



Auchterhouse Newsletter

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Welcome to the 1st newsletter of 2016. There will be 4 editions of the newsletter in 2016 in February, May, August and November. Please send any content/articles to aileenmbaird@yahoo.com.

We also have a Facebook newsletter page. Please use it to share details of any local events/groups or information that benefits our community.

PHOTOGRAPHY QUEST

It would be brilliant to use your photos of Auchterhouse for the front page of this newsletter. If you would like one of your photos to feature in the newsletter please email your name and photo to: aileenmbaird@yahoo.com.

Thanks

Community Council Update - November to January



Police matters raised by our community PC Gemma Smith

There were no reported crimes in Auchterhouse, however everyone is reminded to be vigilant against suspicious activity in the area and keep your property secure at all times. Leave a light or a radio on when not at home. Report anything suspicious to Police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



Road and traffic matters

Pot holes are appearing on all our roads. Report these to Angus Access Line 03452 777 778.



Planning applications

There were no objections to all 4 applications during this period:

1. Erection of a Conservatory and house alterations at Pinehill, The Brae.
2. Demolition of a garage and Erection of a house extension at Cairnview, The Avenue.
3. More Bunding to screen noise at Auchterhouse Country Sports.
4. Replacement of uPVC windows with timber sash and casement at Kirkton House.



Miscellaneous

Angus Council have agreed to the War Memorial Horse Trough being cleaned out and adapted to take pot plants.

The Prince's Trust have agreed to consider taking on the rebuilding of the wall along Wallywynd as a project this year.



AUCHTERHOUSE WEATHER 2015

By John Brush

The predominant features of 2015 weather were the general lack of really cold snowy weather in the winter, and the lack of real warmth during the summer. Minimum temperature occurred on 19th January when -5.7°C was recorded. Maximum snow depth of 12cms occurred on 14th January but it did not last long.

Highest summer temperature of 22.3°C occurred on 10th June and the same temperature was reached on 3rd July. During the whole summer (June, July, August) the temperature exceeded 21°C on only 5 occasions. However during the month of April, this temperature was exceeded just once on 23rd and in the month of September we had a similarly warm day on the 6th. In fact September had 4 days warmer than 20°C . Remarkably, the 1st of October recorded 21.1°C .

Mean monthly temperatures were exceeded in February, March, April, October, November and December. January mean was 0.3 degrees less than average, May was almost a degree below average, June 0.6° below average, July 1.4 below, August 0.5 below and September almost spot on. So there was a tendency for the winter months to be warmer than average and the summer months to be colder than we would expect.

April has the distinction of having 240.5 hours of sunshine (just over 8 hours a day) which was the sunniest month of any month that I have ever recorded. So we were fooled into thinking that we would have a splendid summer, but it did not materialise!



//// AUCHTERHOUSE WEATHER CONTINUED

There were plenty of gales especially in January, February, March. The wind during these months was predominantly from a westerly direction. Annual rainfall was 982.2mms which was 112% of average. The wettest month was December with 147.9mms and the driest April with 31.5mms. December only managed 26 hours of sunshine which is the lowest total since December 2002 and 1997, and combined with the fact it was wet produced one of the most dismal months in my experience.

Keeping the station running is a major task. Even though much of it operates automatically, everything requires watching with an eagle eye. As an example of that, just recently the anemometer (which measures the wind) decided for reasons unknown to develop sticky bearings, which meant the rotating cups which measure the wind would only rotate if the wind was greater than about 8mph. It seems to have freed up since then but it requires careful watching.

My computer (which is required to run 24/7 which was kindly bought for me by the Auchterhouse Community Council a year or two back) has kept going very well, but as everyone knows, they don't last for ever. But the fact that it is running continuously seems to provide a more reliable performance than one that is switched on and off every day or more often.

John Brush



Sunday 6th March

Bookings now being taken for Mother's Day

High Teas being served all day

*Three Sitings: 12noon-1pm
3-4pm 6.30-7.30pm*

Please call 01382-320266 to book



Auchterhouse Country Sports have been voted as Scotland's Favourite Shooting Ground for the 4th consecutive year and 3rd in the UK. Not bad for a little village like Auchterhouse.

Auchterhouse Country Sports will soon be selling Marsden's Dog Food, pop down and have a look. The profit we make will go to the DOG Rescue Cyprus Charity, this is where we rescued our latest edition Eric from (pic attached). To date we have raised £1,350 which has helped to bring a dog over to the UK, pay vet bills and buy food for the dogs in Cyprus.

The School Lane Garden

Spring is just around the corner with snowdrops flowering and daffodils well through in places. The school children have been asking when Friday afternoon gardening will start. The seeds have been bought and the compost warming in the greenhouse, so the new season's work will be starting soon with seed sowing sessions.

Last year, we had a very successful season for flowers but the vegetables could be better. That's the secret of gardening, always hoping the next year will be better! With the gift vouchers supplied by Ferngreen as one of the rewards for winning the Provost's Cup, the children want to buy a birdbath. We also want to put up some more nesting boxes round the church boundary as part of the eco-congregation work.

