



# VILLAGE CRIER

DELIVERED TO 800 HOUSEHOLDS

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## ABERNETHY, ABERARGIE AND DRON NEWS

**26th EDITION**

**March 2015**

**Closing date for next edition 31.5.15**

Hello Readers,

The first week of 2015 has just passed and by the time you are reading this edition of The Crier the first 2 months of 2015 will have passed. So although we are all wishing friends and neighbours a Happy New Year it seems pointless by the time March comes along as we have probably made all our greetings. However the number of readers of The Crier far exceeds the number of people I see, therefore I don't think it too inappropriate to wish everyone good health and happiness for 2015.

As far as winter is concerned we have been relatively lucky weather wise but in January we are still wondering "Is the worst yet to come?" In March you will have the answer to that question.

The Burns Season is now upon us and The Burns Club of Abernethy is holding its usual Burns Supper on Saturday 7th February in the Williamson Hall. Although this is past the deadline date for submissions to The Crier I am sure the editor will make allowances for a slightly late contribution, since he is also the Burns Club President.

On the same subject I was invited once again to join Miss Wyn Dobbie and Mrs Sally Rose in Abernethy School to judge the Poetry Competition run by the Burns Club for the pupils. What a difficult task this was as the standard was so high. The results and a fuller report are printed within this edition.

As I write about competitions the winners of the Short Story Competition were presented with their prizes at The Distributors' Party in Cree's Inn. It was

lovely to have the young people there accompanied by parents and siblings.

We have had one or two new volunteers helping to deliver The Crier, for which we are very grateful as it lightens the load for us all. Nothing is truer than the saying "Many hands make light work" at least in this situation.

There has been quite an addition to the number of houses receiving The Crier but I think building in Abernethy has come to an end, for the present at least, which makes life easier, knowing more accurately the number of copies required.

Following the article "Saturday Night at the Movies" (December Crier), I believe things are moving along and a committee has been formed. A full report of the current position is to be found within this edition. What could be better than seeing a film locally rather than having to travel to Perth or Dundee?

I was interested in Mike Tracy's letter and the story of Henry Buist. Has anyone been able to enlarge on this fascinating piece of history? I am aware Abdie and Newburgh are in Fife but are our nearest neighbours and in days gone by, there was much coming and going between Abernethy and Newburgh. In fact many of the sewing machinists in our factory were Newburgh girls and many local people have Newburgh connections.

Finally as I draw this to a close I have the very sad news about Brian Johnston. He will be sorely missed by everyone who had the privilege of knowing him.

**Hilda Clow**

## EDITOR'S VIEW



I received a flyer through the letter box recently asking if I would like to fill in the form and send it to PKC objecting to a planning application for wind turbines.

I think wind turbines are a great innovation, harnessing nature and using it to our advantage, to produce electricity.

The low price of oil is not going to last for ever, it will eventually increase and in the long term run out. The use of the wind, wave, hydro and renewable resources should be invested in so our children and grandchildren have other forms of power for the future.

There is a paragraph in the flyer referring to the noise the turbines will make.

I mostly work in remote areas and come across wind turbines of all shapes and sizes. Standing under one all I heard was the swish of the blades or the wind.

A friend of mine who works with an electricity company told me "if the turbines are making a noise they are not working properly."

Bring them I say.

**The Ed**

## TO THE DISTRIBUTORS

If you have any copies left over after your bundle is all delivered could you please hand them back to Jimmy Swan.

Thank you again for your assistance in this matter.

## ARTICLES

Would you please submit articles in the following format, JPEG, PDF or Word.

Please note ALL articles must be accompanied by a name and address BEFORE they will be published in the Crier.

On request, the name and address may be withheld from publication.

Any submission without these details will NOT be included

Thank You



## CAROL SINGING

The Sunday before Christmas was chosen for Carol Singing regardless of the weather. The weather during the day was horrible with strong winds and rain but a small but intrepid group of people met in The Square. We set off along the Main Street and along to the top of Sutherland Crescent with the group becoming smaller as their carol sheets disintegrated.

We did not manage to get round all of Abernethy but we did raise £74.48 for Tayside Children with Cancer and Leukaemia.

Thank you to all the generous people of Abernethy for rewarding our enthusiastic, if not very musical efforts. You must have struggled to hear us over the wind but you supported a very worthy charity. **AH**



## POPPY SCOTLAND 2014



This year the grand total of £1252 was collected from around the village. The collection was made from static tins in the Primary School, Church, Businesses and Pubs and a team of over 20 helpers going door to door on behalf of Poppy Scotland. I would like to thank all those involved.

Pauline Jackson and her mother Elizabeth Taylor have now taken over as conveners. In fact we all worked together this year.

For more than 20 years my late wife and I organised the annual appeal and had tremendous support from within the village. Some of the collectors were involved before Pat and I took on the role.

Thank you to all who have helped in the past. Best wishes to Pauline and Elizabeth in the future.

**Ian Cartwright**

## AN OBITUARY

It was with real shock and a deep sense of sadness we learned of the death of Brian Johnston.

A little over 20 years ago Brian and Rachel made the short journey north from Kinross to take over the Cree's Inn. Together they transformed the pub into a popular drinking and eating establishment, ultimately recognised for its quality with a series of awards. It didn't all just happen by chance; Brian's experience of the pub trade came from working for many years in his father's pub 'The Muirs' in Kinross. Coupled with a passion for DIY, Brian radically changed the internal fit out of the pub transforming it into a haven for real ale drinkers.

