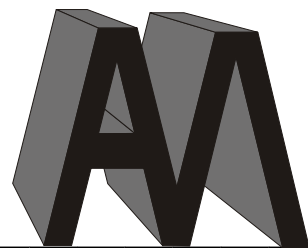




The Auchenblae Messenger

Volume 7 Issue 4

September 2005



A CAUTIONARY TALE BY WAY OF AN EDITORIAL

Inside this issue:

Some years ago a church magazine, that used to be issued to every minister in the Church of Scotland, produced an article that came, I think, from somewhere across the Atlantic, and contained the following illustration:

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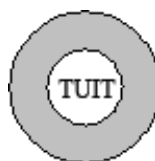
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It purported to be a simple device which could be worn like a badge and which everyone ought to have – it was called “A Round Tuit”. It was a free gift which a certain minister decided every member of his congregation should have, but especially those who were full of good intentions that were never carried out, because, as they explained, “**they never got a round tuit.**” The result, of course was that all manner things that ought to have been done weren’t done at all. And it wasn’t that people were apathetic. They knew fine that all sorts of things were required, but because nobody bothered to come forward to do them, the same dwindling handful of folk got it all to do. “Well”, said the writer, “I have decided to give *everyone* a Round Tuit, and no one will be able to plead that they never got one!”

The following Sunday more ministers than you could shake a stick at produced the diagram either in their sermon or their children’s address. Some even went the length of reproducing cardboard cut-outs of them in great quantities so that as they were leaving the church after the service each individual member of the congregation could have one of their very own!

“I meant to do it, but I just never got around to it.” Hands up all those who have never said that, or something very like it. How different things would be in this community if all the well intentioned ones got around to putting these intentions into practice instead of pleading, as many do, that we just “never got around to it.”

When we look at the many activities that make up the life of this community and neighbourhood, and how often these activities are sustained by the same willing band of workers (for whom we can only be eternally grateful) wouldn’t it be an idea if some of the folk who have thought about offering their services (but never got ‘a ROUND TUIT’) accepted the “free gift” **AND GOT AROUND TO IT?**

Special points of interest:

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We hope you enjoy the September 2005 edition of *The Messenger*.

D.B.R.





West Mearns Parish Church

Minister: Rev. Catherine Hepburn
The Manse, Fettercairn
Tel 01561 340203

Sunday Service

9.30 a.m. Every Sunday at **Fettercairn**
11.00 a.m. First Sunday of the Month : **Glenbervie**
11.00 a.m. Every other Sunday in the month
Service at **Auchenblae** Church.

Visitors especially welcome at all services.

Every Sunday a crèche for the very young takes place during the time of the morning service at Auchenblae and Glenbervie churches.

Sunday School commences on Sunday 4th September

The Harvest Festival* takes place on Sunday 25th September.

The Churches in the Mearns are joining forces in the celebration of "The Harvest o' the Mearns" which, including an exhibition of locally produced food, takes place in Mearns Academy on Saturday 24th September. (See local notices for opening times.)

Auchenblae Guild (West Mearns Parish Church.

The Last *Messenger* article was concerned with forthcoming events in June – now it is August and those occasions are only pleasant memories as we head for the start of a new session. The first meeting of the Guild will be on **Wednesday September 21st at 7.30p.m.** in the Church Hall. A light supper will form the main part of the evening of fellowship. Members are invited to bring a friend along with them.

*In connection with the Harvest Festival at West Mearns, the Christian Action Group have embarked on a slightly unusual approach to this annual event. They are inviting folk in the congregation to join in a project under the auspices of Christian Aid entitled "How to re-cycle a Goat". And to this end are giving away free tubes of Smarties!

No, they haven't all lost the plot! The idea is to enjoy the contents of the tube and then hand the tube back – **filled with cash!** The cash will then be passed on to Christian Aid whose scheme provides families in some of the poorest areas of the world with a Goat, which can eventually enable people to begin to find their way out of grinding poverty. If you're intrigued by this rather different approach to the forthcoming Harvest Festival and would like to know some more about the recycling of goats (and if you want a free tube of Smarties!) look in to the church at Auchenblae any Sunday from now. You'll be made more than welcome.

AUCHENBLAE OAP FUND

Ho! Ho! Ho!

Jingle bells Jingle bells - Christmas 100 days away

Just enough time to help out the O.A.P fund of Auchenblae.
all together now..

Somehow the year seems to have slipped by and Christmas is well and truly on its way.

