

Closing date for March edition 31st January 2019

100th
Anniversary
First World War Armistice



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The Committee
of the Village
Crier would
wish you all
a Merry Christmas
and
a Happy New Year

BETWEEN A HORSE'S EARS

All horse riders think that the best view is that seen between a horse's ears.

On Sunday 2nd September 44 riders came from all over Scotland to see Abernethy from horseback. They were members of the Scottish Endurance Riding Club (SERC) and had come from the Highlands, the Borders, the Lothians and Tayside to the Endurance Ride organised by Anne Scott and Kirstie Graham.

Kevin Imrie at Branston gave the use of Branston's land for a venue for all the trailers to park and space for horses to be vetted at the start and finish of the ride.

The route went on tracks through land belonging to Scott Baird, Andrew Herd, the Forestry Commission and Jack Lawrie and past Ian Gerrard's driveway. A big thank you is due to them.



The 25km riders found the route very demanding as they climbed steadily up through the Baird's Gattaway and continued climbing through Andrew Herd's Turflundie and into Pitmedden Forest. Here the ground became less steep and more undulating and they enjoyed inviting loops in the forest round Clamieduff Hill and New Hill and out onto the main forest track at the big tree marking the site of the old bothy. They turned and went back and passed the historic Thirlstane to be rewarded with the stunning views over Fife as they rode the track past Gerrard's Stewarthill entrance and up onto the loop round the pylons to be dazzled by the breathtaking views along the Tay to Dundee. Then they rode down Stewarthill Drive and along the Abernethy walk to the gate to more Baird fields.

Now began the steep descent with the spectacular panorama of the Earn Valley spread before them as they rejoined the outward route at the Linns and returned to Branston's yard.



The 30km riders enjoyed all this but began by riding on the flatter land at the other side of the railway past Balgonie and Jamesfield before crossing the main road and going along the track that crosses Jack Lawrie's land at Wester Clunie and goes past Ninewells Farm and Macduff's Cross. This brought them into the forest behind Lochmill Loch and they went out towards Auchtermuchty and the Clink.

To claim miles for a ride, which count towards awards, the minimum speed for the 25km is 8km per hour. Some riders could not manage this because of the steep terrain but they still enjoyed the ride anyway.

Colin Sykes from Border Branch averaged a speed of 13.33km on his ex-racehorse Redbridge Radar so clearly the hills did not worry him!

The fastest 30km rider was Kaye Conafray from Lothians Branch on her Arab with a speed of 10.88km per hour.



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 veterinary 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.

-AN INVITATION-

Abernethy in Bloom would like to invite anyone with a connection to a community group within Abernethy, or any individuals who have a desire to improve our local environs, to come to the Masons Hall on 9th January at 7.30pm. We will be hearing a presentation from Adrian Miles, a judge for Beautiful Scotland, about the Keep Scotland Beautiful campaign. This is a wide-reaching campaign that covers not just horticulture but also the key issues of community participation and environmental responsibility. We believe there are many overlapping goals and interests among the various community groups that can be mutually benefited through this campaign and would like to explore the opportunities that it presents. We would be grateful if all community groups could have a representative attend this evening and our hope is that it will spark some discussion about where we can combine efforts and lead to future collaborations that are of benefit to both the groups involved and to the wider community.

FROM THE DOC

(Dr David Booth)

'I would just like to thank everyone in Newburgh and Abernethy for their extreme generosity in all the presents and donations I have received for my retirement. I would also like to thank you for allowing me to be your GP for just over 28 years. I will put the money to good use and I promise to drink any whisky I received responsibly. Please give a toot of the horn if you see a tall guy with specs being dragged around by a handful of hairy dogs.'

Dr David Booth

TAE THE DOC

(Dr David Booth)

You've seen the best and worst o' health,
In patients young and auld,
The pills and potions you hae prescribed,
From the serious tae the common cauld.

Yir bedside manner and healing haunds,
Hae helped tae ease the stress,
You'll be sadly missed as the local Doc,
We wish you a' the best.

JS

CONTACTS FOR THE CRIER

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

Letter to the ED.....

Dear Ed

Did you know that the Post office bus will no longer be coming to Abernethy on a Tuesday? How long will it be before we lose another day? Why was this done without any reference to the Community Council?

Janet Paton



A painting being presented to Dr Booth on behalf of Abernethy patients.

ABERNETHY COMMUNITY CINEMA

Here We Go Again

Yes it's true. Abernethy Community Cinema is starting up again with the first showing hoped to be in February next year. Although final details have to be arranged it is intended that the first film will be MAMA MIA 2 HERE WE GO AGAIN.

The committee are hoping to get back to running at least six showings a year but to do that they need your support. We really need forty people minimum at each showing, so if we are to continue come and join the show. Further details will be available nearer the time of the showing, on the village facebook page and the village notice boards.

FRAE OOR HEID BUMMER

As you can see from the front page of this edition of The Crier we are celebrating 10 years of publication. There have been several Abernethy newsletters over the last fifty years but this is the first one to survive a decade.

Because of this I have been looking over the last forty copies (no mean task) to find out what changes have taken place since 2008 and on the other hand what has remained the same. It has been an interesting exercise stirring many memories.

We have progressed from one double-sided A4 sheet to producing 20-24 pages. This of course is due to the contributors and those who advertise. Once the copies are printed there is an excellent team of distributors who bring The Crier to your door. 800 DELIVERIES and what is more it is FREE.

What has happened in the parish since 2008? Quite a lot actually. In no particular order as they say in "Strictly" but chronologically in this case, I bring you some reminders.

Gala Week finished in 2010 and was replaced by the Williamson Hall Fete. The Craft Fair ended after ten years and was replaced by the Art Exhibition in 2012 and that ended in 2016.

There have been two ministers in the Kirk. Alex Wark left to take a charge in Aberdeenshire in 2012 and was succeeded by Moira Herkes in 2014 but sadly after two years she had to give up due to ill-health. Since then the parish has been without a permanent minister but the good news is by the time you read this issue the Reverend Stanley Kennon will have been inducted as Minister of Abernethy and Dron and Arngask Parish Church of Scotland.

