

# VILLAGE CRIER

DELIVERED TO 780 HOUSEHOLDS



## ABERNETHY AND ABERARGIE NEWS

4th EDITION

SEPTEMBER 2009

Dear Readers,

We are now approaching the end of July, more than half way through summer and as I put pen to paper I am sitting at a table looking over one of the most beautiful views in Scotland, watching the tide ebb over the Sands of Morar and the more distant outline of the Island of Eigg. The peace and tranquility are wonderful and I just wish I could share this with all of you.

The last time I was preparing my contribution for The Crier was mid-May, before all the summer activities really got going so this edition will be one of looking back and looking forward.

Just after the last issue the main event of the summer took place----- Yes! THE GALA. As usual all watched the weather forecasts and waited with bated breath. This year we were fortunate. Although cold, the rain stayed away and a good crowd enjoyed a happy afternoon, buying and selling, taking part in events and visiting the many and varied side-shows, ranging from the Human Fruit Machine to relaxing Head Massage and Manicures, from Ceramics to Squirrels and Birds of Prey. The Crier was present too, looking very authentic, complete with bell. A full report on the whole of Gala Week is included in this issue.

Quite a number of people from Abernethy and Aberargie have taken part in various events outside the area. Kirsty Graham and Bella travelled to Nottingham to take part in an equestrian event more of which is revealed within the pages of this issue. Several people took part in the sabotaged Cycle Race which was widely reported in the Press, one person at least took part in a Ladies Marathon and one in the Moon Walk in Edinburgh. These are events I've been told about by participants, maybe there have been others and I just haven't heard.

By the time The Crier goes to print we will be thinking of autumn and winter activities. The school will have re-opened after the holidays, new children setting out on the journey of education, others having left Abernethy to go on to Senior School in Perth. The Horticultural Society has risen from the ashes, the Craft Fair will be taking place on the 24th October, the WRI, the Badminton Club, Auld Abernethy, Cubs, Guides etc will be preparing for their new sessions.

Perhaps we could introduce a DIARY of EVENTS into The Crier but we can only produce what information is given to us. We would also like to receive for publication letters and comments from you out there.

There are now collection boxes in the village, in the Corner Shop, Brian's and The Culdees Tearoom. All donations gratefully received!

Appropriately enough as I draw my article to its close I see the flood tide has now covered the Morar sands and Eigg is shrouded in mist. So ends my draft copy; the next stage when I am back in Abernethy is fingers on keyboard to Jimmy, not quite the same ring as pen to paper, but one must move with the times.

Thank you to all our contributors, till the next time. Hilda Clow.



We do not as yet have a column for announcements and acknowledgements so I can only write on what I know; as follows,

Congratulations to the following on the arrival of new grandchildren

David & Kathleen Baird     Hannah Scarlett

Steve & Barbara Johnston     Mia

David & Celia King     Hannah

Sheila Lendrum     Arran

Keith & Sally Rose     Jack Roger

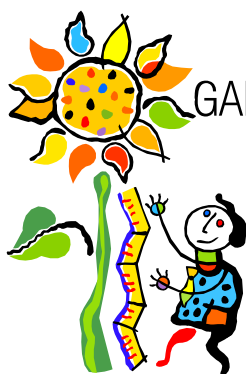
Mitch & Margaret Shaw     Cameron Peter Derek

Shelagh Womer     Matthew James.



Sadly I heard of the death of Andrew (Bunt) Morrison. On behalf of The Crier our thoughts are with Margaret and the family at this time. Thank you to all the contributors.

Hilda Clow



## GARDEN DAY 19th SEPT

In the last Crier we asked whether there was an interest in getting the Horticultural Society going again. The answer was yes and we hope more of you will join us over the next few months at some

of the events we plan to organise.

Firstly, we are planning to have a Garden Day on the 19th of September, 1-3pm in the Williamson Hall. This will be a great fun day for all the family with activities for young and old (and the forgotten middle aged folk too). Please look out for our posters with more details but to whet your appetite we will be looking to get everyone to enter vegetable characters, posters and the ugliest vegetable contest – all will be displayed on the day. On the day we will have composting help, an apple press (bring your own for juicing) and of course some great home baking and tea. For those younger at heart we will be making egg cress heads and potting up crocuses for the spring. We will also have a plant and seed bring and buy stall, so if you are tidying a border and find something has seeded, pot it up and bring it along for the stall. We look forward to seeing you there. We will be having a variety of talks from late autumn until the spring.

