

Published by
Midmar Hall Committee
Winter Edition
Dec 2017—Issue 28

Midmar Newsletter

Dear fellow residents,

Christmas is all about anticipation and the excitement that brings, particularly to youngsters. This increases as the doors of the Advent Calendar are opened, by Christmas parties, wrapping gifts and a visit to the pantomime. Before we know it Christmas Day is upon us --- and then it's gone.

Quite quickly the focus switches to Hogmanay and the coming New Year. A few days after that we take the decorations down and try to figure out how we are going to dispose of the tree (Hopefully we will see some of you at our tree burning on the 6th January). The lights are switched off, the house looks bare for a time and we do our best to cope with the remaining days of winter.

As a youngster I always found the first day back to school in January a bit of a chore. In my last three years of primary school I had the same teacher. She was strict and, at times, predictable. The first lesson was always the same. We were given a sheet of paper and told to make a list of resolutions. Once completed we discussed what we had written, then the sheets were gathered in and placed in a folder. The following year these sheets were distributed and we were asked how many of our resolutions we had managed to keep. The answer, for almost all of us, was always the same. Not many! Then we were given a new sheet of paper for our next list of resolutions.

In a few weeks the Hall Committee will undertake a similar exercise as we look back at the successes of this year and consider what we want to do next year. Usually we find that there are some things that remain outstanding and so the list continues, with additions for the year ahead.

This year, however, I think that we have had more successes than usual. We have produced a hall manual and have installed wifi. We have begun the process of applying grants to refurbish the toilets and have installed a defibrillator, thanks to the generosity of Miller Plant. As we consider the year ahead we hope to continue to build upon what has been achieved. With your help and support we hope to maintain the momentum in the months ahead.

With best wishes for the festive season. Alistair McRobb. Hall Chairman

**Tree Burning
Saturday 6 January 4.30pm
Midmar Hall**



When all the presents have been opened, the turkey is all finished, the New Year has been welcomed & there's just a few lingering mince pies and festive treats that need to go before the diet can begin come and join us around a bonfire of Christmas Trees.

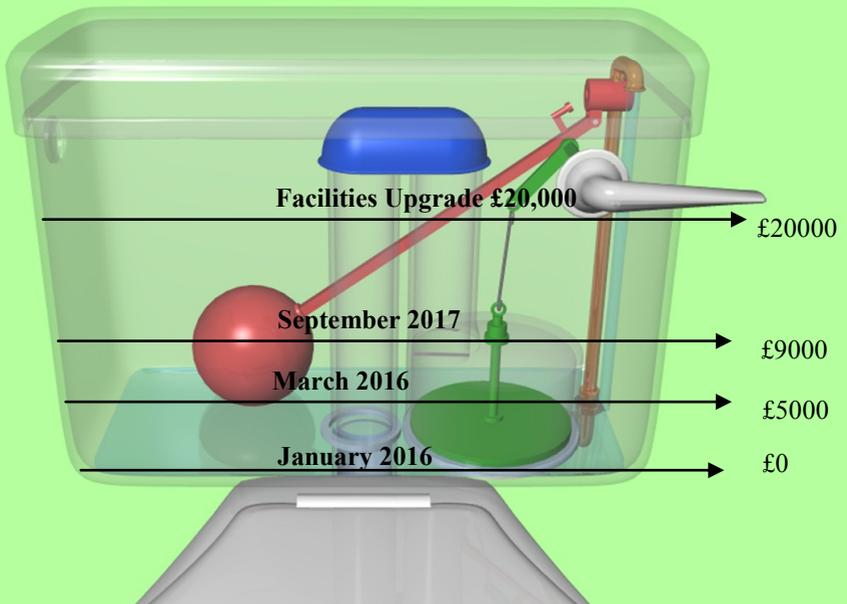
**Bring your own tree & festive treats to share.
Tea & Coffee provided**

Your Village Hall Loo Needs You!

Thank you to everyone for all your spare pennies, we hope to spend them soon!

News from WC HQ.....to add to everyone's generosity we have now begun the process of applying for grant funding to help us on our way to filling the cistern and finally upgrading our facilities.

Not Sport Relief, Not Comic ReliefYour Relief!





Miller Plant get right to the heart of the community!



We are delighted to announce that **Miller Plant** have kindly contributed the full costs of supplying a defibrillator to the 'heart' of the village. **First4Aid** have supplied the cabinet and AED which is sited at the Hall. This will allow anyone in the community to potentially save a life!