The Cree's however means much more to the community than just a pub and restaurant. It is a focal point; a place where community meetings convene, friends meet and parties are held. Brian and Rachel generously offered the Cree's for this purpose. Brian was always there to meet and greet everyone who came in, he believed wholeheartedly in the importance of community. Generosity was extended to the many members of staff over the years who talk fondly of their big boss. In addition let's not forget the numerous fundraisers either in support of the local community or local charities.

We will all have memories of stories told and times shared in the Cree's with Brian; his loss to the community is deeply felt.

Tommy Cree may have given the Inn its name; however Brian Johnston our big gentle giant of a Landlord will be as synonymous with the Cree's as his predecessor.

Our deepest condolences to Rachel, Josh and Jody and the wider family, we feel your loss deeply.

**In Abernethy, a pub called the Cree's**

**Food, drink and laughter, it was the bees knees**

**At the helm, Brian Johnston, the Gentle Giant**

**Highly regarded by many, his great sense of humour**

**You could not laugh, that wasn't a rumour**

**If he caught you he'd say "hey stop enjoying yourself"**

**He'd turn around and chuckle to himself**

**A community meeting place for gatherings and quizzes**

**Always happy to accommodate everyone's wishes**

**Over the years, many barmaids were handy  
But Brian insisted HE was the eye candy!**

## The Great War

22nd April 1914

Second battle of Ypres begins

## ABERNETHY COMMUNITY CINEMA *(update)*

The meeting for the Abernethy Community Cinema on January 11<sup>th</sup> was advertised in the shop window of the shop in The Square, in the noticeboard in The Square and in The Inn. We saw new faces come along, thank you, but sadly the numbers were not many, and we are beginning to wonder if the Community is interested in supporting a cinema in Abernethy. The Committee had aimed at April 10<sup>th</sup> 2015 for the first movie showing in the Williamson Hall however with such poor support from our meetings it is only if we can reach the sum of £500 through fundraising, or donations, we will show our first film which, we now hope, will be later this year. We have now opened a bank account at the Clydesdale Bank and our account on Facebook continues to encourage us with 118 'likes' to date. Facebook is the best place to keep up to date with our progress, although we have just joined the Twitter community and hope to keep you abreast of things on there also – just search for **Abernethy Cinema** on *Twitter* and **Abernethy Community Cinema** on *Facebook*. We can also be contacted through e-mail: ***abernethycommunitycinema@gmail.com*** or telephone Jan on 07949 840749.

We will continue to put posters in the local shop window, on the noticeboard in The Square and in The Inn (*and anywhere else we are allowed*) to let you know of meetings and fundraising events.

There will be a **DVD/CD swap – Indoor Car Boot Sale** at The Williamson Hall, on Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> of April - £5.00 per table.

To book a table for this event, Contact Jan on 07949 840749, or email us at

***abernethycommunitycinema@gmail.com***

As for fundraising, any other suggestions or donations will be gratefully accepted. Watch out for further information on the noticeboard in The Square, The Inn, Facebook and Twitter or send us an e-mail.

Again we would like to thank Grant at The Inn, for hosting the January meeting, and for his continued support.

**David Miller**

## SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

A delightful evening was held in the new furbished Williamson Hall for our annual Christmas Senior Citizen Party. The hall was filled with festive colour and the Christmas Tree just set it all off. Raffles prizes were in abundance on a table all brightly wrapped under the tree. Tables were beautifully arranged with crackers and gifts. The 3 course meal was delicious and quickly served by pleasant staff, what more could anyone ask for. Between toe-tapping accordion music, ballad singing and poems, even instructions on how to give a cat a pill, having cats myself found some of it very true, thank goodness for spot-ons. I would like to thank the committee and all who arranged such a great evening which I am sure everybody thoroughly enjoyed.

Lillias Johnston

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TO 800 HOUSEHOLDS IN  
ABERNETHY,  
ABERARGIE  
AND  
DRON

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## THE GREAT WAR

25th September 1915

The Battle of Loos begins

## The Great War

7th May 1915

Sinking of the RMS Lusitania

### LISTEN

**Sarah Normand**, age 11, from Abernethy Primary School has reached the final of the Poppy Scotland Poetry Competition. Out of over 2,000 entries Sarah was one of only eight people to be chosen for the final.

Here is her wonderful poem.

### LISTEN

You may think the world is perfect,  
But are you not aware,  
There are horrible wars happening  
Almost everywhere?

You may think us children are clueless,  
But we really care, that this world is turning  
Into one big nightmare.  
It's all over the news, this unhuman violence,  
We just wish there would be silence.

As you are reading this do you know there are people  
losing their lives?  
Then their loved ones will shed a tear,  
There is no peace; there will be no happiness.

If the world was to just stop and listen  
But I guess it's not that easy,  
If there are thousands of people losing their lives  
every day?  
Then we know this world needs to  
Change.

Sarah Normand

### FOR SALE

Are you renovating a Cottage or House, or even refurbishing an existing bathroom? If so, I have a high quality set of Bathroom Taps for Sale. Chrome on Brass fittings. Wash basin, 3 hole with "Pop-up" waste, Bath, 2 hole, with shower cradle, and extending to overhead Shower unit. Complete with all fittings, and connections. Top quality units, with easy turn Taps. Mike Thompson. 01738850539

Nearest to £60.00

## ABERNETHY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Those who attend the Community Council meetings or read the minutes will now be familiar with the Commander's Bulletin, the weekly update by Police Scotland on area issues and incidents that have been reported or observed. While a welcome development, there is no substitute for in-person Police attendance at Community Council meetings where local issues, concerns and views can be expressed and discussed so we were very pleased Sgt Anton attended one of our recent meetings. Long may this continue as thorny topics such as parking in the Square are best discussed and resolved face to face.

