



VILLAGE CRIER

DELIVERED TO 800 HOUSEHOLDS

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ABERNETHY, ABERARGIE AND DRON NEWS

27th EDITION

June 2015

Closing date for next edition 31.7.15

Hello again Readers,

Before I start my article for the current edition of The Crier I look back to check what I had written a year ago for several reasons:

- 1) It is interesting to remember what was "on the go" at the same time last year.
- 2) To find out if any changes had taken place because of what had been publicised in The Crier, resolution of problems, progress on current matters etc
- 3) Answers to questions
- 4) Make sure I am not writing the same things over and over again.

So I have just had a brief review of The Crier June 2014.

As of last year, we have had a beautiful Easter weekend despite the bad start on Good Friday, as I headed north on the A9 in pouring rain. It was a very slow journey that day. However I finally reached my destination and the sun shone for the rest of the weekend. Easter was later last year so already we have had an extra week or two of sunshine.

Just one more backward look, No-one has come up with an answer to my query of a year ago, "why have we the names of Crimean battles in the village and indeed maybe one of our neighbours in Bridge of Earn would be able to explain Oudenarde, one of Marlborough's victories against the French during the War of the Spanish Succession (1708).

It is an interesting fact that since coming to Abernethy 47 years ago the population has more or less doubled but the number of shops and businesses has decreased-----no longer the Butcher a Baker and although I don't think there was a Candlestick Maker,

Norman Peddie in the post office certainly sold candles along with all sorts of bits and pieces which one would find in an ironmonger's shop. Even the traditional ironmongers are few and far between and THE BIG FIRMS that took over such as Homebase are closing down. Where are we going to get our nails and hammers etc.

Despite the increase in the population we very seldom get news of Births of which there have been many over the last 5 years. Always we have news of Deaths, so let us have some happy news to balance the sad news. Remember The Crier is yours so it is up to all of you to keep it alive with your news. We will be delighted to hear from you.

On this same subject, remember The Parish of Abernethy contains Aberargie and Dron so we would like to hear your news too. Aberargie is looking very smart and at Christmas time it is always exciting to see the Christmas lights so let us have your news as well. Dron is a wee bit off the beaten track but things happen there too. Tell us about them! It is a lovely walk/short cycle run round the Drons with beautiful views from the higher ground. This brings me to my next topic, WALKING.

I know there is a walking group in Abernethy but we never hear where it goes. I was hearing from an Abernethy friend about the wonderful walk she had done from Errol, along the riverside close by the reed beds. I too, have done this walk and it is so interesting seeing the area from a different angle. Very recently my walking group walked through the Invermay Estate, starting in Forteviot and ending up having a look in the graveyard and the church in Forteviot. It was interesting to discover that the Macdonald of Macdonald Fraser market is buried there. He was the founder of that famous market well-known throughout the world for the Aberdeen Angus Bull Sales. Sadly no longer in Perth. Last week our walk start-

ed in Dollar, climbing to Castle Campbell (formerly Castle Gloom, well named) and then continued through Glen Devon ending with a nice cold drink at Tormaukin Inn. So many wonderful walks on our doorstep.. Why don't we have an exchange of news and views on walks?

What does everyone think of the new roundabout on the Baigle? It is rather disappointing that there is no mention of Abernethy on any of the numerous signposts which have been erected. Has Abernethy become the 21st century Brigadoon? Finally what are the thoughts on the sculpture? I would be pleased if someone would tell me what it is supposed to represent. I await a reply to that one with bated breath!

Meantime, here's hoping for a glorious summer in Abernethy.

Hilda Clow

EDITOR'S VIEW

I am glad I live on Back Dykes and not on Main Street, at least if there is a fire or other emergency the Emergency Services might be able to get to the incident.



If you live on Main Street, because of the disorganised parking, there is little chance of the Fire brigade or other, reaching your emergency. Some of the parking would barely allow a car through the space let alone a fire tender. Think before you park!

I read in the December issue that the location of the Christmas tree may have to change due to the new hole in the ground, because of the recent school developments, not being deep enough to hold up a reasonably sized tree.

I think, and please correct me if I am wrong, the Community Council forked out £700 to install power and to form a hole for a tree.

I always thought that Councils were pretty good at digging holes, one man digging and seven standing around watching.

Why should the Community pay again for the Council or builders ineptitude to dig a hole big enough to do the job?

What do you think? **The Ed.**

LETTERS TO THE ED

Dear Ed,

I am writing in relation to your article in the latest version of the Village Crier, March 2015. The main topic of this was your love for wind turbines. I know this is a very controversial subject so I intend just touch on it lightly. Bearing in mind that you have presented the argument for those who have taken a liking to these monstrosities I think it is only fair that the voice of reason and commonsense is listened to as well.

The first problem with wind turbines is their looks. In this respect, they do nothing other than make a mess of the landscape. They do not add to the beauty of nature, they do not encourage visitors to come and admire the scenery that Scotland is so proud of, all they provide is a good source of arguing and debate. A second point is that the turbines use more energy in their production than they can ever produce in their lifetime. The reason for this is that they are only working for a fraction of their lifetime. They don't work when the weather is nice and calm and they have to be switched off when it gets too blustery due to public safety risks.