Please come and support the O.A.P fund at the Mearns Vintage Car Rally on the 3rd and 4th of September.

There we will have a stall selling Bric a Brac, a Bottle Tombola and assorted varieties of Mrs Jamieson's superb jam.

If you like your excitement a little closer to home come along to our 'novelty race night' on Friday the 30th September 7.30 pm in the village hall- an event that's always proved to be a fun evening for all.

All money that is raised will go towards the funds aim which is to provide a Christmas present for all the O.A.P's within the village.

Many thanks for your continued support.



*



AUCHENBLAE W.R.I.

On 1st September the Rural are visiting

"Sugar and Spice" at Arbroath

We will be leaving the Village Square at 6.30 p.m.

VILLAGE FLOWERS

Just a word of thanks to the Community Association Committee. Once again, the Community has been able to enjoy the beauty of the many colourful tubs of flowers provided at various locations in the Village.

'Thankyou' too, to all the householders who have made their individual contribution to the seasonal colour throughout the Village.

RM

THE AUCHENBLAE MESSENGER GROUP

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of
The Auchenblae Messenger Group will
be held on THURSDAY
20th OCTOBER 2005,
At 7:30 pm
CHURCH HALL

This Meeting is to discuss the future year of YOUR Community Magazine. It is, therefore, really important that you make YOUR effort to be present in order that YOUR views and YOUR ideas may be represented in 'The Auchenblae Messenger' during the coming year.

Thankyou in anticipation.
Muiry (Chairperson)

Ross

Auchenblae & District Community Association

ART SHOW 2005 – VILLAGE HALL

Our annual Art Show is taking place from **Friday 2nd - Sunday 4th September**.

Friday 2nd 7 - 11 pm - Cheese & Wine - Preview Evening (Tickets from local shops & Committee members)

Saturday 3rd - 2-4 pm Teas & Home Baking

Sunday 4th - 1-5 pm Teas & Home Baking

Several new artists are participating this year and together with our regular contributors making an excellent display of local talent. A pleasant weekend with the opportunity to purchase an original work of art - many with a local influence.



NB Photograph entries welcome for the Christmas Card of 2005.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On **TUESDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2005**

at **7.30 pm** in **MUTUAL HALL**

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS WELCOME. The Community Association comprises a committee elected annually to effectively organise fund raising, events of interest for varied age groups, for the management and upkeep of the Village Hall and to deal with issues raised concerning the village. The hall provides a well used focal point for all village activities and is increasingly the venue for private functions.

This year to date we have, in addition to our Gala Week, Art Show and catering at Drumtochty Games, held a hugely successful 70s Disco and an Antiques Roadshow & Silent Auction. The organising of these are of course hard work and time consuming - but the working together is enjoyable!

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month to discuss issues which affect the community and to initiate any action necessary.

The Committee wish to thank everyone who has assisted and contributed in any way to the success of the various events over the past year.

Auchenblae Recycling Point

'It is with great delight that it can be reported that the local recycling point is to remain within Auchenblae. An alternative site has been found at the Drumtochty Arms Hotel, by kind permission of Mr Campbell. A small amount of preparation work was required prior to the relocation of the recycling point. This is complete and the Recycling Point is operational.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Wasteline on 0845 600 3 900
email recycling@aberdeenshire.gov.uk



OR

WIRELESS NETWORKS

PROTECT YOUR WIRELESS NETWORK

With the introduction of broadband in the Mearns over the past few years, many people have installed wireless networking in their homes to connect both desktop and laptop computers to the Internet without a trailing phone wire from the computers.

While the technology is cheap and easy to use and makes surfing with a laptop a pleasure, it has one large downside. Security is the main problem. The Auchenblae Messenger's investigator armed with a laptop, a USB wireless dongle and no networking protocols active on the machine to prevent accidentally logging on to one of these private networks ventured forth. (It is an offense under the Computer Misuse Act or the Communications Act to log onto someone's network without permission). Driving through various streets in the Mearns to find the number of active networks broadcasting their existence the following results were tabulated.

Place	Networks	Encrypted	Non Encrypted
Stonehaven North	36	19	17
Laurencekirk	12	10	2
Inverbervie	6	4	2
Drumlithie	3	3	0
Auchenblae	14	6	8
Arbuthnott	5	2	3

As you can see from the table, a number of these networks do not have encryption set which is an easy thing to do. Read the manual that came with your equipment if you do not know how to do it.

