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Abernethy

Dron

Aberargie

Edition 34 March 2017

Closing date for next edition 30<sup>th</sup> April 2017

## IT'S THE NEW COMMUNITY COUNCIL

On Thursday, January the 19<sup>th</sup> there was a Community Council election and this time it was a postal ballot, I am sure you all received a voting form and pre-paid envelope through the post.

I am pretty sure this is the first time a Community Council election in Abernethy and District has been conducted in this manner.

The number of people eligible to vote in the ward was 1450, the turnout was 504, in other words 35% of the voting population turned out. This was an excellent show as in the past you were lucky if 50 turned up to cast their votes. So well done the folk of Abernethy, Aberargie and Dron.

Just to remind you of the Candidates and the number of votes cast.....

Eric Brownsmith	65	
Linda Buchan	332	Elected
Michael Cairns	286	Elected
Dougie Cleeton	191	
Griff Griffiths	134	
Duncan Kennedy	260	Elected
Angus McIntyre	363	Elected
Bruce McNaughton	323	Elected

These councillors will take their place alongside the existing councillors, Jimmy Swan, Dona Gillespie and Peter Glennie and by the time you read this article

the first meeting of the new Council will have taken place and all Office Bearers sworn in, I hope. More inside. It was decided by the last sitting Council to divide up the responsibilities to try and ease the burden and hopefully make the job of being a Community Councillor an enjoyable one.

They were split up as follows.....

Signage, Transport, Village Maintenance, Treasurer, Planning, Policing, Secretary, General Information and Liaison with other community groups.

It is hoped these positions can be filled quickly and the business of being the ears and eyes of the villages gets off to a flying start.

So please support the Community Council in any way you can and let's try to make our villages wonderful places tae bide in.

JS



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## FROM THE CHAIR

Preparing the first Crier of 2017 I am beginning with an apology for an omission in the last Crier of 2016. don't know how many of you noticed on the front page we missed out the month, the year and the number of the edition. For the archivists who keep their Criers the issue was number 33 and the date December 2016.

We are still working on a new format for The Crier and thinking of regular features we might include. I am rather disappointed we have had no response about the changes we have made so far and the staff would welcome any ideas or suggestions from you, the readers. We have been looking at how the news, articles, photographs etc are presented in other local

newsletters, journals and the press in general. We want to keep The Crier fresh and interesting.

Regular features could be brief extracts from historical papers eg. old council minutes from both before and after Regionalisation, old minutes of the WRI (as it was then) from the Churches, (not an error, historically there were several churches in Abernethy) and all the other organisations which were active in the village in days gone by. We have been putting dates in recently primarily appertaining to the First World War but it would be interesting to know what was happening in Abernethy, Aberargie and Dron 25, 50 years ago or whenever. Another idea was a favourite recipe, possibly seasonal. There should be plenty of those around.

The presentation this time is slightly different having an important event on the front page. It is quite a number of years since sufficient names were put forward from people willing to serve on the Community Council to merit an election and never before has there been a postal vote. It is very encouraging that more people are keen to become involved in matters affecting the whole parish.

## INSIDE THE CRIER

In this edition you will find notices of forthcoming events and reports on past events. We welcome the contribution from The Cubs and hope this may encourage more young people to write in to The Crier. There may be a budding Foreign Correspondent or Booker Prize Winner out there!!

On page 8 you will find a useful source of information, more or less all you need to know if you live within the Parish. It would be worth cutting out and keeping near your phone or calendar.

You will notice there are more photographs now so if anyone has something of interest old or current please get in touch.

Now, enjoy reading your first Crier of 2017 and Happy Easter to you all.

**Hilda Clow**





## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Dear Ed.**

When reading through the Village Crier I was interested in the item about the Witches path being overgrown with nettles and branches.

This was a route I used many years ago walking to School from Mountquharry. The path came down the Glen road through Craighden gate, along the lower path up to the wicket gate, it then followed a single track down by the then busy quarry.

We walked this way to school rain, hail or snow but mostly in sunshine.

The local postman, Postie Morran, used the path to deliver the mail and did it on his bike. He visited Craighden, Turflundie and Drumcairn.

It was thanks to Jimmy Cunningham, who lived in Condra Villa, for widening this path that encouraged more folk to use it. In those days it was a very popular walk.

Could I suggest that those on "Community Work" are put to good use on these sort of projects and this in turn would give a helping hand to the local volunteers. I remember there used to be three seats situated along the length of the path for those who wished to rest a while and admire the view of the Carse.

I hope it can be returned to it's former splendour.

Good luck Witches road.

**Betty Kemp**

**Dear Ed.**

There has been some discontent in and around the village regarding "wheelie bin" emptying.

The problem seems to be cars being parked in such a way that the PKC bin lorry can't get access to the street so in turn cannot empty the bins.