Abernethy could become the green capital of Perthshire with the Jamesfield wind turbine being granted approval, four turbines under consideration at the Binn Eco Park and now the possibility of a large scale solar panel development at an as yet unidentified site on the outside of the village. In some cases a sweetener is offered in the shape of a Community Benefit Fund for the visual impact of these schemes and also the inevitable disruption during the construction phase. Community Council members are representing Abernethy's interests in all these developments, in the fullness of time when these schemes are operational, local clubs will be consulted about how the funds might be distributed.

Finally, some will have seen the brief appearance of the village Christmas tree outside the school, brief as a combination of strong winds and a poor emplacement meant the tree was only up three days before it came crashing down. There needs to be some consultation before next Christmas about how we resolve the emplacement issues in the school grounds or whether there is an alternative site for the tree.

Colin Morrison



## ABERNETHY, DRON & ARNGASK CHURCH NEWS

**Morning worship** for 2015 will take place in Abernethy at 11am.

However, on the last Sunday of each month, we hope to meet together with the Glenfarg part of our congregation at 11 am, alternating location:

in Abernethy at 11am on April 26 and June 28th and in Glenfarg at 11 am on March 22nd and May 31st

On these days there will be no service in the other church building.

Anyone wishing transport to Glenfarg may contact Kathleen Baird on 01337 840 218

**Children's Sunday club** meets in school term time during the morning service. Please bring yourself and the children along! Outwith term time there are always toys and books for younger children to play with in the adjacent hall. Drinks and refreshments will be served after the services. You will be very welcome to join us at either church.

### Fair City Singers

We had a memorable and inspiring evening in Sept '14 with this lovely group of girls and their conductor and pianist. Thanks to all who came and enjoyed as well as those who performed to such a high standard! We hope to have them in Abernethy in the Autumn -, date to be confirmed. Posters will be displayed in the village. Don't miss them!

### Village 'Welcome' folders

The ongoing pack contains useful village information, telephone numbers, activities in Abernethy plus the current bus timetable. The plastic folders may be picked up from the church vestibules. If you want to welcome someone new moving in to your street, why not collect a pack and add something to it – perhaps a packet of Abernethy biscuits or some flowers! The packs will be updated regularly but if you are aware of any errors or omissions in the current version, please let Celia King know on Tel: 851 010.

### T @ 2

**Afternoon Tea and Sale on Sat 9. May from 2 - 4 pm in the Williamson Hall Entry for Adults £3 Children £1. Pre-school children free.**

Young vegetable, herb and flower plant sale; accessories table- used and new; cake, candy and preserve stall; children's bring and buy good condition toy stall; raffle and tombola.

There will be a **Children's Messy Corner** with face painting, art and crafts, on a seaside theme, to allow you to have tea or coffee and a chat in peace!

Anyone with donations for the sale, please hand in at the church nearer the time or to 4 Sutherland Crescent.

Celia King

## GOING TO SCHOOL

Eyes opening

Up sitting

Duvet flinging

Blind rolling

Bed making

Clothes chucking

Stairs walking

Breakfast chomping

Teeth brushing

Car driving

School sighting

Friends meeting

Bell ringing

Door opening

Mrs Cameron talking

Chairs un stacking

## OH NO NOT SCHOOL AGAIN

**Karys McIntyre aged 10**

## SENIOR CITIZENS COFFEE MORNING

Senior Citizens Coffee Morning will be held in the Masonic Hall on Sat 11th April from 10am-12noon. Usual stalls - donations very welcome. Raffle and teas. Please see noticeboard nearer the time for further details.

**Evelyn Scobie**

## WEEKEND WELLBEING WORKSHOPS @ BARLEY MILL - GLENFARG

We are launching an interesting and varied programme of weekend workshops in the idyllic setting of a 17th Century Mill in Glenfarg Perthshire. Barley Mill is set in 2 acres of magnificent gardens and grounds.

So come and RELAX - REFRESH - LEARN & GROW .....

Residential and Non Residential places available with wonderful food for both residents and non-residents alike.

Proven and Experienced Facilitators for all Workshops.

Full details and online booking on our website - [www.ultimate-people.co.uk](http://www.ultimate-people.co.uk)

**Dr Martin Williams**

## RUNNING DOWN A DREAM

On 26 April, I'm hoping to make a long-standing dream come true (and hoping it doesn't turn into a nightmare!) when I run the London Marathon.

I'm running in support of Children 1st ([www.children1st.org.uk](http://www.children1st.org.uk)), a fantastic Scottish charity that helps vulnerable children and young people to thrive safely within their families. Its vision for the future is for every child and young person in Scotland to have a happy, healthy, safe and secure childhood and my fundraising will help support this.

As part of my fundraising drive, Nethyville's finest Rockers, the 625s, are playing at the Williamson Hall on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 8pm.

Tickets are £10 from Jill Young on 850087.

Get in quick - it'll be a great night!!

If you can't make it but would still like to sponsor me and help Children 1st, that would be greatly appreciated. My Just Giving page can be found at [www.justgiving.com/jills-big-challenge](http://www.justgiving.com/jills-big-challenge).

