



VILLAGE CRIER

DELIVERED TO 780 HOUSEHOLDS



ABERNETHY, ABERARGIE & DRON NEWS

7th EDITION

JUNE 2010

Dear Readers,

By the time you read this the Election will have been and gone and our political fate sealed for the present. Whatever the result WE have brought this about, but I think, now, we should be very much aware that the greater power is "Mother Nature" and what she decides we must accept and make the best of it.

The last time I was composing my contribution for the "Crier" I was looking out on snow and looking forward to spring. Well, we all know what spring brought; March, completely upside down, in like a lamb and out like a lion; beginning of April, more snow with chaotic travel but excellent for the skiers and snow-boarders, hoping to have an extended season into May. I did ski in the Cairngorms in the month of June many years ago and somewhere have the photographs to prove it!

Now, chaos throughout the country and Europe as a result of the volcanic eruption in Iceland, and this has led to disruption in different ways throughout the world, bringing to our attention the economics of the many poorer nations of the world so dependent on the more affluent. Maybe we can't fly today, but the majority of us in this country can afford to eat.

Quite a number of events have taken place in Abernethy since the March edition.

Sadly, as you will see inside, a few of our well-known inhabitants have passed on and the sympathy of the members of The Crier committee are sent to the bereaved.

The Burns Supper last February was a huge success— a complete sell-out, enjoyed by all who were there. I hope you will find a detailed report among the contents of this edition.

News of other events will be found within The Crier,

what is happening in the School and in the Church what the many organisations have planned for the summer. I am hoping we might be able to produce a DIARY so that a "clash" of meetings might be avoided. It will be a case of looking quite far ahead and remembering to keep the list up-to-date.

Have you looked up The Crier's web-site yet?

We are looking forward to extending our circulation to Dron as Margaret Davidson has agreed to join the stalwart gang of Paperboys and girls

This brings me to a subject we would like to introduce into The Crier; a POETS' CORNER as Margaret's late Father, Bob Smith was well-known local Rhymer one of his works being included in this edition. There were many amusing exchanges of verse among the past poets of Abernethy and through rhyme a little bit of the more recent history of the village is brought to light.

Now we are looking forward, Two anniversaries are ahead of us, 10 years since the Museum was opened by Magnus Magnusson and 50 years since the first Gala took place. so many memories are coming to mind some of which are recorded in this edition along with a timetable of events for this year's extra special Gala.

Before I bring my piece to a conclusion I would like to thank everyone who pops his or her loose change into the boxes in the shops and tearoom. It is amazing how it all mounts up.

Now it is over to you to read the latest and think what you might contribute to the next Crier which will be delivered on 1st September 2010. Articles must be in the hands of the Editor by 31st July.

Have a good summer

Hilda Clow

THE CRIER IS A FREE NEWSLETTER, MANAGED, WRITTEN AND DELIVERED BY VOLUNTEERS

THE EDITORS MOAN



Surprisingly the Crier has not yet received any letters from the dog owners who leave their dog's deposits on the pavements, there's time yet, **I don't think so.**

Com'on dog owners give us **your** view on pavement fouling and why you don't pick it up.

What are your thoughts on this incinerator or gasification plant that's planned for up the hill, the posh name to try and cover up the fact it just a plain old incinerator.

I think the Abernethy Action Group have missed the boat on this one, where were they four years ago, that's when the Community Council started working on this problem.

Some people were not aware the planning application had been passed.

The next step is for SEPA to issue the operators with a licence and until then there will be little movement forward.

I would like to hear from the readers who didn't manage to get to the recent meetings at the Community Council and in the Mason's hall. I believe Annabelle Ewing was at the latest one and was promising the kingdom of heaven if she is voted in.

What is the best way to approach these kind of village problems, the 'steady as you go' or the placard waving way. Give me your views.

The landfill was meant to be a 'state of the art' operation when it was granted a licence and look at the problems we have had with it with smell. How can SEPA justify granting a licence to a further operation when the first one is not under control yet.

We as a nation have targets to meet when it comes to rubbish disposal, are the targets more important than public health?

Let the Crier know how you feel. **The Ed**

**Closing date for next edition
31.7.10**

Due to the large number of submissions of articles to this Crier we have found it necessary to hold back and edit some material. Apologies

The Ed

**LETTERS/E-MAILS TO THE ED
Dear Ed**

Am I the only one that finds that not a lot is going on in the village and then all of a sudden two things are happening on the same night. I am told the notice board outside the clinic used to have a diary where all the events were logged and thus try to avoid clashes. Can this be reinstated or could we move more high tech? Thanks and keep up the good work.

Keir

Dear Ed

POST OFFICE BUS

Following my letter concerning the Post Office bus in the December issue of the Village Crier, I should like to express my pleasure at the improvement in the service. There have been one or two problems but these have been related to all mobile Post Office services rather than ours alone.

Abernethy now enjoys, during specific hours, a postal service which involves all the services, including car licensing, available at main Post Offices.

To keep the service, we have to use it.

Come on everyone – Use it!

Janet Paton

Dear Ed

ATTENTION ALL DOG OWNERS

For the second time in a year I have lost pet hens to local dogs that are running free that can't be controlled off the lead. Luckily for the dog owners I didn't call the police, I regret this now.

It is an offence to worry and kill hens as it is with sheep.

So please when you are walking your dogs down Cordon farm road could you keep them under control To avoid them killing any more of my hens.

It may be your dog that is getting put down next time and not my injured hens.

Katie Hall

THE BAIGLIE STRAIGHT



Soon after moving home to Abernethy in 2007, I wrote to Perth and Kinross Council about the absence of any form of footpath along Baiglie straight. I pointed out the road was narrow with a considerable amount of fast-moving traffic which had probably increased considerably in recent years owing to the number of new housing developments in Abernethy and Newburgh.

In a reply, I was informed by the Principal Engineer that requests for new paths are generally assessed against criteria which are agreed by the Council's Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee but that Baiglie Straight had never been assessed in this way. The Principal Engineer promised to have this route added to the request list when this was next reviewed.

In the absence of any action, I again wrote to the Council in November 2009 reiterating the points I had made in my earlier letter and added that I felt that the provision of a footpath/cycle-path would also demonstrate the Council's commitment to promoting a more environmentally-friendly means of commute between Perth and Abernethy whilst, at the same time, encouraging its citizens towards a more active and healthy life-style.

In his reply, the Area Roads Engineer apologised for the fact that this matter had still not been considered but that it would be in the latter part of 2010. He did however consider that the prospects of such a project being implemented were unlikely to be favourable as it would not have scored higher than 3 points out of the 6 which he enumerated.

I have also taken the matter up with our local Councillor. When I referred to the narrowness of the road, the Councillor told me that the road was the same width when it was part of the main route between Edinburgh and Perth – completely ignoring the huge increase in vehicular traffic since these pre-motorway days!

As an (admittedly fair weather) cyclist myself, I have walked the length of Baiglie Straight on two occasions; a most unpleasant and nerve-racking experience. Will it take the death of a cyclist or pedestrian before something is done for non-motorists?

