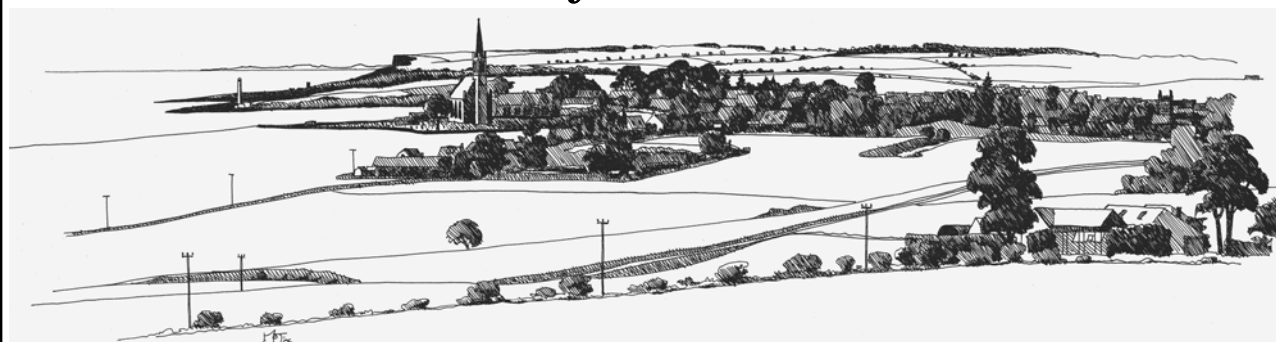


# The St Cyrus Newsletter



Volume 4 Issue 3

This is a free newsletter but donations are welcome

August/September



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## ~ Flower Show Edition ~

The first St.Cyrus Flower Show was run by the Gala Committee in 1987 to see if it was a viable annual community event as support for Gala Day activities had dwindled. The day proved fairly popular and when the Gala Committee was officially disbanded the Flower Show Committee was formed to see how a second year would run. Fund raisers were held and the Show bought their own vases, covers and made their own staging and exhibition trays. Previous to this these items were borrowed from Johnshaven.

The Show started with around ten trophies and these have been added to over the years---now at a total of 29 through donations by local interested parties or memorials for past competitors.

**Gardens are judged in the run up to the Show.** For the 10th anniversary we had Carole Baxter from Beechgrove Garden. This year Alistair Simmons, Balmoral Castle gardener will be the judge. Villagers are invited to enter their gardens and there are trophies for Best Container. Vegetable Garden, Flower Garden, Water Feature and the Best Overall Garden. The judging is planned for Friday, 11th August. **Entries should be placed with Sandy Davidson by Thursday 10th August. Tel. No. 01674850016.**

Flower Show schedules featuring all possible exhibits are available from committee members from November onwards. Entrants buy tickets[10p each] for each show exhibit. All details are in the schedule and entry is restricted to people living in our parish. Sections for showing are Vegetables, Cut Flowers, Pot Plants, Floral Art, Industrial, Baking, Preserves, Fruit, and there are items for Senior Citizens, Children and the Youth; The Children's Section is very well supported through the local school. Schedules and entry tickets can be bought from Dorothy Tuck, 01674850003.

In 2005 it was decided to change the Show Day to Sunday and not Saturday as in previous years. This was very well supported and this year our 20th Show will be on Sunday 20th August.

All exhibits have to be in the hall by 9.30am and judging is usually completed by midday. During the afternoon of the Show there are teas, raffle, silent auction and a plant stall. We are always looking for volunteers to help us at this time so if you are interested why not come along and see us.

To help us celebrate the 20th anniversary we are hoping to put up a photographic display of past Flower Show days. If you have any photographs you can lend us for the day please contact Mrs. Isobel Smith 01674850425.

### Editorial Policy Statement

The St Cyrus Newsletter is a free community newspaper produced and distributed every two months by volunteers to households and businesses in St Cyrus and district. The aim of those involved is to produce an informative, accurate and entertaining journal for those who live, work and visit in this area. We are supporting an integrated and inclusive community with information, entertainment and discussion. Letters and articles published in the newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of the Production Committee and they reserve the right to shorten, edit or not publish any item. Contributions will be attributed to the author. Vested interests will be declared where applicable. Articles should be between 200 and 300 words and the content should be original work relevant to St Cyrus and the environs.