These will include talks to help gardeners get started, learn more about their vegie patch, find out about the orchards and lots more. The first talk will be in October and monthly from then on.



We are trying to organise a garden share scheme. Ideally this will match people with space in their garden they would like to see used with people who have more gardening desires than they currently have space for. We will match people with similar interests (vege, flowers or whatever) and we have got a detailed contract that will protect both parties. So anyone interested please do get in touch.

For more details on the above do look out for posters or get in touch with us through [abernethyhorticultural@googlemail.com](mailto:abernethyhorticultural@googlemail.com) or call Keir on 850676. Happy gardening



## ONE RAINY MORN.

Wednesday 17th June, a thoroughly wet miserable, rainy morning.

What is this I see from my window which is on the level with the top of the Round Tower?

Two hardy souls, exposed to the elements, one attempting to scale the flagpole. Better him than me. All is now clear.

He is untangling the flag which has been wrapped around the flagpole for what seems several months, a source Of constant irritation to me spoiling my view across to The Carse of Gowrie.

All is now well as the Saltire flutters bravely over the Round Tower.

Bob MacDonald

## THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Ruby wishes to express her sincere thanks to neighbours and local friends for the lovely "get well" cards, beautiful flowers and best wishes she received while in Ninewells Hospital, Dundee. She is now at home and progressing slowly.

Ruby Ironside, Maybank, Abernethy

## END OF AN ERA

It is with great sadness I report the death of Robert "Bobby" Clow, on Thursday 6th August 2009.

Our thoughts are with Hilda and the family at this time



# Growing up in Post-War Abernethy

(Part two)

## Evelyn Scobie

There was a black range in the wee living room at "Meadow View", and I can remember being bathed in a white enamel bath in front of the fire. I also remember my Dad making toast at the fire with a toasting fork – it was always "plain" bread, we used then, not "pan". He used to ask if I wanted "Plain Jane" or "Curly Kate", that was what he called the two ends of the slice – Plain Jane was the straight end and Curly Kate the round end! Sometimes it was gey black, especially if it fell off the fork into the fire! Somehow it always seemed to taste better than done under a grill or in a toaster! I also remember him making apple fritters (apple rings dipped in batter and fried - I suppose my mum would have made up the batter!) The Orchard (which was an orchard then!) was owned at that time by a gentleman who didn't live in it, and my mum and dad looked after it for him, and they used to get apples as part payment! They used to sell the apples, pears and plums for him and I remember the school kids used to buy them at lunchtime.



Talking about bread, I remember I used to be sent to the baker's for a "half loaf" - that was from the days when the loaves were baked together in twos, and they were pulled apart to make a "half loaf". Sometimes I would be told to get half a dozen "teabread". The ladies behind the counter would sometimes give me a half meringue! I used to wonder if everybody got one, or if it was just me! The Clarks had the baker's then and I used to play with the Clark twins, Ian and Margaret. I used to be sent to get the "papers" as well, I think it was the shop where the clinic is now, and Mrs Christie across the road used to give me a three-penny-bit, or an orange, for collecting hers. I also remember being sent to buy a pair of "stockings" at Kate Walker's shop for my mum - fully fashioned 30 denier with seams! I can also remember being sent to Thomson Ramsay the butcher for the mince and sausages!

There were a lot more shops in Abernethy then, than there is now, including two, if not three grocers-cum-general merchants, a Post Office, a Butcher, and a Baker. I also remember we had a "wireless" which had an "accumulator", which had to be "re-filled" at one of the shops. I used to get this job. I suppose I must have



been about five by this time, but I have often thought it was a bit dangerous for a wee girl to be doing this! Of course no TV then, it was all "wireless", and I can remember my Dad listening to the football on a Saturday afternoon, or the Dance Music on a Saturday night!

We must have had better summers then, I remember my mum used to put up one of those screens at the front door, you know, the green and white striped affairs on hooks, so that you could leave your door open!