I think PKC are very aware of the issues of parking in the village and I am sure they have a certain amount of sympathy with the car owners. However, I am sure the last thing they want to do is damage any vehicles with their lorry, which may very well happen if vehicles are parked without thought.

I hope the Community Council can take this up with PKC and there is a satisfactory outcome.

*Lets park prettily*

**Rab S.**

Name and address supplied.

## ABERNETHY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### FEBRUARY MEETING

The meeting on Thursday February 9<sup>th</sup> was the first meeting of the new Community Council and the business of appointing Office Bearers was carried out.

Councillor Baird took the chair and the following members were voted in to office.

Jimmy Swan.....Chairperson

Bruce MacNaughton.....Vice Chairperson

Secretary.....Linda Buchan

Treasurer.....Donna Gillespie

The rest of the evening was given over to discussing Public Transport. Representatives from PKC and Stagecoach were present. The meeting went well with many questions being asked from those in attendance.

There is unlikely to be much change to bus services but both the Council and Stagecoach are going to review the points raised with a view to perhaps tweaking the timetable. Margaret Roy PKC agreed to approach the head teacher of Perth High to raise concerns about the behaviour of children on the school buses. Adults also have to take some responsibility for their children's behaviour.

It was agreed to try and move the Community Council meeting to the last Thursday of the month subject to the Mason's hall being available.

There was no other business.

**Bruce MacNaughton Vice Chair**

### Some of the members of the Community Council



# The Great War

January 14, 1917

Japanese battle cruiser "Tsukuba" sunk by internal explosion in harbour.

## ABERNETHY TENNIS CLUB RACE NIGHT



Saturday 25th March Williamson Hall 7.30pm

Tickets £5 Includes a Murray's Pie at interval

Raffle

Please note that there will be a bar at the event

Tickets available from

Brian Stewart 850103 or Susan MacDougall 851199

Come along and support one of the village's most popular events and please bring your friends. Tickets limited so reserve yours now! We look forward to seeing you there.

Andrew Fynn



## THE EARN SINGERS

THE CRUCIFIXION by John Stainer will be sung at Dunbarney Church on Good Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm by the Earn Singers.

The Conductor will be Martin Scott.

A Meditation on the Cross with hymns for the congregation.

All welcome for a moving climax to Holy Week

## AULD ABERNETHY ASSOCIATION

Session 2016 - 2017



2017

1<sup>st</sup> March

1715 Rising and the Burning of Strathearn

Dr James Grant

5<sup>th</sup> April

AGM and A Talk on "Duchess Katherine of Atholl" Scotland's first women MP

Anna Louise Mason

7.30pm in the Museum All welcome

## AEROPLANE

Early afternoon on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November we were standing outside the house talking to visitors who had just arrived. Looking up I saw the largest, low flying military plane I have ever seen. At the distillery that is being built in Aberargie the workers were working on the roof of a large building which was going up. I dread to think of the fright those men must have got with the plane almost touching their heads. The plane just managed to get through the gap in Ayton hills.

It certainly was a noisy, exciting few minutes.

Lilias Johnston

It is with regret that we hear of the death of...

Betty Munro late of Tootie Hoose and of Jessie Stalker of Lickerstanes

Our thoughts are with the families at this time

## The Great War

January 16, 1917

German Foreign Secretary proposes alliance with Mexico against USA

# LETTERS FROM THE CUBS

## 100 Years of Cubs

### Doctor Booth's Visit to Abernethy Cubs

Dr Booth came in to talk to us about his job being a GP (general practitioner). He told us about all the different types of doctors you can be, such as a surgeon. We played a game where he picked somebody to stand in the middle (that was me) and he stuck pictures of body parts on me and the rest of the cubs had to guess what they were.

By Dougal.

### Abernethy cubs visit to the mosque

When we arrived evening prayer was about to start. We were very lucky the cubs because we got to see them do their evening prayer. We all had to take our shoes off for the politeness for God. The children have to learn Arabic to pray. At prayer they had to listen to the Imam. They prayed in different ways. They washed 3 times before and after praying. Everyone was very kind to us the cubs. It was very exciting to see them pray because we never knew what it looked like to pray. Arabic is a special language. At the end they gave us a tasty packet of crisps. It was very kind of them.

By Cameron

The cub scouts started back in 1916 by Robert Baden Powell and has been going since then. There are loads of cubs everywhere. For the 100 years of cubs, everyone was given neckerchiefs that had 100 years of cubs written on them. We also had a special celebration at the pavilion with the Brownies and Beavers .

We ran lots of stalls such as fun activities, games, books, cakes and some other stalls. The Cubs, Brownies and Beavers had to work on the stalls. Most of them were in pairs. There were lots of things to do like eat cake and play games. When we were on our break it was so much fun doing everything that we did do and I really enjoyed the day.