### Production Committee

Maurice Forsyth-Grant: Chairperson

Kate McMillan: Treasurer

Mike Burleigh: Editor

Lyn Hunt: Secretary

Mary Singleton

Bernard Tuck

Robert Flann

Elizabeth Leslie

Pam Harrison

### Distribution Team:

Stuart Martin, Bob Flann,  
Andrew Hamilton, Mike  
Burleigh, Heather Jenkins

### Editorial

The committee are very pleased with the development of our little newsletter because there are so many more people becoming involved in it's production and distribution which make it very much your own. Mac, Andrew Christie and Durward have kindly offered to make regular contributions and we invite others to join us. With regard to the content we are trying to ensure that we address local issues and can only do this if you inform us, which is why for example we included the article on riding safety. We are pleased to announce that we were awarded an 'Awards for All Scotland' grant to purchase a laser printer but still need funds to purchase the paper and toner so please come along on the 23rd September and contribute to village history.

### DEADLINES

Articles and information for issue 4  
should arrive at the latest

**24th September**

Write to us at:

**Email: stcyrusnewsletter@beeb.net**

**Post: 13 Scotston Place, St Cyrus DD10 0BZ**

### List of contributors

Heather Jenkins

John Gavin

Rev Hastie

Scott Forbes

Georgina MacDonald

Donald Gillies

Gala Committee

Mary Brownlow

Isobel Smith

Bernard Tuck

Maurice Forsyth-Grant

Andrew Hamilton

MSS

Durward

Alison Couch

MAC

Liz Leslie

Mike Burleigh

Liz Leslie

Bill Howatson

Andrew Christie

Kristine Hynd

Mike Rumbles

Robert Smith



### Letters

Thank you to all on the Gala Committee for their months of planning and hard work to reinstate the village gala. It was a great day—Well Done!

Heather Jenkins



**St Cyrus Newsletter Group Coffee Morning**  
**Saturday 23rd September 10:00 to 12:00am**

### **Your** memories are **our** history

Bring the family photograph album and share those memories

We have some pictures which will jog your memories

(please bring your own also to add to the fun)

Come along and chat with friends & neighbours sharing memories over coffee and biscuits.

Bring along your family photographs, press cuttings, school photographs, postcards!

Also

Thanks to Maurice Forsyth-Grant who has donated the Newsletter Group  
the two views of the village on pages 1 and 3.

You can purchase reproductions of these in the three formats:

notelets, or small and large pictures for framing as a pair.

We welcome further such donations from local artists resident in the area to decorate our newsletter.



## St Cyrus church services are at 10am every Sunday

Sunday August 20th St. Marnoch's Day Songs of Praise  
in Benholme Church 3pm

September 3rd Johnshaven 11.30am Whole parish -

There will be no service at St. Cyrus that Sunday

**Fund raising for St Cyrus church roof:** Balloons on sale at August 12th Johnshaven Fish Festival

**Thank you to:** The Youth Club whose 'Bag 2 School' project collected 167 bags. The funds are distributed between the village hall appeal and the Church restoration fund.

The plant sale made £350.20 Many thanks to all who gave plants and provided cakes for sale

Mrs Pirie's 'Know your tartans' quiz made £270 for church funds

The Brownies gave £160 to our Building Appeal from their sponsored walk

St Cyrus Playgroup raised £250 with their sponsored 'toddle'

New Hope Trust raised £381 at their St Cyrus event towards a soup kitchen for Moldova

The Gift day has raised £3,730 Further cheques should be made out to 'Mearns Coastal Parish Church' and sent to Mrs Thomson, Quarrymouth, Lauriston, St Cyrus DD10 0DJ

The free church of Scotland  
in Angus and the Mearns  
Worship services at  
St Cyrus Village Hall  
Theme: 'Christian Living'

3pm Sunday 6 August 2006

'Is there a Bridge over Troubled Waters?' - Psalm 22

Speaker: Rev Neil MacMillan - Kirkcaldy

3pm Sunday 3 September 2006

'Satisfaction' - Psalm 103

Speaker: Rev David Robertson, Dundee

3pm Sunday 1 October 2006

'Why do Good Things Happen to Bad

People?' - Psalm 73

## What's on at the Public Hall

### August:

4th: Tea Dancers 1.45- 4.15

Sunday 6th Free church in Small hall 2-5pm

7th Gala Committee AGM meeting everyone welcome  
to plan next year's Gala day 8-9pm

8th Community Council 7-9pm meeting. All are  
welcome to attend these important meetings

9th Keep Fit 8-9pm

11th Tea Dancers 1.45- 4.15 Keep Fit 8-9pm

18th Tea Dancers 1.45- 4.15

Flower show preparation 6:30-8:30pm

19th Flower Show 5-7:30pm setting up

20th Flower Show 8am-5pm (Exhibits on show 1.30)

