



51st Edition

September 2021

Closing date for December edition 31st October 2021

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SEPTEMBER'S WINNER OF THE PHOTO COMPETITION

MOIRA LACEY





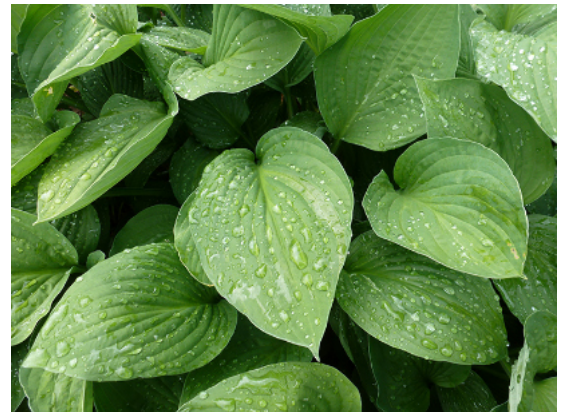
Evelyn Scobie



Evelyn Scobie



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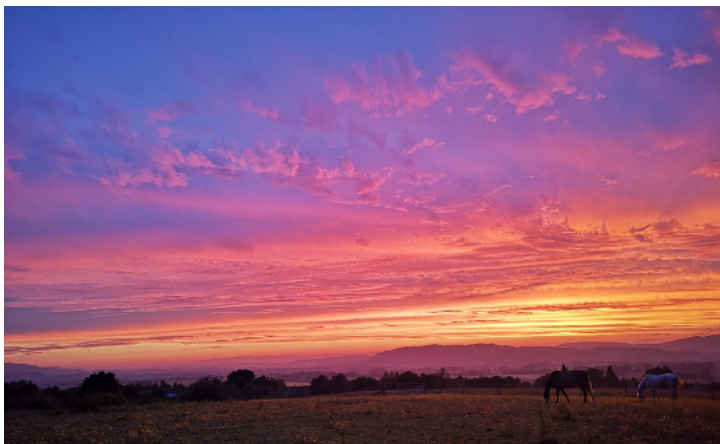
Jimmy Swan



Jimmy Swan



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EDITOR'S VIEW

Phew! When you read this it will be September and probably considerably cooler than it is just now on this day 26th July. Is it a case of global warming or just a weather cycle? Throughout the world at this time there are vast forest fires in the US and severe flooding in China and in Central Europe.

The experts keep telling us the winters will become milder and windier, the summers drier and warmer. Living in Scotland we are fairly lucky we don't have extremes of weather because of our temperate climate controlled by the Gulf Stream and it is quite nice to get a bit of a summer where we can plan a BBQ more than a day ahead.

For centuries here in Scotland we have had some extreme highs and lows in the weather. Yes the hottest temperature ever in Scotland was this year, 33.2 Celsius. That was in Motherwell and that equals the high in 1976. A weather cycle?

The highest recorded water level above normal on the Tay was on the 12th February 1814 at 7 metres. The next highest was in 1993 at 6.48 metres. Global warming?

For the coldest we have to go back to 11th February 1895 at Braemar minus 27.2 Celsius, although the same temperature was recorded in Braemar on 10th January 1982 and at Altnaharra on 30th December 1995. The windiest day at low levels was in 1989 at Fraserburgh when 142mph was recorded. The unofficial highest wind speed recorded in the UK was at Shetland on 1st January 1992 when a gust of 197 mph was recorded. It is thought that higher windspeeds did occur in that storm but the recording equipment had been destroyed.

So I will leave it to you to decide whether it is global warming or a normal weather cycle. Give us your thoughts on the matter. I am off to get the sand bags ready as we will get a thunderstorm at some point because of this prolonged spell of warm weather.

Jimmy Swan

FROM THE CHAIR

As I write it is still summer, as you read it will be autumn and I expect the trees will be beginning to change colour. This year the foliage seems to be thicker than usual, the different shades of green more outstanding. Whether this is due to climate change or a cleaner atmosphere or maybe because of the very unusual circumstances under which we have had to live over the last eighteen months or so we are looking and observing things in a different light.

One thing, with the amazing weather we have had in July, it has made us realise what a privilege it is to live in such a beautiful country.

I hope everyone has been able to enjoy and make the most of the greater freedom we now have and cautiously move towards normality whatever the new normality will be.

Changes, as usual, have taken place in the Parish since the last issue which you will read about as you go through the Crier.

Sadly we have two obituaries in this edition, two people who have led long and busy lives and contributed much to Abernethy They are much missed by those who knew them.

There are quite a number of articles looking at the past from different aspects, Irene Hallyburton's research in the archives, Jimmy Swan's discoveries in the graveyard and the little article about the tearoom now the Silver Lining Hair Studio. I remember when Pitblae Cottage was transformed from a derelict building to a tearoom by Mr and Mrs Coburn who lived in Pitblae at the time. The exact date I can't remember but it would certainly be some time in the eighties. When the Coburns moved away from the village it was taken over by Kenny and Heather McVean and became the Culdees Tearoom.

Another interesting life story appears in this edition, that of Nan Campbell. Nan, still very active, has not wasted a minute over the last 90 years!

In the past we have featured an article on "Old Abernethians". We have decided now to move on and feature "New Abernethians". It will be interesting to read their thoughts and impressions of this historic village and why they came to live in it.

After a great deal of discussion it was decided we would have to raise the price for advertising. The income from the adverts plus the odd donation is the only income and pays for the printing and putting together of the Crier, the cost of which has risen over the last year or two. Everything else connected to the Crier is voluntary and we hope to be able to continue to deliver to every household in the parish free of charge.

Our thanks again go to all our contributors and deliverers. You are the people who keep it going.

Hilda Clow

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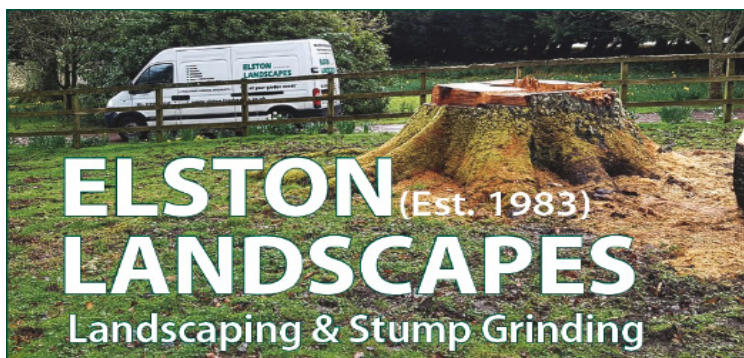
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

Sorry I don't have a story or a poem this time, but I would just like to say how much I have enjoyed the last 2 or 3 Criers, especially the last one when I won the Cover competition! Thank you very much, I was fair chuffed! I enjoyed all of the articles in the last issue, and I thoroughly enjoyed Ian Bett's story about his young days in Abernethy - Abernethy Station and Other Memories. I certainly remember many of the things Ian spoke about, although I left Abernethy in 1951, but I do remember all the shops he mentions. I also remember the time the bus skidded on the ice and fell in the factory pond. I may be in that photo too! I would be 5 then. I too guddled in the pond for tadpoles with my wee pals, and once got stuck in the mud and had to be rescued! So it wasnae just the wee boys Ian! I also remember the Shepherd family coming down to the village with their donkey and cart for the "messages", and the parcel chute at the station and travelling on the train to Perth with my mum. Well done Ian, keep the memories coming!

I have always enjoyed Bob Macdonald's articles and stories of course, and we will certainly miss them. It is always lovely to read the family stories and reminiscences and I very much enjoyed the Walker family story.

Keep up the good work, it's a great wee read!

Evelyn Scobie

FROM THE ARCHIVES 2

As part of the research for my Master's Degree in Scottish History, I've spent many hours in the Archives at Perth Library. There are lots of interesting bits and pieces about the area that I'd like to share. You might even see a relative's name crop up!

Coal was a valuable resource in the 18th and 19th century. Everybody wanted to find it on their land, and several attempts at coal prospecting were made in the Parish of Dron, including by the Balmain Coal Company of Perth in April 1765 who paid a smith, Peter Duncan, to make tools for the job. James Balmain was a merchant in Perth who also dealt in timber, and salmon! but his coal company seems to have been short lived, set up only for this single, unsuccessful foray into the business. In August 1820 Robert Montrie started digging in the grounds of Balmanno in search of coal, but like previous attempts, was unsuccessful.

In the 18th and 19th Century the landowners of the parish were the ones who paid the wages of the local Ministers. In 1796 and 1808 James Richardson Hay of Aberargie Estate was summoned before the Lords of Council and Session, the most senior body of Scottish judges, for non-payment of stipend to Aberargie and Abernethy Ministers. It is likely that he was made to pay his dues, but he, or his accountants, don't seem to have been very efficient. In 1819 he overpaid!

Common lands on the outskirts of a village were very important to residents to obtain building materials and for grazing animals. Laws passed at the end of the 17th Century allowed common land to be broken up into individual plots. This raised a lot of arguments in the village about who should get land; records show a list of 78 claimants in 1779, but this had still not been settled by 1806 when the number of claimants had apparently risen to 159!

Irene Hallyburton

Please note

All adverts were correct at time of submission i.e. 31st July 2021 but circumstances may have changed due to Coronavirus restrictions and you should check before relying on the advert.



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THOUGHTS OF AN INCOMER



As Frank Sinatra didn't quite sing, 'Regrets, I have a few, but coming to live in Abernethy ain't one of them'. Of course, it's not perfect, but where is? It was suggested to me that I might give an incomer's view on living here, 17 years clearly being an inadequate amount of time to qualify as a full Abernethian. We moved here in 2004 after I retired from teaching in the west.

(By the way, the photograph here was taken on my 70th when I had the hire of a Mark II Jaguar, at one time the bank robber's car of choice. I wouldn't have got far had I used it for a hold-up, though, as it broke down—twice—but it was fun, hence the louche get-up).

Anyhow, here are a few random musings on 'things Abernethy'...

THE WILDLIFE:

Despite being a new-build, when we moved in our house was already inhabited by another family, of mice, seemingly trapped between floors, whose circular scrambling overhead suggested a 400m hurdles event. An attempt to reassure my other half that they would be harmless field mice was not considered helpful, of course, and they had to go.

Down the slope from our front door was the unfinished building site, and strolling round the area in the quiet of an evening was strangely therapeutic. Rabbits were abundant then, probably due to their warren along the railway line having been disturbed by the development.

These days I see only the occasional rabbit and, curiously, the same is true of buzzards, which used to be commonplace. There are still skylarks, twittering away like demented budgies, and occasionally a song thrush, my personal favourite. Ospreys used to nest in April near the site of Carpow Roman fortress, and maybe they still do. A few years ago sea eagles were re-introduced not far from here, although I've not seen one. At present in the village we have beavers in the Ballo Burn, but in July vegetation in the same area was laid waste due to reports of a rat infestation—not so welcome. Still, there's always the deer, up the hill in summer, sometimes down by the railway line in winter, both locations offering the average fit dog a fruitless chase, like a rite of passage.

ARE THE NATIVES FRIENDLY?

In between laying slabs, and putting up bits of fence and gates to stop the dog going AWOL, getting to know the area was the order of the day. In the course of this I came across—ADVERT ALERT—the Museum of Abernethy, which struck me as a hidden gem. In passing, it has always seemed bizarre to me that some folk who have lived here for many years, or even all their days, have never set foot inside the Museum. Entry is free, folks, its displays are all about the local area, and the volunteers behind the desk are relatively tame, so what's the problem?

