

Midmar Newsletter

Published by
Midmar Hall Committee
Winter Edition
Issue 16 December 2014



Dear fellow residents,

Over the course of the last few months there have been a number of programmes, on both radio and television, commemorating the hundredth anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War. Among these have been dramas concentrating on life in the trenches, nursing at the front and issues relating to conscientious objection. Some have been better than others. Personally speaking, the programme which moved me most was on the radio. It consisted of extracts from letters and diaries written by serving soldiers. Not only did they write about life at the front, they also wrote about their hopes for the future and the brave new world they sought to create.

Recently I have given some thought to aspects of the Great War and how things have changed since then. One hundred years is a long time, yet within the lifespan of a growing number of people. What, I wonder, would those who perished make of the world that we now inhabit? Not in terms of technology and invention but with regard to issues such as war and peace, discrimination and equality. Would they think that we have done our bit to help create a better world?

One thing is for sure. They would undoubtedly still recognise the city, town or village that they left behind. No doubt the landscape will have changed during the course of a hundred years. Some buildings having been replaced by newer models, roads now winding their way through former fields and settlements and a plethora of windmills, radio masts and satellite dishes catching the eye from every direction.

Yet much remains and would be instantly recognisable. Among the buildings which have stood the test of time here in Midmar is the village hall. Through the years its appearance has been altered by a number of extensions and improvements. Yet I am certain that those who celebrated its opening over a hundred years ago would recognise it still. Throughout its long history countless individuals have served as committee members and we should rejoice at the years they gave to the hall and the community. Their efforts are our legacy.

Times change but some things are constant. Within our community the hall has stood the test of time. From the beginning its doors have been open to everyone whatever their age, gender or background. With your help and support the present hall committee will do their utmost to ensure that legacy continues to be nurtured.

Alistair McRobb , Hall Chairman

MIDMAR SHEET MOVIES

ARE PROUD TO PRESENT...

PATRICK SWAYZE · JENNIFER GREY

Dirty Dancing

*First dance:
First love:
The time of your life.*



Saturday 10 January

8pm

Cert 12A

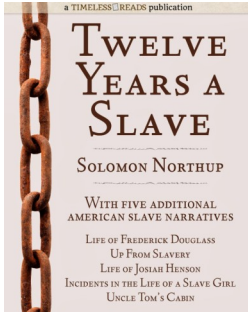
(sing along encouraged, bring
your own hairbrush/
microphone)

MIDMAR HALL

DOORS OPEN 20 MINUTES PRIOR TO PERFORMANCE

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

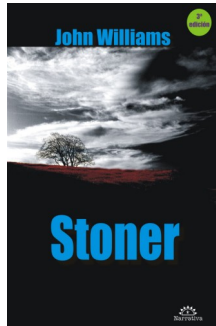
Midmar Book Club



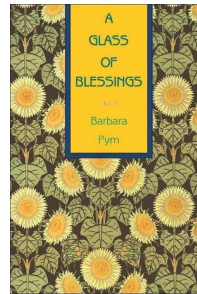
January's book:
Twelve Years a Slave
Solomon Northup



February's book:
The Garden of Evening Mist
Tan Twan Eng



March's book:
Stoner
John Williams



Your contact for the book group is
Alistair McRobb 833715

April's book:
A Glass of Blessings
Barbara Pym

Puppies are back!

I thought we hadn't had a photo for ages so here you go, the latest Midmar puppy.
She's a gorgeous black Labrador retriever called Nell.

Not sure about Nina Bidwell trying to keep up with the Paris Hiltons of this world with her 'dog in a bag'; not quite the same darling in canvas and not Gucci!

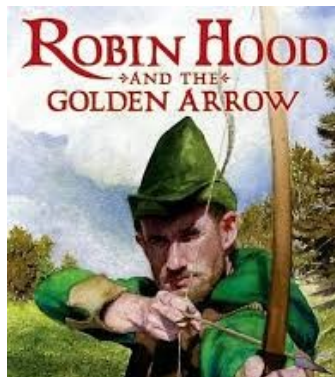
I do like the idea you've borrowed a cute child (aka Alfie Wade) to finish the whole celebrity lifestyle, albeit Midmar style!





