

VILLAGE CRIER



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Abernethy

Dron

Aberargie

EDITION 39 JUNE 2018

Closing date for articles for the next edition is 31.8.18

I am sure you will have noticed by now we have a Defibrillator, fixed to the outside wall of the Doctor's surgery. It is in a large bright yellow case.

There are numerous people to thank for this, the ones that made generous monetary donations and those that gave up their *time* to make this happen. We now have enough money to purchase a further two and it is hoped that one of them will be installed in the phone box in Aberargie.

Soon we will be advertising a date for training, so watch this space as well as social media.

A Defibrillator is a bit like fire insurance, you hope you will never have to use it.





LETTERS TO THE ED

Dear Ed

I was lucky enough to be invited to the opening night of The Crees Inn on the 19th April. Wow! is the only way I can explain the transformation of this pub. Grant and Lisa have made a great job of dragging this tired establishment into what will hopefully will be a dining and drinking experience. Folks, get yourselves along there. Good luck to them both.

Name and address supplied

Dear Ed

Each one of us will have a story to tell of the snow which drifted on all our paths and driveways. Wellfield was no exception with 5 feet drifts up the drive. Neighbours, family and friends all tried to dig ourselves out but in vain. Being beaten off, I phoned Michael Wilson, Cordon Farm, who came to the rescue within 20 minutes. He could not believe how bad it was, but set about clearing it. The relief of seeing the drive again after 3 days was great. He would not accept any payment for his time and work. On behalf of us all at Wellfield, we would thank Michael very much.

Lillias Johnston

Dear Ed

The Crier just gets better and better! I always enjoy reading my copy, but this last one was particularly good with lots of lovely articles and stories. I very much enjoyed Theresa's tale of the beavers on the Farg, and Ian Cartwright's memories of Coronation Day. Both very interesting. I always enjoy Lillias Johnston's tales about her animals and the latest one about her geese was no exception. When I see Bob Macdonald's name I always know I am going to enjoy what he has written, also Ann Hollingsworth's tales of her ponies.

So much so, I have been spurred on to send something in myself, "Adventures of a Wee Purple Cushion". Hope you enjoy it!

Evelyn Scobie

Dear Ed

The large greenlidded wheelie bin at the foot of the Loanhead Road is for the benefit of the the four households who live up the road. This does not deter others who use it to deposit a variety of items not always appropriate for that type of bin. One would think that someone who takes the trouble to lift their dog's droppings in a plastic bag would have the basic

intelligence to place it in the receptacle just several yards away intended for the purpose. The fact that they did not secure the bag meant that the contents emptied itself into the bin. Yeouch! Should they read this I trust they will have the good grace to hang their head in shame.

Bob Macdonald

ABERNETHY * COMMUNITY TRANSPORT (ACT)

*DOOR TO DOOR AND BACK HOME
A FRIENDLY LOCAL SERVICE*

*** and Aberargie**

Briefly, the scheme is aimed primarily at those without a car at their disposal, to allow them to attend appointments—GP, other clinics, hospital, dentist, chiropract etc.—or who have difficulty with shopping trips or visiting family or friends. Charges will be nominally based on 40p per mile (to cover drivers' costs), although for ease of operation there will be set charges for common journeys such as the Newburgh surgery, PRI etc.. Drivers will return their 'clients' at the end of appointments/visits.

Preparations are underway to get this scheme off the ground. A group of 15 volunteer drivers has now had 4 meetings, including one with an experienced driver from the long-running Kinross Volunteer group, where practical issues were discussed.

The Abernethy group includes a chair, a secretary and a treasurer, and a constitution is under negotiation with P&K Council, from whom we have every confidence of obtaining start-up funding. A few hurdles remain to be negotiated, but it is hoped the scheme will be up and running before too long.

We have enough drivers to kick things off once all the bureaucracy has been waded through, but....

WE NEED A COORDINATOR—someone who has charge of the scheme's dedicated mobile phone, who takes requests for visits and then arranges for one of the drivers to commit to each job. Clients would be expected to contact the coordinator during a set period each day, and preferably at least 2 days in advance of an appointment/visit. The coordinator would also be expected to keep records of who goes where and when.

ARE YOU THAT PERSON? If you think you might be, phone 07840212747. Let's get this service going!

Angus Macintyre.

HISTORY OF THE HILL RACE

When you read this edition we will be coming up to the day of the Hill Race, The sole survivor of "Gala Week" in Abernethy so I thought this would be an appropriate time to give you a little bit of the history of the race which was first run in 1979. I remember it well!

I had a list of all the winners and their times but I gave this over a number of years ago when the Williamson Hall Committee was doing a history of Gala Week but sadly the list disappeared so all I have now is a note of the overall winners, thanks to our editor Jimmy Swan

Since the race was for everyone in Abernethy we had to have different categories: primary school children, boys and girls, senior school children boys and girls and adults men and women so somewhere there is a record of 1st 2nd and 3rd in each group. Recalling some of the names of the primary competitors, they now have children of their own who would be competitors and some of that section are now grandparents! The passage of time!

The Hill Race came about at a time when we were needing some new events to keep Gala Week alive and the inspiration came from the Lomond Race. I had a friend who competed in this so I asked him along to assess the situation on Castlelaw He thought the track would be OK and so along with John Brown then of Glentarkie Farm and other members of the Community Council plans were made. This by the way was Abernethy's first Community Council following regionalisation.

Everything was very basic at the time. First of all the track had to be marked out which was done by tying strips of cloth obtained from The Factory to whatever they could be tied to, from the bottom of the Main Street to the top of Castlelaw. This was done by Jimmy Swan, Robin MacDonald and I can't remember who else

Numbers for the competitors were written out by hand using different colours of card for each category and a large box of safety pins acquired to pin the numbers on the competitors' vests or tops. Registration took place in John Brown's caravan which was parked in the Square I can't remember what the entry fee was - not very much as the prize money was not very much either. The family of Borland who owned the Butcher's Shop at that time awarded a shield for the overall winner.

The race started in the Square and finished in the Square where cold drinks were served up during the afternoon by Irene McLaren and myself.

So that was the start of the Hill Race. As far as I know there have been no casualties but lots of fun and excitement and now thirty-nine years on we keep the fingers crossed for good weather on the day and lots of

entries.

Below is a list of past overall winners.

From 1979 up to 1996

1979	Bryan Mair	18 minutes
80	Bryan Mair	17.45
81	Gerald Gahan	17.45
82	Douglas Folan	18.29
83	Andrew Brown	18.11
84	Douglas Folan	17.54
85	Douglas Folan	16.54
86	Stewart Watson	19.32
87	Alistair Blyth	18.19
88	Michael Walker	17.39
89	Michael Walker	16.56
90	Michael Walker	16.53
91	Tom Ross	16.27
92	Michael Walker	17.20
93	Craig Ferguson	18.49
94	Phil Munro	Time Unknown

I have no further record but maybe someone has who could add to the list.