Eric Brownsmith

ABERNETHY PLAYGROUP

Our playgroup runs 3 times a week: Mon, Wed & Fri (term time only), from 9.30am - 12pm in the Williamson Hall. It is suitable for 2 to 5 year olds and costs £5.00 per session. If your child enjoys the company or other children and lots of interactive play why not take advantage of our FREE TASTER SESSION held on the first Friday of every new term from 10a.m. – 11a.m. A chance to meet the staff, ask questions, and see the toys, games and activities on offer. No need to book; just drop-in or contact 07804927893 for more info (session time only). Registration Forms are also available by contacting Sally McGroarty, Playgroup Secretary on 01738 850069 or email – sallyandchrismcg4@btinternet.com We also operate a lunch club service to Abernethy nursery.

Playgroup News

The children have been busier than ever this term at Playgroup with lots of focus on outdoor play and healthy living. They have been enjoying practicing for sports day which is to be held at the Powrie Park mid June. We hope also to have a teddy bears picnic, so watch out for all those teddies and their owners heading off to the woods on a sunny day.

Storytime – Over the past few months, Rev Alec Wark has been very kindly been reading the story to the children at quiet time.

Car Boot Sale held on 20 February 2010. Thanks to all who supported the car boot sale and toy recycling fundraiser. Playgroup made a total of £209.70 and there were lots of bargains bagged from the Playgroup stall and also the individual stallholders.

Smoothie day – To tie in with May's topic of healthy eating the children had 'super smoothie' day where they had the opportunity to try out lots of delicious flavoured smoothies.

Gala Day - Gala preparation is a hot topic at Playgroup, especially since it is to be the special 50th event. The children are all very excited about participating in the fancy dress parade.

The Playgroup staff and committee are always a little sad at the end of the summer term as we have to say goodbye to those children who are moving on from Playgroup to school and nursery, we wish you all the very best. However, we do look forward to seeing lots of new little faces in August after the summer break.

ABERNETHY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY TRUST



Abernethy Horticultural Society Trust was set up following the demise of the Society. The funds and trophies of the former Society are held in trust. The trustees would consider supporting any ideas or projects which have a horticultural interest and would be a benefit to the village.

Enquiries should be made to **Ian Cartwright** 850740

ABERNETHY BEAVERS

We meet every Tuesday evening during term time from 6:30pm to 7:30pm down at the Pavilion. We provide boys and girls from 6-8 years old with a balanced programme of events where the main focus is to HAVE FUN!!!

We have a limited number of places so please call Inga in the first instance for a membership form and any further info....850215

We are always on the look out for adult volunteer Beaver helpers - you don't have to commit to helping every week (although it would be nice if you could!) and the kids don't bite(much!). Also if there's anyone out there with an interesting job or hobby that they'd like to share with us, we would make you more than welcome! We may even stretch to a cup of tea and a biscuit! Again, please call **Inga** if you're interested on 850215.

ABERNETHY CUBS

The Abernethy Cub group meets on a Tuesday evening from 7:30pm to 8:30pm in the Pavilion during term time. We're open to all boys and girls aged between 8 and 10 years and provide a variety of adventures and fun!!

INGA

MRS JOHNSTON'S GONE



After almost 20 years as School Auxiliary at Abernethy Primary, I felt the need to hang up my play-ground equipment and first aid box. I was extremely touched by all the lovely messages, cards and gifts I received, for which I thank you all.

I miss the children very much but I am kept busy with my two grandchildren, though I still seem to find the time for my usual trips to the Culdees tea-room.

Best wishes to you all. **Barbara Johnston**

THE NETHY KNOCKERS!!!

(NO CLIP ART PRINTABLE)

On Saturday June 19th, six brave ladies will be embarking on a major challenge in order to raise money and awareness for breast cancer. Harriet Stocker, Angela & Enid Campbell, Jennifer Given, Inga McGown & Karen Rodger will all be walking the Moonwalk in Edinburgh on that evening starting out at midnight and covering some 26.2 miles (the .2 is going to be the worst bit!!!). We would all like to say a HUGE thankyou to everyone who has donated so far - you know who you are!!!! If anyone would like to sponsor us, please log on to www.walkthewalkfundraising.org/nethy_knockers. Alternatively, if you would like to donate, please just catch any of us in the street and throw money at us, or phone Inga on 850215. Hopefully we'll all live to tell the tale and let you know how we got on!! ps: if you see us out training, give us a big wave (and some chocolate and/or alcohol if you have any!!)

Many thanks. **INGA**

ABERNETHY BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

Abernethy baby and Toddlers group meets on Thursdays from 10.00-11.30am in the Williamson Hall. We are a group of babies, preschool children and the grown ups who look after us. The cost per session is £2.00 per family, this includes snack for children and adults, cost of the hall rental and contribution towards upkeep of toys. Activities are informal and fun, appropriate to the ages of the little ones present on the day and may include; trikes and cars, trampoline and slide, ball pool, crafts story time, dressing up, musical and sensory play. We have bouncer seats and baby gyms for very little ones. By the time this goes to print we will have taken part in a sponsored toddle waddle/pram push for the Meningitis trust on the 1st May. Thank you in advance to those of you who have sponsored us. Fingers crossed for good weather for the post walk picnic.

At the moment we are a small group but would love to be bigger so please come and join us, or if you wish further information contact: susan.poots@gmail.com

MAGNUS MAGNUSSON'S VISION OF THE MUSEUM

Ten years have passed since the late Magnus Magnusson opened the Museum of Abernethy on a sunny Saturday in May. Recently I had a look at the video recording of his thoughtful, scholarly speech. I was so impressed with it that I decided to capture the entire text of the speech on paper and we now have copies available in the museum. I will include an extract here and then try to summarise as best I can what progress has been made with the museum project in the past ten years. Have we lived up to his vision? Also where do we go from here?

“Now one of the aspects of this new museum, and I had the privilege of a sneak preview round it this morning, is its fluidity.... It's not just an exhibition of stuffed birds and plaster casts of dinosaur footprints. It is a facility on the community, for the community, which will be developed by the community. It can be infinitely flexible, responding to the needs and express wishes of the community itself. ...What a marvellous resource this museum is going to be to generations of children to come in the area and to their parents, and for their own posterity as well. What immense potential for the future a museum like this has. To me the Museum of Abernethy here is a spring harbinger of the summer to come, when the story of our nation is told and felt in terms of the people who lived here, the people who built remarkable structures like the Abernethy Tower, the people who lived those turbulent centuries which brought us down the ages to the present day. You see I believe passionately in devolution for museums, and I'm not just talking of the Elgin Marbles going back to Athens. I want people to have the opportunity of finding for themselves history on the hoof as it were, of feeling history where it happened, of being able to sense history in the context of the living present.”

In early 2000 the museum seemed a dauntingly large empty building. How were we ever going to create displays of interest to fill this space in time for a May opening? At least we had the millennium quilt, recently assembled by Christine Macintyre and her team. It is still a star exhibit. Somehow we managed to make and assemble display boards and attach them to the old stone walls. We had no display cabinets. These we acquired for free from Thirlestane Castle for our second year displays. However by May we had an

interesting collection of old photos on various themes plus features on the Picts, Abernethy's Town Council, local place names, large scale maps and the true story of the Abernethy biscuit.