22nd **Playgroup Sessions start today see page 9**

23rd Keep Fit 8-9pm

25th Toddlers 10-12am Tea Dancers 1.45- 4.15

26th OAP Coffee morning 10-11:30am

### September

1st Toddlers 10-12am Tea Dancers 1.45- 4.15

Sunday 3rd Free church in Small hall 2-5pm

4th WRI 7-10pm Country dancers 7:30—9pm

8th Toddlers 10-12am Tea Dancers 1.45- 4.15

15th Toddlers 10-12am Tea Dancers 1.45- 4.15

19th Bowlers 7—9pm

20th Friendship Club 9-1pm Whist Club 6:30-9

Keep Fit 8-9pm

21st Bowlers 7-9pm

22nd Toddlers 10-12am Tea Dancers 1.45- 4.15

23rd Newsletter Coffee morning 10 -12am

Bring your old photographs and press cuttings

26th Bowlers 7—9pm

27th Keep Fit 8-9pm Friendship Club 9-1pm

Whist Club 6:30-9

28th Bowlers 7-9pm

29th Toddlers 10-12am Tea Dancers 1.45- 4.15

### Catholic Services:

Saturday 6.30pm St David's Episcopal Church:  
Bervie

Sunday Mass at 9am and 11am St Mary's  
Stonehaven

Please inform the editor if you wish to  
include an announcement or obituary in the  
newsletter.

## Your services. Who to contact.

### **Your local Aberdeenshire councillor Bill Howatson**

Aberdeenshire is one of the largest of Scotland's 32 local authorities. It covers an area of almost 2,500 square miles from St Cyrus in the South to Peterhead in the North and westwards to Huntly and the Moray border.

The shire has a population of 232,850 and the services delivered by the council include education and recreation ( 302 schools, in addition to leisure centres, and public libraries); roads and bridges ( covering more than 4,500 miles); planning and environmental services, which includes planning applications, refuse collection, and street cleansing, and social work and housing which includes looking after more than 13,000 council houses, childrens's homes, day centres, care homes and family centres.

Education is the largest service with a budget of £246 million - 53% of the total of £448,472.

Your local Aberdeenshire councillor Bill Howatson can be contacted in relation to queries and concerns about any of these services by calling 01674 830746 or by e-mail on [Cllr.W.Howatson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.W.Howatson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

### **Mike Rumbles MSP and Robert Smith MP - Here to Help**

Mike Rumbles and Robert Smith, your local MSP and MP, are here to help with any problems that you may be facing.

Issues devolved to the Scottish Parliament and therefore dealt with by Mike Rumbles MSP include:

**Health service issues**  
**Local Authority issues**  
**Law and Order issues**  
**Transport issues**  
**Environment and farming issues**

Issues reserved to the House of Commons and dealt with by Robert Smith MP include:

**Pensions issues**  
**Benefits issues**  
**Employment issues**  
**Defence issues**  
**Passport and immigration issues**

Contact details for Mike Rumbles are: Mike Rumbles MSP  
6 Dee Street  
Banchory  
AB31 5ST

[mike.rumbles.msp@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:mike.rumbles.msp@scottish.parliament.uk) (01330) 820268

Robert Smith MP can be contacted at: Robert Smith MP  
6 Dee Street  
Banchory  
AB31 5ST  
[bobsmith@cix.co.uk](mailto:bobsmith@cix.co.uk) (01330) 820330



Hidden Treasurers - Have you visited ?

## The William Lamb Studio In Montrose

William Lamb ARSA (1893—1951)

Born on June 1st 1893 in Mill Street, Montrose, the son of a ship's captain and the youngest of six children, William Lamb grew up to be one of the most accomplished of Scottish Sculptors of his time. At school he showed little interest in anything but drawing and at the age of thirteen he left school and was apprenticed to his older brother James, as a monumental sculptor. Lamb served in the Cameronians, in France and Belgium during the first war and was wounded three times. When he was invalided out of the army he returned to his training as an artist and sculptor, in Montrose, Aberdeen, Edinburgh and even for a short time, in



The William Lamb Studio

Paris. In 1922/23 he took his bicycle to Paris and then toured France on his 'trusty Raleigh', cycling about 3000 miles. On this tour he spent much of his time sketching local scenes, many of which, on his return to Montrose, became the basis for his many etchings. In the early 1930's Lamb was introduced to the Duchess of York, better known to us as the late Queen Mother. The Duchess commissioned Lamb to produce a Bronze Head of the three year old Princess



The Minesweeper

Margaret Rose. This was such a success that Lamb also produced bronze heads of both the Princess Elizabeth and the Duchess herself. Copies of these can be seen in the Studio. Lamb was also an accomplished water colour artist, painting many local scenes. The majority of Lamb's sculptures are concerned with the fisherfolk of Montrose, and particularly Ferryden. Lamb's three largest works are now on display as part of the Montrose Sculpture Trail. The 'Minesweeper' is on the seafront Splash, the 'Seafarer' is beside the harbour and 'Bill the Smith' is in the High Street. Much of the rest of Lamb's works are on view at his former studio in Trades Close. (between the High Street and Market Street)

On his death in 1951 William Lamb left his Studio and all his works, sculptures, wood carvings, etchings, paintings and drawings to the people of Montrose. The Studio, now administered by Angus Council and supported by The Friends of the William Lamb Studio, is open to the public (free of charge) every afternoon from 2-5pm from 1st July to 10th September



Rev. Wright.  
(A friend from Paris,  
later at Oathlaw.)

