



Auchterhouse Newsletter

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Welcome to the 1st newsletter of 2018. Its packed full of interesting news, info on community clubs/groups, plus dates for your diary during spring.

There will be 4 editions of the newsletter in 2018 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.

Dates for your diary

1st April - Easter Service, Auchterhouse Church, 11:00
19th April - Community Council Meeting, 19:00
2nd June - Ladies Day at Auchterhouse Country Sports
25th August - Sports Day 2018

Community Council Update - November to February



Police matters raised by our community PC Gail Beattie

There continue to be break-ins and thefts in our rural area. 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

Road repairs on the Brae and a length of resurfacing on Bonnyton Road (near High Bonnyton) have been carried out. Repair work on Dronley Road, south of Eastfield Steading, has been requested.



BT Phone Box

We have decided to go ahead with cleaning the box, repainting it and installing a defibrillator in a secure box. When we get quotes for this work an application will be made to Awards4All for funding.



Dronley Wood

A Feasibility Study to weigh up the options for the wood and a Business Plan for the first few years of ownership has been produce for DCW by consultants. An application to the FES will be made for the Community Asset Transfer in early March. Watch the website www.dronleywood.org for details.

Community Council Update - November to February



Planning

An application for a new house at West Keith farm has been made and is awaiting a decision. A new house planned for Balkello (on the site of agricultural buildings near the reservoir) has been approved.



Playing Field Toilets

Angus Council have agreed to install new urinals. When this is done the CC will take over management of the toilet block.



Twinning

The visit by a group from Guiche in August is now well advanced with numbers expected now known and accommodation planned.



Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on 19th April at 7.00pm in the hall.

Dronley Community Woodland

Our Consultant, Duncan Bryden, has finally completed the feasibility study and business plan for the Woodland. This represents a major step forward as the plan is key to submitting an application to the Forestry Commission under the Community Asset Transfer Scheme (CATS). The trustees are now completing the application form which makes our case for the transfer of the woodland to our community. An independent panel will review our application, their decision being centred on us delivering substantive community benefit by owning the woodland. We are confident that we can deliver benefits to the community by making improvements in the wood without compromising the peace and tranquillity the wood offers at present.

New and improved paths will open up more areas of the wood for everyone to enjoy, even those using pushchairs or wheelchairs. Building an accessible wooden off-grid building for recreational and educational activities, a composting toilet and a picnic area are all in our 5 year plan. We hope to employ a part-time woodland manager, to manage the initial work as well as supervising volunteer work teams. We plan to fundraise to employ this person for at least two years.

We plan to put the Business Plan and Feasibility Study on The Dronley Community Woodland website once it has been refreshed. We hope this will be completed within the next month. We hope to make the webpage more interactive to allow feedback.

Article is continued on the next page>>





Dronley Community Woodland (continued)

Four trustees attended a seminar in Perth learning in more detail about the complexity of the CATS process. It was a daunting but very useful session. It was also fascinating to learn more about the wide range of projects being proposed throughout Scotland. Some were hugely complex, being multi million pound projects, proposing huge mountain bike trails and ancillary activities.

Following this meeting, we feel confident that with the help and support of the community, we can deliver our more modest project - to have a wood the community can be proud of.

Any comments please to:

Shiona Baird
shionabaird@hotmail.co.uk



An exciting new class for budding young gardeners and naturalists. Fun-filled nature inspired activities and crafts suitable for children age 18 months - 6 years.

Monday 13:30 - 14:15
Saturday 10:00 - 10:45

Kirkton of Auchterhouse village hall and community garden.

£4.50 per session. Pre-booking is essential as places are limited.

For further information or to book a space, phone Pauline on 07851236522 or find us on Facebook.



AUCHTERHOUSE WEATHER 2017

By John Brush

The mean value of the temperature during 2017 was exactly the same as the mean over the years 1981 to 2010 for Auchterhouse. So no evidence to back global warming there. It appears that there has been a tendency for the winter months to be warmer than normal, but the summer months cooler. Total rainfall was 759.3mms which is considerably less than the average of 879.3mms over the period above. Sunshine records showed that 2017 had 1396.5 hours, very close to the average of 1365.2 hours. Sunniest month was May with 230.8 hours.

An unfortunate cable failure between the anemometer pole in the Glebe and our house put the wind and sunshine recorders out of action for over 3 weeks during November. The sunshine record has been estimated for this period from other close stations but this has been found difficult to do for the wind, especially the speed.