I hope that I have been able to present my views in a way has not caused offence but has outlined the obvious fact that wind turbines are nothing other than hideous metal monsters.

Yours sincerely

Jake Michel (16)
Pittarrow
Perth Road
Abernethy



ABERNETHY, DRON & ARNGASK CHURCH NEWS

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

However, generally, 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 there will be no service on July 26th or Aug 30th. Morning worship and children's Sunday club will instead be together in Glenfarg. .

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.

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.

Celia King

ABERNETHY & DISTRICT SENIOR CITIZENS TRUST

Abernethy & District Senior Citizens Trust would like to thank Allan Ferguson of Allan's Chilli Products for the very generous donation of £318.10 from the proceeds of the Race Night held in the Williamson Hall.

ABERNETHY BABY AND TODDLER GROUP



Abernethy Baby & Toddler group meets in the Williamson Hall every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 9.30-11.30am (Thursdays only during school holidays). We are a pre-school toddler group open to all children from birth to 5 years & their carers (parents, grandparents & child minders all very welcome). There is a small charge of £2.50 per family per session which includes a snack for the children, tea/coffee for adults, cost of hall rental & contribution to the upkeep of toys. Activities are informal & fun, appropriate to the little ones present on the day, and may include things such as crafts, book corner, imaginative play, musical instruments, trikes & cars etc. We have a separate baby area with baby gyms & bouncy chairs etc. The group is a great way for children & the adults who care for them to socialise, build friendships & have lots of fun!

Philip Jerrard-Dinn

ABERNETHY BROWNIES LEADERS NEEDED

Abernethy brownies are a fun group for girls aged 7-10 years old. We take part in a wide variety of activities from arts & crafts, fitness, to the environment and first aid. We find time for some games too! This is a popular activity with 24 girls taking part.

As one of our leaders is leaving in June we are looking to recruit two new leaders to help on a regular basis. Volunteering with Girlguiding is an enjoyable way to give something back to the community, and can help you gain skills and enhance your CV. Full training and support will be provided. If you are interested please contact Mandy or Rachel on 850674 or by email at abernethybrownies@hotmail.com

Sadly, without your help brownies in Abernethy will come to an end so the leaders and girls would really appreciate your support.



Rachel Kirk

Elizabeth West

OBITUARY

Abernethy lost another "weel kent face" with the death of Mrs Elizabeth West on 2nd February 2015.

She came to the village in May 1956 with her family and opened the "Photo Shop" at what is now 27 Main Street (the houses didn't have numbers in those days - it was a proper village then).

As well as providing a development and printing service to Davidson the Chemist amongst others and also the local community, she took wedding photographs for a number of local couples at Abernethy Church. She also offered guidance and advice to anyone who sought it. The advent of colour photography, however put an end to the business, it being too expensive to set up with the equipment required. She then opened up as a Grocers shop for a number of years.

Her last job before retiring was a "Dinner Lady" at Abernethy Primary School, a job she loved.

She was an active member of the Community for many years, SWRI, Church Guild, Welfare Committee, WRVS and the Lunch Club.

Charlie West



Mrs West's shop

ABERNETHY PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

The parent council meet once a term at Abernethy Primary School. We exist to:

- Raise funds to supplement the school budget, enabling the children to do and experience more
- Represent parent / carer's views to the school
- Understand school issues and be informed on matters such as the school's policies and budget
- Work together with the school and nursery to help enhance the children's learning environment

Over the last year we have held a number of fundraising events (kid's disco, bingo tea, beetle drive, Peel2Save card campaign) and have made the following donations to the school:

- £500 towards subsidising school trips
- £500 towards the purchase of new technology (iPads) for the pupils
- £140 to buy specialist books to help struggling readers
- £600 to buy a storage shed for outdoor equipment

We also help fund the school Christmas parties and refreshments at school and nursery sports day, fund leavers presents for P7 pupils going on to high school, and are continuing to save towards equipping the library. Our next big project will be to help the school develop and finance a trim trail and playground markings to enhance playtimes and PE.

Thanks to all who support our fundraising – it really makes a difference to the children's learning experiences. Our AGM for the start of the new school year will be on the 26 Aug at 7pm in the school hall – please come along and get involved!

Sue Smith

The Great War

April 25, 1915

Allied Forces effect landing
at the Dardanelles

ARTICLES

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

ABERNETHY HIGH STREET

In this edition there is a very interesting article from Bob McDonald about the changed face of Perth High Street.

How about the High Street in Abernethy.

I am reaching the grand age, I was going to say old but decided not too, of 61 and even then when I was a bairn the High Street of the village was a bustling shopping centre.

from West to East.....

Corner shop...Newsagent and General merchant.
Joiner and Undertaker.

Blacksmith

Co-op toy shop

Photographic shop and General merchant

Butchers

Public House (the Inn)

Bicycle repairs and sales

Grocers and General merchant

Telephone exchange

General merchant

Co-operative General store

Library

Village Council Office

Bakers

Post office

Public House (Cree's Inn)

Dairy

and down Station Road. Ok slightly North!

Hairdresser

Kiltmaker

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.

The Great War

May 7, 1915

Lusitania sunk by German
submarine U20 off Queenstown

THE CHANGING FACE OF THE HIGH STREET

It is a sad fact of life that everywhere you go in the U.K. one High Street is very much like all the others. Gone are the days when local businesses thrived and many of the owners were prominent in local affairs such as the Town and County Councils where their business acumen stood them in good stead. Take Perth for example.