The addition of encryption stops virtually anyone who is not authorised by the network owner from connecting to your network. The Messenger is aware that there are other security measures that can be taken but believes of the 32 networks shown with no encryption that at best 10 of these network are secure. The other say 22 homes are wide open for some unsavory person to park outside their house, log onto to their network and surf some less than reasonable sites or send nasty emails via their system that in the end are shown to have come through that home owners system.

As they will be using only a device equipped with a wireless card to connect to open networks there will only be the "mac" number of their wireless card left as a tell tail on the owners network router. That "mac" number can be faked in the first place and secondly the wireless card can easily be thrown away as they are available for less than £20 to fit to a computer or hand held PDA. There is also the probability that they could use your system for downloading large movie files and you may be charged by your ISP for the extra bandwidth used or asked if you have paid the royalties on the hire.

It is your wireless network. It is your responsibility to secure it. It is your fault if anyone uses it for illegal purposes.

SECURE IT NOW!

Friends of Anchor Stovie Supper

Saturday 15th October

8:30 pm

Village Hall

Orange Mobile Phone Mast

Orange Personal Telecommunications have erected a mobile phone communications mast at the Football Field. At this time neither the aerial or the wiring is in place.

This should go some way towards improving mobile phone reception locally when commissioned.



A LETTER FROM AMERICA

Hi,

My name is Patty King (formerly Godshalk) and my husband Ken, who was in the U.S. Navy stationed at Edzell, and I lived in Kintore Cottage in Auchenblae in 1967-1968. We knew Mr. and Mrs. Thompson who had the local garage. I think their names are Johnny and Katie and they would be 70 years old or so. Katie gave me a brass memento of a shoe with rats on it--a family heirloom. I've kept it all these years, but since I don't have any children I would like to send it back to them or their sons. I'm emailing from work (I teach special education at Aberdeen High School in Aberdeen, Washington U. S.A.), but would like a reply at my home email pcaking@earthlink.net. If they could contact me by email or by letter I'd appreciate it.

Patty King
P.O. Box 1010
Westport, WA 98595 U.S.A.

HERITAGE SOCIETY

**MONDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER
BOB JAMIESON
TO SHOW FILM OF 1980'S AUCHENBLAE GALA**

7.30 P.M. AT AUCHENBLAE CHURCH HALL

MEMBERS – FREE. VISITORS £1.50

ALL ARE WELCOME

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN PHOTOS AND
MEMORABILIA FROM OLD AUCHENBLAE
GALAS.**

**ANY QUERIES, PHONE GILLIAN, SECRETARY
320 360**

Auchenblae School Football News

Auchenblae Primary Football team has had another very good season. They only lost 2 games and finished third in the league of 8 teams.

They played in two Cup tournaments and finished runners up in one and in the semifinals in the other. They amazingly managed to reach the quarter finals in the tournament for the large schools.

Trips were organized by Mark and Paul to Pittodrie and once again the team visited Celtic Park. 10 of the football team had the opportunity as ball boys/girls on the day. Outings are being planned for this coming year and will include a trip to Tannadice in Dundee.

Adam Milne and **Ewan Wood** were voted player of the year.

Alanah Mills was most improved player for P6/P7

Callum Stephen was most improved player for P4/P5

Practice is at its usual time of 6.30 to 8.00pm on Wednesday evenings.

6.30 to 7.00 First touches and ball control training for P1- P4

7.00 to 8.00 Senior Squad for P5-P7 Training for the school team.

As the Chairperson for the PTA I would like to thank **Mark and Paul** for all the efforts they have put in to training and developing the school team, organising special trips and giving up many a Saturday lie-in to stand in the cold.

AUCHENBLAE SCHOOL

Headteacher's Comment

End of session at the school was just as busy as the rest of the year had been with Feis Rois providing workshops in traditional music, our P5/6 completing their highly motivating and successful business link Enterprise with Macphie of Glenbervie, children taking their Cycling Proficiency tests and a most enjoyable and well attended Summer Fair with the Singer Memorial Football trophy hotly contested, and won, by Auchenblae School.

There was a fine day and good attendance for our Sports and we said goodbye to our P7 children who provided an excellent performance for parents at our end of session Assembly.

Due to the necessity for extensive dry rot treatment prior to the addition of a new classroom, storage room and Nursery, the Scottish Executive sanctioned a 'child-free' 2 days at the end of session to allow the staff to box, label and store the contents of 7 areas of the school. This marathon task was achieved in readiness for the contractors to completely remove, replace and redecorate all ceilings, walls, floors, radiators and pipework, and lighting in the very tight timescale of the summer holidays.

