

Foveran Community Newsletter

August 2017

Issue 147



Inverurie Pipe Band at The Gala.

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Secretary report for July / August 2017

If you want to place an advert in future editions of the newsletter which is published three times a year then please contact me on 01358 789761 or e mail g_cdouglas@hotmail.com

Foveran Community Council looks after the interest of the residents of Newburgh, Foveran, Udney Station and Cultercullen, and everything in between.

The newsletter can be now be accessed after publication by anyone on

<https://foverannews.wordpress.com/electronic-news-letter/>

We act as a focal point where you can bring to our attention matters that may concern you. Elected councillors from Aberdeenshire Council normally also attend our meetings which are open to all.

Agenda's for the meetings and minutes of the meetings are available on line at www.formartinecommunitycouncils.co.uk

A list of community councillors and scheduled meeting dates is included in the newsletter.

This newsletter would not be possible without the support of the companies who advertise in it, so please consider them when thinking of making a purchase.



Dog fouling is again on the increase across our communities, so can we appeal to dog owners to **PLEASE** clean up their dog mess, and don't throw bags containing dog mess into the shrubbery.

Thanks to Ron MacDonald for the installation of Bag dispensers on the Coull walkway and up the boardwalk on the dunes, and to the Aberdeenshire Council in providing funding to allow this to happen.

Speeding is also a major problem and at some times it is hard for our older residents and schoolchildren to safely cross Main St in Newburgh.

We have also asked for traffic calming to be put in place in Cultercullen at the School.

The Community Council were approached by many residents regarding the speeding and a petition will be submitted to Aberdeenshire Council requesting a mandatory 20 MPH limit through Newburgh.

We had expected the Spalding Bridge and the old tennis pavilion to have been removed by now, however we have constantly been given erroneous information by Aberdeenshire Council over the last 2 years regarding these removals, and at time of writing still have not been given accurate information as to when the removals will take place.

We have vacancies for 2 youth members to join the Community Council, they must be under 18 and still at either Ellon or Meldrum Academies.

The AGM of the Gallowshill Community Sports Hub was held, and as the Chairman Gordon Benton was not seeking re-election Jen Strachan was appointed chair.

As Autumn approaches, then Winter can we ask that to endeavour to keep litter in our villages to a minimum that all residents consider the application of elastic bin straps to keep their wheelie bin lids shut, even if the bin blows over in strong winds.

These straps are **FREE** and can be obtained either from the driver of the refuse collection vehicle, from the household recycling site at Ellon, and from the area office at 45 Neil Ross square (next to Willox Kitchens)

Glen Douglas

EDITOR'S NOTE

If you would like to contribute an article to the Christmas edition of the Foveran Newsletter please send it by post to Mrs Janet Jones, South Minnes, Newburgh. Ellon. AB41 6BB or by email.

j.jones110@btinternet.com

Tel: 01358 742304

The deadline for articles is the 7th of November.

COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS

Chairman: William Grant , Bank House, Udney Station AB41 6QJ	01651 842791
Secretary: Glen Douglas , 23 Eider Road, Newburgh, AB41 6FD	01358 789761
Treasurer: Katrin Prager , 1 Hardhillock Cottages, Tillycorthie, Udney AB41 6SD	01651 842197
Pauline Winslade 24 Eider Road, Newburgh, AB41 6FD	01358 788922
Tommy Hart , 5 Marshall Rd, Newburgh, AB41 6DR	01358 788971
Pat Smith , Newburgh	01358 789821
David Hancock Cultercullen	01651 842813
Janet Jones South Minnes, Newburgh. Ellon. AB41 6BB	01358 742304

COUNCILLOR ISOBEL DAVIDSON WRITES

I am Isobel Davidson and have been one of the 4 Local Councillors for the Ellon and District Ward since 2007. I am currently Chair of the Formartine Area Committee which make decisions on planning, our Area Budget and other local topics for an area which stretches from Turriff to Balmedie and Collieston to Potterton. Since the beginning of 2017 we have had a greater role in the scrutiny of local services and we can now make recommendations to any other appropriate Committee on any matter or policy which impacts our Area.

Mini-recycling points change at the end of July and will only take glass and textiles. You can put all other recyclable materials except garden waste into your blue bin. Additional blue bins and kitchen waste bins are available free of charge. If you have a suggestion for a suitable location for a mini recycling centre to serve a few homes or would like additional bins, please contact Wasteline on 03456 081207 or email: waste@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

The 2017 Local Development Plan was recently published and can be viewed on this web page www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/LDP. There is a new interactive tool which makes it easy to find details. Work is now just beginning on the next local plan which will be published in 2022. It is very important that local people get an opportunity to have their say on housing and employment decisions that affect them, so please make sure that you keep in touch with proposals for your area, and the whole of Aberdeenshire.

You can report any compliments or complaints about the Council or services such as roads, streetlights, missed waste collections, location of invasive plants, dog fouling and any other Council related topic through the Council website. www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk There is a 'report' button near the top left corner or contact the Service Centre on [03456 08 12 00](tel:03456081200). There is also a national online reporting system called 'Fix My Street' www.fixmystreet.com and they will forward your complaint to the relevant Council.

Police Scotland have just released their Local Police Plan for Aberdeenshire 2017-2020. Priorities are Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder, Road Safety and Road Crime, Acquisitive Crime, Protecting People at Risk of Harm and Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism. The plan can be found through the Police Scotland website www.scotland.police.uk. Call 101 for non-emergencies and general enquiries, in an emergency call 999. If you have information about a crime you can also contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

You are always welcome to contact me on cll.r.i.davidson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk, 01358 723926 or any of the other local Councillors for Ellon and District who can be contacted through the Service Centre or Aberdeenshire Council website.





NEWBURGH

GALA NEWS



THANK YOU!

The village gala was back for another year on Saturday 20 May. We hope that you agree that the gala is a worthwhile and entertaining event for all ages that brings the community together and gives local groups, businesses and performers the opportunity to interact with those who come along for a free, fun day out with friends, family and neighbours.

The gala was once again delighted to host a football tournament and netball tournament on the morning of the gala. Thank you to Kenny Robertson and Sandra Kuszpit for organising these competitions. 2017 also marked the tenth anniversary of the Castle Canter. Thank you to Phil Astley and his team for organising the race. Well done to all the participants!

As well as sporting events, there was a range of musical and dance performances. Thanks to Inverurie Pipe Band, Lawrence Dance Academy, Kieran Cooper, Aberdeenshire Saxophone Orchestra, Yee's Hung Ga Ellon Branch and the Inverurie Concert Band for coming along. Thank you to our compères Peter and Frances Morrison.