I also remember I had a wooden swing, and if it was raining and I couldn't play outside, my Dad used to screw the swing into the lintel of the bedroom door and I would swing away to my hearts content in the "lobby"! Sometimes my mum would take me to Perth on the bus, on the old Alexander's "Bluebird"! Sometimes it was the train. Passenger trains still ran from Abernethy then, and that's where I met my first little friend, Carol Neill. Carol's gran used to take us down to the park where we played among the trees and pretended we saw fairies! She used to say I was like Little Red Riding Hood as I had a little red suit, coat, hat and "pantaloons" (remember them - with buttons up the side and elastic under your foot!)

I remember once being terrified by a terrible thunder and lightning storm. I must have been about 4, and had been visiting my big sister, who by this time was married and had a little boy, and lived at the other end of the street. I remember her telling me to hurry home before the rain came on, but too late, it got very black and the heavens opened! I just remember standing there in the street, petrified, and screaming my head off, until somebody rescued me, but by this time my Mum was coming up the street to meet me - I think she heard my screams! No mobiles, or even phones, in those days! I do remember my mum telling me years later that she was just as terrified of thunder and lightning as me, even after she was grown up, and she used to hide under the coats in the "lobby"! She used to tell me the thunder was just the coalman delivering coal!

I'll just mention here that in those days the Bett family went round the village selling coal with the horse and cart, and the lovely big Clydesdales.

I also remember the Shepherd family who used to come down from Stewarts Hill with their donkey and cart to get the "messages"!



In the Square, just where the Clinic is now, there used to be a water trough called "The Bink" (or "Binque"), and I remember an old man used to sit there sometimes when we children were playing about, and he used to try and catch us round the neck with his walking stick and pretend he was going to put us in the water! Don't think he would get away with that nowadays!

I also remember the black iron water wells that were located in various parts of the village, in particular the one which stood near the gate into The Orchard (like the one in the garden of the White House).

My Dad worked on a neighbouring farm, Jamesfield, and cycled the two miles every day to work, with his faithful collie, "Mark", running alongside. They had sheep on the farm, and sometimes my Dad would take me down to see the wee lambs, and he used to tie a cushion round the bar of the bike and I sat on this, and hung onto the handlebars! They obviously didn't bother much about "Health and Safety" in those days! Apparently, when I was about four or five, I tried to take my little friends down to see the lambs, but went the wrong way and got lost, and the alarm was raised, and everybody was out looking for us! Apparently, my friend Margaret Smith's mum had a cake in the oven which got burnt while she went to look for her!

There were German prisoners who worked on the farm, and some of them made wooden toys. I was lucky enough to get two or three of these toys – one of them was a piece of wood with a handle (like a table tennis bat but square) with four chickens carved out of wood, fixed to it, pointing into the centre, with string tied round their tails and through holes in the corners of the piece of wood, and the strings were attached to a weight. When you moved the "bat" in a circular motion, the chickens "pecked" at "crumbs" painted on the centre. I kept that toy for years, and still had it up as far as the sixties, but it must have "got lost in the flitting" because I don't have it now. When the War Time Exhibition was on in the Abernethy Museum, there was one the same, which I think belonged to a local farmer, who is the same age as me, so he must have got one too! My Mum also got a carved wooden parrot, with a lead weight in its tail, which swings on a stand, which I still have to this day. How it survived I don't know, probably because it lay in a drawer for years!

(more next time)



## ABERNETHY

### Where everything is, for a reason

Aah! Abernethy biscuits, nothing to do with Abernethy. Dr Abernethy, a doctor who specialised in digestive health thought his biscuit recipe would help with his patients digestive problems. (see exhibition in Museum)

Lord Abernethy, who's Lord Abernethy? Interesting theory. Try Aber (on the banks of) and the Nethy burn, that gives you Abernethy.

The old school in the School Wynd, previously known as Steeple Wynd, is now a great new development owned by Servite Homes known as James Roy Court.

In the Kirk or Cow Wynd as it was once was known, is the site of the old United Presbyterian Kirk now a beautifully preserved and renovated dwelling house.

Unfortunately, the station was closed for passengers In 1955 and for goods in 1956. The station office and the station masters house is now a dwelling house.

The Main street was at one time the main drag through the village and the Back Dykes was the back dykes.

Where Pandora's Box is now was at one time a sub-office of the Royal Bank of Scotland. The bank was open on a Monday and Thursday mornings. It closed for business for the last time in 198 . That is the Bank Buildings.