Hilda Clow

ABERNETHY & DISTRICT SENIOR CITIZENS TRUST

Any resident in Abernethy & District who would like to be included in the Summer Outing and/or Christmas Party, and who fulfils the criteria, ie is aged 60 or over, please get in touch with the Secretary, Evelyn Scobie on 01738 850496 or 07719240294.

Evelyn Scobie

It is with regret that we hear of the deaths of Mrs Margaret Haxton, Mrs Nan Jarvis, Mrs Christina Newman Mr Dennis Johnstone and Mrs Kate Harvey. Our thoughts are with their families at this difficult time

AH! THE CREES INN

They gethered roun' tae cut the tape,
The Colonel held the shears,
Wi twa guid snips the tape wis bust,
The crowd gaed up three cheers.

The Host and Hostess, her in yellie,
Laid on a cracking spread,
The drink wis flowin' the hale nicht long,
The folk wir richt weel fed.

Wi Main Street pub noo a' shut doon,
The Crees, the futures bright,
Wi Grant and Lisa at the helm,
Am sure they'll get it right.

Re-opened 19th April 2018

WILLIAMSON HALL, FETE AND HILL RACE NEWS

We're continuing with improvements up at your village hall. Our new fire alarm system was fitted using the money raised from last year's Fete, and by the time you read this we will have hopefully completed some remedial works to the flat roof and we are now working on plans to re-model and improve the gents' loos and the shower room.

The hall is now used 5 nights a week for classes and is home to the local Baby & Toddler group as well as parties, concerts, ceilidhs and events. For the first time in many years letting income more or less covers our running costs and so the money raised at our annual fete can be channeled towards further improvements. This also means we have not had to increase booking fees for the 3rd year running.

This year's fete will be held over the weekend of the 8th - 10th June. We are planning the usual kids' disco on the evening of Friday 8th June, the Fete itself on Saturday 9th June from 1-4pm and then the annual village hill race will set off from the square at 1pm on Sunday 10th. Keep an eye on Facebook and the notice board / shop window for full information.

We hope to see you along!

Sue Smith



CHURCH NEWS Kirk of St.Brides

Morning worship; for 2018 the service will generally be in **Abernethy at 9.30am** and in Glenfarg at 11am each Sunday. However, **on the last Sunday of each month we meet at 11am**, together with the Glenfarg part of our congregation, usually alternating locations. So we meet in Abernethy, on July 29, Aug 26 and Oct 28 at 11 am. When the united service is in Glenfarg on the last Sunday of June and Sept, **there will be no service in Abernethy.** We are currently seeking a new minister and services are conducted each week by different worship leaders. You will be most welcome at any of these services. Drinks and refreshments are served afterwards and you are invited to join in. Anyone wishing transport to Glenfarg may contact Kathleen Baird on 01337 840 218.

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

Holy Communion; a United Communion service on 26 Aug at 11 am in Abernethy

April Evening of Music; thanks to all who came and enjoyed the Earn Singers and Heather and James Rodger. A lovely time was had by all. £623 was raised. After 10% of ticket sales was given to the local defibrillator fund, a donation to the choir and young musicians, £463 remained for church funds. A big thanks to all who contributed in any way.

Open Doors; the Church is open on Tuesday afternoon of 5th June and fortnightly thereafter. Teas, coffees and home baking are served in the adjacent hall between 2.30 and 4pm. Come and join us.

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

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

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

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

Celia King

ACTION PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

The Kinross-shire, Almond and Earn Action Partnership aims to tackle inequalities in the local area. It is a collaboration between local community representatives, Perth & Kinross Council, Police Scotland, NHS Tayside Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and other public services. There are 5 partnerships in Perth & Kinross council area. Action planning at a local level is a tried and tested way to tackle issues faced by communities. Action Partnerships have access to funding, which is from Scottish Government and Perth & Kinross Council. At a recent Action Partnership Participatory Budget event held in the Williamson Hall on 17th March several local groups were awarded funding. These events are designed to allow the community to vote for the projects or groups tackling inequalities.

Nineteen groups applied for funding. Your VOTES helped thirteen groups; £18,250 was distributed to groups from Findo Gask – Abernethy. Successful groups in Abernethy were Abernethy Pavilion £2000, Kitchen and shower upgrade, Abernethy Tennis Club, £1,998, Tennis For All, Abernethy Toddlers Engaging The Senses, £1,126, and Defibrillator Fund. £1,500. Abernethy Primary School were not successful but in the spirit of helping others Abernethy Tennis Club gave £260 to Abernethy Primary School to pay for Midas training (Mini bus) for 2 adults. Thank you to all who came along and gave their support. There was a great buzz in the hall with groups networking and sharing ideas on the day. Unfortunately not all groups were successful but there will be further opportunities to apply for funding. All of the unsuccessful groups have been given information regarding other funding sources.

Participatory Budgeting through Action Partnerships is not perfect. It is a new experience for Councillors with the aim of encouraging the community to help make decisions about what is important to them. We are looking for someone to represent Abernethy on the partnership, someone who knows the community, some of its needs and has time to attend meetings roughly every 6 weeks. Ideally we are looking for someone who has good knowledge and understanding of the area, can contribute ideas, opinions and solutions which reflect the voice of the communities we live in. If you are interested please contact Tracey Ramsay Community Learning and Development Worker who is based at Loch Leven Community Campus 01577867124 or email Tramsay@pkc.gov.uk who will provide more information.

Kathleen Baird

ABERNETHY SWI



In March we held a very successful Open Night when we welcomed a good turn out of members, and many visitors from other Institutes joined us. Everyone was enthralled by tales from author Jess Smith on "The Lives of Travellers". Competitions winners: Favourite Necklace 1st B Baird, 2nd E Taylor, 3rd A Brews. Flower of Month 1st M Cole, 2nd E Taylor, 3rd equal B Baird and P Miller.

In April we were visited by ladies from Forteviot SWI who entertained us with singing, poetry, a demonstration of napkin art, and a quiz on chocolate and sweets. Competitions winners were: Savoury Paté 1st E Taylor, 2nd E Scobie, 3rd B Baird. Flower of Month 1st L Farmer, 2nd E Taylor, 3rd B Baird.

Our next meeting is on Wed 16th May which is our AGM and presentation of Trophies for the year. The Speaker that evening will be Jane Sanderson who is going to tell us about her Kilimanjaro adventure. Competitions: Chocolate Tray Bake and Flower of the Month. This will be our last meeting until we start up again in September.