The Midmar Players are just getting started on their next production which will be **'Robin Hood'**.

With a cast of almost 30 people with an age range of 7 – 70! Rehearsals are underway and will continue twice per week until show time! Not only do we have a great script, but also some wonderful music including adaptations of songs from Bonnie Tyler and Eric Clapton!! – Yes, only in Midmar!!



The show dates for next year are as follows:

Thursday 19th March at 7.30pm

Friday 20th March at 7.30pm

Saturday 21st March at 4pm

Be prepared to have a great laugh, sing-along and perhaps even join in!!.

Get your tickets from Jenny Begg (01330 833474) in the New Year. Look forward to seeing you there!

Fleeman are back!

If you are feeling a bit down after Christmas and New Year don't despair, Fleeman Productions are returning to Midmar Hall on Wednesday 28th of January with Dee'in Fine.

Fleeman present an evening of irreverent humour, romping through St Nicholas Kirkyard and an unnamed Aberdeen Hospice. In "Nicht Shades" (a runner-up in the Barron prize for Doric Drama) you will be laughing and singing along with some ghostly Doric Characters. This one-act play has been adapted from the Pageant, written by Sheena Blackhall and Les Wheeler. The comedy continues with Charles Barron's "Not With a Whimper". A hilarious evening of Dark Doric Comedy.

For tickets please contact Judy Stokoe 01330 833719 or Amanda Liddiard 01330 833543

MIDMAR SHEET MOVIES

ARE PROUD TO PRESENT...



Midmar Sheet Movies
is delighted that
Deeside Drinks Emporium
are hosting a
5 dram whisky tasting on
Saturday 28 February
7-8pm
Midmar Hall

Followed by

The Angels' Share
8.30pm
Cert 15
(expect some colourful
language)

Come and join us for whisky, movie or both!

Donations of £12.50 are kindly requested towards whisky tasting.

MIDMAR HALL

DOORS OPEN 20 MINUTES PRIOR TO PERFORMANCE

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE



Midmar Parish Church of Scotland

I would like to introduce myself. I am Elspeth McKay and I am the new Minister at Midmar Parish Church. I will have met some of you, but not others, but if you do see me about please do introduce yourself as I am keen to meet as many people as possible! I am new to the area but have been living in Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire for some sixteen years. Latterly we lived in Aberdeen, in Bucksburn, right by the airport. But

our own house is in a village called Forgue which is about seven miles from Huntly – so I am used to living in the country. I have moved here with my husband, David who works at the University of Aberdeen and our son William who is 9 years old (nearly 10) who has just started at Echt School. We also have a dog (well I collect him tomorrow) who is a black Labrador called Snipe, a cat called Astrid, two rabbits who are Augustine and Benedict and we are soon to be joined by two ducks, called Moby Duck and White Duck. So it is a very busy household!

Christmas services this year will be following more or less the familiar pattern. However, the Family Christmas Eve service will be slightly different. This year we are having a Christingle Service for all the family. What is a Christingle? A Christingle is an orange which is decorated with a red ribbon, cocktail sticks, raisins and sweets with a candle in the middle. Each of these has a special meaning, pointing to an important truth about Christ. The candle represents Christ as the light of the world, the orange is the world, the ribbon is tied around the orange to symbolize God's love for everyone, the raisins represent God's creation and the sweets the numerous blessings that we receive from God. We will make the Christingles at the service, and there will be traditional carols sung. It is a fun service – suitable for children and adults alike, all are very welcome.



Please do, if you can, join us for some of the Christmas services. There is something for everyone. There will be the familiar carols and maybe some new ones too. I might even be tempted to bring along Clopper the Christmas Donkey who can tell you all about the first Christmas from the view of the Donkey, that's if the greedy boy hasn't eaten too many carrots by then!