Anyhow, in 2004, having no museum experience, I offered to get involved as a gofer or odd-jobber, but soon found myself also joining in the weekly committee meetings, or rammies to be more precise. Stuffy and academic, I don't think so. Most of the Tuesday work team then were former chalk-face workers, and as a result we became known as the 'Retired Teachers' Playgroup'. Put any group of teachers together, none of them reluctant to express an opinion or three, and a lively if not always productive occasion

is guaranteed. I felt right at home.

The mix of personnel is different nowadays, but it's pleasing to note that, although we take pride in what we do, the tradition of eccentricity continues, as a visiting pair of museum consultants recently discovered. When they were leaving, they said they felt the afternoon had been enlightening and productive, although I'm sure I overheard the word 'bonkers' as they got in their car.

Continuing the work previously begun by the original volunteers, I recorded the thoughts of some locals on life in Abernethy, and so came across more characters, each with a tale to tell, one or two doing so colourfully (bleeps or asterisks required), which was a delight. On advice, I began with an old lady well into her 90s and known for her knowledge of the village over the decades. Indeed, it soon became obvious that individuals of a very mature vintage were not thin on the ground in the village—another advantage of living in a pleasant rural setting, it seemed to me. The oldest I interviewed was 102 at the time, still sharp as a tack.

In general, given the farming and fishing heritage of the area, the local outlook on life has traditionally tended to be grounded and the humour equally earthy, both being welcome antidotes to our often artificial modern lifestyle with its increasing digitisation. I think Ol' Blue Eyes himself would have approved of the Abernethy characters who did, and do, it 'their way'.

CHANGES:

The extent and variety of significant history both ancient and more recent in the area is amazing. Visitors often comment on this, and it is remarkable, especially when we consider that Abernethy's population was only around 900 for centuries before new housebuilding in the early nougties boosted it to over 1400.

Until recently, in historical terms at least, the village was largely self-sufficient, with plentiful produce and employment on the doorstep. Gradually butcher, bakers, cobbler, joiners, blacksmiths and many others disappeared, as eventually did the rasp fields. And by the time salmon fishing stopped, machines had long taken over from gangs of labourers in the fields.

Even in my time living here there have been several notable changes. Of course, we have lost a fair number of individuals, my wife and my mother among them, and not all of a great age, who have left us for 'a better place'. On the positive side, new generations continue to spring up.

There used to be a week of activities in early June which culminated in Gala Day, with a procession behind a pipe band from Williamson Hall to Powrie Park, a day's events and stalls, a pig roast in the Square at night, dancing and other jollifications, followed next day by the hill race for athletes who had managed to avoid a hangover. No longer. There was the annual Craft Fair, superseded by art exhibitions, both of which dwindled over the years, then ceased. The hub of the village (I've been told) used to be the hotel, now Douglas House, which closed shortly before the new houses started going up. That left two pubs, and now there's just one. The corner shop and the remaining bakery closed some years ago, and the tea room, which changed hands twice in the past few years, is now no more.

On the up side, there's still a general store, a nearby farm shop and two garages, and in addition to such established businesses new commercial ventures have been launched, even recently despite Covid and the ever-changing protocols imposed. And in terms of volunteer activity there's the establishment of Abernethy Community Transport, not forgetting groups, some of long-standing, which have met regularly such as scouts, football teams, Auld Abernethy Association, Abernethy in Bloom, tennis and bowling clubs, badminton, playgroups, zumba and others, Burns club, masons, lunch club and of course St. Bride's Church, 'The Rural' and the Community Council—quite a list to welcome new Abernethy residents.

It is sincerely to be hoped that all the above groups can fully resume as soon as circumstances allow. And of course, it's always worth checking this very newsletter—another volunteer enterprise—to find out what's going on, although word of mouth is often faster. Villages are good at word of mouth, as incomers soon learn.

Angus Macintyre.

FAREWELL SANDY



On June 12th the village lost another of its well known and well loved figures; Sandy Farmer.

Sandy was from Leslie and Ann, his wife was from Ballingry in Fife. In 1963 they got married and moved to Abernethy where he went round looking for a steading in which to keep his pigs and happened to ask about Carey which he was lucky enough to get. This meant that Sandy could keep his five pigs there and he could look after them when he wasn't working part time at Balmanno. They lived in a caravan next to the steading for two years and then moved to Carey cottage while building the business. Eventually Sandy was able to buy Balgonie steading and cottage to increase his capacity for pigs and he was later able to buy Balgonie farmhouse building. Eventually Sandy, no longer working at Balmanno, was running 1600 pigs at Balgonie. Unfortunately a bad fire caused such damage at the steading that Sandy decided to run down his pig investment and he retired at the age of 56.

While this must have been a big setback to Sandy he took it as an opportunity to do more hill walking and Sandy being Sandy this turned into Munro Bagging. He conquered all 282 Munros, and some of them he climbed 14 or 15 times. He camped and cycled while doing his hill walking, and was accompanied by his beloved dog. He was truly a "man o' many pairs" and enjoyed music, bird watching, all wildlife and his garden. He also pursued his water colour painting, attending classes at Bridge of Earn, and he was very good at it.

He and Ann took up caravanning and covered all of Scotland, with Sandy using this as a base for much of his hill walking.

Sandy had started playing the accordion at the age of 10 and as a boy he had saved up to buy his own accordion. This love of music remained with him all his life and he played with Perth Strathspey and Reel Society for about 25 years, including touring with the Society in Canada. He played at many dances and occasions in Abernethy and also for the Country Dance class.



At his funeral his son, also Sandy, had written and read his own eulogy to his dad. This is a lovely tribute to his Dad but also a reminder to those of us who knew Sandy of his many attributes.

ALEXANDER ADAMSON FARMER

"SANDY"

Alexander Adamson Farmer, Sandy Farmer. Farmer. That is what he was, but how do you remember him?

Was he husband, father, brother, uncle, friend, neighbour?

He was schoolboy, grocer-boy, radio operator in tanks in Germany, Casanova in Ballingry, motorcyclist, musician.

Do you remember him at the Market selling pigs, or at Smithfield Show? Playing at concerts and dances with the Strathspey Reel Society? Did you tour with him in France or meet him in the Austrian Alps? Is it as dog walker, bird watcher, nature lover or as painter at his art class that you remember him?

Did you pass him on An Teallach, Aonach Eagach Ridge or on The Cuillins in Skye? He was one of an elite band who bagged all 282 Munros. He greatly enjoyed whiling away the hours playing his accordion, a skill he gained as a boy and retained all his life. His three most prized material possessions were his accordion, ride on mower and deep fat fryer, not necessarily in that order!

He defied medical science, living on a diet of white pudding and chips! And dry tatties! He enjoyed a wide range of cuisine, provided it went with chips! He also enjoyed fruits and pudding, and especially chocolate; dark chocolate. There were not many foods he didn't like, but quite a lot he was just "not too fussy for".

Son of Robert and Jenny Farmer, he gained a strong work ethic at an early age, giving him the drive and quiet determination that he had. He built up a successful pig farming enterprise, giving him a comfortable life, well earned, and affording my sisters and me the opportunities our parents never had. It has been said he was not a man to suffer fools gladly, but as he himself remarked, apart from me, he hadn't come across many!

He lived a long, happy, fulfilling life, at one with his surroundings. He was a good father, never pushy, but not complacent. Caring, but not smothering, always willing to help but not take over. He always gave advice when asked but never unprompted. He was a contented person, a family man.

He enjoyed a lengthy retirement, mum and he travelling and enjoying the opportunities afforded them, free of the shackles of children, and pigs! Caravanning gave them the freedom to go wherever they chose and they did so for many years. He was a keen gardener and smallholder, growing tomatoes in the greenhouse, or tending his flock of hens- tainting the eggs with Jeyes fluid occasionally!

His greatest joy though, his greatest pleasure, his lasting legacy are here amongst us today, his grandchildren. They are his messages to the future. They brought joy and pleasure to him every visit.

He lived well, he loved well.

He will be sadly missed for a long time.

He was a joy and a privilege to know.

He now rests in peace.

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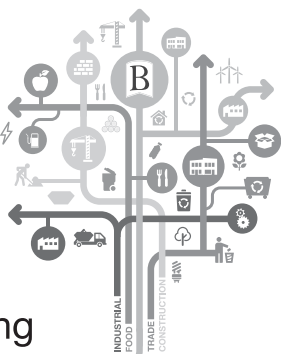


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ABERNETHY & DISTRICT SENIOR CITIZENS TRUST

The Senior Citizens Committee are still monitoring the situation with regard to Covid restrictions, and hope to have more positive news in the next Crier. We hope all our Senior Citizens are keeping well and enjoying the recent spell of good weather. In the meantime keep well and stay safe.

Evelyn Scobie

It is with regret.....that we hear of the death of Bob Macdonald, Sandy Farmer and Moira Dewhurst. Our thoughts are with their families at this time.

ABERNETHY SWI

We are still monitoring the situation with regard to Covid restrictions and we are hoping meetings will start again in October. Further updates will be posted on the village noticeboard, and on our Abernethy SWI Facebook page.

We hope our members are keeping well and enjoying the recent spell of good weather.

Elizabeth Taylor
President

A GOOD FRIEND

It was with deep regret that I learned of the passing of Sandy Farmer, a good friend for more than fifty years. Along with the late Dave Stalker, we enjoyed a relationship that few people enjoy when competing in the same business.

One interesting experience I remember with Sandy was our visit to Smithfield Show in London. As the two country bumpkins wandered around Mayfair one evening, we came across Henley's the Jaguar Garage. As it was all lit up, we decided to have a wander round and look at the cars.

Suddenly, while examining the vehicles, we heard sirens wailing and in seconds were surrounded by police. A less than patient officer asked us what we were doing in the garage. We said we were from Scotland and were just having a look round and hadn't realised the place had been broken into! The policeman told us to 'off back' to Scotland. This was preceded by a four letter word which Sandy and I didn't recognise. We concluded that the officer wished us to return to Scotland!

That story was just one of many happy times I spent with Sandy.

Sandy Farmer was a hardworking and outstanding stockman and I consider it not only a privilege but an honour to have had him as a friend.

My deepest sympathy to his wife, Anne and the family.

Ian Miller

SURPRISES AT THE SCOUT HUT

It was a night of surprises at the Scouts barbecue when the leaders of the 66 Abernethy Scouts met in the wet part of early June. Initially, the guests were tipped off this would be a special occasion by the appearance of a guest chef flown in from Northern Ireland, and the observation that at least one of the leaders wasn't in a St Johnstone kit. Many of the invited guests relaxed as burgers, not hi-vis jackets, were handed out. Everyone relaxed as the prospect of a night scraping moss off the pavilion roof receded.

It was against this background that Chris Kirk, the Deputy District Commissioner for Perth and Kinross, and Hilary Kirk, the District Assistant Commissioner (Adult Training) stepped forward to present awards to Gordon Miller and Jim Cook. Gordon received the Higher Award for Merit, and Jim the Chief Scouts Commendation for Good Service. These awards are recognition of the superb work these two have put into the Scout movement in Abernethy over 13 and 8 years respectively. Whilst Scouting in Abernethy celebrates its 100 years this year, the efforts of today's leaders across all the sections are greatly appreciated by everyone involved and the wide community. On the night, there were modest speeches, generous applause and the pair's burgers were upgraded to VIP brioche buns.



