol Service at Auchenblae

11pm for 11:30pm at Auchenblae

11pm for 11:30pm at Fettercairn

25th December - Christmas Day 11am Family Service at Auchenblae

11am Family Service at Glenbervie



1st January - Christmas 1 9:30 am at Fettercairn, 11am at Glenbervie

8th January - Christmas 2 9:30 am at Fettercairn, 11am at Auchenblae

BRIDGEND STUDIO IN AUCHENBLAE IS BUZZING WITH CREATIVE ENERGY.

WHY NOT GET INVOLVED IN ONE OF JENNY WATT COLBECK'S WORKSHOPS.

THERE ARE ART CLASSES FOR KIDS FROM P4 -7, TEENS FROM S1 -S3 AND NOW ADULT DRAWING CLASSES TOO.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CHECK OUT THE WEB SITE AND GET IN TOUCH. **www.jennywattcolbeck.co.uk** **jennycolbeck1@gmail.com**

Tel 01561 320998

Auchenblae Friendship Group



As you will see from another entry in this edition of the Messenger we are about to enter a new beginning in the village. I must stress that the keep fit equipment is for the benefit of all and not just for our group. We will let you know about the progress of the project.

We continue to meet on Wednesday mornings and will continue to do so, weather permitting throughout the winter, once Christmas is out of the way. We wish all our readers a Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Friendship Group members have all come together in giving Joan help and assistance. They have been instrumental in helping improve Joan's mobility. For the encouragement of church members and the Friendship Group members "Thank you".

Peter and Joan Morriss

ANGEL CLOUDS

At Christmas time...

Lets pretend those clouds are angels in the sky,

Sending us our Saviour's love,

Borne on the wings of a pure white dove;

Lets pretend those clouds are angels in the sky.

At Christmas time...

Lets pretend those clouds are angels in the sky,

Together we can shelter under the wings of our Saviour's love,

Brought to us by the angels from Heaven above,

Lets pretend those clouds are angels in the sky.

Lets pretend those clouds are angels in the sky,

Sending us our Saviour's love,

Borne on the wings of a pure white dove;

At this Christmas time let's rejoice in our Saviour's birth,

And pray for peace over all the Earth.

Lets pretend those clouds are angels in the sky.



Copyright Peter Morriss

Auchenblae Guides



Guides will be doing Christmas card deliveries in the village , boxes will be in Auchenblae Stores and Church Hall from 1st December , first delivery 7th. This gives the Guides the opportunity for a service and fund raising.

Rainbows -to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Beatrix Potter , Guiding had a special badge , the girls heard all the favourite stories of Peter Rabbit , Mrs Tiggywinkle and others. They did craft to match each story and games and songs.

Miss Potter often had Guides camping on her farm in the Lake District and the badge is from a drawing she did showing a Guide presenting Peter with a cake.

Guiding and representatives from the primary school attended church for Remembrance Sunday and led a walk to place the poppy wreaths at the War Memorial on Gilbert's Hill.



When the Guides went to War Memorial they discovered this beautiful seat .

Does anyone know who we have to thank for this , who made it and is it in memory of a special person?





**I would like to thank everyone
who donated money to my
retirement from winding
the church clock and came
to the church on the 21st Oct
to the presentation
many thanks to you all
Bob Jamieson**

Mearns Community Council is looking for a new representative from Auch-enblae. The Community Council meets on the last Monday of the month apart from July and December in Mearns Community Campus at 7.00pm.

The Community Council is a statutory consultee of Aberdeenshire Council. Meetings are open - why not come along in January and see what goes on?

If you are interested or would like more information please contact **Nathan on 07940 051001 email nathan.purrott@icloud.com or Susie on 07719 755534 email Susie.mearnscc@gmail.com**

Auchenblae Community Association

The ACA will be having their AGM on Tuesday 10th of January in the Committee Room at 19.30. The ACA need to replace two committee positions including Treasurer and Chairman so we look forward to welcoming new members.

Midhill Community Benefit Fund 2016

The Midhill Panel met on 27th October to discuss his year's applications. Their decisions were sent to Fred Olsen, the developer for ratification. Auchenblae Community Association has now been advised that the awards have been approved.

Auchenblae Community Association – part funding for secondary double glazing for the Village Hall. (They received the other 50% from the Kincardine and Mearns Area top-up budget.)

Auchenblae Parks Committee – funding for two projects, one to replace the roof of the pavilion in the den and one to pay for the repainting of the swings etc. in the play area.

Auchenblae Messenger Group – funding for upgrade of computer equipment used in the production of the Messenger.

Auchenblae Friendship Group – funding for outdoor exercise equipment in the village. It is hoped these pieces of equipment will be used by people of all ages. The equipment will not be installed in the Den as that area not accessible to all.

Auchenblae Pre-school Group – funding to upgrade the cloakroom area at the top of the stairs in the hall. This award made on condition that work on the window be done by the same contractor supplying and installing the secondary glazing for the rest of the hall.

Auchenblae School Parent Council – two awards made, one for musical instruments for use by the pupils and one for sports kit and equipment, again for use by the children.

Auchenblae Drama Group/Cinema Club – to build on the cinema club which received funding last year for the screen and projector. This award will allow them to buy licences for the next year. The audience at the films is growing and it is anticipated that the club will be self-sustaining by next year.

The total amount awarded was **£25979.00**.

£4266.00 will be added to next year's fund meaning that around **£35,000.00** will be available next year.



