



Abernethy      Dron      Aberargie

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EDITION 37      DECEMBER 2017

Closing date for articles for the next edition is 31.1.18

# REMEMBRANCE DAY 2017



## IN THIS EDITION

From the Chairperson	page 3
Editor's view	page 4
Frae oor Cooncillor	page 5
Abernethy Scouts	page 6
"It takes a village"	page 8
Second hand cars	page 9
Horses for Abernethy courses	page 10
Burns supper to Remember	page 12
Drivers wanted Community Council	page 13

ENJOY

## TO THE DISTRIBUTORS

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

Thank you again for your assistance in this matter.

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Any submission without these details will NOT be published.



## LETTERS TO THE ED



### Dear Ed

The farmers have been very busy this last month or two, finishing off the harvest, lifting tatties and ploughing. As they leave the fields they trail heaps of dirt and mud on to the main roads and side roads. Their solution seems to be stick up a sign that says "mud on the road", big deal. This dirt goes into the roadside culverts, gets stuck on the bottom of our cars and they just stick up a home made sign.

Why are they not drawn up about this by the Council or the Police, it is surely a danger to road users and costs the Council money to clean out the drains.

**Bob Kennedy**

## FOR SALE

Set of 4 snow tyres, in good condition, 205x55xR16.  
£100  
For further information and viewing.

Call 07989 419512

MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND A  
HAPPY NEW YEAR

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## FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Before writing my piece for The Crier now, I wait until all the contributions are in so that I can guide you," Dear Readers" to articles of interest, advice, information and amusement; something for everyone

First and foremost I hope you are impressed, with the front cover of this edition, a sunny day in Abernethy the War Memorial being the centrepiece.

These last few years since 1914 have been very much those of reflection on the terrible events of 100 years ago. Many moving stories have been told and many events have taken place in memory of those who lost their lives. One of the most moving experiences in my life was attending the memorial service at The Cenotaph on behalf of W.R.V.S Scotland,, something I will never forget.

Now we move on to the contents of Edition 37 of The Crier, lots to read and think about, starting with the Editor's idea about fundraising. Personally I think it is a good idea.

In relation to that it is good to learn that a defibrillator is to be installed in the village and the information from Duncan Kennedy about the Heart Start Training is something as many as possible should take advantage of.

Very full and informative reports from our MP, local councillor and Community Council are to be found within. It is amazing how much goes on in a relatively small rural area.

Well done to Gordon Miller and the Scouts Litter Pick. They all deserve their free McDonald's meal!

We have our usual reports from the SWI, good to hear of a few new members, from the Church, with the sad news that Douglas Main will be leaving us at the end of the year and we are still without a minister, from Abernethy in Bloom; what a splendid job those involved have done.

Bob McDonald is again bringing back memories of the "Good Old Days" with the story of his first Burns Supper. Bob has had lots of fun in his life!!

We are fortunate in having Anne's regular feature advising us on so many aspects of everyday life, this time second hand cars and wearing her other hat Horses for Courses.

Finally you will all enjoy reading the heartfelt appreciation from Karen Jerrard-Dinn of living in Abernethy

A correction from the last edition, my late husband's father had only two sisters not 21!

In conclusion

Best Wishes to you all for a Happy Christmas and New Year.  
**Hilda Clow**

## AN MP FOR EVERYONE



Surgeries:  
<https://www.lukegraham.org.uk/advice-surgeries>



At the last General Election Luke Graham was elected Member of Parliament for Ochil and South Perthshire, the Parliamentary Constituency which includes Abernethy. You might not have voted for him. In fact, you might not have voted for any one, but he was elected and now represents you, and your interests, in Westminster. Since being elected he has held over 70 surgeries in Perthshire and Clackmannanshire. Local people, regardless of how they voted, have taken their problems to him and he has been able to help in many cases particularly where bureaucracy has been involved. He won't bend the rules for you but he can make sure that local authorities and public bodies will take notice of your case.

A seven year old disabled boy had lost his Mobility Benefit and Luke's office was able to help the family appeal and get this life-line money restored.

A man in Perthshire was married and had a family here but was not born in Scotland. A relative in his original country fell ill and he wanted to visit her but he was worried that if he left this country he did not have the stamp on his passport that would allow him back in to support his family. He had applied for this but his application got lost in the system. Luke's office was able to use the influence of an M.P. to get this sorted out and obtain for him his legal entitlement.

Community issues such as planning or anti-social behaviour concerns have been brought to Luke's office. He is supporting Portmoak Community Council in their struggle with the planning decision by Fife council that will lead to a huge increase in heavy traffic through their small village.

Westminster seems a very long way away from Abernethy but decisions are made there that affect us all. Luke Graham is now representing you there.

If you want to contact him or to know when he will next be in Abernethy you can telephone his office in Crieff; 01764 680384 or e-mail him at [luke.grahamoffice@parliament.uk](mailto:luke.grahamoffice@parliament.uk)

Newsletter:  
<https://www.lukegraham.org.uk/news/october-newsletter>

## EDITOR'S VIEW

Having served on the fundraising committee of the Museum of Abernethy and by doing so realise how hard it is to raise funds. It came to me in a flash, if the Crier Committee asked each household, that receives a "Village Crier", to donate £1 per year, that would raise in the region of £800 per annum for good causes in the villages. Organisations in the Abernethy, Aberargie and Dron could apply for a share of this money. The collection of the cash may pose a problem but I think this could be overcome.