We were pleased to welcome back regular attractions including the bungee trampolines and archery. Thank you to Graeme Donald for once again providing tennis demonstrations and Rosemary Pirie's team of fantastic dogs. Thank you to Newburgh Motors for sponsoring the inflatable assault course and thank you to Newburgh Preschool for running the bouncy castle. Also thank you to Kate Witte for the face painting. Kate generously donated the face painting proceeds to a charity supporting those affected by MS. New attractions this year included the very popular Critter Keeper and also the appearance of some vintage tractors. Thank you to Ken Ross for bringing the tractors along.

There was no danger of anyone going hungry at this year's gala as the barbecue was popular as usual and we appreciate M.N. Hamilton and Sons' sponsorship of the barbecue tent. Thank you to the Corner Café for once again providing hot drinks and home bakes. We were also

thrilled by the success of Newburgh Gala's first ever beer tent. Cheers! We are grateful to Watson Family Butcher for storing the ice.

The gala would not have been possible without Newburgh Mathers School again providing the venue and Newburgh Village Hall providing the tables. Thank you also to Ian Alexander for building the stage.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered on the day. The gala could not exist without people giving up their time to help out on the barbecue, selling raffle tickets, supervising the hook-a-duck game... And thank you for everyone who came along on the day. We hope you had a wonderful time and look forward to seeing you next year!

SUPPORTING LOCAL GROUPS

The main aim of the gala is to provide a free, local event for people of all ages to enjoy. Should the event make a profit, those funds go back into the community.

*We are happy to be able to make a donation of
£500 to Newburgh Mathers School
and a donation of
£300 to the Newburgh Baby and Toddler Group.*

FUNDRAISING

We can afford a gala next year but we want to be able to pay for new attractions and also have a contingency fund so our thoughts are now moving to the organisation of fund raising events. We want to raise funds while at the same time providing some fun events for everyone to look forward to. Updates coming soon!

CAN YOU HELP?

We really appreciate all the time that volunteers generously give on the day. In the twelve months between galas, there is a committee who spend a lot of time making bookings, responding to correspondence, running around to get supplies, selling raffle tickets, organising insurance and licences... They are all volunteers and get involved because they see the value of the gala and are happy to help out. However, it would be a lot more enjoyable if there were more people in the committee to share the responsibility and also bring in some new ideas. You may be aware that some other galas in the Northeast have disappeared. Don't let that happen to our gala. We need you!

info@newburghgala.com

www.newburghgala.com

Facebook

07793500768



NICER NEWBURGH GARDENING GROUP

Once again we are into the summer months, and I hope that we all enjoy the colour throughout the village with the plantings in the various planters and beds.

Members of the group enjoyed an evening tour of the Aberdeenshire Council Nursery at Aden Country Park where our bedding plants gifted each year by the Council are grown.

We were shown the machinery used and the greenhouses and polytunnels which, at the time of the visit, were full of plants to be sent all over Aberdeenshire and told about the efforts that go into their production. For example, the tractor driver who takes the newly potted plants away from the potting machine to be stood down has 3 minutes to unload and get back by which time the machine has produced the next batch to be taken away.

The lupins at the north end of the village by the estuary have probably not been as good a show as in previous years as the dry Spring period would not have enabled them to put on the growth that they normally would. Now that the rain is back, however, the later flowering plants within this display appear to be bulking up nicely and so hopefully will provide a good display over the coming weeks. The display at the south end of the village beyond The Newburgh Inn is off to a good start.

Over 1000 summer annuals have been planted by the group, most of which are now starting to flower. These plants are raised from seed by members of the group in an 8ft x 8ft greenhouse. This involves a lot of work as we don't have the facilities at Aden! The effort is worth it though when you see the splash of colour and get the positive feedback that we do.

The Group will once again be entering the village in 'Formartine in Bloom' and obviously we hope that we can be as successful as we have been in the last 2 years although the other communities continually strive to raise their game and so it is not easy to stay on top.

The Formartine Partnership promote a floral trail which includes Newburgh on the website so we hope this may bring some benefit to the village.

The ride-on mower purchased in the Autumn using funds raised from last year's fundraising event plus a Council grant is being used at the north end of the village and its added power has meant we have been able to cut the grass shorter. This has had a positive effect on the look of the area. The unevenness of the area, however, means it is a bit of wild ride!

Once again, I will end on my usual note and send out the message that, if anyone would like to join our merry band of workers, please get in touch – a few hours once a month can make an

amazing difference, Just look at what has been achieved over the last 5 or 6 years. Also, if you are not in the habit of travelling in the north end of the village, please take a walk along. There is a seat to rest on and admire the view. Or, if shopping in Ellon, come back via Auchmacoy. You won't be disappointed.

Contact details are: Graham at 01358 789024 or Agnes 01358 789527.

Also newburgh@hotmail.co.uk

Hoping you all have a sunny and warm summer.

Agnes Kinloch.



Jogscotland Newburgh continues to thrive in the village and we currently have around 35 members. The light nights have allowed us to get out and explore and we love exploring Forvie Nature Reserve during our Wednesday night runs.

We recently completed another successful 10 week block covering four different levels – Beginner 1, Beginner 2 and our two Social Run groups where we run between 3 and 6 miles.

Lots of our members have been taking part in races and lots are training for events at the moment, including the Aberdeen ½ Marathon and its great seeing their photos & medals.

Our next blocks will commence in August 2017 and information will be posted around the village and on Facebook.

As a group, we were also delighted having provided a donation towards the defibrillator which was recently installed outside the public hall.

A little bit of information on the philosophy of Jogscotland

jogscotland, which was established in 2002, now comprises a network of thousands of runners, right across the country. Members take part in friendly volunteer-led jog groups based in the community, sports centres and workplaces, doing everything from a short, gentle jog/walk to marathon training.

Nobody is “too slow” to join **jogscotland**. Groups are available for joggers of all levels, from complete beginners to long-distance runners. Beginner sessions include a combination of gentle jogging and walking, with a gradual increase in jogging as fitness and confidence begin to build. Within 20 weeks of starting as a complete beginner, you will probably be able to run 5K (three miles). The emphasis at every **jogscotland** group is on enjoying exercise and supporting one another in a friendly atmosphere.

If you have any questions or for more information please contact us on jogscotlandnewburgh@outlook.com or www.jogscotland.org.uk. We also have a Facebook Group – “Jogscotland Newburgh” where we share plans for the week, provide information, share ideas, motivation etc and provides lots of support.

SMUGGLERS CONE Collieston Harbour

Snacks

Toys



Ice Cream

Hot Drinks

Dog Treats

Contact Christine: 07780 466227



THE 1ST NEWBURGH SCOUT GROUP

The 1st Newburgh Scout Group continues to grow from strength to strength with over 80 children/ youths from in and around Newburgh enjoying regular scouting activities across the 4 age groups (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers).