FROM THE MINISTER

Dear Friends,

As I was heading off to Church one unusually warm and sunny Sunday morning a couple of months ago, I was reminded of an unusual experience on the island of Bermuda. Although it is not widely known, there is actually a Church of Scotland congregation there who worship in a beautiful small kirk which is white on the outside and with white pews and walls in the interior. Christ Church was the first Church to be built on the island and claims to be the first Presbyterian church building in the entire New World. My Royal Naval warship, in which I served as Chaplain, was returning from a deployment in the Caribbean, but as the vessel came alongside, there was no chance that any of the ship's company could set foot on Bermudian soil. An unexpected outbreak of mumps had put a stop to any ideas the sailors might have had of enjoying island nightlife and they were confined to the ship. The only person the captain would allow to go down the gangway was yours truly. I am still unsure as to whether the captain thought I was immune from mumps in some way or just thought that the ship badly needed praying for, but I was set free to go off alone to the kirk. Surrounded by women in summer frocks and men in smart Bermuda shorts, we sang Scottish hymns to Scottish hymn tunes in the bright sunshine and then had tea and coffee in the grounds outside. We could have been in Perthshire. The minister's wife was clearly disappointed not to see any sailors and obviously felt sorry for their plight. She disappeared for a time as she went over into the manse garden. When she returned, she was struggling under the weight of a big branch she had cut off from one of the banana trees. She presented the huge amount of bananas to me with the words: "Take these back to the ship. They will be nice and soft to swallow if the sailors have sore throats from the mumps!" I thanked her kindly and duly did as I was bidden, but I didn't like to tell her that I imagined that their throats would be the one part of their anatomy which would be of least concern to the young men. When I returned to the ship, I was greeted with great interest. The sight of Rev. Stan coming up the gangway with a huge branch of bananas over his shoulder caused much intrigue and hilarity.

Although nothing in comparison to the Covid pandemic, being relatively contained and innocuous as outbreaks go, one person was determined to show kindness and compassion amid a contagion. The minister's wife was reflecting the words on a plaque inside the small Bermudian church which went like this:

"May God bless you. May you find forgiveness for the past, strength for the present, hope for the future and may God's peace and love go with you."

Although growing and distributing hand-reared bananas are not options to us in Abernethy, Dron and Arngask Parish, even the smallest act of kindness to a stranger is always appreciated, and sometimes, never forgotten.

Rev Stan July 2021



KIRK NEWS

As I write this, there has been a further lessening of Covid restrictions by the Scottish Government which apply to places of worship. One of the things which has been difficult to convey to the public since the start of the pandemic has been that rules which apply to restaurants or bingo halls are very different from those which apply to places of worship, whether that activity takes place inside or outside a church building. In addition, it is clear that not all 'church' congregations, of which we are surrounded, followed the statutory rules so diligently and this has exacerbated the confusion. Church of Scotland congregations, including our own, have been working very hard in abiding by the ever-changing guidelines, undertaking risk assessments and producing protocols in order to make public worship as safe an experience as possible.

The main change lately, has been the reduction in distancing from each other whilst in the kirk. Spacing is now reduced from two metres to one metre which greatly increases the numbers permitted within the building. We can now accommodate 31 places in Arngask Church with a maximum capacity of 62 worshippers. In the Kirk of St. Bride, Abernethy we now have 48 places (plus 8 in the balcony) with a maximum capacity of 88 worshippers.

It is still preferable to 'book a pew' by contacting the Roll Keeper, but with increased seating capacity it is perfectly possible to simply turn up on the day and give your details to the duty elder to comply with 'Track and Trace' regulations. It is now also feasible to attend either church building within the parish regardless of where you live.

Singing is now permitted, which has made a huge difference to the experience of worshipping, but sadly, the requirement to wear a mask whilst doing so, still remains.

Tea or coffee and a biscuit are now being served again after each of our services on a Sunday. There is an option open to all worshippers that, by remaining in a pew at the end of the service, refreshments will be brought to them. By everyone staying in their pew positions and by employing a 'trolley-service' we can conform to current regulations. Once ready to move out of the building, masks have to be replaced.

The minister and volunteer team continue to send out and deliver 'On-Line Church' services every Sunday for those who feel that they are not ready to return to the kirk in person. More up-to-the-minute kirk news is available through the Church ADA (Abernethy & Dron & Arngask) Facebook page where you can also find details about how to 'book a pew' by registering your details.



Rev Stan July 2021

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WHO IS IN YOUR GRAVEYARD?

Robert William Seton-Watson (FBA FRHistS) born 1879 died 1951



His bust at Ruzomberok City Hall in Slovakia

Like many, you may not have heard of Professor Robert William Seton-Watson but his contribution to the study of Scottish history and his links with European neighbours, in particular Slovakia, are well known. Born in London in 1879 to well to do Scottish parents and educated at Winchester and New College, Oxford, Seton-Watson was fluent in French, German and Italian.

After graduation, Seton-Watson travelled to Berlin University, the Sorbonne and Vienna University, from where he wrote a number of articles on Hungary for *The Spectator*. His research for these articles took him to Hungary in 1906, and his discoveries there turned his sympathies against Hungary and in favour of then subjected Slovaks, Romanians, and the Southern Slavs. He learned Hungarian, Serbian and Czech, and, in 1908, he published his first major work, *Racial Problems in Hungary*.

Seton-Watson became friends with the Vienna correspondent of *The Times*, Henry Wickham Steed and the Czechoslovak philosopher and politician Tomáš Masaryk. He argued in books and articles for a federal solution to the problems of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, then riven by the tensions between its ancient dynastic model and the forces of ethnic nationalism.

Seton-Watson was champion of the rights of small nations, and before the Great War many small nations of Europe which we see today as successful independent states were controlled by large Empires ruled over by interbred Royal families. The Serbians, or indeed the many other nations under the control of the Habsburg Empire, desired self determination for their countries.

During World War 1 he was Secretary of the Serbian Relief Fund and was politically active promoting the rights of the Czechs and the Slavs. He was disapproved of by the UK government and he was put to work, in 1917, in the Royal Army Medical Corps scrubbing hospital floors. Others, however, rescued him, and from 1917 to 1918 he served on the Intelligence Bureau of the War Cabinet in the Enemy Propaganda Department, where he was responsible for British propaganda to the peoples of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. He assisted in the preparations for the Rome Congress of subject Habsburg peoples, held in April 1918.

Following the end of the War, Seton-Watson attended the Paris Peace Conference, 1919 in a private capacity, advising the representatives there of formerly subject peoples. Although on bad terms with the governments of the major powers, whom he famously referred to as "the pygmies of Paris", he contributed to discussions of where the new frontiers of Europe should be and was especially influential in setting the postwar frontiers between Italy and the new state of Yugoslavia.

Although the British Government was unenthusiastic about Seton-Watson, other governments were not, showing their gratitude after the conference. Masaryk became the first president of the new state of Czechoslovakia and welcomed him there. His friendship with Edvard Beneš, now Czechoslovakia's foreign minister, was consolidated. Seton-Watson was made an honorary citizen of Cluj in Transylvania, which had been incorporated into Romania despite the claims of Hungary and, in 1920, it was formally

acclaimed by the Romanian parliament. Yugoslavia rewarded him with an honorary degree from the University of Zagreb.

He attended the opening ceremony of the Abernethy War Memorial 100 years ago and gave an impressive speech on that day.

He died in 1951 on the Isle of Skye where he had retired but is buried here in Abernethy in the old graveyard in one of the central walled areas alongside other family members.

Although he is not known by many here he is well known by many in Slovakia.

Jimmy Swan (look out for the stick with the pink paint)

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RIDERS LOVE ABERNETHY

Endurance Horse Riders from Glasgow, The Borders, Lothian and Tayside enjoyed lovely Abernethy views in the sunshine on Sunday, 25th July. They rode up Glenfoot, round Pitmedden Forest then back through the village to complete 22km. They found the hills tough in the heat but were dazzled by the stunning views and loved the pretty village.



The gate-opener at Turflundie thought being up in that lovely spot was nearly as good as riding, especially when she was assisted by the feline resident.



Grateful thanks are due to the landowners who generously gave us permission to ride through their land; Scott Baird, The Forestry Commission

and Andrew Herd. Riders were astonished to find themselves going through the latter's garden.

Endurance Riding as a sport starts with rides of about 20km (Pleasure Rides) and goes up to 160 km or 100 miles in one day. All horses are vetted at the start and the finish of the ride with the vet's inspection becoming more stringent and frequent as the distances increase. It is not orienteering so riders have a map and 'talk-round' and the course is marked to help them.

Pleasure riders have to ride between 8k and 11k per hour and longer distance riders, classed as 'Competitive Riders', have higher speed categories to attain. Usually the competitive element is against oneself. 'To complete (the ride) is to win' is the mantra but there are race rides where there is a mass-start and first past the post is the winner. These rides still have veterinary checks, so part of a rider's strategy is to have their horse so fit that they can present to the vet quickly and get back in the race. They are not allowed to carry a whip so the horse has to be a willing partner.



The shorter distances are suitable for any reasonably fit horse or pony. The longer distances are dominated by Arab horses. There is a junior branch with its own camp and prizes.

If you are interested there is a lot of information on the

SERC website. You can try a Pleasure Ride without joining SERC. And there is always friendly help available at a ride.

AH

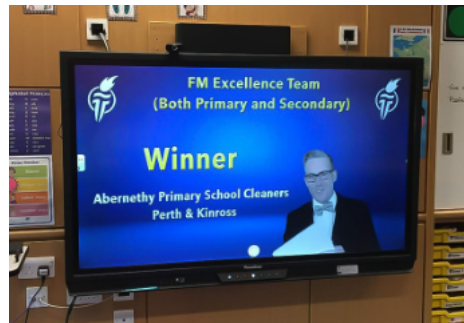
PRIMARY SCHOOL AWARD



Over the last 15 months it has been really difficult for everyone staying at home, especially for all the parents having to home school. So when the hub was opened for key workers it was very welcome, and our hours went from part time to full time.

We all mucked in and did what was needed to do to keep each other safe, and over the term we all got on great. Then when things opened up a bit more we got our primary 1, 2 and 3 back into school and it was amazing to see how much they had grown. More time passed and we finally got all the kids back into classes and then we were into a new kind of normal. As the job was redefined, more specific things to do, our roles in the school changed and we felt more like staff than just the cleaners.

Tayside Contracts have a yearly award scheme that has been going for many years, which sadly has been postponed for the last few years, so this year they decided to do a virtual ceremony, and back in June we were notified that we had been nominated. We were not expecting to go any further as we don't do what we do for reward, but we were short listed to a final three; St Paul's Academy Dundee, Edzell Primary Angus and Abernethy Primary.

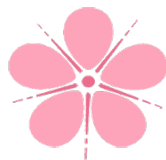


We watched the ceremony live streamed on YouTube. It was not a glitz and glamour affair but a plastic wine glass of juice in the school, supported by our bestie Mrs H, and yes surprise surprise we WON!

As they say at the Oscars, "On behalf of myself (Karen)and Ewa I would like to thank all the people who got us here, and to Ms McKenzie for the nomination"



Karen Bell



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ABERNETHY COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

After lockdown forced us to restrict our service to essential medical appointments only, Abernethy Community Transport are pleased to be able to offer a full service once again. Please read on to find out more about us.

Who are we?

We are a group of volunteers providing a service to those without their own transport. We are a constituted organisation run by a committee.

What do we do?

We provide door to door transport for people without access to a car to enable them to attend appointments, do their shopping, visit friends, etc.

How does it work?

- Clients call our co-ordinator, if possible, at least two days before their appointment to book a driver.
- There is a nominal charge to cover drivers' costs.
- The driver will collect the client at the arranged time and return them home following the appointment.
- Our drivers are fully insured and carry identification cards.

In the current climate, we have had to make some changes to keep our drivers and clients as safe as possible:

- Our drivers now clean and disinfect their vehicle prior to collecting a client.

- If a car has fabric seats, a washable or disposable seat cover may be used.
- Both driver and passenger must wear a mask in the vehicle and the passenger must sit in the rear-side passenger seat (to be as far away from the driver as possible).
- Whenever possible, clients should have the exact fare to minimise the exchange of cash.