The village was shocked and saddened early in 2015 by the unexpected death of Brian Johnston resulting in the closure of Cree's Inn. However this year Cree's Inn has reopened after a major refurbishment having been bought by Grant and Lisa Conway, former owners of The Inn which is now closed. The Baigle Inn, another local hostelry frequented by many in the area also closed a number of years ago and is now a dwelling house.

A memorable event in 2012 was the bearing of the Olympic Torch through Aberargie and Abernethy then on towards Newburgh.

Jamesfield Garden Centre opened within the last ten years, a great asset to all gardeners locally and much further afield. It is also a lovely place for just a wander

around and can be followed by a nice cup of tea at Jamesfield restaurant.

In the village itself it is good to see a new shop and business open, Namely Mad Stoves and Cloutie McToot Dumpling Shop. Not only can you buy a new stove there but everything which goes along with fires including getting the chimney swept and not only can you buy dumplings but lots of other interesting gifts

From there just down into the School Wynd in 2016 Berryfields re-opened with Karen and David providing a cosy and welcoming atmosphere and delicious food.

2015 brought a Community Cinema to the village and also in June of that year Abernethy in Bloom came into existence. Now Abernethy has become involved with the Scottish Scheme.

Just over a year ago on the 16th November 2017 Morrison and MacKay opened Kincardine House, the distillery in Aberargie, a major enterprise which should be beneficial to the area.

Throughout the years The Crier has tried to involve the younger people in the village. For a short time we had a junior reporter and a young people's column. Then we tried various competitions, short stories, poetry, young journalist. Sadly all have been short lived but we will keep trying.

Perhaps we should ask Gordon Miller for help as the Cubs and Scouts are thriving. Unfortunately this cannot be said about the Guides as there is no longer a company in Abernethy.

Going through reports from the Community Council quite a few subjects recurring, not only over just ten years but in some cases nearer forty, when the Community Council came into being; parking, dog waste, litter, general maintenance in the village to name but a few.

Having regular reports from the Community Council the local Councillors and MP keeps everyone informed of what is happening even although they are not at meetings.

From the Crier Committee our warmest thanks to all who contribute articles, letters, stories and reports, the businesses and firms which advertise and the delivery team.

Without all of you there would be no Crier!!!!



LETTER TO BERRYFIELDS

We had a very interesting visitor from the United States on the 12th of July.

May Davis from Georgia visited Berryfields with her family and said that she used to visit her grandmother in the 1950s when Berryfields was Pitblae Cottage. May was kind enough to write the details in the visitor book and we thought this would be a lovely story and a nice bit of local history.

It was mentioned that Granny Roy was buried next door in the cemetery but after a few days of looking I could not find it!

A few days later a family with 3 children came in and they had obviously read the visitor book as they shortly came running in to say that they had found the gravestone for Jean Roy. I marked this into the page as well.

A few short weeks later a letter arrived to say how much she enjoyed her visit. We have been sharing the story with all the visitors and the locals were saying we should put it up for the next edition of The Crier.

Hope this is of interest.



This photo shows the cottage with some of the Roy family at the time in question. Left to right. Marion Roy, Mrs Roy (mother) John Roy and Jim Roy.

You Are Important



This is our tenth anniversary of The Crier. In that time we have published a great deal of information about what has been happening in the village

and also many recollections of what has happened in the village in earlier years. Several residents have told of their experiences growing up in the region and others have told of their experiences in life, coloured of course by their formative years in this community.

All of this information is available on our website, www.villagecrier.co.uk, where any of the issues of The Crier can be downloaded in its entirety. In addition the website has brought together the contents of each issue under topic headings. For instance all the recollections can be found in one section, all the information about the children's organisations can be found in one section. In this way we hope to build a resource which will be of value in years to come for those people looking back on Abernethy to see what it was like in the early 21st century. This article is not about blowing our own trumpet, however, but is about getting your support for The Crier by submitting regular updates about what has been happening in the various social, sporting, educational, recreational groups in the village. We have been aware of a dropping off of contributions to The Crier for some time. **Without your contributions we cannot exist.**

If you have, or you know anyone who has, an interesting story to tell us try and write it down for us, don't worry if you feel you cannot write or you feel that you may not be a master of grammar because our editor will review and polish any piece which you submit.

Give it a try and remember that although the editor needs to know your name and address no-one else needs to if you don't wish them to.

Thank you

Date	Name	Address
July 12 2018	MAY DAVIS	LIZELLA, GA USA
WHAT A PLEASURE TO ONCE AGAIN RETURN TO WHAT WAS ONCE MY GRANNY'S COTTAGE. JEAN ROY WAS MY GRANNY AND LIVED IN THIS 'WEE' COTTAGE ALONG WITH HER 'BIRD' NAMED TONY ROY. I WOULD VISIT FROM AMERICA IN THE 1950'S AND ENJOY SPENDING TIME AND LISTENING TO THE WONDERFUL SCOTTISH BROUQE OF MY GRANNY AND TONY, WHO SPOKE WITH THE EXACT ACCENT AS GRANNY. IT IS A LARGER HOUSE NOW, BUT STILL		

Date	Name	Address
VERY LOVELY. I WILL FOREVER HAVE FOND, AND WONDERFUL MEMORIES OF 'PITBLAE COTTAGE' BERRYFIELD'S PAYS GREAT HOMAGE TO THIS HISTORIC BUILDING AND THE ^{FOOD} WAS DELICIOUS!		
May Davis (MAY ROY)		
Lizella, GA USA		
PS BOTH GRANNY AND TONY ARE BURIED ACROSS THE WALL		
IN THE CEMETERY, ALONG WITH MY GRAND DAD, WILLIAM ROY		
HEADSTONE FIRST RIGHT FROM GRAVE SECOND ROW		INSCRIPTION -
<p>CHERISHED MEMORIES OF OUR DEAR FATHER William Roy who died 26th AUG 1947 AGED 59 YEARS AND OUR DEAR MOTHER JEAN SMITH ROY WHO DIED 11th NOV 1970 AGED 83 YEARS. TILL WE MEET AGAIN.</p>		

ABERNETHY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Abernethy Horticultural Society held a Treasure Hunt at the end of September which saw more than 50 participants follow a route around Abernethy gathering items and solving clues to answer questions as they went. Everyone did very well, but in the end a closely fought 3rd prize went to the Hetheringtons, 2nd prize to the Mallinsons and pipping everyone else to claim first place were



the Youngs (Hayley and Fraser pictured above with their prizes). Congratulations to the prize winners and thank you to everyone who participated.

