

Blackie Banter

Issue 18

Summer 2016

YOUTH WORK

Monday 23rd May, Monday 30th May & Monday 20th June

Kemnay Community Learning Detached Youth Work Sessions
Youth Workers will be in the village on the above dates to chat to local young people. Workers will be based between the Pod at Burn Park & Kinellar Hall between 7.00pm & 8.45pm.

Karen Hudson
Community Learning & Development Worker

Kemnay Youth Café
26 Aquithie Road
Kemnay
AB51 7JA
Telephone 01467 642504

GARDENING MATTERS: Handsome Pay Back!

The weather this spring was a bit drech - wet and cold and little or no sign of growth on the trees, hedgerows or around the countryside. It was all a bit hard to thole. Nature however, did not let us down! At the first hint of sunshine and warmth in the air the countryside was transformed to a sea of greenery, shortly followed by a raft of flowers that continues today - non more so than than the show of bulbs and the like in the public areas around the village. Rich reward indeed for work done over the years. Thanks to all who contributed. While aim to have a show of perennial planting to take us through summer – into – Autumn continues there is currently space within the public areas to accommodate any annuals you have *surplus to your requirements!*
Gardening Representative: John McGregor 01224790468

BLACKBURN BOWLING CLUB

Repair of the Hall car park

Our season finished in the middle of April, and will start again at the beginning of September. The season 2015 / 2016 was a successful year for us so at our AGM, it was decided to start an initiative to raise funds to repair the car park before winter.

The Club have decided to hold an event and are inviting other user groups and organisations connected with the Hall and the village of Blackburn to assist by either fund-raising or donation in any way they can.

The car park is an essential part of the Hall's facilities, and it is important that it should be a safe area of access. It is regularly used to capacity, not just for those visiting the Hall, but also by parents delivering or collecting their children to the school.

The Club would ask anyone, whether you're an organisation or an individual, who is interested in assisting with the above initiative, to contact either the Bowling Club through the Secretary, Steve Wright, on 01224 790464 or through the Hall Reception.

KEMNAY HALL NEWS - ABERDEEN INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FESTIVAL

Friday 5th August – 7.30pm – Tim Muhibah Anglung Group from Indonesia. The return of a group that came in 2004 who create an orchestra of traditional musical instruments. Their repertoire spans across all genres including The Beatles, traditional music and classical tunes. They will be unusual and also very musically interesting

Tickets available at Kintore Library from 1st July.

KINELLAR COMMUNITY HALL

- Hypnotist Grant Saunders will be here on Saturday 19th November.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets are available from reception, they cost £8 each. N.B. tickets MUST be bought in advance. Due to licencing restrictions tickets for this event **cannot** be sold on the door on the night. There will be a licenced bar a raffle at this event and a disco will follow, finishing at 12am.

- An Evening With Annie Moon Saturday 3rd September.

Doors open 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Tickets are available from Reception and cost £15 each. B.Y.O.B. Disco 10pm – 12am. For more info call 01224 790861 or 07951815180.

4 New classes starting mid-June –NEW Boot camp class on Saturday morn, a NEW step class on Fri morn, a NEW men only Sports Conditioning class and a NEW PIYO class also on Sat Morn

We are hoping to have some events for kids between now and end of term or over the summer period, keep an eye on our facebook page and the hall notice boards for updates.

ZUMBA AND RHYTHMIC STEP

Zumba Gold on a Thursday is for beginners to intermediate level, 10am Thursday's. Rhythmic Step class, suitable for beginners to advanced, 2pm to 2.45pm on Mondays.
For information call Pamela Smith 07967826619.

Blackie Banter is published by a small local committee group to around 1200 homes. Short items and letters (200 words or less) are welcome and should be submitted by the 10th of the preceding month. Articles will be included space permitting, at the committee's discretion and opinions expressed by writers are not necessarily those of the committee.

Issues are published in June, September, December and March. Send copy, preferably by e-mail in plain text to the team at: blackie.banter@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01224 791649 or for our mailbox via the reception of the Kinellar Community Hall. Photographs and pictures are welcome for inclusion in the newsletter. We require you to have the image ownership and sought the permissions of anyone visible before submission to us.

