



Midmar Newsletter

Published by
Midmar Hall Committee
Autumn Edition
Issue 31 -Sept 2018

Dear fellow residents,

Neither my wife nor I are what could be termed 'doggie people'.

Neither of us had dogs as youngsters and the only pet our children had as they grew up was a cat. However, both of them now have dogs and consequently we have been called upon to 'dog sit' for several weeks each year. At the moment we are looking after Hector who is a golden retriever.

The thing about dogs, I find, is that they take you out of your comfort zone. Being unused to them I somewhat dread the moment when they arrive and become, for a time, my responsibility. They are so demanding. They have to be fed and walked regularly. Then there is 'playtime', when they want your attention and drop a ball or well loved toy at your feet. Certainly Hector has the muscle power to impose his wants upon you. A nudge from him and you certainly feel it! I can only admire those who would never dream of living without a dog.

Of course there are many other things that can take us out of our comfort zone. Some folk feel awkward and uncomfortable when confronted by a situation that they find daunting. Having to socialise and engage in 'small talk' with strangers at a party or reception. Being asked to participate in an event organised by the local community. Fronting a presentation on behalf of an employer. Or it may be something that takes us somewhere we would rather avoid being. Jury service, a hospital visit or a check up at the dentist. Truth to tell, very few of us enjoy being out of our comfort zone.

As you read this, the work done in the hall toilets should be complete. For years we have coped with rather basic units that were long past their sell by date and which made us feel out of our comfort zone. Hopefully that is now a thing of the past and we should be able to appreciate a greater degree of comfort for many years to come. Time will tell.

Too - ra - loo,

Alistair McRobb , Hall Chairman

Thank you!

Midmar Public Hall Management Committee would like to thank everyone who has enabled the 'spare a penny to spend a penny' loo refurbishment campaign to be such a success.

We are delighted with our new facilities and hope that you will be too.



In particular we would like to thank the MacRobert Trust whose funding award of £10,000 towards the project made everything seem possible.

Midmar Players started the campaign with a gift of £5000 and our community has spent many a penny supporting our events to ensure that we reached our target of £20,000.

Thank you also to the dream team -

Derek J Brown Joinery Limited - 019755 81613

W & M Stuart Limited , plumbing and central heating - 019755 62913

Alan M Emslie, painter, decorator & handyman - 07751 921187

Martin Begg Electrical Services Limited - 019755 63816

who have done a marvellous job and been great to work with.

We are now feeling flushed with pride!



Midmar Sheet Movies will be back this
Winter

Join us to sing-a-long with

The Greatest Showman
Saturday 1st December
6.30 pm
Midmar Hall

Refreshments will be available
BYOB

AUCHARRIE FRESH FARM TURKEYS

For Christmas or New Year

TEL. 01330 833686 or
TEL. 01330 833461



Calling all Midmar area runners and potential runners

The area surrounding Midmar has some excellent terrain for running: beautiful surroundings, quiet roads, abundant wildlife and, if you're feeling fit, some serious inclines to get the heart pumping. I've been running here since I moved to the area sixteen years ago.

In the summer, motivation is never a problem, as it's always a pleasure to get out into the fresh air. When autumn comes though, and it gets cold and damp, it's not always so easy to leave the warmth of the house.

Making a commitment to running with others provides the motivation to keep going when it's not so inviting outside, so I looked into joining a local running club. I discovered that I'd have to drive for at least twenty minutes to run in less suitable surroundings than we enjoy locally.

So, I'd be interested to hear from anyone who would like to form a local running group. The format of the group would depend upon the interests and abilities of the participants: it could be an informal arrangement for setting up ad hoc runs with others; it could be a regular group running slot; it could be a full JogScotland group catering for all abilities.

If you have an interest in getting out in the open air around Midmar to run or jog and keep fit in the company of others, please get in touch with me to discuss the possibilities.

Fraser Fergus

Dryburn, Ordhead

E: fraser.fergus@gmail.com

T: 01330 833653

If you have what it takes to be a treasurer then.....



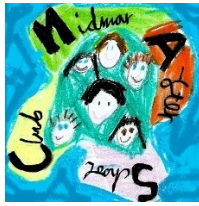
Midmar Public Hall management committee is looking for a new treasurer.