Reporter: Josh Porter



## The Great War

January 31, 1917

Germany continues with unrestricted submarine Warfare, hoping to starve Britain into submission

## SIX GOOD REASONS WHY WE LOVE DOING A CAR BOOT SALE

- Sick of that old sixties vinyl collection cluttering up the hallway? Exasperated by the pile of Superman comics in the downstairs loo? Let's face it, here's a great opportunity for throwing out your partner's junk. Exercise a little deceit - excuse me, I mean- tact when you're loading the car. "Hang on a sec, I've forgotten something you could say, as you dash back inside with a bin-liner.
- Who doesn't love a 6am start on a drizzly Sunday morning? Think how smug you'll feel when you're back home by 11.30am and your neighbours are just opening the curtains. True, they'll be warm and relaxed in their fleecy dressing gowns, but remember, you've got £31.35 in your pocket and the prospect of unloading seven boxes of unsold junk.
- The shaky foundation of the car boot entrepreneur is, obviously, the paste table. Firstly, there's the joy of finding it - cobwebbed and sticky underneath an old vacuum cleaner and thirteen cans of exterior paint. You dust it off, open it out (eventually) and test it with a tiny bit of weight. Yes, you say. I think it will be fine.
- There's always a healthy competitive spirit amongst the sellers. You can scan the tables of your competitors and unashamedly copy their superior displays, or mimic their more successful sales patter. You can have a quick snigger when someone else's paste table collapses suddenly, then apologise for your juvenile behaviour as you help them retrieve random pieces of jigsaw puzzles.
- Aside from the satisfying rattle of the money tin as you throw in another fifty pence piece, there's the exciting challenge of doing business on your own terms. Haggle over a broken alarm clock. Accept 25p when you said it was £1.50. Take £2 for a fully functioning tablet which you had priced at £29.50. It's all part of the fun.
- Over a late brunch, you can finally sort through the cash. Admittedly, when you realise you've counted the £20 float into the total, there will be an overwhelming sense of the pointlessness of it all. Still, you'll have made considerable space in the shed, particularly as the paste table went in the skip on the way home.
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Angela Wright

## WILLIAMSON HALL & FETE NEWS

Lots of work going on at the village hall! Over the winter we've had a new front door made and fitted and new flooring laid in the corridor, kitchen and ante room. We are in the process of ordering some additional (hopefully slightly padded!) chairs, and are looking to redecorate the ante room and corridor to freshen them up further. We're also looking into fitting a new fire alarm system – though this will be dependant on funding and probably happen later in the year. The improvements were partly made possible by the money raised from last year's fete and a generous donation made by Branston Ltd.

The Hall Committee is committed to continually improving the building for the community and we hope you feel it's a building you can use and be proud of. We're very grateful for the support we receive. This year's fete will be held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June from 1-4pm. We'd love to see you there!

Williamson Hall Management Committee



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 included.

Thank You

# The Great War

February 3, 1917

The United States severs diplomatic relations with Germany as U-Boats threaten US shipping

## ABERNETHY BABY & TODDLER GROUP



Abernethy Baby and Toddler Group has been running in the village for more than 40 years. The group is run by volunteers and provides a place for mums, dads, grandparents and carers to take their little ones from birth to 5 years for a bit of fun and socialising.

There are lots of different toys and activities available for the children to play with. It's an ideal way for them to meet and make friends with other children in the village. A healthy snack is provided and high chairs are also available for the younger children, it's lovely to see the little ones sitting around the table, sharing food and chatting to each other.

Tea, coffee (and often some home baking) are there for the adults to enjoy, as well as a good old chat. It's a great way to catch up with friends and get to know other people in the village. The group is friendly and welcoming and we would love to see some new faces and welcome new members.

The group runs on Tuesday and Thursday mornings in Williamson Hall between 9.30am and 11.30am. The cost each session is £2.50 per family. All proceeds go towards the hire of the hall and renewing toys and equipment.

If you are interested in coming along you can contact us through our Facebook page or call Liz on 01738 851001. Or please feel free to drop in.

Hope to see you there!

Abernethy Baby and Toddler Group.

## 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.

## SENIOR CITIZENS

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Williamson hall was alive with the sound of music at our Senior Citizens Christmas party on Saturday 3rd December. Decorations, garlands and a beautiful tree filled the hall along with cheerful friendly smiles, which alone makes a great atmosphere. The meal was delicious, as good as any first class hotel, served quickly and hot. Well done to Glen Catering, top marks from me.

Joyce White from Windygates was a good accordion player and singer and it went down well with us all.

Jim Aitken from Bridge of Earn, kept us all in stitches with his recitations and singing ballads.

14 year old Cameron McLaren from Cupar was just fantastic on his accordion. Well done Cameron. I'm sure he will go far if he keeps up with the music.

As usual there were lots of raffles, none for me though.

A truly wonderful evening was had by all, thanks to the work of the committee, especially Margaret and Eileen.

Lillias Johnston

## SENIOR CITIZENS COFFEE MORNING & OUTING

**Coffee Morning** will be held on Sat 8th April in Masonic Hall from 10am - 12noon. Details will be on the Notice Board. Please come along and support this event, which is to raise funds to help with the Summer Outing and Christmas Party.