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. Information about next year's programme will appear on the Village Notice Board, in Brian's window, and on Facebook, when it is available.

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

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NEWBURGH TRANSPORT PROJECT 2018

The voluntary, community based organisation, Newburgh Train Station Group (NTSG), has prepared a STAG pre-appraisal transport study using its own resources and time and without funding from other bodies. It was undertaken because it was not being addressed by other work either in the rail industry or wider transport planning community. The community decided not to wait for the appraisal process to be initiated by others, but to start the ball rolling, as far as it could. The project is unique because the work to date has not been done by a transport consultancy, local authority transport planners or national level planners, but by the community for the community, using the publicly available STAG Guidance documentation. It represents a burst of activity that has had a very long fuse, stretching back for years in Newburgh's case.

Difficult and time heavy access to the main city regions in Scotland, and Fife too, compromises the accessibility of employment and education opportunities (and it may also be that current transport connectivity is constraining access to higher value employment opportunities), especially for those without access to a car. Similarly compromised is the access to health, social and cultural facilities which are increasingly concentrated in fewer locations, mostly all city based.

Tourism is a key actor in the potential to unlock growth in Newburgh. Improved public transport connectivity would help here and provide significant economic and social benefits to the local area.

Any share of prosperity and development Newburgh can claim is negated by the high reliance on private car use combined with a poor share of sustainable transport modes. Bus is the only mode available, often unpredictable, and with restricted travel times at weekends and evenings.

From the pre-appraisal study opportunities were identified and three considered as options worth exploring further: *car sharing, upgraded bus services and provision of a railway station.*

Improved bus services providing better work-time connections, a direct route to Cupar and more evening and week-end services would address some of the issues. However, bus operators are reluctant to invest without council subsidy and there appears to be no scope here at present. If cycle pathways were built, cycling could provide some opportunity in shorter ranges, particularly for linking nearby Abernethy with Newburgh and Sustrans are open to proposals here.

Further transport appraisal work would take the pre-appraisal to the next stages, examining in greater depth the potential solutions, rail being one of them. NTSG is currently looking to register as a community based charitable organisation in order to formalise its governance status more fully in anticipation of raising funds it may need in future from sources it cannot presently approach and also to be in a stronger position to enter into formal partnership with Fife Council and South East Of Scotland Transport Partnership (SEStran). Looking to the future, it will also be in a position to become a community focus for all transport issues affecting the area and develop a range of projects accordingly.

Nigel Mullan, Convener, Newburgh Train Station Group, April 2018.

FROM THE CHAIR

I hope when you start reading this issue of The Crier we will all be sitting in glorious sunshine and admiring the colours around you. The Abernethy in Bloom team have done, and are doing a wonderful job. Being involved now with Scottish Gardens is encouraging more gardeners to take part and I have been hearing many words of praise from people who have visited Abernethy because of the Open Gardens day

It was fortunate that it was also the opening day of the Museum and we had a good few visitors coming in after doing the gardens.

How quickly the time is passing. June already and preparations under way for the Fete at the Williamson Hall and The Hill Race, details of which will be found elsewhere in this edition.

This issue contains a little bit of everything topical and historical, fact and fiction, news and views. What more does one want for a "good read"?

Have a wonderful summer

Hilda Clow

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ABERNETHY IN BLOOM

What we had hoped was a start to the warmer weather has fallen back slightly to it being colder but never the less forecasted as normal for this time of year. Despite this change in the weather colour has once again returned to the village. Having seen the snowdrops and the crocuses we now have a wonderful splash of yellow from the multitude of daffodils in full bloom followed closely by the tulips. We have already ordered plants and hanging baskets for the summer planting which will take place around the end of May. This will to add to another year of colour throughout the village in 2018.

Maintenance at Nurse Peattie's by our small band of volunteers began again in March. If you have been to the garden lately I am sure you will agree that it is starting to look even better than last year. The 'Bloomers' are currently working hard to get the garden ready for the Abernethy Open gardens event on Saturday the 5th May. We are hoping you will all come out to support Keir Allen and his band of volunteers who have organised the event. However, could we just mention that a number of the Slate Signs for the identification of the plants in Nurse Peattie's garden have mysteriously disappeared not once but three times. You will appreciate the work that is required to provide these. If you can help solve this, we would appreciate any information to advise on where they may have been relocated.

Abernethy In Bloom (AIB) held its AGM on the 19th March. Unfortunately, Caroline (Boyle) due to personal commitments has had to stand down as Secretary. It is a sad loss as Caroline has held this position since the formation of AIB in 2015. A vote of thanks was given to Caroline for her leadership in directing the Group on the successful development of improvements to Nurse Peattie's and her hard work as AIB secretary. Caroline will never the less remain a supportive influence within AIB.

At the AGM Ian (Lamond) stood down as Chair and was supported to take over the position as AIB Secretary. Sonia (Simmers) has taken the Chair of AIB and Margaret (Donaldson) remains as the AIB Treasurer. As community members of AIB, when required, others will lead on the development of projects throughout the year.

Once again, our Christmas Tree Lights Switch On was a huge success with what is thought to be the majority of the community attending to take part in the festive singing, refreshments and eats. It is anticipated we will continue to have these community gatherings in ever greater numbers in coming years.

Since our last update for the Crier, refurbishment of the Horse Cart has been completed. The final painting and location at the entrance to Branston was carried out with the assistance of the Branston staff. The cart will now be included for Summer planting at the end of May.

Progress on the Boat and Plant bed projects will be taken

in the latter half of 2018.

In 2016 AIB entered the Pride In Perthshire competition for the first time and were successful in attaining a Silver Gilt and Best New Entry award. It was decided to have a break from competition in 2017 as we developed a number of projects in Nurse Peattie's garden. We feel we are now ready to enter for Pride In Perthshire 2018 and would like to do even better than 2016.

However, as in 2016, success is very much dependent on the participation of the whole village. While Nurse Peattie's garden will be a focal point, judging includes the overall floral and community spirit demonstrated. AIB, while representing the village, therefore ask for your support to help with the visual display of flowers and plants outside and or adjacent to your properties. Cleanliness and weed free appearance of the village will feature strongly in the marks we obtain from the judges. This year we are working closely with the School and Scout Group having taken over maintenance of the Powrie Park Sensory Garden from the Abernethy Environmental Association (AEA). AEA on closing their organisation have been generous and awarded AIB with a substantial sum of money which will go towards development of the sensory garden and future projects. The school had an Eco day when we assisted to give advice to the students, for the planting of a number of pots with violas and pansies. The Beavers were also active in 2017 and in 2018 with the planting and maintenance of their Planter opposite Nurse Peattie's Garden. These activities greatly enhance the marking given by the Judges for our involvement to assist our younger residents.