What do you think? Let's have your views.

If I receive no replies do I take that as a "Yes it's a good idea" or "No that is a bad idea".

Let me know?



I hope you are aware that the Community Council is trying to raise money for two defibrillators, one for Abernethy and one for Aberargie.

The one for Aberargie will be installed in the phone box and the one for Abernethy, we hope, will be positioned on the wall of the Surgery in Main St. This will be with the permission of the Doctors Practice. The phone box in the village has an inadequate power supply and it can't be installed there.

I would like to think the villages would manage to raise the funds to finance this equipment and donations can be made on-line at  
<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/abernethycommunitycouncil>

The Community Council is taking advice from many sources before any decisions are made and any money spent.

## ABERNETHY S.W.I.

Our season got off to a good start with our first meeting on Wed 20<sup>th</sup> September when several new members joined. Speaker was Isobel Adams who gave helpful hints and tips on using herbs and spices with meals and members enjoyed a "quiz". Competition winners: Plum Jam 1<sup>st</sup> P Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup> B Baird, 3<sup>rd</sup> E Taylor. Flower of the month 1<sup>st</sup> C Pye, 2<sup>nd</sup> L Farmer, 3<sup>rd</sup> B Cruickshanks.

Meeting on Wed 18<sup>th</sup> October we had Andrea from Glenfarg Candle Company who demonstrated candle making. Competitions winners: Sultana Loaf 1<sup>st</sup> B Baird, 2<sup>nd</sup> C. Pye, 3<sup>rd</sup> E Taylor. Flower of the month 1<sup>st</sup> E Taylor, 2<sup>nd</sup> M Cole, 3<sup>rd</sup> C Pye.

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Our next meeting is on Wed 15<sup>th</sup> November when we have a Talk by a Fire Safety Officer. Competitions: Christmas Table Decoration, and Flower of the Month.

Meetings are held in the Church Session House on the third Wed of the month from September to May each year. New members and visitors are always welcome. Membership for the year is £20, visitors £3 per meeting.

Future Meetings will be as follows:

Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Meal at Berryfields.
2018	Presentation by Jane Sanderson – Kilimanjaro. Competitions: Winter Photo & Flower of Month.
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> January	
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Demonstration of Felting by Ursula Stewart. Competitions: Two Birthday Cup Cakes – all to be judged & Flower of the Month.
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> March	<b>Open Night</b> - Jess Smith – Lives of Travellers. Competitions: Favourite Necklace & Flower of the Month.
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Entertainment from Forteviot SWI. Competitions: Savoury Paté & Flower of the Month.
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> May	AGM – Members Night. Competitions: Choc Tray Bake & Flower of the Month. 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

# FROM OOR COONCILLOR



Have I, in the last few months been able to resolve some of the issues which have been raised by you? I will leave that to you.

Last year at this time parents of Perth High School pupils and members of the public were concerned that they were sharing the 8.05 am bus to Perth and there was not a service bus until after 10am. I am pleased that this issue, for the time being has been resolved. Perth High School Pupils have their own buses and there is a service bus at 8.15am and an hourly service throughout the day. These are commercial bus routes and if you don't use them you will lose them! An additional late night bus leaves Perth at 11.30 pm Perth on Friday and Saturday arriving Abernethy at midnight.

An issue I have mentioned in a previous edition of the Crier was the need for an Abernethy Community Transport Scheme. I am pleased that this is moving forward, a public meeting was held last month and we now know that there is a need but we request your help to take this forward. Volunteer drivers are needed and a co-ordinator to take the calls and contact the drivers would be great. Initially the service will take clients to Newburgh, Bridge of Earn, Perth and Ninewells Hospital.

Parking is another issue or lack of parking particularly in the Main St. I have spoken to Council officers and there is no solution which would please all residents. Yellow lines are not the answer. Post Office van requires a place where WIFI is available, it is hoped to have a designated parking space available for this vital service for the village.

Perth & Kinross Council has improved the lock up area above the Williamson Hall which is now looking very tidy and a much more desirable place to park, it has been suggested that some lightning would be beneficial. The Council has also looked at the lack of parking at Hall park, I am hopeful that in 2018 there may be some additional parking in this area. Tenants and residents will be consulted.

Overgrown verges continue to feature in my "inbox" I was pleased to see that the council has cut the roadside from Aberargie to the Fife border; can I remind landowners that they have a responsibility to cut back overhanging branches and hedges. Children use this route to walk and cycle to school.

Looking to the future, Almond and Earn Action partnership have some funding, groups and organisations will be invited to bid for funding early 2018. Information will be available soon. Funding will be allocated by the end of March .

Another year is drawing to a close and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those in the village who volunteer with uniformed organisations, sport groups, Parent Council, Williamson Hall Committee, Pavilion, Abernethy in Bloom and Community Council and to all those who quietly help others within the village. Together we can all work together to make Abernethy, Aberargie and Dron a Better Place to Work Live and Play.