Heading down the High Street, on the left was the Jewellers run by the Proudfoot brothers where I splashed the cash on my wife's engagement ring over half a century ago. Across the street was Farquharson the tea merchant where my mother got her supplies for our shop in Stanley. Further down was the newsagent J. K. Taylor run by the Parnell family where I would stop to collect my daily paper. One morning when doing so, I accidentally locked myself out of my Austin A35 and had to enlist the services of the local constabulary who had a huge bunch of car keys, one of which did the trick. On the same side was Peter Thomson, Licensed Grocer. Crossing over Kinnoull Street/Scott Street was Covent Garden (fruit and veg) and opposite, the impressive General Post Office building, a popular meeting place now long gone. I believe the rubble when it was demolished now lies under the Craigend interchange. Down from the G.P.O. was Charles Rattray, Tobacconist with the carved figure above the door which I think can still be seen in Perth Museum. I occasionally had to collect parcels of cigarettes for the shop from the warehouse at the rear of the premises and although I have never been a smoker I loved the rich aroma which pervaded the place. There was Strangs the chemist at the corner of Meal Vennel and on the other side was Watson's China shop which miraculously still survives. Gents' outfitters Valentines and Dan Taylors supplied my needs and Cairds, a Dundee based firm was where I opened a budget account to purchase a dinner suit when I first embarked on the social scene. The ladies were catered for by Buchanan Dunsdales at the corner of St John's Street. Frasers of Perth specialised in tweeds and tartans and footwear could be supplied by Norwells. Their advertising gimmick was a picture of Peter Norwell and a sturdy boot with the slogan "The Man behind the Boot". Some local wag came up with the alternative "The Rogue behind the Boot" - all in good fun we hope.

Heading along St John's Street it is good to see that Cairncross and McEwans of Perth still survive although the former is no longer owned by the Cairncross family, the brother having passed away some

years ago. It was there that you could see the Abernethy Pearl on display. No connection with our village as it was found by pearl fisher Bill Abernethy who was also a handy footballer who played centre forward for Blairgowrie Juniors. Heading up South Street we find that Kennaway the bakers have gone but we still have Murray's who recently won the award for the best pies. Truly a Perth institution. We must not forget Holgates' who have been serving fish and chips for as long as I can remember.

No doubt I have overlooked a few but I trust you have enjoyed this trip down memory lane reminding you of how Perth was in my younger days.

Bob Macdonald

Williamson Hall Fete

Kirk Wynd, Abernethy

20th June 2015
1-4pm

Hall Fete

1pm - 4pm

Attractions
Live music
Teas & Coffees
Ice Cream
Bouncy Castle
Kids Activities
Raffle

Stalls
Plants
Bottle Stall
Cake and Candy
Face Painting
Tombola
Book Stall
and more...!

Ceilidh

8pm - Midnight

with locals Kate & Roddy of the 'Dancing Feet Ceilidh Band'!

£10 - Ticket only. BYOB!

Check our website for full details and ticket info...

www.williamsonhall.org.uk

Hill Race - Sunday 21st at 1pm



Donations Needed!
Bottles, home baking, raffle prizes and books
Please bring your donations to the hall on the morning of the Fete or call Sue on 07534 786072
For further event info, please visit www.williamsonhall.org.uk

The Great War

May 25, 1915

Battle of Ypres 1915 ends

Please note ALL articles must be accompanied with 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

Janet (Jenny) Roy

OBITUARY

Janet (Jenny) Roy, nee Davidson was born at Lilliebank, West End, Abernethy (now Abertay) on the 1.1.1923 to Walter Davidson and Lissie Braid.

Jenny went to school in Abernethy, now James Roy Court, at that time it was a Primary school and a Secondary school.

On leaving school she started work in the Commercial bank in Newburgh and then for a few years worked in the General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation in Perth, now Aviva.

In her spare time Jenny was heavily involved in the village Amateur Dramatic Society.

She married Jim Roy in 1949 (James Roy Court), living for a time at Hall Park. Moving from there to Pitkerrick, Newburgh Road, Abernethy, where after her husband Jim died, lived with her sister Mary until she died on the 25.4.2015.

Jenny lived all of her life in Abernethy, 92 years.

She will be missed by her sister Mary, her wider family and all who knew her.

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DRON

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The Great War

May 27, 1915

Mr Winston Churchill, First
Lord of the Admiralty, Great
Britain, resigns

The Great War

June 9, 1915

British troops in France first
issued with hand grenades.

Short Story Competition

Open to everybody resident in the Crier
distribution area.

Get Thinking, Get Writing, Win a Prize

All you have to do is write a short piece on a
Childhood
Memory or Experience

Prizes

GOLD
£30

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

Silver
£20

Bronze
£10

How to Enter

Entries should be emailed to
info@villagecrier.co.uk, sent to 63,
Brandywell Road or handed to any
committee member.

**Remember the closing date is 31st July
2015**

*Anyone in the distribution
area can enter*

On Monday 23rd February at Perth Crematorium a large gathering of people bid a last farewell to Alexander Gordon Morren (Sandy) a weel kent figure in the village.