More detail on our entry for Pride In Perthshire will be provided when the judging date is confirmed.

You will be aware of the ever increasing number of floral displays throughout the village. This is an appeal for your help with the watering of these. Without your help we will become limited as we are now, on how many more containers and hanging baskets we can provide for display, especially during the summer months. Therefore, if you live adjacent or near to any of these displays your help to keep them watered would be a huge help. If you can help with the watering, please let us know so that we can lighten the burden on the few who keep our village bright and colourful through Spring, Summer and Autumn. Also, if you would like to join us to help with the gardening, we would be pleased to welcome you, at any age, to join the Group. No horticultural knowledge required and absolute beginners welcome. You will see us at Nurse Peattie's garden every Monday afternoon. If keen to join us please let us know.



Key Diary dates for 2018 are:

Saturday 5 May 10-5 - Nurse Peattie's takes part in the Abernethy Open Gardens event

From Saturday 26 May - Planting up summer bedding around the village

Pride in Perthshire Judging - Date to be advised

Saturday 28 July - Judging the 4th annual Village

Container Competition - (entry forms available in June)

Saturday 13 October - Planting Autumn Bulbs

Friday 7 December 1830 - Annual Christmas tree lighting event

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

AULD ABERNETHIANS

There are some residents of Abernethy who have given long and sustained service to the Village. This series is going to highlight some of their memories and achievements.

Janet Paton is a link to auld Abernethians going back in time through the centuries.

The family lived in Abernethy since at least the 17th Century. They later lived in the house that is now Mornington Cottage and the present Museum of Abernethy was the farm buildings.

Two brothers, Robert and James, went to sea during the Napoleonic Wars as Naval Surgeons. In those days ship's crews were paid Prize Money for sinking or capturing an enemy ship. An eighth of the value of the Prize was shared between the Ward Room Warrant Officers; typically the Surgeon, Purser and Chaplain. Sea battles of the Napoleonic Wars included Trafalgar, The Nile and Camperdown and when Robert and James returned to Abernethy they had enough Prize Money to build houses. Robert built his house in 1806 and called it Mornington, a family name of the Duke of Wellington, and James built the almost identical Guthrie Lodge in Newburgh.

Mornington had a bathroom and plumbing added in 1917 and this is still maintained by Taylors of Newburgh. Windows were added in the roof in 1957, the International Geophysical Year. Janet's father was Professor of Meteorology at Edinburgh University and a grant was given from the Royal Society to make an Observatory in the attic to further his ground-breaking research in noctilucent clouds.

Janet was born in the house and has seen many changes. Abernethy Main Street had a police station and fourteen shops. The Post Office sorted and stamped its own mail. There was a Gas Works at the end of Clunie Street with a huge tank.

During World War 2 there was a Polish Camp at the Williamson Hall and the soldiers gave Balls at the Hall. These were popular with the young ladies of the village as the Poles were polite and charming.



On Back Dykes and elsewhere in the village the weaver's houses had looms downstairs and outside stairs to the living space above. These were lost in Back Dykes in 1965 when the road was widened and the front gardens went as well.

The old Abernethy Hotel was home in the 1950s to a famous pig called McGinty who was a great attraction to visitors.

Everyone in the village was involved in berry picking and the end of this is one of the biggest changes to village life. The other is that people go outside the village for goods and services.

Janet realized an ambition when the Museum of Abernethy opened in 2000. She is concerned that more volunteers are needed. The Museum is fascinating to visit but research into Abernethy's history is a vital part of its remit. It is very good to have this resource in the village to document the changes in the village and how they reflect wider changes in society.

AH

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PROJECT BEACON

Outline briefing note

Project Beacon is a novel combined technology approach to the management of plastic wastes. The facilities will be installed at Binn Eco Park, Glenfarg and a local planning application was submitted to P&K district council on 25th April. Although no public consultation is required the companies involved recognise the need and want to inform and engage with local Community Councils. Project Beacon combines two technologies, advanced polymer separation and chemical recycling which together, will recycle about 90% of all collected plastics in distributed scale, decentralised facilities.

The Pi Polymer Recycling System uses Near Infra-Red optical sorting system for large rigid plastics from households, commerce and industry. These plastics are frequently downgraded in the recycling chain and end up in a low-value mixed polymer state. Target feeds include items such as bins, containers, bread crates, garden furniture, construction plastics, domestic and industrial plastic piping, larger non-domestic packaging, children's toys etc. The Pi Polymer PlasSort 3000 system will process around 10-12,000 tonnes of large mixed rigid plastic material per annum to produce sorted, colour and polymer separated high quality washed regrind ready for re-manufacturing. The recycling of 10-12,000 tonnes of plastic will result in a reduction of 21,600t CO₂ eq. (avoided emissions) annually by diverting waste from landfill or incineration.

Recycling Technologies' RT7000 is a chemical pyrolysis recycling system. It will process 7,000 tonnes of unrecyclable mixed plastic per year, turning it into c.5,200 tonnes of hydrocarbon products that directly **displace** fossil fuel derived feed stocks used in the production of waxes, fuels and most importantly new, virgin quality polymers. Of the 7000 tonnes of plastic fed, 2% is turned to ash, 75% to product, and 23% (similar in properties to natural gas) is recirculated and consumed within the process providing energy for the reaction. At no point in the process is product flared. Should these non-condensable gases need to be disposed of prior to recirculation, they will be managed through a thermal oxidizer used to destroy hazardous air pollutants and volatile organic compounds.

To draw some comparisons, by weight, Mossmorran (in Fife) processes twice in one day, what an RT7000 processes in one year, RT product is not flared, but if it was, it would take 24 years of continuous flaring to match Mossmorran's 2016 activity when it emitted 1.1 tonnes of CO₂ into the atmosphere. Conversely an RT7000, by displacing fossil fuels, and diverting plastic from incineration creates a net benefit saving c.13,125 tonnes of CO₂ per year; equivalent to 7000 homes, or 10,300 cars per year.

These constituent technologies are unique and their combination at Binn Eco Park will be a global first which is already attracting interest from around the world. They also have local and national significance, backed by ZWS they are an important foundation in the delivery of Scotland's Circular Economy and Zero Waste policies. They will also enable local authorities to collect ALL household plastics in their kerbside collections and at Household Waste Recycling Centres for genuine, closed loop recycling. Each combined technology facility will employ 18-20 people.