I do not hold regular surgeries, but am but happy to meet constituents at any reasonable time.

[kathleenbaird@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:kathleenbaird@pkc.gov.uk) call 07584206839

## HEART START TRAINING

I recently attended a Heartstart Training session at the Clinical Services Office at PRI, run by NHS Tayside on a monthly basis and to which all Tayside residents are invited. The course is provided free of charge and starts at 10am till noon on a Saturday morning with resuscitation instruction provided by local couple, Maureen and Fred Cotterill.

Traditional mouth to mouth with chest stimulation resuscitation, recovery positioning and the more modern Heart Defibrillation usage is explained and demonstrated in a light hearted and friendly atmosphere to a class of eight persons maximum.

The Heart Defibrillation training was particularly welcome, given that the Community Council are actively fund raising at this time, in order to purchase two defib units for Abernethy and Aberargie.

Parties interested in attending this simple but worthwhile training should contact the NHS Tayside Coordinator Helen Brady on Email, [helenjbrady@nhs.net](mailto:helenjbrady@nhs.net) or Tel 01382 740400.

**Duncan A Kennedy    Mob 07968 890070**

## THE GREAT WAR

December 11, 1917

Britain liberates Jerusalem, ending  
673 years of Turkish rule.

## ABERNETHY SCOUTS LITTER PICK

Abernethy Scouts and employees from McDonald's Restaurant, Dunkeld Road recently carried out a litter pick between Newburgh and Aberargie.

The scouts at Abernethy were currently working towards their Environmental Conservation Activity badge and wanted to find something that they could do to improve the area where they live. After discussion it was clear that there was a litter problem on the A913 Aberargie to Newburgh Road from motorists throwing rubbish from their vehicles and so the scouts decided to carry out a litter pick on the 6 miles of roadway.

Gordon Miller, Abernethy Scout Leader, contacted McDonalds to see if they would be interested in sponsoring the Scouts in the litter pick. However, they went one better and sent a car load of their staff from McDonalds to work with the youngsters during the clean-up.

The Scouts found it hard work and were surprised at the amount of rubbish collected with over 20 large bin bags filled. They were kindly rewarded with a voucher for a free McDonald's meal and no doubt will take full advantage in the near future.

Shaun Docherty of McDonalds stated "We are always keen to help where we can when approached by community groups. For several years now, we have been involved with many groups in and around the Perth area. On this occasion it was a privilege to link up with the Abernethy Scouts."



## THE EARN SINGERS Invite you to CAROLS, COFFEE and MINCE PIES on

**SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER  
10am - 12 noon**

**DUNBARNEY CHURCH HALL**

**Tickets £3**

**Get in the mood for Christmas**

**Listen or join in with your favourite  
Carols and enjoy the cake and candy  
stall**

## NEW LOCAL HAIRDRESSER

Now in Abernethy area is "SILVER LINING HAIR STUDIO" offering all hairdressing services 7 days a week.

For an appointment call 01738 851110.

Find us on Facebook and Instagram.

We are situated off the A913 above Jamesfield Farm shop.

(Walk ins Welcome)



## THE GREAT WAR

December 23, 1917

Russian armistice with Germany



## KIRK NEWS



**Morning worship** – just a few more weeks of Abernethy morning service at 11am. For **2018** the service will be in **Abernethy at 9.30 am** and in Glenfarg at 11 am. However, **on the last Sunday of each month we meet at 11am**, together with the Glenfarg part of our congregation, while alternating locations; Abernethy on the last Sunday of Jan and March and in Glenfarg in Dec, Feb and April. **There will be no service in Abernethy when the united service is in Glenfarg.**

Anyone wishing transport to Glenfarg may contact Kathleen Baird on 01337 840 218. Drinks and refreshments are served after most services. You will be very welcome to join us at either church.

## Christmas Services

On the morning of Christmas eve, there will be **no service in Abernethy** but a United service will be held in Glenfarg at **11am**. At **7pm on Christmas Eve** we would be delighted to see lots of you come together in Abernethy to celebrate Jesus birthday together.

**Children's Sunday club** meets in school term time during the morning service at each location. Please bring yourself and the children along for a time of fun, games, crafts, Bible stories and songs. Outwith term time there are toys and books in the adjacent hall cupboard for children to make use of.

## Open Doors

The Church is open on Tuesday afternoon of 5 Dec. Teas, coffees and home baking are served in the adjacent hall between 2.30 and 4pm. Come and join us. This will continue fortnightly in 2018.

## Locum minister; Rev Douglas

Main will be leaving at the end of this year to enjoy a much belated retirement. We are very grateful for his work in the Church, schools and villages which he has served so well. He has done far more than his part-time contract. As the Church in Abernethy is united with the Church in Glenfarg, a committee continues to search for a Minister for the whole parish and a new locum minister is also being sought.

## Village 'Welcome' packs

These packs contain useful village

vestibules. If you want to welcome someone new moving in to your street, why not collect a pack and add something to it – perhaps a packet of Abernethy biscuits or some flowers! The leaflets are also in the museum and Berryfields tearoom. The information will be updated regularly but if you are aware of any errors in the current version, please let Celia King know on Tel: 851 010.