Further information

If you would like to know more, or if you would like to volunteer to become one of our drivers, please give us a call on 07840 212747 or email abernethyct@gmail.com.

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NAN

I was born on the 6th March 1931 at 1 Ballochmyle Street, Catrine Ayrshire, (a cotton town) and was christened in the United Free Church. My mother came from Whittlets which was 12 miles from Catrine. I was sometimes more in Whittlets where I stayed with my great aunt and uncle. They did not have a family. I started school at four and a half and until I left school at the age of 14 years, I attended Catrine Primary, Whittlets Primary, Scotland Street School, Glasgow and back to Catrine in 1940, Cumnock Academy and finally Newton Park Higher Grade School, near Newton in Ayr. In Catrine the headmistress had been my father's teacher and at Whittlets the headmaster had been my mother's teacher!



Nan on the Braes Catrine with her minder Bubbles 1932



Nan and Billy McEwan Catrine 1935

When I was about four years old and my brother was just a baby, I remember the police calling one morning and taking my mother away as my father had had a bad motorcycle accident. She had arranged with my father's aunt to come and collect us. Two aunts and an uncle (all teenagers) appeared and took my wee brother and his paraphernalia away while I had to wait on my own till they came back to fetch me.

In 1938 when I was staying with my great aunt and uncle in Whittlets my uncle insisted that my aunt should wake me up around midnight so that I could see the Aurora Borealis. It was spectacular! Something you never forget! Many years later, on a visit to the Dundee Observatory, I managed to speak to the fellow who was giving the lecture, and asked him if I was right about 1938 and he said that was correct; I hadn't been sure it could be seen as far away as Ayrshire.

I vividly remember the Blitz and all that went with it. About twenty years ago, my brother took me to see Scotland Street School (now a museum) where I recognised my old classroom, but it was locked due to asbestos. There was a room sectioned off with war time items on display including the air raid sirens and I felt the hairs on the back of my neck stand up and I felt sick. I also remember that my mother was very frightened of thunder and used to hide in a corner or a cupboard but my great aunt Mary used to tell me not to be afraid of it as 'It was only God moving his beer barrels'!



About 1942/43, my mother and brother moved back to Glasgow. I refused to change school again but, although I still didn't want to go, at the age of 14, my father made me move.

My first job was in the counting house of Lyon's Printers and Stationers in Sauchiehall Street where I had to learn the names of the surrounding streets as I had to take various accounts etc. to offices close by. Each day I had to collect the takings from the stationer's shop across the street, bring it back to the cashier who would get it ready for the bank which was at the other end of Sauchiehall Street. This rather large amount of money was placed in a holdall and I had the task of taking it to the bank every day. One day, as I was waiting my turn for the teller, a man came in dressed in white overalls and was looking all around. One of the tellers, who had just come out of the army came out from behind the counter and caught me 'casing the joint' so to speak. The next morning I was summoned to Mr Lyon's office. I wondered what I had done, but it was to tell me that if anyone accosted me, I was to hand over the bag, and at the same time he was going to get one of the boys from the despatch department to go with me. I remember his name was Peter and he swore like a trooper. I kept asking him to stop but he said it was okay as he went to confession and was a choir boy.

I worked in many offices, printers, plumber, and heating engineers. I was very grateful to them all as I suffered from extremely bad eczema on my hands. For three years I had to attend the Victoria Infirmary three times a week to have them dressed and bandaged. I had to wear white gloves to keep the bandages clean. All kinds of treatment were tried, one being penicillin which just made things worse. However, a new Maltese doctor arrived and he suggested we go back to basics. My hands were then painted with gentian violet and each finger was wrapped in a bandage soaked in zinc and castor oil ointment. I also underwent a course of

ultraviolet ray treatment. Within three weeks my hands started to heal and at my last appointment the bandages were removed and I was told it was the end of the treatment. My skin was like an elephant's hide and coloured a dark violet. I had a problem keeping my gloves on and when I got back to the office I had to relearn how to hold my pen.



Youth Club July 1949. Nan second left

I joined the Church of Scotland youth club and played table tennis and badminton. I ended up on the team where we played against other churches. Two friends and I started to go ice skating at Paisley ice rink, Crossmyloof and the



Kelvin Hall in the winter.

In 1949, I joined the Glasgow section of the Cyclist Touring Club and shortly after that the SYHA. At first I had a ladies bike but soon realised it was no use for the mileage we were doing so I bought a second hand Claud Butler. I kept a note of the miles we did and discovered we covered a 1000 miles a year.



Main Road near Skelmorlie



Cumnock "Rally" 1952



Helen Gray and Nan

The group had a ladies choir which visited homes and clubs for injured service men and women. I was an assistant to a man in one of the office jobs I had. He didn't like me and the language he used on the phone was atrocious, so I told the manager I was leaving. Many years later the choir was at Jordanhill College and who was sitting in the front row but this man!!

In 1956 four of us decided to go to Norway so I had to get a double chain wheel fitted to give me ten gears. Ken, Helen, Jack and I all lived in different parts of Glasgow so we met up in Edinburgh and cycled to Newcastle where we sailed to Oslo but would return from Bergen. Unfortunately Jack and I were not good sailors. Helen spent her time putting cold cloths on our heads! I was violently sick during the night so a stewardess encouraged me to eat a biscuit and drink some milk which came straight back up!! I would have been glad if the ship had sunk. It was awful. Next day it took some time for me to



Oslo Youth Hostel

feel as though I was not at sea but visiting all the 'must see' places helped me recover. We took a train out of Oslo.



Fram Museum, Oslo

Helen and I Shows the history of Polar Exploration

put our saddle bags up on the rack and sat down, but there was still an empty seat beside us. A lady appeared and placed her bag on the rack but it was hanging over. She then rattled something off in Norwegian which we could not understand of course until she said 'Fa on yer heed!' I stood up and turned our bags and her case and she said 'Tak'. Another incident happened



Grinding up Stadheim Pass

when we were climbing the Stadheim Pass. was up out of the saddle, in low gear when this car passed in the opposite direction and the boys shouted 'Dig in there!' We took the service bus at one stage because of the weather but it was more like a luxury coach which had two steel arms at the front on to which the bikes were fitted. We never had anything like that to transport our bicycles. We were heading for Bergen to spend three days in the Youth Hostel. it was at the top of a funicular railway so we left the bikes at the

hostel and used the railway to explore the town.

I made sure I had plenty of food in my stomach before I boarded the ferry for the return journey. It was a different type of vessel as the restaurant was self-service and the accommodation was dormitories. However it was very comfortable.

I spent many happy years in the GTC where I met my future husband Peter. Occasionally I cycled with him but he and his brother Albert had a tandem and they were mostly with the Glasgow Road Club.

Peter and I married on 29th November 1958 but that's another story!!

Nan Campbell



Bergen Fish Market



Borgund stave church in Lærdal.

Thanks to the Vikings' interest in boat construction and home building, the technique, and tradition of wood carving was further developed. The work culminated in the stave churches. There are several types of stave churches, but what they all have in common are corner-posts ("staves") and a framework of timber with wall planks standing on sills. These walls are known as stave walls, hence the name stave church.

AULD ABERNETHY ASSOCIATION

Due to the ongoing uncertainty with COVID-19 the committee have decided to hold back on restarting the meetings until the turn of the year. We hope the first meeting will be in February 2022 followed by March and April. By the time the Christmas Crier is published we will hopefully have a better idea and will be able to advertise the syllabus.

Continue to stay safe.

Jimmy Swan

BRIDGE OF EARN "ART CLUB"

We are hoping to start our Art Class again after a long absence due to Covid, and are now in a position to offer places to anyone interested in joining. We hope to restart in early September.

Experience is not necessary, we welcome beginners as well as experienced artists. We would welcome all newcomers who would enjoy a very pleasant 2 hours painting on a Friday morning between 10 am and 12 am.

If there is anyone interested you can call me, Elsa Thompson on 01738850539, or you might like to come down to the Institute in Bridge of Earn once we start up again in September and see what we do.

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FRAE YOUR COONCILLOR

Summer sun has been glowing and I do hope you have all enjoyed being out and about, perhaps venturing a bit further from home. We are adjusting to the new normal.

Councillors, along with most Council staff, are still working from home but Pullar House is open for some essential staff.

At this time of the year councillors are alerted by residents that verges and hedges require cutting. Can I maybe gently remind homeowners it is also their responsibility to maintain their own assets; unfortunately hedges do need to be cut annually. Council officers occasionally have to knock on a door to remind a householder of their responsibility. Let us all play our part by cutting hedges and overgrown shrubs thus helping to make it safer for everyone to walk on the pavement, whether it be within the village or in the countryside.

Hedges that are the responsibility of the Council will be cut outwith the birds' nesting season and normally cut annually by the end of August.

Verges are another hot topic. Many people do not want verges cut so as to encourage biodiversity while others want all verges cut. Verges, outwith areas where vehicles are restricted to 30mph, are cut once a year. Sight lines may be cut more often for road safety reasons.

Greenspace Team have not escaped the impact of Covid, with staff requiring to isolate or being redeployed to other essential duties. I think we all agree ensuring bins are emptied is an essential service. This has led to delay with routine ground maintenance.

Climate Change is much talked about. It is having a significant and detrimental impact to our surrounding environment and nature. We need to work together to tackle and adapt to climate change. PKC held a number of successful on line sessions and Climate Cafes across the council area earlier this year. The results of engagement along with an action plan will be presented to Perth & Kinross Council in Autumn this year.

Perth & Kinross Countryside Trust has been trying to engage with the community of Abernethy with regard to the proposed cycle path from Bridge of Earn to Newburgh. The community is probably split over this also. The Community Council have held two Zoom meetings where the path has been the main topic, I hope the wider community through the article in the Crier will be more informed and respond. Cycling is not for everyone but we know there are many families who enjoy recreational cycling.

Stay Safe, and I do hope all those who are eligible for COVID have accepted the invitation to go along to a vaccine centre. Some of us will soon be getting a booster! Thank you to those from the community who are volunteering at a vaccine centre.

Councillor Kathleen Baird If I can be of help to you as always I can be contacted on 07584206839 or kathleenbaird@pkc.gov.uk



COMMUNITY COUNCIL XMAS STREET LIGHTS



The Community Council are trying to raise money to provide Xmas lights in the streets of Abernethy and Aberargie, as at present it is felt the streets of the villages are rather cheerless over the Xmas and New Year period.

This is going to require a sum of £12,000 just to buy the lights and install them. There will then be ongoing maintenance costs which will also have to be funded. The money needs to be raised by the end of September if the lights are to be installed this year. So far just over £8,000 has been raised, but this includes a National Lottery Grant of £7,500 which Caroline Haxton has managed to get. She continues to try and get further grants but this is something which cannot be relied on, hence this plea to our readers to donate to this fund and quickly.

There are two ways of donating. The first is to go to the Gofundme page on the web and look for Abernethy & Aberargie Xmas Lights although it might be easier to go directly to the page by entering in your browser <https://gofund.me/5e3227af>. This page will show Caroline Haxton as raising funds for Kathleen Pye, the treasurer of Abernethy Community Council.

The other way of donating to the fund is to transfer funds directly to Royal Bank of Scotland Sort Code 832525 Account number 00184334 and clearly mark the transfer Xmas Lights with your name.

The photo below will give some idea of the lights being considered for installation.