In subsequent years we have examined several aspects of the Abernethy story in a more considered and detailed fashion. In roughly chronological order these include Abernethy in World War Two; Fruit Growing; Farming; Salmon Fishing; The Church; Weaving and Garment-making; The School; The Romans in Abernethy; Shops, Trades and Businesses; Sport in Abernethy; Abernethy's Logboat; The Abernethy Hall of Fame; Mugdrum Island. This year's new display features 100 Years of Girl Guides. This is the first of several local clubs/societies about which dossiers of facts and pictures may be compiled for display in album form.

While in 2000 our worry was “how do we fill this large space?” Now our problem is to find space to mount new stuff since we are reluctant to dismantle existing displays. In 2006 we developed a new “garden gallery” at the back of the museum. This houses the farming and fishing displays. In 2008 the upstairs display area was expanded. However, ten years on, I think we have gone as far as we can. Storage space is needed as well as display space. A balance has to be struck. Of prime importance to this local history museum is the building up of a photographic archive of life in the parish. We hope to have at least one digital screen to display themed sets of images as slide shows. This enables many images to be shown without the need for extra display boards.

The museum organisation evolved from the Auld Abernethy Association, the local history society which was founded in 1981. Meetings of the AAA were regularly held in the old school across the Wynd. Since the museum opened it has been used as a winter venue for monthly local history lectures. Every October part of the main gallery is cleared of displays and a bijou auditorium is created. The museum's social committee (formerly the Friends of the Museum) also use the building for a number of events such as drama performances, barbecues in the courtyard garden, guided walks and other social gatherings for members. The

The committee also raises funds for the museum at the annual Craft Fair.

Much has changed in Abernethy in the last ten years. At least eight new streets have been added to the village. Many new people have come to live here. The museum has benefited from the skills of many newcomers, as well as from those with longer associations with the parish – a good blend. We have a faithful band of volunteer workers, we are not in debt, and we have not run out of things to do or ideas to develop. From the comfort of his black chair in Valhalla I hope Magnus approves of our efforts. Suggestions on how the museum could develop over the next ten years are very welcome. As he says It is a facility of the community, for the community, which will be developed by the community.

Bill Drever

“FAIR LIES ABERNETHY”

Fair, lies Abernethy, ‘neath Ochil’s green shade,
bright gem in the heart of rusticity laid;
where oft I’ve wanton, the friendly green hills,
and followed the windings of Ballo’s sweet rills

When far off Ben Vorlich blots out the sun’s rays
and pale shades of evening steal o’er the green braes,
from the hilltop I’ve viewed oft, the glorious west
and found peace and solace, in the nature at rest.

From Castle Law’s summit, how pleasant to gaze,
across Earn’s vale, bathed in hot summer haze,
to behold the fair cities of Perth and Dundee,
and the silv’ry Tay threading, it’s way to the sea.

Thro’ the tree sheltered Den, how enchanting to stroll,
where memories lurk upon each grassy knoll,
to reminisce fondly on yon childish pranks,
and the games we enjoyed on it’s mossy green banks.

With quiet, simple dignity, stands her Round Tower,
sound relic of a thousand year gone, Pictish power,
one imagines one hears, up it’s dark winding stair,
the whisper of ghosts of the past, in the air.

‘Tis dear, Abernethy will aye be to me,
where’e’r on this earth I may happen to be,
no place, in my heart, the Good Lord ever made,
will supplant Abernethy ‘neath Ochil’s green shade

**Bob Smith
Abernethy**

OBITUARY

ROBERT MORRISON

Abernethy lost one of its oldest and most respected citizens with the passing of former Provost Robert Morrison on 17th February. Bob as he was popularly known attended the local school until the age of 14 when he started work as an apprentice joiner with his father's firm where he worked for several years before joining a large housebuilding firm based in Dundee and Perth.

During the Second World War he was involved in the construction of an aerodrome in the Spey-bay area.

He married his wife Mary, a native of Newburgh, in 1942 and in 1952 he took over his father's joinery and undertaking business which he ran until his retirement 27 years later. When asked to do a job his usual reply was "I'll dae it in the morn" in his pawky way. A promise not always strictly adhered to but the job was eventually done and done well.

He was prominent in local affairs and served on Abernethy Town Council eventually becoming Provost in 1962, a post which he held until local government re-organisation saw the end of the Town Council in 1975. He also served as an Elder of Abernethy and Dron Parish Church and was active in Masonic circles as a Past Master of Lodge Lindores No 106 in Newburgh and a founder member and Past Master of Lodge Abernethy Round Tower No 1429.

In his retirement he enjoyed caravanning and every summer he and Mary would set off for several weeks with the Lake District as one of their favourite destinations. He was the eldest of a family of seven and in addition to Mary is survived by son Michael, daughter-in-law Marlene, two grandchildren, three great grandchildren and brother Alec.

A large attendance paid their respects at the funeral service in Perth Crematorium and his ashes were later interred in a private ceremony in Abernethy Old Cemetery.

RGM

CRIER WEBSITE
www.villagecrier.co.uk



THE BAIRNS BELL



The bell in the round tower was rung every night at 8 o'clock. This let all the children out playing tally - ho, hide and seek, kick the can or just getting up to mischief get home in time.

And who was it who had to rise from the comfort of his cosy warm fireside chair in all weathers to ring the bell?....That was my dad George (Geordie) Beatson

This was only one of the many jobs he carried out for the Local Council.

One of his other tasks was lighting the gas street lights. Yes Abernethy had gas lit street lighting at the time, how lucky we were.

When lighting up time came around my dad took out two "leerie" poles. The poles had a hook at one end and he had to reach up to the lamp, pull down the chain inside the lamp and flick on the gas light. To make life easier for my father one of the Beatson family would always help. We would meet at the lamp beside the war memorial and go in different directions throughout the village lighting the lamps. We would finally meet up at the last lamp to be lit at the top of Station road. We then made our way home up the School Wynd.

Lights out was a reverse of this procedure, always taking a torch to light our way home.

Another good days work accomplished for the good and well being of Abernethy.

MAY DACK

A BIG BIRTHDAY PARTY

I would like to thank everyone who came to the Open Door Celebration of my Birthday on Saturday 28th February.



I became 22! So you may wonder why the big party? Answer---I was born on the 29th February 1920.

Thank you very much for the many gifts, cards, flowers and donations which raised the princely sum of £700 which has been given to the Cornhill Hospice in Perth.

**JEAN MAIN
DUNMAIN
4 CASTLELAW CRES.**

RECOLLECTIONS OF GALA

I returned to Abernethy when I retired in January 1994. Soon after I received an invitation to attend the Williamson Hall Management Committee AGM. To my surprise I left the meeting as Chairman with Dick Thorman as treasurer. I continued as Chairman for 8 years

The previous Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary had stood down en masse.