## Church/ adjacent Church hall bookings

The Church (with the Minister's permission) and the adjacent church hall are available for hire. To enquire about charges and book the facilities please contact Elizabeth Taylor on 01738 850 477.

**Church Website:** [www.ada-church.org.uk](http://www.ada-church.org.uk) for further information.

**Contact Details :** [Minister@ada-church.org.uk](mailto:Minister@ada-church.org.uk)  
[Session.Clerk@ada-church.org.uk](mailto:Session.Clerk@ada-church.org.uk)



Celia King

**It is with regret we hear of the death of David Halliday and Philip Jerrard - Dinn. Our thoughts are with their families at this time.**

## THE GREAT WAR

January 8, 1918

In a far reaching speech to Congress President Woodrow Wilson outlines his 14-Point Peace Program.

## 'IT TAKES A VILLAGE'

Back in 1998, my then fiancé Philip and I were searching for a new home. Somewhere we would start married life and hopefully bring up a family.

We both felt strongly that we wanted to live in a village, but somewhere close enough to Perth for my work and Dundee for his. We had looked at various houses in the Bridge of Earn and Carse of Gowrie areas but nowhere had felt just right.

One day we had been to view a house in Bridge of Earn, which was lovely, but it wasn't what we were looking. We sat in the car afterwards and had another look through the property guide and a picture of a white, terraced cottage caught our eye. We hadn't really considered Abernethy as a location but, as we were only a few minutes away, we decided to drive along and have a quick look. We drove into the village, admired the Abernethy round tower and the quirky main street, and turned up into Kirk Wynd. We pulled up outside the white cottage and we both immediately knew that we wanted to have a closer look. Not being ones to hang about, we stopped at the phone box outside The Inn (this was before the days when everyone had a mobile phone!) and rang the number on the advert.

We viewed the house and couldn't keep the smiles off our faces. We both immediately knew that we had found the home we were looking for.

In spring 1999 we got married and the previous owners of our house the Kennedy's (who had 4 sons) were amongst other local friends who joined us to celebrate. In the guest book at our wedding they wrote a comment about there being 'something in the water' at Lawview. Sure enough, Phil and I went on to have 4 children ourselves.

Over the years our initial gut instincts have been proved right. Abernethy truly is the perfect place to settle down and bring up a family. It is a beautiful location, but within easy distance of all the facilities Perth has to offer. There are always lots of things going on and the village has a real sense of community.

Abernethy has always been a special place for us, but never more so than in recent months. On Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August Philip took ill at home and had to be ambulanced to PRI, he was then promptly transferred and admitted to Ninewells in Dundee. Within 24 hours of leaving home his condition had deteriorated rapidly and the consultants told me that he was gravely ill and that he needed to go into Intensive Care. I was told to contact the family and suggest that they come to Dundee as soon as possible and that we should prepare for the worst. Thus began our roller coaster 32 day ICU journey.

Sadly, despite all the efforts of the ICU staff, Philip passed away, peacefully, in the early hours of the morning on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Myself, our eldest daughter Hannah, Philip's brother Stephen, sister Rachel and brother in law Kevin were by his side until the end.

And so to the real point of this article....the village of Abernethy is a truly special place. During this nightmare time our friends and neighbours in the village and members of the church and wider community of Abernethy, have wrapped their arms around our family, surrounded us with love and supported us in every way possible. This help and support has come in many forms-delivering meals and shopping for the kids and I, helping with childcare to allow me to spend as much time as needed at the hospital, helping with transport to Ninewells (sometimes in the middle of the night), providing accommodation for relatives, cutting grass, walking dogs, sending cards and flowers.... The list is endless. But the community have also been there to support us emotionally, a shoulder to cry on, a kind word, a hug or a hand on my shoulder. It was really lovely to see so many friends and neighbours come to the church to pay their last respects to Philip.

When Philip first went in to hospital a friend quoted the African proverb "It takes a village to raise a child" to me, encouraging me to reach out and ask for whatever support I needed. This proverb recognises the importance of shared responsibility and community spirit in our lives. It teaches that 'family' is about way more than blood & is in fact about friends, neighbours and a genuine sense of belonging within a community. It is about giving and receiving mutual help and support and working together for the greater good.

There are so many people the family & I want to thank, too many to mention individually here, but they know who they are and they know that we are truly grateful for everything they have done and will never forget their kindness.

Abernethy has proved itself to be a 'village' in the true sense of the word. It has enveloped myself and my 4 children in love, at what has been the hardest time of our lives, and I know that it will continue to do so for many years to come. We are all so very lucky to live in such a truly special place.

Karen Jerrard - Dinn

## THE GREAT WAR

February 1, 1918

Austro-Hungarian sailors stage a mutiny at Cattaro, the navy's chief base on the Caspian coast

## SECOND HAND CARS



If you are buying a second-hand car and do not have a lot of money to spend you may be tempted to go to an auction. DON'T unless you really know what you are doing. The auctioneer's terms and conditions usually give you no rights to returns or refunds.