At the end of October we held a Hallowe'en themed apple event. Lots of apples brought in from gardens around the village kept the apple scatter and press running throughout the afternoon to produce lots of delicious fresh juice. The younger attendees enjoyed getting their faces wet with some traditional apple dookin' and we had some fabulous samples of rare and local heritage variety apples and pears brought along for tasting.



We also held a carved lantern competition and congratulations to the winners:

Toddlers/Nursery: Olivia Cuthbert

Primary 1-2: Freddie Farmer

Primary 3-4: Isla Haxton

Open: Keir Allen



By the time you read this our winter season of meetings will be underway and we will already have heard in November from Belinda Green, Owner of Shades of Green on all aspects of Garden Design. The remaining dates on the programme are:
Wednesday 12th December Christmas Quiz – with festive food and drinks.

Wednesday 9th January 2019 Beautiful Scotland Awards – Abernethy In Bloom, winners of a silver medal in 2018, have invited Adrian Miles, a judge for Beautiful Scotland, to talk about the Keep Scotland Beautiful campaign.

Wednesday 13th February Plant Propagation – Jonathan Davies-Coleman, horticulture graduate from

University of Glasgow and RHS Botanic Gardens Edinburgh, now at Glendoick.

Wednesday 13th March - AGM

Wednesday 10th April – Sally Lorimore will talk about her garden, Willowhill, Newport-on-Tay, which has been developed by her and her husband over the last 20 years and regularly opens to visitors.

All meetings are held at the Masons Hall starting at 7.30pm. As ever, these talks are open to everyone. If you are not a member you can join on the night (annual membership is £10) or can come along on a one-off basis for just £2.50 (which includes tea and biscuits!).

Chris Farmer

ABERNETHY SWI



Meetings are normally held in the Church Session House, but due to the church being closed during refurbishment, meetings have recently been held in the Masonic hall. We hope to return to the Session House in the New Year.

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month from September to May each year and start at 7.15pm. New members and visitors are always welcome. Membership for 2018/2019 is £30, visitors £4 per meeting.

At our October meeting we welcomed Gillian Skene who demonstrated jewellery, knitted with silver plated thread and beads. Several members had a go. Gillian brought along some examples of her beautiful work. Competition Winners: Favourite piece of jewellery 1st L Farmer, 2nd B Baird, 3rd M Cole. Flower of the Month 1st J Sanderson, 2nd E Taylor, 3rd B Baird. In November we have a Baking Demo with Christine Taylor.

In December we have our Christmas Meal at Bein Inn.

Please see Village Notice Board each month for fuller details about meetings.

Should you have any queries about Abernethy SWI please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary Barbara Baird on 01337 840307 or President Elizabeth Taylor on 01738 850477.

Evelyn Scobie

IT'S A FUNNY OLD GAME.

One of the lighter sides of following football is some of the humorous remarks from the fans that tend to stick in the memory long after the result has been forgotten. Here are a few examples, some of which I may have related before.

On one of my earliest visits to Hampden Park to see Scotland play England, Stanley Matthews was poised on his toes swaying this way and that with the ball between his feet as the Scottish full back waited to see which way he would move. This seemed to go on for an age until a voice from the terracing was heard to plead "Dae something wi' it will ye no, I'll come doon an' get it masel' so ah wull". One afternoon at Cathkin Park, Glasgow, the home of the late lamented Third Lanark an appeal came over the tannoy at half-time requesting the father of a wee boy who had got lost to come round to the stand to collect him. This prompted a Third's fan to comment "I wish Jimmy Harrower's faither would come and collect him", Jimmy wasn't having one of his better games. When my all time football hero Gordon Smith left Hibs and joined Hearts I was at Tynecastle to see his first game against his former club. At one point he directed a pass through the middle to Willie Bauld which Willie just failed to reach. "Steady Gordon" a Hibs fan shouted "He's no a Reilly" (ed Arguably the greatest player in the Hibernian Club's history, Lawrie Reilly holds the record for the most international caps won by a player while at Easter Road.) Even the Hearts fans enjoyed that one. When floodlights were introduced the Rangers board were opposed to pylons and mounted lights along the top of the stands which were not all that effective. On one slightly misty Saturday in December a plaintive Glasgow voice was heard saying "See thae lights, ma Christmas tree has got better lights than that" Back in the 1950s some supposed cases of smallpox were detected in Scotland which sparked off fears of an epidemic. Around that time a group of us would gather in the evening at Perth Ice Rink to see the local Panthers in action when Ice Hockey was at its height. The main topic of discussion was the afternoon's football results. One of our number, a keen Rangers fan, had just returned from a match at Ibrox. He was complaining bitterly about an incident when a Hibs player had grabbed Jack Shaw's jersey and torn the sleeve. Quick as a flash Fay Duigan who was later to marry Frank Christie of East Fife retorted "He was only checking to see if he had been vaccinated." Frank who was a Scone lad was the source of some of the exchanges that took place on the field. Saints who were in the second division took on East Fife from the top division in a mid-week friendly match at Muirton which Saints won 5 - 0. At one point in the game Saints centre forward Paddy Buckley was heard asking the Fifers' veteran full back Sammy Stewart "Are we going too fast

for you old yin?" On another occasion at Bayview when Hibs were the visitors I noticed an exchange of words between Danny McLennan and Bobby Johnstone as the teams came off the field. Frank told me later that near the end of the match as a Hibs corner kick came over Danny, who could best be described as an uncompromising defender, had elbowed Bobby in the ribs. On extending the hand of friendship when the final whistle blew Danny was not surprisingly rebutted with the comment from the diminutive Johnstone, all of 5ft 3ins in his stocking soles "I wouldn't shake hands with you if you were the last man on earth" to which Danny replied "I believe if you had been a bit bigger you would have been a wild so-and-so" (Not his exact words)

Back in the immediate post-war years football grounds were pretty much a male dominated environment. Sitting in the Muirton stand behind me was an older man who had brought his wife to the game. At one point he got into a heated exchange with a fan of the opposing team. Attempting to pour oil on troubled waters his wife admonished him with the words "Be quiet Wullie, dinna start trouble" which met with the reply "Shut up wumman, it's a fitba' match".