Offenders beware we have a jail, Actually, we had two jails at one time. The old Police station along the Perth road had one (before it closed) and there was one in the basement of the house on the Newburgh side of the old old post office, the Hillock.

Now where was the old post office, or was that the old old post office. I am sure we will all know where the recently closed PO was but the PO before that was the building two doors on east side of the Kirk Wynd next to the jail silly. It closed in 1973.

They discovered an iron age fortress on Castle Law hill, the major construction and design was excavated between 1896 and 1898.

The Witches road winds it way up past the old quarry to the witches cave silly, where else would it go!

Ok now Julie?

## SCARECROWS OR NO SCARECROWS

Earlier this year Newburgh, our neighbours along the road, had a Scarecrow competition which proved to be very successful with I think over eighty entrants. There were scarecrows sitting outside tearooms on the street, there was a chimney sweep up a lumb and the winner was a bride and groom sitting outside the kirk. Not wanting to steal their idea, I thought it would be a great addition to Gala week if we ran a similar competition in Abernethy and Aberargie. What do people think? What do the Gala Committee think? Replies to the Crier. Rules and that can be thrashed out later if it is a goer.

The Ed.

## Some pics from the 2009 Hill Race



THE "CRIER" IS DELIVERED FREE  
TO OVER 750 HOUSEHOLDS IN  
ABERNETHY AND ABERARGIE

## CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Many people will have heard of the C A B or Citizens Advice Bureau but will not know what it does or how to contact it.

It does not so much offer advice as provide people with accurate information so they can make their own decisions and it is completely confidential.

The Bureau is in New Row in Perth. You can drop in any weekday morning between 10 am and 12 noon. You will be seen but may have to wait.

You can telephone 01738 564304 and get an after-noon appointment or you can telephone 01738 624301 and get advice on the phone. Sometimes the bureau is very busy and you may have to try again. There is also a website [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk) full of useful information. If you use this be sure to click on the tab that says Scotland.

Everything, including the fact you have been in touch, is confidential and you can remain anonymous if you wish.

Il am going to give you true case studies in each issue of 'The Crier'

This first one concerns a gentleman who dropped in to say he had been in the pub and his mate had told him the government would give him £200 to keep warm in winter.

Could this possibly be true?

I asked him his age and he replied that he was 62 so I made him very happy by saying 'Yes!' and told him how to apply for a winter fuel grant.

Women automatically get the grant at 60 as they have reached pensionable age but men can slip through the net and not realise they are eligible once they are 60. They can also get a bus pass.

The winter fuel grant is per household and is currently £250 which is shared between a household. This caused trouble when people living in flats suddenly found their grant was halved as someone living in the same building had claimed. The CAB had to contact the authorities and explain that there could be several separate households all sharing the same address as it was a tenement or a block of flats.

It is very satisfying and rewarding to support ordinary people confused by officialdom.

Contact the 'Crier' if you would like an article on a specific subject

AH







## CHURCHILL IN ABERNETHY 100 YEARS AGO

The main new display in the Museum of Abernethy this year is "The Abernethy Hall of Fame". It gives images and details of famous people who were born in, have

lived in, or have visited Abernethy. Almost 100 years ago two of the characters featured in this display visited the village at more or less the same time. One was the statesman and future war leader, Sir Winston Churchill, the other being the suffragette Adela Pankhurst.

Churchill, aged 35, was an up-and-coming minister in 1909 and was a Liberal candidate for a Dundee constituency. George K Smith of Ballomill, Abernethy was a Dundee businessman and was prominent in local Liberal circles. It was through Smith's influence that Churchill was persuaded to give a campaign speech in Abernethy one Saturday in October. This required considerable organisation. Special trains were chartered from both Perth and Dundee. A huge marquee (to hold 2,500 people) was erected somewhere on the grounds of Ballomill (Does anyone know where?) A refreshment tent was also provided. Mr Smith even had an extension built on to Ballomill so that he could accommodate his distinguished guest in more style. Dr Wood, who now lives there, tells me that there is a toilet that to this day is referred to as "Churchill's loo"!