An automated external defibrillator or AED is a portable electronic device that automatically diagnoses the potentially life threatening cardiac arrhythmias of ventricular fibrillation and ventricular tachycardia in a patient and is able to treat them through defibrillation, the application of electrical therapy which seeks to stop the arrhythmia, allowing the heart to re-establish an effective rhythm.

AEDs are designed to be simple to use for the layman. If you feel you would benefit from training on CPR and the use of AEDs, please get in touch in the first instance to midmarhall@gmail.com



HeartStart in Midmar

The British Heart Foundation run free courses to engage the public in cardiac matters, raising awareness and offering CPR training. On Saturday 7th October, Midmar Hall saw 30 local residents gather over two separate sessions to attend BHF 'HeartStart' training run by volunteer Jim Aitken, ably assisted by Bob (both Paramedics in their daily lives). Each interactive session of approximately 2½ hours covered Skills For Life, including how to:

- recognise a heart attack and a cardiac arrest
- help an unconscious person
- perform CPR
- help someone choking
- respond to serious bleeding.



With videos, talks and hands-on training, the participants all got involved, picking up lots of useful tips and techniques along the way. Hopefully everyone gained something positive from the sessions, and will, if needed, be able to put these techniques into practice. Let's hope that never happens.

With the amazing new AED defib device at the hall, we're becoming a community of responders – well done everyone!

Burns Supper 2018

Midmar Hall

Three course dinner
Toast drink included
BYOB

Fantastic local entertainment

£20 per person
Contact Amanda on 07980736499 for details

Saturday 20th January
Doors Open 7pm

Newsletter Cover Winner

Congratulations to Me! (Amanda Liddiard) I took this looking west from our home in Midmar. The sky and clouds that evening looked like a watercolour painting.



Midmar School News

Sport for Champions

Stefanie Inglis, Commonwealth Games gold medallist in judo, spent a morning in school leading fitness workshops. She then gave an inspirational talk about her life and the hard work she had to put in to get to the level she did as a sportsman.



Sport Scotland – School Sports Award

Midmar School has achieved a silver Sports Scotland School Sports Award and is now aiming for Gold.



Rotary Shoebox Appeal

This year Midmar School families filled 35 shoe boxes for this appeal which was led by our Rotakids Group.

Mary's Meals Backpacks

Children in Primary 1 – 3 ran an enterprise project to fill backpacks for the Mary's Meals charity. Items in the backpacks included a notebook, pencil, sharpener, rubber, ball, spoon, flip flops and clothes. The backpacks are given to children receiving Mary's meals so they have the basic essentials when they go to school. 1,230, 171 children who need it, receive a daily meal in a



place of education through the Mary's Meals charity.

Beetle Drive

Parent Council organised a successful Beetle Drive in school on 6th October.

Hamewith Concert and Doric Fortnight

All children learned a doric poem and recited it to family members at our Macmillan Coffee morning. Several children went on to take part in the Hamewith Concert at Alford Heritage Centre. They included fiddle players; Fionn, Kailey, Emma and Daniel. Seth played the chanter and Campbel and Shannan recited poems.



Harvest Thanksgiving Assembly

We celebrated Harvest at our final Assembly of Term 1. Children brought goods for the harvest table which were donated to the Banchory Branch of the Aberdeenshire Foodbank.

Forthcoming Events:

Saturday 18th November, 10.00am– Craft Fair, Midmar Hall

Friday 24th November, 6.45pm – Family Ceilidh, Midmar Hall

Monday 11th December, 6.30pm – Concert, Midmar Hall

Midmar 2017 Hogmanay Community Party

Sunday 31st December 2017

Midmar Hall

7.30pm – 2am'ish

**Disco by Road Runner Ents
Live Music & Ceilidh Dancing**

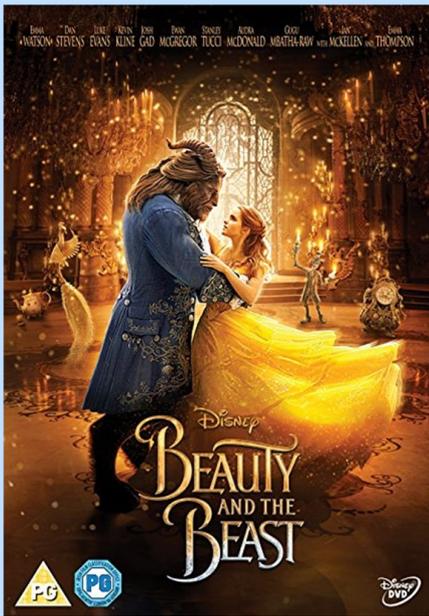
**Bring your children!
Bring your own bottles!
Bring your own snacks!**

**Adult £5 / Child* £2
Tickets on sale NOW from**

**Lana Howitt
lanahowitt@outlook.com**

**Duncan Sewell
duncandfrank@dsl.pipex.com
07986 455767**

**Any profits will be donated to Midmar Hall
* primary age and under / entry by ticket only**



Midmar's Christmas Movie

Beauty & the Beast

Sunday 3 December

3pm

Midmar Hall

Come & join us
(& join in, singing will
be encouraged!)