IT IS WELL WORTH A VISIT

By Bernard Tuck

## Tracing and Recording your family history:

This is the first of a series to help you begin to organise your family history records. Our children's first history lessons are those when they ask questions of their elders. Liz suggests that you ask Gran and Aunty to dig out those old photographs.

### "WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?"

Did you watch the BBC TV series ? And wonder about your own family history?

We are now in the 21st. century but our faults and talents as well as physical features are inherited from long forgotten ancestors. How can we find out something about them?

You will be surprised how much information is close at hand.

To begin?

Sit down quietly with a notebook and pencil and write down as much as you think you already know about the family. Get out old photograph albums. I hope all your old photographs are identified. Then there is that box of old photos. Go through it and make sure that names are pencilled on the back. If you are not sure ask older members of the family.

Are you lucky enough to have access to diaries, letters or a family bible containing records? Don't forget certificates and awards. They are part of the story too.

Then there are elderly relatives. Spinster aunts and elderly widows are very useful. Don't forget the old boys though they are often the best source of all!! Question them.

Collect family stories, not always true, but ask granny and great-aunt. Usually there's a germ of truth in them.

A tree that is just a list of names is very, very boring so you want to record all the stories and anecdotes you can, now before they are lost for ever.

That should keep you busy until the next issue when we can look at the information to be culled from birth, marriage and death certificates. So if you come across any in your search, keep them handy.

Contact Liz leslie on 850305 if you are interested in joining a family history group



This is the first computer corner to appear in the St Cyrus newsletter and is intended to provide different snippets of what I believe is basic but essential advice that should help keep your computer trouble free.

I thought that I would start with internet security particularly windows update. This is an optional component that is bundled with all the windows operating systems and is one of the most important services you should have running on your computer.

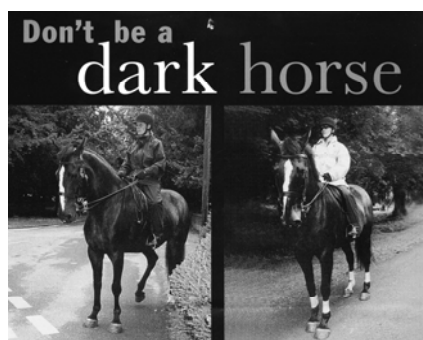
One essential tool in your armoury against attacks via the internet is windows update. The updates that you get from Microsoft are mainly security fixes for windows. You might have the best firewall and virus software on your computer but without updates you are open to potential attacks. My advice this issue is, if you don't have it set to automatically update your windows operating system do it now.

There is also a free program provided by Microsoft that they claim can "protect your computer against pop-ups, slow performance and security threats caused by spyware and other potentially unwanted software". Its name is Windows Defender (Beta 2). I have been testing this program for some months as part of the new windows operating system "Windows Vista" (due for release next year) and have found it trouble free. All the links are on my web page.

If you don't know how to do switch on automatic updates go to my web site [www.andrewspcadvice.co.uk](http://www.andrewspcadvice.co.uk) and follow the link How to update your pc via Andrews PC advice pages in the left hand menu. This is for registered users only but as you are from St Cyrus you can login as the following registered user ..... Nickname: **St Cyrus**. Password; **stcyrus**. If you are looking for any other advice please contact me through the web site inquiry form or phone me on 850 326

Andrew Christie

## Horse riders on our roads



### Riders be seen - be safe

Give a motorist an extra **3** seconds to see you, wear fluorescent or reflective clothing, it can cost less than **£5**.

I have been asked to write something to help road safety for horse riders in and around St Cyrus.

Facts: There are over 2 million riders in Britain and 8 traffic related horse accidents every day. Over half the road accidents involving horses happen on minor roads. Riders and motorists have a right to use our roads, a right to

safe travel but both share a responsibility to understand each others' needs. **Riders should:** Be seen to be safe. Always ride on the left. Never ride in failing light.