As I was nearing the completion of this piece the news came through that St Johnstone had lost six - nil to Celtic at McDiarmid Park. On days like that it's hard to see the funny side. However I console myself with the following lines which appeared in the Edinburgh Evening Times many years ago under the pen name (excuse the pun) MacNib.

"It's only a gemme wi' a ba' efter a'
which we've lost as often as won
So we're no gaun tae greet
when we meet wi' defeat
Or allow it to alter our fun"

Bob Macdonald

**It is with regret that we hear of the death
of Mrs Helen Smith of Carpow.
Our thoughts are with her family at this
difficult time.**

ABERNETHY SCOUT GROUP

The Scout Group has been going from strength to strength and as a direct result of this and the increased use from the Scout Group of the Pavilion, it was felt that the responsibility of the running and improving of the facilities rested with the Scout Group. As such Abernethy Scout Group recently took back the entire responsibility of the running of the Pavilion. However, thanks need to go to the outgoing Pavilion Committee who kept the building running over the past years and we are all very grateful for their time and efforts in the running of the building. Special thanks go to Katie McAleese (Chair Person) Karen Gourlay (Secretary) Tom Reilly (Treasurer) Jane Sanderson, Modreianne McCully and all the other committee members who have helped over the years.

Building Improvements

We felt that the roof would be as good a place as any to start with the maintenance and over the summer we have carried out works on the pavilion roof. Thanks to all the volunteers who turned up to spray and help scrape back the moss which took several days to complete. In the very near future we are looking to have a new kitchen fitted and replace the lighting and hope to have the pavilion decorated over the winter.

It has to be stressed that although the pavilion is run by the Scout Group it is very much a community asset and is available for hire, (outwith the normal Brownies, Beaver, Cub and Scout nights) and would be a great venue for children's parties or for other functions so please get in contact if you would like to hire it.

Abernethy were recently awarded a £7000 grant to go towards the improvement of the building from the Almond and Earn Action Partnership which will go a long way to improving the current facilities. Below Brain Stewart receives a cheque from Kenny Simpson at Bridge of Earn Institute who also received a grant.



The Cubs have been busy prior to the summer and enjoyed their now annual camp to Fordell Firs for a

weekend, where they camped under canvas and prepared and cooked all their food on the open fire. They also enjoyed various activities at the National Scout centre. This can sometimes be the first time that Cubs have been away from home, however, that never deters them from getting up at the break of dawn and they soon settle into the camp. Needless to say, they return home to their parents exhausted.

Pictured below are the cubs with the Leaders that attended the summer camp.



.The Scouts had a successful summer trip to Lake Windermere where they went rafting and canoeing on the lake and caving in Yorkshire. I don't think we could have had better weather whilst canoeing; the sun shone at 26 degrees with the slightest of breezes. The trip culminated with a visit to Blackpool Pleasure Beach where I encountered G forces which fighter pilots don't encounter; however all the Scouts had a ball which is what matters at the end of the day.



Pictured are Ian Miller, Adam Fairlie, Daisy Smith, Amie Robb, Dougal Baird, Alex Cook and Paddy Trotter

.It is sadly a year since we lost our friend and Assistant Cub Leader Gavin Robertson. Gavin who was a Cub and a Scout himself in

Abernethy when he was growing up was well known in the village and we were delighted when we recruited him to help at the Cubs. As a way of honouring Gavin's memory we have purchased a trophy which will be known as the Gavin Robertson Memorial Trophy and will be awarded to the Cub of the term; this way we feel

that Gavin will never be far from our thoughts. At the start of October members of Gavin's family attended at the Cubs to present the Trophy for the first time.



Pictured above (left to right) Marion (Gavin's sister) Fraser and Hayley Young first winners of the Gavin Robertson Memorial Trophy, Graeme Robertson (Gavin's twin brother) and Jim Cook (Cub Leader). Abernethy Scouts recently went on a litter pick with staff from McDonalds Dunkeld Store between Aberargie and Newburgh. During this time, we filled 17 bin bags of litter a lot of it being fast food wrappers which had obviously been discarded out of the car windows.



Our Leadership team continues to grow with Angela Dunn and Chris Farmer joining as Assistant Beaver Leaders. Along with Andy Smith and Dave Cheer who recently joined as Assistant Cub Leaders. This brings our current leadership team to twelve. Lorraine Kinnear is planning on standing down at Christmas. Lorraine stresses though that she would still like to be known as Baloo even after she leaves. Baloo puts her highlights of her scouting career down as being wakened at 05.00hrs by excited children when camping in the rain and having sole responsibility for arranging the annual visit to the Christmas Panto. Baloo has been a fantastic leader in our group and we wish her the very best. Finally, a big thank you goes to Jude Trotter who is off to University in Aberdeen. Jude was a young Leader firstly at Cubs and then for the last 18 months at Scouts and has been with our group for 4 years, we wish him all the success in his new adventures.

Gordon Miller



MUSEUM OF ABERNETHY

The Museum is now closed for the season and I would like to thank all the volunteers and visitors for making it a very special year. Our numbers are up this year by 17% which is fantastic so please keep coming and bringing your friends and family next year.

We open again at the beginning of May 2019 and we will be working hard over the closed season to bring you some exciting new exhibits next year so watch this space!!

I would like to thank all those who came along to our Quiz on the 26th October and made it such a successful evening. Everyone had fun, learnt some new things and enjoyed each other's company. You also helped us to raise a good amount of money to help pay the bills which are ever rising as you all know!!

Especially thanks go to Eileen Milne and Vera Couttie who very much helped with the planning and with the event itself – your help and enthusiasm has been invaluable. Thanks again everyone and look forward to next year!!

If you wish to become a member of the Museum and/or become a volunteer, your support would be greatly appreciated. Enjoy the satisfaction being involved in a fantastic local resource.

For more information please call the Museum on 850889 or look at the website

www.museumofabernethy.co.uk or email me at secretary@museumofabernethy.co.uk.

