



# Auchenblae Messenger

Founded in 1999 by Donald B. Rennie

## *Spring Edition*

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 1

MARCH 2022

### From The Editor

Let us hope that all is now more or less normal. It has been a difficult two years. We could also have done without all the recent, very damaging storms. We can but hope that our lovely village will soon recover. From the contributions that we have it looks as though things are starting up again. People have been so kind and helpful over the last two years. That is what is so good about Auchenblae.

My thanks to all who have contributed. There wouldn't be a Messenger without you and I know from feedback that it is much appreciated. I will start collecting in mid May for the June issue. If anyone has anything for us I can be reached on 320911 or I can be found at

[barpollybar@gmail.com](mailto:barpollybar@gmail.com)



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### The Messenger— e-Newsletter

Due to costs & 'staying green' The Messenger continues to be published online at

[www.mearns.org/auchenblae](http://www.mearns.org/auchenblae)

The very few printed copies that have been requested are provided by the very kind assistance of **Hazel Horrigan** and **Alastair Macphie**.

All the best,  
Kevin (Publisher)

## Auchenblae Lawn Bowls Club

Auchenblae Bowling Club aims to attract more new players this coming season but a start date for the new season (normally mid-April) cannot yet be confirmed

This is because the recent storms caused so much damage bringing many trees crashing down in the Den that the area has had to be closed to public access due to the dangers of fallen branches. The gales left some trees unstable at their roots with potential for some further falls.

While strenuous and hazardous work is underway to clear the fallen trunks and make the area safe, we patiently await news. We hope that at best we can get back on to the bowling green sometime in April.

At this stage it is looking that the bowling green surface has not suffered any great harm but we shall have to wait until it is safe for the grass surface to be cleared of branches and twigs debris and enable a thorough inspection.

Any adults in the area - and especially newcomers to the village - who might like to try out bowling this summer with a view to taking up the game are welcome. Bowling provides gentle non-strenuous exercise for all ages except young children for whom bowls are too heavy and too difficult to handle and control.

Current club members will meet on Saturday 12th March for their Annual General Meeting. They will consider plans for the summer including to attract more parents, grandparents and guardian carers of children age 9 upwards who would like to give bowling a try. A parent grandparent or carer can enrol as a Full Member and bring their child/children with them to the green.

Anyone interested to try out bowling can privately message the Club on Facebook Auchenblae Bowling Club page for more info and to arrange a try-out session when the green does re-open in due course. Or phone **07552 952006**.

## Auchenblae Friendship Group



At last we are up and running again and hoping that this time we can keep going. We are back in our home in the Church Hall. How nice it looks now that all the work inside has been completed.

It is so good to see all our friends back with us and we have been able to welcome a few new ones. We have been in existence for about 20 years now and still have some of our original members. We must be doing something right. That doesn't mean that we do not have room for more. You don't have to be a Church goer to join us. You don't have to live in Auchenblae. You don't have to be a pensioner, or be fully fit. We welcome anyone who feels that they would like to meet with other people on a Wednesday morning. We all know what it has been like to be cut off from others over the last two years, and how lonely that can make us feel.

Wednesday mornings are fun and interesting. We are entertained by many different people who remain great favourites, and who keep coming back. We start with a cuppie and biscuits and then different things happen on different days. We start at 10 o'clock and finish about 12 o'clock. If you need a lift get in touch with Barbara at 320911 and something can be arranged. I can also fill you in with more details of what we do.

We are there for all who want and need fellowship and friendship. Do join us.

## Auchenblae Parks Committee

Following the recent storms, Auchenblae Den remains closed to the public due to the amount of fallen trees around the area. Work is underway to clear the trees and make the area safe, however this will take time - please bear with us; we're looking at April time to reopen.

In the meantime, the football pitch is open and can be accessed for recreational use.

As the Den is closed, we have had to postpone the Clear Up Day in March - another date will be advertised in due course.