Sandy spent the first 9 years of his life in Tarland, Aberdeenshire together with his five sisters who have all predeceased him apart from his youngest sister (my wife) Alison. After school in Abernethy he became an apprentice joiner and over the years perfected his skills. Sandy in those far off days was full of the joys of life - always singing and smiling. Sport was one of his early passions, particularly football, tennis, cycling and (in the Army) boxing. He played football for Newburgh Juveniles winning several trophies with them. When he played he must have been a coaches nightmare as he endeavoured to win each game "single-handed". He was a wee hard man on the pitch and seemed to be everywhere. He also played for Abernethy Tennis Club when we played in the Perth and District League. How many of us remember him playing at the net in matches endeavouring to cover the court and often getting away with it! Sandy did his National Service in the Army where he represented his battalion in both football and boxing, winning medals in boxing.

It was about 1952 when I really got to know Sandy and we used to on occasions go for a long cycle run on Sundays. Sandy had bought himself a real up market Claude Butler racing bike and we decided to try it out one Sunday. This excursion took us to Loch Tay down through Glen Ogle and home through Lochearnhead and Crieff. A memorable day indeed. Not only was the weather perfect but during that journey we decided that once I had finished my apprenticeship in the building trade we would go to Canada for a trial period.

Dinah in her notes for the Minister to read at Sandy's committal referred to him as a reluctant traveller. This wasn't always the case because in 1954 Sandy and I set sail from Southampton to Halifax, Nova Scotia. So began 2 years filled with exciting experiences. After a year we bought a car and within 2 weeks we had passed our driving test and we zig-zagged our way through the USA. To our ultimate destination Vancouver. Sandy was an excellent companion, never moody always cheery with a very positive approach. With Sandy what you saw was what you got.

Little did I know then that further down the line we would enter into a business partnership in a Dairy business - Double M Dairy. We were to operate the business together successfully for 35 years until we retired in order to make way for the "young ones"

By and large we never had many cross words and if we did we certainly never held any grudges. We sometimes would agree to disagree but at the end of it all we had a mutual respect for each other that can only be gained by shared experiences.

Ever since school days Thomas Ramsay has been a constant friend and Tom, Ruth, Sandy and Dinah had many memorable holidays together. Sandy and Dinah have sons Andrew and Alan. In latter years Andrew would take Sandy to Skye on some of his business trips which he thoroughly enjoyed. Over the years Sandy has renovated several properties with some excellent help from Alan. Or was it the other way round? Alan's prowess with tools always delighted his Dad and he would proclaim to me - Alan has a guid pair of hands on him you know.

My own family thought very highly of Uncle Sandy. My daughter Audrey recalls him taking her to see Aberdeen play Dundee United. He really impressed her at half time when he produced a flask and sandwiches. She came away from the match feeling 10 feet tall because Uncle Sandy had remonstrated with a chap behind for using foul language in front of a lady. Sadly Sandy's last few years were blighted by dementia and it is to Dinah, Andrew, Alex, Alan, May-Britt and Sophia we convey our heartfelt condolences. You will have many happy memories.

Alison and I certainly have. Rest in Peace Sandy.

Donnie Smart

A WAR RHYME FROM 1915 (part 1)

A is for Austria who was first in the field.

B for wee Belgium who never will yield

C's for the cannons shell everywhere

D for the dreadnoughts that give such a scare

E is for everyone dealing a blow

F is for France as you will know

G is for Germany, the home of the Hun

H for the Highland lads who keep them on the run

I is for the Indians with the queer little blades

The Great War

June 18, 1915

Second Battle of Artois ends

ABERNETHY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

With one big election now in the past, there remains another later this year: the election of volunteers to serve on the community council to represent Abernethy and District. All positions on the community council will be up for election, I would make specific mention of the need to have a representative from Aberargie. At the time of the last election we came perilously close to failing to have a quorum so PKC rules would have prevented formation of the community council, this would have been disastrous as we would have no community voice or influence on any planning application or development. We need to avoid this at all costs so we would encourage anyone considering serving on the council to make an application later in the year, I would be happy to talk confidentially to anyone considering the idea about what a community councillor entails.

After a quieter period during the winter months, community council business has picked up with more advanced discussions on the creation of a community benefit fund arising from the proposed wind-farm at the Binn Eco Park, there has been further talk of a solar park development somewhere within our area and calls for input into the local development plan which influences area development in the coming years. We were glad to see Police Scotland presence at the last two meetings, this provides a face to face opportunity to discuss the problems of speeding through the village but also more thorny issues such as parking in the square.

And finally, many people have mentioned the tulips growing in the verge at either end of Aberargie so many thanks to the mystery gardener who planted the bulbs last year as they were a beautiful display in April.

Colin Morrison

PENSIONS

I have had some phone calls recently from people who had heard about changes to pensions and wanted to know if they could get some money.

The new legislation means that when people in a Pension Scheme retire they do not necessarily have to take a pension. They could take the money as a lump sum instead.

This only applies to people in a 'Defined Contributions' scheme where a lump sum has been built up. Anyone who works for the National Health Service or the Local Authority is in a 'Defined Benefits' scheme and nothing has changed. They will get a pension when they retire. BUT, it is possible that earlier in their working lives they worked for another employer and paid into a Pension Fund. This could entitle them to a lump sum.