Andrew Mitchell, Mark Kennard, Phil Astley and Danny Hawthorn re-kindled the defunct 1st Newburgh Scout Group back in 2008 by

setting up a Beaver Colony with around 10 Beavers Scouts. Over the years the Group has added on a Cub Pack, a Scout Troop and more recently an Explorer Scout Unit as the kids have grown up (amazingly, Andrew and Mark still run the Beaver Colony almost 10 years on!).

We get up to all sorts of activities in Scouting from physical, creative, skills, adventure etc. and try to offer the Scouts the opportunity to achieve the Chief Scout Awards for their section. Over the years several Scouts within the Scout Troop have achieved the Chief Scout Gold Award and this year, for the first time our Cub Leader Graham Jack is hoping to award some Chief Scout Silver awards to several Cub Scouts. The Beavers have the opportunity to go for the Chief Scout Bronze Award, and the older Explorers Scouts are working on their Chief Scout Platinum and Diamond awards (equivalent to the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze and Silver awards). They will ultimately go for the Queens Scout award, the highest award in Scouting and equivalent to the Duke of Edinburgh Gold award).

In June, we held our 2nd Annual Group Camp over at Daviot Scout Camp Ground and had a great time doing a range of activities including hiking, archery, axe craft, adventure trail, fire lighting, rope swinging skittles, and giant bubble making! There was a crazy 'Planet of the Apes' wide game involving everyone on site and a large quantity of bananas and monkey suits....you had to be there to believe it!

It looks like this camp will be an annual fixture for our Scout Group now as it brings all the sections together and is a great opportunity for all the Children/ Youths/ Leaders and Parents to get together and have some fun.

Also in June our Scout Group went Gliding again in Deeside, an amazing opportunity for the Scouts (and Leaders!), so thanks to all at Deeside Gliding Club including our very own Glen Douglas (Foveran Community Council Secretary and avid Gliding enthusiast!).

If you want more info about the 1st Newburgh Scout Group contact Andrew Mitchell, our Leader in Charge at andrewm87@btinternet.com or any of the leaders noted below:

Beavers - age 6-8 - Tuesday 18:00 - 19:00 - Church Hall, Newburgh
Leaders - Andrew Mitchell/ Mark Kennard/ Denise

Cubs - age 8-10.5 - Tuesday 19:05 - 20:20 - Church Hall, Newburgh
Leaders - Graham Jack/ Mike Bland/ Alan McAra/ Craig Leuchars/ Debbie Brazier

Scouts - age 10.5-14 - Thursday 18:30 - 20:30 - Church Hall/,Newburgh
Leaders - Phil Astley/ Danny Hawthorn/ Craig Leuchars/ Mike Bradford

Explorers - age 14-18 - Thursday 19:30 - 21:30 - Church Hall, Newburgh
Leaders - Phil Astley/ Danny Hawthorn

danielhawthorn@hotmail.com



1st NEWBURGH RAINBOWS

Since starting back after the Christmas Holidays we have been busy and welcomed 3 new girls to our unit and at Easter we will say goodbye to 1.

In January we had the girls design some tartans for Robert Burns Night and also at the beginning of February we decorated Chinese New Year fans and made some Valentine's Day key rings. We also did some den building so the girls could learn how to build a shelter. We used the chairs and put blankets over them and tried to see if we could fit everyone in, which we could.



During this term the girls have planted seeds for Thinking Day where the theme this year is Friendship. They also learned some Scottish country dancing as part of a Scottish country dancing badge.

If anyone would like to find out more about Rainbows, whether to register your child or to volunteer, information can be found at

https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved.aspx

or if you would like information about joining or volunteering with 1st Newburgh Rainbows please contact Lynsey on 07743 797377.



1ST NEWBURGH GUIDES

1st Newburgh Guides continues to be a busy unit with around 20 girls and 2 Young Leaders. We have girls from Newburgh, Foveran & Colliston.

We continue to offer a varied programme and we try to get out and about as much as possible during the summer months.

We have recently been completing a Girlguiding Scotland challenge badge called “Rise to the Challenge”. As part of this we made bracelets, tried our hand at making cakes in fruit (which got a mixed reaction from the girls!) and we’ve been making Miniature Gardens.

We had group of girls attend “County Camp” in Crathes in early June. They joined around 80 other girls from around Gordon District and the theme was Europe. The weather was kind and they all had a great time.

On the 17th June we joined 180 guides from Gordon District to travel to the SECC to attend the “Tartan Gig”. This is a bi-annual event for Guides & Senior Section members. The acts were great and the atmosphere was amazing – its quite something to see 10000 pairs of flashing bunny ears in one place!

For any girls who are interested in joining our unit you must register your interest on the Girlguiding website - <https://enquiry.girlguiding.org.uk/>

Newburgh Guides is a fantastic unit but two of the current leaders are looking to hand over the reins and we are looking for new leaders to get involved. Girlguiding is a great organisation to be involved in and there are a huge amount of opportunities available.

More information can be found at <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/home.aspx> or you can contact Karen on 01358 789523



NEWBURGH THISTLE AFC

Newburgh Thistle AFC started the season in early August 2016 in great form. In fact we showed pretty consistent form all season.

Played 42 Winning 32 Losing 7 Drawing 3 For 148 Against 54 + 94 Goals

Winning AAFA Division 2 North + Castle Rovers Cup for the second season in concession.

We also had the pleasure of hosting the North of Scotland Semi Finals at Gallowhill, not only did we host we managed to get to the semi-final. We were unlucky to get beat to Torry Amateurs AET. Getting to that stage of the North of Scotland cup was a big achievement from the club. And a big step in the right direction for the new season starting 5th of August 2017.

Trips to Crieff and Kilbirnie saw us to the 4th round of the Scottish Cup. We can all just about remember them.

Onto the next season..... who knows what this one will bring.

VILLAGE HALL NEWBURGH



Big news for Newburgh Village Public Hall, planning permission for the refurbishment and restoration of the hall has been granted without conditions, by Aberdeenshire Council. It's taken a lot of work to get to this stage and this is only the beginning!

The hall Trustees would like to take this opportunity to thank those in the Village, and further afield, who have supported the hall in this first year of their tenure, and are very excited about taking this project forward, ensuring that the Newburgh Village Public Hall is the heart of the community for generations to come.

In the meantime if you have an upcoming event or have a class you'd like to run, get in touch with the Hall trustees, who are more than happy to accommodate groups and events old and new. Book the hall via: newburghpublichall@gmail.com or find them on [facebook.com/NewburghVillageHall](https://www.facebook.com/NewburghVillageHall).

The Windsurf Club - Newburgh

The Windsurf Club based in Newburgh is growing from strength to strength and starting to get some recognition in the Scottish windsurfing scene.