Cases I have dealt with at the CAB include someone who took the car for an MOT and found a huge list of faults. The repair bill would be much more than the value of the car. Then there was an unlucky buyer who had taken the car away from the auction and it had broken down on the motorway and he was stranded. In a worse case was the buyer who could not start the car to drive it away from the auction. The auctioneers demanded it be moved promptly or they would start charging him for storage.

Sadly, I could not help any of these clients. The auctioneer had displayed Terms and Conditions.

Buying from a private seller also has risks. There are genuine sellers out there but there are also sharks. I have both bought and sold this way myself. The vehicles I sold were good. Of those I bought, one was excellent and the other had a fault that was not at first obvious. The seller has to guarantee that the car is 'as described'. They will not mention the faults. You have to ask. You can also get an H.P.I check for £20 that tells you if there is outstanding finance on the car, if it is stolen or if it has been in an accident. Be very careful if buying on-line; for example, from E-Bay. E-Bay's Buyer Protection does not extend to cars.

A client had paid £1500 for a car from E-Bay and driven down to England to collect it. The day after he bought it an expensive fault became apparent and the garage said it was not worth repairing. He phoned the vendor to say the car was not as described. The vendor said the car was fine when it left him.

The CAB helped him compose a letter which asked for a refund. This was ignored.

The only action open to him was to bring a court case under the Simple Procedure saying that the car was not 'as described'. This would cost £100 and he would have to pay for a written report on the car. The case could succeed. The vendor might just ignore the whole thing and so judgement would be against him. But this would not mean he would pay. There would be more money and stress involved in having the judgement recognised in England and still it might not be easy to get any money from him. The client would have to decide whether it was worth the time and money for an uncertain outcome.

Buying from a dealer is more expensive but safer. Dealers have to abide by the 'Sale of Goods Act'. We are lucky in Abernethy to have a choice of trustworthy dealers. They have a local reputation to consider and will treat you fairly. If you buy from them and a fault develops you can use

your Consumer Rights.

For any consumer problem I would recommend using the Consumer Help-line. This is run by CAB and uses advisers who are consumer specialists. They can also refer you to Trading Standards if this is appropriate. Consumer Help-line 03454 04 05 06

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](http://Adviceguide.org.uk) covers many topics and is easy to use.

A.H.

## AULD ABERNETHY ASSOCIATION

Session 2017 - 2018

2018

7<sup>th</sup> February Tay Salmon Fishers  
John Taylor

7<sup>th</sup> March James 1: Excavations on the site of his  
Murder David Bowler

5<sup>th</sup> April AGM and talk on "Big Stories Wee  
Places"  
Nicola Cowmeadow

## THE GREAT WAR

February 24, 1918

Taking advantage of the collapse of the Russian army in the wake of the 1917 Russian Revolution, Turkish forces reoccupy parts of Armenia they have lost to the Russians.

# HORSES FOR ABERNETHY COURSES

September 3<sup>rd</sup> saw Abernethy play host to over 30 riders from all over Scotland. They were all 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. There was a choice of routes of either 21km or 30km and all riders enjoyed their chance to ride near our lovely village and were thrilled with the views.

This was only possible because of the help and support of local landowners.

Without Branston the ride could not have even started as Kevin Imrie and his staff gave us the use of a yard and field for a venue for parking the lorries, horse trailers and admin. caravan and space for vetting and cleaned the yard up for us and cut the grass.

Scott Baird, Jack Lawrie, Andrew Herd and The Forestry Commission were helpful about us using the core paths through their land and marking them. We are really grateful to them for allowing SERC members the opportunity to see the lovely country and scenery.

Andrew Herd actually had riders going through his garden but was actively interested and anxious to help.

Scott Baird was very co-operative and helpful and trusted us to close his gates and not disturb his stock.

Ian Gerrard had riders going past his front gate and gave us interest and encouragement as well as strimming round a gate from the forest on to the hill to make it nicer for the horses.

The Forestry Commission allowed us to ride and put markers in Pitmedden Forest and lent us a key to the barriers. This meant that we could give access to emergency vehicles. However I am pleased to report that all riders stayed on their horses and we did not need any ambulances.

The feedback we got from the riders was universally positive. They thought the venue was excellent and the countryside and views were stunning. Some said it was their favourite ride of the season.

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



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

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

If you are interested there is lots of information on the SERC website . You can try a Pleasure Ride without joining SERC. And there is always friendly help available at a ride.

AH



## THE GREAT WAR

March 23, 1918

The Germans begin an intermittent bombardment of Paris with long range artillery pieces

## ABERNETHY IN BLOOM

First of all please note a special date for your diary: The Annual Christmas Tree lighting at Nurse Peattie's Garden will take place on Friday 8 December at 6.30pm kindly sponsored by Branston. Come and meet your friends and neighbours - everyone is welcome to help celebrate the Festive Season with carols, mince pies, mulled wine and a few Winter surprises. There will be posters around the village to remind you.

Now that Autumn is here and we have had the first frosts, we have been busy emptying the containers in the village of their summer bedding and planting tulips and daffodils for the Spring. We have cleared and planted up the burnside in the garden for the first time and are looking forward to glorious colour in 2018.