If you would like to join a team of enthusiastic, community spirited neighbours and are able to fulfil the role of treasurer of our organisation we would love to hear from you.

Ideally you would have some experience in preparing accounts and managing financial information or be willing to learn.

It is an exciting and eventful time to be part of the village hall committee, our new loos have been the first in a series of projects that we are currently undertaking to maintain and refurbish our hall so that it is a great venue for a diverse range of entertainments and activities.

Please contact Nina Bidwell if you would like to know more....
ninabidwell@gmail.com



Midmar After School Club After School Club Playworker

required for our rural, committee run after school club.

Hours: 3pm - 6.15pm, 3 sessions per week.

Applicants should hold a suitable qualification at SVQ level 3 or equivalent, or be willing to work towards this. Must be registered with the SSSC or be prepared to do so.

This post is subject to successful PVG scheme registration and disclosure checks.

For all enquiries, please e-mail mascbookings@gmail.com

Closing date for applications 28th Sept 2018.

Community Apple Pressing Day

What are you going to do with this year's bumper crop of apples? We already have a couple of apple presses in the Community and there is a rough Plan to bring everyone together to produce Apple juice and bottle it.

The outline plan is to use the hall, suitably covered with polythene sheet, and get everyone together to produce the best apple juice you've ever tasted. It will be open to all ages as there are jobs for everyone - apple washing, chopping, pressing, pasteurising and bottling. We have all of the equipment required.

Depending upon the level of interest we may need to have a session in the morning and afternoon. More information will be put on Next door and Facebook.

Start saving your screw-top wine bottles for apple juice!

David and Susie Smith
01330 860462



Join us for a 'wee' tea party to celebrate the refurbishment of our loos

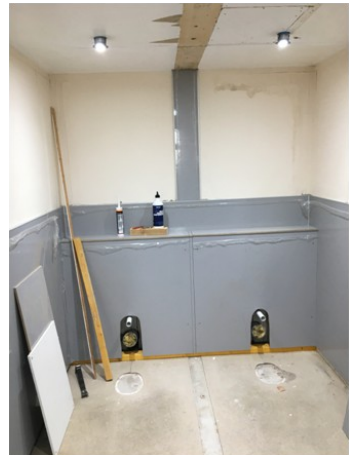
Saturday 29th September
2-4 pm
Midmar Hall
(the place to pee!)

Tea, coffee, juice & a fine piece will be served & we hope you will enjoy the facilities!

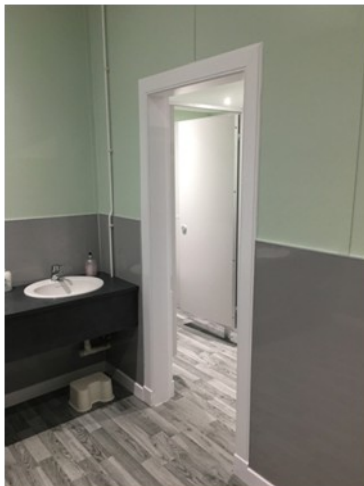
Before....



During.....



And After!





MURDER STRIKES AGAIN IN MIDMAR!

– this time at the Panto

Come and join the drama and mayhem behind the scenes of a truly thrilling pantomime! Midmar Public Hall is once again to be the scene for an evening of fine dining laced with sleuthing, skulduggery, cross-dressing, general silliness and of course.... **murder!**

On Saturday 17th November, 2018 at 7pm, you will watch the shennannigans of the Midmar Players backstage during their annual pantomime. See the plot of Snow White turn red with blood!

A delicious three-course meal with coffee will be served as in previous years by caterers Harry Fraser of Inverurie. The audience will get to know more about the characters in role during arrival drinks and in scenes presented between courses. Led (or misled?!) by a well-known detective each table of eight guests will then be able to question the 'suspects' and deduce who the murderer is.

Tickets are £40 each (proceeds to Midmar Hall) and include a drink on arrival, meal, coffee and a full evening's entertainment. Guests will be seated in tables of 8 and are welcome to bring their own drinks for the meal. Music will be provided throughout the evening and the party may well continue after the show has ended!

Please feel free to dress up as your favourite panto characters!