Contacts: Pi Polymer Recycling Ltd: John Ferguson:
john.ferguson@ecoideam.co.uk

Recycling Technology Ltd: Will Garrard:
will.garrard@recyclingtechnologies.co.uk

**John
Ferguson**

SCOTLAND'S OPEN GARDEN SCHEME

2018 is going to be a fantastic year for the open gardens scheme for all of us in Abernethy with more gardens open locally than ever before. Scotland's Open Gardens Scheme (formerly the yellow book garden scheme) is an opportunity to view many amazing gardens which are rarely open to the public. These range from postage stamp sized plots to vast acreages and include immaculate, perfectly managed gardens to wonderful natural oases. On top of this many of the gardens have plants sales, offer teas too and almost all the entry fee that you will pay goes to charity.

Dates for your Diary.

17th June - Hidden Gardens of Newburgh. Behind the High St is a jumble of wonderful old gardens, many with spectacular views. Includes a plantsman's garden, a birdwatcher's garden, an orchard, the community orchard and a "phoenix" garden. £5

Many gardens locally will be opening by arrangement. To see these gardens you will have to contact the garden to arrange a date and time that is mutually suitable. This is often a fantastic experience as you will often get a personal tour.

Eastbank Cottage, Perth Rd, Abernethy - 1st Feb to 30th June

Pitcurran House, Newburgh Rd, Abernethy - 1st April to 30th September

7 Drum Gate, Abernethy - 1st May to 30th June

5 Sutherland Crescent, Abernethy - 14th May to 31st July

For full details it is best to look at the Scheme's website www.scotlandsgardens.org or get yourself a copy of the 2018 guide by calling 0131 226 3714.

Keir Allan

ICY BLAST LEADS TO BLAST FROM THE PAST

It is the second of March and the country is in the icy grip of the Beast from the East. The car, covered in snow, is going nowhere and neither are we. My better half has been tidying up the drawers in the dressing table so I guess it is about time that I followed her example and cleared out my desk. Stand by wheelie bin you are in for a busy day. Bundles of cards, mainly from the family wishing us Happy Birthdays, Mother's Day, Father's Day etc. taking up considerable space are the first to go. Old biros which no longer write are consigned to the bin. Racecards and a souvenir booklet from the centenary of Perth racecourse in 2007 are in mint condition. Seems a shame to chuck them out. Who knows - they might be worth a few bob as Sporting Memorabilia! Now what have we here - a copy of the Perthshire Advertiser dated April 1963. Hold on, April 1963, Isabel must have saved this one as we weren't going out together until later that year. If there is one thing destined to bring a tidying up operation to a halt it is the discovery of an old newspaper. A wedding picture on the front page offers no clue but page two catches my eye. Advertises for the local cinemas.

The Playhouse is showing "Summer Holiday" starring Cliff Richard. Was it really all those years ago? The Young Ones must be drawing their pensions now. Norman Wisdom is "On the Beat" at the Odeon and David Stuart is playing the lead in J. M. Barrie's Dear Brutus at Perth Theatre. The Callum Kennedy Show is coming to the City Hall on 16th April with accordionist Will Starr on the supporting bill. The intimations on page three include a marriage at Abdie Church between John King and Sybil Campbell who lived for many years in Abernethy. On page six D. L. Edwards Ltd., Travel Agents, where I was destined to meet my wife Isabel were advertising one week tours to Northern Ireland by rail and sea departing on 6th July for £21. Another pound could secure a similar break by rail and car to the Isle of Man. The departure date coincided with the traditional Perth Holiday fortnight. Motorheads might be interested to know that a new 4 cylinder Ford Zephyr could be purchased from Frews for £846.12.9 taxes paid. The centre pages provide the answer to why the paper was kept. A spread of fifteen wedding pictures include the marriage of Isabel's cousin Ann Shilliday to James Bendall of Stanley, a former schoolmate of mine. Both now sadly gone. Out of a total of eighteen weddings pictured all bar one were in churches. It is a different story nowadays. At that time a full years tax rebate could be claimed by marrying before the end of the tax year hence the large number of marriages. Turning to the Sports Pages I read that Saints lost their unbeaten away record going down one - nil to

Queens Park at Hampden Park before a crowd of 2000. They must have been lost in the vast area of the stadium. Apparently the Saints attack failed to click. The team included Bill Taylor in goal, full backs Charlie MacFadyen and Jim Lachlan plus other well known names such as Jim Townsend, Ronnie McKiven and Bobby Kemp. Meantime the star performer in the reserve teams 2-1 victory over Queen's second eleven was former Crieff Earngrove left back Willie Coburn who went on to become a club legend. The league table revealed that Saints were in second place four points behind Hamilton Accies with ten games in hand (yes ten!). The discrepancy in games played was due to the severe winter of 1963. Saints went on to win promotion under the management of Bobby Brown. The County News page is usually of interest but nothing of importance seems to have happened in Abernethy as the village doesn't get a mention. I was pleased to note that Dave Watt, husband of my cousin Meg won first prize (Gents) in a whist drive at Rait. In conclusion I am happy to report that despite having perused the P.A. from cover to cover the tidying up of the desk was successfully completed and there is now space available for more junk.



Bob Macdonald

COSY HOLIDAY COTTAGE ABERNETHY



Our cottage on Kirk Wynd has two bedrooms
one double bedroom
and

A small cosy twin bedroom

For further information

www.airbnb.co.uk/rooms/5136085

Or Alan on 07974 331273

The Great War August 8, 1918

Second battle of Amiens. German
Resistance is sporadic and thousands
surrender

THE ADVENTURES OF A WEE PURPLE CUSHION

I am a wee purple cushion and I have been on a great adventure! I must be one of the farthest travelled cushions in Scotland! Let me tell you about it.

I used to live in the SWI Office and was the constant companion of my owner, keeping her back comfortable on the big blue typist's chair. Life was quite ordinary for a while but I did feel quite useful. Then, one day, a terrible commotion started and boxes started getting filled with the "stuff" in the office, cupboards and shelves were emptied, and I remember wondering, oh! what's going on, and what's to happen to me! I didn't have long to find out, and lo and behold! I found myself in the boot of someone's car! It later transpired, that instead of going home with my owner, I was shoved in with some other "stuff" to be transported to the new Secretary. Oh! dear, I thought, she has forgotten all about me. I was kept in that car boot for a few days, then one day I was taken out of the boot with a whole lot of other "stuff" and given to the new Secretary along with the typist's chair. However, the new Secretary didn't want me, and as my "real" owner would be coming up in a few days it was agreed I would be going home with her. I felt much better after I heard that, but then I was put in the new Secretary's garage and it was quite cold, I would much rather have been in a nice warm office. However, it wasn't long before my "real" owner appeared and I thought oh! great, I am going home! But, no, she came and went – home without me! She had forgotten to take me (how unlike her!) So I stayed in my "temporary" owner's garage for another few days and then a car arrived, and I thought ah! I am going home this time! But no, it wasn't my owner, but this kind lady said she would take me and give me to my "real" owner next time she saw her. I remained in her car boot for several days and there were various comings and goings, opening and shutting of the boot, then I heard talk of Orkney and something called Summer School. Oh! I thought, maybe my "real" owner has moved to Orkney and I am going there. But no, I was left in the boot all the way over in the boat beside the cases etc. I knew I was on a boat because I could feel a gentle rocking, but I didn't feel seasick, it was rather nice, apart from the fact I was stuck in the boot. After a few days, my "temporary" owner put the cases back in the boot beside me, and I distinctly heard her say, "Oh! that damned cushion I must remember to give it back as soon as possible". However, after we got back from Orkney, I remained in the boot for several more days, then I heard Braco Show mentioned. Was my "real" owner going to Braco Show and I was going to see her at last? No, I travelled to Braco Show, in the boot of my "temporary" owner's car, and returned to her home once more. Then I heard talk of Kinross Show, and I got quite excited and thought Oh! my "real" owner will be there as she always enters the Show! But no, Kinross Show came and went, apparently my "real" owner forgot to pick me up from the car boot, and once