Bring your friends and family and spread the word about your lovely local museum - enjoy all our displays, the children's activities and find out more about the life and times of our charming ancient burgh and parish.

Follow us on Facebook @

www.facebook.com/museumofabernethy

Lesley Robinson, Chair

Museum of Abernethy

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Charity Number: SC023100



**Draft Minutes of the Abernethy & District
Community Council Meeting of the 25th of October
2018 at 7:00pm in the Mason Hall.**

Members Present: Mr J Swan (JS) (Chaired), Ms L Buchan (LB), Mrs D Gillespie (DG), Miss H McAllister (HM)

Attending Councillors: Mr H Anderson, Mr D Illingworth (DI)

2 members of the public in attendance

Apologies: Mr P Glennie, Mr A McIntyre, Mr B McNaughton, Cllr K Baird.

Adoption of Previous Minutes: Proposed DG, seconded HM

Matters Arising:

Police Update:- No police matters arising and no police presence.

Street Lighting:- JS reminded the meeting that lamp post numbers and locations should be quoted when reporting a faulty/broken street light to PKC.

Planning:- PG & BM are currently vising the Swindon plastic plant and a full report will follow. HA highlighted to the meeting that SEPA has not yet received an application from the proposed plastic plant at Binn Farm. It is also noted that no finance is in place for the plastic plant either. When SEPA do receive an application they will undertake a full public consultation before any license is considered. HA suggested that when consulted, that the CC/community do not accept self-monitoring as a viable option for this plant – **Action Point PG & BM**

The Hadden/Branston planning application is still pending awaiting decision.

Defibrillators:- DG reported that another defibrillator is on order. PG to contact the PKC Street Lighting Department to arrange for the necessary electric supply to be fitted to the decommissioned phone box in Aberargie. DG & HM remarked that both Heartbeat and the company we purchase defibs from have clearly stated that the existing electric supply in decommissioned phone boxes fulfils the requirement to power defibs. JS stated that PG had already investigated this and apparently the existing electric voltage isn't sufficient for our needs. It was agreed that we reconsider the required electric supply before making any final decision. Jimmy Russell from Newburgh will install the defib once the electric supply is sorted – **Action Point DG, JS & PG**

Tower Lights:- PG met with Environment Scotland to discuss the tower lighting. It is proposed that a power box can be fitted inside the tower door behind the information board which would enable local access to the light controls for maintenance and/or for any other requirement – **Action Point JS & PG**

Treasurer Report:- DG reported a health bank balance with funds still ring-fenced for another 2 defib purchase/installations.

Hall Park Parking:- The CC has written to PKC regarding the proposals for Post & Chain parking behind Hall Park. To date no response has been received. HA pointed out that the matter had been previously raised at a meeting in the village school on the 25th November 2015. Apparently post & chain parking had been the preferred option from consultation at the meeting. Await reply from PKC meantime – **Action Point LB**

AOCB:-

Dr Booth Retiral:- £400.83 was collected from the tins to mark Dr Booth's retiral. A painting was commissioned by local artist Sheena McNaughton and is to be framed by Heather McVean. The balance of collected donations - £350 - will be given to the Doctor in cash. The Newburgh practise has agreed to present the painting and the money to the Doctor at a private retiral function being held on the 3rd of November.

Remembrance Sunday:- LB has completed the necessary road closure form which KB submitted accordingly. It was highlighted that Abernethy Church is still out of use due to on-going maintenance work and that the remembrance service will take place in the Williamson Hall at 10am on Sunday the 11th of November 2018. JS asked attending members to meet in the foyer of the Hall at 9.45am. With this being the centenary anniversary there will be a piper at 6am, church bells at 6.55pm and a bugle at 7.05pm.

Gullies:- Whilst it is acknowledged that some gullies in the village have been cleaned, the CC will write to the Roads Partnership Department at PKC to point out that all gullies in the village require cleaned/cleared and request that the work be carried out before winter sets in – **Action Point LB**

Abernethy in Bloom:- LB drafted a letter of congratulations and thanks to the Abernethy in Bloom group which JS has delivered to the group.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

Date of next meeting: Thursday the 29th of November at 7:00pm in the Mason Hall.

FROM OUR COONCILLOR

Congratulations to Abernethy in Bloom for the fantastic result in both Take a Pride in Perthshire and Beautiful Scotland. The competition is not only about beautiful flowers and weed free flower beds, Community involvement is equally important and this year it has been evident that the community **has** been involved. Well done to all!

The Community Empowerment(Scotland) Act 2015 set out requirements for local authorities and other public bodies to involve communities in decision making. Recently we had the opportunity to be involved by completing a short questionnaire about our views on health and wellbeing needs in our local area (Lower Earn). Information gathered from the report will help form the needs of the community regarding health provision in Lower Earn. The number of questionnaires completed was very small from Abernethy, perhaps October was not the best month to try and engage with the community. I am sure many of you are thinking we knew nothing about it, but several methods were used to try and communicate; Facebook survey monkey, P&K website, posters and questionnaires in shop, clinic, hall and Crees Inn. Perhaps the purpose of the questionnaire was unclear.

Community groups are invited to apply to Community Investment Fund, £50k allocated per ward, apply before 15th February, information on Council web site or contact Councillors. P&K along with other councils encourages groups and communities to apply for funding. Scottish Government Community Choices Funding is available to community groups as well as Community Councils & Development Trusts.

It is too easy to criticise and complain about what we do not have in Abernethy or what the council doesn't do. P&K Council tries to make best use of the resources available and we can help in small ways to make Abernethy better.

As another year draws to a close I would like to thank all those who give their time to the Community, probably too many to mention. Each of you makes Abernethy a good place to live.

I take this opportunity to wish you all A Happy Christmas and A Happy Healthy 2019.

If you need to contact please contact kathleenbaird@pkc.gov.uk , mobile 07584206839. 01738475086



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Prior to the introduction of the Crier the main coverage of local events was the Church newsletter which also was distributed on a quarterly basis to all households. The following is an excerpt of an article I submitted in the spring issue of 2005 based on the names which appeared in the Church Roll.