According to local press reports the event seems to have been a success. They vary in their estimates as to how many attended. One report says that 600 came from Perth and 1000 from Dundee by train. Certainly the marquee was full and several hundred also congregated outside it. The tiny railway station at Abernethy struggled to cope. The eagerness of the crowd to reach the place of the meeting would not permit of their remaining until the latter part of the train was drawn forward to the platform, but they dropped down on the railway embankment and scrambled down to the roadway.

Mr Churchill on rising to address the gathering was received with unbounded enthusiasm; "For he's a jolly good fellow" being started in various parts of the assemblage and sung in as large a variety of keys. The cheering having subsided, Mr Churchill observed that "This is a very fine gathering for a lonely glen", a sally which was received with much laughter.

Only a quarter of the large crowd in the marquee had seats.

Hundreds were prepared to stand for the duration of young Winston's 70 minute speech, delivered by the light of paraffin lamps. Admission appears to have been controlled by a system of white, yellow and red tickets. At the entrance to Ballomill was stationed a little army of stewards, who vised admission cards of the throng, and closely observed the ladies who sought admission, ready to obstruct the way of the suffragette.

The aim of the suffragettes was to achieve the right for women to vote in general elections. Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughters were prominent leaders of this movement. Adela Pankhurst with a group of activists arrived by motor car in Abernethy while Churchill was giving his oration, their aim being to disrupt the proceedings. This they did not manage to do. They were in fact handled quite roughly by part of the crowd assembled outside the tent and were pelted with mud. Some days later Miss Pankhurst and six others were jailed in Dundee for acts of civil disobedience at some of Churchill's other pre-election events. In later life Adela was prominent in Australian politics.

Full press articles relating to this Abernethy political event of the century can be read in the museum, but hurry as it closes for the season at the end of September. We at the museum are eager to learn of any more details relating to Churchill's visit, to the local suffragette organisation, or to any other famous faces with an Abernethy connection. We would also like to have a photo of George K. Smith of Ballomill, who comes across as a colourful, extrovert burgher of Abernethy. Buoyed up by the success of organising this event, Smith said to Churchill when he was leaving that he would expect his assistance to induce Mr Lloyd George, the Chancellor of the Exchequer to come to Abernethy next year. So far as we know this did not happen. Now in 2009 a general election looms. Could we persuade Fife M.P. Gordon Brown, or his Chancellor, Mr Darling, to address us in a tent in Powrie Park? How big a tent would we need?

BILL DREVER

## AULD ABERNETHY ASSOCIATION

(The village historical society)



The 2009/2010 session of the Association kicks off on the first Wednesday in October in the Musuem of Abernethy building, School Wynd.

It will be another bumper year with first class speakers. All welcome



## ONE PONY ONE DAY ONE HUNDRED MILES



Arabelle( Bella) the Grey Arab/ Welsh pony is back in her field at Station Road having completed the ultimate endurance challenge for any horse. She travelled 300 miles to Sherwood Forest with her owner, Kirstie Graham, and won the Bahrain Dukeries 160km Endurance Race.

This is part of the Bahrain Dukeries Festival of Endurance which is sponsored by the Bahraini Royal family and is run on the beautiful ancient woodland of the Thoresby, Welbeck Abbey and Clumber estates. England does not enjoy the same access laws as Scotland and it is a real privilege to ride on the lovely forest tracks.

The event started and finished in front of the magnificent Jacobean Thoresby Hall where there were trot-up lanes for the stringent vet inspections that horses undergo during the race. They are checked for heart rate, hydration, digestion, muscle tiredness and blood flow as well as soundness. Kirstie's Mum, Anne, friend Mary from North Berwick and Mary's fourteen year old daughter Megan had travelled with her to help look after Bella and help prepare for the vettings as well as meeting Kirstie and Bella on the course to offer them food and water and pour water over Bella to keep her cool.

They all were there for the start at six in the morning as five horses set off and at dusk just before 9.30pm as, with only three horses left in the race, Kirstie and Bella cantered over the line an hour ahead of second and third.

They passed the final vetting, which involves three vets, to gain first place to great applause and jubilation, especially from Kirstie's crew of helpers.

This is the ultimate endurance ride, attained by very few but many riders enjoy rides that start at about 18 kilometres in beautiful areas with the Scottish Endurance Riding Club. (SERC)

If you are interested in learning more phone Anne Hollingsworth or look at the website [www.scottishendurance.com](http://www.scottishendurance.com)

## CIRCLE OF CHRISTIAN BLESSING

We are hoping to start a Circle of Christian Blessing in Abernethy.