more I headed home with my "temporary" owner. I criss-crossed over the Forth Road Bridge a few times as well, I know this because I heard talk of Edinburgh and Heriot Row, but I wasn't hopeful that I would meet my "real" owner there, and never did. I also travelled to meetings in Perth, went to Dundee Flower Festival, and I even went to a Fashion Show! I know this as I heard these places mentioned. I also attended a few Birthday Parties! One of which I remember was Luncarty. Well, I say "attended", but I was stuck in the boot! We went to Blairgowrie Autumn Group Meeting and the nights were drawing in by this time, and I was thinking, am I ever going to see my "real" owner again. I went to a few more events in the boot of my "temporary" owner's car - I was getting used to this! In October we attended the Royal Highland Show Meeting at Ingliston, Bingo Tea at Amulree, Strathearn Group Meeting, and Glendoick Garden Centre, but I didn't see my "real" owner at any of these. I then attended the Matter of Opinion, another Birthday Party at Kirkmichael, and Floral Art Classes at the George Hotel, all very interesting but where was my owner? Did she not want me any more? Then my spirits lifted, I heard mention of going to Glencarse to hear "Behind the Veil" and I thought my real owner is sure to be there! Oh! she was there, but she forgot about me again! Then my spirits really lifted, I heard mention of Kinross Group Autumn Meeting at Portmoak, and I thought she is bound to be there, she goes to all the Group Meetings! I am happy to tell you she was there and I was re-united at last with my "real" owner. Wonderful! Home at last!

I now spend my days in my owner's new car, very posh, and she uses me to support her back again, and I am still travelling! I have been to lots of lovely places with her in the car, and it's nice to be on the seat instead of kept in the boot!

Hope you enjoyed my story!

The Wee Purple Cushion

Evelyn Scobie

CONTACTS FOR THE CRIER

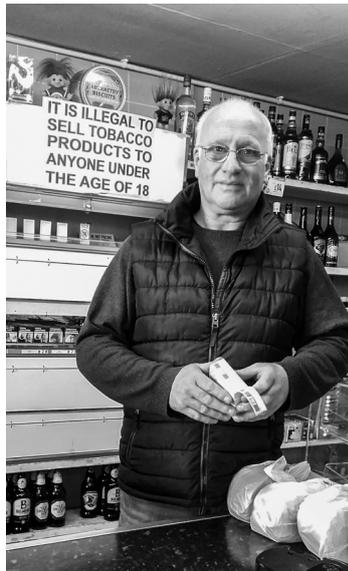
HILDA CLOW	813886
ANN HOLLINGSWORTH	850384
LES McINTOSH	850356
IRENE McLAREN	850414
MAUREEN NISBET	850148
JIMMY SWAN	850569

FOOD AND DRINK IN ABERNETHY

Abernethy folk have no reason to leave the village to find sustenance or refreshment.

On the Main Street we have **ABERNETHY LICENSED STORES**, more usually known as Brian's Shop. Angela and Susie carry a huge range of food and drink and will always try to provide anything for which there is a demand. Children enjoy choosing sweeties and there are fresh sandwiches.

OPENING HOURS;
MONDAY TO FRIDAY:
9am -1.30pm. 3pm-7pm
SATURDAY 9am-1.30pm.
2pm-6pm
CLOSED SUNDAYS



THE CORN KIST is on Back Dykes and Fraser, the manager, serves light meals and specializes in American Thick Shakes and Smoothies.

OPENING HOURS;
THURSDAY,FRIDAY,
SATURDAY
12noon-6.30pm



BERRYFIELDS TEA ROOM on School Wynd is run by Karen and David. They serve their famous scones, delicious light meals and home baking.

OPENING HOURS;
WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY:
10am-4.30pm

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY:
9am-5pm

SUNDAY
11am - 4pm

Closed Mondays and Tuesdays



It is great to welcome Grant and Lisa at the newly renovated **THE CREES INN**. See elsewhere in this edition for details of their opening.

OPENING HOURS;

Full and light meals from
12noon - 8.30pm



Just outside the village is **JAMESFIELD FARMHOUSE KITCHEN** with home-made and organic food from snacks to full meals.

OPENING HOURS Monday- Saturday 9am – 5pm

Sundays 10am -5pm

Lauraine, Hannah and Jordan are ready to serve you.



The newest venture is **CLOOTIE McTOOT** on the Square which has home-made dumplings in many different flavours.

See later in this edition for details of their opening.



DRAFT MINUTES OF ABERNETHY AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

APRIL MEETING

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

Attending Councillors: Mrs K Baird (KB)

3 members of the public in attendance

Apologies: Cllr H Anderson (HA), Cllr D Illingworth, Mr P Glennie (PG), Mr B McNaughton (BM)

Adoption of Previous Minutes: Proposed DG, seconded AM.

Police Update: Following recent incidence of thefts from cars and gardens around the Perth Road area of the village, a 41 year old Perth male was taken into custody. No Police in attendance at the meeting.

Guest Speaker-Binn Eco Park - John Ferguson from Binn Eco Park spoke about the Binn Eco Park Wind Farm plans. It is likely that there will be a further planning application submitted applying to increase the proposed size of the turbines. John explained that the Community Forum had been established to give local communities the opportunity to get involved in the project. Several Community Forum meetings have already taken place and 3 of the local communities have commissioned a consultant survey to provide a broader and more in depth report.

John also reported that a new planning application has been submitted to develop a plastic recycling plant at Binn Eco Park. John gave a brief overview of the plans and highlighted that this will be the first of its kind in the country. In light of the previous issues relating to the landfill site there were serious concerns raised about the latest plans. It was agreed that once a closing date for commenting on the planning application is known, the CC will arrange either to have it as an agenda item at the next meeting or to organise another meeting to allow full public debate. John agreed that either he or another representative from Binn Eco Park would attend this meeting.