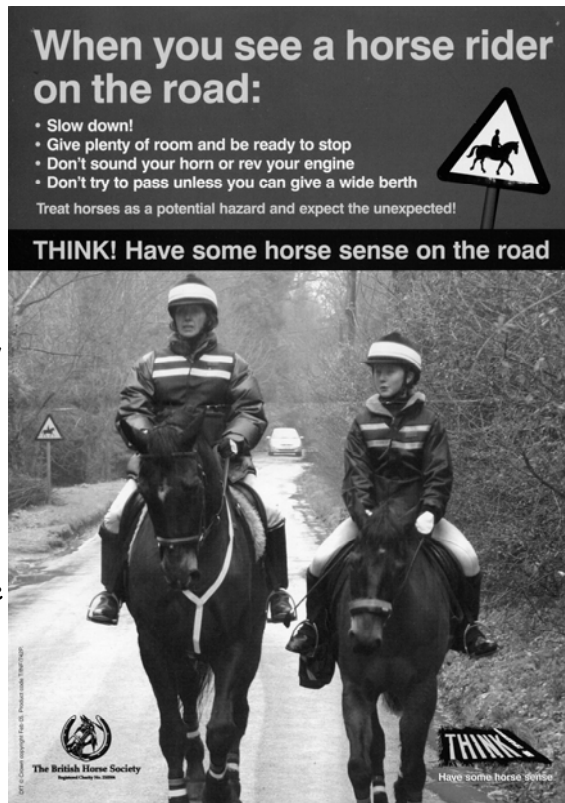
### Drivers should:

Slow down. Give plenty of room and be ready to stop. Not sound a horn or rev their engine. Not try to pass unless they can give the horse and rider a wide berth.

Often the horse rider would rather be off the road and is only using it to travel between two locations so we must always try to consider other road users.

### Please don't become a statistic.

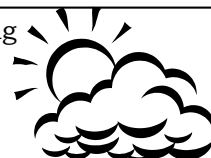
Kristine Hynd Scottish Area Representative BHS Road Safety.



I met Mac at the Gala and found his explanations of the clouds and why we were enjoying such good weather after a whole week of wet afternoons, so fascinating that I asked if he would join the team and write for us.

Editor

## WEATHER



**Weather** is something that affects all our lives. For some people it is always too warm or too cold, too wet or too dry. I don't know of anybody who is happy with the weather all the time. Take me, I'm John MacDonald called MAC. I worked in metrology for 47 years in more places than I care to remember and I was never happy with the WEATHER!! I was in the US Air Force for 21 years then went to work for the largest private weather forecasting company in the world. Now Mike Burleigh thinks I should be able to write about the weather for you folks, so I'll try.

HAAR: a local name in eastern Scotland and parts of eastern England for a wet sea fog which at times invades coastal districts. Haars occur most frequently in summer months. (From the Meteorological Glossary)

Mike reckons that in Northumberland they call the Haar, Sea Frets. We'll stick with Haar. Sea fog forms when warm, moist and stable air moves slowly over a cool or cold surface. As it does so it condenses, then the air cools and is able to hold more water vapour and the fog gets thicker.

Everybody would be happy if that is all that happens, but there is another side to sea fog. It belongs to a fog family called Advection Fog. This means it must move and the thing that makes it move is heat. There we are enjoying a nice warm sunny day, summer is great. As the ground warms up the air above it starts to rise and the air at sea moves in to replace it and brings with it the cold sea fog. We have the HAAR. Sometime as the air moves in from the sea it feels as if there is a wind blowing from the sea, a sea breeze.

If the Haar is late in coming in and the land begins to cool this could help the Haar move further inland, once this happens the fog will most likely hold overnight. In the morning the fog would still be with us then it will take a lot of heat or a strong wind to dissipate it. In lots of cases the fog will lift into low clouds and hold through most of the day. That's the weather, that's the HAAR. **MAC**

Please feel free to write with your weather questions which I will pass on to MAC to answer in future issues; Editor



## St Cyrus W.R.I

**St Cyrus W.R.I. - New session starts on Monday September 4th. at 7.30 p.m. in the village hall. New members and visitors are always welcome.**

4th.September: Colour Analysis Liz Duguid  
 2nd.October: Floral Art - Flair the Florist  
 6th.November: Various Crafts - Chris Milne  
 4th.December: Entertainment by Catterline W.R.I.

The Rural's where we ladies gather,  
 To listen and learn, not just to blether.  
 We wish more folk would come along.  
 To boost the crowd and make us strong.

One night a month is all we ask,  
 To participate in a worthwhile task,  
 So tell a friend, bring her next time,  
 I am sure we'll all get along just fine.

### ~ Flower Show 20th Anniversary: 20th August 2006 ~

Please support this long established community event by entering an exhibit. The show schedules contain all the information you need to enter. Contact Dorothy Tuck 850003 or any committee member if you need a show schedule which only costs £1 (these will gain you entry on the day) Contact Sandy Davidson 850 016 if you would like to enter your garden as an exhibit. Andrew Simmons Head Gardener at Balmoral Castle will judge the gardens this year.