Kathleen Pye
Treasurer, Abernethy Community Council

A TRUE FRIEND OF ABERNETHY



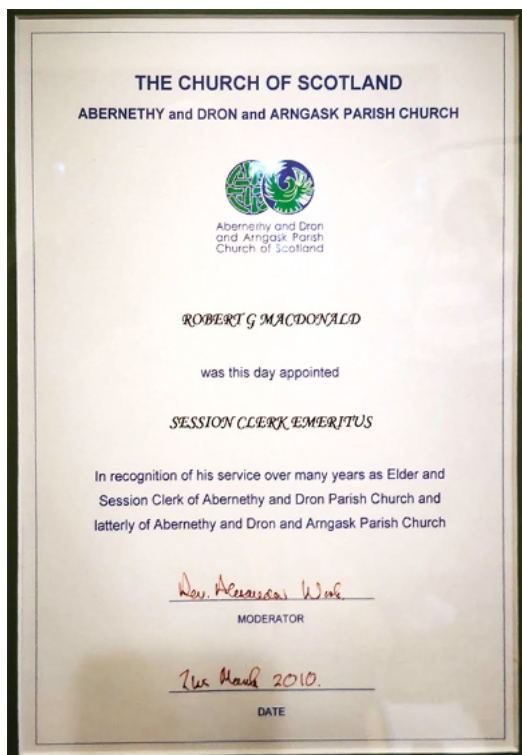
Bob and Isabel at Forteviot on Bob's 94th birthday

It is with a sense of deep sadness that we find ourselves writing about a true friend to many in the village and to the village itself. Bob Macdonald passed away on May 20th after a short illness.

Bob was born on 26th November 1926 in a cottage at Broomhill Farm, Forteviot and moved to Stanley when he was 10 years old. He came to live in the village when he married Isabel on 19th September 1964.

He had many interests throughout his life; football, theatre, horse racing, ice hockey, ice skating, cricket and many others but his greatest gift must surely have been his prodigious memory which enabled him, especially in his later years, to sit down and write extensively about all the occasions which he had experienced, all the characters he had met and all the incidents in which he had been embroiled. He also wrote poetry, much of it lighthearted, but all of it good. He used his interests and memories to populate the Village Crier with many articles both funny and informative, and this seemed to give him the incentive to write his memoirs and publish them in aid of charity. The first volume was published in April 2020 and he was working on the second volume at the time of his death. It is hoped that the second volume will be published posthumously.

Bob was a great asset to the village and served the community in many



ways. He was Chairman of the Williamson Hall committee, instrumental in starting the Gala Week and Hill Race, and had a long involvement with the church. In 1965 Bob was invited to become an elder of Abernethy Church and subsequently took on the role of Session Clerk which he



Bob opening the Gala Day

fulfilled for many years and was finally nominated for the role of Session Clerk Emeritus, an honour which I imagine does not fall to many.

Bob did much of the organising for various aspects of the gala week, the treasure hunt being one of his achievements. Bob was asked to open the fiftieth Gala Week in 2010 and at the top of the next column are a few pictures of that event. He also composed quizzes for various functions or organisations in the village to help them raise funds and his quizzes were well liked and challenging. Bob and Isabel also helped at the museum and collected for Poppy Scotland.

His writing of his memories of railway trips, motoring holidays, the former shops and businesses in Perth and the former worthies in Abernethy along with his accounts of the theatre, of sporting personalities and events gives an enjoyable and entertaining access to a time which is now long gone and where it seems life was less hectic, more enjoyable and much fuller of surprise. Equally where he writes of his experiences of VE Day and his family motoring holidays we can experience the simplicity and ordered nature of major undertakings, something which we seem to have missed.

Equally his tales of travelling on the railway, whether to Austria or to and in London, show a world which is far removed from today's. Some of us can remember the type of transport he talks of but for many of you it must seem almost like fiction.

Bob always had a great interest in football and of course many famous names were either from Luncarty or Stanley or even Abernethy and Bob knew about all of them and their careers. He was an avid supporter of St Johnstone and could quote incident and statistic on the history of the club without hesitation. How he would have loved to hear that they had won the Scottish Cup and completed the Cup double and were now getting the freedom of Perth for their efforts. Bob also followed Hibs and on his 90th birthday he was treated to a tour of Easter Road which pleased Bob immensely.

Bob's family wrote a poem for Bob's funeral to express their feelings for him.

*To pen some words for the loss we feel
May help us through as we begin to heal
But for now this task is too great to bear
Far easier to reminisce our memories shared
A wonderful soul who was honest and kind
The most treasured Dad you ever would find
Always there to guide us through life's winding way
Never judgemental, just the right words to say
Your knowledge was vast, spanning many a theme
Be it sporting or otherwise, you reigned supreme
We've been blessed to have you all these years
So it's understandable we'll shed many tears
As life carries on, you'd not want us to be sad
Our loving and caring most wonderful Dad*

Of course Bob had been one jump ahead of us all, preparing his final poem, and here it is.

*When the heavenly referee blows the whistle for time
It seems a good idea to say Goodbye in rhyme
I trust you don't think this to be out of place
As I'd like you to leave with a smile on your face*

*I've been blessed to be granted a long happy life
In the company of most of it with a wonderful wife
Whose love has sustained me in these long happy years
Sharing much joy and laughter and occasionally tears*

When with the fair sex you get lumbered
It's a fact of life you are outnumbered
To get a word in is very rare
As for the last word - you wouldn't dare

That's why the verses I have penned
To get the last word in the end
So on that note I'll take my leave
Smile as you go and do not grieve

And how typical of Bob to leave us smiling, even at a time like this.

Thank you Bob for all your contributions to the village and, of course the Village Crier. To a true gentleman and wonderful soul, it has been a pleasure to know you.

Isabel, Jane, Anne and Moira would like to thank everyone who sent messages, cards and flowers after Bob's passing. He made the world a brighter place, lived a long and happy life and will be sorely missed.

DISASTER

The first edition of the current Village Crier was published in December 2008,

Since that time it has been delivered as a single page newsletter, as a multiple page black and white document and now as a multiple page full colour publication. In all that time the Village Crier has been supported by donation, voluntary work and most importantly advertising revenue. We have never increased our advertising rates yet the Bank of England claim that from 2008 to 2020 inflation has been 30.64%. Unfortunately, for whatever reason, we are finding that our printing costs are increasing at a frightening rate. We have done all we can negotiating special deals with printers but now are faced with the ugly inevitability of having to raise our advertising rates. After much heart rending discussion we have agreed that for the time being, i.e. from the December issue, we will limit the increase in rate to 10% but this will now have to be subject to annual review.

The new rates will be

Advertising Rates

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| Small 8.5cm x 5.5 cm..... | £22 |
| Medium 11cm x 8.5 cm..... | £44 |
| Half Page..... | £55 |
| Full Page..... | £110 |

PITBLAE COTTAGE TEAROOM

PITBLAE COTTAGE TEAROOM
OPPOSITE
ROUND TOWER
ABERNETHY
Tel: Abernethy 361

The cottage was in existence in 1790 and the house of Pitblae and the cottage were bought by the present owners, Maie and Donald Cockburn, in 1983. The cottage was converted to a tearoom and opened in March 1985. Open most of the year, the tearoom provides home-baking of the highest standard. You can enjoy meals in pleasant surroundings or make use of the take-away service. Small parties are catered for by arrangement. Open Monday to Saturday 10am to 5pm Sunday 12.30pm to 6pm Closed all day Friday.

The Round Tower could have been built as early as 7th AD but it also has features which could date the tower nearer the ninth century. The tower is of Christian and ecclesiastical origin and would probably serve as a lookout and place of security. The key for the tower can be obtained at the tearoom. Abernethy Glen Circular Walk. The route can start and finish from the square and leaflets are available at the tearoom. There is a childrens play park on the south side of the square up Kirk Wynd. The football park is to the north beyond the railway line.

Abernethy is situated on the A913 some 8 miles south of Perth, 13 miles from Cupar and 12 miles from Kinross.

Like many of you during lockdown I found time to implement a long overdue clear out of cupboards and drawers. It was then that I found this little flyer advertising Pitblae Cottage Tearoom. I have no idea of the vintage but I must have picked up it up in the late 1980s whilst exploring Perthshire after having moved from Ayrshire to Invergowrie in 1987. This little gem of a cottage tearoom has had many incarnations since that time including the wonderful "Culdees" when it was run by Heather and Kenny McVean, through to the delightful "Berryfields" run by Hazel Gordon, then Karen and Davy and finally Cath. Great memories for the villagers for all those who delighted in the traditional warmth and hospitality it offered. The life of the little cottage is about to enter its next incarnation as a hairdressing establishment and all best wishes go to Silver Lining Hair Studio.

Moira Paterson

The committee feel that they have been quite exceptional in controlling costs over such a long period. It was mooted that a competition might be announced to award a small prize to anyone who could show an organisation with a better cost control record, but paying the prize would just increase our overheads so it was decided that that would be irresponsible.

We do hope that our advertisers will continue to support the Village Crier and will understand our need to raise costs while also appreciating our determination to keep the increases as low as possible.

Village Crier Committee

FRAME IT
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ABERNETHY IN BLOOM

With the arrival of summer and some glorious sunny days (and some not so sunny!) Abernethy In Bloom have been working hard to add a splash of colour to all the planter displays around the village. Nurse Peattie's garden has also been particularly colourful this spring and early summer. We therefore hope that all who visited Nurse Peattie's Garden, and the other gardens on view in the village during Scotland's Open Gardens weekend, enjoyed their visit to Abernethy.

With some easing of the restrictions in our daily lives, this allowed our youth groups to once again meet together and enjoy time with their friends. Their gardening skills weren't forgotten as we got together with them to give the Sensory Garden in Powrie Park a clean-up to get rid of all the winter debris. Still a bit of work to do to get it looking good again, but it is hoped that they will continue their interest in the garden as a project when they get together after the summer break.

Disappointingly, we lost some of the plants from the planters on the fence at Nurse Peattie's garden. We would therefore ask for the cooperation of the community to let us know if they see any unusual activity at the garden. It is hoped that following replacement of the missing plants no more will go missing.

For those who have visited 'Jimmy's Emporium' lately, you will have noticed that the Sunflower Seeds provided by Morrisons Supermarket were available as plants to take home and grow into what we hope will be lovely blooms. So we hope you have collected yours. All we ask is that you take a photo when in full bloom so that we can show Morrisons what has been achieved and thank them for their contribution to cheer up our community.

Unfortunately, the seat that was located in Nurse Peattie's for the late Bill Given is becoming unsafe for public use as the wood has suffered a substantial amount of wood rot. We have been unable to make contact with a known family member or relative to discuss the situation with them. Abernethy In Bloom would therefore appreciate assistance to make contact with a family member or associate to discuss replacement or disposal of the seat.

You will have noticed that Abernethy In Bloom have 4 Brown Bins located in Nurse Peattie's Garden. These have been provided for the large amount of garden waste that is collected as a result of the voluntary work that is carried out each week to maintain Nurse Peattie's garden for the benefit of all who visit from within the village and afar. Unfortunately, the bins are being used from outside the garden for the disposal of food waste. Abernethy In Bloom would therefore appreciate the cooperation of all the Abernethy community not to use these brown bins for the disposal of any food or general waste.

Phase 1 for the new Heritage Garden at Hatton Road is gathering pace with preparation of the tenders to carry out the work which will establish the infrastructure and plant areas as planned, with the exception of the mini-tower and lighting. (This is planned for construction in Phase 2) However, Phase 1 will require a greater input from Abernethy In Bloom to supply the Plants and Trees required to populate the designated areas. A planting plan is currently being progressed which we hope will get the support from the community for the additional donations that will be required. To date a number of generous donations have been received for the development of the Heritage Garden. The proceeds from Jimmy's 'Emporium' have also been kindly donated to help with the planting costs which adds to boost the contribution the community is giving towards development of the garden. A total of £300 has to date been donated to Abernethy In Bloom by Jimmy from the sale of his many creations. The community's continued support with donations and purchase of the many garden and other products that the 'Emporium' has on display is therefore much appreciated.