It will involve time for prayer and reflection with an emphasis on healing --

Healing for relationships, situations, communities and people. Anyone is welcome to come along. The first meeting will be at Pitnacree Cottage (by the Crees Inn) on Monday 7th September, at 7.30pm.

Janet Paton, Maureen Nisbet, Rev. Alec Wark, Rev. Edward Robertson.

## ABERNETHY GALA 2009

This year's event was again a great success and we raised an amazing £4700 for the Williamson Hall!

The gala committee would like to sincerely thank everyone who gave up their time to help support this year's events. Many thanks to those who organised the Car Treasure Hunt, Bowling Night, Kids Discos, Hill Race and Hymns in the Square. Gala day luckily stayed dry and we had a great support from the village to help set up the park and run the stalls - everyone's efforts were endless and appreciated!

A huge thank you to all our sponsors, especially our main sponsor Branston. All cash and raffle donations are gratefully accepted and contributed massively to the overall £4700 raised.

A special thank you to Ian Cartwright for opening the gala and to our Gala Queen Kathleen Hutchison and her 2 attendants Bronte McCullie and Britney McMillan, we hope you all had a great time being involved in the gala.

Without members of the community helping it would be impossible for the events to go ahead. Gala day is becoming increasingly popular and to cope with the growing number of people attending the Williamson Hall Committee are looking for more people to help. If you would like to join the committee let them know. If you have any suggestions, fresh ideas or can contribute in any way please get in touch with Jill Young on 01738 850087.

Many thanks from Andrea, Jill & Kirsty

(2009 gala committee)



# CHANGES TO PLANNING PROCESS

Major changes to the way in which planning applications are decided were considered by Perth & Kinross Council recently.

Large parts of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2006 come into effect on 3rd August this year, and these will introduce a new planning application process across Scotland.

On Wednesday 24 June Full Council approved a report that sets out proposals for two major changes: setting up a Local Review Body and changing the Council's Scheme of Administration, as required by the Act.

Under the Act, there will be different procedures for determining national, major and local planning applications, and for applicants to appeal decisions made.

Developments of national significance will be decided by the Scottish Government, taking into account the views of the Full Council.

Major developments - which will include most sites of over 2 hectares or housing development of 50 houses and over - will have to be decided by the Full Council if they are significantly contrary to the Development Plan, which includes the current Local Plans. Appeals against these decisions will be dealt with by the Scottish Government.

The report to Council recommended that all other major applications will be decided by the Council's Development Control Committee, rather than some being delegated to officers as is an option under the Act.

It also recommended that smaller-scale local developments will generally be decided by officers under delegated powers. The new Act specifies that some local developments cannot be decided by officers - where the Council has a financial or other interest, or the application is made by a Councillor. The report recommended that, in addition, officers will not decide a local development if the applicant is a Chief Officer or the application was determined previously by committee; or if the application is recommended for approval but is significantly contrary to the Development Plan, or if it has attracted a total of six or more objections from Community Councils, households, businesses or interest groups (more than one letter from the same household, organisation or property would count as one letter of objection).



In these cases, an application would be decided by the Development Control Committee. The addition of letters from Community Councils when calculating the number of objection letters is a significant change which has been requested by Community Councils in Perth and Kinross.

Appeals against decisions made by the Development Control Committee will continue to be determined by the Scottish Government. Appeals against decisions on local developments made by Council officers will be heard by the new Local Review Body of Councillors with no further right of appeal to the Scottish Government.

The report to Full Council proposed that the Local Review Body for Perth and Kinross will be made up of three members drawn from the Councillors who sit on the Development Control Committee.

Now that it has been agreed by Full Council, the revised Scheme of Administration will be submitted to Scottish Ministers for approval.

Councillor Ian Miller, Leader of the Council said:

"This Act will introduce the most significant change to planning in Scotland for decades. Its focus is to keep local decisions local, make the process more efficient and increase local people's say in planning applications. This Council has been working hard, with the Scottish Government, as the Act has been developed and to prepare for introducing the new requirements of the legislation in Perth and Kinross. A working group of officers and elected members has given a great deal of consideration to the Local Review Body and the best option for ensuring a robust appeals process."