**Summer Outing** will be on Tuesday 6th June. Details to be confirmed later.

Contact: Evelyn Scobie Secretary

Abernethy & District Senior Citizens Trust

Tel: 01738 850 496



# ROAD SAFETY 2017

## BIKES AND CARS AND RIDERS

Most motorists are good and considerate drivers. They are also pedestrians, cyclists or horse riders themselves and are aware of their responsibilities to other road users.

Sadly, there is a small minority who become aggressive and impatient when they get behind the wheel. But however angry they get, they, and all road users, have to abide by the Highway Code which is issued with the Authority of Parliament.

When passing cyclists and horse riders give them plenty of room. Cyclists may suddenly need to avoid uneven road surfaces or obstacles such as drain covers or oily, wet, or icy patches on the road.

Cyclists are told "never ride more than two abreast, and ride in single file on narrow or busy roads and when riding round bends.

Be particularly careful of horses and riders. Always pass wide and slow. If they are in double file they may be escorting a young or inexperienced rider. Heed a request to slow down or stop. Do not scare animals by sounding your horn or revving your engine.

Remember cyclists and riders are often children and take great care.

If your lack of consideration causes an accident and someone is injured, the police or your insurance company will not be impressed by you saying, 'I am a more important road user. I pay Road Tax and they don't!'

If in doubt, read the Highway Code.

AH

## CHURCH NEWS

Kirk of St Bride, School Wynd

**Locum minister;** Rev Douglas Main continues to lead us. To contact him; [Minister@ada-church.org.uk](mailto:Minister@ada-church.org.uk). Or Telephone; 01738 860 867. A committee continues to search for a Minister and the vacancy is being advertised.

**Morning worship for 2017** will take place in **Abernethy at 11 am** and in **Glenfarg at 9.30 am**. **On the last Sunday of each month, however we meet at 11am**, together with the Glenfarg part of our congregation, while alternating locations; **Abernethy in April, June, Sept, Nov and in Glenfarg in May, July, Aug, Oct. There is 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.

**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 always toys and books in the adjacent hall cupboard for children to make use of.

**Holy Communion** is on Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 11 am.

**Annual Church Sale /teas/coffees/children's activities** will be on Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 2pm in the Williamson Hall. We hope to have various stalls including plants, home baking and children's activities. More information will be available on posters, church notices and Facebook nearer the time.

**Open Doors** The Church is open on every second Tuesday afternoon, while teas and coffees are served in the adjacent hall between 2.30 and 4pm. Please come and join us.

**Village 'Welcome' packs** The packs contain useful village information, telephone numbers, activities in Abernethy plus the current bus timetable. The plastic folders may be picked up from the church 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.

**The manse** is being let on a short term assured tenancy basis.

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

**Remembrance Sunday:** 12 Nov

You will be welcome to come to any of the above.

**Session Clerk: Bill Macpherson; Tel: 01577 830 430**

Email: [Session.Clerk@ada-church.org.uk](mailto:Session.Clerk@ada-church.org.uk)

Celia King

### CONTACTS FOR THE CRIER

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# Abernethy, Dron & Arngask Church of Scotland.

This is produced by the local parish church to **welcome** you to Abernethy.

Enclosed is **information** on the Church, nearest Doctor, Dentist, Vet, Post Office, Bank, Village shop, Library, Parks, Clubs etc.

A number of organisations are active in the village. We may not have included all. Apologies for any omissions.

## Useful Local information

**Newburgh Medical Practice:** 01337 840 462

**Abernethy Clinic:** Tues - Thur am; 850 461

**Bridge of Earn Surgery** 01738 812000

**Newburgh Pharmacy:** 01337 840 234

**Bridge of Earn Pharmacy:** 01738 812 579

**Newburgh Dentist:** 01337 840 300

**Bridge of Earn Dentist:** 01738 813 080

**Newburgh Logie Vet:** 01337 841 010

**Mobile Post Office:** in Abernethy Square;

Mon, Wed, 9.15 - 10.45 Tues, Frid 2.30 - 4.30pm

**Newburgh Post Office:** Mon- Frid 9-5.30, Sat 9-12.30

**Mobile Bank** (B of S) Abernethy Square, Wed, 10.40-11am

**Greig's licensed grocer:** 9-1pm, 3-7pm, Sat; 9-1pm, 2-6pm

**Berryfields Tearoom:** 10am-4.30, Sun 11-4, Closed Mon, Tues

**Mobile Library:** fortnightly on Thur, 2-4pm, The Square

**Rubbish / Recycling Collections:** early Thur/Sat mornings

**Primary school:** 01738 472 676

## Emergency numbers

**Fire:** 01738 622 226 or 999 for emergency

**Flooding SEPA** (24hr): 0845 988 1188

**NHS helpline:** Dial 111 or 999 for emergency

**Perth Royal Infirmary:** 01738 623 311

**Ninewells Hospital** 01382 660111

**Police:** Dial 101 anytime or 999 for emergency

## Village Organisations/clubs

**Children/ young people:** Baby/Toddlers, Rainbows, Beavers, Cubs, Brownies, Karate

**Parks:** Powrie Park, Williamson Park, Brandywell Park

**Sport Clubs/groups:** Football, Netball, Tennis, Biking, Badminton, Abdie Curling Club, Aerobics, Walking, Line dancing, Senior keep active, Bowling, Zumba.