John will write a report on the plans for the next edition of the Crier. John was thanked for his input and for attending the meeting.

Planning: The CC has been notified by PKC that the proposed parking restrictions in Main Street are not now going ahead due to Main St resident objections. It was unclear from the notification exactly how many responses PKC had been received. KB advised that only 3 letters of objection had been submitted. A Main St resident was in attendance at the meeting and reported that the wording on the PKC notification letter to residents was unclear and she felt that the perception of the majority of the residents was that a response was only required if there was an objection. Had the wording on the letter been precise the outcome would likely have been in favour of the proposal. It was agreed that the CC would write a strongly worded letter to PKC asking them to reconsider and for sight of the notification letter. The CC will also contact the local MSP about the matter. KB agreed, in the first instance, to speak to the relevant parties in PKC to see if there is room to reconsider before the CC proceed any further – **Action Point - KB**

Defib Update: DG advised that there is enough money in the CC account to purchase another 2 defibs. The CC need to make a decision on the housing of the Aberargie defib next and also on whether to adopt the Abernethy and Aberargie decommissioned BT phone boxes. PG is looking into the best and cheapest option for upgrading the electric supply suitable for defib purpose in the Aberargie phone box.

JS will make a rota for members to regularly check the care and maintenance of the defibs. The defib has been registered with the Scottish Ambulance Service. Dr Corstorphine from the Doctor Practise has intimated that he is willing to provide a public training event but has recently been on paternity leave. JS to contact the Doctor to arrange the training event. KB advised that there is SSE funding available for the likes of defibs and that it may be possible to get funding or sponsorship. LB agreed to investigate SSE funding. LB advised that despite leaving several telephone messages and emailing the relevant members of Auchtermuchty and Strathmiglo CC for shared information on the Dunshelt defib (housed in a decommissioned phone box) there has been no response whatsoever. – **Action Point JS, PG, KB & LB**

Signs: It was agreed that the twinning signs on the Perth Rd are no longer appropriate and could do with being removed. KB agreed to check to see if the signs can be taken down – **Action Point – KB**

The speed restriction sign in Aberargie is now in place and awaiting the fitting of the solar panel. It should become operational next week.

Volunteer Driver Scheme: David Aird from the Kinross Scheme delivered a presentation at a meeting in the village earlier in the week. A group logo and leaflets are in the design stage. AM will share the CC stall at the village fete and have the latest information and leaflets to distribute. The group are in the process of setting up a bank account and applying for funding. AM and Linda Sinclair have volunteered to share the coordinator job in the interim pending a permanent coordinator being found.

Treasurers Report: DG reported that there is £4500 (earmarked for defib use) in the CC account. The accounts are currently being audited before the AGM next month.

The meeting closed at 8:20pm

Date of Next Meeting: AGM on Thursday the 31st May.



Linda Buchan (Secretary)

FROM OUR COONCILLOR

Speed of traffic and car parking continue to be issues. Hopefully some of the measures now in place are helping to improve the situation.

Vehicle Activated Signs are now in place at both Abernethy and Aberargie, signs are having the desired effect, drivers are slowing down.

40mph speed limit from Abernethy east to Cemetery to be introduced .

Parking remains an issue, particularly in the square. Everyone is part of the solution, please think before you park. Visitors like to come to Abernethy to visit the Tower, the Museum and spend money in the community. I hope visitors will also think before they park and not block doorways or other cars. The saga goes on.

Perth & Kinross Council is trying to introduce MINI GLASS RECYCLING POINTS in villages, and Abernethy is in line to be considered. No sites have been identified at the moment.

Council continues to provide grant funding to Abernethy in Bloom to help them enhance the village. Community involvement is vital to the success of Bloom Groups and we can all help by not dropping litter and generally taking pride in the village.

Enjoy the summer.

Please do not hesitate to contact me either by phone , email or talk to me at any community event if you think I can be of help .

kathleenbaird@pkc.gov.uk 07584206839

Kathleen Baird



LUKE GRAHAM MP

Ochil & South Perthshire
Upcoming Surgeries



No Appointment Necessary.

For more information please contact:

luke.grahamoffice@parliament.uk

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01259 764407

2 Comrie Street, Crieff PH7 4AX
01764 680384

Friday 4th May

9.45am – 10.30am Crieff Constituency Office
2 Comrie Street
Crieff, PH7 4AX

Friday 25th May

10.30am – Alloa - Tesco Extra, Alloa
12 noon – Glendevon
1.30pm - Auchterarder

Saturday 26th May

10.00am – Blackford

Street Surgeries

Taking the surgeries to local residents:

Saturday 12th May

2.00pm – Tillicoultry Street Surgery
3.15pm – Dollar Street Surgery
4.15pm – Muckhart Street Surgery

Wednesday 30th May

5.00pm – Aberuthven Street Surgery

Thursday 31st May

5.00pm – Methven Street Surgery

Street surgeries are conducted in selected areas. Your MP will knock on doors to find out if there are any local concerns from residents directly.

FROM OUR COONCILLOR

Unfortunately, we all came back to earth with a mighty bump when the decisions on the PKC budget for local services were announced. Education, Transport, and Training of the workforce, all came under the cuts. Yet our reserves have taken a huge dip as the administration pulled out an eye-watering xxxxx.

Up until now PKC has been innovative in the way it has streamlined and transformed the delivery of services within the council area. Over the past 10 years the SNP administration has transformed services in a prudent and thoughtful manner. However this Conservative led administration has taken no prisoners in implementing cuts that will have a great impact on people all across the Shires and Perth City.

Within 8 months of the SNP administration implementing late night buses, they were immediately cut by the current Conservative administration in this budget. Hardly enough time for this initiative to bed in. Our Conservative elected members come out with the mantra of "use it or lose it" I would agree, if enough time had been given, allowing the users to realise that these services were running. How can an administration advocate that Perth will become the centre of arts and culture, if they expect people to miss half an evening's performance, to get public transport back to their rural accommodation? You may ask me what could have been done to cut the costs of late night buses and still have retained these services. Has anyone discussed with the transport providers, of not adding an extra service but to actually retime the service they have on at the moment to accommodate the night time economy? Little point in running a service that requires the public to restrict the time they spend at events.