Bring your own snacks.
Tea, coffee & ice lollies provided

Under 5's Group

The Midmar Under Fives are looking forward to their **Christmas Party on Friday 22 December 9.30-11.30am**. If you intend coming along it would be great if you could let us know if you are coming and your wee ones name and age as Santa can then get them an appropriate present! There will be party games, activities and food so please come and join us for some festive fun.

The dates for our sessions next year are:

Jan 26, Feb 23, Mar 23, Apr 27, May 25, Jun 22

Aug 24, Sep 21, Oct 26, Nov 23, Dec 21

Finally, the Committee members are always pleased to see new faces but it would be great if we could get a few more people actively involved in helping run the group, mainly our Friday sessions which only run once a month. The mums who have run the group for a while now will not always be there once their wee ones are over five so we would appreciate some assistance to help keep it going. We would also like to hear if you have any suggestions for the Midmar Under Fives.

If you would like to speak to any of us please just get in touch we would love to hear from you. Contact Lesley, Pammy or Lynn on 07739350129.



AUCHORRIE FRESH FARM TURKEYS

For Christmas or New Year

TEL. 01330 833686 or
TEL. 01330 833461



Boxing Day Walk Starting at 10am Midmar Hall

Come along for what will hopefully be a crisp winter's walk. The walk typically last 1.5 to 2 hours max and is a lovely loop around the immediate surrounding area taking in Comers and finishing with a gentle walk up the brae past school to the hall for mince pies and refreshments.

Feel free to just turn up on the day but a quick message to Rob Ferguson would help with catering, any donations of pies greatly received.



Rob Ferguson—
rob.ferguson@aiexps.co.uk



We are delighted to announce that Midmar Community Hall
now has WiFi.

Thanks to the team at Wifab, you can now keep up to date with
all your social media without eating into your data!

Just click on "Wifab Internet" and enter the password
(available at the bar)

Feel free to make a small donation to help with the cost.



3G & 4G FAST rural Internet to share

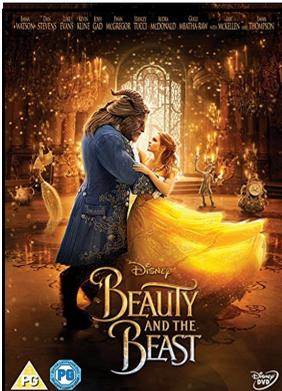
Our 3G & 4G Internet system allows you to share your FAST Internet connection with multiple users. Watch movies, play games online and download large files quickly. Our FAST Internet is no different to a broadband system from any of the leading broadband providers other than we use the very latest 3G or 4G networks with speeds up to and exceeding 30 Mbps.

For more Information contact

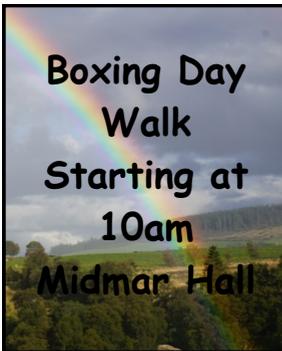
Wifabinternet@gmail.com Tel: 07585604723

<http://wifab.net>

Midmar events



3rd Dec 3pm



Day	Activity	Venue
Monday	Stitch & Mix	Midmar Hall
	Book Club (Last Monday of the month)	Various
	Circuits	Midmar Hall
Tuesday	After School Club	Midmar Hall
	Upholstery Classes	The Little
	Bowling (October through to March)	Midmar Hall
Wednesday	After School Club	Midmar Hall
	Circuits	Midmar Hall
	SWRI (2nd Wednesday of the month)	Midmar Hall
	Whist (4th Wednesday of the month)	Millbank Bowling Club Hut
Thursday	Mobile Library (fortnightly)	Hall car park
	Upholstery Classes	The Little
	After School Club	Midmar Hall
	Rhythm Box music lesson	Midmar Hall
	Community Cafe (1st Friday of the month)	Midmar Hall
Friday	Under 5's (Once a month)	Midmar Hall
	NEW Pub Night	Midmar Hall