Elspeth McKay

elspethmckay@me.com 01330 860004

Newsletter Cover Winner

Thanks goes to Alan Blackie for his photograph of winters past. What a sight Jenny Begg must have seen when she opened her front door that day. Taken in 1984, that's Jenny in the orange trousers with Martin and Lisa beside her. Trapped for 3 days before the council came to the rescue and dug them out! Thankfully the trees across the road have grown and give some protection to the road now....we'll see this winter!



Sunday 7th	Morning Worship	Midmar Church	10.15 a.m.
Sunday 7th	Christmas Tree Competition for family and friends	Midmar Church	6.30p.m.
Sunday 14 th	Morning Worship	Midmar Church	10.15 a.m.
Sunday 21 st	Morning worship	Midmar Church	10.15 a.m.
Wednesday 24 th	Family Christmas Eve ChristingleService	Mid-marChurch	4.00pm
Wednesday 24 th Christmas Eve Watch Night Service	Doors open	10.45p.m.	Echt Church
	Carol singing	From 11.00p.m.	
	Service	11.30p.m.- 12.15 a.m.	
Thursday 25 th	Christmas Day Worship	Midmar Church	10.15 a.m.
Sunday 28 th	Family Worship	Midmar Church	10.15 a.m.

Hall garden news

We abandoned my original idea to plant bulbs during the first weekend of October.

Luckily I was able to recruit some young helpers during the October school break.

So, the good news is that all the daffodil bulbs are now back in the ground.

But - it'll be interesting to see where they come up!

The few adults who I had managed to press-gang at short notice, frantically tried to weed ahead of our enthusiastic helpers, who had ideas of their own.

The display of colour next spring might be more random than we've been used to.....



Thanks to Saskia, Maia, Eva and Samuel Dowell; Mairi Black; Kirsty Macmillan and the Humberstone kids.

A plan of action will be drawn up for next May/June. Watch this space, you may be required!!

Jackie

Midmar School News

Sponsored Walk



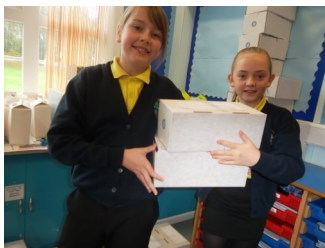
Children in Primary 1-7 took part in a sponsored walk on Wednesday 1 October 2014. Primary 4-7 walked approximately five miles through Corsindae Estate to Comers and back to school. Thank you to Richard Fyfe and John Esslemont who allowed us to go through their land. Primary 1-3 walked two miles, down the Glen and round the football pitch. A total of £1051.50 was raised for a new piece of playground equipment.

Rights Respecting School

Midmar School has been awarded Level 1 Rights respecting School status. This award takes account of our work related to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Floodlights

The Parent Council project to install floodlights on the football pitch is nearly complete, with the internal hook up work being completed in the October break. The floodlights will allow use of the football pitch for training during the dark nights of winter.



Rotakids Group

Our Rotakids Group have organised a shoebox appeal to fill shoeboxes which the Rotary then send to families in Eastern Europe. So far this year 28 boxes have been filled.

Harvest Festival

Families generously donated dried and tinned goods for our harvest table. The goods were gratefully received by Aberdeen Cyrenians.

Charity Donations

Each year we choose two charities to support; one local and one abroad. Money raised at Community Cafes, Open Afternoons and stalls at the Under 5s Craft Fair and Church Coffee Morning realised a total of £397.89. We have donated £247.89 to the Archie Foundations and £150 to Smile Train. Smile Train is a charity which organises cleft pallet surgery for children in Asia whose families cannot afford it.



Forthcoming Events

Monday 8 December, Christmas Concert, 6.30pm Midmar Hall

Clachan Yell

Midmar Hall - 27th March 2015

Midmar Under Fives have organised the fantastic ceilidh band Clachan Yell to play at Midmar Hall as a fundraiser for the group. There will be a bar and stovies.

Tickets will be on sale from the 2nd February available from
Laura Wade on 07973770814 or 01330 833810
Laurawade78@yahoo.co.uk

Save the date in your diary for what will be a great fun night, and look out for ticket sales advertised around the village and on Facebook as they are sure to go very fast.