Donations can also be made via the Hatton Road project 'Just Giving' page

or directly to Abernethy In Bloom.

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances we have currently lost the help of a number of the Abernethy In Bloom volunteers, which is stretching our capacity to continue with the upkeep of Nurse Peattie's Garden and the numerous floral displays around the village. The 'Heritage' garden when completed will stretch our voluntary resources even further. Although we are still working under current restrictions, your help to join us for a bit of weekly garden maintenance at Nurse Peattie's would be very much appreciated. If you can give a bit of time to help, please come and meet us on a Monday morning when you will see us at Nurse Peattie's garden or at any time you see us working around the village. If you would prefer to only help with the maintenance of the Heritage Garden, please get in touch to let us know if you would like to support this exciting new garden project for the village. No horticultural knowledge is required, just a willing pair of hands to help maintain these colourful and peaceful areas in our lovely village. You will always be welcome.

Please keep safe.

Ian Lamond,
Secretary Abernethy in Bloom
Tel: 850186
E-Mail: lamond0583@hotmail.com

ABERNETHY IN BLOOM EMPORIUM



The Abernethy in Bloom Emporium is still under full production in the Cree's Inn lane and is continuing to make some money to go towards the new Heritage Garden at the top of Hatton Road.

As I write this the total raised from sales so far is close to £350. I would like to thank all the folks who have bought something from the Emporium and I hope you will come again or tell your friends all about it. If you are considering throwing anything out or taking stuff to the dump, give me a call on 07808900084 as I might be able to upcycle it and sell it on to raise even more money towards this worthwhile project.

Thanks again.

Jimmy Swan





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- **WE HAVE STOCK!!!!** Bikes are likely to be hard to find in 2021, but we have stock.

PRE SCHOOL RIDER SUPPORT

If you have a pre-school aged child, live in the Abernethy Crier catchment area and want a hassle-free, affordable way for your child/children to ride a Frog bike throughout their childhood, please get in touch and we'll help you if we can.

SHIFT, with Cycling UK. When more people ride bikes to get around, the whole community benefits. We're working with Cycling UK to help people who want to cycle rather than drive do just that. If you need a hand, eg a loan bike, a confidence booster session, a repair or a bit of advice, please drop me an e.mail or give me a call.



RALEIGH

07813941287



For Souvenir to Nan Stewart on 2 June 1947 from Sotonrzi Aleksander

CONTACTS FOR THE CRIER

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| HILDA CLOW | 813886 |
| ANNE HOLLINGSWORTH | 850384 |
| LES McINTOSH | 850356 |
| IRENE McLAREN | 850414 |
| MAUREEN NISBET | 850148 |
| JIMMY SWAN | 850569 |



Abernethy Station circa 1890s.

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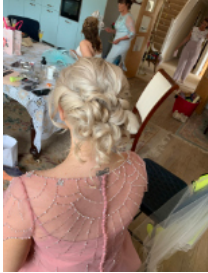
follow us 

THE LITTLE HAIR COMPANY

The little hair company has had a busy time but it's been fantastic.

We are now being asked about wedding hair which is one thing I absolutely adore doing. I have now been totally surprised to have had to go out to three venues which I had never even heard of and I have another this Saturday.

I often get asked for particular styles and also I get asked what's in fashion right now for brides. This depends on what the customer likes and what their hair is like. Some like bohemian styles very loose and floaty which can be so pretty but the downside is that it depends on the customer's hair type. Some like it left down with a soft wave or very chic and some like it absolutely perfect with not a hair out of place. But the main things that as a stylist we need to think of is the realistic expectations of what each individual bride's hair will allow us to do. Some people's hair won't keep a curl or might not hold the style and last all day, especially on fine hair. We must also take the weather into consideration. So many factors; is the hair thick enough, is it fine, what products and heated tools will we need to use?



We recently had a team training in salon with my good friend Heather Robertson Hair (HRH) who we try to get in the salon a few times a year. She is the queen of hair up and an educator to educator session helps me bring more to the salon.



Best money any stylist can spend is on education.

Tina Thomson

The Crier is run by volunteers who give up their time freely but who all have other commitments. To make their jobs as easy as we can there is a date of submission every quarter for articles and advertisements. If this is not adhered to then either the advertisement and/or the article will not be published or the volunteers have to make special, and often time consuming, efforts to accommodate the submitters and publish the item. From now on any item submitted after the deadline will only be published if the committee consider there are exceptional circumstances which justify its inclusion. We are sorry to have to issue such an ultimatum but circumstances make it necessary. Please help us to provide an acceptable service. Thank You

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TO ALL CONTRIBUTORS

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 printed.

We would request that you submit all your contributions to info@villagecrier.co.uk. This will mean that we can maintain a readily accessible archive of all submissions. Those who currently send content directly to Jimmy Swan should use the new address. Those of you who submit their content on paper may continue to do so. Your help in this would be greatly appreciated.

REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID ILLINGWORTH

The Active Travel Route.

There's tons of information about the Active Travel Route from Bridge of Earn to Newburgh elsewhere in this esteemed journal, but it's also worthwhile thinking about why this is going to be such a good thing for Abernethy.

Health. An easy to use route will promote health and it will be lovely to see school children cycling safely into School from Aberargie in the West and from Carpow and Jamesfield in the East.

Climate Change. If we are to reduce our carbon footprint, we are all going to need to change a lot of the things we do and active travel is going to be part of that change

The Green Economy. By linking the Fife Coastal Path with the proposed long distance path up the River Tay from Perth, we'll be able to welcome walkers and the like to the tearooms, pubs and B&Bs in the area, thus creating local jobs and opportunities for the local economy.

Safety. By encouraging cyclists and walkers off the main roads, we'll reduce the risk of serious injury and even fatalities on the roads

Two Tribes.

On consecutive days, it was a pleasure to see 2 "tribes" on very different steeds come to visit Abernethy recently. On the Saturday, the Mods came rolling into the village on their very cool Vespa scooters. With some dressed in parkas, their bikes festooned with mirrors a la Quadraphenia and fluttering Union flags they certainly looked, and sounded, the part. However, even if the Rockers had been present, I doubt there would have been a punch up. A good brew up of tea, biscuits and a blether would be more their style nowadays.

The very next day, the horsey mob came a-riding into town to do some Endurance riding up in Pitmedden Forest and down through the village. There were two rides, 10km for the older horses and 26km for the hard core enthusiasts. It was a pleasure to hear the clip clop of the hooves and to see horses and riders looking so well groomed and smart.

Although the 2 tribes have different styles and tastes, both groups clearly enjoy the camaraderie that comes from sharing a common interest, and they both left thinking Abernethy is a very nice place indeed.

"What stuff should I be putting into my blue bin?"

Paper

- Newspaper, magazines and junk mail
- Office paper, shredded paper and envelopes (including windowed)
- Directories, catalogues and books
- Non-metallic gift wrap

Cardboard

- Cardboard packaging and food sleeves
- Toilet and kitchen roll tubes
- Greetings cards

Cartons

- Food and drinks cartons (e.g. Tetra Pak)

Tins and cans

- Food and drinks cans
- Pet food tins
- Aerosol cans
- Biscuit and sweet tins
- Metal jar lids

Plastic bottles and containers

- Tubs, trays and punnets
- Yoghurt pots
- Shampoo and detergent bottles
- Plastic drinks and sauce bottles
- Plastic bottle tops

Over the last year or so, a lot of stuff that shouldn't be going into blue bins has been going in. Contamination costs council tax payers money because it costs more to sort through the recycling and if it gets too high the council can be fined. If you're in doubt, leave it out!

"What are the items I cannot put in the blue bin?"

- Plastic bags
- Polythene
- Plastic film
- Crisp or sweet packets
- Foil
- Food or food contaminated packaging
- Nappies
- Clothes
- Shoes
- Glass

The exception that proves the rule!

Of course, everyone in the village was furious to see the theft of plants from the beautiful floral displays that Abernethy in Bloom have so lovingly provided for us all to enjoy. It was especially galling when you think about how much effort and time they put into making our village so attractive. Now, what made the theft stand out was that this sort of thing happens so rarely here. For every incident like this, there are more than 100 examples of people helping out in the village. Whether it's picking up bits of litter and other mess, or helping with Scouts or giving people lifts, there are always people who make Abernethy better. The theft of some plants is truly the exception that proves the rule.

By the way, Abernethy in Bloom is a very friendly group that meets up every Monday morning in Nurse Peattie's Garden to work on various projects. If you like doing things with your hands and enjoy a right good natter, then I'm sure you would be made very welcome.

"Where is that brill swimming loch you keep banging on about?"

Lochmill loch is just outside Newburgh and is a great place to go for wild swimming if you are a competent strong swimmer. Although it isn't actually heated, temperatures do rise quite a lot in the summer and it is very refreshing on a hot summer's day. We've also been enjoying keeping up with a pair of swans and their cygnets, at a good distance, obviously.

By Car from Abernethy, drive into Newburgh and take the very first turning on the right after the Bowling Club. Follow this windy, narrow road up over the railway bridge, out of the village, past some beautiful views over the Tay until you get to a steep left hand turn with what looks like a sentry box on the right. It's just past a wooded bit. Then follow the rough track on your right a couple of hundred yards until you reach Lochmill Loch.

There is also a lovely 8 mile walk from Abernethy, up through Pitmedden Forest to the loch and then back along "The Old Cart Road" and the A913 Newburgh Road to Abernethy.

Finally, if you think I can be of any help then please let me know and I'll do my best to help. Email dillingworth@pkc.gov.uk or call 07767006275.



ABERNETHY COMMUNITY COUNCIL - CRIER ARTICLE JULY 21

Hello all,

In the past few months the Community Council have had the pleasure of helping the community in Aberargie with their Seating Project that was first covered in our March 21 meeting over Zoom. We are glad to say that the fundraising has gone very well and the project is now (at the time of writing) at the construction stage with the groundwork being laid the week of the 12th of July. By the time this hits your doorsteps it may well be complete. We would like to congratulate Theresa Hughes for her vision and fundraising skills in getting the project off the ground. An added flourish will be a new lick of paint and tidy up of the phone box.

Thank you for involving us.

In another fundraising extravaganza our Vice Chair Caroline has managed to secure £7443.96 from the National Lottery Community Fund for our Abernethy Christmas Lights Project. Caroline had done a wonderful job and the gofundme page is still active for donations.



The QR code here will take you directly to our funding page should you wish to donate.

We have also been involved in conversations with Perth & Kinross Countryside Trust who along with other partners are behind the active travel route from Bridge of Earn through to Newburgh.

This project is moving into the second phase which involves finding a way through Abernethy from Glenfoot. We hosted PKCT who gave a presentation in March and again in June showing the results from the public consultation. We are now at the stage where we are trying to help PKCT to spread the word about the route options and make sure everyone gets a chance to have their say. There is another article in this issue which details the route options so I would urge anyone interested to have a read. If you want to

contact us at the CC with comments then do feel you can. We are passing on information regularly to PKCT and they are grateful for all feedback.

In more internal matters to the CC we have appointed a new Treasurer, Kathleen Pye who takes on the role from Donna who is taking a step back from being a role bearer but is still being an active member of the CC. We would like to welcome Kathleen to our wee group and also thank Donna for the wonderful job she has done as Treasurer over the years.

We have one upcoming project in which an Abernethy resident is planning to do up our phone-box and transform it into a book exchange. We are very excited about this and seeing how the project takes shape.