The Government operates a Pension Tracing Service for tracking down any old pension funds. It is free. The phone number is 0842 6002 537 or you can go on line. There is a link from www.Adviceguide.org.uk.

If you are thinking about retiring, are at least 54 and want to get expert advice to help you consider your options you can book a free appointment with a Pensions Guidance Specialist who has been trained by the Government's Pension Advisory Service. The easiest way to contact a specialist is through the Citizen's Advice Bureau as that is where they are based.

Notice I used the word FREE. If you are contacted by anyone offering advice and asking for money, don't fall for it. It is not better because you have paid for it. It is a way of parting you from your cash.

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.

AH

The Great War

June 30, 1915

German troops use flame throwers for the first time against the British lines at Hooge, Ypres

CALLING ALL COMMUNITY GROUPS

Are you interested in hosting an event to benefit Children's Hospice Association Scotland (CHAS), or, in helping us to raise awareness of the services we offer?

Our ambition is to reach every baby, child and young person in Scotland affected by a life-shortening condition. We're here to offer them and their families' specialised care and support – but, we need your help to do this.

Fundraising groups are vital to CHAS. As well as raising over £9 million each year for children living with life-shortening conditions, they also raise awareness of who we are and what we do, helping us to reach more people who need us.

Getting involved is a fantastic way to raise funds for the charity, meet new people in your area and make a difference to the lives of babies, children and young people all over Scotland.

Each year generous fundraisers donate time and energy to our cause by hosting every type of event you can think of from bake sales to art shows, from sporting challenges to quizzes or dances...

Whether you're a school, business, community group or member of a sports team, we've got lots of ways for your group members to get involved and become ambassadors for CHAS.

If you'd like to host your own fundraising event or find out more about volunteering with CHAS, we'd love to send a representative along to speak to your group about the cause and give you tips, suggestions and more information on how to get started. Contact us for a quick chat before you start planning. You can call 01577 865222 or email rachelcheer@chas.org.uk

The Great War

July 15, 1915

National Registration Act
becomes law in Great Britain

ABERNETHY S.W.I.

At our April meeting we had a "hands-on" Napkin Art class with Dorothy Morris. The ladies very much enjoyed this and produced some lovely pots (see pic). Competition winners were: Healthy Lunch Box - 1st Ann Christie, 2nd Elizabeth Taylor, 3rd Wilma Whyte. Flower of the Month - 1st Jane Sanderson, 2nd Ann Christie, 3rd Evelyn Scobie. Points Winners for the year are: 1st Ann Christie, Runner-up Elizabeth Taylor. Best Trier Pat Miller and Chris Stewart (equal).

Our next meeting is our AGM on Wed 20th May. Unfortunately our speaker is unable to come due to illness so a speaker still has to be arranged. Competitions are: 3 Pieces of Tablet and Flower of the Month. The Points Trophies will be presented at this meeting.

Over the Summer months we will be preparing our entries for the Perth, and Kinross Shows in August. Monthly Meetings will start again in September and the first meeting is Wed 16th September at 7.15 in the Session House at the Church. New members and visitors very welcome. Visitors £3 per meeting and new members £20 for the year. You are welcome to come along as a visitor first if you are not sure if this is for you. Details of the new syllabus will be in the September Crier and in the Village Notice Board and Shop. If you require further information please contact Evelyn



Evelyn Scobie

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AND DRON



A LETTER FROM AMERICA (Continued from last Crier)

Henry Buist was also a member of "The Freeholders of Fife Society." The Edinburgh Advertiser Newspaper reported on Tuesday, 24 August 1819 that, "Henry Buist, Esquire of Berryhill joined the organization on Tuesday, 5 October 1819.

In the year 1836 by an act of Parliament, Henry Buist, Esquire was appointed a Land Tax Commissioner for Fife. He was also appointed as a Justice of Peace for the county of Fife sometime in the 1830s. A Justice of Peace is a lay person who hears cases involving theft, assault and breach of peace offences in the local circuit courts. According to the Reports of Cases before the High Court and Circuit Courts of Justiciary there is a record of Henry Buist, Esquire serving as a Justice of Peace in the case of Yeaman v. Tod in which Henry Buist, Esquire on 7 March 1836 rendered a guilty verdict upon one Alexander Yeaman and sentenced him to pay a fine of twenty pounds.

Family

Helen Buist, his wife of forty years died on Saturday, 25 December 1847 at the age of 63 at Berryhill. According to the Fife Herald Newspaper dated 6 January

1848, "At Berryhill, on the 25th ult., Helen Walker, daughter of the late Reverend Andrew Walker, minister of Collessie, and wife of Henry Buist, Esquire of Berryhill. She was buried at Abdie Churchyard in Abdie Parish, Fife.

According to the 1851 Census for Grange, Abdie Parish, Fife, Henry Buist was listed as being 79 years of age, a landed proprietor and farmer of 300 acres employing twelve agricultural laborers.

His youngest son, Henry Buist would not survive him. He died on 24 November 1854 at Hattonhill, Abdie Parish at the age of 34. His son, Andrew Walker Buist would eventually succeed him as owner of the Berryhill estate.