Last year SOLD OUT!

Caretaker Vacancy

We are trying to recruit a caretaker for the school.

The position would include opening and closing the school during lets and gritting during ice and snow. If you are interested, please contact Midmar School

**01330
833244
for more
details.**



Scoop Your Poop!

I said I would never put a poop article in the newsletter but here goes...

Over the past few weeks the school have had to clear up dog mess from the playground and around the outside paved areas of the school.

I'm sure you'll agree we don't want our kids stepping in it or teachers having to clear it up so please keep an eye on your dogs and pick up their mess. Thank you

Celebrate Hogmanay as a Community

Midmar 2014 Hogmanay Community Party

**on
Wednesday 31st December 2014
at**

**Midmar Hall
7.30pm – 2am'ish**

Disco by Road Runner Entertainments

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

**Adult Ticket £5
Primary School Children and under £2
(includes Soup, Butteries/Hot Dog)**

All profits go to Midmar Hall

**Tickets available from 1st November 2014
please call**

Donna Miller 01330 833996 / 07801 815383

Thursday 26th February
Midmar Village Hall at 7.30pm

ABERDEEN
OPERA
COMPANY
presents

Dolly

MIXTURE

*An evening
of the music of*
Dolly
Parton

'Dolly Mixture' is a celebration of all things Dolly. We can probably all name at least one of Dolly Parton's hits but do you know how many other songs are written or inspired by her music?

'Dolly Mixture' features songs by a diverse range of artists; from Kenny Rogers to Whitney Houston and The Bee Gees to Miley Cyrus; from old favourites to less well known treasures, the performance promises to have something for everyone.

Tickets £8 available locally from:
Barbara Harrison - 01330 860421

Aberdeen Opera Company will present Dolly Parton's '9 to 5: The Musical' at His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen from Wednesday 1st July - Saturday 4th July 2015. Tickets will be available at each performance of 'Dolly Mixture' or Aberdeen Box Office - 01224 641 122 and www.boxofficeaberdeen.com

School Xmas Concert
8th December
6.30pm

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

Midmar even

Boxing Day Village Walk 10 am
See 'Walk up an Appetite' for more details

Hogmanay Community Party
7.30pm til 2ish
Midmar Hall

PATRICK SWAYZE · JENNIFER GREY



10 Jan
8pm
Midmar Hall

Burns Supper
17th Jan
Midmar Hall
6.30pm



Fleeman Presents
Dee'in Fine
28th Jan

Day	Activity	Venue
Monday	Rising 5's (for our pre-school children)	Midmar S
	Book Club (Last Monday of the month)	Various
Tuesday	Playgroup	Midmar H
	Toddlers	Midmar H
	After School Club	Midmar S
	Upholstery Classes	The Little
	Bowling (October through to March)	Midmar H
Wednesday	After School Club	Midmar S
	Brownies	Midmar H
	SWRI (2nd Wednesday of the month)	Midmar H
	Whist (4th Wednesday of the month)	Millbank B Club Hut
	Playgroup	Midmar H
Thursday	Mobile Library (fortnightly)	Hall car p
	Fitness Class	Midmar H
	Upholstery Classes	The Little
	After School Club	Midmar S
Friday	Community Cafe (1st Friday of the month)	Midmar H



27th
March
2015



Events at a glance



Event	Time	Further Information
School	10am -12pm	Barbara Harrison 860421
	8pm -10pm	Alistair McRobb 833715
Hall	9.30am -11.30am	Pamela Black 833682
Hall	9.30am -11.30am	Laura Wade 833810
School	3.15pm - 6pm	MASC - 07856732341
Byre	7pm - 9pm	Kay Hourston 833515
Hall	7.15pm - 9.15pm	Alan Blackie 833482
School	3.15pm - 6pm	MASC - 07856732341
Hall	6pm -7.30pm	Colleen Moir 833680
Hall	7.30pm -9.30pm	Judith Stokoe 833719
Bowling	7.30pm -10pm	Isabel Birse 833209
Hall	9.30am -11.30am	Pamela Black 833682
Park	9.45am - 10am	
Hall	9.45am - 10.45am	Angie Barclay 07796076445
Byre	10.30am-12.30pm & 1pm - 3pm	Kay Hourston 833515
School	3.15pm - 6pm	MASC - 07856732341
Hall	10am - 12pm	Next dates : 5th Dec, 2nd Jan