Tickets are available now from Sarah Kearns on 01330-833638 or sarahkearns50@gmail.com. Don't wait too long!

Your assistance required please!

It wasn't until I was tidying out some paper work that I discovered just quite what an amount of accumulated wealth of information about Midmar I actually have! I have been toying with this idea for some time now and really shouldn't procrastinate any longer and think the time has come for this knowledge to be shared with a wider audience and needs to be out there in the public domain. So here goes.

I suppose I have been collecting information for a lot of years now from the time we had The Millers where we devoted a section to the story of Midmar, oft described as that 'deeply interesting locality'. We were amazed when it came to be the prime reason for some people's visit, lots of whom, locals and visitors both, were so delighted to share their memories with me. And of course, when we celebrated the 111th (don't ask!) anniversary of the opening of the hall, more stories came my way. More recently, I have been on the hunt again because I was hosting a visit of the Cromar History Group. My research took me down so many different routes and deeply interesting just doesn't begin to describe it!

Causal conversations with those now living in the community suggest that there is an appetite for some sort of publication bringing so many strands of information together, and I have decided to do just that. Quite what form it will take I'm not yet sure, but what I do need is your help!

Sometimes all I have to do is ask someone a question and tumbling out comes a story of huge interest! Or somebody might say to me – 'Did you know that'.... And the reply usually is 'well no but do share it with me'....

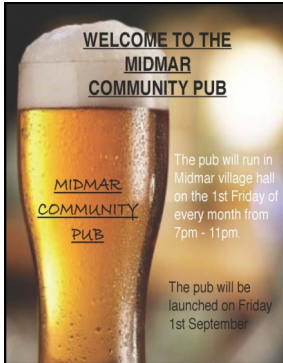
There must be so many stories out there that merit recording for posterity but many of you seem to think they are inconsequential. Not at all. Whether your family has roots going back generations in Midmar or whether you've lived here for not such a long time (in rural terms that might mean 50 years!) please will you share your memories? Some lovely people who lived here and who contributed much to keeping this community alive and well, have now moved on, and I for one, don't want to forget the developments and activities which took place because of their drive and initiative. Place names get forgotten too and it would be great to build up a social history of Midmar which would cover so many aspects.

So I would welcome your input – honestly- your stories, no matter how trivial they may seem to you, are important. If it turns out to be commercially viable, it would be my intention to make a donation to the hall funds for every copy sold.

Marion Miller



Midmar events



1st Friday of the month

Wee Tea Party
29th Sept
2pm
Midmar Hall



Murder Mystery
17th November
7pm Midmar Hall

Day	Activity	Venue
Monday	Book Club (Last Monday of the month)	Various
	Circuits	Midmar Hall
Tuesday	After School Club	Midmar School
	Upholstery Classes	The Little Theatre
	Bowling (October through to March)	Midmar Hall
Wednesday	After School Club	Midmar School
	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 Theatre
	After School Club	Midmar School
	Rhythm Box music lesson	Midmar Hall
	Gym Night	Midmar Hall
Friday	Community Cafe (1st Friday of the month)	Midmar Hall
	Under 5's (Once a month)	Midmar Hall
	Pub Night (1st Friday of the month)	Midmar Hall

St Andrews
Sat, 24th Nov
All age 60 + living
Names to the Cluny &

s at a glance

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

ue	Time	Further Information
	8pm -10pm	Alistair McRobb 833715
all	7.30pm - 8.30pm	Duncan Sinclair 07872336309
chool	3.15pm - 6pm	MASC - 07856732341
Byre	7pm - 9pm	Kay Hourston 833515
all	7.15pm - 9.15pm	Alan Blackie 833482
chool	3.15pm - 6pm	MASC - 07856732341
all	7.30pm - 8.30pm	Duncan Sinclair 07872336309
all	7.30pm -9.30pm	Judith Stokoe 833719
owling	7.30pm -10pm	Isabel Birse 833209
ark	9.45am - 10am	
Byre	10.30am-12.30pm & 1pm - 3pm	Kay Hourston 833515
chool	3.15pm - 6pm	MASC - 07856732341
all	3.30pm - 7pm	info@therythmbox.co.uk Tel:01467 642026
all	5pm - 9pm	Duncan Sinclair 07872 336309 sinclairduncan@hotmail.co.uk
all	10am - 12pm	
all	9.30am - 11.30am	
all	6pm - 11pm	Except September

afternoon meal and entertainment.
 Nov. 1pm, Kemnay Bowling Pavilion.
 g in Midmar & Cluny areas very welcome.
 Midmar Senior Citizens committee by 17th Nov.
 Isabel Birse 01330833209