I quickly realised the committee were responsible for running the Gala.

Gala events covered a whole week, but with the support and encouragement of practically every village organisation we set about planning.

We received generous sponsorship from village businesses and individuals as well as raffle prizes from businesses from as far afield as Dunkeld and St. Andrews.

I soon realised the Gala was a village occasion to be run and enjoyed by the whole community.

The Bowling Club, Masons (Treasure Hunt) and the Tower Singers (Concert and BBQ) were all involved during the week.

On Gala day the different organisations involved were SWRI (teas); Church (cake and candy and bottle stall); Horticultural Society (plant stall); WRVS (hot dog stall); Scouts (setting up, car parking and games); Guides (tentage, face painting and supporting the Gala Queen) and Play Group (games).

There is no doubt in my mind that without the Scouts and Guides, Gala would not have happened. The Scouts delivered Gala programmes to every house and were the labour force setting up the arena.

The most financially successful Gala was the day the event was nearly washed away, I think it was 1998.

It started to rain heavily while setting up and just got worse as the day went on.

The Gala opened as usual, the parade led by the Comrie Pipe Band, the band had only just dried out from the previous weekend when they were at the Blackford Games, despite the weather there was a reasonable attendance.

Gala evokes special memories. For me the most enjoyable occasions were the 5-a-side football competitions in the Powrie park with the BBQ organised by the Tower Singers.

The most spectacular event was the aerobatics display by a biplane and the freefall parachute demonstration by the Army in Scotland was also spectacular.

The discos were very educational, the under 12s were so energetic, while there seemed to be more activity outside the Hall than in, with the under 16s.

Whisky curling at the Gala dances always got very competitive with guests throwing 50p coins for a bottle - it was a great money earner.

The Hill race always provided keen competition with the most outstanding performance from David Wotherspoon who won the under 12 section on five consecutive occasions. David is now a professional footballer with Hibernian and has represented Scotland with the under 19s team.

In recent years Gala has continued to evolve, Gala Day now reflects a greater commitment by a younger element in the village and it is good to see so many recent "incomers" being involved.

Now I really enjoy wandering around Powrie Park without any responsibility.

Good luck to all involved this year.
Let us hope the weather is good.

IAN CARTWRIGHT

THE GOLDEN GALA

Not long now till the big FIVE 0! Who can believe that Gala is 50 this year? We have a fun packed week with many regular and new events and attractions planned to help celebrate this special occasion.

You will find the full programme of events within this issue of the Village Crier, there for you to tear out and keep!

A couple of important areas to mention :-

We have a new family event added to the calendar, a Walking Treasure Hunt & BBQ on Sunday 30th May, setting off from the Williamson Hall at 2pm.

The hunt will be followed by the crowning of the Gala Princess at 3.30pm. Cost is £1 for adults and 50p for children (children under 16 to be accompanied by an adult). A big thank you to the Tower Singers for organising this event.

Childrens Discos are on Thursday (not Friday) and the earlier disco is open to pre school children (pre school children to be accompanied by an adult). Fancy dress parade - theme is GOLD and we welcome all groups and organisations to go for GOLD to win the title! We have included an extra category of "best fancy dress on wheels" so dress up your buggies, skateboards or even wheelbarrows! Good luck! As previously communicated the Pet Show unfortunately will not go ahead - we do apologise if this event is a favourite of yours!

To end the celebrations we are considering holding a "pig roast" in the square on the evening of Sat 5th June, if this goes ahead further details will be on posters throughout the village!

All donations for the bottle stall and cake & candy stall are as always much appreciated. You can bring donations on the day or contact Lenny McCullie on 01738 850882 (bottle stall) and Evelyn Scobie on 01738 850496 (cake & candy) to make alternative arrangements.

We need your help - many hands make light work when it comes to setting up the park on the Saturday, so why not drop by and help put up a gazebo or two, we meet at the park at 9.00am. Also if you can spare some time on the day to help out on the stalls please let us know.

Finally, the Gala committee would like to thank everyone involved in organising all events for gala week and of course to the Village Crier for printing and distributing the programme within this issue, this has been a great help and is very much appreciated.

For further information on Gala please contact Andrea Dewar 01738 850960 or andrea.dewar@talktalk.net

INTERESTING WEB SITE

"Here is a fun and interesting website for parents, children and teachers. Have a look at the interactive site for games, information and lots of interesting facts and figures about eyes.

<http://www.eyeknoweyecare.com/>

THE THREAT TO RED SQUIRRELS AROUND ABERNETHY

You may not think it and may not have seen one but red squirrels are living right on your doorstep in Abernethy and the surrounding area. For example, Pitmedden forest has a sizable population of red squirrels, as does Moncreiffe Hill outside Bridge of Earn. Red squirrels have even been spotted within Abernethy itself. I was pleasantly surprised by the number of people at both the last Gala day and Abernethy primary school Eco day who told me of these occasional visitors to their gardens and I have even received photographic evidence to prove it!

Sadly however, your chances of catching a glimpse one of Scotland's most instantly recognisable and charming native species is reducing all the time. Already driven to extinction in the last 60 years from most of England and Wales and disappearing rapidly from Ireland, the red squirrel is in real trouble. Scotland represents its last stronghold in the British Isles. It is estimated that around 75% of the remaining population of red squirrels is to be found in Scotland and Perthshire is a stronghold for them. So what is causing this rapid decline? The answer is simple – its grey American cousin.

Most people do not realise that the grey squirrel, or to give it its proper title, the Eastern Grey squirrel is not a native species of the UK but rather of the eastern United States. It was deliberately released in Scotland (Argyll & Dumbarton) in the 1890s. It was then released in Edinburgh in 1913 and Dunfermline in 1919.

Since then greys have spread rapidly, appearing in Perthshire at Comrie and Callander by the 1940s and in Kinross and Dollar by the 1950s. Today grey squirrels are found throughout lowland Perth & Kinross and are now regularly seen as far north at Pitlochry. So why is the grey squirrel causing the extinction of the red? There are two main reasons for this: competition and disease.

Firstly, grey squirrels out compete red squirrels for food and shelter - to put it bluntly they starve the reds out. It has been estimated that reds typically die out of an area in about 15 years if greys are allowed to become established and the habitat is favourable.

Secondly, grey squirrels are carriers of a virus known as 'squirrelepox' which is harmless to them but deadly to the reds. This disease can kill all red squirrels in an area that come into contact with an infected grey squirrel in a matter of days, usually 15 to 20. To date there have been no known outbreaks in Perth & Kinross but it is regarded as only a matter of time as infected animals have already crossed the border from England.

Yet there is hope. If you are appalled at the demise of the red squirrel and like hundreds of other people across the region determined to do something about it, there are a number of steps you can take. The most straightforward is to report sightings of either red or grey squirrels so that organisations such as Perth & Kinross Red Squirrel Group (PKRSG) can better understand where to channel resources. To do this, simply go to the website: www.pkrsg.com -> Get involved -> Report sightings. For those who want to go further and actively control grey squirrels on their land (as many already do), a trap loan scheme is available, as is expert training from British Association of Conservation and Shooting (BASC).

