BELHELVIE BANTER



EDITION 4 SEPTEMBER 2010

Belhelvie Banter

Adverts and articles should be sent to

belhelviebanter@live.co.uk

Please include name, address & phone number in case details need to be clarified.

Advertising	g Prices	Articles
Full Page	£55.00	are in font - Garamond 12
Half page	£30.00	
½ Page	£16.00	

We cannot accept anonymous text, but names can be withheld if necessary.

Distribution

Belhelvie Banter is produced and delivered by a team of volunteers It is delivered to as many households as possible around Belhelvie parish and we hope you have all received a copy through your door. All deliveries are made by volunteers from within each settlement and in the outlying districts, however we are always looking for extra help to reduce size of delivery areas or to cover for holidays/illness.

If you feel able and are willing to deliver in any part of the parish, and not necessarily your own street, then please get in touch via the email belhelviebanter@live.co.uk

Copy date for next issue is: 8th November 2010



EDITORIAL

As a nation we are obsessed with the weather, with the exceptionally long winter we had it is no wonder we emerged craving the sunshine of our short-lived Scottish summers. It is not surprising then that at the slightest blink of sunshine we are out of doors, at the barbeque or on the beach, or at best pottering in the garden or enjoying the conservatory. Despite the weather there was a good turn out at the gala and what a joy it is to see the flower tubs and the beds at the gateways to our villages and settlements around the parish. I extend grateful thanks to all the volunteers on behalf of the Parish.

If you are a group leader or secretary why not publicise your activities by submitting an article to Belhelvie Banter, YOUR community newsletter. We publish four times a year and we are always looking for news from the community on forthcoming activities and any special events that have taken place which will be of interest to residents of the parish. Perhaps you have a special interest or hobby or some poetry or writing you would like to share. Can I encourage you to get in touch with me to discuss going into print?

We ask that articles are submitted in plenty of time and each edition will have the following edition's copy date inside the front cover along with details on size, font etc. Application can be made for longer articles but these will only be used if there is space and the editor's decision is final. We like to incorporate appropriate photographs if there is room. It is important that the article should let the parish know what your group will be doing over the 3 months following publication so that your fundraising events will get Parish-wide publicity.

We also need contact details for leaders and/or secretaries of the club/group and times, days and venue that the club/group meets. If your group meets seasonally e.g. summer months only, remember to submit your article in Spring to encourage new and old members to come along and it is useful to have feedback on successful events e.g. a win at a sporting event, prizes in local shows, new members etc.

Never assume your group has nothing to say – there will *always* be news from your members that will be of interest to those in the wider community.

Audrey Jeffries – Editor.

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CORGI









girls in the lead

Rainbows currently meet in Balmedie and Potterton and are for girls aged 5 -7 years old. They do lots of fun and exciting activities including arts and crafts, games, songs as well as the occasional events away from the meeting place.

Brownies meet in Balmedie and Potterton and are for girls aged 7 – 10 years of age. The Brownies can work on different badges that they wish to do as well as other activities and sometimes go on camps or holidays or days out away from the meeting place.

Guides meet in Balmedie and are for girls aged 10 - 14. They work on "Go for Its" which are special challenges that are set for them depending on what topic they are most interested in. These include Fashion for Passion, Chocolate, Camp Out, Teamwork and many more. They can also do other badges as well as other activities which the guides help to choose themselves.

Rangers (Senior Section) meet in Balmedie and are for girls/ladies aged 14 – 25 and they can work on various things including Duke of Edinburgh, Young Leader, Look Wider Programme.

We have a very special event coming up for all of our sections to celebrate the 100 years of Guiding. We will all be renewing our promise at 20:10 hours on the 20th October 2010. Stacey Soloman and Olly Murs (X Factor Finalists - Ed!) are going to be at Aberdeen Exhibition Centre and some of the Senior Section will be presenting, or assisting with this.

If anyone is interested in joining any of the above groups please contact Marianne McIntosh, District Commissioner on Tel 01358 724231 and I will be able to find out availability for you.