1st Dec 6.30pm
 Midmar Hall
 Sing a long

**Annual Garioch
 Blend Concert
 with Eddie Rose
 & Bill Gray**

**Sunday 21st
 October
 2pm**

**Tickets available
 from 1st
 September
 Isabel
 01330 833209
 Save the Date!**

**Christmas Craft
 Fair
 10th November
 10am - Noon
 Midmar Hall**

Midmar in late summer

“Study nature, love nature, stay close to nature. It will never fail you”. Frank Lloyd Wright

As we approach the end of a long dry summer the colours in the landscape have become prematurely parched. Normally green, the local meadows now deck themselves in various hues of tan, and ochre.

On the heath the scene is more reminiscent of the Alentejo than Scotland, with sheep seeking shade under the isolated trees.



The vegetation in hedgerows and meadows also reflects the changing season. Thistle heads are wafted by the breeze, and the seeds of Rosebay Willowherb are scattered far and wide, yielding the seeds of new generation. Roadside brambles, and blaaberries will soon



tempt the palates of local ramblers.



This has been an exceptionally good year for fruits; wild cherries and apples; hips and haws are ripening fast- ready for the picking, for those who engage in the more traditional pursuits of bottling, wine making and other forms of preservation.

***“The goldenrod is yellow,
‘The corn is turning brown,
The trees in apple orchards,
With fruit are bending down’. Helen Hunt Jackson***

Whatever the tribulations and unpredictability of the modern world, as I observe the workings of plant life close to home, and further afield, I am reassured and inspired by the constancy and repetition of the Nature’s patterns of birth, growth, death and regeneration, in attune with the Earth’s seasonal rotations.

In the words of Leonardo Da Vinci , ‘Nature is the source of all true knowledge. She has her own logic, her own laws. She has no effect without cause, or intervention without necessity’.

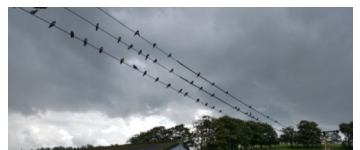
In a similar vein, others may agree that there is much to be learned, even emulated, by mankind, from the observation of manner in which Nature operates, as manifested in the world of plants and their responses to climate change.

Seen from a broader perspective, some may view this enduring spell of dry sunny weather, which has also affected most of Europe , as a ‘one off’. Others are less sanguine, and see it as part of a pattern of climate change- exacerbated by global deforestation, and other human interventionist factors- which could intensify, and get out of hand. Researchers at the Stockholm Resilience Centre emphasize the need for mankind to move from exploitation to stewardship of the earth. Not a bad message in my view, even though many of us may have enjoyed this long hot summer.

Faith Mackenzie

Newsletter Cover Winner

This edition’s cover winner is Isabel Birse, capturing the swallows before they set off to Africa for the winter.



Cluny, Midmar and Monymusk Community Council

The A.G.M. of the Community Council was held in Midmar Hall on the 28th of June 2018. The A.G.M. date has been moved as part of the updated scheme of establishment. The chairman, Richard Fyffe, thanked Sir Archie Grant and Richard Lattimer for their many years of service which amounted to over 60 years between them.

The Community Council are still dealing with the outstanding issue of Mill of Lyne which is still not totally resolved.

A lot of work has been input to Sauchen Place Standards activities which has identified and prioritised the requirements for Sauchen area.

The road bumps between Cluny and Craigearn (due to tree roots) are still on the agenda as well as the path from Sauchen to Cluny school. The drains at Margaret Allan drive continue to be an issue but some advance has been made. More litter/dog bins have been placed together with signs in both Sauchen and Monymusk villages in an effort to reduce dog fouling.

A pop up library is still on the cards for Sauchen as well as a hub/cafe/ meeting place with more discussion needed as to the best situation .