The Act will introduce other changes, for example, from 3 August the notification of neighbours about planning applications will be undertaken by the Council rather than the applicant and later in the year there will be greater scope for household alterations and extensions to be undertaken without the need for planning permission. Final details are to be announced. Further information on the changes will be available on the Council's website as they come into place.

☒ Councillor Wilma Lumsden





## **ABERNETHY STAR PARTY**

SATURDAY  
31ST OCTOBER  
2009  
7.30pm

I thought it would be appropriate at this time to let you know more about this event.

The Central Scotland Observers Group is a group of people who share a common interest, "Astronomy". They consist of people of various ages, male and female alike, who share knowledge and experience with one another, and who also meet up at various dark sky sites around Scotland to stargaze.

As a group they decided to celebrate The International Year of Astronomy, by holding a Star Party. The idea is to invite people from the local community along and have the opportunity to see through member's telescopes (weather permitting), discuss the objects viewed and hopefully we can impart some enthusiasm for the subject. If the weather turns against us, we hope to have some Guest Speakers from Dundee Astronomical Society along to give a talk and slideshow.

So why not come along and enjoy the show – who knows we may inspire a budding Patrick Moore!

One stipulation we have had to impose for legal purposes, is that people under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

P.S. We will not be charging for this event, but we will be leaving a donation box for the Macmillan Nurses. All proceeds will go to this charity.

Tel: David Millar - 01738 850930 for more information  
[www.scottishastronomers.com/AbernethyStarParty](http://www.scottishastronomers.com/AbernethyStarParty)  
Email - [info@scottishastronomers.com](mailto:info@scottishastronomers.com)

## **MUSEUM OF ABERNETHY**

The CRAFT FAIR will take place on Saturday 24th October in the Williamson Hall. Doors open to the public from

10am. Admission Adults £1 Concessions and Children 50p Interesting Crafts on display. An easy way to start your Christmas Shopping! Coffees, teas and lunches available all day.



Hilda Clow

## **WILLIAMSON HALL**

As you read in the March Newsletter, the Williamson Hall has been undergoing a refurbishment programme, and the Hall Management Committee are happy to report that the latest phase, the kitchen refurbishment, has now been completed! Come along and see for yourself the transformation! The kitchen has been upgraded with installation of new units, new freezer, new flooring, new cupboards and flooring in the ante room. The ladies and gents toilets have also been painted, and baby changing facilities installed in the ladies cloakroom. This has only been possible due to the support by everyone at this year's Gala, when the marvellous sum of £4,700 was raised. The Hall Management Committee would like to thank everyone for their help and support, financially and otherwise, and also a big thank you to the Gala Committee, Andrea, Jill and Kirsty for all their hard work in organising this year's Gala. Next year's Gala will be the 50th so let's make it a good one! Our next project will be the main hall floor, which is badly needing attention. Watch this space!

## **FUND RAISING**

A fund raising "Touch of Tartan Ceilidh" with the Lomond Ceilidh Band, is being held in the hall on Friday 27th November. Watch out for details in the notice board and shop windows. Please support this event.



## **HALL MEETINGS**

Hall Meetings are held on the last Monday of every second month and the next meeting will be on Monday 31st August at 7.30pm. Agenda will be displayed in the notice board. The meetings are open to all, and representatives from all groups and organisations who use the hall are asked to attend.

## **100 CLUB**

The draws are made at the hall meetings, and new members are welcome. The subscription is still only £12 annually, and the monthly prizes are 1st £20 and 2nd £15. If you would like to join please phone 850496 for an application form.

## **HALL BOOKINGS**

The hall is available for hire at very competitive prices and bookings may be made by contacting Andrea on 01738 850960 or email: [andrea.dewar@talktalk.net](mailto:andrea.dewar@talktalk.net)



Williamson Hall Management Committee

## ABERNETHY CHURCH GUILD

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month from October to April.

Theme this year is: "Called to Act Justly"

Opening Meeting – Thurs 1st October – Speaker: Rev Alec Wark

## ABERNETHY SWRI

Meetings are held in the Session House, Abernethy Church on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.15pm, from September to May each year. New members welcome. Subscription £12. Visitors £1. Contact person: Evelyn Scobie Tel: 01738 850496

Proposed Programme for 2009/2010:

Wed 16th September – 80th Birthday Celebration at Village Inn, Bridge of Earn.