Henry Buist is also listed in the 1861 Census for Abdie, Fife as being 89 years of age, a farmer and employing eighteen agricultural labourers at Berryhill.

A Gentleman Farmer

Henry Buist was engaged in agricultural pursuits. Having many other farm estates in Fife he encouraged his sons to follow him in agriculture. Whilst owning Berryhill, he also owned and operated the following: North Hill of Grange, Ormiston, Grange, Whitepark and Hattonhill.

He was also an avid reader of farming books and publications of his time. He would pay what was known as subscriber's fees to be notified to assist the publication of an upcoming book or publication on farming. He would also on occasion, write articles on farming. One in particular was reported by the Sussex Advertiser Newspaper on 5 November 1838. The newspaper reported:

"I state that during last winter the ring pigeon (*Columba Patumbus*) not only ate the leaves but also scooped holes in the sides of the bulbs; and in a note you ask, if I am sure of this, and state that the fact is new to you. Having repeatedly observed them thus employed, I had no doubt of it when I wrote to you, and I have since had it confirmed. In an entomological excursion which I lately took to the west of Fife, I happened to pass through the town of Auchtermuchty, on the day on which the great annual fair was held. I there met with five or six farmers, some of them extensive turnip growers, and thought this an admirable opportunity of ascertaining if it was known to them that the ring pigeon eats the bulbs of the turnips. On the question being proposed, they all agree that it does so; and the following facts were ascertained: that the ring pigeon eats the leaves of the turnip first; that it eats the bulbs; that it eats the bulbs even although the winter is not very severe; that it prefers the bulb of the Swedish turnip to any other; next the yellow turnip, and when neither of these can be procured, it takes the white; that when these holes are made, the frost causes the turnip to rot, and thus great quantities of them are destroyed. I have since inquired of several other farmers on the same subject. They are all with the exception of one, who said the bulbs were hollowed out by the crows, of the same opinion. I should therefore think that there is no doubt that the ring pigeon is very destructive to turnips by eating the bulbs as well as leaves.

In the Evening of Life

Henry Buist made out his Last Will and Testament on Friday, 11 January 1856. In the will, he conveyed to his eldest son, George Buist all lands in the North Hill of Grange, the estate of Ormiston, the farm at Grange, the lands of Whitepark, Hattonhill and various other lands. To his other surviving son, Andrew Walker Buist he conveyed all lands of Berryhill including the farming implements on the lands and all household furniture, silver plates, bed and table linen with the mansion house of Berryhill. To his two daughters Sophia and Margaret he gave each one half of the lands of Hattonhill. Furthermore, on Wednesday, 14 June 1865 he made a codicil to his will stating that his daughters were to be given each the lands of Ormiston and lands called Wood and Park of Lindores and Whitepark. Henry Buist contracted bronchitis a few weeks prior to his death. He was in good health considering his age of 94. Henry Buist died on Tuesday, 7 November 1865 at Berryhill of bronchitis. The Caledonia Mercury Newspaper for Thursday, 9 November 1865 stated, "At Berryhill, on the 7th inst., Henry Buist, Esquire of Berryhill in his 95th year." He was buried in the Abdie Churchyard, Abdie Parish, Fife on Monday, 13 November 1865. The Buist family gravestone still stands presently and reads: "1852. Sacred to the Memory of Margaret Walker, wife of Henry Buist of Berryhill and daughter of the Rev. Andrew Walker, minister of Collessie, who died 25 December 1847 aged 64 years. Also of her grandson, William Johnstone, son of the Rev. Robert Johnstone, minister of Logie, who died on the 4th Jan 1847 aged 9 years. Also of Henry Buist of Hattonhill, son of Henry Buist of Berryhill, who died on 24 Nov 1854 aged 36 years. Also of Mary Campbell, daughter of the late Captain Colin Campbell, 67th Regiment, and wife of Andrew Walker Buist, who died on 16 June 1855 aged 36 years. Also of Henry Buist of Berryhill who died 7 Nov 1865 at the advanced age of 94 years. Also to the Memory of Andrew Walker Buist of Berryhill, son of the above Henry Buist of Berryhill who died 1 May 1877 in the 61st year of his age. Also of George, eldest son of Henry Buist of Berryhill, born 20 March 1806, died 29 April 1889. In loving Memory of Mrs. Buist of Berryhill and her sister Miss Easton, this inscription is placed by their great niece, Lette Orlebar."

Henry Buist had a long and distinguished life. He served his community as a Justice of Peace, a Freeholder of Fife and a Noblemen and Gentlemen of Fife. He was a gentleman farmer having been engaged in agriculture all of his life. He retained many of the courtesies of the old times. He like the rest of his family contributed to the many benevolent and charitable institutions of his day, and he is commemorated here in grateful esteem and recognition by his 4th great nephew.

More next time

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ABERNETHY IN BLOOM

Bloomin' Marvellous

To celebrate the start-up of Abernethy in Bloom we want to encourage as many of the readers of the Crier as possible to help fill the village with flowers this summer. So, we are holding a competition to find the most beautiful planted container. Any container will do – tub, window box, hanging basket, trough, barrel, bowl, box – whatever you have that you can grow something in. There are no formal requirements or strict rules as to size or what plants you can use and no particular theme. We just want you to create something colourful and eye-catching using whatever plants you like to brighten up your street or garden.