You may have noticed various innovations in Nurse Peattie's this year. Thanks to the generosity of Margaret Cole and family and friends at the Abernethy Bowling Club we were able to put up a special rose arbour over the gate. This was created in honour of her late husband David Cole and built for us by locally-based craftsman Chris K. We hope that in years to come it will be smothered in yellow roses. We held a small opening ceremony in September when Margaret planted the first rose bush.

We also have some new stone steps and a much sturdier handrail between the top and lower parts of the garden. Thanks very much to Mitch Shaw, John Hussen and Bill Christie for all their work on this project.

We were thrilled in the summer by the thoughtful kindness of one Abernethy lady who to celebrate her own 90th birthday asked her friends and family not for something for herself but to donate to Abernethy in Bloom. We have not spent the money yet but when we do we shall raise our trowels and salute Beryl Lowe.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us in 2017 in so many ways. If anyone would like to join us in our work in the New Year, please get in touch. We look forward to 2018 and another twelve months of growth.

**Caroline Boyle, Secretary 851190**



## USEFUL CONTACTS

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Bridge of Earn Surgery	01738 812000
Newburgh Dentist:	01337 840 300
Bridge of Earn Dentist:	01738 813 080
Newburgh Logie Vet:	01337 841 010
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	Saturday 9am - 12.30
Mobile Bank Abernethy Square:	Wed 10.40am - 11.00am
Greig's licensed grocer:	Mon - Fri 9 - 1pm 3 - 7pm
	Sat 9 - 1pm 2 - 6pm
Berryfields Tearoom:	10am - 4.30pm Sun 11 - 4pm
	Closed Mon & Tues
Mobile Library:	Fortnightly on Thurs. 2 - 4pm The Square
Rubbish/Recycling	Collections early Thur/Sat mornings
Primary School:	472 676

As you can see from the above we have the bare bones of a community contacts list. We know there are many more that should be on to this list. Could all the village organisations please get in touch with us through the Crier e-mail address, Office bearers, telephone numbers and e-mail address. Thank you for your help.



## A BURNS SUPPER TO REMEMBER

By the time that this issue goes into print many of us will be looking forward towards the Burns Supper. I often look back with fond memories of the first Burns Supper I attended back in 1963. During a meeting of the office bearers of the Masonic Lodge in Stanley the previous year, David Stein, the Right Worshipful Master proposed that we should organise a Burns Supper. At that time the White Heather Club was at its height on TV. David's wife's sister had gone to college with Laura Brand and he thought that she might persuade her to come along. Almost as an afterthought he added "Why don't we try and get Andy Stewart". The Secretary was accordingly instructed to contact Andy which he did. Andy replied that although his usual fee would be beyond the means of the Lodge he was sure that they could come to some mutual agreement and a deal was struck. Despite never having attended a Burns Supper I found myself landed with the task of proposing the toast "To the Lasses". Meantime



Laura had agreed to come along with sister Anne. Add accordionists Micky Ainsworth and Jimmy Blue and you have the makings of an all star cast. The rest of the bill was completed with amateur entertainers from the area. My "Toast to the Lasses" was replied to by Nurse Morrison from

Bankfoot who referred to the number of times , in her role of midwife, she had come to the aid of helpless men when their wives went into labour, one individual no fewer than ten times! Quick as a flash, father of five Andy commented "Gie me anither five years". In attendance was Nurse Maggie Robertson, aged 93, who had served the Stanley area in a similar role for many years. Andy serenaded her with "When you and I were young Maggie" and there was hardly a dry eye in the house. This grand old lady lived on to reach her century, no doubt with fond memories fo that evening.

In addition to addressing the haggis Andy entertained the



capacity audience with songs and monologues including "The Moose's reply to the Plooman" plus a poem which he had written

describing what had happened to Soutar Johnnie after

after Tam had departed on his trusty steed. It was a hilarious account of how, in his inebriated state he had ended up in the wrong house, in the wrong bed with the wrong wife.

How I would love to hear that poem again at the Abernethy Burns Supper. Andy declined to accept the fee which had been agreed. Not only that, he promised to return the following year and provide the entertainment.

He was as good as his word and in addition to Micky and Jimmy brought singer Sally Logan and dancer Dixie Ingram who was married to Andy's wife's sister. Andy was no stranger to the area having attended Perth Academy where his father was a teacher. He later accepted the invitation to be made an Honorary member of the Lodge. Sitting beside him on that occasion prior to what was a fairly simple ceremony I could not believe how nervous he was. His untimely passing at the age of 59 deprived Scotland of one of its best and most versatile entertainers.

**Bob Macdonald**

### DID YOU KNOW.....

On Monday 23.10.1899 in the Council Rooms, Abernethy came the first proposal to form a Bowling club in the village.

Bridge of Earn rules were used by Abernethy.

Mr Clink staked out the ground and the fence and gate cost £16.7s.6d.

### The Great War

November 10, 1917

Battle of Passchendaele ends.  
Allies have advanced only five miles, half a million men are casualties.

# DRIVERS WANTED

It was decided at the open meeting on 27/09/17 to try to recruit drivers for the Abernethy Parish Volunteer Driver Scheme, hence this letter.