**Contact Mrs Isobel Smith 850425**  
**if you have any queries regarding**  
**the show.**



**~ Everyone who enters an exhibit will receive a souvenir of this 20th Anniversary Show ~**  
 This issue of your newsletter was sponsored by The Flower Show Committee

### St. Cyrus Public Hall Committee

The village Hall is losing it's present Hall-Keeper; Mrs Slesser who is retiring having given the community valuable service for several years. We need someone local to fill this very important post.

Please contact the Committee member listed below:

Mrs Georgina MacDonald, Secretary: 850896



## St Cyrus Pre-School Playgroup

St Cyrus Pre-school Playgroup will re-commence on Tuesday 22nd August. We run 4 sessions per week during school terms. Our Playleaders are qualified and

are highly experienced and enthusiastic. The Monday session runs from 9:30—11:00 am and is for children aged 2 years Tuesday, Wednesday and

Thursday the session runs from 9:30 to 12 and is for children aged 3-5 years. Funded places are available for all children aged 3 & over. For further information contact Heather Jenkins on 850533 or Bet on 850167. New members are always welcome—we look forward to seeing you soon!

## ~ Gala day Ceilidh dance ~

The Playgroup ran a successful Ceilidh following the Gala Day. More than 70 people enjoyed dancing to the Strathmore Ceilidh

Band and heavy plates of stovies. Several folks brought along their children and a great night was had by all. It was also

nice to have a few visitors to the village come along to join the fun. Thanks to all who supported us, we look forward to seeing you all next time! Heather

After months of planning the St Cyrus Gala Day was resurrected after 20 years and a terrific fun day was enjoyed by all. There was a fantastic turn out and the weather was lovely with just a shower to remind us of our good fortune. It was a very emotional day for the committee as we saw all our work being enjoyed by everyone in so many ways, children chasing the circus entertainers, people watching the dancers and families eating picnic lunches around the park. We thank everyone who came and watched, listened, bought raffle tickets and produce, joined in and generally had a good time making it such a successful day. WELL DONE everyone for the lack of litter at the end of the afternoon. We would also like to thank the local community groups for their stalls, how could we have a village Gala without them? Hopefully we will see even more next year! Huge thanks also to those of you who gave donations to Gala Day 2007. Gala HQ is already buzzing with new ideas and plans for the next one and as we have fewer months to prepare in it will be 'All Hands ON Deck'! Sorry but we haven't enough space here to name everyone so if you were there, whether helping us or on a community stall or just enjoying it all—THANK YOU for making it a truly Community Spirited Day! Please come to the Gala AGM meeting on Monday 7th August at 8pm with your ideas for 2007



## St Cyrus Friendship Club Summer Outing

On Wednesday 28th June 51 members of the Friendship Club and their friends enjoyed a bus trip to Fyvie castle. Raymond Over very kindly took Georgie Paley and Tom and Elspeth Davies in his car. It was a glorious day and we had a beautiful run up the coast road to Ellon and then by Pitmedden to Old Meldrum. We arrived at the castle shortly before 12 and some went round the castle, some had coffee, some went round the gardens, and some did all three! The castle staff gave us an excellent soup and sandwich lunch in the squash court which had a

glass roof and was rather warm — there's always something to complain about! One of the highlights was Georgina Davidson demonstrating that at 90 she can still do the 'splits'! We returned via Inverurie & Dunecht to Banchory to the Raemoir Garden Centre where we had tea and some managed to make in-roads in their bank balance. It was good to welcome several people from Bervie, though I am afraid I had to refuse 8 people as the coach was full. As the club's finances are fairly healthy we were able to subsidise the cost of the trip and we have a special thank

you to the Headmaster Dave Smith for his generous donation of £50 from his sponsored walk from school to Ferryden. **The club restarts on Wednesday 13th Sept at 10:00am.**

Please feel free to come along to any of our meetings. You don't have to be a member just drop in for a chat.





## A farming calendar

### In Mid Harvest

When I became a farmer, I was firmly told that September was harvest month. In recent years we'd be a bit disappointed if we weren't almost finished by the end of August. New varieties, modern husbandry techniques and maybe global warming have meant that some crops even leave the field in July nowadays.

The first harvest machine you will see is the spider-like swather slicing its way through oilseed rape, leaving it in swaths which dry in the sun for a couple of weeks. A combine will then gather these swaths and shake out the small black seeds with their distinctive oily smell. These are further dried before setting off to crushers where they are processed for a variety of uses, a most interesting new one being biofuel.

Winter and spring barleys are next to be combined. These are grown either for malting, requiring nice looking low nitrogen grain with high germination and low screenings, or for feeding. Feeding varieties tend to have higher yields and less exacting standards but malting quality barley should attract a premium – I say should because for many years now the price has been half what it was in its heyday.