If you want to get involved, show your support or simply learn more about red and grey squirrels, please go the PKRSG website: www.pkrsg.com or get in touch: info@pkrsg.com - we would love to hear from you.

Simon Poots is the current chair of Perth & Kinross Red Squirrel Group and lives at Carpow, just outside Abernethy.

THE WINNERS

The winners of the golf quiz are:



Round for 4 at Cragie Hill

Davie Birrell
36 Sutherland Cres.
Abernethy

Round for 4 at Turnhouse

Margaret Folan
4 Glencairn Place
Abernethy

The correct answers to the questions were:

1. Saturday 20th March 2010
2. Winter

TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE (by RUBY IRONSIDE)

There were two Joiners and Undertakers in the village. Mr J. McNaughton who had his workshop at the top of the Manse road. Morrison Bros. had their workshop at the west end of the village, now a house, Winterwood.



The milkman William Gay did his rounds with a horse drawn cart, you went out with your jug or pitcher to get milk, butter milk or cream, Mr Gay lived at Hatton Farm.

After Mr Gay gave up the milk business the dairy then went to Ballomill, Mr W. Smith and thereafter to Mr J. Pryde who transferred it to Drumhead Farm

Mr T. Ramsey's shop, now corner shop, sold groceries and newspapers so did Mr Peddie who also ran the Post Office. Mr Peddie was the provost for many years.

Mr D Scott had a licenced grocers' shop now Brian Greig's shop. Mr Powrie had a small sweetie shop in the Main Street where the bairns spent their half-penny and pennies there, what a selection of sweets.

There were two bakers in the village, Mr Munro had the shop at the west end of the village, now 27 main Street, taken over by Mr David Broom who served his apprenticeship with Mr Cuthbert at the other bake house, was Tower Bakery. After Mr Cuthbert retired Mr Broom took over the business.

Mr David Brown was in the Abernethy Hotel, Mrs Neville was in the Cree's Inn and Mr Stirling was in The Inn.

High class nightwear garments were manufactured at the factory of Robert Clow, formerly the Free Church, now Clow Square.

The other source of employment in the village was the linen factory at the east end of the village complete with chimney stack and pond, now Branston. The chimney stack mentioned above was 100 ft high, quite a structure on the Abernethy skyline.

Ten feet was taken off the top of it when the Milk Marketing Board took over at the beginning of the Second World War to be used as a cheese factory. The chimney stack was demolished in 1958.

The pond was filled in with the debris from the lumb, now the entrance to Branston. In 1953, the Coronation day of the present Queen, the public bus going from Newburgh to Perth ran off the road and landed in the pond.

The YWCA home was well patronised for many years before being taken over by the military in the 1940s. Now known as Pennyhill.

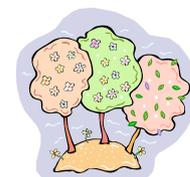
There were two Tailors, David Fair and Peter Honeyman. Mr Fair had his premises in the Square, The Old Town House and Mr Honeyman worked from his workshop in Station Road.

The shoemaker was Mr J. Roy who had his workshop in the square now 38 Main Street.

The Town Council met in the Town House in the square this all changing in 1974 with Regionalisation, along came Community Councils and all the power moved to District and Regional Councils.

MORE MEMORIES IN THE NEXT EDITION

COMMUNITY ORCHARD LAND NEEDED



The Abernethy Horticultural Society, working in partnership with the Abernethy Community Council, would like establish a community orchard within the village to both offer a communal space, open for the enjoyment of village residents and also to help save many local rare and ancient varieties of fruit trees. The establishment of the orchard lacks only one thing - suitable land. The land would ideally be in a relatively accessible location and be of at least 0.5 acres in area. If you can help with the provision of land please contact the Abernethy Horticultural Society (via d_cheer@hotmail.com)

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ABERNETHY PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

With the weather getting better and summer fast approaching, the grass needs cutting, the garden needs weeding and this is article number 3. As usual it is my aim to provide you all with an update of what the parent council is doing, what the school are doing and how the community can get involved with the school as well as providing you with some school related dates for your diary.

Firstly a bit of an appeal: The parent council AGM was held on Monday 26th April to appoint the new class representatives and council members for the next school year. After three years on the council a few of our original members decided that they had served their time and resigned, thanks again to them for their commitment and help. According to our constitution the parent council needs at least one member per class in the school to operate successfully so the current members who are carrying on, were quite disappointed to see only one new face at the AGM despite two fliers asking for new members, before and after the Easter holidays. As you are no doubt aware, the parent council is the parents voice to the head teacher, the school and the PKC education department and will be heavily involved in the proposed school extension over the next few years which will affect every child in the school. With this in mind I am blatantly using this opportunity to try and get some additional members as we are looking for some fresh ideas and input. If you are interested please feel free to contact me, my contact details are below.

In a previous article I mentioned that the school are trying to gain Green Flag Status and we are now very close. Part of the final stage for this is for the children to inform the community about what the school is doing to promote environmental awareness.

Abernethy primary School have started the process to become a Rights Respecting School, this process has been started by registering with UNicef's Rights Respecting Schools. The school assembly was presented by PKCs Citizenship coordinator, Jan Caldwell on 19th February who provided details on the requirements of the process. On 19th May a Unicef representative is due to visit the school and engage with pupils, staff, parents and, hopefully, wider community members to evaluate the school using set questions. At a future date the representative will make a return visit to the school to provide feedback. The results of this evaluation will set a bench-

and a route to follow for the school to achieve the first level (there are 2 levels) of Rights Respecting School status. This will feature in the school's next Action Plan.

As mentioned previously, the parent council is currently involved in the plans for extending the school. We understand that the current situation is that the proposal has now been approved by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee at PKC and we are just waiting for the first date for the working group meeting to be communicated. The working group will contain representatives from the parent and community council who will be involved in the development of the proposals through planning to construction. I will try to keep the community up to speed via this regular column on how things are progressing.

As mentioned previously, I feel it is imperative that the parents and community have a voice and are aware of events and issues at the local school so please feel free to get in touch if you have any issues, questions or comments.

The best way to contact me is via email and I have provided my address below along with the names of the other members of the new parent council.

Parent Council Member Class Represented

Kate Butler	Nursery
Ranald Henderson	P1
Chris Meek (chris.meek1@tesco.net)	P2
Gordon Miller	P2
Tim Dewhurst	P3
Athole Skinner	P4
Karen Jerrard-Dinn	P6
Allan MacDonald	P6
Fiona Duncan	P6
Mo Mcullie	P7

Some school dates for your diary

2010

11th May - 4 teams (P6s & P7s) competing in P & K Orienteering Championships at Scone Palace

18th May - P7s attending Transition Day at Bell's

28th May - School Sports Day, weather permitting, 1.30p.m. prompt start (alternative dates - June 8th, 9th, 15th, 16th, 22nd, 23rd, 25th, 30th - same time)

2nd June - Whole school outing to Blair Atholl

4th June - Visit to Abernethy, by founder of 'Empower the Children' charity - building on international link with school India

29th June - Leavers' Service - all parents welcome

SAVED BY LOCAL BUSINESS

The President and committee of Abernethy Bowling club have paid tribute to the local businesses who have helped the club recover from what could have been a disastrous start to the season.