KINELLAR SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

The last term of the school year is flying by and all the classes have been enjoying various activities which are too many to list here but have included a lighthouse museum visit for the P1s, the P3s arranging a 'Play in a Day' and experiments with Major Tim Peake on the International Space Station. The School is also very pleased to recommence the Community Cafes - we hope everyone enjoyed the Super Hero theme recently!

The fantastic news filtered through on May 11th that plans for a new Kinellar School had received Councillor backing ahead of the planning application to be made in June. If you have not had a chance to see the plans yet then please drop in to the school reception. Some details can be found here -

<https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/news/aberdeenshire/921689/first-look-at-12million-aberdeenshire-school-replacement/>

First and foremost it will provide a fantastic learning facility for the children but the hope is that it will also create an exciting facility for the community to use as well.

As always you can keep up-to-date with the School on Twitter and the Parent Council on Facebook.

Thanks,

Alastair Fleming

Chairperson

Kinellar School Parent Council

GIRLGUIDING

WE NEED YOU to help run Girlguiding groups in Blackburn. Please register your interest at

www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested or call 0800 169 5901

Thanks.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT KINTORE LIBRARY ?

Bookbug Stories and Rhymes for babies to 5 year olds is on the 2nd Friday and 4th Tuesday of the month from 2 – 2.30pm at the Library, there is no charge and no need to book, big brothers and sisters are more than welcome in the holidays. Stay behind afterwards for a chat with the other mums and carers and enjoy a cuppa. You can renew and request books & items, and access recommended databases online at www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/libraries You can also download ebooks and talking books and emagazines and download and stream music, all free of charge. Please ask us for your PIN.

ABERDEENSHIRE LIBRARY SERVICE

Aberdeenshire Libraries now provides a new resource – British Newspaper Archive - which can be accessed online in any Aberdeenshire library.

Access details are available at <http://bit.ly/23H5Ucx>

If you have any queries please contact your local library or email libraries@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Door to Door Collection in Support of the RNLI 2016

raised the handsome sum of £1520. It is a little less than raised in 2014 and 2015 but still a magnificent contribution from our community. Thanks to all who gave a donation and a particular thanks to the team of collectors who so readily give of their time to make this possible.

The RNLI collection in its current form has been on-going since 1987. The total collected over that 30 year period is marginally over £23000. The sum collected in 1987 was £100. The village then was a much smaller place.
JockMcG.

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Marcus Crescent, Blackburn AB21 0SZ. 01224 – 790738.

FINTRAY KINELLAR KEITHHALL CHURCH

Our weekly Services continue to be well attended and the pattern of one Service each Sunday will continue over the summer months:

- June in Keithhall Church at 11.00

- July at 10.00am in Fintray Church

- August at 10.00am in Kinellar Community Hall.

At 2.00pm on Sunday 26th June we will hold our annual open-air Service with informal Communion in the ruins of Kinkell Church near Inverurie (AB51 0LS). A barn is available if the weather lets us down and you are invited to bring a picnic with you for after the Service.

On Sunday 4th September we will hold a short all-age Service in the Tea Tent at Fintray Sheltie Stakes at 10.00am and for the remainder of September we will worship in Keithhall Church at 11.00am. Details of these dates and events are displayed in Kinellar Community Hall and on the village notice boards.

Matthew Rodger, our Locum Minister, can be contacted at 15 Meadowlands Drive, Westhill, AB32 6EJ, Tel.01224 743184.

Children (and grown-ups!) enjoyed our Easter Eggstravaganza and so we are planning another event for September. Watch out for fliers nearer the time and bring your children along for some fun.

CAN WE HELP? –THE BIG PLUS+ ADULT LITERACIES SUPPORT

We help adults with Reading, Writing, Spelling, Numbers, Speaking English. All help given is confidential and free. Help with filling in forms and timesheets, writing letters or CVs, understanding bills or labels, reading stories to your children or helping them with homework, reading for theory driving test, speaking English, reading, writing, spelling or numbers for work or home. Call Kemnay Community Learning on 01467 641444 or visit the Friday drop in at Kemnay Village Hall 9.30-11.30 or call the Big Plus Helpline on Freephone 0800 917 8000.