Containers should be visible from the road or pathway to make judging easy. Judging will take place in the last week of July and there will be prizes and a cup for the overall winner.

To enter, just complete the form printed below or download a form from www.abernethyhorticultural.co.uk or collect one from Hazel at Berryfields Tearoom. Return it before the end of June indicating how many containers you are entering. All entrants will be notified in advance of precisely when judging will take place. Look out for our posters round the village too.

BLOOMIN' MARVELLOUS CONTAINER COMPETITION

ENTRY FORM – SUMMER 2015

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containers:

Please return completed form to Berryfields Tearoom in School Wynd before end June

THE SCULPTURE

You have probably noticed there is a sculpture in the middle of the new roundabout at the end of the Baiglie Strait. Have you any idea what it is or what it is called? The Crier committee has decided to hold a competition to name the sculpture. We would like you to come up with a name for it and the best name, according to the Committee, will win £20.

E-mail your names to Info@villagecrier.co.uk

Good luck

ABERNETHY COMMUNITY CINEMAUPDATE

You may have noticed our new and improved Facebook page which has been provided free gratis by Chris, a Graphic Designer based in Glasgow – thank you Chris. We are now reaching more people and have 142 'likes' on Facebook. Chris is also in the initial stages of setting up a web page for the cinema.

Branston, Abernethy have been most generous and donated £500.00 to the Community Cinema.

We had a lovely day for our Table Sale/CD/DVD Swap/Coffee Morning; you may have seen the photographs posted to Facebook and I tell you the cakes tasted as good as they looked. The Inn, thank you Grant, provided funding for the costs of tea/coffee and gave prizes for our tombola which was ably run by Joyce. We have been able to bank £100.00 from our profits from this fund raiser. We would like to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone for their input/support. Again, we had a positive response from everyone we spoke with, thank you. We are on track to run our first film in October this year.

Our next venture is a Quiz night on 29 May in Williamson Hall at 7.30pm. To find out more see our posters in the shop, in Williamson Hall and in the notice boards in Abernethy and Aberargie. You can book a table, £10.00 for team of 4, or simply turn up on the night. The Inn is providing a bar (and waitress service) for refreshments. We have also been delighted to accept Allan's Chilli Products for our crisps/corn snacks on the tables

We are also running a raffle to be drawn at the quiz on 29 May. We have gratefully received raffle prizes from St Johnstone Football Club, Let's Eat cookery school, Jamesfield Garden Centre, McEwans of Perth, Tesco (Edinburgh Road), Wheel Inn and hampers of Allan's Chilli Products... we also have other prizes. Raffle tickets are 25p per ticket or £1.00 per strip or 12 strips for £10.00.

You will be able to find us at the fete in June where we will be showing pictures of Old Abernethy. We will have leaflets to update you on our progress but please stop to watch our picture show and take time for a chat to learn more about your community cinema. Further we have taken in a teddy bear (with a passport), we know he is not from darkest Peru however you will have the opportunity of guessing where he is from to win him to give him a new home.

If you would like to book a table for a quiz team; buy any raffle tickets, like to donate or simply get in touch

please contact us through Facebook – Abernethy Community Cinema; Twitter or e-mail us at abernethycommunitycinema@gmail.com or telephone Jan on 07949840749

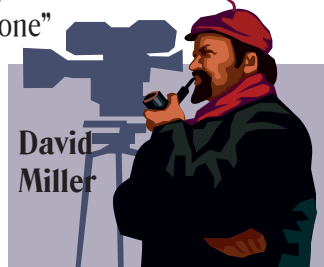
ABERNETHY COMMUNITY CINEMA STOP PRESS

We are delighted to announce we will be holding a Planetarium Event with solar viewing. Cosmos Planetarium have agreed to host an event hopefully on The 18th of July. If you've not seen this show before, book tickets now, you won't be disappointed. There will also be solar enabled telescopes setup outside (weather permitting) where you will be able to view sunspots and flares on the sun. Tickets available soon from David Millar & Jan Barrance, Weavers, Station Road, Abernethy. Tel: 07759 643976 or 01738 850930

Secondly (drum roll) - we were absolutely delighted to RECEIVE... A CHEQUE FOR £500 FROM G4S in the 'Match It' scheme, they have matched the cheque from Branston in Abernethy - this now means we have reached our first year target and we can now fund a years worth of Cinema in Abernethy. WOOHOO !

Initially we will be hiring the equipment, but we aim to purchase equipment if all goes to plan. We won't rest on our laurels though, our next target is to fund the screen/blackout blind for the Williamson Hall, and we are in the process of applying for grants and planning further fundraising events to achieve this.

Thanks so much to everyone who has worked to help us reach this milestone"



Short Story Competition 2014

Secondary 2nd Prize Winner The Curse of the Cuklver

Long ago, I heard it told, in the Shetlands there was a small house in the quiet countryside. Inside the house lived two wee lads, John and Robert.

One cold night, the boys were sent out to a campfire folk event where the members of the public discussed what had been happening and one topic stood out as a problem. The Wolver.

The reason for the problem was that every time a family went out, the Wolver would be sat there on a stone. "Seeing a Wolver is a sign of death!" called out Hamish, the owner of the forest known as 'Wolver's Woods'. Hamish caught sight of the two lads in his good eye and had a cunning plan.