**Other interest clubs/groups:** Book Club, Burns Club of Abernethy, Senior Citizens club, Auld Abernethy Association, Scottish Women's Institute, Abernethy Horticultural Society, In Bloom Group, Craft club, Lunch club, Abernethy Community Cinema.

**Abernethy oil club/** reduced rates; <https://www.oil-club.co.uk>

## Sources of village information

**Museum:** [www.museumofabernethy.co.uk](http://www.museumofabernethy.co.uk)

**Williamson Hall:** [www.williamsonhall.org.uk](http://www.williamsonhall.org.uk)

**Powrie Park Pavilion:** [www.facebook.com/groups](https://www.facebook.com/groups)

**Village Crier:** [www.villagecrier.co.uk](http://www.villagecrier.co.uk)

**Abernethy Facebook:**

[www.abernethyvillage.co.uk](http://www.abernethyvillage.co.uk)

# POPPY SCOTLAND

Many thanks for all the kind donations to the POPPY SCOTLAND collection for 2016.

Donations raised a total of £1192.

Particular thanks to all the street to street collection volunteers and to all the local businesses for allowing Poppy cans to be displayed.

If anybody is interested in volunteering for Poppy Scotland next year, please get in touch.

Many thanks.

**Pauline Jamieson**

**Tel. 850161**

## IT'S FOUL!

Hi everyone,

I've had an idea that I was hoping you could help me with. I've been in touch with the manager of our local Tesco, Derek, to ask if they would like to get onboard with trying to tackle the foul (!) issue of dog poo. I was hoping that Tesco, as a company, would like to remind it's dog food buying customers that "what goes in, must come out" so remember your dog poo bags.

Obviously they would want to have all their signs branded so it's not just a case of putting up a poster. Nevertheless, Derek was very responsive and liked the idea of the company's involvement (helping fulfil part of their community focus). What he'd need from us would be to have more people in different areas ask for this, which is why I'm contacting you, Abernethy.

As this is an issue that affects virtually everyone, either where they live or where they visit, it would be a very worth while initiative to get behind, don't you think?

If you could mention this idea to you local supermarket, Tesco or otherwise, perhaps it could make a difference. I'd hope that even community shops would want to help remind their customers to pick up after their pets. This might be an opportunity for the larger supermarkets to give away free poo bags at the checkouts.

I do hope you're able to help.

Thanks in advance,

Morag Young, Chair

Blairgowrie & Rattray Community Council

## C. A. B.

### More Month Than Money

People generally manage their finances with some juggling from month to month. Then something happens like illness, losing a job or reduced working hours. The balancing act fails. Bills are overdue, credit cards are maxed out and nasty letters start appearing in the post.

What can be done?

Firstly, a DON'T

**DO NOT** use the Debt Management companies that advertise on TV or pop onto your phone. They are friendly and helpful but their help is limited and they are expensive.

One poor chap came to me who had been with one of these companies for a year and struggled to give them £300 each month to pay his debts. At the end of the year £600 had been thinly spread between his creditors, £3000 had gone in fees to the debt company and he had received a Summary Warrant from the court for Council Tax Arrears.

**DO** use the Citizen's Advice Debt Advice Service.

They will charge you no fees and are available if you live in the P&K Council area. They can give you telephone or e-mail advice but the simplest way to contact them is to drop in at the CAB Offices between 10am and 1pm on a weekday morning and say you would like to speak to the Duty Debt Adviser. Once you have made the initial contact appointments will be scheduled to suit you. You may be seen right away or may have to wait if someone else arrived before you. Your visit is completely confidential. You will be given a number so your name does not have to be called out if you have to wait.

The Debt Adviser is a specialist. He or she will not be shocked or accuse you of over-spending. You will be helped to complete a form which contains your incomings and outgoings so it will help if you bring a Bank Statement and the latest letter from each creditor, or as many as you can manage. Some people are embarrassed to confess all their debts or think they won't mention the ones where they are managing minimum payments but it is best to list them all and then see which need immediate action

Once you have been brave enough to face the situation do keep appointments and take advice. Some people feel so much better just for talking to a Debt Adviser that we don't see them again for six months and then they appear and things have got worse.