Tree Burning 6th January 4.30pm
Midmar Hall
 Bring your tree, your leftover mince pies and **BYOB...**
 We can all start our diets on the 7th....

s at a glance

Event	Time	Further Information
Ball	12pm - 2pm	Frances Millward Frankie19701@live.co.uk
	8pm - 10pm	Alistair McRobb 833715
Ball	7.30pm - 8.30pm	Duncan Sinclair 07872336309
School	3.15pm - 6pm	MASC - 07856732341
Byre	7pm - 9pm	Kay Hourston 833515
Ball	7.15pm - 9.15pm	Alan Blackie 833482
School	3.15pm - 6pm	MASC - 07856732341
Ball	7.30pm - 8.30pm	Duncan Sinclair 07872336309
Ball	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Judith Stokoe 833719
Bowling	7.30pm - 10pm	Isabel Birse 833209
Market	9.45am - 10am	
Byre	10.30am-12.30pm & 1pm - 3pm	Kay Hourston 833515
School	3.15pm - 6pm	MASC - 07856732341
Ball	3.30pm - 7pm	info@therythmbox.co.uk Tel:01467 642026
Ball	10am - 12pm	
Ball	9.30am - 11.30am	Next dates: 26 Jan, 23 Feb, 23 March
Ball	6pm - 11pm	1st Friday of the month

You can find more information on our website at Midmarhall.com



Burns Supper
20th January
2018
 Fantastic local entertainment
 Doors open
7pm



Jan 26th, Feb
23rd, March 23rd

Midmar 2017 Hogmanay Community Party

Cluny, Midmar and Monymusk Community Council

Regular meetings have been held by the Community Council in August , October and then the AGM is on the 23rd of November at Monymusk Village Hall. The A.G.M. will commence at 7pm. The Community Council are still proceeding with action at Mill of Lyne and also the Quarry Wood Traveller site application. Successful progress has been made with the speed limit outside Cluny School. This is now reduced to 40 m.p.h. and then eventually should reduce to 30m.p.h. Many thanks to Councillor Iris Walker. At the meeting held on the 12th of October Piers Blaxter and Anne Reid gave a presentation on the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan Consultation. Councillor Iris Walker is currently pursuing who owns the Sauchen recycling area and hopes to install a "NO Overnight Parking" sign. Anyone with local problems or queries is welcome to attend meetings. Midmar Community Councillors are Richard Fyffe tel. 01330 833295 and Judith Stokoe tel. 01330 833719

Midmar S.W.I.

Well here we are with the nights drawing in and Christmas looming. We had an extremely interesting evening in September when Shirley Armstrong from Banchory gave a talk on her allotment and also brought some produce. The black potatoes were of great interest. A slight change of plan then followed when our evening in October was a cosy "get together" complete with exciting food samples. Our 90th birthday celebrations are to be a luncheon held at Maryculter House Hotel on the 16th of November so it's out with the glad rags again!. Mrs Anne Stephen from Lyne of Skene Institute is to give a Christmas Craft "hands on" demo on 6th of December and then on 10th of January 2018 Alistair McRobb is to give a talk on "When I was a Nipper". February 14th is Taste and Try evening and March 14th is a talk by Ian Lord on the Dolphin statues in and around Aberdeen. Everyone is welcome to attend any meeting. Contact Mrs



Michelle Paterson 01330 833490 or Mrs Judith Stokoe 01330 833719.

61 years old and still tick-tocking!

You may have noticed that the clock which has hung above the stage in the hall for very many years is now back in its rightful place.

The information on how it was wound up seemed to have got lost in the mists of time and its poor hands remained stationary, unable to remind revellers when it was time to go home!

However, we are very lucky that Philip Carry and his family of Jamieson and Carry who made the clock in 1956, have come to live in Midmar. Philip was delighted to see it and has checked it over and given it a spruce up, all with his compliments. (to our embarrassment, Philip discovered that, at some stage in its life, it had been converted to battery operated and all it needed was a new battery!)



Thank you Philip and a warm welcome to you and Suzanne and the children. We hope you will be very happy in Midmar. The inscription on the clock says it was presented to the Hall by Midmar W.R.I. in 1956.



We don't know what the occasion was, but please do get in touch if you can help us determine its provenance.

Anyway, it's now back in its rightful place looking benevolently down on us. A familiar face!

Garioch Blend

Garioch Blend, Bill Gray and Eddie Rose, this was again a very successful event with a "packed house", the eighth year and it's as popular as ever.

Thanks go to all the helpers before, during and after the event. Bert, Colin, Marie and family, Judy, Marion, Kerry and Sarah.

My special thanks to the various businesses who donated meal vouchers etc for our huge raffle and ticket number prizes.