The club was set up in 2012 by longstanding windsurfer Rob Walker and his wife Wendy amongst others, aimed at getting kids and adults out on the water. The club and the kids section, self-named the "Newburgh Sea Gorillaz", has steadily grown over the years and now has over 30 members.

We are affiliated to the RYA and enjoy support from their Scotland team and have participated in their Windsurfing Team 15 events, where clubs from around Scotland meet at host club locations and participate in coaching, free style sessions, games and racing.

Last season, our Newburgh Sea Gorillaz participated in T15 events at Monikie Country Park, Fife, and Loch Insh near Aviemore, and competed against the likes of the Clyde Barracudas, the Monikie Maniacs and the Loch Insh Monsters, coming away with a couple bronze medals. Well done to Megan Walker and Sam Hawthorn! We were also represented at the RYA T15 Wave Camp over in Tiree in October last year which runs alongside the Tiree Wave Classic Professional Windsurfing competition.

For the first time, the Newburgh Sea Gorillaz will be hosting a T15 event up at Peterhead Marina in September, so we look forward to welcoming participants from home and away to this event.

Back on the Ythan, we try to work closely with the other water users to minimise the impact of our club activities. We really appreciate the great relations we have with the local estate and the Forvie Nature Reserve and our thanks go to Audrey Clarke and Annabel Drysdale respectively.

We run regular Sea Gorillaz Kids Club Sessions for 6 - 18 year olds on the Ythan Estuary approximately every 2nd Sunday from April through to October (times/ sessions vary as we're restricted to high tide times!), and we run Adult Windsurf Taster Sessions as and when we can throughout the year. We've also recently extended our capability to include for the fast growing sport of Stand-Up Paddle Boarding (SUP), and two of our windsurf coaches (Rob Walker and Ali Hardy) have recently completed SUP instructor training courses, well done to them!

If you want more info check out the website www.thewindsurfclub.co.uk

or

the Facebook page which is updated regularly <https://www.facebook.com/TheWindsurfClub>

Danny Hawthorn

Secretary, The Windsurf Club danielhawthorn@hotmail.com

CULTERCULLEN and UDNY STATION

UNDY STATION AMENITIES GROUP

It is with great regret that the Amenities Group in its present form is likely to be disbanded. Over the years the numbers involved in the group have declined significantly and there are now too few members to make it sustainable. Ron and Alice Davis have decided to resign as Chairman and Secretary at the end of this year and leave the group so unless more people are willing to come forward and get involved we can see no way the group can carry on.

There is no requirement to attend meetings we just need more hands on deck. We have tried recently to engage the local community with little success. If the group does fold it will be a great shame as over the years the Amenities Group has been responsible for not only the floral displays every year but the general maintenance required to try and keep the village looking nice. This involves the trimming of trees, hedge cutting, putting down weed killer, painting of play equipment, painting of flower boxes and any other jobs that may be necessary. We intend to have a meeting sometime in October to which everyone is invited to come along and discuss the future of The Amenities Group. Date to be decided nearer the time and posters will be put up. We hope that there will be a good turnout and a solution can be found to allow the group can continue.

BEST GARDEN COMPETITION

Last year's winner Bob Dunbar has kindly agreed to judge the gardens this year. Judging will take place sometime in July and the winner announced in August. Good luck to everyone.

FORMARTINE IN BLOOM

We are entering the competition again this year but this may be the last time depending on the future of the Amenities Group. Owing to the reduced number of people available to do work required we have asked the judges to only consider the main street. Judging will be at the beginning of August so any help with weeding and generally tidying up the area would be most welcome.

Cultercullen SWI

Cultercullen SWI held their quiz night on Tuesday 14th of March. Members of various local institutes took part, answering questions about general knowledge, sports, Scotland and a picture round amongst other things. The winners of the quiz were as follows:

1st The Milkmaids from Newburgh. 2nd Riff Raff from Newburgh. 3rd The French Folk from Tippetty.

Guests enjoyed a tea supplied by their hostesses following which the raffle was drawn.

Results of the flower of the month competition were as follows: Joint First Moreen Alexander and Carol Ritchie.

The April meeting of Cultercullen SWI was a taste and try evening. Members sampled a range of different dishes, and swapped recipes with one another. The members also voted on their committee for the forthcoming year, with 2 ladies from Belhelvie SWI kindly attending to count the votes.

The new committee is as follows:

President- Barbara Reid, Vice President- Liz Webster, Secretary- Muriel Milne, Treasurer- Sheila Johnstone, Press Secretary- Carol Ritchie, Raffles- Moreen Alexander, Tea Convenor- Eileen Andrew, Magazines- Helen Thain, Show Convenor- Carol Hay.

Competition results were as follows:

Article made from odds and ends of wool- 1st Moreen Alexander, 2nd Eileen Andrew, 3rd Carol Ritchie.

Unusual Teapot- 1st Carol Hay, 2nd Liz Webster, 3rd Eileen Andrew.

Flower of the Month- 1st Carol Hay, 2nd Eileen Andrew, 3rd Moreen Alexander.

Cultercullen SWI met on Tuesday the 9th of May and welcomed Lindsay Gibb and her friend Annemarie Grant. The guests showed the members how they use pieces of stained glass to make a number of different items. Many of the members bought some of their beautiful items. A lovely tea was provided by Moreen Alexander.

The results of the competitions were as follows:

Lemon drizzle cake: 1st Moreen Alexander. 2nd Eileen Andrew 3rd Carol Hay.

Cross stitch card: 1st Moreen Alexander. 2nd Carol Hay. 3rd Eileen Andrew.

Flower of the month: 1st Moreen Alexander. 2nd Carol Hay. 3rd Eileen Andrew.

In May Cultercullen SWI visited John Willox kitchens in Ellon together with members of Oldmeldrum SWI and had an enjoyable evening. John showed members around the kitchen showroom before Leslie Gillespie gave a demonstration using fresh local produce. An enjoyable evening was had by all.

In June, members visited Blue Sky Mosaics in Kintore where Anne and Will showed their wonderful mosaic creations. They were also given instructions on how to give it a go themselves. Anne and Will also provided a delicious tea.

The next meeting is on the 12th September and is book folding with Doreen Boyne. New members are welcome.

Ythan Waves

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Headlines

My first contact with any newspapers was in my childhood. The Press and Journal delivered on a daily basis, the Evening Express for court cases, the late edition arriving in Newburgh at around 6pm by bus. There were also old newspapers laid on the floor under the lino some with fascinating maps of wartime battles.

Of course, there were also weekly ones like the People's Journal often with local information, and also for a while the Bonaccord before it went out of print. It was good for local history and pictures.

If in Aberdeen there were and still are news vendors on various sites around the city centre, I'm not sure if they still shout out their headline patter any more. I haven't heard that for a long time.