Wed 21st October – Presentation on Walled Garden, Murray Royal Hospital

Wed 18th November – Talk/Demonstration on "Chocolate" (hopefully)

Wed 16th December – Xmas Meal

Wed 20th January – Talk by Representative from PKAVS

Wed 17th February – "Safety in the Home" by Tayside Fire Service

Wed 17th March – Open Night – "Jamie at Home"

Wed 21st April – "Underwater Photography from Around the World" - Open Night

Wed 19th May – AGM

See Notice Board for further details or ring 01738 850496

### "Fiddlers Concert"

By Dunkeld & District Strathspey and Reel Society  
Williamson Hall on Friday 30th October at 7.30pm  
Tickets £5 (includes tea and biscuits)

Contact 850496

## BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY 27th September



Although we live in a secular age with less interest in Church or religion, most people drift away from Church usually by moving from one place to another or through other commitments. They get out of the habit or routine of getting ready to go to Church on a Sunday morning. Going back to Church can seem daunting - will I know anyone? Will I feel like a stranger? Will it all be different? These are natural concerns people have, going back to Church can be tough.

A few years ago someone in England had a great and simple idea - what if we had a Sunday for the people who want to come back to Church?

The idea has caught on and spread all over the country. It has spread to Abernethy and Dron and Arngask.

Our Churches will celebrate 'Back to Church Sunday' with other local Churches. There is no formula to this except a friendly welcome and worship and worship which has something the same and maybe something different.

Here are a couple of snippets from the website:-

On September 27th, 2009 half a million people will be inviting someone special back to church with them.

Comment from one lady on entering the church - "It only needed something like this to get me through the door"  
This year's theme is 'COME AS YOU ARE'

Rev. Wark.

## OBITUARY

Abernethy lost a popular and much respected resident, with the passing on Friday 10th July of Andrew 'Bunt' Morrison at the age of 94 years. Bunt was born and brought up in the village and spent all of his life here apart from war service with the Royal Army Ordnance Corps. He served as an elder of Abernethy and Dron Parish Church for many years and also served a long term as church treasurer. Bunt worked all of his working life in the Motor dept. of the insurance company General Accident, now Aviva Insurance, then based within the building at the bottom of the High Street now occupied by Perth and Kinross Council.

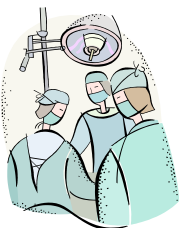
He was essentially a quiet man, fond of gardening, walking, dancing and the coach holidays, he enjoyed with Margaret, his wife for 59 years. He is survived by his wife, daughter Linda, son Andrew and his five grandchildren. A well attended funeral service in Abernethy church was followed by interment in the new cemetery. The service was conducted by the Rev. Alec Wark.

Bob MacDonald



# TIMES TO REMEMBER

## DOCTORS SURGERY (ABERNETHY)



TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY  
9 - 11am

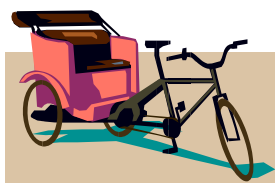
## MOBILE LIBRARY



### FORTNIGHTLY WEDNESDAYS

ABERARGIE	1.30 - 1.40pm
CASTLELAW	1.45 - 2.10pm
PERTH ROAD	2.10 - 2.25pm
OLD HOTEL	2.25 - 3.00pm
WAR MEMORIAL	3.05 - 3.50pm
DEN PARK	3.55 - 4.10pm

## MOBILE BANK



WEEKLY TUESDAYS 10.05 - 10.30am



## MOBILE POST OFFICE

MONDAY	9 - 10.30am
TUESDAY	2.30 - 4.00pm
WEDNESDAY	9 - 11.00am
THURSDAY	9 - 10.30am
FRIDAY	2.30 - 4.00pm



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MONDAY EVENINGS 7.15 - 9.45

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

CALL HILDA CLOW ON ABERNETHY 850641

## THE VILLAGE CRIER

### CONTACT NUMBERS

Anne Hollingsworth	850384
Maureen Nisbet	850417
Hilda Clow	850641
Jimmy Swan	850569
<a href="mailto:jimmyswan36@gmail.com">jimmyswan36@gmail.com</a>	



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