Ritchie

GIRLGUIDING IN ABERNETHY

Girlguiding in Abernethy will start up at the end of August, still on a Monday night at the Pavilion. We have a new leader, Sarah, who is looking forward to welcoming girls back into Guiding in Abernethy.

Dates and times will be confirmed but if interested in your daughter joining again please contact Helen on abernethyrainbows.brownies@gmail.com if they have already been a member previously, or log into <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk> if they are new to Girlguiding, and register your daughter there.

Rainbows for girls aged 5-7 years.

Brownies 7-10 years.

We are still looking for further volunteer helpers over 18 years who would like to work with the girls alongside Sarah.

Please get in touch with Helen using the contact details above if this is of interest to you.

Helen Jackson
District Commissioner



Why not buy some Abernethy specific gifts for those who you know love Abernethy?

The Museum has a tea towel featuring Abernethy icons and a calendar for 2022 showing then and now pictures of Abernethy.

Both items are on sale from Saturday 5th June.

There is a limited supply of calendars so be sharp, be bright, be on time.



£6



£8

ABERNETHY SCOUT GROUP

In the previous Village Crier issue, we reported how the Scout group was just returning at the end of April after having to close from January due to the 2nd Lockdown. At the time of writing this article (July 2021) we are looking at getting a bit closer to a new normal where hopefully the group will be able to function without disruption. However, on reflecting on the running of the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts over the past year, we were outside all the time during late Autumn and the Winter but with the Leaders and Scouts having found it very enjoyable and with the obvious health benefits, we will be looking to be outside as much as possible in the future whatever the time of year, saving indoors for only the very worst of weather.

During May and June the Beavers and Cubs each enjoyed time at Willowgate Activity Centre, (Walnut Grove) where they enjoyed various water sports with the ever increasing popular paddle boarding. It was great for them to get out and enjoy themselves again as it has been a tough year for them.

In June some of the younger scouts were able to attend an evening at Newburgh Sailing Club. The weather was lovely and the Scouts enjoyed not only their time in the sailing boats but also in the Rescue boat zooming up and down the river Tay. Thanks to the Volunteers at Newburgh Sailing Club for accommodating the Scouts and for being so friendly and welcoming.



Above the Scouts are preparing for pushing off on the River Tay and the all-important Rescue Boat which operates whilst they are out sailing.

Away back in October 2019 the Scout Group were planning our next nights away and had decided on the Dalguise Activity Centre. At the time it seemed one of the more straight forward breaks to arrange with food, accommodation and all activities provided, all we had to do was turn up. However, as we all know Covid happened and the trip scheduled for May 2020 was cancelled in February 2020, with it being rescheduled for June 2021. At the time we were hoping everything may well be behind us by then.

As the country started to open in May and June 2021 it so happened that the scouts were able to attend Dalguise, but only after a risk assessment that we produced which was thick enough that it could choke a combine.



Above the Scouts taking part in the Sensory Trail where they must rely on each other for help.

Although the whole trip to Dalguise ran very smoothly there was one incident that, due to the screams, nearly had locals call Tayside Police, however it was soon clarified that no one was being attacked, and the murderous screams were merely our adventurous leader Jude Tait screaming in fear whilst fronting it out on the giant swing, much to the

amusement of the scouts on the swing with her.



There are a couple of big dates coming up for Abernethy (66th Perthshire) Scout Group in 2023, when the group will be celebrating 50 continuous years since the current group was last registered in March 1973 and Abernethy celebrating 100 years in September 2023 since a Scout group was first formed in Abernethy. Although it is 18 months away we are in the early stages of planning and are appealing for anyone within the village that attended the Scout Group in Abernethy at any time to share their memories, stories and any pictures as we hope to have a celebration of scouting. The Pavilion will also have surpassed its 30th Anniversary since it opened and we will be looking to celebrate that during the same year. There are a lot of Individuals that gave up their time to ensure that the Scout Group had such a great home which is the envy of numerous groups throughout the county; what you need to keep in mind is that the Scout Group had no home prior to this. Steve Johnstone, Bruce McNaughton, Ian Miller, Robin McDonald, Alan Gourlay to name a few, deserve recognition as we all enjoy the fruits of their labour all those years ago, and we're hopeful that we can include them in our celebrations in the future.

Finally, I have mentioned our footballing ex Abernethy Cub in the previous issues, but he keeps winning things which makes it impossible to not mention him again. After winning the Scottish League Cup in February David Wotherspoon and his team mates only went on to also win the Scottish Cup with him again playing a pivotal role and being awarded the man of the match award. St Johnstone are only the second team outside of the old firm to achieve this, the last being Aberdeen in 1991. To put this achievement in perspective, St Johnstone were 10,000 -1 to win both cup trophies and you can get odds of 5,000-1 to discover the Loch Ness Monster or find Elvis alive, so in theory if you discover the Loch Ness Monster and find Elvis alive in the same year, you would be equal to St Johnstone's latest achievement. When David was playing Cub Football everyone knew he would go on and be a successful footballer and win trophies, but we just didn't ever think it would be with St Johnstone. I'm sure all of Abernethy are very proud of his achievements.



Pictured above David Wotherspoon on his return to McDiarmid after winning the Scottish Cup.

Gordon Miller
Abernethy Group Scout Leader

Bridge of Earn to Newburgh Active Travel Project

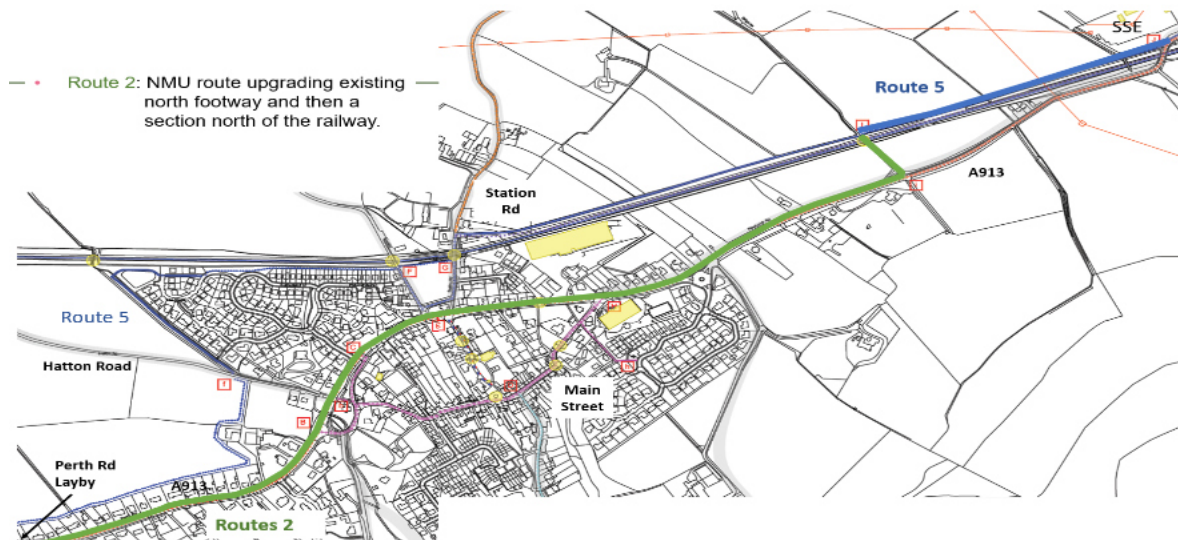
As mentioned in the June edition of the Crier there is a project ongoing to have a joined up cycle and pedestrian path from Bridge of Earn to Newburgh. The project has been split into 3 phases (with a bit of help from Perth and Kinross Council)

- Phase 1 is from Bridge of Earn to Aberargie along the north side of the Baiglie Straight (A912).
- Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) have completed a section of dual use footway from Aberargie to the Glenfoot Road.
- Phase 2 is from the Glenfoot road to Jamesfield.
- Phase 3 from Jamesfield to join the Fife Coastal Path at Newburgh

The latest Newsletter regarding Phase 1 and an update on Phase 2 and also an update on the survey that was run in May regarding preferences for routes through Abernethy can be found on PKCT.org. A meeting was held on Zoom on 15th July and, to ensure that those who could not attend have a clearer view of the current position for Phase 2, this update has been produced.

Following the survey there were 3 obvious preferred routes (2, 3 and 5) and these will be described below. In all cases the first part of the route is the same and runs along the north side of the A913 from the end section from Aberargie to the first roundabout in Abernethy. The expectation is that this would extend the facilities installed by PKC to the lay-by on the western outskirts of Abernethy village at the bottom of Castlelaw Crescent and the pavement would then be dual use, although some work may be needed due to the current positioning of lampposts and other street furniture.

Route 2 Non Motorised User (NMU) route upgrading the existing north footway.



This follows the existing footway on the north side of the road along Back Dykes and out Newburgh Road to Jamesfield. There is still additional investigation to be done regarding how this would work from Station Road to Branston due to the narrowness of the footway here.

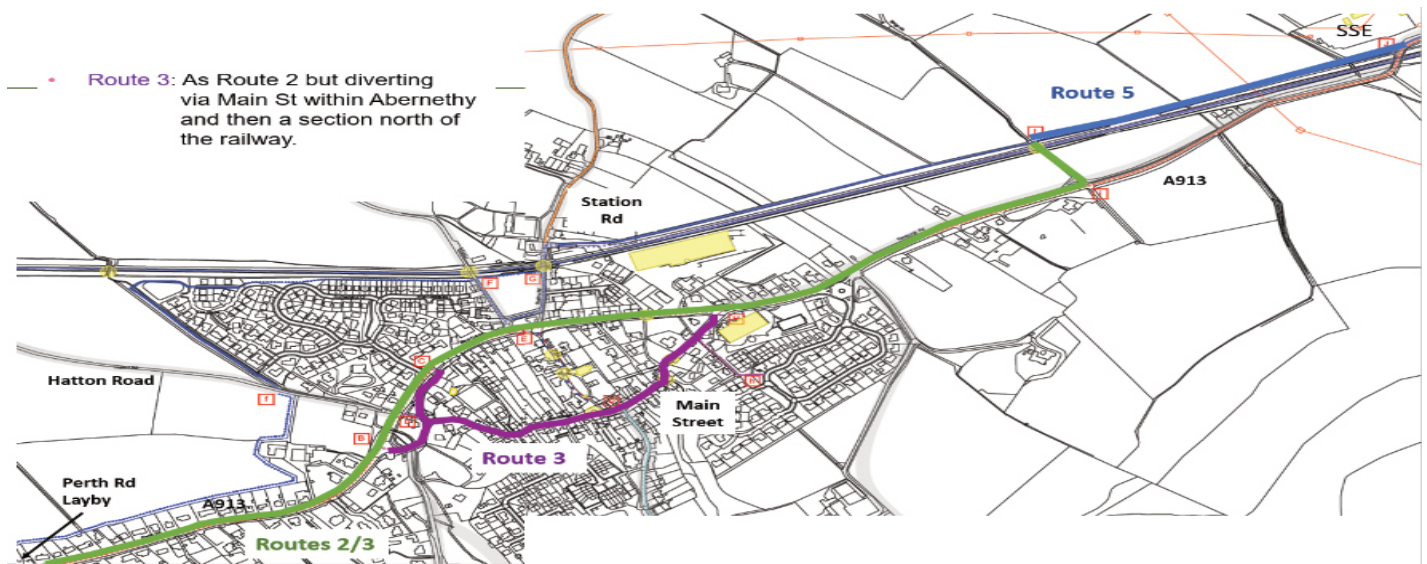
This would need reallocation, where possible, of road space to provide a shared use facility of absolute minimum of 2.5m with varying buffer strip provision. Additionally if a narrow land margin could be acquired adjacent to the existing footway, then a 3.5m wide NMU facility could be provided with the appropriate buffer strip along most of the route.