1st KINELLAR SCOUT GROUP

Leaders urgently needed to join our team. Please contact Lynne Spencer (applepiemom31@gmail.com) for more info.

COUNCILLOR REPORT

On 10 May, the Garioch Area Committee agreed to proceed to the next stage with the new Kinellar School project. The Committee approved a budget of £11.84 million for demolition of the existing school and construction of its replacement

Having decided to pursue the alternative option of rebuilding on the current school site, the important thing now is to make progress as quickly as possible.

The Garioch Area Committee has now authorised officers to proceed with production of detailed designs, examine procurement options and seek planning permission for the proposed new construction. Essentially, officers have been asked to develop a complete technical solution for rebuilding Kinellar School on its current site, to modern standards, and with increased capacity.

The next decision about the school I expect the Area Committee to have to take is to decide on the application for planning permission.

A number of people have contacted me worried about the speed of vehicles on the Fintray Road in Blackburn, especially as traffic first enters the built up area on the rising gradient. This is not a new concern. I have previously made representations to the Council's roads service and a little over three years ago proper speed monitoring was undertaken. The speeds were recorded of all traffic close to the Sett Road junction continuously for over a week early in 2013. This showed 85% of vehicles were travelling at 32 mph or less. I must say I was surprised by this result. The police also carried out enforcement, but again found little to enforce. The speed data indicated that adherence to the 30 mph limit was far better than at many other locations. On the basis of the data obtained (rather than the anecdotal impressions of myself and others), Council roads officers concluded further traffic calming measures and signage were not required. The decision whether to make changes to the road is, quite properly, one for the professional officers in the Council's roads service, not for councillors.

Since residents continued to express concerns about the speed of traffic on the Fintray Road, I asked the roads service to undertake further data collection. The roads service agreed to a second week of speed recording last year. This was carried out adjacent to the Badger Rise junction between 1 and 8 June. Again, in one direction, 85% of vehicles were travelling at 32 mph or less, in the other direction 85% of vehicles were doing 30 mph or less. So roads officers concluded that no further measures were necessary to reduce general traffic speeds since the 85-percentile figures recorded were below the 34 mph threshold for intervention.

Clearly, on the figures obtained, there are a small minority of motorists who are exceeding the speed limit. This is an enforcement issue, which I therefore raised with the police following the analysis of last year's speed data. While I would always want to support appropriate traffic calming, the Council prioritises works according to greatest need. So far as the Fintray Road in Blackburn is concerned, at present there simply isn't the evidence of generally excessive traffic speeds that would trigger intervention.

Cllr Martin Ford: 01224 790052, maf.cairnie@gmail.com

Kinellar Stars is for 2's and preschool based in Kinellar Community Hall. We follow the Curriculum for Excellence and the children learn about different topics each term in an environment where they can become confident individuals and successful learners while enjoying their time here.

To facilitate this we have created an open plan setting with different "learning areas" for children to explore.

At the end of this term the preschool children are going to Satrosphere and the 2's group children are having a Teddy Bears Picnic in the village. Our sessions run as follows:-

- 2's Group – Monday to Thursday – 9.15am to 11.15am
- Preschool – Monday to Friday – 9.15am to 12.15am

We accept Council funded places and private places.

If you would like to find out more about Kinellar Stars or you would like to arrange a visit for your child you can contact us as follows:-

KINELLAR TODDLERS

Hi, The Kinellar Parents and Toddler group is a popular group meeting every Friday at Kinellar Community Hall from 0930-1130 (10-12 during school holiday breaks). By the time you have read this it'll be almost Summer time where, fingers crossed, we can also make use of the outdoor area if the sun is shining! Just remember to bring your hat and sun cream.

Major changes are happening with the departure of some of the long established Committee Members including Chairperson Julie Tawse, Vice-Chair Sally Morris and Secretary Karen Thomson who have all been part of the group for the past 2-3 years.

We are appealing for a new Committee to take on the reins and lead the group forward. Positions need filled by the end of July 2016 or the group will cease to continue. For anyone interested in taking this group forward for another year or two please email us at Kinellartoddlers@gmail.com for information. We are also on Facebook. I'd personally like to thank everyone who has made my time at the Toddler group a special one. I have made some fabulous friends during this time who have been fantastic to volunteer beside.