Millie Keddie from Auchenblae heads to Guyana to teach Maths and Science



Through the charity Project Trust, I have been given the amazing opportunity to teach Maths and Science to school children in rural Guyana, South America for a year, as from August 2017. I am currently studying Advanced Higher Maths and Biology at Mearns Academy and therefore hope to make a useful contribution to the school and help support the work of the existing teachers there.

Project Trust is a registered charity, which sends 17/18 year olds to teaching, social care, and outward bounds projects in Asia, Africa and South America. It has been organising long term overseas voluntary placements for school leavers since 1967 and currently finds posts for approximately 300 young people each year.

Back in October of this year I attended a selection course on the Hebridean isle of Coll and after a rigorous 4 days was selected as a volunteer to teach in Guyana. I will be returning to Coll for a training course in June at which I will learn vital skills to help me make the most out of my time and make as positive a contribution in the Guyanese school where I will be working.

Guyana is in South America, bordering Brazil, Venezuela and Suriname. The native Amerindians, who still live the tribal lifestyle, populate the Amazon rainforest. Despite being the only Latin American country to speak English, Guyana doesn't get much attention from the media. It was a British Colony until 1966 and has suffered from years of mismanagement, lack of investment and population drain. 90% of the Guyanese population live on the coastal strip near the capital George Town. The rest of the population is vastly spread out and live in a lot more rural areas. The standard of education is very poor in Guyana as most of the well-educated and good teachers move to the coast or emigrate out of Guyana. This means schools in rural Guyana are left with very few teachers so it is extremely hard to get a good education. Class sizes can be up to about 60 in extremely remote areas where it could take several days to reach the next village.

There are various ways that I am trying to raise money for this project. I have already been making soaps to sell at Christmas markets. I am planning to organize a Ceilidh and a Race Night later on in the New Year. I am putting some of my wages from my holiday and weekend jobs to help me get to the target of £6,200. Any donations, no matter how small, would be greatly appreciated. This might be from money donated, offers of raffle prizes or by attending any of my fundraising events. I also have a Just Giving page:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/MillieKeddieGuyana.

Please like my facebook page where I will keep you updated on my Project Trust journey.

<https://www.facebook.com/millieGuyana>

Don't hesitate to contact me for any further information.

milliekeddie@icloud.com

TEL: 01561 320222



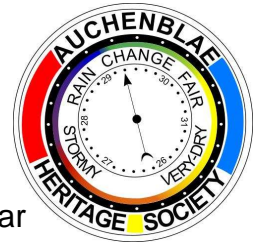
Auchenblae Heritage Society

Our next meeting is on Monday 5th December in the church hall beginning at 7.30.

Our speaker for the night is Jim Brown who will give us an insight into the 40 year history of our very own Drumtochty Highland Games.

Anyone who has heard Jim talk in the past will know this is certain to be a highly entertaining and informative evening.

Members and non-members most welcome.



Auchenblae Parent Council

Auchenblae Primary School Parent Council will be bringing some Festive Magic to Auchenblae Village Hall On December 3rd from 2pm to 4pm. Come along and chat with Santa, Elves 1,2 &3, along with the odd Snow Lady. This is a donation entry with tea, coffee, juice and munchies to warm you up. The event is open to all, the young and the young at heart.

Education Enterprise has some super reindeer and trees available through Auchenblae Stores and Tea Shop. Thank you David and team for housing these house trained deer.

We would also like to thank everyone for supporting our clothing bank. It is open seven days a week. Your donations through this bank provide much needed items for many families.

Parent Council are also signed up to **Easyfundraiser.org.uk** Our cause is Auchenblae Primary School Parent Council. Companies donate a percent of sales made through the site. 2500 shops, stores, ebay, amazon, holiday booking and insurance companies are signed up and are willing to donate a percentage of any purchases made. Anyone can support us through the Easyfundraiser site. It's the company making the donation. Please give it a try.

As Christmas 2016 is close we would like to wish each and everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2017, and a huge thank you for your very much appreciated support.



The 2017 edition of the Auchenblae Calendar
is now on sale Price £6.50

Each month shows a different scene, courtesy of local amateur photographers, so to them; a huge thank-you.
It's good to see some new names this year.

This calendar, not only finds its way to all corners of the U.K., but is sent worldwide to people who were born, or spent time, in the area.

It is available from the Auchenblae Stores and
Chris Campbell, Family Butcher,
or by contacting Jenny on **01561 320245**.



Carols, Candles and Christmas Pies
in Auchenblae Church on
Friday 9th December



*You are all warmly invited to this service
to sing your Favourite Carols in flickering candlelight*

*Also this year: The 'Kilwhang' Bell Ringers from Stonehaven
and Harpist, Gina Gallacher*

Doors open 7 pm. and singing at 7.30 pm.
*Mulled wine, mince pies and shortbread will be served.
There will be a voluntary collection for Guild funds.
We really hope to see you there!*

Dates for your diary



Carols, Candles and Christmas Pies—Church	9th December 7pm
Little Match Girl—family show	Village Hall 4th December 7pm
Heritage Society	Village Hall 5th December 7.30
Community Association AGM	Village Hall 10th January 7.30

In Association with the Auchenblae Drama Group we are pleased to promote an outstanding family show performed by Aberdeens' only professional theatre company



Quids In Theatre Company
presents

The Little Match Girl

by
Hans Christian Anderson
adapted by Annie James

Sunday 4th December
7:30pm

Auchenblae Hall

Tickets £8 adults, £1 child
Available from www.skiddle.com
or at the door

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**