I am grateful to Diarmid Baird for giving me access to the Scotston Farm wind measurements from their wind turbine. The wind measured there is much stronger than at my anemometer but by using these measurements I have managed to estimate the readings.

By the 25th of November a new cable was installed (of higher specification than the old one) and that has worked well since. I must acknowledge the help of Garry Stewart for help in installing the cable. However nearly 170 metres out of the 300 metres of cable await burial as of 16th January 2018. This is a tricky job, considering that the new cable is present. The work can only be done when there is no frost and I hope to have it finished by the spring.



AUCHTERHOUSE WEATHER 2017 - CONTINUED

By John Brush

The highest wind of the year occurred on 11th January at 67mph from the West. I believe there were no gales during November, even though my system recorded incorrect speeds during the failure period. During the year there were 16 days when snow/sleet fell and 11 days when snow was lying. This seems to be about average in recent years although the years of 2013 and especially 2010 had far more days when snow fell and lay.

Another interesting measure is the number of days when the temperature exceeded 21°C. This was only 7 for the year 2017. For 2016 this number was 13 and for 2015 it was 8. For 2014 it was 18 and for 2013 it was 25, possibly the best summer in recent memory. During 2013 the best month was July with 15 days over 21°C.

Much of the station is quite old now and is long overdue for replacement. The sunshine recorder was replaced during the summer (the old one had operated since 1996). I will endeavour to keep the weather station going as long as I can, but I am getting old too!



Auchterhouse Tots Club

We continue to meet in the Church every 2nd Friday from 10:00am to 11.30am. It is a toddler group where parents and grandparents can bring their little ones to meet new friends over coffee and cake. We are a very friendly group and all are welcome.

DATES


9th & 23rd March

20th April

9th & 23rd May

1st & 15th June

Hope to see you then,
Margaret Wallace





AUCHTERHOUSE SWI

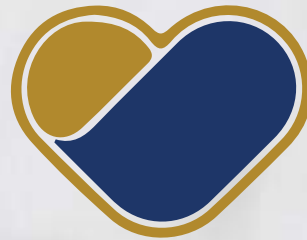
SCOTTISH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Meetings held 3rd Monday of the month

September - May

Auchterhouse

Village Hall at 7:30pm



*New Members
always welcome!*



Aughterhouse Village Hall

Our well used hall is looking good, still receiving complimentary comments on the improvements carried out last year. It certainly is a much warmer and more attractive place to hold meetings and events. The work of managing the Hall falls to the Management Committee which meets on the last Thursday of the months of January, April and September, 7.30 to no later than 9pm. The Management Committee is made up of a nominated representative from every group using the Hall plus three members of the public.

So the work of managing the Hall should be spread amongst the many groups and users of the Hall but sadly it is the same dedicated members who turn up once a quarter to plan and take forward the various tasks. Without them the Hall Management Committee would not exist so thank you very much to all the committee members who do attend. The plea as always is to the wider community to volunteer their services and help spread the load. We need to have a representative from every group at every meeting. If one rep is not able to attend it would be very helpful if that person ensures that someone else from that group does attend.

At our last Hall meeting attended by the 6 regular members, we discussed what might happen if present members retire and no representatives come forward to take their place. The management and the bookings will revert to Angus Council. This would almost certainly mean a rise in rents and possible limits to the availability of the Hall beyond 9pm. This could have serious implications for the many users of the Hall.

So a plea to all groups to discuss, at your next meeting, how to ensure you have a rep willing to attend and if unable, guarantee to appoint another in their place. New members often bring new ideas which could benefit the whole community as well as breathing new life into the committee meetings, which would be most welcome.

Shiona Baird
Chair of the Hall Committee who would quite like to retire soon!!



Sports Day 2018

This year's sports day and ceilidh is going to go off with a bang since we are tying it in with our inaugural visit from the twinning association of Guiche. We have some changes lined up which will make the weekend go with a swing and we can't wait to share more information about it with you in the next issue of the newsletter.

Keep **Saturday 25th of August** free so you can come along and help us welcome our visitors as well as spend a fun weekend in traditional Scottish style!

Watch this space!



A row of five decorated Easter eggs in various colors (yellow, green, pink, green, orange) with white patterns like zig-zags and polka dots, set against a yellow background.