So lots to do as always and of course, many hands make light work! So if you can spare an hour or so, even just once a month, we would much appreciate your help.

Contact me, Shiona Baird on 320435 or email me at: shionabaird@hotmail.co.uk



Aucherhouse Village Hall

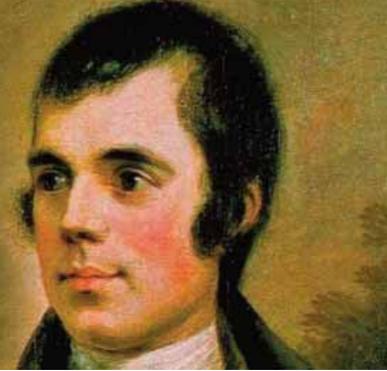
The Hall Committee are extremely proud of the internal renovations carried out by Angus Council. They have done a superb job in insulating the walls and lowering the ceilings in both halls. We now have a warm and bright space for village and school activities. There is still some finishing work to be done because of water ingress believed to be from the old chimney.

The Hall improvements have highlighted the rather worn looking entrance, so that is our next project. Once all these works are completed, new chairs will be ordered and new curtains bought to complete the transformation!

Thanks to the work of all on the Hall Committee, particularly the Skeas for continuing to run our very successful fundraising 200 Club and Helen Smith for managing the Hall bookings throughout the difficult renovation period.

Shiona Baird (Chair)

Burns visit to Aucherhouse



September 1787

They landed at Arbroath, dined there, and inspected the ruined abbey before driving on to Dundee ('a low-lying but pleasant town').

Robert visited the ruins of Broughty Castle and then breakfasted the following morning at the manse of Auchterhouse with the daughters of the Revd. David Scott.

One of them, Bess, reminded Robert of William Greenfield's wife and he added laconically 'my bardship almost in love with her', though she was nine years older than him.

Taken from: A Biography of Robert Burns by James Mackay

Sidlaw Churches

World Day of Prayer

Every year a common day of prayer is celebrated on the first Friday in March. This year the service is prepared by Cuba and will be held in Muirhead Church at 2:00pm on Friday 4th March followed by refreshments.

Holy Week and Easter

- Palm Sunday: 20th March, Auchterhouse Church at 11:00am
- Maundy Thursday: 24th March, Auchterhouse Church United Informal Communion at 7:00pm
- Easter Sunday: 27th March, Balcalk Hill, Tealing Open Air Easter Service at 7:30am; Murroes Church at 11:00am; Auchterhouse Church at 9:30am; Monikie Church at 11:15am.

Other news

During the refurbishment of the hall this winter, the church was used as the venue for meetings of several organisations and was much appreciated.

The sudden death of our elder Alex Strang, Balcalk Farm, last month came as a great sadness to all. We will miss him greatly.

Garry Stewart





GREWAR'S FARM SHOP

Grown By Our Family For Your Family

I know it feels like Christmas was just yesterday – but believe it or not its Mother's Day in just a few short weeks. We have a very tempting selection of goodies that would make the perfect gift. We have teamed up with our friends at Coco Chocolatier in Edinburgh and Cocoa Ooze in Aberdeen to offer a scrumptious range of beautiful handmade chocolates. If you can't get into the shop we will have a stall in the Overgate on Saturday March 5th selling gift baskets and other treats. See you there....

Mike, Grewar's Farm Shop
Dronley Farm



Sidlaw Regnal

Sidlaw Regnal's usual meetings are in Murroes Church Hall on the 2nd and 4th Monday evenings at 7.30pm. Our programme consists of speakers on various subjects, Quizzes and visits. Along with many others, this past year, we have been to the Fire Station at Milton Dundee, a tour round the printing works of D.C. Thompson where news papers are printed and a talk about First Responders from the Association of St John.

A warm invitation is extended to any male members of the district to any of our meetings. We at present have three members from the Auchterhouse area. more would be most welcome.

Please contact our secretary, Bill Harper on 350200 , for further details.



THE GARDENING MAN

Love Where You Live



IS YOUR GARDEN READY FOR THE SPRING?

Spring is just around the corner, the Snowdrops are up and the Daffodils are following close behind. Now is the time to get the last of the winter die-back tidied up, dig over the flower and vegetable beds and get the garden ship-shape for the new season!

The Gardening Man can help!

If you're looking for a pre-spring tidy up, would like to organise regular maintenance or are considering changing the layout of your garden then look no farther. The Gardening Man is just around the corner.

Based in Auchterhouse, we provide our services across Angus, Dundee, Tayside and Fife. Our services include anything and everything garden. From general maintenance to garden design and hard and soft landscaping, there's very little we can't tackle.

We tailor our services to each individual's requirements so you know you'll get just what you want and if you're not quite sure what you'd like then we can offer advice and free no obligation quotations to suit you.

Contact The Gardening Man:

Tel: 01382 320420

Mob: 07805 304513

E-mail: thegardeningman@gmail.com

Website coming soon. Find us on Facebook!