**Thank you! Jill Young**

## The Great War

**25th September 1915**

**The French attack in the Champagne**

## AULD ABERNETHY ASSOCIATION SEASON 2014 - 2015

### PROGRAMME

Meetings are held at 7.30pm in the Museum of  
Abernethy unless otherwise stated

**2015**

4th March

**The Development  
of Live Public  
Entertainment  
in Dundee**  
Stephen Fraser

1st April

**AGM**  
Local Issue

**Membership £5**  
**OAP £4**

**ALL WELCOME**

## TREES

There they stand bare and cold  
The wind has stolen their finery  
Creating a beautiful carpet of gold  
A wondrous sight for the eye to behold.

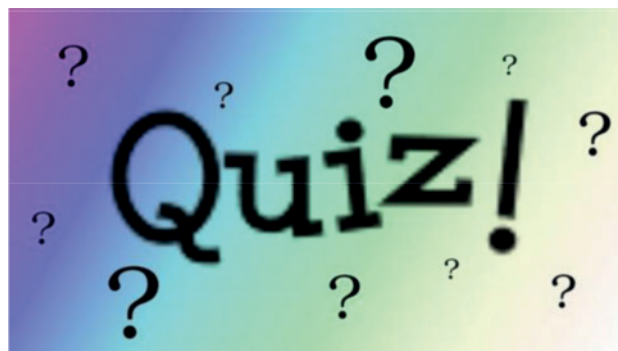
They are not dead but just asleep  
Somehow they know the cycle to keep  
And come the spring they'll show their hand  
As one by one across the land  
A myriad of greens appear  
And with their strength they'll show  
No fear of gales and storms and  
Wind and rain - it is their time.



The summer months go slipping by  
June, July, August, September  
Autumn arrives once again  
And once again it's time to surrender  
To Brown, Red, Russet and Gold  
The days grow short, the air is cold  
And beneath the wondrous carpet of gold  
They sleep again.

**May Riach**  
**28 Sutherland Cres.**  
**Abernethy**

## ABERNETHY SWRI



**Abernethy WRI are holding a Quiz Night**

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**  
**in Masonic Hall, Abernethy at 7.30pm**

**Teams of 4 (£12 per team)**

**Please come along and join the fun!**

**Contact Numbers: 01738 850496 or**  
**Mobile: 07719240294**

**Please let us know by Wed 18<sup>th</sup> March if you  
are**

**sending a team**

**Refreshments will be served**

**There will also be a Raffle**

**ALL WELCOME!**

Meetings are held in the Session House at Abernethy Church, on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.15pm from September to May each year. New members always welcome, so please come along and give it a try. If you are not sure if this is for you, please feel free to come along as a visitor first. Visitors £3 per meeting. Contact person Evelyn Scobie Tel: 01738 850496. Mobile: 07719240294.

In November we had a very interesting talk on "Bees" from Dr Gavin Ramsay.

In December we enjoyed a lovely Christmas Meal at Berryfields.

In January unfortunately our speaker was unable to come so we caught up with all the "Rural" news then we had a "Food Quiz" compiled by member Pat Miller

"Knitted Vest" – 1<sup>st</sup> Sandra Hutchison, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ann Christie, 3<sup>rd</sup> Anne Brews (7 entries). "Flower of the Month" – 1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth Taylor, 2<sup>nd</sup> Isabel McDonald, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ann Christie (7 entries). We collected 24 vests in all and several hats, which will be donated to charity.

#### **Future Meetings:**

Wed 18<sup>th</sup> February - Demonstration on "Card Making" by one of our own members Anne Robertson.  
Competitions: "Bundle of cheese Straws" & "Flower of the Month".

Wed 18<sup>th</sup> March - Talk on "Scottish Air Ambulance".  
Competitions: "3 Empire Biscuits" & "Flower of the Month".

**Fri 27<sup>th</sup> March - "Fundraising Quiz" in the Masonic Hall at 7.30 – Open Night All welcome. Teams of 4 - £12 per team.**

Wed 15<sup>th</sup> April - "Hands On – Napkin Art" with Dorothy Morris.  
Competitions: "Healthy Lunch Box" & Flower of the Month".

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> May - AGM – "Jewellery Making" with Chris Stewart.  
Competitions: "3 Pieces of Tablet" & "Flower of the Month".

Please see Village Notice Board each month for fuller details.

**Evelyn Scobie**

## **PERTH BURNS CLUB**

As well as competing in the Abernethy competition 10 year old primary 6 pupil Heather Rodger went on to take part in the Perth Burns Club's school competition open to all schools in Perth and Kinross. As well as playing in the fiddle class Heather recited in the class for primary 6 and 7 year olds and from an entry of 12 won the Ruth Lumsden Quaich, receiving especially high praise from the adjudicator James Thomson, President of the Robert Burns World Federation. Mr Thomson encouraged the children to consider going on to take part in the national schools event, such was the high standard of performance he had witnessed at Perth, as good as anything he had experienced in 30 years of officiating at school competitions. Encouraging words not only for Heather but also for the other pupils who competed equally as well at our Abernethy event.

J.K. Bett

## **BURNS CLUB OF ABERNETHY**

On Saturday 7th February the Burns Club of Abernethy held it's annual supper in the Williamson Hall. The assembled crowd of 95 enjoyed a lovely meal in very pleasing surroundings.

The Immortal Memory of Robert Burns was proposed by Mr Hugh Farrell from Ayr followed by the story of Tam excellently portrayed by Willie Cameron from Oban.

George Alexander from Perth Toasted the Lassies and his wife Linda Replied.