Wheat can be the best paying crop but it is also the most costly to dry and a wet season can wipe out all the profit. Very little bread-making wheat is grown in Scotland, ours might be used for biscuit making, distilling or feeding.

To me the most exciting harvest machines are the viners. These look like giant slow moving beetles and tend to arrive in groups, making short work of a 20 acre field of peas. They work round the clock apart from an occasional break, coinciding with when the factory is shut down for cleaning.

Whatever month it happens, harvest is always a busy time of year. We are racing against time and fickle weather to secure our crops in good order and we work long hours to get it all done. Most of us try not to inconvenience traffic any more than necessary and we appreciate the goodwill of those who understand and make allowances for us.

However, may I make a plea to those readers who have children. Please, for their own safety and our peace of mind, don't allow your kids to play on farms. Farms are industrial premises not playgrounds. There are hidden dangers everywhere especially during harvest. A child can so easily be killed if he cycles around machinery or fools about on big bales of straw weighing a quarter of a tonne each. Please make your children aware of the dangers. Don't let them become a tragic statistic.

MSS

### Calendar of events at The House of Dun Tel: 01674 660100.

**August 2nd Wednesday** - The Festival Players Company present 'Hamlet' 7.30pm Tickets £12.50 (£7.00 Children) This is an open air production, dress warmly. Bring a picnic and your own seating. Tickets available Tel 01674 810264 and also available from Needle & Craft Supplies 135 High Street Montrose. Tel: 01674 660100

**August 6th Sunday** Poetry in the Parlour. 1pm - 3p, Adult £3, Children and Concessions £1.50. Includes afternoon tea. Tel 01674 810264

**August 12th Saturday** - Outdoor Jazz Concert. 7pm - 9.30pm. The Buccaneers Jazz Band. Bring along seating, picnics and something to keep you warm. Refreshments will be available (Indoor if weather inclement) Adults £7 Children £4 Family Ticket (2A+2C) £15.00

**August 13th Sunday** SWT become a wildlife detective. 1.00pm - 4pm Family ticket £6.00 Adult £2.50 Child £1.50 includes tea/coffee

**August 20th Sunday** - Gardens Day. 2.00-4.00pm Enjoy a walk through our Victorian Walled Garden, Lady Augusta Walk and along the Terrace with our Head Gardener. Suitable footwear essential. Adult £4 Child/concession £2.50 included tea/coffee

**SEPTEMBER 2006** Every Sunday **except 24th** throughout September. Music at the Mansion. 1- 3pm Afternoon Cream Tea served in our magnificent Saloon to a backdrop of classical music. £3.00

**Sunday 24 - Apples and Pears Day.** 1.30-4.00pm Apple and Pears Sale of our own local produce. Plant sale by the Angus Members Centre.  
By Mary Browlow

### Calendar of events at The Montrose Wildlife Centre

Tel 0131 312 7765 **All events unless otherwise stated are at the Montrose Basin Wildlife Centre**

**13th August.** Barry Budden Outing. Meet 10am at car park at Monifieth Fields (NO 503 324). Bring Lunch. Approx 6 hrs.

**20th August.** Family Fun Day. Activities for all, including "mud" children's crafts, face painting, Coastguard display and much more. £4 per family/£2 per single adult 10:30am-5pm Meet at The Centre

**27th August** Wildfowl ID Join Angus Ranger on a guided walk to help identify some of the wildfowl community found on the Montrose basin. No Charge. Meet at Old Mill car park 2pm—4:30pm approx

**Fri 1st Sept to 30th Sept** Wildlife Photographic exhibition by Graham Cross @ MBWC 10:30 to 5pm

**Sun 1st Oct to Tue 31st Oct** Wildlife + Landscape photography by Graham Cunningham MBWC



## Some Advice from Scott Forbes:

Grampian Police in South Aberdeenshire are urging the public to get on their mobiles to help them beat the vandals. The Division has launched the innovative scheme which encourages members of the public to text Grampian Police with information.

Callers can remain anonymous if they wish, and can use texts to report any other crimes of which they have information. It is hoped that in particular young people will use their mobiles to text information about vandalism.

Constable Craig Kennedy, Crime Reduction Officer, South Aberdeenshire Division, said:

"Vandalism is a priority crime in South Aberdeenshire, and we are continually looking at innovative ways to tackle the vandals who wreck our communities. By embracing the mobile phone culture we aim to urge young people to pass on information anonymously about recent vandalisms".

He explained:

"We are distributing cards throughout South Aberdeenshire to raise awareness of this next development in the fight against vandalism. These cards highlight the message that vandals wreck communities, and urge the public to prefix their text message with the word **Vandal** before sending it to **0773 993 4444** with information about who is responsible for acts of vandalism in their area.

