

# Auchterhouse Newsletter

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## Welcome to the second edition of the new Auchterhouse Newsletter



The newsletter is now available on Facebook. Please use the FB page to share details of any local events/groups or information that benefits our community.

There will be two more editions of the newsletter in 2014. The submission deadline for content is 13th October and distribution will be week commencing 27th October. There will also be a special Christmas edition in December. Please send all articles to [aileenmbaird@yahoo.com](mailto:aileenmbaird@yahoo.com)

If you are not already on our email distribution list please send me your email address to [aileenmbaird@yahoo.com](mailto:aileenmbaird@yahoo.com)

Thank you to everyone who submitted articles for issue 2.

## **Auchterhouse Sports Day**

Saturday 23rd August

This Preparations for this year's sports day are now well underway. Entries for the tablet, cupcake and miniature gardens competitions should be brought along on the day. The theme for cupcakes and miniature gardens is the Commonwealth games. Please see page 4 for rules.

If you would like to volunteer to help out with any of the stalls on the day or would like to help in other ways by donating raffle prizes or cake/sandwiches please contact any of the people listed below.

We would also welcome volunteers to help put up the marquee on the Friday night (22nd Aug). This job is usually a fun evening where a lot of community spirit is felt and is a great way to get to know new people in the village. Come along to the park around 6pm if you are able to help out.

We're sure you'll agree that this is a great community event, with a fun atmosphere, where friendships are made. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

### **Running order for Sports Day**

- 1:00pm - Grand opening with Auchterhouse Pipe Band - followed by Rocket Race on the playing fields
- 3:00pm - Hill Race (£3 entry fee)
- 4:30pm - Presentation and prizes
- 7:30pm - Ceilidh

Other events will run throughout the day, including the hexathlon, archery and display of the competition entries for the tablet, miniature garden and cupcake competitions. Teas and coffees will be available throughout the afternoon.

### **Sports Day Contacts**

Dan Gilmour - Tel: 320303

Jenny Baird - Tel: 320286

Kellie Smith - Tel: 320285

Dawn Hughes - Tel: 320736

Helen Smith - Tel: 320312

## Sports Day Competition Rules

### Rocket competition:

- 1 Rockets should be hand made by the contestant and their friends and family.
- 2 Rockets should not be propelled by any form of pyrotechnics.
- 3 Rockets will be judged on their appearance and the horizontal distance measured.
- 4 The decision of the judge will be final.
- 5 Rockets should be brought to the competition area when called.

### Tablet competition:

- 1 Tablet should be hand made by the contestant.
- 2 Tablet will be judged on taste alone.
- 3 The decision of the judge will be final.
- 4 Tablet should be brought to the marquee by 1pm on sports day.

### Cupcake competition:

- 1 Cupcakes should be decorated with a commonwealth games theme.
- 2 Cupcakes will be judged on decoration only by people purchasing a tea and coffee. The winner will be the cake with the most voting slips.
- 3 Voting tokens will be counted after voting closes and the winner will be announced on the sports day.
- 4 In the event of a tie, a final decision will be made by the chair of the sports day committee.
- 5 Cupcakes should be brought to the marquee by 1pm on the day.

### Rules for miniature garden:

- 1 Gardens should be made by the entrant themselves.
- 2 Gardens should be no bigger than the size of an average shoe box. (30cm x 18cm x 13cm)
- 3 Gardens should have a commonwealth games theme.
- 4 Gardens will be judged on appearance by the general public, by posting a voting slip beside their choice of garden. The garden with the most votes will win.
- 5 Voting tokens will be counted after voting closes and the winner will be announced on the sports day.
- 6 In the event of a tie, a final decision will be made by the chair of the sports day committee.
- 7 Accessories such as drift wood, rocks, other natural or man-made ornaments may also be incorporated into the design of the miniature garden. However, the use of such objects is not a requirement.
- 8 You may buy the plants to be used in the miniature garden from garden centres and nurseries or grow the plants yourself.
- 9 Artificial plants are allowed.
- 10 Gardens should be brought to the marquee by 1pm on sports day.



## Sports Day Ceilidh

The day's festivities will then spill over into the evening ceilidh, starting at **8pm**, with doors open from **7.30pm**.

The price of your ticket (£10 per adult & £2 per school age child) includes a burger from the BBQ which will be open until 9pm. A "Bring Your Own" policy exists whereby you can bring your own drinks and snacks along with you.

This year's band are called "Good Call" and we're sure that they will be one! Children are welcome to come along, with most of them choosing to play in the park. (Please note that no supervision is provided.) There will also be a raffle, with tickets available on the day. All donations of raffle prizes will be gratefully received.