Liam Bonthron and Edna Auld's songs got the Audience's feet tapping.

Margaret Folan, Vice President, closed the evening with the Vote of Thanks.

A fantastic evening was had by all.

Jimmy Swan President

### **IT IS WITH GREAT SADNESS.....**

**That we here of the death of Caroline Menzies, John Hutchison, Elizabeth West and Sandy Morren**

**Our thoughts are with their families at this time.**

## **Burns Club of Abernethy**

The AGM of the club will be held in the Mason's hall on the 23rd April 2015 at 7.30pm.

All welcome

## THE GREAT WAR

19th December 1915

**Sir John French is sacked, Sir Douglas Haig  
Becomes Commander-in-Chief**

## A LETTER FROM AMERICA (Continued from last Crier)

### Weddersbrae

It is not known when Henry Buist purchased Weddersbrae however early records indicate that he was a tenant there as early as 22 February 1797 when he ratified his father's Trust Disposition. Most of Henry and Helen Buist's children were born at Weddersbrae while the couple lived there. According to the Edinburgh Advertiser Newspaper for Friday, 20 October 1809 it listed him as having obtained a general game certificate on Friday, 13 October 1809. Henry Buist in 1813 decided to sell Weddersbrae. According again to the Edinburgh Advertiser Newspaper for Tuesday, 2 November 1813 it stated, "Weddersbrae, as presently possessed by Mr. Buist, consisting of 184 acres, or thereby, all arable."

### The Grange of Lindores and Lindores Abbey

The Grange of Lindores is a hamlet to the west of Lindores Loch in north Fife. Early records indicate that Henry's father, George Buist was a tenant in the Grange of Lindores well before 1784.

Upon the death of his father, Henry Buist also inherited these lands as well as Lindores Abbey. By 1806 he officially acquired the rights to these lands. On 24 June 1809 he decided to sell part of Lindores Abbey. This action of selling land by auction in Scotland is called a roup. According to the Land Tax Rolls of 1 January 1820 for Newburgh Parish, Fife it listed, "Henry Buist's part of the Abbey of Lindores per deed of 8 January 1807, taxed 404 pounds."

### Berryhill (Berryhole)

Of all the Buist family's estates owned in Fife, this is the most fascinating and the one farm estate with probably the most history as it concerns the Buist family. The actual manse dates back easily to March 1558. I believe it goes back much further to the early 1400s. The Baronial dynasty of the Spens family later called the Spence family held title to these lands. The First record of Berryhole is

dated in 1425. I did find a charter by John, abbot of Lindores and convent, letting the feudal farm to Andrew Earl of Rothes, the lands of Grange of Lindores, Berryhole and Woodhead, with the half of their south woods. The charter further enumerates the woods of the park called Lindores, with their churchyards, and yard called the East Yard, and yard called the Hive Yard, lying near the monastery of Lindores. The charter was dated 2 March 1558 From before 1687 until after 1706 William Buist (1664-1730) was the tenant of Berryhill in the Parish of Abdie, Fife. Originally known as Berriehoill and owned by the Benedictine Abbey of Lindores at Newburgh, until the 16th century, together with other nearby holdings such as Ormiston, Hattonhill and Lumquhat, it was one of the constituent units of the monks' grange. In 1690 Berryhill was the property of Alexander Spens whose wife was Katherine Arnot, a member of a long established local Fife family with whom the Buists were linked through blood and marriage.

The first available land record (Sasine) of Berryhole that I was able to find was of Henry Buist, Esquire. The deed states that on Saturday, 4 October 1817 Henry Buist, Esquire acquired the estate. It reads: "Henry Buist, late tenant, Weddersbrae, Seised, 4 October 1817, in the lands of Berryhole (excepting the Grange of Lindores and Inch); 8 oxgates, 8 oxgates and 8 oxgates of the lands of Grange called Berryhole, 8 oxgates of land or fourth part of Berryhole, and Manor place of Berryhole, parish of Abdie; and parts of Mairsland of Auchtermuchty, parish of Auchermuchty; and Teinds; on Ch. Resign. G.S., to the Trustees of John Arnot of Lumquhat, 2 June 1814; and Disp. & Assig. By them, 27 September and 2 October 1807 (1817).

The Estate of Berryhill is located in the Parish of Abdie, on the west side of Lindores Loch. The lands surrounding the old manse of the Buist family are quite extensive. The manse is very large with many fireplaces in each room including the kitchen. I imagined Henry Buist sitting in the wooden drawing room reading about farming. According to the inventory of his personal effects he had at Berryhill, it listed this front bedroom as having one chair, 4 pictures, a small mirror and night stool, a store closet and in the closet was a fur wardrobe. Also in the room was a furniture table, one rug, a writing desk and bookcase, and a barometer. The old house of Berryhill had a total of seventeen rooms in all. There were five bedrooms and at the time of his death and included in the inventory, gives us a glimpse of what was in the Manse or Manor House at Berryhill in December 1865.