Cluny & Midmar Senior Citizens Committee

Annual Concert

Bert and Isabel are delighted once again to report that this event was a "sell out" on Sunday afternoon 19th October.

The entertainers were Charlie Esson with his popular band Garioch Blend along with Hector Riddell and Eddie Rose, they very quickly had the audience tapping their feet, clapping their hands and laughing at the great music, singing and endless stories from Eddie.

We were again very fortunate to have many excellent prizes gifted from local companies, the £50.00 meal voucher from Strathburn Hotel which was for the lucky ticket number was won by Bob Simpson, Westhill.

Thankyou to all the willing smiling helpers who were door-keepers, raffle sellers and tea hostesses.

A grand sum of £988.00 was handed over to the Midmar Hall Funds.

A truly wonderful afternoon.

Yes we are doing it again -----Sunday 18th October 2015 Committee members are Isabel Birse 833209, Margaret Matthews 833454, John Milne 833574, Margaret Ogston 01339883572, Gordon Ross 833591.

Midmar S.W.R.I.



The session for 2014/2015 is now well under way. There was a slight hiccup in October as our speaker, Ellis Milton, was unable to attend due to a bereavement. However, help was at hand in the shape of Wendy Stewart who switched from November. Wendy is a psychiatric nurse at Cornhill Hospital and gave an in depth discussion regarding anxiety,

depression and Dementia. Wendy also provided helpful brochures and contacts. Ellis Milton is to give a slide show in November and this is followed by our Christmas Lunch at the Tor-Na-Coille hotel at Banchory. January 14th 2015 is members night and then February 11th is a "Taste and Try " evening. The Scottish SPCA are giving a talk on March 11th and we have been warned to bring plenty of tissues. Everyone is very welcome to attend meetings which are normally on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Further information can be obtained from Judith Stokoe tel: 01330 833719 or Michelle Paterson tel: 01330 833490.

Cluny, Midmar and Monymusk Community Council.

The next meeting of the Community Council is on December 4th at Midmar Hall commencing at 7.00pm. Unfortunately, the AGM and Election was unable to be held in October so it is hoped to incorporate these in with the December meeting. Anyone is welcome to attend meetings and can raise any queries or issues regarding local issues

Midmar Community Councillors are Richard Fyfe tel.01330 833295 and Judith Stokoe 01330 833719.

Burns Supper

Saturday 17th January

6.30pm for 7pm start



There will be a host of local talent taking part in this most traditional Scottish evening.

Your host for the evening will be Alistair McRobb with local speakers and entertainers, and our own 'resident' piper, Ally Black

Menu

Haggis, Neaps and Tatties

Trifle

Coffee and Shortbread

(vegetarian option - available by pre-order only)



Tickets £15 (includes toast drink)

Please phone Amanda 01330 833543 or 07980 736499

Last year's event sold out!



Walk up an Appetite (13) on Boxing Day



The Boxing Day walk last year was great fun, please come along and join us again this year if you can, I suggest we take a similar route but walk around in the other direction and extend the loop to return via Kebbatty. The hall will be open when we get back at midday for Mince Pies, Mulled wine and other Christmas nibbles, donations to cover the cost welcome on the day.

