



Achterhouse Newsletter

Welcome to the 3rd newsletter of 2019. It's packed full of all the fun things happening at Sports Day on Saturday 24th August and updates on many other local groups/organisations. The next newsletter will be published in November Please send any content/articles to aileenmbaird@yahoo.com

Village Newsletter Facebook Page

The village Facebook page is thriving with over 480 members subscribed. It's brilliant to see so many locals sharing news and info about community groups and events. However, a new set of page rules have been created to eradicate disrespectful content and spam advertising. Please note that any posts you publish or share to the page must abide by the guidelines. Thanks.

CONTENTS

Page 2-7	Sports Day
Page 8	Community Council
Page 9	Village Hall
Page 10-11	Weather Update
Page 12-13	School Lane Garden
Page 14	Sidlaw Churches



Auchterhouse Sports Day 2019

Saturday 24th August

Running Order of Events

13:00 – Pipe Band

13:30 – Super-size Sack Race

14:00 – Teas & coffees

Children's races

15:00 – Hill Race

Super-size Giant Board Games

16:30 – Presentation of prizes

19:30 – BBQ & Ceilidh

Hill Race Entry Information

Click on the race button opposite to register online. We encourage you to sign up online to save queuing on the day to complete your entry. Payment of £3 can be made on the day when you collect your race number.

RACE

This year's Hill Race is being very generously sponsored again by Auchterhouse Country Sports. We would like to thank the Christie Family for their fantastic support and enthusiasm for our event.

New colours of "Auchterhouse Hill Race" T-shirts are available to buy in a range of sizes on the day.

GIANT SACK RACE

The opening event at this year's Sports Day is a Giant Sack Race and is kindly sponsored by Grewar's Farm Shop.

This is a sack race with a difference! You will need a large ½ ton or ton bulk bag sack (the ones that normally hold sand, wood, tatties) and 4 team members. The team of 4 must all jump together in the giant sack along our race track. The team can be made up of all age groups. But, that's not all! The theme for the race is Superheroes and each team should decorate and theme their sacks and dress up.

There will be prizes for the fastest team and best-looking team. If you need help sourcing a sack, please let us know and we will help you find one.

This event will no doubt look and sound hilarious. We can't wait to see what superheroes turn up on the day.



TASTY TREATS

- Teas/Coffees/Cake/
Sandwiches
- Hot Dogs
- Tuck Shop
- Grewar's Farm Shop Stall
(Ice Cream & Soft Fruit)

GIANT BOUNCY SLID



GIANT GAMES



Jenga
Twister
Dominos
Beer Pong
Space Hoppers
Catapult

HELP ON THE DAY

Donations of sandwiches and baking for the tea and coffee stall would be greatly appreciated on the morning of the event. Raffle prizes too please!



SPORTS DAY COMPETITIONS

- **Amateur photography** – the theme is local wildlife
- **Scone baking** – all types of entries allowed e.g. sweet and savoury
- **Home brew** – alcoholic and non-alcoholic
- **Kids pasta picture or 3D pasta model** – the theme is superheroes. Marvel, DC, Transformers or Danger Mouse... the options are endless

All entries should be brought along on the day and placed in the marquee and numbered (please do not label your entry with your name to ensure impartiality). Godd Luck.

Sports Day Ceilidh

£10 per adult, £2 per child - BYOB

7:30pm to 9:00pm: BBQ (ticket price includes food)

8:00pm to midnight: Alba Ceilidh Band

9:30pm: Raffle (buy your tickets at Sports day or the Ceilidh)

All children must be accompanied by an adult

Tickets can be purchaed from:

Kerry Hutchison - Tel: 07900400165, Jenny Baird - Tel: 07906316153

Kellie Smith - Tel: 07956547608, Aileen Baird - Tel: 07919281405



TOMBOLA

Auchterhouse Primary School Parents are running a Tombola stall at the Sports Day on Saturday 24th August, 13:00 - 16:00. Please come along and buy a ticket to try your luck at winning our superb prizes.

**If you would like to donate any prizes to the Tombola please hand them into the school or bring them on the day.
Thanks.**

Community Council Update - June to August



Phone Box

Our phone box is going through a makeover so that it's a more useful village resource. The defibrillator is already in place and shelving has been added to accommodate an adult and children's library/book swap. There are also plans to put up notice board space where local businesses can share their info, local events can be promoted, and maps of the local area can be displayed. More information will follow soon.



Angus Council Funding Update

Hong Zhang of Community Planning gave a talk on Participation Budgeting. Angus Council is giving grants to local groups which, after approval, are voted on by the public, the most popular receiving the funds. £50,000 is available this year and £65,000 next year. The focus for applications is combating loneliness for the elderly and mental health in young people. The Scottish Government will require all local councils to allocate 1% of their budget to local causes by 2021.



Dronley Wood

The woodland management plan will now be implemented. A felling license has been applied for. An all abilities path will be created. LEADER have awarded funding to cover the costs of the path. The committee are awaiting bids from contractors. The Woodland manager called Dirk Sporleder started work on 15th July.



Planning

Approved: 19/00066/FULL - to build a new, single storey house in the garden of Yowtrumple in Auchterhouse. Has been approved with a condition of access attached to the build.



Auchterhouse Village Hall

It was very pleasing to note that the average age of the Hall Committee dropped considerably with the attendance of some new members. We are very pleased to welcome them on board. I do hope they will recruit more over the next few months so that the aim for those like me, who wish to step down, will feel confident that we are leaving the Hall management in safe hands.