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BALMEDIE BOOKENDS

It has been one year since Balmedie Bookends, a group of literary locals, first got together to discuss a range of books from classic fiction to biographies.

Each month has seen the discussion of a different book on a range of topics from the Spanish Civil War (Winter in Madrid by CJ Sansom & The Return by Victoria Hislop) to apartheid South Africa (Frankie and Stankie by Barbara Trapido) and Nigeria's Biafra War (Half of a Yellow Sun by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie).

Much discussion was generated by Wendy Moore's remarkable true story of the life of Mary Eleanor Bowes entitled Wedlock: How Georgian Britain's Worst Husband Met His Match. Other recent reads have also included Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe by Fannie Flagg, My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult, Good Wives - Mary, Fannie, Jennie and Me by Margaret Forster and The Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold.

The timeless classic Rebecca by Daphne Du Maurier was a favourite among the group due to the many twists and turns in the plot and the suspense created by the author making it a real page turner. After our discussion we watched the screen adaptation of the book so a comparison between the film and the book could be made.

Our most recent book, Behind the Scenes at the Museum by Kate Atkinson, covering several generations of family history was also well received due to the well written characters and its ability to make us laugh and cry at the same time.

We meet on the first Thursday of every month at 8pm in the White Horse and new members are always welcome.

Sarah Cook (sarahcassidy1@hotmail.com)

Blackdog 'Former' Landfill Site. We have had a letter from Stephen Webb requesting that "If anyone has any information regarding the past or present state of the site and would like to share it, please contact me in writing by email at st3vewebb@hotmail.co.uk or by post at the address below."

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BALMEDIE SCOUT FAMILY CAMP AT HADDO HOUSE

The last weekend in June was dry and sunny for which the Balmedie Scout group were thankful, as this was the weekend for their long awaited family camp.

24 families, 4 scouts and 13 leaders, a total of 90 people, descended on the country park on the Friday night.

The theme of the camp was 'Christmas down under' and all the activities, group names, Reindeer, Snowmen Koalas and Kangaroos, and food were "roughly" tied into an Australian Christmas. A range of activities were enjoyed; boomerang golf, surfing, archery, sledging (water slide), backwoods cooking and crate climbing. In backwoods cooking, dampers, twists and sausages were cooked and consumed whilst the crate climbing involved adding to the crate tower you were already standing on without falling off!

Saturday evening saw the Scout group AGM for the adults whilst the wide game for the children involved 'rounding up' the older scouts. Everyone then enjoyed an entertaining and noisy campfire. Anyone remember the camel?

On Sunday morning the cubs learnt how to purify water using sand and charcoal and the beavers did Aboriginal paintings and a Christmas cracker hunt, with an Australian themed quiz. Before all the campers went home, they were presented with a camp badge, designed by Lucan Warren, a cub

scout, which can be worn on their uniforms.

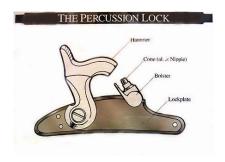
Alison Warren, Cub Leader was invested by Ian Thomson, Group Scout Leader, at the Camp in an unusual but unforgettable location crate climbing.



THE "BELHELVIE BLACKSMITH"

The Rev. James Forsyth was minister of Belhelvie between 1766-1790 and oversaw the construction of the old manse. In 1791 he was succeeded by his more famous son, **Rev. Dr. Alexander John Forsyth 1769 – 1843.** He too was a long time incumbent in the Belhelvie church and served 52 years in the Parish. Not only did he run a smiddy in his manse grounds, supplying locks and the odd penknife to his parishioners, but he also had an interest in chemistry and made important discoveries regarding the manufacture of gunpowder and the percussion lock for firearms.