All are delighted with what has been achieved though redecoration of the entrance, corridor and staff toilet is continuing overnight and there are many 'finishing touches' to be completed over the next few weeks. Staff spent the first day back getting the rooms and key resources in place in readiness for the children's return and will continue to restore their rooms over the coming weeks.

The October break will see the complete renovation of Miss Nicoll's room along with the preparatory work for the additional classroom and storage.

The plans for the Nursery have all been made and, subject to approval, will follow quickly. Removal of the portakabin was delayed to allow for storage of equipment and this will be done when appropriate.

All in all, much has been done to improve the working environment of the school, hopefully with the minimum of disruption to the children's education, with much remaining to be done over the coming session. I am confident however that all will be achieved with everyone working together and we will finish up with a greatly improved facility here at Auchenblae School.



Auchenblae Over Sixties Friendship Group

Here we are at the start of another year. Some people seem to have a wrong idea about what we are about. We are a group of people, over the age of sixty, who meet together on a Wednesday morning for friendship, and to be entertained.

We usually start with a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits. We then have a number of activities to offer. We may watch videos of different parts of the country. Sometimes we have speakers who talk about subjects of local interest which may be illustrated with slides. Musical mornings are popular. Sometimes people come and sing to us, sometimes we do the singing. Sometimes the music is for dancing to.

We also have quiz mornings. Don't be afraid. We work in groups to solve them. Once a month we play games. We try to have at least one outing every term, for which the transport is free. We are very lucky to have the use of the school bus and are very grateful to Jean for offering to run us around.

If you are over sixty and think that you would like to give us a try you will be made to feel very welcome. As the name says we are a friendship group. We meet in the Church Hall on Wednesday morning at 10.15. If you would find it difficult to get there under your own steam just give me a ring on 320498 and I will arrange for you to be picked up by the bus.



Welcome back to one and all.
Barbara Strouts



THE AUCHENBLAE MESSENGER
THE NEWSLETTER
FOR THE
AUCHENBLAE COMMUNITY



Messenger Distributors

Anne Anderson, Sheena Auld, Anne Caird, Sheree Caird, Therese Hendry, Colette Hogmascall, Moira Hutchison, Lois McCormack, Patricia McEachern, Margaret Muiry, Cariol Nelson, Ann Rennie and Barbara Strouts

Copies of the Messenger can be collected from the local shops and the Drumlithie Hotel

PRODUCTION TEAM

Ross Muiry, Marybank House
Anne Anderson, Viewmount
Eddie Cairns, Glenside, Drumtochty
Kevin Newstead, Auchter House
Donald Rennie, Mernis Howe
Barbara Strouts, Holly Cottage
Colette Hogmascall, Drumelzie Cottage

Email: themessenger@mearns.org

"Keeping you informed"

September Editor

Donald Rennie

The Publisher of this issue was

Eddie Cairns

**Auchenblae Messenger Supplement
MONTHLY MEMO**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Thursday 1 st September	WRI to Arbroath,	Village Square.	6.30 p.m.
Friday 2 nd September	Art Show, Village Hall Auchenblae.		
Sat, Sun 3 rd & 4 th Sept	Mearns Vintage Car Rally	Arnbaro Farm	
Monday 5 th September	Heritage Society Auchenblae	Church Hall	7.30p.m.
Tuesday 6 th September	AGM of Auchenblae Community Assoc.	Village Hall	7.30p.m.
Wednesday 21 st September	Opening Meeting of Auchenblae Guild	Church Hall	7:30 pm
Saturday 24 th September	"The Harvest o'the Mearns"	Mearns Academy	10 a.m.
Sunday 25 th September	Harvest Festival,	Auchenblae Church	11.00 a.m.
Friday 2 nd September	Novelty Race Night	Village Hall	7:30 pm
Saturday 15 th October	Friends of Anchor Stovie Supper,	Village Hall	8.30 p.m..
Thursday 20 th October	Auchenblae Messenger Group, AGM	Church Hall	7.30p.m.

Please note that the **next edition of 'The Messenger'** will be published during **December 2005**. The closing date for inclusion in this edition will be **Tuesday 15th November 2005**.

If you have access to e-mail please send your information to: **themessenger@mearns.org**

Otherwise, hand to Ross Murie - Marybank Howe. If you have access to a word processor, a floppy disc version (PC only) would be appreciated.

Thanks from all the team!

We're on the web!
<http://www.mearns.org>