The next meeting of the Community Council is to be on the 20th of September at Cluny Church Hall commencing at 7.15pm. For more information on any of the above or any local queries or problems please contact Richard Fyffe on tel: 01330 833295 or Judith Stokoe tel: 01330 833719.

Midmar S.W.I.

Our new syllabus commences on the 12th of September with a demo/ hands on talk on felting by Claire Bell. This is followed by an open night which is to be a cookery demonstration by Suzanne Brownrigg. There will also be a jewellery stall and an "aloe vera " stall . This is on October 12th and everyone is very welcome to attend. A suitable talk for the dark nights is on the 14th of November when Jim Fiddes will speak about "Tales, legends and scandals" of Craegivar castle. Our Christmas meal is still be arranged and any suggestions would be gratefully received. For further information please contact either Mrs Michelle Paterson tel: 01330 833490 or Mrs Judith Stokoe tel: 1330 833719

Midmar School News

Echt Flower Show Winners



Midmar School pupils were very successful at the Echt Flower Show winning many prizes. Congratulations to Kailey who won most points and Jessica who was runner-up.

Echt Show Schools Competition

This year's competition focused on local and global food production. Midmar School's display came second with Skene School being the winners.

Goblin Greenpower races



Midmar had two teams entered in this event at Alford Transport Museum in June. This year we were able to buy and race a new car thanks to sponsorship from Teekay Westhill. Siri from Teekay helped us build the new car.

The cars were called Racing Rainbow and Zabivaka. The Racing Rainbow team came 3rd in the slalom. Over 40

teams from Caithness to Johnshaven took part.



Lifestraws



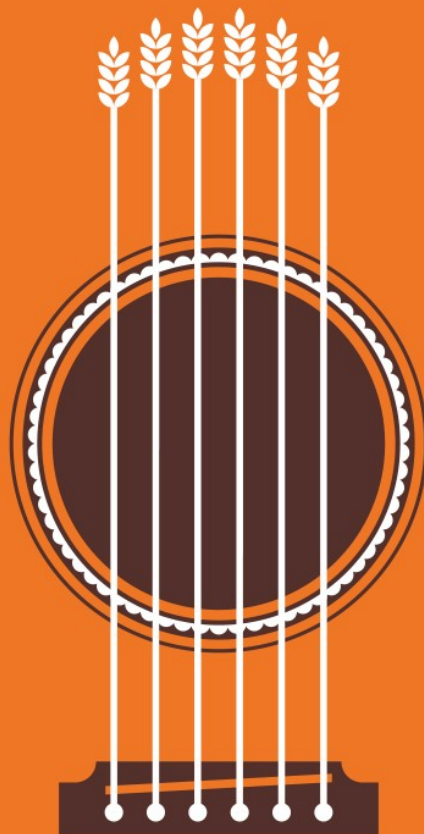
We learned about Lifestraws and water filtration systems from Alford Rotary Club. Lifestraws was our global charity during 2017-2018; donating £230. Alford Rotary Club then matched our donation.

Save the Date – Craft Fair 2018

Midmar School will again organise a Craft Fair with Primary 6 and 7 taking the lead. The Fair will take place on Saturday 10th November from 10.00am – 12noon in Midmar Hall.

MIDMAR HALL CONCERT 2018

SUN
2PM



OCT
21ST

GARIOCH BLEND, BILL GRAY
AND EDDIE ROSE

TICKETS: £10

Tickets available from Isabel 01330 833209 or 07817 080838 cairndaie@aol.com

www.midmartimbercentre.co.uk

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12 Bennachie Gardens, Sauchen, AB51 7JG

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)

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

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 Winter newsletter is the November 20th 2018.

This covers events Dec, Jan & Feb.

Please email Amanda at
midmar.newsletter@hotmail.co.uk .

Thank you, Amanda

Inverurie Physiotherapy and Podiatry Clinic

Podiatrist: Kevin Cole BSc (Hons), DPodM., MChS



We provide expert care, diagnosis and treatment of ankle and foot disorders for children and adults. First for foot health.

All treatments are carried out in a relaxed, welcoming environment with the highest standards of care. We offer routine foot care and specialist treatment for all foot and ankle problems.

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North Lurg, Midmar, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire,
AB51 7NB



Find us on:
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.

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