## Community Council Update - April to June



### **Police matters raised by our community police officer Sean Scanlon**

We need to keep our property secure as thefts and attempted thefts are continually happening in our area. We must look out for one another and report anything suspicious to the Police on 104 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. The dangers of fraudulent activity arising from offers of financial rewards (for alleged lottery wins insurance payouts or prizes etc) after the payment of an advance fee are real and happening each day in Angus. Everyone needs to be vigilant and report these to Crimestoppers.



### **Road and traffic matters**

Angus Council have repaired all the potholes along Leoch Road and on The Brae. At Dronley Mill the road has been resurfaced and a new retaining wall built. There have been renewed complaints about parents parking in front of the school (at the start and end of school day). Drivers are asked to keep the time parked there to a minimum and to make sure children only use car doors on the pavement side of the vehicle. It is a traffic offence to block someone's drive when parking on a road. This has been happening in Kirkton and will not be tolerated. Culprits can expect to be reported to the Police with photographic evidence.



### **TAYplan**

Every 5 years a revision is made to the strategic development plan for our area to take account of changes envisaged over the next 20 years. A consultation to which we submitted our comments has just finished and will be part of everything considered this year when drawing up the new Plan – due to be completed in 2016.

### **Angus Local Development Plan**

The report from the Angus Council Planning Department (after the consultation last year) was agreed by the Council in March and will allow the proposed Plan to be published in October.

## Congratulations to Drew Christie on his Commonwealth Games Medal



Drew Christie wins Silver at Men's Skeet at the Commonwealth Games.

After the disappointment of finishing 4th in Delhi 4 years ago he was over the moon to win a silver.

This has got to be the first Commonwealth medal for Auchterhouse.

## Auchterhouse Country Sports Ladies Day

This was the 11th annual Ladies Day at Auchterhouse Country Sports which was held on Saturday 7th June. 120 ladies came along to have a go at clay shooting while raising money for charity. The total raised on the day was £5,130, this was split between Ward 5 RVH Dundee & Meigle Care Home. This takes the total raised over the past 11 years to £27,753.



## **Sidlaw Regnal**

Sidlaw Regnal is a men's group which meets in Murroes Church Hall on the second and fourth Monday evenings from September till April. The meetings start at 7.30 and finish around 9.30pm following tea and sandwiches.

We have various speakers, slide and video shows, quizzes and other outside trips. In the past we have visited the Maggie's Centre, a working Wind Turbine Generator, Mills Observatory and the Marine base at Condor to mention a few. During the summer we have a steward's day which is usually a trip to a place of interest decided by the group. In previous years we have visited the Bo'ness Preservation Railway, The Museum of Flight near Edinburgh, The Montrose Airfield and this year we had a very good day at the secret Bunker in Fife.

Our meetings are open to all and there is no obligation to join. Please feel free to come along to a meeting as a guest visitor. We would be pleased to meet you.

Meetings this year start on the 22nd of September when Gordon Campbell will speak and show pictures on "The Forbidden Isle". Gordon has spoken to us before and his talks are always eagerly looked forward to. A full programme for the 2014/15 session will be in the next issue of the newsletter.



## **Auchterhouse Knitting Circle**

We are a small group who meet in each other's houses every

couple of months for coffee and chat and discuss ideas for projects for the following months.

We knit or crochet or sew for various charities; there is no pressure and everyone does as much or as little as they wish!

We are a friendly group and would welcome anyone who would like to come along.

For further details please contact:

Sue Stewart

Tel: 320339

Email: [drummuir1@btinternet.com](mailto:drummuir1@btinternet.com)





## **AUCHTERHOUSE WEATHER DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 2014**

**By John Brush**

The Auchterhouse winter was very mild this year and very windy. There were 5 gales during January. Although it is strictly not in 2014, December had 8 gales and produced the highest wind reading I have ever recorded here at 87mph from the North West. This brought down trees and possibly loosened some making them fall later in the year. February also had 3 gales and one from the East reached 71mph, which is rather unusual.

It may be of interest to look at the Climate reports page on my website and you can see the results quoted there. (Especially the monthly summaries). You may notice that the average values quoted there don't necessarily agree with the ones I give you here. This is because the averages given by the computer are calculated for the last 7 years, whereas the figures I use in this document are averages from a longer period – in this case 1981 to 2010.

Mean temperature during January was 3.3°C which is 0.7°C above average for January. In February the mean temperature was 4.0°C which is 1.0°C above average. For March the mean temperature was 6.1°C which is 1.3°C above average. During March there were at least 4 gales, though I see from my records that there were 7 days when the wind speed exceeded 50mph.

The result of all these readings was to produce a winter with very little snow. The most snow occurred on 15th February when 6cms fell. It did not last long, however.