The whole idea is to fulfil a need for those without a car at their disposal. Important appointments (and crucially getting back from them) often don't fit well with bus timetables. The scheme would also go on to cover shopping trips and visiting friends, although it would start in a small way.

At any rate, drivers are needed. Advice has been taken from members of the successful Kinross-shire scheme—35 years in existence—and they assured the above meeting that drivers' own insurance terms are not affected by taking part.

Expenses would be paid, probably about 40p per mile. Drivers would suit themselves when they were to be available.

Please note that, although the scheme was first proposed at an Abernethy Community Council meeting some months ago, it is best that it should become separate from the Council, with its own co-ordinator, who would *not* be a member of the Council.

If you would like more information, with no commitment, please phone Angus on 07856775991.

Angus MacIntyre

## ABERNETHY & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Draft Minutes of the Abernethy & District Community Council Meeting of the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 7:00pm in the Mason Hall.

**Members Present:** Mr J Swan (JS) (Chaired), Ms L Buchan (LB), Mr M Cairns (MC), Mrs D Gillespie (DG), Mr P Glennie (PG), Mr D Kennedy (DK), Mr A McIntyre (AM), Mr B McNaughton (BM)

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

1 members of the public in attendance

**Apologies:** Cllr K Baird

**Adoption of Previous Minutes:** Proposed DG, seconded MC

### Matters Arising:

**Police Update:** No police matters arising and no police presence. As speeding remains a hot topic, HA suggested approaching PKC to ask about the possibility of extending the speed restriction zones at either end of the village by marking a new 40 zone, from where the current 30 zone ends, to out near the Glenfoot Rd and to the traffic lights at the bridge on the Newburgh Rd. It was agreed that the CC would contact PKC Roads Safety Officer, Daryl McKeown, in the first instance with this proposal request – **Action Point - LB**

**Path Maintenance:** Strimmer training is still required for volunteers – possible delivery in the New Year. On-going – **Action Point - DK**

**Parking:** It was highlighted that the spare land at the top of Hall Park had been earmarked for parking some 15 or so years ago and nothing had come of it. It was again acknowledged that this idea would not resolve parking issues on Main St. BM pointed out that vehicles only have the right to park on the street if not causing an obstruction to any rights of way, emergency access or to the passage of normal road traffic.

**Planning:** The CC members acknowledged and sympathised with members of the public and their attempts to receive the backing of the Community Council on planning issues, re CC meeting of the 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2017. It is clear that members of the public are confused with the fact that the CC has little authority over planning matters, particularly if sprung on the CC members at short notice. JS requested that BM, with his specialist knowledge of the PKC planning Department, write a short explanation on the powers of the CC in relation to planning matters, for the benefit of the public – **Action Point - BM**

**Volunteer Driver Group:** AM advised the meeting that the response to his request for volunteers/service users has been patchy with 9 potential volunteers and 6 potential service users identified. Word of mouth may generate further interest and the poster advertising the proposed group will be published in the next edition of the Crier. It is noted that the CC would need to set up a separate organisation to administer the scheme with its own (non CC member) co-ordinator.

DK directed attention to an incident immediately following the last meeting and the interruption by KB whilst DK was in mid conversation with DI. KB had demanded to know why DK had not added his name to the volunteer driver list. DK had explained to the councillors that his car insurance with Direct Line explicitly forbade use of the car for "Hire or Reward". Both councillors advised DK

that insurance companies permitted use of the vehicle on condition that the rate charged to the passenger did not exceed 45p per mile. DK stated the advice given by Direct Line, that 45p per mile was an HMRC figure pertaining to the running costs for a vehicle and totally separate from insurance. DK commented that a volunteer meant willing participation, i.e. free from pressure from others. BM stated that any attempt to pressure him onto a volunteer group would be met with a swift and forceful response.

AM stated that Kinross volunteer drivers had been operating their system for many years with no problem and agreed to contact the group to confirm if expenses are paid directly from the service user to the volunteers. JS wondered if insurance companies operated differing conditions on this subject. BM asked if the Kinross group had arranged special insurance for their volunteers, as being an ex PKC employee, had been covered to use his car for council business, but not for hire or reward. LB raised the point that Abernethy had terminated a previous volunteer driver scheme many years ago, apparently due to problems with insurance cover.

DK voiced concern that Kinross and future Abernethy volunteers could be driving out with insurance cover that word of mouth reassurance was not good enough and called for written confirmation of insurance cover. DI confirmed that he would write to the Board of British Insurers (BBI) to clarify the situation – **Action Point – AM & DI**

**Defibrillators:**-See appendix 1 attached from the recently set up working group comprising of DK, BM and PG. DK suggested that an Aberargie resident should be invited onto the working group and advised that the CC would be looking for a volunteer from the Aberargie community to become a defib unit custodian. PG provided an explanation sheet to the members, setting out the pros and cons of housing defib units within BT kiosks and recommendations on how best to proceed. It was agreed that the kiosks can be ruled out for defib housing due to extensive technical issues uncovered. The working group is currently researching defib models, sources and potential housing locations in Abernethy and Aberargie. DK highlighted and explained the difference in quotes received from BHF and WEL