To the east of the village on the Newburgh Road from the cottages to over the railway bridge at the SSE substation there are limited opportunities to widen the existing footway so to by-pass this length of narrow footway the existing minor access road towards Balgonie Farm offers a potential route. On the north side of the railway underpass there is the potential of tracking along the field margin which would be part of Route 5, however this remains dependent on land negotiations.

Route 3 Alternative alignment using Main Street to avoid part of Back Dykes.

This route follows route 2 for much of the distance, but diverts onto Main Street from the first roundabout and rejoins Newburgh Road at the roundabout at the primary.

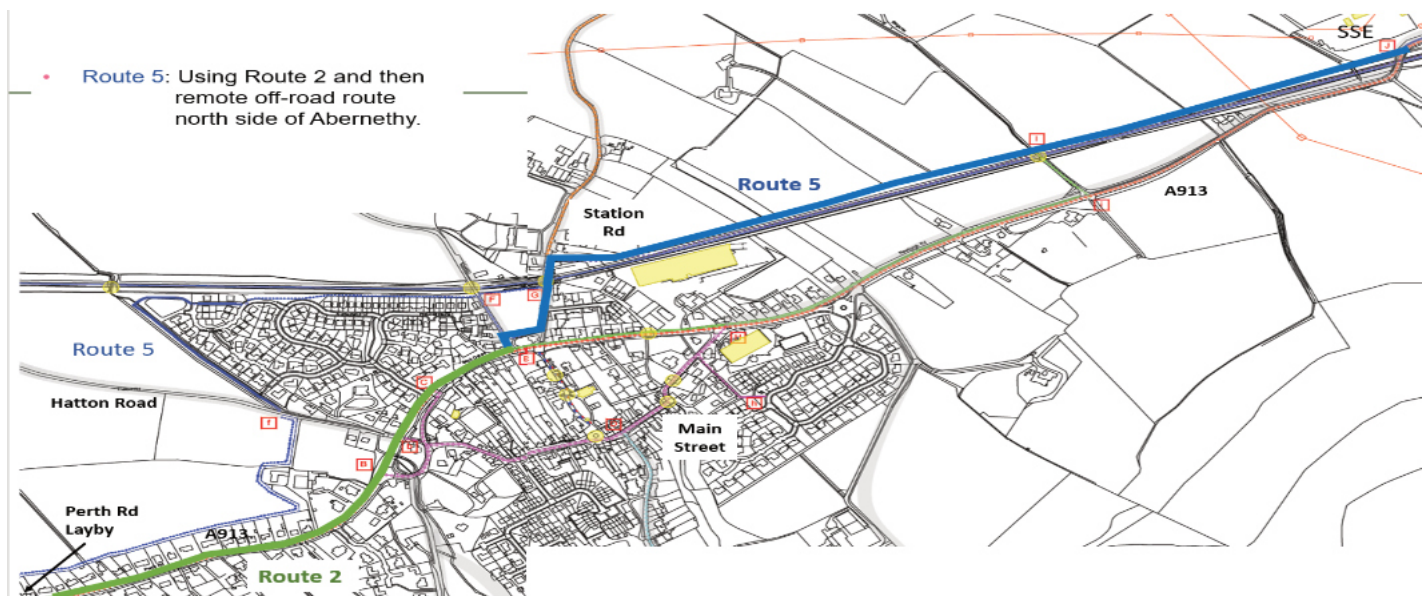
Advantages for this are that Main Street has a lower traffic flow than Back Dykes, plus a 20-mph school zone at the eastern end. Additionally, this option would offer direct links to the local amenities such as the museum, school, café, shop, etc. that routes along Back Dykes currently bypass.



Currently Main Street supports 2-way traffic flow along its full length. To provide positive support for a mixed vehicular and NMU route a partial one-way system for cyclists only could be considered as a supporting feature. However, the expectation is that the existing pavement would be used solely for pedestrians and cyclists would use the roadway as current. The use of Main Street as a NMU alignment would by-pass many of the constraints along Back Dykes and improve links to the key trip generators within Abernethy.

It should be noted that this route would require cyclists heading east through the village to cross the flow of traffic at both roundabouts.

Route 5 Using Route 2 and then a remote off-road route north side of Abernethy.



Route 5 follows the Route 2 alignment along the north pavement of the A913 and then moves away from the road corridor at Station Road, under the railway bridge, turning right to skirt the village on its northern extremities.

As mentioned in the discussion of Route 2 this requires the use of the southern edge of fields to reach the SSE access track and discussion with the landowners has still to be completed.

Should the discussions with the landowners reach an impasse then at that stage further consideration will be required as to how to progress, given the lack of an obvious solution to the constraints at the eastern end of the A913 prior to the railway bridge.

There were also suggestions from participants at the meeting that, in parallel with the work for the improved cycle route, it would be helpful if additional traffic calming or additional speed restrictions could be added on Back Dykes. It was suggested, however, that by narrowing the carriageway, even slightly, this would reduce speeds without additional measures due to the way driver perception works.

Should you wish to make any comments on any of the above you can either email info@pkct.org or write to the Abernethy Community Council

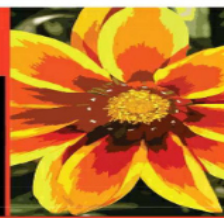
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As we receive reports of crime, the information is shared on <https://www.pkcommunitywatch.co.uk/>

I would encourage you to sign up for notifications.

Guidance on how to protect your property is available via Community Watch as well as on the Police Scotland Website, just click or copy and paste the following links:-

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/home-and-personal-property/secure-your-home>

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/home-and-personal-property/secure-your-garden-and-outbuildings>

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/home-and-personal-property/rural-crime>

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/home-and-personal-property/keep-your-bicycle-secure>

Guidance on how to deal with and report bogus callers can be found on the Police Scotland website -

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/personal-safety/doorstep-crime-and-bogus-callers>

For information on vehicle and personal property security please go to the Police Scotland website page; just click or copy and paste the following links:-

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/home-and-personal-property/secure-your-car>

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/home-and-personal-property/secure-your-valuables>

Keep up to date with everything we are doing and all appeals by visiting the following sites:-

<https://twitter.com/policescotland>

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

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/>

<http://www.pkcommunitywatch.co.uk/>

If you wish to make contact with your local community officer please use the following e-mail addresses:

South

TaysideKinross-shireCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

TaysideStrathallanCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

TaysideAlmondEarnCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

TaysideStrathearnCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

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Sara Carruthers
Historic Buildings Development Manager
Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust
Lower City Mills, West Mill St, Perth, PH1 5QP
Tel: 07753 324956
Email: shcarruthers@pkht.org.uk
Web: www.pkht.org.uk

13 May 2021

Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust launches Community Heritage Grant Scheme

Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust (PKHT) have launched a new Community Heritage Grant Fund and are inviting applications from local groups. The aim of the Fund is to support community projects which conserve or enhance the historic environment of Perth and Kinross.

The Trust is hoping to give financial support to projects which fall into either of the following categories:

- Conservation of historic buildings or monuments in Perth & Kinross that have established and generally unhindered public access.
- Community based recording, research and interpretation of the historic environment in Perth & Kinross

“The Trust recognises how difficult it is for community groups to access funding for heritage projects. We are keen to assist groups in their efforts to deliver local heritage initiatives across Perth and Kinross and have designated £65,000 towards a Community Heritage Grant Fund. Through this fund we hope to support at least 15 eligible projects over the next two years” - Maggie Wilkins, Chair of the Board of Trustees.

PKHT are inviting applications for grants of up to £5,000 although larger sums may be considered in exceptional circumstances; a minimum award has not been set. Applications will be considered twice a year with the intention of committing up to £20,000 at each session until the fund is expended. Initial deadlines for the receipt of applications are: 31 July 2021, 31 January 2022 and 31 July 2022.

Potential applicants are asked to check their eligibility before applying and to note that the fund is intended to support projects developed by community-based organisations or are for community benefit. Applications for domestic or commercial properties are unlikely to be eligible.

The Trust hopes to support a variety of small heritage projects over the whole of Perth and Kinross and invites potential applicants to contact PKHT to discuss their project as early as possible in its development. An application form, guidelines and conditions can be found on the Trust website: www.pkht.org.uk/communityheritagegrants



Examples of previous community projects supported by PKHT (clockwise from top left) Conservation work at Kinfauns old church; Kinross Museum graveyards survey; The renovated Well at Scotlandwell; Traditional building skills event in Perth.

ABERNETHY CLUB & ORGANISATION CONTACT INFORMATION

Abernethy Bowling Club
Contact: Mrs Frances Easton
Tel: 01738 850788

Abernethy Community Cinema
Contact:
Tel Home:
Email: abernethycommunitycinema@gmail.com

Abernethy Community Transport
Contact: Jill Young
Tel: 07840212747
Email: abernethyct@gmail.com

Abernethy & District Community Council
Contact: Ro Bell
Tel: 07976157022
Email: abernethycommunitycouncil18@gmail.com

Abernethy & District Senior Citizens Trust
Contact: Evelyn Scobie
Tel Home: 01738 850496 Mobile: 07719240294
Email: Evescobie22@btinternet.com

Abernethy & Dron Parish Church
Contact: Joyce White
Tel: 01738 850754
Email: whitejoyce34@aol.com

Abernethy Horticultural Society
Contact: Jane Sanderson
Tel: 01738 850610
Email: abernethyhorticultural@gmail.com

Abernethy in Bloom
Contact: Ian Lamond
Tel Home: 01738 850186 Mobile: 07703318488
Email: lamond0583@hotmail.com

Abernethy Keep Active Club
Contact: Evelyn Scobie
Tel Home: 01738 850496 Mobile: 07719240294
Email: Evescobie22@btinternet.com

Abernethy Primary School
Contact: Suz Mckenzie
Tel: 01738 472676
Email: abernethy@pkc.gov.uk

Abernethy Tennis Club
Contact: Chris Farmer
Email: abernethytennis@gmail.com

Abernethy Walking Group
Contact: Anne Macdonald
Tel: 01738 850403

Auld Abernethy Association
Contact: Jimmy Swan
Tel Home: 01738 850569 Mobile: 07808900084
Email: jimmyswan36@gmail.com

Baby & Toddler Group
Contact: <https://www.facebook.com/Abernethytoddlers/>

Badminton
Contact: Keir Allan
Email: keir.allen@gmail.com

Beavers/Cubs/Scouts
Contact: Gordon Miller
Tel: 07763098141
Email: gordonmiller146aol.com

Keep Fit
Contact: Andrea Dewar
Email: dewarandrea1971@gmail.com

Line Dancing
Contact: Elaine Marr
Tel: 01738 850466

Rainbows & Brownies (& Guides from August 2020)
Contact: Helen Jackson
Tel: 07751577771
Email: abernethyrainbows.brownies@gmail.com

SWI
Contact: Elizabeth Taylor
Tel Home: 01738 850477
Email: elizabethtaylor43@hotmail.co.uk

The Burns Club
Contact: Jimmy Swan
Tel Home: 01738 850569 Mobile: 07808900084
Email: jimmyswan36@gmail.com

The Masons
Contact: Roy Sutherland
Tel: 01738 850785
Email: roy.caroline@btinternet.com

The Museum
Contact: Jimmy Swan
Tel: 01738 850569
Email: secretary@museumofabernethy.co.uk

The Village Crier
Contact: Les McIntosh
Email: info@villagecrier.co.uk

The Williamson Hall
Contact: Andrea Dewar
Email: dewarandrea1971@gmail.com

*To keep the contact list information up to date please email club contact info changes to either
Linda Buchan at abernethycommunitycouncil18@gmail.com or
Les McIntosh at info@villagecrier.co.uk*

Thank you