"Robert and John, are you listening? I have a wee task to keep you busy." Hamish announced with a rather cunning glint in his eye. The boys listened eagerly to the task.

"I want you to go out and kill that pesky Wolver! Tomorrow you will set out to 'Wolver's Woods' and kill that beast, do you hear me? Asked Hamish.

"Yes Hamish!" echoed the boys and the task was accepted.

The next day the boys set out on a journey across the golden fields, through the damp grass and over a hill to 'Wolver's Woods' where the lads' courage was to be put to the test.

The woods were dark and empty with only a few rabbits scampering about. The mud was very damp and squelched unpleasantly whenever you went near a puddle. The trees were bare of leaves, so when the rain started, the boys had no way of finding shelter. They huddled together to keep warm and it helped slightly but they were still hungry, thirsty and, most of all, scared.

They heard a distant scampering but they assumed it was just another rabbit and kept walking. Then they heard the crack of a twig. They both knew what was coming; they just couldn't believe it. A Wolver was near and it was angry.

They both leapt with fear as a black shape ran past, like a black panther in the dark of the night. They had found him. Now all they had to do was to finish him off. John carefully pulled out his spear and aimed it directly at the shape. He missed by a hair. He quickly retrieved his spear and handed it to Robert. Robert was the town champion spear thrower. He had won six years in a row and could aim at a target from any distance away. Robert

took the spear and aimed his throw to be right through the skull of the Wulver. He paused before letting go of the cold metal. The spear spun through the air before crashing through the creature's skull. This was it! They had done it, they had killed the beast!

Immediately after the spear had hit the Wulver the lads felt a pang of guilt. They had killed a creature that had helped the poor. They had read stories about the curse that would be unleashed upon any soul that laid a finger on a creature that had helped the world.

The blood-curdling scream of the boys broke the silence as a black shadow appeared. The shadow represented a Wulver. The shadow took two steps back before pouncing upon the two boys and killing their human souls.

Two Wulvers padded though the woods and they are said to still be there, forever fishing, never speaking.

Sophia Morren

Primary 4-7 2nd Prize Winner Charlie the Chihuahua

Charlie waited nervously as the doggy brit awards were being handed out; it was his first time at the big awards. Charlie knew that he had to be on his best behaviour because millions of people all over the world would be watching him. The award for the most successful dog was about to be handed out to one of the dogs in the audience and Charlie's owner Maisy had put his name in for the award, but would it be Charlie or his arch enemy, Percy the pug from Poland.

Well One Direction was announcing the award and they said, "And the winner is, Charlie the Chihuahua from Chelsea!" Charlie had won, he walked up the steps to collect his award, Charlie said, "I would like to thank my owner Maisy for everything you've done for me. I would also like to thank the film crew that filmed me in episode 1376 of Corrie and last but certainly not least I would like to thank you all out there who have voted for me to be able to collect this award tonight! Thanks again!"

On the red carpet One Direction came over to Charlie and said the most amazing thing known to man, "Charlie? We were wondering if you want to be the 6th member of our band?" Charlie jumped up in his chair and screamed, "Yes, yes, yes, ohhh yes I would!"

Charlie was so happy! But then to top this off they said to him, "Ok, but there's a catch. We need a drummer as our old drummer has dropped out because of some offer to go on tour with Lady Gaga or something, anyway would you like to take the part?" Charlie was about

to explode, an offer to go on tour with One Direction and be their drummer! Charlie did have a few questions on that, he didn't know how to play the drums, he didn't have long hair so he could do the whole head banging thing but hey who cares? He is the new member of One Direction!!

Percy Pug from Poland and Poppy Poodle from Paris both loved One Direction but hated Charlie the Chihuahua, so them asking Charlie to be the new member of their band made them both so angry. They needed to find a way to get rid of him for good, they thought for hours and hours trying to come up with an evil plan to get rid of him but it was no good. At this point Charlie was already extremely good at the drums and they were ready for the tour to begin, but what they didn't know was that Percy and Poppy would be tagging along, obviously not in the tour but in the audience. They thought that when Charlie was head banging to Midnight Memories they could shoot a dart at him to send him to sleep then they would kidnap him. But what happened and did their plan go wrong?

Caley Malcolm age 11 P7

Editor's Note: We hope to publish the Primary 4-7 3rd Prize winner in the next issue.

BURNS CLUB OF ABERNETHY

On Thursday 23rd April, the AGM of the club was held in the Masonic Lodge.

The President Jimmy Swan gave a positive report on the past year and thanked all the members and office bearers for their support.

The annual account was presented to those present by the Treasurer Margaret Folan and was accepted. Ian Bett, Secretary, read out last years minutes, they were also accepted.

The election of office bearers for year 2016 took place.

President and Treasurer ...Margaret Folan

Vice President and Secretary ...Ian Bett

Past President ...Jimmy Swan

All other Committee members were re-elected on block. Burns Supper 2016 will be held on Saturday 7th February.

JS

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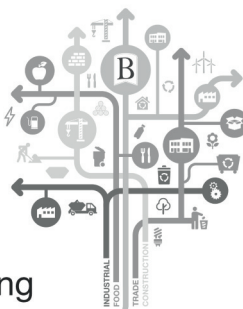


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