"As befitting a rural community we have Farmers, a Shepherd and also a Herd. There is a Hay for feeding, Millers to process the crops, Smiths to shoe the horses and Cartwrights to provide the transport to bring in the produce. If you fancy country pursuits we have a Hunter and a Stalker and we can also provide a Gunn. If you don't like the unpleasant tasks after a shoot we have a Skinner. Wild life is represented by a Swan and a Martin. To add some colour we have a choice of Black, White or Brown. Transport is taken care of with a Carr and dare I say it a Lawrie. As for the model you can choose from Morris, Cooper or Morgan. There are Messengers to spread the good news and if you want to say it with flowers we can provide a Bunch. Burns and Wallace remind us of our proud Scottish heritage and although we don't have a Queen we do have a King. On the whole we are a pretty Smart lot."

Things have changed quite a bit since then and some of the names mentioned are no longer on the Roll. Hopefully this will stir up a few memories for some of the older members of the community.

Bob Macdonald

AULD ABERNETHY ASSOCIATION 2019

6th February Early Perthshire Photographers
Robin Antoniewicz

6th March A Petrol Scented Spring
(suffragettes with bombs)
Ajay Close

3rd April AGM and My Faither built the Sidney Brig
Bill Glennie

The meetings are held at 7.30pm in the Museum of Abernethy unless otherwise stated.

ALL WELCOME

CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

We councillors get given a wide variety of jobs to do. From attending meetings about multi-million pound projects to dealing with constituents' queries and voting on some very controversial policies.

One of the quirkier tasks is occasionally helping with Citizenship Ceremonies. Since 2004, people from other countries who have successfully applied to become British citizens have to go through a ceremony to complete the process.

Becoming a British citizen is a significant life event for people who have decided to make the United Kingdom their home. Some will have come here as economic migrants, possibly through the points based system. Others may have begun their journey as students or the children of adult migrants. Many will have come here to seek asylum from persecution in their own countries.

In the past, the process of applying for and being granted citizenship was entirely through postal application. Applications would be decided and oath of allegiance forms issued to successful applicants to make their own arrangements for swearing allegiance to the Crown. Citizenship certificates would be despatched by post once the oaths had been returned.

Following civil disturbances in 2001 in Oldham, Burnley and Bradford a decision was taken to enhance the process of becoming British by introducing citizenship ceremonies which could be celebrated within the local community. To prepare immigrants for citizenship and to encourage their participation in British society, they are encouraged to learn English and understand something about British life. This is to increase their chances of finding employment and improve integration. Ceremonies were introduced in 2004 and have become successful and popular events throughout the United Kingdom.

The ceremony itself is officiated by one of the Council's registrars. The registrars also look after weddings and record hatches, matches and dispatches. The registrar starts by welcoming everybody to the event which is held in the beautiful late 19th century old Council Chamber in 1, High Street, Perth. The councillor then makes a short speech, which can be about how glad they are that as new citizens they have chosen to live in Perth and Kinross and express the hope that as new citizens they will take part in voting and the democratic process. After this, the new citizen makes a pledge of allegiance to Queen Elizabeth II and promises to obey British laws. The National Anthem is played on CD and

everyone is invited for a cup of tea and a piece of shortbread.

While the registrar and the councillor have not had to travel far, the new citizens often have had to travel thousands of miles, learn a new language, and adapt to a completely new culture. There's also a byzantine and expensive Home Office process to navigate. Personally, I think people who choose to come to live in our country bring valuable skills and ambition, not just for themselves but ambition for their children to succeed as well. At the October ceremony, there were families from India, Romania and South Africa. Although some aspects of the ceremony are not to everyone's taste, I found it very moving to meet the three families involved and welcome them to their new lives in this country.

David Illingworth



**The EARN SINGERS are holding their
CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING
Saturday, 15th December, 10am -12 at
DUNBARNEY CHURCH HALL,
BRIDGE OF EARN**

For £3 per ticket you can relax with tea and coffee, mince pies or shortbread in a festive atmosphere with the choir singing carols and maybe you too, if you feel like joining in. Home baking will be on sale.



PARKING

There are a lot of urban myths surrounding parking tickets so here is some information. This article is about private parking charges, not penalty tickets issued by the council or the police.

One myth is that the car park provider cannot enforce payment. They can, because when you parked in their car park you entered into a contract whereby they would provide parking and you would pay. This is a Civil contract and action can be taken in the Sheriff Court for the unpaid parking charge and expenses. Action **can** be taken but this does not mean it will be taken. In the past, parking companies did not bother with small sums but they have now started taking non-payers to court and have been successful.

Parking in Perth is particularly annoying with one large parking company making it quite awkward to park without incurring a penalty.

If you get a parking charge notice first of all check that it is correct. One client had a charge from one car park and also had a ticket proving he was in another car park at the time. Another had just driven through the car park and there were no spaces. Or there may be special circumstances that make the charge seem unjustified. A good defence used to be that the signs were not clear but most signs have now been changed to be obvious and clear.

If you were parked at a store car park then enlist their help using your till receipts. I suggested this to one client who had overstayed her time at Petsmart. 'I didn't go in the shop,' she said, 'I just used the car park.'

If you object to the parking charge you can write to the company or complete an on-line form. In my experience the first letter is always dismissed. 'Our Legal Team has considered your case and dismissed it'. Write again and keep a copy of your reasons for objecting to the penalty.

The first parking charge letter is followed fairly swiftly by the first letter from a firm of debt-collectors then another letter threatening court action. The demand is for over £100 by now. However it is not affecting your credit record.

At this stage clients often come to me and say, 'Should I pay?' If you have written to contest the charge as incorrect then you will have a good defence if actually charged. That is why I said to keep copies of correspondence if the charge was wrongly or unfairly demanded.

If you just feel very aggrieved I can only reply that you must decide for yourself. I cannot know if the parking company will take action. Many people will tell you they have ignored the letters and they have eventually stopped. This might be the same for you.

If you do not intend to pay on principle then there is no point answering letters which will get ever more threatening. If you get an actual summons, not a letter which says, 'This Is What A Summons Looks Like.' then don't ignore that. Pay up, attend court to defend yourself or be found against in your absence. The parking charge will now include expenses.