The main lobby had an eight day clock, four chairs, two tables, an umbrella stand and three rugs. The dining room had an old table, a dining table that was sixty feet long, six chairs, a piano and a stool in front of the piano, a fifteen foot easy chair, a fifteen foot sofa, two engravings hanging above the fireplace, with a carpet and rugs at various places in the room. The drawing room had a thirty foot carpet and rug, a sofa and cover on it, ten chairs and two foot stools, a chest of drawers and bookcase and a twenty-five foot window seat near the window. The front west bedroom had an old bed in it, cotton curtains, six chairs, a chest of drawers, one small mirror, a fireplace, and a wash stand and ware. The north bedroom had one old lint bed, a fireplace, small mirror and table, three chairs, a wash stand, a mahogany closet, pot stand. The northeast bedroom had a bed and curtains, a fireplace, mirror and furniture table, wash stand and ware, chest of drawers, three chairs, pot stand and bell pull and carpet. The south bedroom had an old bed and curtains, fireplace, carpet and two chairs, mirror and table, lamp, wash stand and ware, a small screen in front of fireplace and a bell pull. In the garret room were seven old chairs, four dozen bottles, two flower stand, two trunks and three chairs. The low room of the house had two beds, firewood, two chairs, an old dresser, clothes screen, two tubs, two meal stands, old side saddle and a dog cart with harness. The dairy room had fifteen milk cans, raisins, two churns of butter, two old tubs, a cookery press, three cans and other sundries. The laundry room had a mangle table, with a regular table and three chairs. The kitchen had a fireplace, an oven, a table, an old sink, four chairs and a stool, a Batchelor oven, saw, bellows and clever, four irons, fifteen pots, fifteen kettles, fifteen frying pans, fifteen coffee pots, fifteen jelly pans, three candlesticks, four dish covers, eleven tea trays, two pitchers, a waiter stand and other sundries. The cutlery room had twenty-two table knives, twenty-two forks, eleven covers, nine breakfast knives. The cookery room had twenty-four tumblers, eighteen wine glasses, five ale glasses, three water carafes, thirty-one blue bottle cases, four bottles and one hundred fifty volumes of books, seventeen plated forks, seventeen fish knives and four candlesticks. The bed and table linen room had fourteen tablecloths, three covers, eighteen pillowslips, twenty-one straw pillowcases, three servant pillow cases, thirteen sheets, eight pillows, eighty and one half ounces of silver plates, fifty-one pieces of body cloths and an old silver watch. This inventory, which was conducted on Tuesday, 19 December 1865, captures a moment frozen in time of what the Manse held and the personal effects of Henry Buist, Esquire. The value of just the personal effects of Henry Buist, Esquire was 1,117 pounds and 19 shillings, which in present day U.S. dollars is \$1,817.44. During that time the value was much more, maybe 50 times more

in present day values.

On Tuesday, 15 September 1846 according to the old Sasine, the Edinburgh and Northern Railway Company acquired the rights to lay track for their route to Newburgh from Collessie. The railway had to go through part of the Buist lands. Another Sasine, dated Tuesday, 27 April 1846 indicated that the same company acquired from Henry Buist, Esquire an acre of ground, which included parts of the North Hill of Grange.

On these dates, Henry Buist, Esquire sold various parcels of his lands at Berryhill for the successful completion of the railway. The Edinburgh and Northern Railway was a Scottish railway company and started in 1845. The company operated cross-country services between Burntisland, on the Firth of Forth, to Perth and Tayport on the Tay estuary. It became part of the North British Railway in July of 1862. The railway tracks were laid through parcels of the lands of Berryhill shortly after 27 April 1846. There was one more mention of this railway company in the Sasines of the lands of Berryhill. On Thursday, 21 June 1849, the company acquired the last piece of parcel of land from Henry Buist, Esquire, that being an acre of land also located at the part of North Hill of Grange. Henry Buist, Esquire had large amounts of stock in the old railway company up to his death.

Upon Henry Buist's death in 1865, the estate of Berryhill was passed to his son, Andrew Walker Buist. He and his family continued to reside and farm on the property. Like his father, Andrew Walker Buist was a farmer. The estate of Berryhill passed from the Buist family in about 1922. The 1915 Scotland Valuation Roll for the estate gives one a good idea of the massive size of the estate even in that Year.

### **Memberships and Appointments**

Living an active life Henry Buist, Esquire was a member of many society's and organizations around Fife. In his youth he was an active member of "The Noblemen and Gentlemen of Fife" until the day he died. The members of this organization would usually meet in Cupar. According to the Edinburgh Advertiser Newspaper for Tuesday, 5 March 1816 it listed him as being in favor of continuing the property tax. The Edinburgh Advertiser Newspaper reported on another meeting of "The Noblemen and Gentlemen of Fife" held on Friday, 24 March 1820 that, "the group sent a condolence to the King upon the death of King George III and sent a message of congratulations to the present King George IV.

### **More next time**

# Abernethy Horticultural Society Events

## 2014-2015

Meetings will be held in the Masons' Hall, Abernethy at 7:30pm, unless stated otherwise.

11th March 2015      **AGM.** Plus an update on Nurse Peattie's garden and possibly a guest speaker, TBC nearer the time.

8th April 2015      **Berries.** Ian Bett was one of Abernethy's berry growers and will fill us in on how the local industry was run, and hopefully give us some tips on growing berries at home.

June 2015, day TBC      **The Annual AHS Road Trip** – location and date to be confirmed.

Numbers coming along to Horty meetings are steadily growing thanks to a great programme of events for our 2014/15 season. Despite wintry weather in mid-January a great crowd came out to hear plant hunter and author Ken Cox talk about his latest book, "Scotland for Gardeners" and provide an expert outline of historical developments and key examples from different ages of Scottish garden history up to the present day. He singled out some of his favourite gardens and gardeners Scotland-wide. •Amongst his observations was one sad fact that Scotland is rapidly losing its independent nurseries and growers. •He concluded positively, however, that Scotland has more inspirational, important and glorious gardens per head than any country on earth.