Before this development, firearms used flintlock ignition systems which produced flint-on-steel sparks to ignite a pan of priming powder and thereby fire the gun's main powder charge. Flintlocks were prone to misfire in wet weather, and more importantly while hunting wild duck, Alexander was dissatisfied with his flintlock shotgun due to its delay. By the time the bullet was discharged the duck had time to dive before the shot reached them. The advantage of the new system was that the original flash from flint-ignited guns was hidden from potential targets, and less susceptible to damp. He travelled to London in 1806 to present his findings to the Government. The Master-General of the Ordnance, Lord Moira, provided Alexander with living quarters at the Tower of London and encouraged further experimentation with his design.



So that when the trigger was pulled a hammer hit a container of fulminate of mercury, which exploded and ignited the charge of gunpowder. He patented his scent-bottle lock in 1807 and Forsyth & Co. set up a business in Piccadilly, with which the reverend remained associated until 1819.

Initially rejected by the British army, Forsyth's invention proved to be of interest to the French, although he turned down an offer of £20,000 from Napoleon to buy it from him. By the 1840's his invention was eventually introduced and accepted by the British Army and this was later developed into the present day bullet. Recognition of his work came too late for him. He in fact died before the first financial compensation reached him. In 1930 a memorial to Dr Forsyth was placed in the Tower of London and a

plaque can also be seen in the "Quad" of King's College at the University of Aberdeen.

In addition to his work as a minister, blacksmith and inventor, Forsyth established and ran the local savings bank. He was also responsible for ensuring his parishioners were vaccinated against smallpox once Dr. Jenner had announced the use of the vaccine. Reverend Forsyth died in 1843 and is buried in old Belhelvie kirkyard alongside his father and family.

Expanded from "Belhelvie - A Millennium of History" ISBN 1 900517 10 8

BALMEDIE INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

All age groups welcome. No facilities for wheelchairs.

The club meets every Tuesday and Friday at 7pm from September till March. New members always welcome. We meet at: Balmedie Primary School

Further information available from: www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/clubs

BALMEDIE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

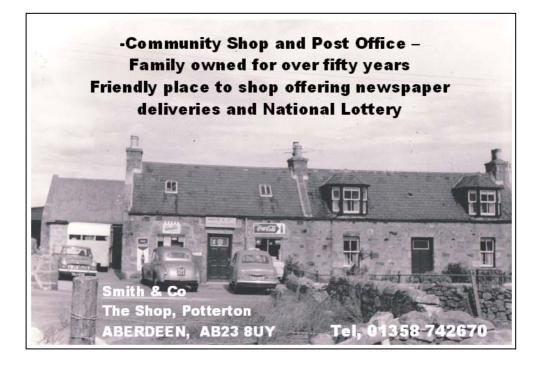
We meet in Balmedie Leisure centre at 11am on Sunday mornings and are informal and family friendly.

Our services comprise of an adult address with prayer time and some singing interspersed. We enjoy traditional hymns right up to modern worship songs. We aim to make everyone feel at home.

We appreciate all the help and support we have received from the people of Balmedie over the last 16 years or so. We look forward to continuing to be the church in the village of Balmedie.

We are please to serve the community. If we can help you or your family in any way please contact:

Rev Andy Cowie, 01224 703248





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- · Coming Soon is the new Chronic Medication Service!



BALMEDIE LEISURE CENTRE

Spinning Classes hoping to start soon, please contact Leisure Centre for details.

Trampoline classes for Age 3 - 5 on Wednesdays, morning and afternoon session.

The new outside 5-aside football pitches are now open and available for booking.

Diane Whyte, Photography will be in the Leisure Centre on Saturday 2nd October from 9am - for family photographs. Please call to book your place. The cost of the booking fee will be £10

Ikea/McArthur Glen Shopping Trip on Saturday 6th November, leaving Leisure Centre at 7am - cost £20. Please call to book your place.

BALMEDIE PLAYGROUP

Community Room, Primary School

Telephone 07923470741

We are a friendly group offering fun activities and learning for pre school children. Working in partnership with Aberdeenshire Council we provide pre school education for children aged 3-5 years. Sessions are led by playgroup staff and we have a rota for parental help. Activities are planned around the "Curriculum for excellence" and children may attend up to five sessions per week with a mixture of morning and afternoon sessions available.