The banks and ditches surrounding the green had collapsed and whilst play would have still been possible(just) the club would not have been allowed to host any official matches against other clubs nor host their popular 'Open tournaments' which attract bowlers from far and wide to this popular venue.

The portacabin which served as the changing facility for many years crumbled under the weight of December's snow and ice as the roof caved in and was deemed to be beyond economic repair.

Local firm Binn Skips and recycling specialist SITA stepped in with a cash donation of £7000 and free labour worth as much as £5000 to allow the club to undertake repairs to the Green as well as to buy a new changing facility

William Allison of Allison Fencing kindly donated new rink markers and Brian Stewart of Elles Builders supplied new steps to allow access to the green. Frances Easton the club's President said 'if it was not for the generosity of these local businesses then the club would have been in serious danger of going under as the club's revenue would have been decimated. Thankfully this was not the case and there is a full programme of matches and events planned throughout the year.'

The season opened for play on 10th April to unanimous praise from those attending who said the green now looks fantastic and plays great.

Junior coaching is now underway on Wednesday evenings from 6.30pm and on Saturday mornings from 9.45am Anyone over 8 is welcome to come along and have a go. Contact Ron Guthrie the junior coach on 850315 for more details.

This year the fully licensed clubhouse will open every Saturday evening from 7pm and play host to regular fun events-Quiz nights, Games nights and even Bingo will feature and all members and friends are welcome. A barbecue is planned when the weather picks up-details on this and other events will be posted throughout the village.

The club is pleased to welcome new members. If you have never played before but would like to try then come along on a Thursday night from 6.45 when someone will be on hand to help you.

Useful nos
President Frances Easton 850788
Secretary Alan Learmonth 850424



ABERNETHY SCOTTISH KARATE CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY AND MEDAL WINNERS

The Perth Tora Kai Karate Club recently participated in the Scottish Karate Championships, held on the 16th April at the Lagoon Leisure Centre in Paisley. Among many of the trophy and medal winners from the club were four local boys, Finlay Clark, Andrew Duncan, Keelan Anderson and Josh Stocker, who are all primary 6 pupils at Abernethy Primary School. Well done boys and congratulations on your success.

The Tora Kai Karate Club holds classes locally as well as throughout Perth and Scone and is run under the expert guidance of Mike and Cathy Clifford. Local classes are held on the following days,
Tuesday - Strathallan School 6pm-7pm,
Tuesday - Abernethy Masonic Lodge 7.15pm-8.30pm
Thursday - Bridge of Earn Institute 7.30pm-8.30pm
New members are always welcome.

Brian

AULD ABERNETHY ASSOC.

SUMMER OUTING



The Auld Abernethy Association summer outing this year is to The Scottish Museum of Lead Mining. It is planned for Saturday 19th June, leaving 9.30am returning for about 6pm.

For further details contact Janet on 850238, Ann on 850434 or Jimmy on 850569.

You can also e-mail a.robertson907@btinternet.com. Please be in touch by Monday 7th June.

THE BADMINTON YEAR

Well, as I type this we are rapidly approaching the end of the 2009/10 season. The shuttles are being put to roost for the summer and the nets being taken in for patching. Weekly, for the last 6 months or so, we have gathered at the school for a couple of hours on a Wednesday night for a bit of exercise and a bit of competition (followed by a pint in the Crees to undo all the good). The club is not competing in any local leagues and the games we have are normally purely just for fun but when a Newburgh/Abernethy tournament was suggested it was very difficult not to suddenly start taking it all seriously. 2 hours and nine games later it was all over and I am happy to say we won – and convincingly. They claim it is because none of their best players were available but we know the truth!

So thanks to those who have kept the club going over the last year. And thanks to all of the members, both old and new, for supporting it too. The season does not restart till the autumn and we look forward to welcoming back existing member but also hope some new people might like to join us. For more information contact either Jill (850684) or Keir (850676)

YOGA CLASSES

7.15pm Mondays (term time only)
Dunbarney School, Bridge of Earn

When I moved to the area 10 years ago two women at the Bridge of Earn toddler group said to me that this class meant they 'were able to do things they never thought they could do'. Whether they meant physically or mentally I never asked I was so impressed.

I have been going to this class now for 10 years give or take some months pre and post pregnancies. Yoga is of course suitable and beneficial for pregnant women (with proper advice). I feel as if I have missed something if I miss the class – I find it very therapeutic and good for my now more injury prone limbs as I get older! All ages are welcome of course. Another good recommendation for the class is that some ladies have been coming for over 30 years!

The teacher Hilda Clow is an excellent example of the benefits of yoga – she can do the splits and if I am half as flexible as her in my old age I'll be delighted. She is also always cheerful, positive and friendly and has a very calming voice which is very relaxing during the class. I can't say too many nice things about her because I know she'll be reading this!

We have room for a few more and Hilda also runs a class in Cupar a different night if Mondays don't suit. Yoga is not for everyone but if you're been thinking about it or been before and got out of the habit or run out of time why not give it a go. All you need is comfortable clothing and either a blanket or mat (ideally both).

Zoe Robertson



A SPORTING MEMORY

St. Johnston's emphatic win over champions elect Rangers at the end of March brought back memories of a previous win against the Glasgow club at Ibrox. The date was 21st December 1963 and for some weeks I had planned to attend the match with my friend Roy McGregor. However Saints were having a bad run and I was having some misgivings. Roy, ever the optimist was more positive and said, "So what – lets go – we'll have a day out in Glasgow!" We were friendly with Bobby Brown, the Saints manager who supplied us with tickets for the stand – section K seats a 134 and a 135 in the front row (I still have the stubs – how sad is that?) Saints had several players down with flu and brought in a 22 year old centre forward who scored all the goals in a 3 – 2 victory – his name – Alex Ferguson. He later revealed his autobiography that was due to play in the reverse against Rangers that day at Muirton but not relishing being on the wrong end of a hiding he persuaded a girl to phone the manager, pretending to be his mother to say he was down with the flu. Bobby wasn't taken in and told him to report to the hotel where the team was to meet in Glasgow. The rest is history. Saints went to complete the double against the Glasgow Giants with a 1 – 0 win at Muirton Park in the last game of the season. The only other team to do so that season was Real Madrid in the European Cup. In the December game the Ibrox hood lights which were mounted in a row along the roofs of the stands as opposed to the usual pylons were not all that great. During the match a plaintive Glasgow voice was heard to remark, "see thae lights – ma Christmas tree has better lights than that!" You can't beat the Glesgae sense of humour – they needed it on that occasion.

Bob Macdonald

SCOTTISH FARMING IN THE 18TH CENTURY



So, you think that the weather's been bad. Here is an account of the climatic conditions in southern Perthshire 220 years ago, taken from 'Scottish Farming in the 18th Century' by J.E. Handley.

