



Auchenblae Messenger

Founded in 1999 by Donald B. Rennie

Summer Edition

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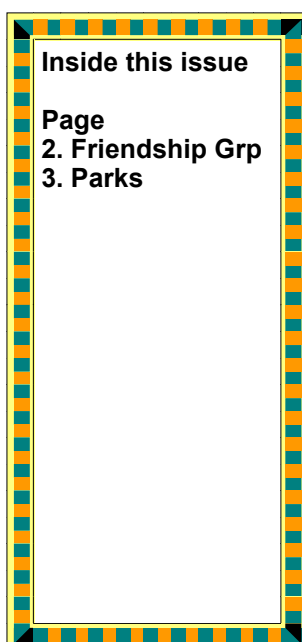
From The Editor

Once again we have managed to come up with an issue of The Messenger, in spite of the fact that most things in the village are still in shutdown. Grateful thanks to contributors and also to our readers for the encouraging feedback. We must hope for a more normal outlook when the next issue is due. I will be collecting for it in mid August. I can be reached at barpollybar@gmail.com



Auchenblae Memo

Due to insufficient response the Memo production has been suspended but can be restarted if required.



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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

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)

Summer Funnies

During the past year, especially during lockdown we have been encouraged to exercise. I take that to mean that we should exercise our chuckle muscles as well. Here are some howlers by schoolchildren, two from children that I taught, the others gleaned from elsewhere over the years.

Please Miss I can't do PE today cos my exmouf is very bad. (exzema).

Look Miss. Today is the first time I've skated on ice and already I'm doing aerobatics.

The headmaster caned me only on rear occasions.

A polygon is a man who has many wives.

John Milton wrote "Paradise Lost". Then his wife died and he wrote "Paradise Regained",

Letters in sloping type are in hysterics.

A Native American calls his wife a squaw and his children squawkers.

Joan of Arc was Noah's sister.

To keep milk from turning sour keep it in the cow.

An octogenarian is an animal which has eight young at birth.

A circle is a figure with 0 corners and only one side.

Crude oil is a vicious substance.

Al Chemy was a man who discovered chemistry.

The masculine of vixen is vicar.

The seventh commandment is "Thou shall not admit adultery".

Paraffin is the next order of angels above seraphins.

A census taker is a man who goes from house to house increasing the population.

Adolescence is the stage between puberty and adultery.

Auchenblae Friendship Group



"Each contact with a human being is so rare, so precious, one should strive to preserve it".

The above quote comes from a Friendship perpetual calendar that I have had for some years now. How true that is at this present time. In spite of lockdown and all that that entails somehow we have managed by phone, mail, email, facebook, zoom and other ways to keep in touch. We all need someone to talk to, commiserate with and most of all the laugh with.

At the moment the Friendship Group are still unable to meet. The Church Hall is undergoing repairs and is unavailable. Restrictions are gradually being eased. From chats I have had I know that like me you are keen to start meeting again. I assure you that we will start as soon as we can.

One thing that has struck me over the past difficult months is how good and kind people are. They keep an eye on neighbours to make sure that they are managing. They help whenever they can. I am still being looked after by carers some of the time. One of them from Fraserburgh, who I don't know and is not one who visits me, phones me every two weeks, just to have a chat and to make sure that I am coping, and to keep my spirits up. I really look forward to her calls. We need to talk!

Members of the group have certainly kept me going. I am so grateful for all the cards, messages and phone calls that I have received and still receive. We do need to be together again. If you are on your own, feel lonely and need a friend join us when we start again.

"The need for friendship is as deep as the need for food".



Auchenblae Parks Committee

Bowling Green Restoration



Restoration of Auchenblae's bowling green is now well underway thanks to investment by the Parks Committee, our local charitable body which oversees the maintenance of the village's recreation amenities of the Golf Club, Bowling Green and Den etc.

Every bowling green needs regular maintenance of its playing surface scheduled to the annual cycle of seasons. But every few years, invariably, a bowling green will need a significant "re-furb" as the diverse seed and roots of nature and our changeable seasonal patterns inevitably favour spurts of species pushing up into even the most manicured greens! Auchenblae's green was created well over 100 years ago and in recent years it has not had any major refurb. Gradually the surface has been changing and deteriorating in reaction to the changing environment, for example sapling growth etc. at the Den and other factors. More particularly, while Covid virus impacted us all last year, an invasion of Lichen did its own devastating damage to Auchenblae's bowling green and needed to be totally removed.