For further information or details regarding current vacancies please contact us on the above number.

BETTER BALMEDIE

Better Balmedie has been active for a whole year already! During that time we have held monthly meetings, planted bulbs and seed, picked up litter, built planters, maintained tubs and displays, cut grass and had lots of fun!

Our Plant Sale in May was a great success, when we combined forces with Tarts and Crafts and made over £400 from sales of our home grown plants. A stall at Balmedie Gala raised a further £200. This first pot of money will enable us to run our club meetings for the next year and to buy seeds and plants to raise more funds.

We have obtained further funding from NESTA, so will be able to buy a polytunnel, sheds, water butts and composters and set up a Better Balmedie website. We have also installed a bench and two planters on Eigie Road.

Better Balmedie has entered the village in the Formartine in Bloom competition. We are beginners, but hope that the judges will take note of our first year's efforts and give us some advice for future competitions.

Better Balmedie meetings will start again in September. We meet on the last Thursday of the month, usually at 7.30 at Balmedie School, but there will be some variations so please get in touch to confirm times and to get a copy of the programme. In the autumn we will also be out and about planting bulbs and winter bedding plants.

If you are interested in improving Balmedie and can spare even a little time please do join us. We believe we have achieved quite a lot in just one year and plan to do lots more in years to come!

Find out more by contacting:

Rosie Nicol on 01358 742557 rosie.inform@lineone.net



Balmedie - The Beach Road Planter - Photo - Rosie Nicol

P.S. We are looking for big containers to use as planters around the village e.g. a rowing boat or cart or big troughs or pipes. Could you help us find such containers?

1ST BELHELVIE RANGERS

The Rangers have been enjoying a well deserved break over the holidays so not much news to report. This term we are looking forward to Grampian Vision; the big final party happening at the AECC to celebrate our 100 year birthday. We will all be renewing our promises, enjoying some entertainment from performers from the X-factor, looking back at all the great things we have done, and looking forward to the next 100 years!

The District is hoping to do a display of Guiding in the library over the next few months. If anyone has any memorabilia (e.g. photos, uniform) they would be happy to loan, please get in touch.

This term we will be meeting fortnightly on Friday evenings in Balmedie. Any 14-26 year old woman interested in joining can just give me phone or email to arrange a visit. This term we will be working on the Young Leader Qualification, the "100" badge, making Christmas gifts and anything else the Rangers decide at the planning meeting.

Susan 01224 703335 s.osbeck@physics.org



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Do you work for or volunteer with a charity? If you have any news, particularly of local events that may be happening, get in touch and we may feature you in the Charity Corner. This edition we focus on a local North East charity which is often in our newspapers but the details of their work still remains unknown to many.

CLAN Cancer Support



is an independent charity providing support to anyone of any age in the North East of Scotland, Orkney and Shetland who has been affected by any kind of cancer.

From our centre in Aberdeen we offer emotional support, one-to-one counselling, information, complementary therapies and group activities such as relaxation and art classes. We also have a team working specifically with children and families. CLAN Haven offers B&B accommodation for people visiting Aberdeen hospitals for treatment or accompanying those receiving treatment. Our guests have access to 24-hour practical and emotional support, transport to and from hospital appointments and are welcome to use any of the services in the centre.

In addition to our centre in Aberdeen we also have a presence in Ballater, Inverurie, Stonehaven, Peterhead, Orkney and Shetland. This means that our clients can access a range of therapies, support groups, activities and one-to-one support locally.

We rely entirely on donations, grants and fundraising and very much appreciate the support we have from local families and organisations. Most of our services are provided free of charge although we do ask for a small contribution towards the cost of accommodation.

CLAN has around 35 staff and a similar number of part-time therapists and counsellors. We also have around 200 volunteers – a very special group of people without whom we quite simply could not do what we do. They help us in so many ways – providing support in our centres, helping with fundraising events, helping in our shops, gardening, driving and so many other things.