The request to have someone take over the vital fundraising, provided by the 200 Club draw, was met with immediate success. Kellie Smith has volunteered to take on this role. I am delighted that she has taken on this task and with such alacrity. She will be learning the ropes over the next few months and will take over officially next year at the AGM in April.

There are 6 numbers vacant to make up to the 200, so anyone looking to participate in this rewarding opportunity, please contact the present managers of the Club, John and Mary Skea. Their phone number is 320257 or email: jam@skea.co.uk or contact any of the Hall Committee members. The first draw for this year takes place towards the end of August so hurry if you want your new number included. Some people have been lucky first time!

There have been issues with blocked drains which we hope the Council have repaired. These problems are very annoying and cause considerable disruption when the Hall is being used. It is important that any users let Garry Stewart or me know, if there is any malfunction in the facilities.

Shiona Baird (Chair) 320435 email: shionabaird@hotmail.co.uk



AUCHTERHOUSE WEATHER - January to June 2019

By John Brush

January 2019 started off the year with a much below average monthly rainfall of just 11.8mms (normal 82.4mms) and quite a good sunshine record for that month of 87.9 hours (normal 67.2 hours). Mean temperature was 0.7°C below normal and there was 1 gale from NNW on the 27th. February was also dry with average sunshine and the average temperature was 1.8° above the normal of 3.0°C.

Although March rainfall was above average, there was insufficient to make up for the shortfall in the previous months, and local streams remained unusually dry. There was one gale in March on the 13th from WNW. April which is normally the driest month of the year was dry and quite sunny with mean temperatures below normal. However on the 20th and 21st April, the temperature reached 22.3° and 22.2°C respectively, quite warm so early in the year.

May attempted to address the shortfall in rainfall and it was 80% above normal at 107.6mms. Sunshine was below average for that month and there were no particular wind events. Mean temperature was 9.16°C which is actually 0.5° below normal. On the 14th and 15th the temperature exceeded 20°, the rest of the month was cool.

June was quite a sunny month with average rainfall of 72.1mms and mean temperature just below average. May and June were nothing like as good as in 2018 and many complained about the fact that the weather had returned to what we would normally expect at this time of year. There were no days during June when the temperature exceeded 20°, which is rather unusual.

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From about 6th February my weather station developed a serious fault in the computer interface and this resulted in the wind speed and directions to be unavailable on my website. It took until May to sort this problem and I apologise to users who possibly observed that some of the station continued to work, but this data was absent. Eventually a new computer was installed (with kind financial help from Auchterhouse Community Council) and I also had to purchase a completely new interface and install special software to allow the anemometer to be connected to the website via the computer.

Unfortunately, despite all this work the anemometer decided to fail (one of the vanes of the rotor fell off and couldn't be found in the field) during May and a completely new anemometer was purchased and installed, thanks to Garry Stewart for helping to install it on the pole in the Glebe.

Running this station continues to be an expensive business and if anyone feels generous, contributions will be much appreciated.

John Brush

The School Lane Garden

The garden is looking tremendous just now, full of colour. The fruit trees, especially the apples, have a good crop of fruit growing. The raspberries are delicious. The sugar snap and peas for podding have both produced very tasty crops. I am delighted to say that these are comments from parents and children, who have come into the garden through the holidays to pick the produce they have worked on.

The Skeas very kindly gave us a variety of brassica plants and most importantly some field net to cover them. I have never seen veg grow so well and without any attack from the usual pests, well mostly the pigeons. They soon found ones out with the net and demolished them overnight! We will keep the net for future years.

The downside this year has been the warm wet weather which has encouraged the weeds to grow even more vigorously. It has also caused blight in the potatoes, which is rather early, so time will tell if we get a crop from them. We will be explaining all about blight to the children with a bit of a history thrown in about the potato famine.

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You will see from the accompanying photo that we have had a beautiful water lily flower. I was so excited to see it and equally delighted when I heard that a parent and some children had also seen it and taken their own photo. Gardening can bring so much pleasure, even with such a little thing as a new flower.

We have been very fortunate in having a new member of the community, helping out in the garden. She was able to step in when we had to take 2 Fridays off. Without her, there would have been no gardening for that group of children. Help also came from 2 former pupils, now at Monifieth High School, who gave up their early afternoon finish to help in the garden.

Do take a little time to have a wander round the garden and see just what can be achieved in just a few years, from a former abandoned wilderness of weeds and rubbish. Anyone able to spare an hour or two please contact me – many hands really do mean light work!

Shiona Baird

Tel: 320435 or email: shionabaird@hotmail.co.uk



Sidlaw Churches News

It was lovely having 2 weddings this summer with the church beautifully decorated each time. We wish Blanche & Philip Best from North Balkello and Elaine & Tom Strang from Balcalk every happiness.

Jean, our minister, is recovering from 2 ops in Ninewells which have taken him out of circulation for a few weeks but he will be back with us in August. We wish him a full recovery.

The Guild Coffee morning on Saturday 1st June was a great success with a good attendance from the community. The sum of £1,480 was raised and will go towards very worthwhile Guild projects. Many thanks to all who supported this most enjoyable get together.

Elizabeth's presence is greatly missed. We pray for her recovery and hope she will be back with us before too long.