Rainfall during January was 177mms which is 215% of the average January value which is 82.4mms. February produced 99.7mms which is 173% of the average. March was a much drier month with 44.4mms, 68% of average. April was also quite dry, with average rainfall. Quite a lot of wind during that month with 3 gales.



## /// AUCHTERHOUSE WEATHER CONTINUED

May was quite a pleasant month with no gales. Rainfall was roughly average. April and May had above average temperatures. June had above average temperatures and very little wind. June also had quite a high rainfall at 96.3mms, the average for that month being 59.7mms.

Sunshine totals are interesting, especially if you have solar panels. January had only 37.6 hours, 56% of average. February had 58.7 hours, roughly 70% of average. March had 107.7 hours, a bit below average. April had 137 hours which is almost exactly average. This, despite the first five days of April having no sun at all. May had 122.8 hours, not a very good total for that month, considering that we have had 230 hours in the past (2012). June had less than each of March, April and May, a dismal performance. Of course, solar panels depend very much on the position of the sun in the sky when the sun is out, and these figures may produce different results when you come to measure the electricity produced.

Similarly with wind turbines. I imagine that the figure of interest here would be the average wind speed. This was very low during the whole of June (anti-cyclonic conditions in the main) at 4.4mph. It looks as though January, February, March and April all produced average wind speeds of 11mph or greater, and that should translate to quite a lot of power at times. For more information on the weather of Auchterhouse please visit [www.sidlawweather.co.uk](http://www.sidlawweather.co.uk).

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### **Annual Balkello Woodland Equestrian Event**

Over 150 entrants took part in a very successful day of eventing at Balkello Woodland on Sunday 22nd June. This was the 13th time the event has been staged with all funds raised going to Ninewells Cancer Campaign. It is hoped that about £4,000 will be raised this year bringing the total, so far, to about £50,000. The preparation work each year is carried out by Bob Black, Newlandhead, with helpers and the event run by Balbeggie Pony Club on the day. A gallery of photographs taken can be seen at [www.Strathmorephotography.com](http://www.Strathmorephotography.com)





## Sidlaw Churches

There is the **open air Communion** on 3rd August 2014 6.30pm at North Mains of Baldoven. Home of Andrew and Joyce Barr.

The **Christian Aid collection** this year (which includes the sponsor money from Rev Mike Mairs walks) raised the magnificent sum of £1,363.00 (including gift aid). Thanks to all the collectors and walkers.

The **40 minute family services** at 11am on first Sunday of the month will continue and we encourage you all to come along and join in the fun.

The **Summer Holiday Club** due to run on Friday 8th August has been **cancelled** due to lack of interest and no one turning up for registration. This was not only here at our Church, but the other two Churches had only two children show an interest. So as not to waste the work already put into running the club, we hope to hold one during the October Holidays. Please watch this space and try to support the club.

In May the Rev David Collins, Rev Mike Mair and myself went to **Alan Clark's** home to present him with a personal letter from the Rt Rev Lorna Hood - last years Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. It congratulated and thanked him for all the work he has done for the Church over many years. The Sunday following Rev David presented a certificate from the Church. The occasion being that Alan has been an Elder in Auchterhouse for 50 years. There are not many Churches that can boast of a member with such faith and dedication. Alan has also been treasurer for many years before and after he became an elder. He was Session Clerk for 5 years and still attends Session meeting regularly. We all proud of you and love and respect you also Alan whether as a Session or Church member. Well done keep up the good work.





## Auchterhouse Church Guild

The guild has been going for 65 years in Auchterhouse. We meet the second Tuesday of the month from September to May. Here is our syllabus for 2014/2015.

7th Sept	Dedication Service in the Church at 11am.	10th Feb	Lands End to John O'Groats Rev E. Kay
9th Sept	Blythswood Care - Mrs M. Tooth	6th Mar	World Day of Prayer
14th Oct	Passage from India. One of the 6 Guild ProjectS	10th Mar	Comfort Rwanda Another of the 6 Guild Projects
Nov	Theatre Outing White Christmas - date to be arranged	14th Apr	Open Meeting. House of Colours - Mrs S. Phillips
9th Dec	Food Train Mr Simmons	12th May	A.G.M.
13th Jan	Eagles Wings Trust - Mr N Cordiner	6th June	Coffee Morning

### Guild Projects

For over 125 years The Guide has harnessed the energies of women in the work of the Church, it is now an organisation for both men and women. There are some 25,000 members, who have made an impact around the world through its Project Partnership Scheme which, since 1997, has supported 36 areas of work alongside its project partners. Impacting on people on every continent of the world, except Antarctica, as well as those in the U.K, this scheme ensured members are praying for learning about and raising money for the most marginalised in society -- those affected by poverty, drug abuse, homeless, civil war and genocide. Every three years 6 projects, three from home and three from overseas, are chosen from 23 applications. This year we have speakers from two of the six projects for the years 2012 - 2015. So far the total raised for this three years is £248,371.96p. Over £2 million has been raised over the last 17 years. a magnificent amount due to the hard work and dedication of Guild members and their many helpers.