Our AGM on March 11 will examine re-development plans for Nurse Peattie's Garden and choose which Scottish garden we will visit for our annual Summer trip.

Our last indoors meeting before our new programme begins in October will be on April 11 when Ian Bett, formerly one of Abernethy's berry growers will talk about how the local industry was run, and provide some tips on growing berries at home.

If you are not already a Horty member, why not come along to one of our evening meetings held from October – April on the second Wednesday of the month at the Masons Hall in Main Street at 7.30. You will be very welcome.

### Launch of two new In Bloom groups

Like buses you wait for ages and two come along at once! Both Abernethy and Aberargie have recently set up In Bloom Groups. Volunteers are coming together to improve the environment using gardening as a tool. **Abernethy in Bloom** launched at the Cree's in mid January with lots of ideas on how to bring more col-

our to the village and encourage people to get involved. You don't have to be an expert or know anything at all about gardening just have an enthusiasm for and care passionately about your surroundings and where you live and work. Thanks to all those who have already volunteered their time. Abernethy Primary School is taking part and we are hoping to encourage all the various businesses in and around Abernethy to support us.

As the weather warms up you will start to see more tubs and floral features around the village. We are going to hold a best summer tub and window box competition open to all - watch out for details. We will be helping the Horty-Society re-development of Peattie's Garden and continue the planting and tending of the Village Fruit Tree Trail. We will be planting lots of bulbs around the village in the Autumn. In December we want to hold a home-made produce and food fayre with lighting up and decoration of the village and a special Christmas tree in Nurse Peattie's Garden. Next year we hope to develop an information map of all the green and beautiful places in the village to put in the Museum and other public locations and make Abernethy an even more attractive destination for visitors.

Hazel Gordon of Berryfields Tearoom has volunteered to be secretary of Abernethy in Bloom. If you would like to do something to help or have ideas on what features you would like to see in the village you can drop in and let her know or contact me [carolinepboyle@hotmail.com](mailto:carolinepboyle@hotmail.com) 851190

For more details of both the Horticultural Society and Abernethy in Bloom please visit [www.abernethyhorticultural.co.uk](http://www.abernethyhorticultural.co.uk)

### Aberargie in Bloom

Not to let the side down Aberargie is working on ways to spruce itself up and some that you may notice as

you zoom by. The renewal of the septic tank for Nethermill has meant the entrance to Gowlie is looking better but lots of effort and applied white paint by George Haliburton and Derrick Thorburn has been exerted to keep the huge lorries off the grass there. At an impromptu gathering last year Theresa Hughes ~~found there certainly is enthusiasm and energy to do some little projects.~~

The main focus is to apply for funds for a new notice board for Aberargie. We need about £3000 to buy a board and to create an attractive area about the telephone and letter box. We have blessings from the Council and co-operation offered where it can - as long as it doesn't cost them anything. We are going to set the new board back and put slabs and gravel up to it. We will include and enhance the ground around the birch trees there adding in bulbs and a seat so that the green can be enjoyed more readily during warm balmy evenings that are ... just around the corner.

We also want to start a wee orchard replacing the many old fruit trees that the hamlet used to have along it's hedgerows. This may start with just 4 or 6 in a group at the west end or the green.

All this began with the idea of turning part of the green into a wild-flower meadow. A sweep of billowing corn marigolds and ox-eye daisies along the path side being considered a nicer and more environmentally friendly use of the mown grass area. But, as many of you know, it's not just a case of sprinkling a few seeds ... more later.

We have even bolder projects up our sleeves but meanwhile all indications of support will urge us on. ([tjhughes919@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tjhughes919@hotmail.co.uk))

Let me know what you think, and I'd be especially pleased to talk to larger landowners of Aberargie to see how we can spruce up boundary edges.

**Caroline Boyle**

## CHARLIE FINDS A GIRLFRIEND

Charlie, the little tiny Shetland pony, lived in the pony field on Station Road with Bella, Flora and Mac.

Bella was the Queen of the field. She was an Endurance Horse who had won the Dukeries Hundred-Miles- in- a -Day Race in England and had been Scottish Endurance Champion. Mac was a little brown pony who had done a season's Endurance Rides with Imogen and won her a medal at the Scottish Championships in Kelso in 2012. Flora is Bella's daughter. She liked to play with Charlie and sometimes Mac would nibble the itchy place on his neck but Charlie never felt that he was special. If Bella or Mac were in a bad mood they would bully him a bit and Bella would sometimes stop him play-

ing with Flora.

Imogen wanted a bigger, faster competition pony so Fennela came to live in the field. This meant there was no room for Charlie so he went to Rumbling Bridge to live with a little herd of Shetland ponies. They made him very welcome so he was not lonely but he still was not special to any pony.

Meanwhile, in Scotland, in a scruffy, cluttered paddock, lived a lonely little jenny donkey with no name. She played with a blue plastic oil-drum because she had no friends to play with.

One day a kind lady saw this little sad donkey and felt so sorry that she bought her. She brought the little donkey to a grassy paddock at Abernethy and called her Jessie, after the cow-girl in Toy Story. Her friends said that Charlie might be a good companion and they brought him to the field in their trailer.

As soon as Jessie saw him she was thrilled. She did all her tricks with her oil-drum and then she lay on her back and waved her legs in the air. She raced over to Charlie and he kicked

his little furry back legs out to tell her she must treat him with respect. Charlie pretended he was interested in eating grass but he watched her carefully and gradually moved closer and closer to her. He thought she was lovely and was happy to be her friend.