While researching old newspapers to obtain info on subjects, it is often the headlines which catch the eye first. The headline writer may not be the person who wrote the article and as such may have a different take on the subject matter. The headline writer has only a short time to come with a punchy headline which is there to attract the readers' attention.

The following are just a few of the ones I have noted over the last few years. I have tried to assemble some of local interest, not necessarily Foveran Parish but certainly pertaining to Aberdeenshire.

There cannot be many who have not heard of the unsinkable ship that sank in the Atlantic Ocean after hitting an iceberg. The Titanic built in Belfast was sailing to New York from Southampton via Cherbourg and Queenstown (Cork/Cobh).

In the late evening of the 14th of April sometime between 11.30pm and midnight Titanic struck an iceberg. She may have been taking avoiding action at the time. Some theorists believe this may have been the wrong action as a head-on collision may have caused less damage. It is also alleged that in trying to attain the highest speed that she was capable of the ship was sailing at or near her top speed of about 24 knots. It takes a considerable amount of miles to bring a ship to a standstill from it cruising speed.

As news of the sinking of the Titanic filtered out newspapers of the day were quick to make up their version of events. News travelled more slowly then than it does now. All sort of headline stories appeared as newspapers clamoured for more news by telegraph from passing ships or survivors stories from America.

Notably and allegedly was one from the Aberdeen Daily Journal of April 15, 1912

"Aberdeen man drowns at sea".

Or

‘North-east man lost at sea’.

On the takeover of the Press & Journal by D C Thomson of Dundee and in the last issue of the broadsheet style an opportunity was taken to clarify and deny that this headline was ever printed, with accompanying cuttings of the original newspapers shown.

The Titanic sinking is still, some 105 years after the ship’s demise, causing controversy and much speculation is given to the actual cause of the sinking. Some are pure speculation and others are certainly lucid and factual using material from deep dives to view the ship. There are probably many reasons – ship’s speed, lack of training of crew and officers, lack of adequate look-out, difficulty of look-outs, poor command procedures in the wheel house, company pride and ambition and so on.

However, a great deal of blame seems to have been placed on the helmsman Robert Hichens who appears to have been made a scapegoat, and various media outlets have described Robert as

'The man who sank Titanic'

On the night of the sinking, Quartermaster Robert Hitchens was the helmsman and, as the ship closed on the iceberg, there was confusion in which direction the ship turned to bear off from the iceberg. Hitchens was taking his orders from a senior officer. It is said that the confusion lay in whether the steering was done by “Tiller orders” or “Rudder orders”. This would certainly be a problem as one system works in the opposite direction to the other.

Robert Hitchens character was further blackened by a first-class passenger stating that “he was a coward and bully” because he did not return to the Titanic while in command of a lifeboat. Unfortunately, this stuck and no doubt impeded his maritime career. He did return to sea at a later stage after broken marriages, business failure and a spell in jail. He died while working as an officer in the ss English Trader some distance to the north east of Aberdeen and is buried in Trinity Cemetery, Aberdeen.

Broughty Ferry Man Sinks the Titanic?

Another who gets the above description is a Second Officer David Blair of Broughty Ferry. David Blair was second officer on the Titanic but was asked to leave the ship after a reshuffle of officers before its maiden voyage. Unfortunately, it is said he was in charge of the crow’s nest binoculars. These binoculars were kept in a locked cupboard and Blair left the ship with the key for the said cupboard. But surely the sailor in the crow’s nest would have been able to obtain another set from some other officer if indeed they were needed at all. There was some doubt as to the usefulness of binoculars in the situation. The key was later given to The British

and International Seaman's Society by Mr Blair's daughter in the 1980s, auctioned in 2007 raising £90,000 less auction fees and is now displayed in Nanjing, China.

Closer to home we have in the Aberdeen Weekly journal of 5th November 1892.

The Ythan Fishings – Doctor Charged with Poaching

Edward J Muddle, a medical practitioner of London, meanwhile living at the Quay, Newburgh was charged with fishing for sea trout or other fish in the River Ythan without permission. It appears permission was required from the lessee, a George Davidson and of John Henry Udny of Udny, the proprietor of the salmon fishings at that part of the river. Dr Muddle was defended by a Charles Ruxton. Mr Ruxton's defence was that the alleged occurrence took place opposite the burn of Tarty on the other side i.e. on the Slains side of the river on the property of a Lady Gordon Cathcart. Lady Cathcart owned extensive property in Scotland, some of it from her first marriage to Colonel John Gordon of Cluny. Dr Muddle had, it is said, permission to fish by the brothers of the lessee a Mr Gordon Gilmour of Liberton. The prosecution saying that fishing took place on both sides of the river and were prepared to prove it. The case was adjourned for a fortnight by Sherriff Brown. The Sherriff commented that he hoped Mr Ruxton would prove a true prophet, and that the case would not be heard again. The outcome of the case is not known, but I suspect the Doctor escaped punishment by the Scots Law definition of Not Proven. Doctor Muddle at the age of 41 claimed to be a retired army doctor (possibly a local militia) married a widow, Annie Gordon Shaw nee Grant, his housekeeper, in 1895 in Foveran Parish legitimising his offspring. The family moved to London afterwards living of the proceeds of various trusts and annuities. It is unlikely that he practiced medicine while living in Newburgh, he was there for the fishing.

Aberdeenshire business owner wins presidential election

This headline appeared in the Buchan Observer of Wednesday 9th November 2016., the day after the Presidential Election. Quick work you might say, however the readers of "The Buchanie" were quicker to take the "Jimmy Riddle" and the world waits in trepidation the ongoing twitterings of this man. Of course he is an Aberdeenshire businessman being the owner of Trump International Golf Links at Menie.

Policeman's Hen Decapitated by Bullet

Gory details or light relief one wonders. The above headline appeared in the Peoples Journal on Saturday May 3, 1941. The authorities at that time were rather coy about the location of war air raids. Seems a bit daft, if you were one who suffered, then you knew where the raid had taken place and were likely to talk about it. But there may be clues in the article, especially now that we have access to much more detail. This headline definitely caught my eye and on reading the article it was the catalyst to follow up and make more of, and indeed our editor encouraged it.

On reading the article it seemed that people's names mentioned were familiar. These being: Mrs Keith, Mr John Cruickshank, James Arthur etc. So, I thought this might be Newburgh although I'm sure the names mentioned might crop up in any village. So, maybe it was the Newburgh policeman's hen which was decapitated. It just so happens that the article mentions that the raid took place on Monday which would have been the 28th April. On that day two bombs were dropped on Newburgh near the Quay as well as strafing by machine gun. I have no doubt the hen was put to good use and made a tasty meal.

Careless Talk cost lives – wartime poster slogan

Charles M Catto



On the Beat - Inspector Graeme Penny, Formartine Community Policing Team

In October 2016 I took over from Inspector Jamie Harrison as the Formartine Inspector based at Ellon Police Office. Jamie built up strong contacts within the community and will undoubtedly be a hard act to follow.