'In January hurricanes of wind and in the space of ten days three great floods in the River Teith, accompanied by an unnatural Spring such as we seldom see in April. From 1st February continued frost for two months; and in the middle of March a prodigious fall of snow. In many places of this country it lay for a fortnight from two to three feet deep...By reason of the snow or rain, very little oats or black victual (peas & beans) could be sown here till the middle of April - most piercing cold winds in the end of that month in May, and of course no vegetation. The barley got a dry but very cold bed...Exceeding heavy rains in the end of May and beginning of June, which chilled the young corn. Ten days of hot weather about the middle of July, after which torrents of rain attended with cold stormy winds which lasted for six weeks with little interruption. It looked liker February than the warm month. Hurricane 24th August which blew down a number of trees, and did much mischief to the wheat by breaking the straw. In the middle of September, notwithstanding a fortnight of fine weather, the oats in general green. 17th, Highland hills covered with snow; after some frosty mornings, boisterous wet weather to the end of the month. No oats ripe here till the first week of October...Mornings of the 4th and 13th of October frost like mid-winter, the ground being hard under foot till far in the day, and ice on the pools as thick as a crown-piece. It whitened the late corn and prevented its filling. Tempests of wind and rain and hail for a week after the 20th. Began to lead in about midnight between 24th and 25th October in clear moonshine. All in the 28th in the morning, two days before the great fall of snow. Melancholy to see at that season stooks and sheaves white with snow and stiffened with frost.



Froze hard for ten days with piercing north wind...In the high countries the corn covered with snow and not cut down until well into November. End of that month to beginning of December very deep snow and the frost so intense that it threatened to set the mills, which would have heightened the distress of the country. Wild weather after the middle of December.

DOUGLAS COOPER

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



The horticultural society has now completed its first year with the last talk of the year happening back in April. It has been a fantastic first year which started with the Garden Day in the Williamson Hall and was followed by six very well attended talks on various subjects. For 2010/11 season we are looking to repeat the same programme and people should mark in their diaries Saturday, 25th September for the garden day. This year we will be asking the younger folk to put together a flower pot person and the older ones to enter our knitted veg contest. We will have a variety of stands giving ideas for things to do in the garden and the plant stall for people to pick up great plants at great prices. We will have the apple press again and anyone with any fruit can bring them along and juice them (and make the juice into cider should they wish!). Look out for fliers through doors a month before the event with entry forms and more details.

Talks for this season will again be on the second Wednesday of the month (Oct, Nov, Jan, Feb, March and April). This season we will cover Alpines, Gardening for birds (the feathered ones) and a whole lot more.

The money raised by the society is being used to cover the running costs with the excess we have helped the school with some planting, and are now looking at ways of setting up a community orchard (see the article by Dave Cheer) and also still trying to set up local allotments.

We are always open to new members and anyone interested should get in touch as we will need help setting up the garden day and hope the talks starting in Autumn are of interest. Hope you have a great gardening year.

For more info please contact
AbernethyHorticultural@googlemail.com or Keir
850676

SHOP TILL YOU DROP - FOR FREE

Imagine a shop full of racks of clothes – labels including MaxMara , Boden and Laura Ashley and all sizes. You can browse in a relaxed atmosphere, choose as much as you like and take it away – for nothing, also knowing that the McMillan Cancer Nurses and the Scottish Cot Trust charities are benefiting from your indulgence.

This dream came true in the newly renovated Powrie Pavilion on Saturday, 24th April and was a television inspired Swap-Shop. We all have mistakes in our wardrobes. Dresses that looked enticing on the hanger were greeted with derision by the family; the special occasion passed and we are left with an outfit that did not fit our life-style; dresses mysteriously grew too small or, yippee, too big. Along they went for new owners to enjoy.

For a break from shopping we relaxed with delicious home-made cakes and puddings, or cheese and biscuits for the less-sweet-toothed, tea and coffee, or wine glasses were provided for those who had remembered to B.Y.O B. Gary from Cumbernauld serenaded us with beautiful guitar music until we were strong enough to hit the clothes rails again.

This was the brainchild of Abernethy cyclists Susan McGhie, Lorraine Kinnear and Fiona Henderson who ,along with many other Abernethy folk, were taking part in the Caledonian Etape Cycle Race over 81 gruelling miles around Pitlochry on 16th May. Lorraine and Fiona have sponsorship but Susan has had to withdraw because of ill-health. Tickets were £5 and over £400 has been raised for the two charities whilst giving over 100 people (mostly ladies, but there were men's and children's clothes) a fun evening.

I had some good 'buys'. If you recognise something I am wearing as once belonging to you, I hope you think I look nice in it!

AH

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

EXERCISE

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a mince pie takes	4,625 steps!
a tomato takes	350 steps
a gin and tonic takes	5,000 steps



THE DANGEROUS JOB OF A “CRIER” DISTRIBUTOR

When Iris Watson heard that there was to be a village newsletter , she was one of the first people to offer her help with the distribution. Iris is a well kent face in the village and with her knowledge of the houses and inhabitants around West Park, Den Park , and Hall Park, she was eagerly accepted as a distributor for that area : and Iris looked forward to the day when each new edition was delivered to her door to be taken round to her neighbours and friends.

Happily she distributed for five “Crier” issues , and on the day that she received her bundle for March, although she had a house full of tradesmen, and the weather was horrible she ventured forth regardless. However , and this is where the story gets serious , poor Iris met with disaster at the very first house she went to ; as she struggled to get the newsletter through the letterbox her fingers were grabbed by an angry dog on the other side, with difficulty she managed to extract her hand but two of her fingers were badly torn and bruised and bleeding. As luck would have it , the painter at her house was a kindly soul and bundled the shocked Iris into his car and took her to Newburgh surgery from which she emerged with two very heavily bandaged fingers .

The healing process has not been straightforward but thankfully our loyal distributor has now made a complete recovery and is still happy to go on with her “dangerous” job.

Many, many thanks to Iris and all the “Village Crier” distributors, but do be careful of letter boxes with teeth!

Maureen Nisbet.



ARE YOU POET AND YOU DON'T KNOW IT?

If so, the Museum of Abernethy is issuing a challenge to anyone who can compose a poem, the subject of which is the 50th anniversary of the Gala.

Twenty five years ago, the late Jim Roy, well known poet and Pillar of the Community, composed a poem for that Gala anniversary. In it he issued a challenge to anyone in 2010 to do likewise.

Poems should be handed in to the Museum or brought to the Gala to be displayed in the Museum of Abernethy tent.

The Gala Committee will award a prize for the best entry.