A fantastic sum of £1030 was credited to the hall funds.

Isabel Birse.



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A walk on the white side

'E venuta la neve'. Eric Newby .(Translated from the Italian dialect- the snow has come).
(See below*)

At this time of year- late November, in Northern Scotland, it is not unusual to experience the first snowfall. It is preceded by a chill northerly wind, which penetrates the densest layers of clothing, as one ventures outside. This first snowfall, typically, descends slowly, silently, at dusk, obscuring window panes, and gradually blanketing the ground with a layer of the purest white.

Daybreak reveals a transformed world, with trees resplendent with shimmering crystals, which dissolve when the sun touches their branches. Before man is abroad, with snow ploughs, and other ear challenging machines, peace reigns; interrupted only by the almost imperceptible twittering of tiny birds, as they wake to face the harsh reality of the day. At this time of year, natural fodder is in short supply- a few berries remain on shrub and tree, and birds welcome supplements to their diet- indeed they may not survive without.



The snowy season, although beautiful, is a harsh time for them. The robin, less timid than its contemporaries, is fairly persistent in its demands. Its larger predatory counterparts, buzzards, magpies and crows, are not slow to seize carrion or other vulnerable creatures in their quest for survival.

Venturing outside into this white world, foot-falls crunching on the snowy terrain, all is quiet, but the shrill cries of wild geese prompt an upward glance into the morning sky- smeared with pink mackerel clouds. On the track human and animal imprints can be seen. Deer and rabbit have already made their mark, and within the local wood tracks of badger and pheasant are also in evidence. Before the sun's rays melt the crystalline forms of flakes on leaf, stem and branch, snow and ice reveal their amazing patterns.

The early silence is punctuated by noise as humans go about their chores – fetching in wood, starting the day. The chattering of children can be heard in the distance, as they drag their sledges up the hillside. Within the house, it is time to turn up the heating, put logs on to the fire, and soup on the stove. T'was ever thus?

In the words of Henry Davis Thoreau, 'Nature is full of genius, full of the divinity; so that not a snowflake escapes its fashioning hand'.

Faith Mackenzie November 2017

*This quotation is taken from Eric Newby's book , 'Love and War in the Appenines'. It is a poignant tale of life as an escaped prisoner of war, seeking shelter among Italian partisans. When winter arrived, with the inevitable snowfall, the prospect of which he viewed with dread, his imprints in the snow would lead those who sought to re- capture him to his hiding place. And so it happened.

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DOUNESIDE HOUSE

ROYAL DEESIDE

Set in the stunning Aberdeenshire countryside and reflecting the beautiful surroundings of Douneside House, the Douneside restaurant is now open to non-residents. Chef Butters and his team have created a range of menus including lunch, afternoon tea, and the option of a 3 course or 6 course dinner menu.



www.dounesidehouse.co.uk

An advanced reservation is required, to book email manager@dounesidehouse.co.uk or call 013398 81230

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Newsletter Info

For any comments and queries regarding articles within the newsletter, please contact the writer as the Hall Committee does not take responsibility for content and accuracy of articles.

Closing date for submissions to the Spring newsletter is the February 15th 2018. This covers events Mar, Apr, May.

Please email Amanda at midmar.newsletter@hotmail.co.uk.
Thank you, Amanda

Inverurie Physiotherapy and Podiatry Clinic

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facebook®

We're also have our website:
<http://www.midmarhall.com>

Our website is always up to date on events and what's on.

You can also download extra copies of the newsletter.

Through the website you can contact us with any questions you might have about the hall, its use, hiring it etc.

We look forward to hearing from you.



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If you would like to sponsor the newsletter prices are:

£10 for a business card size

£30 for a half page (landscape)

£60 for a whole page in colour (portrait)

Please email Amanda

Midmar.newsletter@hotmail.co.uk

The newsletter is non-profit making and is distributed to 230 homes throughout Midmar as well as being published on the Midmar Hall website Midmarhall.com

Hall for hire

Party timeShow time.....Tea time.....Meeting room

Midmar Public Hall is available to hire....

Rates - £40 for half a day
- £75 for evening hire
- £500 for weekend hire



User group rates - £10 per hour for regular user groups meeting a minimum of once a month.

Deposit - a discretionary deposit of £250 is requested for some evening functions.

Facilities - Aside from the main hall & loos there is an upstairs meeting room, back stage room and kitchen. We can offer a projector and screen in the main hall and the piano is available to musicians on request.



Bookings - call Mairi Black on - 01330 833371
or email her at - mairiblack@hotmail.co.uk