DK gave an overview of defib emergency procedures and repeated the advice given by Lynn Sturrock of NHS Tayside, that the semi-automatic defib is the best option. PG explained that the defib unit required a 60 watt electric supply with running costs of £2-£5 pa. PG agreed to contact the doctor surgery to enquire about the possibility of sourcing an electric supply for the defib from within the surgery, if the defib is to be fitted to the external wall. PG advised that Aberargie already

possessed an electric supply at their Christmas tree location, but that in any event SSE had an electric box nearby, suitable to supply a defib unit, at little cost to the community. JS to contact the doctors surgery again for confirmation that we still have agreement to the defib being situated on the wall outside the surgery – **Action point – working group,**

**PG & JS**

**BT Telephone Kiosks:**-DK confirmed that the kiosks in Abernethy and Aberargie could be adopted at a cost of £1 per kiosk. BT has registered the interest of the CC in securing the kiosks and DK has the application form to apply. BM has spoken to PKC Planning regarding the possible uses of the BT kiosks and advised the meeting that PKC have little objection to decoration and/or alternative uses. BM suggested that the local primary school may find this an interesting project for the children to suggest a possible use and agreed to visit the school to speak with the Headmistress in due course – **Action Point – DK & BM**

**Signs:**-AM advised that the brown signs in the village are to be updated and repositioned. TOP (Tay Landscape Partnership) are looking to relocate the two visitor information boards in the village. The signs are currently situated outside the museum and the old hotel. It was agreed that the hotel sign could be better placed – possibly around/near Nurse Peattie's garden and that the other sign should remain in place outside the museum – **Action point – AM**

**Treasurers Report:**-DG stated that there is approximately £1700 in the bank account which includes the sum of £1200 for defib purchases.

**AOCB:**-The Tower Floodlight agreement between the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Abernethy Community Council was handed round for all councillors input. It was agreed that the agreement was fit for purpose. Upgrading of the two tower floodlights is currently being considered and remains on-going. JS invited PG, with his specialist electrical knowledge, to survey the lights and report back to the CC at the next meeting. AM advised that TOP is also looking into the Tower lights and may consider help with funding – **Action Point – JS & PG**

JS will check the salt bins in the village to ensure they are full with winter upon us  
- **Action Point - JS**

Planning Dept has been in contact to advise that the local development plan is being considered by PKC in November and the Scottish Governments planning review is due to be published in December 2017. With this in mind Anne advised it made sense to wait until the New Year before arranging a date for any planning overview. Ann also advised that PKC Planning Dept held planning events aimed at CC's, as well as the general public, on an annual basis and looked at holding events in Kinross/Blairgowrie/Dunkeld/Crieff and Perth. Last year, due to lack of interest/uptake, only one event was held in Perth. Future events are planned for the next year. It was agreed that the CC would contact Anne again in the New Year - **Action Point – LB**

A defib crowdfunding page has been expertly set up by Les McIntosh to help fundraise for the CC to purchase two community defibrillators. The link to the page has been sent round all CC members inviting comments/amendments etc. It was agreed that the current format of the page is perfect and that the CC would ask Les if the crowdfunder could go live online from around w/c the 13<sup>th</sup> of November. LB reported that Branston, Binn Group and Morrison & Mackay distillery have all been written to with a polite request to see if they are in a position to help with fundraising for 2 community defibs. Positive initial responses have been received from Branston and Morrison & Mackay but no response has been received from the Binn Group - **Action Point - LB**

LB reported that PKC Planning Dept have notified the CC that the Cordon Egg Plant planning application has been granted approval with a condition regarding odour management attached.

LB advised that a generic CC email account is no further forward but highlighted that an existing Google email address for Abernethy CC is already in place. It was pointed out that the other Abernethy village up North may have a CC and own this account - **Action Point – LB**

A response to the Stagecoach bus service public consultation had been submitted on behalf of the CC, noting that whilst the recently improved service was appreciated, the small busses weren't coping with the demand on some of the busier journeys. Also requested a zone boundary/pricing review and mentioned the poor reliability of the 36 service. Stagecoach have replied advising that they will put on larger busses on significantly busier journeys, that fares are being reviewed in Feb/Mar 2018 and to remind customers to report any incidents of poor service to the local Stagecoach depot.

DK pointed out that that whilst the CC has 9 councillor places there is only 8 members in situ. It was suggested that an Abernethy resident (possibly any future defib unit custodian) could be, if willing, co-opted onto the CC.

DK reported that the Co-op Local Community Fund was prepared to provide substantial funds to good causes and although the fund is closed this year, will re-open for funding applications in the New Year.

PG highlighted that the news of all emergency surgeries being transferred from PRI to Ninewells hospital has travel implications for patients and visitors.

The meeting closed at 9.04pm.

Date of next meeting: Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup> of November at 7:00pm in the Mason Hall.

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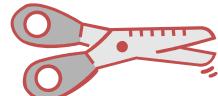
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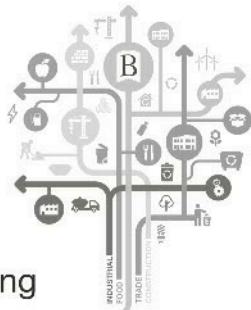
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