## Mobile Library visits Auchterhouse on Thursdays



<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
31st July	16:45 - 17:30	Memorial
7th August	10:00 - 10:45	School
14th August	16:45 - 17:30	Memorial
21st August	10:00 - 10:45	School
28th August	16:45 - 17:30	Memorial
4th September	10:00 - 10:45	School
11th September	16:45 - 17:30	Memorial
18th September	10:00 - 10:45	School
25th September	16:45 - 17:30	Memorial
2nd October	10:00 - 10:45	School
9th October	16:45 - 17:30	Memorial
16th October	10:00 - 10:45	School
23rd October	16:45 - 17:30	Memorial
30th October	10:00 - 10:45	School

The full mobile timetable can be accessed on the Angus Council Website

### **New e-audio service**

Angus Libraries have an e-audiobook lending service with OneClickDigital. Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, library members can download and listen to unabridged bestsellers by authors such as Stieg Larsson, Christopher Brookmyre and Hilary Mantel.

Novels for adults and children, classics and self-help books all form part of the OneClickDigital collection. You can play the books on your MP3 Player, iPod or computer from home or anywhere in the world. All that is required to download a book is internet access and your library membership details. Once the book is on your device, you can listen to it anywhere. Ask your mobile library driver for more details.

**LEARN MORE**

## **Auchterhouse Afternoon Club**

The Afternoon Club will soon be starting up again on September 24th in the Parish Hall at 2-4pm.

It is held on the 4th Wednesday of the month and is a very friendly club. We usually have a speaker or play games. At our first meeting we are looking forward to hearing about Elizabeth Millar's trip to Alaska in June.

The highlight of the afternoon is a lovely afternoon tea and a raffle is drawn.

For more information please contact:

Mary Skea (320257)  
Elizabeth Millar (380219)



## **Auchterhouse Parish Hall 200 Club 2014**

The 200 Club is looking for new members.

The members donate £5.00 per number per year and this entitles them to participate in the five draws from August to December.

Half of the donated money is used for prizes for the draws. The other half is put into the Hall fund and used for the benefit of the Hall and its users. The main draw takes place in December when the top prize is £60.

The 200 Club has been running for 16 years and has raised over £500 annually for Hall funds. Over the past 16 years this has been the only fund raising organised by the Hall Committee.

If you would like to become a member please contact one of the Committee members:  
Shiona Baird (320435); Garry Stewart (320339);  
Heather Heggie (320305); John and Mary Skea  
(320 257); Helen Smith (320312) or  
Elizabeth Millar (380219)



## The School Lane Garden

This is the new name for the school and community garden. It acknowledges the work the school puts into the garden but also identifies the garden as separate from the school, offering an opportunity for the community to get involved and find out what a haven of peace it is, in a wonderful sheltered sun trap.

The children have been busy laying out new paths, one nursery pupil saying "it's like a maze." There are stepping stones, a small herb garden (thanks to the Head Teacher) and a surprisingly well grown willow tunnel. The children have been very successful with their seed sowing and planting. The vegetables are growing well and harvesting of broccoli, lettuce and cabbage is beginning, with plenty for the children to share after the holidays.

But as another perceptive nursery pupil noticed: "there are a lot of weeds"!! Most Saturday mornings, from 10am till midday, three of us try to keep on top of the weeding. The reward for this work is a share of the produce. So why not join us for a productive and companionable few hours gardening? If gardening is not for you, come in for a seat and enjoy the peace.

Shiona Baird (320435)





SCOTTISH  
WOMEN'S  
RURAL  
INSTITUTES

Our new session starts on Monday 15th September at 7.30pm in Auchterhouse hall. We are very honoured to welcome 'something special' florists from Blairgowrie, Jillian Page and her niece Paula McLagan.

They both returned from RHS Chelsea Flower Show with gold medals. Their winning exhibits returned to Blairgowrie to be displayed in the shop window for all to admire. Their demonstration will make a very exciting start to our new syllabus which promises to be very varied.

All are welcome. If you have not been to the WRI before why not come along to enjoy making new friends and learn about new skills. We meet every 3rd Monday from September until May.

If you would like more information please call either:

President, Mrs Fiona Husband, 581411  
Secretary, Mrs Margaret Wallace 825143

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## Bored in the winter nights?



Then why not join Lundie and Auchterhouse Curling Club.  
We curl in Forfar and Dundee and are a mixed friendly club.

If interested then please contact the people below for more details:  
Jenny Arbuckle 01382 360479  
Dave Smith 01382 320312