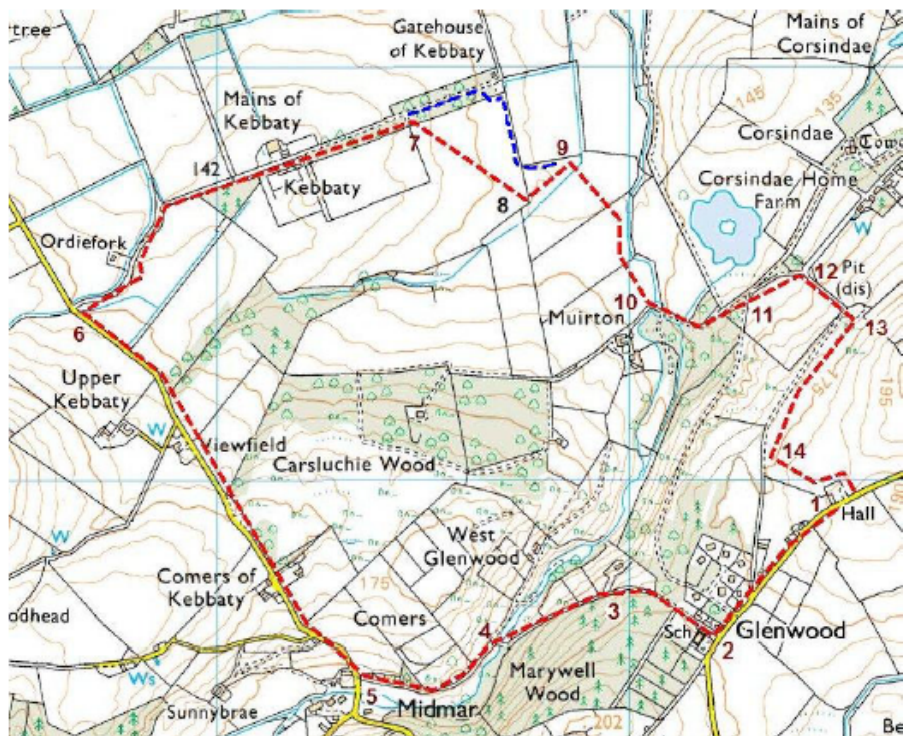
As last year, we will meet by the hall ready, to set off around 10:00 am on 26th December (that's a Friday). If you can, please let me (Rob Ferguson) know in advance if you are planning to come so we have an idea how many Mince Pies to get or just bring your own!

Tel 0130 830038 or eMail rob.ferguson@alexps.co.uk

This walk starts at Midmar Hall so there is ample space to park or leave bikes; for people living along the route, you can easily join the path anywhere. Most of the route uses existing paths, tracks and roads but everyone in your group should have reasonable mobility because there is some rough ground and a wall to be crossed.

The length of the walk is 3.5 miles so it will probably take about 2 hours to complete.

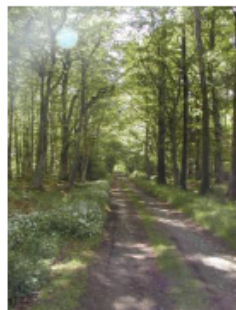
- 1) To start, head right (SW) out of the Hall car park downhill, on the metalled road towards Glenwood.



- 2) Just before Midmar school turn right (NW) passing the school playing field on your left.
- 3) As you leave the metalled surface the route first becomes a track then a path, follow the route left and downhill to cross the Comers Burn in the valley via a foot bridge.



- 4) On the north side of the burn turn left (SW) and walk on the metalled road to the junction opposite the old Comers shop and new sign board.
- 5) At the junction by the bridge in Comers turn right (NW) to walk up hill out of Comers and continue for about 0.75 mile, past the site of the old snow plough station by Carsluchie Wood, Viewfield and Upper Kebbaty.
- 6) The turn right (ENE) off the metalled road, this vehicle track is clearly shown by house signs for both Ordiefork and Kebbaty. Follow this track for another 0.5 mile.
- 7) Shortly after passing Kebbaty Mains and Manse the trees on both sides of the vehicle track become similar depth. On your right you will come up to a broad field entrance, take this to walk into the field on your right (S) and then walk SE, diagonally across the field, heading towards the far corner. This route is fine in Autumn and Winter when the field is not growing a crop.