## EARLY BIRD MEMBERSHIP OFFER

**Auchenblae Golf Course is accepting new membership applications for the 2022 season.**

**Join now and enjoy IMMEDIATE MEMBERSHIP until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.**

**2021 MEMBERSHIP RATES FROZEN (until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022)**



If you are interested in becoming a member, email [auchenblaegolf@gmail.com](mailto:auchenblaegolf@gmail.com)

Membership Type:	Cost:
Full	£195
Senior (65 and over)	£185
Junior (8 - 17 years old)	£45
Youth (18 - 21 years old)	£100
Parent & Junior	£220

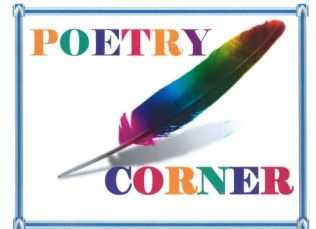
Note: Normal membership year runs from 1st April - 31st March

## Auchenblae Heritage Society

Now seems like a good time to make plans for future meetings so the current committee hopes to meet early in March to fix a date for a Heritage Society meeting in April/May. This initial meeting will probably comprise an A.G.M. to elect a new committee, followed by an informal discussion (with refreshments!) of ideas for meetings for the rest of 2022 - 2023 and beyond!







## Seagull Skies

To some they are classed as vermin,  
To some they are classed as a pest;  
But to me the seagull epitomizes  
Britain at its best.

Every time I see a seagull  
I think of how Britain was saved,  
When these islands against the Axis  
stood alone, defended by the few so brave.

Every time I see a lone seagull, in my  
minds eye it's a Spitfire that I see,  
And flocks of seagulls courting the plough,  
are squadrons of Spitfires and Hurricanes,  
whose pilots fought to keep these islands  
free.

Then , as the fading day draws to a close  
and I espy a lone seagull cross an open sky,  
I raise a glass in salute to R.J.Mitchell who's  
inspiration the seagull, designed the most  
famous fighter aircraft of all to fly



# West Mearns Parish Church

Dear Friends

Whilst this prayer event has come and gone by the time of this publication, it remains a reminder that we live in difficult times. There are Ukrainian people in our Parish that are directly affected by these world events and there are many Russians who are against this war.

We continue to be mindful and pray for peace.

The prayer we used at the time goes...

*Almighty God we pray for the situation on the border of Ukraine.*

*We pray for those who live in fear, that you may grant them peace.*

*We pray that the voices for discernment and peaceful solutions may prosper.*

*Lord, we ask that you raise up peacemakers on all sides, that war and violence might be averted.*

*Give diplomats wisdom, understanding and build trust.*

*We ask for the church in the nations involved, may they be salt and light in a dark situation.*

*Lord, we lift this dangerous situation to you.*

*May your kingdom come, Amen.*

West Mearns Parish churches are open and current covid rules apply. Our service times are listed on our website at [www.westmearns.com](http://www.westmearns.com)  
And as always ALL ARE WELCOME.

Bloopers. Which Hymn?

I've got the joy, joy, joy down in my heart Tuesday!

I got the pizza passes understanding.....

All things bright and beautiful, all teachers great and small.

Dance, dance wherever you may be. I am the Lord of the dancing fleas.

I'll eat you all wherever you may be. I'll eat you all in the dance said he.

Blessed insurance, Jesus is mine.

In Morecombe, invisible, God only wise.....

Hey! I knew ya, Hey! I knew ya, Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Get dressed you married gentlemen, let nothing you dismay.

Crazy, crazy, all you little children.....

O Come All Ye Faithful...

O come let us ignore him, O come let us ignore him,

O come let us ignore him, Christ the Lord.

West Mearns Parish



Sunday 27th February

2pm - 4pm

Auchenblae and Fettercairn Churches  
will be open.

All are welcome.

Come along and spend a few moments in prayer or  
contemplation.

Maybe leave a flower as a symbol of peace.

# Dates for your diary



COMING SOON



The  
BLAE  
your communities social network

A

Check out the social community network online, advertise events, book the hall, promote your group and lots more:  
[www.http://theblae.org/](http://theblae.org/)

The Auchenblae Messenger is available online for convenient reading or ex-residents wanting to stay in touch.  
Find us at [www.mearns.org/auchenblae](http://www.mearns.org/auchenblae)

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