What sense was there in closing a Perth School, Balhousie with a current role of 150 pupils that equates to 60%? Though it has little impact on Lower Earn it gives little comfort for the future of schools that have a 60% pupil attendance of that schools total capacity. Then we have the scenario of rural schools. Have we not learned that constant reviews of schools every 4 to 5 years have a negative impact on parental decisions, to make placement requests? No parent would want their children's education interrupted by a change of school half way through their primary education. If one studies the figures from the Forteviot saga one can clearly see that once the review with its negative report on a perfectly good working school was put in the public domain, the school role dropped from 14 to 4 thus making the mothballing of Forteviot inevitable. Truly sad, for I could see a future for Forteviot in rural education.

My view is that all catchment areas should be reviewed before these rural schools are considered for review, and with more attention to the recommendations of the report for "Commission on Delivery of Rural Education". If this was followed I believe that pupils living in the Lower Earn could be given an education within a Rural School environment and not shipped into an urban school as is done currently. The benefit of this is that we would be educating our children that live in a rural environment, with a greater understanding of our rural environment. I am not saying that an urban school does not educate and prepare our children for a transition up to secondary education. However, how often does the Royal Highland Education Trust visit, or take children out on trips to an agricultural setting from our urban schools, compared to our rural schools?

In my experience we have a lot of young children that do not have any knowledge of the rural countryside. They do not realise that the fields, at certain times of the year, have large industrial operations that are dangerous. Additional care is required as many of these operations are seen as an adventure playground to our children. The reality is they are not and accidents can be disastrous.

One last point for this edition is the closure of breakfast clubs. This will impact young working families and will put added pressure on these families. The SNP have always been a supporter of working families and have done all in their power to ensure the continuation of such schemes. Once again the excuse of "lack of users" has been wheeled out by the Conservative led administration and no alternative has been looked into for this scheme. As always I can be contacted at handerson@kc.gov.uk or telephone 01738475039 or at home 01738812061 mobile 07899062122. I also have surgeries before the Abernethy Community Council meetings that I attend.

Henry Anderson

TO THE DISTRIBUTORS

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

Thank you again for your assistance in this matter. Please note ALL articles must be accompanied with a name and address BEFORE they will be published in the Crier.

On request, the name and address may be withheld from publication.

Any submission without these details will NOT be printed.

BENEFITS

This is a huge and complicated subject and I will break it down into small sections.

I will start by looking at benefits for older people. The main benefit is **State Retirement Pension**. This depends on how many National Insurance Contributions you have made. Sometimes people do not claim benefits because they would not actually get any money but it is always worth claiming so that your National Insurance is credited. A woman used to get paid State Retirement Pension at 60 and a man at 65 but the age for both is gradually being increased to 68. You may still be working and have a good income but you will still get your pension if you have paid enough N.I. The current amount is £122.30. You can check your National Insurance record at www.gov.uk or telephone 0300 200 3500. You may find you can pay to round up incomplete years and this is a good thing to do if you can manage it. Even if you have an Occupational Pension you still get your State Pension if you have paid enough N.I.

If your State Retirement Pension is your only income and you have savings of less than £10,000 you will get other benefits. Your pension will get **Guarantee Credit** to make it up to £159.35 for a single person or £243.25 for a couple. You will still get this even if you have not paid much National Insurance. You should get **Council Tax Reduction** and if you pay rent you should get **Housing Benefit**. You may also get **Cold Weather Payments**.

Most Pensioners will receive a **Winter Fuel** payment of £200 and a £10 **Christmas Bonus** as well as a **Bus Pass**. If you are over 65 and unlucky enough to become ill or frail and have care needs you can claim **Attendance Allowance**. This is £55.10 per week if you just need help in the day rising to £82.30 if you need help at night as well. If you are terminally ill and have less than six months to live this Benefit is paid quickly and handled sensitively. No one checks how you spend Attendance Allowance. You use it as you see fit.

If you think you may be eligible for any benefits you can telephone the CAB and ask for an appointment for a Benefit Check. If I am doing a Benefit Check in general I use a computer programme to make sure I have not missed anything. If I see someone is from Abernethy I usually ask someone else to do the check. Although everything is completely confidential it saves embarrassment. My greatest job satisfaction as an Adviser is when I see an old person who is struggling and I find they are entitled to a Benefit which will help them.

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](tel:01738450580) is the Advice Line. This line is often busy but if you leave a message your call will be returned. Everything is confidential, even the fact that you visited the bureau.

There is also a web-site run by the CAB. Adviceguide.org.uk covers many topics and is easy to use.

A.H.

EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS

Since our last edition we have seen two new and exciting developments in the village. I know from talking to these new developments that both the Conways and the Maddoxs are immensely grateful for the help and effort they have received from the community in getting their ventures off the ground.

First the refurbishment and re-opening of The Crees Inn which had been long awaited in the village after the sad demise of Brian Johnston just over three years ago.

The Crees reopened its doors at the end of April and it was wonderful to see the changes that have been wrought by Lisa and Grant.

The opening ceremony was performed by Ian Cartwright, whose mother used to run the Cree's Inn.



Ian Cartwright opens The Crees Inn



The Crees Inn is now serving meals seven days a week 12 noon until 8.30 pm and the quality is excellent. On Sunday they provide a traditional roast lunch.

At the beginning of May we saw the opening of a new shop in Abernethy although the owners have been operating their businesses from Abernethy for some time. Alasdair and Michelle Maddox have two ventures based in their new shop.



Alasdair operates Maddstoves and Michelle operates Clottie McToot. The shop is an Aladdin's cave of goodies with stoves, dumplings, tablet, Harris Tweed novelties, and many other goods on display. The range of services offered by Maddstoves covers everything from supplying and fitting your stove to sweeping your chimney. Michelle weekly cooks a range of dumplings from the "Traditional" to the "Whisky and Orchard fruit" varieties. I can assure you that they are truly scrumptious. In addition Michelle also writes and publishes childrens' books under the Clottie McToot name.

Abernethy is buzzing and now it is up to you, our readers, to ensure that we can keep these enterprises viable in Abernethy.

CLOSING OF THE INN

On Sunday April 23rd The Inn closed for the last time.

The Inn had been an institution in Abernethy for many many years, reputed to be the oldest building in Abernethy, and has stood on Main Street for several centuries.

Latterly it was owned and operated by Grant and Lisa Conway. They had taken on The Inn when Eddie Coffey sold it, and then redesigned and refurbished it. Now Grant and Lisa have taken on the larger The Crees Inn and have refurbished it, so The Inn had to close.



On the final day of trading a large presence of patrons made the day memorable and they were able to say farewell to a very old icon of the village.

The Crier is delivered free to over 800 households in Abernethy, Aberargie and Dron

The Great War September 30 1918

British and Arab troops take Damascus,
Capturing 7000 prisoners and securing
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Mr C's Pies

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Lunch Sunday 12 noon to 4pm
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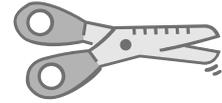
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