In late Spring and Summer I suggest you take the alternative route shown in blue dashes on the map. For this, just continue on the vehicle track until just before the gatehouse where you turn right (SE) into the trees to enter the field and follow the edge as far as the point you can conveniently cross the low wall into the meadow.

- 8) At the field corner cross there is a short stretch of rough ground and a field gate that leads into the meadow land by the drainage ditch on the north side. Pass through the gate and to cross the ditch, follow this NE till you reach a point where it is covered. There is usually livestock in this meadow all year so ensure dogs are on their leads.
- 9) Turn right to cross the ditch towards a break in the low wall and the path along the west side of the Comers Burn.
- 10) Pass through the farm gate and turn left (SE) to cross the burn on the concrete bridge.
- 11) At the "cross roads" follow the main vehicle track ahead walking slightly up slope.
- 12) Around the next bend there is a wooden farm gate to your right at the entrance to a grassy avenue known as "Green Lane". Pass through the gate to walk more steeply uphill now, heading SE.
- 13) At the top of Green Lane pass through another wooden gate and turn right (SW) to follow the vehicle track in the grass along the fence boundary. Again this field often has livestock in it and because of the curve of the hill they are often hidden from view so keep dogs on their leads until you are sure the field is not in use.
- 14) Staying inside the field boundary, turn left (SE) to walk up beside the hall car park fence where there is a metal farm gate to leave the field and by turning right for a few yards you are back at the hall.

The route map is not scaled so take OS Landranger Map 38, with you for additional reference information. The total area is enclosed by Eastings NJ65 to NJ69 and Northings NJ07 to NJ09. Article by Rob Ferguson : if you have comments/feedback on the content, my contact details are Tel 01330 830038 or eMail rob.ferguson@aieps.co.uk.



MIDMAR CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR



FUNDRAISER FOR UNDER FIVES

under fives would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who got involved to make the evening such a ROARING SUCCESS! such a good evening to put everyone into the festive spirit. once again the hall was packed full and stayed that way all night long. most of my christmas shopping is finished now and we hope you can say the same!

Sponsor the newsletter

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)



Support and friendship
for families

Would you like to volunteer for Home-Start Garioch?

Home-Start Garioch is part of a national network that offers friendly, informal support to families with young children.

The daily stresses of bringing up a family can often become overwhelming and as a result parents are exhausted and discouraged, Home-Start can help to alleviate some of the challenges that families face, through regular home-based support from volunteers.

Home-Start depends on committed volunteers who give of their time, energy and experience as parents to support families who are going through difficult times in their lives. Volunteers visit families, who have at least one child under five, in their own homes, for two to three hours a week.

This offer of regular, flexible support can go a long way to helping families get back on their feet. Parents grow in confidence, strengthen bonds with their children, recharge their batteries and regain a sense of the value of themselves as parents.



Home-Start Garioch has been working in the Garioch area since 1995. Our volunteers are the backbone of the service we provide, and we would like to meet anyone who would be interested in finding out more about volunteering for Home-Start. We ask only that you have experience of being a parent and that you are able to commit 2-3 hours a week to support a family. All volunteers must attend a Preparation Course which takes eight to nine mornings spread over a couple of months.

Our next Preparation Course will begin in the spring of 2015. If you are interested in volunteering we would love to hear from you. Please contact us on the details below and we will provide you with more information.

Office – 01467 624801 or email:

mhairi@homestartgarioch.org.uk



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01330 833670

k.milne@live.co.uk

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services; heating upgrades and
maintenance; natural gas, oil and LPG
appliance installation/maintenance; wood
burner installation and bathroom
upgrades.**

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 December newsletter (which covers events December, January & February) is the 17th November 2014.

Please email
[midmar.newsletter
@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:midmar.newsletter@hotmail.co.uk) .
Thank you

www.baileystaxis.co.uk



Baileys taxis

Taxi from your local loon!!!

07533998969

Kemnay
Inverurie

Iain bailey

Info@baileystaxis.co.uk



Find us on:
facebook®

Check out 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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To make an appointment or for more information contact Gaynor on
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