Although this is the first time I have worked in Formartine, I already had a good grasp of the geography and issues affecting the community from occasionally covering the area in my previous role within the neighbouring Garioch Community Policing Team. I also worked alongside Jamie during last year's Turriff Show.

I have been a Police Officer since 1992 and have built up a wealth of Operational Policing experience both in Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City. I also have an extensive Road Policing background which has included a 3 year secondment to the Scottish Police College as a national advanced driving Instructor.

With that in mind it should come as no surprise that road safety is one of my key priorities. Inappropriate and anti-social driving continues to be one of the main concerns we receive from the community and community groups and as a result we proactively tackle the issue.

In response to concerns we recently ran enforcement initiatives relating to parking on the 'Zig Zag' areas at local schools. This was an emotive subject to many parents as they did not want their child to be walking any great distance on busy roads particularly in winter months when it is dark.

As a father of young children I can relate to that thought, however children are often excited and distracted when going to or leaving School and the 'Zig Zag' markings are there to allow a clear area of visibility so drivers can get an early view of children and react accordingly should they run on to the road.

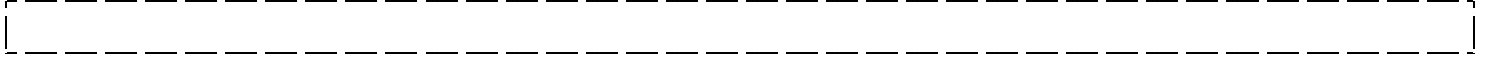
Although some may think we are being harsh, the ultimate consequences of obstructing this view are unthinkable and we will continue to deal with identified offences robustly.

The reduced speed limits around schools are also there to allow more time to react. These are the maximum speed limits not necessarily the safe speed limit which is dictated by road, pedestrian and traffic conditions and should not be treated as a target.

Away from Road Safety reducing acquisitive crime throughout the area is another priority for

the team with regular patrols conducted to deter those responsible. We can only achieve this in partnership with local residents who by ensuring their cars, outbuildings and doors are locked will make the area less attractive for 'sneak in' thieves.

Formartine is a safe place to live, work and visit and along with the support of the 5 Formartine Sergeants and their respective teams, I will do everything I can to ensure it remains that way.



A Walk on the Wildside

Fit like all, I hope that the answer is positive and that after a bit of a mixed start to the summer, SOS means sizzle our sausages? No one need to have shouted May Day, May Day during that month and the Gab o' May failed to materialise this year, thankfully as it was a fine month, perfect for the bird and the bees to get buzzy, but as I write at the start of June, it is flaming awful!

Oh for those of you not familiar with old Scots traditions, the Gab o' May refers to a period of very stormy weather and even a frost or two that sometimes comes at the beginning of the month. So you see, you do not need to go to University to get an education, just read the Fav. News.

Well I hope that you do find time to read this edition as there is hardly time to draw breath, what with all of the excitement happening outside in the natural world, courtesy of Dame Nature.

Oh yes, truly exciting news to begin with, as it could be an excellent year for butterflies, fingers crossed. Back at the end of May – the 23rd, I was amazed to see a red admiral flying around, and it was wonderful to see it as normally I see very few and even then it will be late summer at best. The red admiral is a migrant reaching our shores from way across in mainland Europe where the adults (the flying beasties are the adults) overwinter in a sort of hibernation. That fact is a bit odd as it can survive in cold conditions even well up in southern European mountain ranges, but at the same time only a very few may survive in the UK even way down along the south coast of England, very odd. Anyhow this lovely species that has large black velvety wings with a thick red stripe across the outer edge of the forewing and some white splashes, then a red border to the hind wing. They lay their eggs on nettles so please all of you, go out into your gardens and cut down all of those nasty dahlias etc. and plant nettles, the neighbours will be hugely impressed! The name – red admiral is also strange, what has a butterfly to do with a seaman? Well originally it was named the red *admirable*, now that is much better and easier to interpret.

But the red admiral was just the start of my jubilations as ten days later on then 2nd June, there in my garden were three, yes three painted ladies –WOW. This species is another migrant but one that comes all of the way from North Africa! As with the previous species, they sleep the winter away as adults, then wake up and go to their travel agents and nook a flight to the UK. With orange, black and white spotted wings they are a real treat, but do be careful if the Minister pops in for a fly cup. Best not to say that you have been out with a painted lady by the name of *Cynthia* (the *Latin* name)! This stunning species is also normally seen later in the year once it has produced a new generation (in a good year two or three broods may occur). I said that you should grow nettles, well the painted lady likes them also, but if nettles are too much for you then it has to be thistles, another superb garden plant!

Now for all of you who prefer your wildlife slightly larger and much closer related to ourselves, get a pen and paper and write this down – The Mammal Atlas of NE Scotland and the Cairngorms. Put the piece of paper somewhere safe and add it to your list that you send up the lum to me. If you can not wait until Christmas then you can buy a copy in the Ellon bookshop, a fantastic addition to your wildlife library. It lists all of the mammal species – on land, air or sea, uhh well no it does not as there is one species that has been left out, whoops. That is my fault as I have a record of one species that is not in the book, and that record is a local one. Way back in 1994 there was nowhere locally that kept a note of records of plants animals, but now we have the fantastic North East Scotland Biological Records Centre with over one million such records, and it is they who have just produced the mammal book. Anyhow, in January 1994 I was checking the beach at Forvie for dead sea birds when I came upon a very rare species of seal, it was a harp seal, phew! This was a young one, thought to be about 9 months old. Harp seals are so named owing to the large ‘harp-shaped’ black mark across their backs. It was the first record for Scotland as they normally live up near the Arctic. So, a walk along the shore, or anywhere outside your door may well provide some fascinating sightings of rare and unusual species, so off you all go, no excuse now.

Take care of yourselves and our wildlife until the next edition. Bye.

Bob Davis - 23 January, 2018

(This is the first of what I hope will become a regular feature in the Foveran Newsletter. It occurred to me that there are lots of interesting people in the parish – Bob Davidson being one. Bob is the author of the A Walk on the Wildside article which precedes this article. Ed.)

A Life in the Day of Bob Davidson.

I hope that I do not traumatize readers of the Foveran Newsletter when I reveal that I was born in England, oh shock horror! But, ah yes there is always a 'but'. My paternal Great Grandmother was a Burns, and me with the name of Robert! A Bob's a Bob for a that!

I was a War baby, born in 1941 in Aylesbury, and lived in the town of Chesham, right in the middle of the Chiltern Hills. I left Secondary Modern School at age 15, the only boy in my class of 30 who did not stay on to take O levels. To celebrate my departure, I was given a piece of paper that stated: 'Bob has left school'! So much for my early education.