The restoration work has involved treatment for removing the lichen and moss and weeds, then scarifying to remove the dead matter, then brushing, re-seeding and top dressing and now the village awaits healthy regrowth until the bowling green surface will be established strongly enough for the return of the bowls and players' feet! Just when this can happen depends on nature and weather. Hopefully it can happen later this summer. The bowling season normally ends in mid to late September.

Meanwhile members of the Bowling Club look forward hopefully to a happy day of returning to the green. The Club will update the village as soon as this is possible with an invitation to come try bowling. The Club aims to attract new members of all ages - whether you are on



20 Fun Facts about Summer:

1. The first modern Olympic Games were held in the summer in 1896 in Athens, Greece.
2. The first day of summer is between June 20th and June 22nd every year. The first day of summer is called the summer solstice, and the day varies due to the Earth's rotation not exactly reflecting our calendar year.
3. The last day of summer is September 20th.
4. Watermelon is one of summer's best summer treats. Did you know that watermelons are not a fruit, but a vegetable instead? They belong to the cucumber family of vegetables.
5. The Eiffel Tower actually grows in the heat of the summer. Due to the iron expanding, the tower grows about 6 inches every summer.
6. If you love ice cream, the summer season should be your favorite. July is national ice cream month.
7. Another interesting fact about summer is that television shows used to only be reruns during the summer months. The idea being that everyone was outside enjoying the weather.
8. A June fun fact is that the month of June is named after the Roman goddess Juno.
9. The first women's bathing suit was created in the 1800's. It came with a pair of bloomers.
10. The "dog days of summer" refer to the dates from July 3rd to August 11th. They are named so after the Sirius the Dog Star. This star is located in the constellation of Canis Major.
11. Frisbee's, invented in the 1870's as a pie plate, but in the 1940's, college students began throwing them around. They have since stopped being used for pie plates and are now a summertime staple.
12. For a July fun fact, Roman general Marc Antony named the month of July after Julius Caesar.
13. July is national blueberry month.
14. The longest day of the year is on the summer solstice.
15. Mosquito's are most prevalent during summer months. Mosquito's have been on earth for more than 30 million years.
16. Most theme and water parks are on a summer seasonal schedule.
17. August was named after Julius Caesar's nephew. He had received the title of "Augustus" which means "reverend".
18. The first National Spelling Bee was held on June 17th, 1825.
19. More thunderstorms occur during summer than any other time of year. They are also take place more commonly in the south east of England.
20. Fruit ice pops were invented in 1905 by an 11 year old boy.

© PeteOLD BRIDGE (Pitnamoon)

Flowing-
Rushing-chasing
Bubbling-murmuring
Whirling-swirling
Splashing-dashing
Echoing-
A symphony of orchestral
sounds-
Under the old Pitnamoon
bridge-

Where Pooh sticks
race their laughter.

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r Morriss 18.06.2020



INNER EYE

When in the comfort
of my easy chair,
To use with what is
that inner eye;
To sit and stare.

With that inner eye-

I'm off to roam among lush
green fields once more,
Wandering past hedgerows
brimming with nature's
treasures galore.

I'm off to walk the ragged
Paths of woodlands canopied
ways,
To listen to the feathered lyres
in praise of the risen day.

With that inner eye-

I'm off to roam the high
trails, among their contoured
steeps;
I'm off once more to the high
peaks,

Where to their epic skies a
lone vigil keeps.

With that inner eye-
I'm off to roam once more.

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Auchenblae Calendar 2022

So many people are taking good photographs these days, and I've no doubt there are some great subjects hidden from view in someone's portfolio?

It's thanks to the ease of recording scenes using a mobile phone, the hobby is no longer the domain of those with expensive cameras.

This is a little reminder that there will be a calendar produced for 2022 using local scenes, taken by local people. The photographs must be in 'landscape' form, not 'portrait'. I've already been given a couple but need more so that we have few to choose from. Please forward them at any time up till late Autumn. It's good to have a variety of pictures showing rural activities throughout the year. Email – jennythomson1@hotmail.com



Thanks in anticipation. Jenny





Dates for your diary



COMING SOON



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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



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The publisher for this issue was **Kevin Newstead**