Thanks and signing off for the last time, Julie.



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We are proud when we look back to our various efforts for 2015/16, the involvement with the local hall, council, and its various activities, the Sinclair's 40th Anniversary Fundraising success where both Local and International causes will benefit; including football strips and jackets for one of the school teams. At the time of print the Kinellar Gala will have just past where we organised the Raffle, Tea Tent and the BBQ. Our efforts for road sign(s) to indicate where the path for Tappie can be accessed is currently with Aberdeen City Council for consideration, and on the 31st May the Club will be climbing to Tappie and we would welcome anyone who would like to join us to meet in the Leys Hotel car park at 7pm, bring a picnic or food to share, we will be! We are also supporting KidsOut, Rotakids in Kinellar Primary School, providing bar staff for the Kinellar Hall 11th June, supporting the Shelties stakes in September and much more projects! We will again launch our request for applicants to RYLA for 2017 and will be promoting that soon! Later in the year we have once again our successful Intoxicating Tea Party on Saturday 12th November, 2.00-5.00 PM! Always heavily booked! Look out for our posters and contact details! Non- alcoholic available too for the drivers!

We meet every Tuesday at The Leys Hotel, 6.45pm for 7.00 pm, so why not come along to see what Rotary is all about. Contact: secretary@blackburn.rotary1010.org

We look forward to a busy Summer,

Barry Craigmile, Press Officer.

Spotlight on - Pam Farquhar Kinellar Primary School Head Teacher

Pam Farquhar was appointed to the post of Head Teacher of Kinellar Primary School in December 2014 although had been the Acting Head Teacher for the previous year and Deputy Head teacher for the year before that. She has a wealth of teaching experience behind her having taught in a variety of schools throughout Aberdeenshire as a supply teacher. This has enabled her to gain a valuable insight into how different schools are managed, how they engage with their local communities and how size can really matter in terms of education. This has led to her firm belief in the need to create a 'family' atmosphere within a school environment.

So what was it that made Pam choose a career in teaching? She admits that from childhood she had no over whelming ambition to teach but as her interest in education grew together with the wish to help children enjoy school by developing their individual skills and building their confidence for future life, to join the teaching profession was the obvious way ahead.

Pam is quick to point out that as the Head Teacher she is only a part of the school's 'Management Team' which includes the Deputy Head Teacher (Katy Finch) and the Head of the Infant School (Ruth Stannard). She feels it's vitally important that they all have similar aims and values. In addition to the core Management Team and teaching staff Pam indicates that a wide variety of professionals and support workers play a valuable role in the running of the school and ensure that all children have access to the best possible opportunities from their primary education. She feels that as a new Head Teacher it is important to listen to others as ideas can be gleaned from different sources- parents and pupils as well as staff- and to be aware of the strengths and weaknesses within the school. She also prefers to keep a low profile but wishes to be visible eg. at the school gate as children arrive or leave.

As the Head Teacher she is excited about the prospect of a new school campus planned in Blackburn but emphasises that it isn't the quality of the building that's important but the quality of teaching with the need to recruit the best possible staff who are committed to achieving the best standard of education for the children. Finally she stresses the importance she feels of the link between the school and parents, whom she has found to be very supportive, and also the need for the school to establish a profile within Kinellar through community activities and developing in the children their role of stewardship for the area in which they live.

PS. What little time Pam has to spare is spent with her husband and their dog together with looking after her horse and learning to ride!



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I am a fully qualified driving instructor, based in Blackburn, Aberdeenshire, and cover most of the shire, and the north of Aberdeen. I completed my driving instruction training 3 years ago with the AA, but I am now independent.

Prior to becoming a driving instructor, I was a Traffic Officer with Grampian Police, with 10 years' experience of advanced car and motorcycle training.

My tuition car is a brand new, Silver Ford Fiesta 1.0 petrol (eco-boost)

You can contact me by phone, email barrywilliams9288@btinternet.com or on my Facebook page: [Barry Williams Driving Instructor](#).