My working life began a few weeks later when I started at six-year apprenticeship as a Compositor in a printing factory. It was awful, and after four and a half years I walked out, and the following day I was working full time on a farm, as a tractor driver, I just had to be outside.

That was wonderful, and helped to increase my love of and knowledge of the natural world.

My Dad had a great love of the natural world and together with my Mum and elder sister we often went for very long walks in the beautiful Chiltern hills, and I learned a great deal during those formative years, far more relevant and interesting than school!

The one good thing that stemmed from my years in a factory, was to become friends with another young lad and together we brought our bicycles to Glasgow and cycled up to Arrochar on Loch Long and from there back down to the Lake District. My love of Scotland was immediate and the following year I was in Fort William and climbed the Ben for the first time. Further visits, further into Scotland, and even my honeymoon was spent on Skye!

Holidays were one thing but then I got a job on Loch Lomond side as a Ploughman (yes the Burns connection again!). I had the unerring ability to obtain work in places from which I was later made redundant, and from Loch Lomond it was further north and west to Loch Linnhe and Ardgour where I spent ten fantastic years as a forester/stalker; I was actually paid to go to the hill! My two wonderful children were born and they had a great childhood –without television! But for the third time redundancy was on the cards. I

studied at home and gained six O levels and that opened up my way to Forvie NNR in 1978, working for the wonderful Nature Conservancy Council.

My knowledge of the natural world increased by leaps and bounds, as did my designer stubble, and I grew to look like my hero naturalist: Charles Darwin. Having moved from the west and forestry, I was a wee bit dismayed at the lack of trees here. During a conversation about this with a 'local' I was told that 'trees would not grow here'? When asked the reason, the reply left me stunned: 'oh because there aren't any'! Such logic left me with a desire to change the situation, and when a group from Ellon Academy asked me to design and assist them with a 'conservation' project, together we established the Forvie Tree nursery where we grew locally native tree species from locally collected seed. More than thirty years later and those beginnings had grown (like the trees) into a small business and had produced well over half a million trees, all planted throughout the northeast.

My time at Forvie also brought me into direct contact with young people and I helped numerous schools to establish wildlife areas, thus bringing the children and the natural world together for mutual benefit. From primary school pupils to lecturing in both Robert Gordon's University and Aberdeen University, I tried to pass on my knowledge and appreciation of our amazing natural world and precious environment. Then in 1995 I found myself in northern Italy speaking to children about their wonderful environment and the need for them to conserve it.

The friends that I made there during my many repeat visits provided me with the chance to achieve a life-long ambition, and in the year 2000 they helped me to climb my first 4000m peak in the Alps – Pizzo Bernina.

That opened up a whole new chapter in my life and further climbs in the Alps were followed by my first visit to the Himalaya in northern India. Then it was the Andes, the Southern Alps in New Zealand, more Himalaya in Nepal and the Mountains of the Moon in Africa, oh yes and of course ridges and peaks in Scotland, my first love. Seeing Chile Pine in Chile and the amazing Banksias in Tasmania; where Sir Joseph Banks had first seen them, was special, but equally special is seeing my favourite animal: a beautiful brown hare, bounding through long grass in a field here in front of my house. Mountains and wild places have always exerted a magnetic influence over me.

My feet have taken me around the world and my tent has housed me near Cape Horn at the southern tip of South America and way up into the Arctic Circle in Sweden. But Scotland is always here when I return and the highland glens and lochs are special, and always well patronised.

Now my boots and my tent are pleading with me to take them 'walkies' once again and the East Coast Trail in Newfoundland beckons later this year. Bye.

PRUNING and PROPAGATING

I can't quite believe that it's time to write another article, definitely getting old, as I have no idea where the last few months have gone.

Since I last wrote 'Mr Stropky' has long gone, to be replaced by some wonderful nesting visitors, including redpolls and blackcaps. I keep feeding my birds all year as I love to watch them on various feeders around the garden.

I was asked to set up and run a gardening club here, which has turned out to be great fun. We meet twice a month, one of the visits being at a member's garden. Last month was my turn to host and we had a pruning and cutting workshop. There were several shrubs to prune as they had finished flowering – I find it much easier to prune them as soon as they have flowered as the stems for removal are obvious then. Spirea 'Arguta' (bridal wreath) Flowering Currant and Forsythia, are amongst these. Cut back the stems that have flowered to a new growth, as this is what will flower the following season. If they are 'pom pomed', as is the temptation, next years' flowers are cut off. There are summer flowering shrubs that require the same treatment – Deutzia, Philadelphus, Kolkwitzia, and Weigela – all benefit from a prune when they finish flowering, and the same principle applies, cut back the old flowering shoot to a new growth. Pruning makes the plant produce more vigorous growth therefore more flowers next year.

I love propagation, so to do a workshop taking cutting was right up my street. Of course it was one of the hottest days this summer – not ideal for taking cuttings – but we did one plant at a time and kept them in a bag, to help reduce them drying out. Summer cuttings or soft tip cuttings are a wonderful fun way to reproduce a plant. Garden Pinks, Erysimum (perennial wallflower) Species Viola, Lavender and Penstemon can all have cuttings taken at this time of year.

Find non-flowering shoots and cut and place immediately in a bag. Prepare some gritty compost and put in a seed tray or pot. Remove the lower few leaves from the stem and cut just below a leaf joint so there is a bit of clear stem to put into the compost. Cut the top off the cutting as well as this also reduces the leaf coverage, therefore the means to dry out before any roots are formed. This also 'tells' you when the cutting has rooted, as it won't grow anything at the top until it has some roots at the bottom to feed it. Next cover the pot or tray with a poly bag, again to help stop water loss, and place in a warm light place out of direct sunlight. Don't be tempted to 'peek' at progress till some new growth appears. I find it very exciting to make new plants from beloved favourites, especially some of my old fashioned pinks that have travelled round my various addresses with me, the parent plants become 'leggy' with time, so it's great to replace them occasionally.

We have had such a dry spring that I have lost a couple of 'well established' plants, so removal off, is on the cards. I do love having a space to play with though! My Primula bed has not been

a success either, as they like more moisture and, despite my sprinkler being on occasionally, have also succumbed to the drought. Change of plan there also I think.

I think I have my work cut out for me in the weeks to come, with some major re-thinks!!

Happy Gardening!

Lesley Barnett

Deeside from the air - Let's go fly a Glider

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Forvie National Nature Reserve

The school holidays are busy but also mean for us that we move from counting our birds and their nests to our annual monitoring of the botanical interests of the reserve. The plants are growing tall this year, helped by the mix of wet and sunny spells over June. This year we have a big task ahead of us, which is to record how much of the nature reserve has Rosebay Willowherb (*Chamerion angustifolium*).