If the company does go to court they will probably succeed unless you can show a defence and a Court Order is not a good thing to have against you. It will be on your Credit Record for six years. You may still get credit but it will be very expensive and it will cause difficulties with things like mobile phone contracts and car leasing.

It is a civil, not a criminal, offence and there is no question of prison. If you still do not pay up the company can use the Sheriff's Officers to claim the money, but only after a court judgement. The Citizen's Advice Bureau is completely confidential. The articles I write for the Crier are always based on true stories but I disguise the client so they could never be identified.

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

01738 450580 is the Advice Line. This line is often busy but if you leave a message your call will be returned.

Everything is confidential, even the fact that you visited the bureau.

There is also a web-site run by the CAB.

Adviceguide.org.uk covers many topics and is easy to use.

AH



KIRK NEWS

Good news! We are delighted to welcome a new minister to the Parish of Abernethy, Dron and Arngask after a very lengthy search for someone permanent. He is the **Rev. Stanley Kennon**. It is hoped he will be in post soon and that you will meet him around the village and in church. There may be a more personal introduction from the minister in the next edition. We are, however, very appreciative of the excellent help of worship leaders and locum ministers who have worked in our church and community for the last three years. **We continue to meet in the Williamson Hall for now and are hoping to be back in the newly decorated church by Christmas time.**

Morning worship;

For the remainder of 2018 the service will continue to be in **Abernethy at 9.30am, except on Dec 30th when there will be a united service at 11am.**

For 2019 the service in Abernethy will generally be at 11am except for the last Sunday of each month when we meet together with the Glenfarg part of our congregation, usually alternating locations. Combined service is in Abernethy on February 24th and April 28th, and in Glenfarg on January, 27th and March 31st. When the united service is in Glenfarg **there will be no service in Abernethy.**

We invite you to come at any of these times of worship. Drinks and refreshments are served afterwards. Anyone wishing transport to Glenfarg may contact Kathleen Baird

Children's Sunday Club; meets in school term time during part of the morning service at each location. Your children can enjoy a time of fun, games, crafts, Bible Stories and songs. Outwith term time there are toys and books in the adjacent hall cupboard as well as fun bags in church for children.

Open Doors; the 6th Dec meet up for chat, teas, coffees and home baking will be in the Williamson Hall between 2.30 and 4pm. Come and join us. Hopefully we will be back in the church hall for the next one in January.

Christmas Eve service; we warmly invite you to come for 7pm on Monday 24th Dec, hopefully in the newly painted church.

Village 'Welcome' packs; contain useful information for newcomers to the village, with telephone numbers and contacts for clubs and organisations in Abernethy. The plastic folders may be collected from the church vestibules or leaflets are available in the tea room or the museum.

Ceilidh in October. Thank you to all who helped and came along to the evening of music and dance. It was great to see the floor bouncing in the Williamson hall

and to meet everyone. Around £400 was made for church funds but more important was the chance to get to know some new folks.

Church/adjacent hall bookings; the Church (with the minister's permission) and adjacent hall are available for hire. To enquire about charges and book facilities, please contact Elizabeth Taylor on Tel; 01738 850 477.

Church website; www.ada-church.org.uk for further information

Contact details; Session.Clerk@ada-church.org.uk

Celia King

TO THE DISTRIBUTORS

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

Thank you again for your assistance in this matter.

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.

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AULD ABERNETHIANS



Although Bob Macdonald has always considered himself an incomer he certainly qualifies as an Auld Abernethian. He moved to the village in 1964 and has always played a very active part in village life. However his wife, Isabel Morris, is an even Auld Abernethian.

Her grandparents, were originally at Drumcairn and moved to Loanhead, on the County Byway leading up from Kirk Wynd, in 1918.

Isabel was born in Newburgh and moved with her parents to Loanhead when she was ten. Her Grandmother had died and her Grandfather was finding it difficult to cope.

She had attended Newburgh Primary but changed to Perth Academy for her secondary education. She made friends taking the train into Perth along with Janet Paton and Wyn Dobbie. She had an excellent singing voice, played the piano, sang in the Church Choir and worked as a Sunday School teacher.

When she left school she studied shorthand, typing and bookkeeping at Ross's Commercial College before starting her first post as a secretary at Thomas Harley who manufactured Rodine rat poison. She then went to the Tayside Grain Company before moving to D. L. Edward, the travel agents in County Place. Her father was ill by this time and she had the pigs to feed before she bathed, breakfasted and went to work.

Bob Macdonald came in to book a holiday in Torremolinos. Isabel took the booking and there must have been a spark as he sent a postcard from Spain followed by an invitation to go out for a drink when he returned and that was the start of their romance.

Bob was born in Forteviot and moved to Stanley as a boy. He went to work with the General Accident Insurance Group. A brief moment of rebellion was when he turned up for work without a tie in hot weather and was sent home. Mature reflection sent him back to work next morning wearing his tie and he spent the rest of his working life there..

Isabel and Bob married in 1964 and moved to Loanhead as Isabel's widowed mother, Jane, was in poor health. The birth of baby Jane, followed by Anne, gave her a new lease of life and she gave the couple a piece of land to build Craiglinn where the family was completed by the arrival of Moira.

Isabel was involved with the Church Young Wives and Mothers Group and was Vice-President of the S.W.R.I. Her musical talents were a great asset at their entertainments. When the girls grew older she returned to work at Grampian Travel, later A.T. Mays, and, after retiring, helped with the Lunch Club.

Bob succeeded Bob Smith as Session Clerk for over 20 years and was also Clerk to the Congregational Board and did a spell as Presbytery Elder. He spent nine years as Chair of the Williamson Hall Committee, served on the P.T.A. and was secretary of the Perth Hunt Pony Club for nine years when all three daughters were riding and competing.

Both helped with the Abernethy Museum and Bob still produces a quiz for fund raising. He also contributes entertaining articles to the Crier.

Isabel remembers all the shops in Abernethy.

Every morning she would wheel the pram to the paper shop, the baker's, the butcher's and the Co-operative. Her mother was fitted for corsets by a lady in Den Park. Good quality underwear and nightwear could be bought at Clow's factory shop and a photographer's would develop films. The Hotel was thriving and was the venue for the wedding receptions of all three daughters.