The Money Advice team are in the job because they like to help and use their talents and expertise. They do not judge you They are rewarded by seeing their

do not judge you They are rewarded by seeing their clients start to sleep at night and get back on their feet. DEBT ADVICE MANAGER; David Ogston email; [davidogston@perthcab.casonline.org.uk](mailto:davidogston@perthcab.casonline.org.uk) Phone; 01738 450587

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.

## ALMOND & EARN DECIDES!

The Kinross-shire, Almond and Earn Action Partnership is pleased to announce the opportunity for local groups to bid for funding of up to £1,500. Funding is available for community groups in the Almond and Earn ward.

Local community groups can apply for funding to carry out projects that help to create a fairer place and give people a more equal chance in life. Perhaps you have an idea that would benefit a particular group of people – older or younger, people with disabilities or health needs, people facing poverty, or people who are isolated? Or perhaps your idea is something that the whole community could get involved in?

Funding will be allocated using "participatory budgeting" – this means that successful bids will be chosen by a public vote, to take place at a family fun day at the Bridge of Earn Institute on 1st April 2017. The day will also be an opportunity for people to share their views and opinions of local priorities, to influence future activity.

Further details and application forms will be available from Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February (closing date 10<sup>th</sup> March). They can be found at [www.pkc.gov.uk/communityplanning](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/communityplanning), or by contacting Tracey Ramsay on [TRamsay@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:TRamsay@pkc.gov.uk)

## FROM OUR COONCILLORS

### Henry Anderson

Firstly, I would like to say, for nearly 5 years I have been an elected member for Almond & Earn and it has been a privilege to work with such a passionate Community Council. When I first arrived Alistair Robinson was in the Chair, a job which he dedicated much time to and had a very much hands on approach. On his departure Colin Morrison took on the chair and with the same gusto continued to carry on, through many challenges that the Community Council has had. When both Alistair and Colin decided that they intended to stand down, Douglas Cleeton took on the role as Chairman, and guided the Community Council through a time, when it seemed that it could not muster enough people to continue. However a great deal of work was done by Dougie to seek out citizens who were passionate about the community, so much so that in the end an election was required, as the applications exceeded the places that were available. Therefore I feel that a big thank you to Alistair, Colin, and Dougie is in order as these guys were the backbone of Abernethy & District Community Council throughout this 5 year period and before.

Before I move on there is one more person, who was secretary for 25 years, and stood down in 2015. In her position as secretary of Abernethy & District Community Council she looked after the minutes and the correspondence during all these years. During her time she attended many meetings on various developments throughout the area. Anne Sangster is an example to anyone that wishes to help their community. Her dedication to Abernethy and all its community was outstanding throughout the years and her support to the various chairs was second to none. Again myself and the community owe a debt of gratitude to Anne for all her dedicated work.

So we have had an election for a new batch of Community Councillors, I for one, will be looking forward to working closely with them old and new, to improve Abernethy and its surrounding areas. I hope I have not put any off by highlighting the hard and dedicated work their predecessors carried out with such passion. I am sure they will step up to the breach.

Lastly if anyone has an issue they wish to raise with me you can call me on.....

Office 01738475039 Home 01738812061  
Email...[handerson@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:handerson@pkc.gov.uk)

**Cllr. Henry Anderson**

## Kathleen Baird

Another year, another election has already taken place, this time Abernethy & District Community Council. Thank you to all the candidates who submitted nomination papers and gave the community the opportunity to vote. 35% of the community voted. Congratulations to those who were elected.

Christmas is past and Easter fast approaching but I would like to thank all those who transformed not only Nurse Peattie's garden but the village with Christmas lights, trees and decorations. Thank you also to the organisations who decorated a window in the Church. All of this helped to brightened up the village It was great to see so many people at Nurse Peattie's garden for the light switch on. A real community event. During January / February commuters in Abernethy experienced some traffic problems due to SSEN upgrading the electricity cables between Bridge of Earn and Abernethy. This should help protect customers during high voltage faults and cope with demand. The bonus is that much of the vegetation on the verges has been cut, no doubt it will grow again. Another bonus - no visible litter!

One of the recurring complaints I receive is about bins not being emptied particularly in Kirk Wynd and School Wynd. The problem has increased since the collection day was changed from Thursday to Saturday. The bin lorry is large and requires space unfortunately parked cars make their task sometimes impossible.

I have talked to Community Waste Adviser and reported the missed bins on numerous occasions. I know the residents also report this. Hopefully this issue will be resolved soon.

Parking in the village has also been a problem. There is no easy fix as there is very limited public space available. PKC council and the Community Council did consult residents last year regarding parking around the square and a proposal was put to residents but unfortunately a solution was not found. Please think before you park.