Rosebay Willowherb has an interesting story, as it was regarded as a bit of a rare species in the 18th and 19th centuries, but now is thought of as a weed growing almost everywhere from sea level to the summit of Lochnagar! Also known as fireweed, its spread has been linked to cross fertilisation with North American plants, the spread of the railways and bombing activity during World War 2.

The plant is unmistakable along road verges, on waste ground and just behind the beach with its tall green growth topped by a purple-pink spike of flowers. By the end of the summer, thousands of fluffy seeds will float on the air, looking for new patches of soil to colonise. Although it offers some benefits to insects, such as the striking pink small elephant hawk-moth, the extent of Rosebay Willowherb at Forvie is of concern as it dominates over other dune plants.

It would be an easier task to look at aerial photographs or use a drone to detect the plant amongst the dunes, but as it rarely flowers on Forvie, it is difficult to tell apart from the other dune vegetation from up in the air. With the assistance of some students, our job ahead is to map the Rosebay Willowherb on foot, across a square kilometre, using a tablet with satellite Geographical Positioning System (GPS) software. So if you see us walking head down looking



at a tablet in the middle of the reserve, don't despair that we are addicted to social media, we may actually be working!

We are also appealing for sightings of an invasive non-native species in the dunes from Foveran to Balmedie. We have been making good progress in removing New Zealand Pirri-pirri bur (*Acaena novae-zealandiae*) from the dunes at the mouth of the Ythan, but recently this highly invasive plant was also found on the Deeside Line, prompting fears it could spread to new sites in Aberdeenshire very easily. Lindisfarne and the Northumbrian coast have been badly affected by the pirri-pirri bur, which is a low growing plant with characteristic seed heads that hook easily to animal fur and clothing.

If you spot something you think might be the plant, please take a photo and send it to myself with as accurate a location as you can.

For more information about anything to do with Forvie, just drop me a line!

Annabel Drysdale, Reserve Manger

Annabel.drysdale@snh.gov.uk

01358 751330



The Quay

Foveran Church of Scotland Notices

Morning Service is held each Sunday at 11am in Holyrood Chapel, Main Street, Newburgh.
(During the school holidays it will be a family service to which all are welcome).

Evening Service – will not be held during July and August but is the first Sunday each month at 6pm, and will recommence in **September**.

It is an informal service, held in Holyrood Chapel; again, everyone is warmly welcome to attend.

There will be a **Holiday Club** for ages 4 (pre-school) to Primary 7, from **14th – 18th August** in the Public Hall, Main Street Newburgh. 10am – 12noon.

Please email christinem87@btinternet.com (Christine Mitchell) to register your child. This is important to ensure that we have enough adult helpers and items of craft, to enable everyone to have a safe and happy time.

This is for the entire parish and not just for Newburgh.

Sunday 24th September will be a 'Back to Church' Sunday, so if you have been thinking about coming back to church but are finding it hard to walk through the door, this could be your opportunity! Some things have changed over the years – you might be pleasantly surprised! Preaching from the Bible and the Gospel of Jesus Christ are still very much the focus.

Sunday 29th October will be Communion Sunday at 11 am in Holyrood Chapel.

Looking forward to seeing you at some of the Services
Sue Edwards. Session Clerk.

Lokal Loksmith

Emergency Services

Locks and Glazing

Balmedie

Call Gary

M. 07960 196 196

H. 01358 743 672

Minister's Bit

If you have recently moved into Newburgh, welcome! The Church is the building on the corner with the tower and the clock. You can't miss it.

A few bits for your diary, fuller details are elsewhere in the magazine.

Back to Church Sunday, Sunday the 24th of September. This is a National event, like all the other days announced to focus on some aspect of our lives. The fact that it is a nation-wide day shows that you are far from the only person who gave up on the Church, or felt the Church gave up on you, or with the hectic pace of life, you took a week or two off and it became a couple of months, years or decades!

It is very difficult to go back after a long time away. It is easier to go back to the gym after a break, but only if we have lost weight, and we get compliments instead of imagining people are sniggering at us for being 'cuddlier' than when we left. You are invited back, yes you!

The last Sunday of October, the 29th is Communion Sunday which happens to be the same day that of the 500th anniversary celebration of the Reformation. Those of you who remember old fashioned history, or the book, '1066 and All That' may recall them making much of Martin Luther and his 'Diet of Worms.' What a diet was is an old way of saying a meeting, and yes, there is a place called Worms.

So that is a couple of things to come, and a sincere invitation back.

Ricky Reid. Parish Minister



Ever thought of standing as a Local Councillor

There is likely to be a by-election in Inverurie and District before the end of the year. We are therefore seeking a candidate for this seat. If you are interested or would like to find out more about being a Local Councillor, please get in touch with me.

Please also let us know if you would like to donate time or funds to this or any future elections. Look forward to hearing from you.

Isobel Davidson, Chapel Howe. Ardlethen. Ellon. AB41 8PF.

01358 722881

07714218224

FOVERAN PARISH CHURCH: SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee has no events planned over the next few months.

The Kirk Roup has been a valuable and well supported community event for many years now, but donations were well down last year both for the auction sale and also for the stalls. So in 2017 we are hoping instead to hold a Silent Auction with stalls and teas. The provisional date for this is Saturday 18th November, and there will be further publicity on posters and in the local press nearer the time.

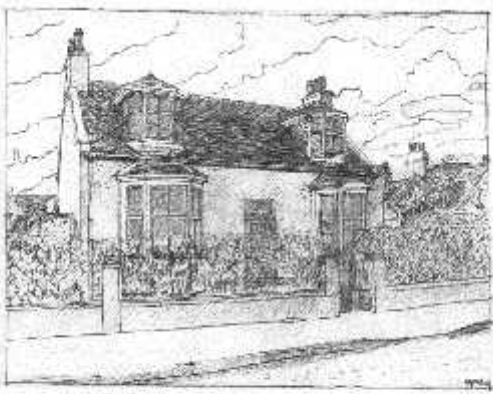
Mary Smith (Social Convenor)

dubbystylemary@aol.com

Tel: 01358 742234

Note: Foveran Parish Church is the known name of Foveran Church of Scotland, Registered Charity No.SC011701

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Foveran CC meeting dates for your diaries.

All meetings start at 7.30 pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

There are no meetings in July or December.

2017

23 August	Udny Station Community Hall
27 September	Newburgh Inn AGM then meeting at 20.15
25 October	Udny Station Community Hall
22 November	Newburgh Mathers School

2018

24 January	Udny Station Community Hall
28 Feb	Foveran School
28 March	Newburgh Mathers
25 April	Udny Station Community Hall
23 May	Foveran School
27 June	Newburgh Mathers
22 August	Udny Station Community Hall
26 September	Newburgh Inn AGM then meeting at 20.15