Sidlaw Churches - Easter Dates

25th March (Palm Sunday): 09:30, Auchterhouse, Rev Jean de Villiers

29th March (Maunday Thursday) Communion: 19.00, Monikie, Rev Jean de Villiers

30th March (Good Friday): 19:00, Auchterhouse, Rev Jean de Villiers

1st April (Easter Sunday):

07:30 - Meet mast at top of Balcalk Hill, breakfast at the farmhouse

09:30 - Murroes, Rev Jean de Villiers

11:00 - Auchterhouse, Isobel Brown

11.15 - Monikie, Rev Jean de Villiers

Children are very welcome to enter the decorated hardboiled egg competition at the Easter Sunday services





01382-320476

info@auchterhousecountrysports.co.uk

Ladies Charity Shooting Day



Date: Saturday 2nd June

Time: 10am - 5pm

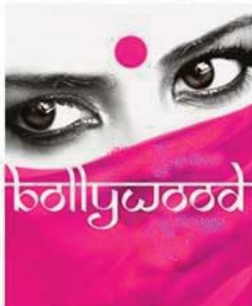
Price: £47

Includes: Shooting, Goodie Bag, Lunch & Fab Day Out!



Supporting children & young people with cancer, related illnesses, their families & friends

Theme this year is



RAFFLE * SILENT AUCTION * MAIN AUCTION

STALL HOLDERS * CHOCOLATE FOUNTAIN

If interested let Emma know ASAP

GREAT DAY OUT GUARANTEED!!

No shooting experience required, instructors provided



Auchterhouse Country Sports Ladies Shooting Day

The charity this year is the Team Jak (Supporting children and young people with cancer, related illnesses, their family and friends.)

If you are able to provide any prizes for the raffle please contact Emma Christie:

info@auchterhousecountrysports.co.uk



Lundie and Auchterhouse Curling Club

As we near the end of the Curling Session at the end of March I would like to let you know some of the recent success Lundie and Auchterhouse Curling Club since the last newsletter.

On Tuesday 21 November 2017 Judith Strachan and Mari Brown, Karen Smith and Sarah Hornsby headed to Dundee Ice Arena to take part in the Ice Topp Sports Ladies Bonspiel. After playing 2 4 end games and losing only one end the Lundie and Auchterhouse team was the overall winners of the Ice Topp Sports Ladies Bonspiel.



Success continued the following week at Dundee Ice Arena when Andrew Skea and Neil MacKintosh took part in the final of the Panmure Pairs on Monday 27 November 2017. After an interesting pairs final Andrew and Neil were pronounced winners.



Lundie and Auchterhouse Curling Club

Monday 8 January 2018 saw our annual Points Competition taking place at Forfar Indoor Sports. After completing the 10 curling tasks the top three players were: John Smith Dave Smith and Liz Furrrie. All three players will be representing the Club at the Dundee Province Points Competition on Tuesday 13 March at Dundee Ice Arena.

The club have also achieved success in following knockout competitions. On Tuesday 28 November June Fenwick and Irene Spalding, John Foster and Dave Smith took part in the Crichton Tankard after an interesting game the managed to processed to the next round on 14 January 2018 in Forfar.

Bruce Buchan and his team took part in the Bruce Trophy at Dundee Ice Arena on Monday 29 January 2018 which saw them going into the next round on Monday 26 February.

Greame Ferrier and his winning team of the Stirling League 2016/17 have took part in the Callendar Trophy at Forfar Indoor Sports on Tuesday 9th January which saw them going to the quarter finals on Tuesday 30 January. Which saw them getting through to Semi Finals on Tuesday 27 February.

It has been a successful time for the Club and after the success of the Team Muirhead and Team Smith at the Winter Olympics if you are interested in taking up Curling and joining us on the ice why not come along and meet us.

If you would like to give it a go or want to find out more about curling then please contact Karen Smith on 01307461461 or email secretary@curling.org.uk





The
Pear Tree
Restaurant

The Pear Tree Restaurant is now back open after being closed over Christmas.

Lee Whammond is the new proprietor.

Open Wednesday to Sunday

10am - 8pm

BREAKFAST * LUNCH * AFTERNOON TEA (From 1st March)

HIGH TEA * DINNER * TAKE AWAY

Burnhead Farm, Auchterhouse, by Dundee, DD3 0QN

01382-320266 www.peartreeauchterhouse.co.uk