Latest news from Kinross-shire & Almond Earn Community Partnership. The Group at their last meeting recognised that there are 3 separate "natural communities" in the locality, Kinross-shire, Methven area, Abernethy & Bridge of Earn area. One of the aims of the partnership is to try to make the area fairer for all. Funding has been provided by PKC and the Scottish Government. The funding is for 2 years. Constituted community groups can apply for funding. £10K is available for the whole of Almond & Earn ward. Applications to be submitted by 10<sup>th</sup> March. Maximum amount group can apply for is £1,500. Look out for posters, also on Abernethy Facebook and hopefully in this edition of the Crier. Who decides who gets the funding? Almond& Earn ward will hold an

event on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April at Bridge of Earn Institute, those present will VOTE for the most deserving project. This is a new way for this community to bid for funds. Hope you will come along to the event and VOTE - your group may be successful.

If you wish to discuss any matter with me please contact [kathleenbaird@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:kathleenbaird@pkc.gov.uk) or 07584206839

## THE MAGIC OF THEATRE

Fresh from watching the excellent production of The Mousetrap in Perth Concert Hall I thought back to the first time I saw it in the Ambassadors Theatre in London about sixty years ago. There was a time when I could have referred to the programme to refresh my memory but I sold my collection of over 100, mainly from London's West End some years ago knowing that they would probably end up in a recycling bin when I was no longer around. I used to enjoy browsing through them and spotting names in minor roles who later became well known.

One example was Arthur Lowe of "Dad's Army" fame playing a salesman in "Pajama Game" at the Coliseum.



*Sid James*

Another was Sidney James who appeared as a Red Indian chief in "Annie Get Your Gun" at the same theatre. A revue entitled "Starlight Roof" at the London Hippodrome starred comedian Vic Oliver who was married to one of Winston Churchill's daughters. It also featured Wally Boag who created various animal figures from balloons. He invited a child from

the audience on to the stage and asked if she could sing or recite to earn one of his creations. She opted to sing and boy! Could she sing. Her name was Julie



*Al Read*

Andrews. North country comedian Al Read had a show "Such is Life" at the Adelphi. In the supporting cast was a young girl billed as "Britain's latest singing star". Her name - Shirley Bassey. Both destined to become Dames. Another star of the future, barely unheard of at the time was a regular at a theatre tucked in to a

side street just off Piccadilly Circus which proudly boasted that it never closed (or was it clothed?) During the war years. Patrons were warned against climbing over the seats. Not the sort of place that I would

normally frequent but I did go to see him. None other than Bruce Forsyth.

The Palladium brought over a number of top American stars to top the bill and I was fortunate to see Bob Hope, Dorothy Lamour, Mickey Rooney and Guy Mitchell. In



*Ted Ray*

one such show Ted Ray, a comedian who played the violin was indisposed. A note in the programme advised that his spot would be taken by a rising star, making his first appearance at the famous theatre - Max Bygraves.

From stars of the future to stars of the past. In 1961 I shelled out 35 shillings which was a lot of

dough in these days to see Sammy Davis Jr at the Prince of Wales theatre. Billed as the world's greatest entertainer he certainly lived up to the title. At one point in the show he appeared in a straw boater presented to his father by



*Sammy Davis Jr*

Maurice Chevalier.



*Maurice Chevalier*

He then gestured to the audience and an elderly gentleman a couple of rows behind me stood up to take a bow. The famous French entertainer himself who would have been in his early seventies at that time.

When I did decide to dispose of my programmes, some dating back to 1945, I contacted comedian and actor Roy Hudd who was then appearing in Coronation Street as I knew he had an interest in theatre memorabilia. He replied that if he brought any more into the house his wife would be likely to move out. I can confirm that no such pressure was exerted on me when I disposed of my collection.

**Bob Macdonald**

## The Great War

March 15, 1917

Russian Czar Nicholas II abdicates



## ABERNETHY IN BLOOM



First, a big thank you to everyone who took part in our Christmas lights switch-on in Nurse Peattie's Garden on Friday 9 December. The tree looked magical. We were overwhelmed and wonderfully surprised by the numbers who came along and by everyone's friendliness and their Festive goodwill. We have a few innovations and improvements already planned for next Christmas and hope to see you all again - a year older and wiser!

It is frosty and foggy outside today but we have the 2017 gardening season to look forward to. Snowdrops and bulbs are peeping through the frozen soil ready for Spring. Our containers and baskets will be planted up in May for the summer. We shall be adding more containers - particularly at the Newburgh end of the village and by popular demand would really like to have hanging baskets the length of Main Street. This will mean regular watering and to do this properly we will need a few more volunteers. If anyone on Main Street would be willing to adopt a basket - which would mean watering every other day - please contact me or one of the other people named at the bottom of this article. Similarly, if you know a spot in the village which you think could benefit from some floral beautification, please let us know. One suggestion is to paint and then place flower boxes on the metal railings on the main road at Back Dykes.

You may have noticed that Perth & Kinross Council has cleared away some of the trees by the burnside in Nurse Peattie's garden and removed the twin conifers which used to stand by the gate. This was done because some of the trees were diseased and unhealthy, others were blocking light and preventing growth of shrubs and plants beneath them. This year we will be making a big effort to replant the burnside with lower growing plants which will show off the stone bridge and provide new and interesting vistas from the garden. We have plans for a new entrance structure over the gate and the planting of fragrant roses and other climbers.