Now start thinking

Closing date for next edition

31.7.10

TG

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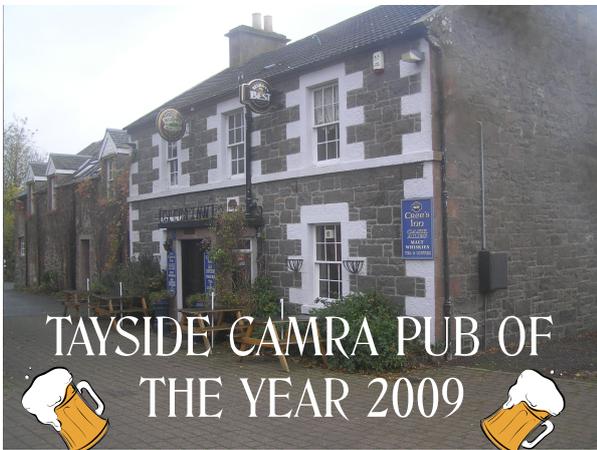


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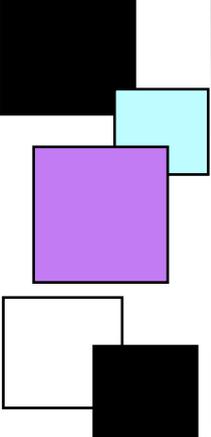
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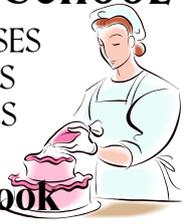
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WELCOME TO GALA 2010

Happy 50th Birthday to Abernethy Gala!

It's hard to believe that Gala has been taking place for 50 years. A fantastic milestone and a great achievement for all who have been involved over the years. A 50th birthday should not go by without celebration and we very much hope you will join the community and celebrate this special occasion.

We have a fun packed week with many regular and new events and attractions planned. We start with a new event on Sunday 30th May, a Walking Treasure Hunt & BBQ, a great event for all the family and an opportunity for you to see the crowning of the Gala Princess* (children under 16 to be accompanied by an adult). The Children's Discos are on Thursday (not Friday) and the earlier disco is open to pre school children (who must be accompanied by an adult). The fancy dress parade theme is GOLD and we welcome all groups and organisations to go for GOLD to win the title! "Best fancy dress on wheels" is an extra category this year so dress up your buggies, skateboards or even wheelbarrows!

On Gala day we welcome Bob Macdonald, previous chairman of the Williamson Hall, to open the proceedings & judge the fancy dress parade which will be led through the village by The Comrie & District Pipe Band along with the Gala Princess and her 2 attendants*. We have many new attractions at the park but unfortunately the Pet Show will not go ahead.

To end the celebrations we are considering holding a "Pig Roast" in the square on Saturday evening, if this goes ahead further details will be on posters throughout the village.

Gala is only possible due to the commitment of a number of local people who help organise the events and to the generosity of many businesses. Grateful thanks must go to the following:-

Our Sponsors to date: Branston (Scotland) Ltd, Kirkland Restoration Ltd, ASAP Contracts, Culdees Tea Room, Muir Homes Ltd, The Corner Shop, Double M Dairy, Brian Greig, Alastair Scott Services, Caledonia Highland Dress Manufacturer

Raffle Prizes donated and received to date: Cairn O'Mohr Fruit Wines, St Johnstone FC, Perth Leisure Pool, Rodney Fitness Centre, The Famous Grouse, Scone Palace, Dewars Centre, A & J Stephen Ltd, Senses Health & Beauty, Tesco plc, Tootsie and Fudge, Mrs V Bubb, Noah's Ark, Stagecoach Holdings plc.

*at time of going to print the Gala Princess and attendants had not been chosen therefore names were not available.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Sunday 30th May

Walking Treasure Hunt & BBQ
Set off from Williamson Hall, followed by a BBQ 2.00pm

Crowning of the Gala Princess* 3.30pm

Children 50p / Adults £1.00

(Kindly organised by the Tower Singers, for further info contact Ann Miller - 850518)

(children under 16 to be accompanied by an adult)

Wednesday 2nd June

Car Treasure Hunt (£6 per car) 7.00pm
Branston car park (cars leave car park and finish at the Williamson Hall)

(Kindly organised by the Tower Singers, for further info contact Pat Miller - 850879)

Thursday 3rd June

Abernethy Bowling Club 7.00pm
(Kindly organised and run by Abernethy Bowling Club, for further info contact Scott Sutherland - 850893)

Thursday 3rd June

Children's Discos, Williamson Hall (tuck shop plus girls and boys pamper shop)
Preschool -P3 Disco** £2.50 each 6.30-7.30pm

P4-P7 Disco £2.50 each 7.45-9.15pm

(Kindly organised by the Playgroup, for further info contact Angela Campbell - 850576)

(**preschool children to be accompanied by an adult that stays at the hall)

Saturday 5th June

GALA DAY - see full programme on back page 1.45pm

Sunday 6th June

Hill Race (from the square to the top of Castlelaw)
Children £1 / Adults £2.00 Registration - 1.30pm Race 2.00pm

(Kindly organised by Colin Morrison, for further info contact Colin - 850277)

WE NEED YOUR HELP : we do of course rely on the great community spirit we have in Abernethy to set up the park and this year is no exception. If you are able to help please come to the park at 9am on Saturday. It's not a huge commitment and the more people who get involved the easier it is for everyone!

GALA 2010

SUNDAY 30th MAY to SUNDAY 6th JUNE

GALA DAY - SATURDAY 5TH JUNE

1.45pm - Grand Fancy Dress Parade

Gala Princess and The Comrie & District Pipe Band lead the parade from the Williamson Hall. The Gala Princess's Bentley is kindly provided by Alastair Scott Services.

Parade arrives at Powrie Park approx 2pm - Close approx 4.30pm

MAIN ARENA

Gala opening/judging of fancy dress by Bob Macdonald & the Gala Princess

****NEW**** Rhythm Wave Samba Band

****NEW**** Velocity (Abernethy Primary School's very own Hip Hop Group)

Kids' Races (and Mums & Dads)

Bridge of Earn Majorettes

'Dusty Boots' Line Dancers

Tug of War (TBC)

Raffle Draw

ACTIVITIES & ATTRACTIONS

****NEW**** Silly McB the Clown, Fife Animal Park, Obstacle Bouncy, ****NEW**** Gladiator Joust, ****NEW**** Waterslide, 3 Man Bandit & Tabletop Curling (Abdie Curling Club), ****NEW**** Build a Bear

Gala Committee – Andrea Dewar and Jill Young – with special thanks to the many local people, groups and organisations who have helped with all the arrangements.

Gala Day MC: Jim Cook

Williamson Hall Charity Number SC003200

Main Sponsor

BRANSTON

STALLS

Accessories & Jewellery (church)

Bottle Stall1 (Lenny McCullie)

Cake and Candy1 (SWRI)

Cards & Jewellery (Pam Rumgay)

Horticulture (Les MacIntosh)

****NEW**** Jewellery (Boxer Beads)

Moonwalk/Breast Cancer

Pocket Money Toys (Party Wishes)

Usborne Books (Karen Grehan)

Wooden Craft (Sinclair Landscaping)

Traditional Kids Games

Face Painting

Catering (The Corn Kist)

Ice Cream Van (Softy King Ice Cream)

****NEW**** Museum – gala memorabilia & poem competition

Raffle Tickets

Teas, coffees & baking (in the Pavilion)

1: Donations on the day for Bottle and Cake & Candy stalls will be gratefully received