When Craiglinn was built in the late 60's all the work except plastering was done by local tradesmen. Isabel had wanted a two-storey house but was dissuaded, 'You won't always be Jack and Jill!'

I'll finish with the words of the song that Bob quotes. 'Darby and Joan, who used to be Jack and Jill. The folks who live on the hill.'

AH



ABERNETHY IN BLOOM

DIDN'T WE DO WELL – A SILVER award from 'Beautiful Scotland' and our second 'SILVER GILT' from 'Take A Pride In Perthshire' since we got together as Abernethy In Bloom in 2015.

As a relatively new group taking part in the 'Beautiful Scotland' award scheme, it was particularly pleasing to attain a Silver Award as very few groups attain this level on their first entry. This year, the 'Beautiful Scotland' award ceremony was an afternoon and evening event, sponsored by East Lothian council at Haddington on September 6th. The afternoon offered a choice of three tours of local interest prior to the evening award ceremony held at a beautiful setting in St Marys Collegiate Church.

The Take A Pride In Perthshire awards were given at a presentation at the Salutation Hotel, Perth on September 12th.

Karen and David at Berryfields have kindly offered to provide a home for both certificates where they can be seen in all their glory.

The community of Abernethy deserves a big thank you for all the help and support given to Abernethy In Bloom to achieve the above success for the village. A special thankyou is given to the Cubs and Beavers whose participation on the day played an important role for the judging of both competitions. An extended thank you is also given to the Community Council for their letter of appreciation for all the hard work given by the Abernethy In Bloom volunteers.

At the 'Beautiful Scotland' appraisal, Adrian Miles, one of the Judges, offered to come to Abernethy and give a talk on the three principles of 'Horticultural Achievement', 'Environmental Responsibility' and 'Community Participation' on which the 'Beautiful Scotland' judging is based. Abernethy In Bloom is therefore sponsoring an evening with the Abernethy Horticultural Society when we hope to pick up a few tips from Adrian to help us achieve that elusive Gold award. All are welcome to attend on January 9th at 19.30 in the Masonic Hall, Abernethy.

Sadly, we saw the last of the summer floral displays in October. However, all the village planters are now planted with daffodils, tulips and pansies which will give another wonderful display of colour in the spring.

The next key date for the community is the fourth 'Christmas Tree Light Switch On' to be held on Friday 7th December 2018 at 18.30 in Nurse Peattie's Garden. Branston who continue to support the village with their help in many areas, are again sponsoring this year's 'Switch On' event and are also providing this year's Christmas Tree. As in previous years the event has

to be an enjoyable evening for all the family. So please come along on December 7th at 18.30 and join in with a few Christmas songs and enjoy the festive refreshments and eats.

Unfortunately, we have been unable to find a covered area where the two boats that have been donated can be refurbished with a little TLC over the winter months. The boat project is therefore on hold for the time being.

A number of farming artefacts have also been offered which are being considered, but may again need some TLC to bring them into use for display in the village.

Abernethy In Bloom is also looking for a site to place a polytunnel which could be used to bring on plants at an earlier stage of growth to reduce the cost of the summer planting. This year's summer display was in the region of £1000 which was supported by PKC Greenspace and the generous help from previous donations from within and outside of the community. Whether or not this can be sustained in the future within the current funds is of some concern. An initiative to utilise a polytunnel which would enable the wintering of some plants and substantially reduce the annual cost of planting is therefore being considered.

Following the community response to the survey for development of the grassed area adjacent to Hatton Road, an application was made to Take A Pride In Perthshire for help with funding and project management. Abernethy In Bloom have subsequently received initial support to develop this area, within a theme depicting the historical background of Abernethy. An architectural plan for review and to determine the project cost is now being progressed. A percentage of the project cost will be required to be met by Abernethy In Bloom. Fundraising initiatives will therefore be required to engage support from the community to meet this part of the project cost.

If you would like to join us to help keep Abernethy bright and cheerful, we would be pleased to welcome you, at any age, to join Abernethy In Bloom. No horticultural knowledge required and absolute beginners welcome. You will see us at Nurse Peattie's garden every Monday. If keen to join us please let us know or just come along.

Key Diary dates for 2018/2019 are:

Friday 7 December at 18.30 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Switch On

Wednesday 9 January at 19.30 - An evening with Adrian Miles, Beautiful Scotland Judge

Ian Lamond,
Secretary Abernethy in Bloom (Tel: 850186)



Destination	Charge (Return Journey)
Newburgh	£4.00
P.R.I.	£8.00
Ninewells	£20
Bridge of Earn	£4.00
Stracathro	£35.00
Kinross	£13.00

Abernethy Community Transport

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What do we do?

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- Our drivers are fully insured and carry identification cards.

Further information

If you would like to know more, please give us a call on **07840 212747** or email **abernethyct@gmail.com**.

After Nurse Peattie, commemorated in Nurse Peattie's Garden, retired she was followed by another nurse greatly revered in the village and this is the poem commemorating her retiral.

Nurse Finella Mavor

From all in Abernethy Nurse -
Our heartfelt thanks - and more,
The words seem quite inadequate -
You have heard them all before!
From streets and wynds - the young and old
From parents proud and happy,
From many a teenager - who with pride can
say
"You gently changed my nappy!!"

You are someone very special Nurse -
Discreet in word and deed,
You have shared our joys and sorrows,
Always there in time of need.
All our aches and pains we've shared with
you
Operations sound like fiction!
You must possess that special gift
To read the doc's prescription!!

You have always been so careful -
You have never lost a thing
No bandages, no needles - not a single safety
pin !

So nurse - come share your secret -
At your leisure - if you will
How come you lost that big commode -
One day up Ayton Hill??

We are all so very happy Nurse
To know- you will not leave us,
But stay right here in Abernethy,
Share the beauty that surrounds us.
A special message from a four legged friend -
"I'll heed your every warning -
I'll lift my leg and go to bed
- and see you in the morning!!"

Now in retirement may you find
Contentment, joy and pleasure,
With many years of happiness
And memories to treasure.
Expressions of our gratitude -
Yes we've said them all before -
But tonight again Nurse Mavor
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