We shall also be taking care of the Fruit Tree Trail which is beginning to blossom in different parts of the village and surroundings.

In June we are taking part in the Abernethy Village Open Gardens day on Saturday 24 June from 10 - 6. This is being organised by the Horticultural Society. More information on this can be found at:

<http://www.scotlandsgardens.org/gardens/garden/5a6ffc97-3c2f-4df9-8d61-a6d60100cf21>

The last weekend in July will see our annual Bloomin' Marvellous Village container and best Bloomin' Street competitions. If you haven't taken part yet please think about doing it in 2017.

Abernethy in Bloom's regular weekly evening planting, tidy-up and maintenance sessions will begin on the first Monday of April in Nurse Peattie's. If you would like to help, please come along - no knowledge of gardening required - and you will be warmly welcomed. For information on all our activities, plans, dates and times please look on the Green notice board outside the Cornkist or speak to one of the following: Caroline Boyle 851190, Ian Lamond 850186, Margaret Donaldson 850881, Bill Christie 850495, Sonia Simmers 850705, John Hussen 850160, Maureen Corbishley 850118, Chris Farmer 851001, Barbara Baird 850116.



As many of you will hopefully be aware, the Royal Voluntary Service (RVS) has distributed surveys to Abernethy households in an attempt to advertise our services, but also to drum up some interest in our Abernethy Lunch Club and Perth Social Club activities. We are also keen to promote our services in an attempt to recruit more volunteers to enable us to fulfil our ever increasing commitment to providing valuable services for our older people.

The Abernethy Lunch Club takes place in the Session House, School Wynd every Thursday and we are trying to increase attendance with those of the older generation that could do with a change of scenery, whilst meeting other people. If you are interested or want further information, please ensure your survey has been returned and we will contact you or call Barbara MacPhee (Perth Hub Manager) on 01738 633975.

### **Do you enjoy driving and want to make a difference to an elderly person's life?**

The RVS Community Transport is a door to door service that gives older people the freedom to get out and about as public transport is not an option for a lot of the elderly in your area.

For instance, our drivers can help with transport to attend a medical or hospital appointment or even a trip to the shops. These are the things we take for granted but to an elderly person they mean so much more. A little of your time will make a big difference as so many of the elderly are socially isolated.

If you have a valid driving license and wish to assist us in being a volunteer driver, then again, please contact Barbara MacPhee for more information.

## Burns Club of Abernethy

## SCOTTISH VC WINNERS THE GREAT WAR

### Burns Supper 2017

President Margaret Folan welcomed a company of 96 members, guests and artists to the Annual Dinner of the Burns Club of Abernethy on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February. The company enjoyed a fine traditional Burns night meal with the haggis carried in by Susan Swan and Addressed in fine fashion by Jim Aitken. An excellent toast to the Immortal Memory of the Bard was given by Angus Middleton a past President of the Robert Burns World Federation. Pete Wishart MP gave a witty and entertaining Toast to the Lassies concluding with some of Burns tunes played on the piano. Mrs. Estelle Nicoll was very much equal to the task of replying on behalf of the Lassies concluding her toast in verse. There was some fine singing and fiddling from Bryony MacGregor and her sister Allison Dunlop with Alex MacIntyre providing music on the accordion and Raymond Kennedy giving a rousing set on the pipes. Jim Aitken narrated the tale of "Tam O' Shanter" in his own inimitable style and Ian Bett's rendition of "Sic a Wife as Willie had" was sternly rebuked by Pam Fyffe while Jimmy Swan recited the poem he had published in the last edition of the Crier. An excellent evening concluded with the company singing the Star O' Rabbie Burns and trysting to meet again on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2018.

### Abernethy Primary School Scots Verse competition.

There was once again some excellent performances at this event sponsored by the Burns Club. In the section for primaries 4/5 the winner was Dean Thorne closely followed by Lucy Craig and Lauryn MacNeil. The competition was even stronger in primaries 6/7 when the judges were unable to separate Eilidh Donnachie and Alex Cook and they will share the Burns Club of Abernethy Shield and Sophie Allan was a very close 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Eilidh went on to further success at the Perth Burns Club's School festival open to all schools in Perth and Kinross when she won the Ruth Lumsden Quaich open to pupils in primary 6/7 for her recitation of the Address to the Haggis and then went on to win the Presidents Prize for the best performance of a Burns Poem at the event. Alex Cook was also complimented by the adjudicator for coming a very close second to Eilidh.

**Ian Bett**  
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Cpl William Anderson, Dallas, Moray.

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Sgt-Major Thomas Caldwell, Carlisle.

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# The Great War

23 February, 1917

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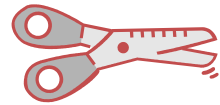
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