"We ask them to include details of the crime such as:

What happened ( e.g. 3 broken windows, spray painting etc )

Where and when it happened

The name(s), or as much detail and description as possible, of whoever is responsible. If there is a group, give details of those present at the time."

Constable Kennedy stressed:

"You can send us this information in complete confidence, without giving us your details, unless you specifically wish to be a witness. Remember, it does not have to be an act of vandalism that you have witnessed. The information can be something that a child, family member, friend or work colleague has shared with you if they have witnessed a crime - no piece of information is too insignificant. Your call can make the difference."

Constable Jenni Blair, added:

"As one of a team of officers specifically tasked with tracking down those individuals who have been vandalising our communities, I know that members of the public have a wealth of information at their fingertips which they might not realise the value of. I am urging people to text me with their information no matter how trivial they might think it is. All intelligence received is of value, and will be acted upon in an effort to keep our communities safe."

If you witness an ongoing incident you should contact the Grampian Police immediately on 0845 600 5 700.

**Always dial 999 in the case of an emergency**

### The role of the St. Cyrus Community Council

The Community Council are hoping to attract as many members of the public as possible to their meetings, which are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. **There are currently twelve people serving as** members of the Community Council but all meetings are open to everybody in the community and, subject to how busy the agenda is, it is usually possible for anyone and everyone, not just Community Councillors, to raise subjects at meetings that they think might be of interest or concern to the community.

There are often presentations or talks given at meetings on subjects such as wind farms, re-cycling, the new plans for sewerage provision, the Nature Reserve and Aberdeenshire Council's strategy for waste collection etc.

All planning applications in the area can also be considered by the CC and objections or comments lodged if appropriate. The CC has been involved in raising funds for and purchasing the Christmas Tree Lights and street decorations, campaigning (successfully) for Broadband provision, setting up a Recreation Association to look after the public park and agreeing with Aberdeenshire Council about how to spend £10,000 on road safety improvements through the village.

Future projects will include improving communications between all the community organisations, development of the old railway cutting behind Mercury Terrace, a new village notice board & painting roadside railings.

If you are interested in the community you live in do please come along to meetings or if you have a subject you would like discussed please contact either Andrew Hamilton (Chairman) on [ah@andyhamilton.com](mailto:ah@andyhamilton.com) or 850284 or Norman McIntosh (Secretary) on [norman.mcintosh1@virgin.net](mailto:norman.mcintosh1@virgin.net) or 850371.

Please tell those of your family and friends who have moved away from St Cyrus that they can read this newsletter in colour at [www.mearns.org](http://www.mearns.org)



It was nice to see such a good turnout at the St Cyrus gala. It was not so nice to see so many of you make your way down to the 'Stocks' on the playing field. I thought I had friends in the village!

I need not have worried though because the aiming of the locals was not at it's best on the day.

One of the first ones up was JJ from number 18 and for a big lad the wee lassie from four doors down got

nearer to hitting me and she only stands up to his knees!

There was a Mr and Mrs 'M' off the gala committee up next and again the lassie got the nearer and her man plays for the local dart team!! Need I say anymore!!!

During the hour I was in the stocks a Mrs 'S' , a Mrs 'C' and a Mrs W didn't bother to throw the wet sponges but instead decided to wash my face..... I will pay you all back sometime!

Congratulations to the 3 lads that were able to get my baseball cap off but the shot of the day belonged to a certain Helen.....My nose is just about back in the right place.

Thanks to Bert and Bob for looking after me and all of you who took part. May your aim be better next year.

Durward



**Keep Fit Classes**

**St Cyrus Village Hall**

**Wednesdays 8pm—9pm**

**£3.00 per session**



**An aerobic exercise class suitable for any age, any shape males and females welcome**

**Basic aerobic routine—no equipment required**  
Just loose clothing and soft shoes

**Exercising to a variety of music**  
We don't care if we get it wrong we just keep moving at our own pace

**WE'D LOVE YOU TO COME AND JOIN US!**




**Emergency tel numbers:**

Plumber: Aymer McFarlane: 01674850000 / 07956489660

Computer problems? Ring Andrew 01674850326 / 07793107612.

## REMEMBER

### St Cyrus young people's summer writing competition:

Write a poem or an adventure story set in the past or present about the St Cyrus nature reserve and shoreline. You might write as a journalist interviewing adults or even imagine a day as another living thing. If you are a budding scientist then you can submit your investigation diary but -

remember we are looking for good descriptive writing.

**1st prize Secondary £10 book token**

**1st prize Primary £10 Book token**

**2nd prizes £5 each**

**Closing date 20th August**

You can enter as many stories or poems as you like.

Send them to Alison Couch, St Cyrus National Nature Reserve, Nether Warburton, St Cyrus,