One day Bella and Fennela went past the field. He ignored them because he was with Jessie and was talking to his new owners. Bella was impressed because she is frightened of donkeys and there was Charlie being so cool.

Jessie has big donkey ears and a soft smooth coat and Charlie has tiny fluffy ears and a very hairy coat but they both think the other is beautiful and are so happy to have each other and be very well looked after.

AH



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### Entry requirements:

This year there are four categories

Primary 1 - 3

Up to 100 words

Primary 4 - 7

Up to 500 words

Secondary Pupils

Up to 1000 words

Adult

Up to 1000 words

### How to Enter

Entries should be emailed to [info@villagecrier.co.uk](mailto:info@villagecrier.co.uk), sent to 63, Brandywell Road or handed to any committee member.

**Remember the closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015**

Winning entries will appear in future editions of The Crier.

*Anyone in the distribution area can enter*



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Or Cashback? 'Yes, please!' seems the obvious answer but think about it.

If you have used your Credit Card to buy train tickets or book accommodation you may have had this offer. If you accepted you would have been signing up to a discount website such as Saversense. These ask you to buy On-line using their web-site and do give you the promised 10% discount.

BUT, you register with them and pay them £10- £15 a month whether or not you use the scheme. A quick bit of arithmetic will tell you that you have to spend at least £100-£150 per month at companies which are part of the scheme before you make any money. The first month would have been free but then people are surprised to see a £10-£15 charge appearing on their Credit Card statements each month. Or they do not always check their statements and unwittingly pay for a scheme they do not use.

One woman had left her Credit Card Statements unopened for a year. She said she had not bothered because she had not used her card since booking at Travel Lodge early in 2014. She was horrified to find she had been paying £10 per month since then. It is obviously a good idea to check statements even if you would rather not be reminded of how extravagant you have been. It is bad enough paying for your impulse purchases without paying for something you do not need.

This is not a scam. There are people who spend a lot on the registered companies who find it useful but I think the selling methods are very misleading.

The Citizen's Advice Bureau is at 7 Atholl Crescent. Drop in is 10am-12 noon, Monday to Friday or phone 01738 450581 for an appointment in the afternoon. If the line is busy you can leave a message and you will get a call-back. The number will come up as Withheld to protect your privacy.

01738 450580 is the Advice Line. Everything is confidential, even the fact that you visited the bureau. There is also a web-site run by the CAB. Adviceguide.org.uk covers many topics and is easy to use.

## Perth - Then and Now

There was a time - about half a century ago, when anyone walking around Perth would know that they were in Scotland. All they had to do was look at the names of the pubs. In the High Street there was the

Taybar, Fair City, The Glencoe and the Thistle. Round the corner in North Methven Street was the Clachan. Now only the Thistle survives. South Street fares slightly better with the Auld Hoose and the Gowrie House still surviving. The St Johnstoun Tavern had its name changed to Scaramouche. Crazy! Sensibly it has now reverted to The Tavern. How original! The Storont Arms otherwise known as Bob Gunn's bar changed its name to The King Willow when the licence was taken over by Tom Lodge, the former Perthshire County Cricket Club professional who was a Yorkshireman. It has gone as has the Fifeshire Bar. A former owner of the Burns Bar in County Place had the temerity to change the name to The Cherries - despite the effigy of our national bard in a niche on the frontage. Thankfully it is now the more posh sounding Robert Burns Lounge. It is also sad that so many of the locally owned shops have gone. That however is another story. Something to think about for the next edition of The Crier

**Bob Macdonald**

## Abernethy - Then

The following extracts are from the Abernethy Newsletter dated December 1982.

### -does anything change?

Dear Editor,

I read with interest all the bellyaching about cars parked round the CornerShop. I find it difficult to see what anyone has against the much persecuted motorists stopping to pick up their papers. I am beginning to think some sections of the community will not be happy until the village is covered in yellow lines and traffic wardens. I would be interested to hear what the other motorists have to say on the matter.

Yours, Persecuted Motorist.

P.S. If the Council bought half a dozen gates or so they could block the whole village from cars, that might make them happy.

### - but perhaps there is some hope

Dear Editor,

I would like to bring to the notice of the Community Council that the bus shelter has no windows and the roof leaks like a sieve. Can the Community Council do anything about this poor state of repair as winter is coming on and I have to wait for the school bus. No doubt we will hear the old chestnut about vandalism etc, but I am sure in this year 1982 (not 1892), that a shelter ODF some sort could be arranged. I notice Perth has "vandal proof" shelters.

Yours,

Pupil (that has fast oncoming Pneumonia)

33years on 1 fixed 1 unchanged.

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## Abernethy Burns Club

### PRIMARY SCHOOL BURNS COMPETITION 2015

The judges had great difficulty this year in producing a result in the Burns Competition. The standard was so high and the challenge so great. How many of us could recite, "without repetition, hesitation or deviation" (to quote from a well-known radio programme)

Address to the Haggis? Primaries 6/7 in Abernethy can!

The judges were Miss W. Dobbie Mrs S. Rose and Mrs H. Clow. Mr I Bett, Secretary of Abernethy Burns Club and Mrs M. Folan were also present.

The results were as follows

#### P4/5

First Alex Cook  
Second Lucy Jamieson  
Third Hamish McElnea

#### P6/7

First Ella McElnea  
Second Sam Donnachie  
Third Heather Rodger

#### Overall Winner

Ella McElnea who received the  
Shield.

A donation of £50 was given to the school from Abernethy Burns Club

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