For further information about CLAN please visit our website at www.clanhouse.org or call Joan Cowie on 01224 647000

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BELHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

As ever, the summer has not been up to most people's expectations but I guess we resign ourselves to whatever Mother Nature dishes up. Thanks to the efforts of a number of very dedicated people and the generosity of Aberdeenshire Council in supplying us with bedding plants, we now have beautiful flower beds and tubs throughout the villages. This has not only added colour to the grassy areas but hopefully added a bit of cheer to everyone who looks at them.

June saw us working in conjunction with the Balmedie Gala Team to organise the village gala. For those who joined the gala committee, it was a very hectic time but was well worth the effort as we had a gala which surpassed all our expectations (despite the weather). We would like to record our thanks and gratitude to all the gala committee for the considerable effort and special thanks to Stuart, the school janitor who was most helpful before and on the day.

Another major event in June was the launching of the new 5-a-side pitches at the Leisure Centre in Balmedie. This was officially opened by The First Minister, Alex Salmond. The winning team was presented with the Gala Trophy by Mark McGhee, the Aberdeen FC manager. These are 'state of the art' playing pitches and anyone interested in booking a pitch should contact the Leisure Centre.

Following a very successful 'Planning for Real' in Balmedie in 2008 we ran a similar event for the other settlements, this was held in Potterton Community Centre on Saturday 4th September. We were supported by local organisations and Formartine Partnership. We are given an annual allocation of "Planning Gain" money by Aberdeenshire Council to spend on improvements in each of the villages and will look at your suggestions on what we should spend it. We had a Youth Corner to find out what our younger generation was looking for. One major feature of the project was the large scale 3D maps of each village and residents were asked to pin comments onto the areas where they felt additional facilities were needed.

One of our main responsibilities as a community council is to monitor any proposed developments in the area and our planning spokesman, Michael Slaughter was on hand to answer queries.

On a personal note, we are sorry to have to say good-by to Alex Laird who has moved to Mintlaw and we wish him and his wife every happiness in their new home and to thank him for his valued contribution during his time with us.

And finally, we would like to thank Michael Slaughter who is standing down as secretary but is thankfully continuing as a community councillor and our authority on planning applications.

Wishart McBride, Acting Secretary, Belhelvie Community Council

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BALMEDIE GALA 2010

Our annual Balmedie Gala took place on Saturday, 9th June in the Primary School and was enjoyed by a host of villagers and stall holders alike.

Despite the bad weather we had a record turn-out and with over 50 stalls plus 2 Bouncy Castles, Barbeque and Bar, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

Our stalls were made up mostly of local organisations plus some commercial stalls selling all manner of things from pottery to photographic services to beauty products and in the car park we had a vintage car on display and a unit of Grampian Fire Brigade who had to respond to a "shout" during the day.

We were also able to offer teas and coffee etc. and had demonstrations of keep fit, Sooyan Do and country dancing in the gymnasium.

Our raffle proved very popular with the first two prizes of £250 each and we launched the 5-a-side pitches at the Leisure Centre with a competition for the Gala Trophy which was sponsored by Lockfast Security of Aberdeen.

The revenue from the gala was in excess of £2000 which included a very generous donation of £600 from the Co-op who contributed the takings from the barbeque.

To date, we have not decided how to spend this money as we will require to use some of it to kick-off our next gala but will be having a meeting in September to decided this and to start planning Balmedie Gala 2011.

On behalf of all our committee, I would like to thank everyone who came along and made it such a success.

Wishart McBride Gala Coordinator.

A WHOLE NEW WORLD



To the newly acquired eight week old puppy, the world can be pretty scarv Up until place. now it may never have left the and security warmth of its mother and litter mates.

Now finding itself in a strange place with strange people, it can be quite intimidated. Unfortunately fear can lead to inappropriate nervousness and in later life, aggression. It is therefore essential in the first few weeks and months of your puppies life to do all that you can to make it a confident happy dog.

Socialisation is the process where puppies learn to interact properly with people, other dogs and their environment. It is much easier to teach them when they are young. Once older, fears become habitual and are harder to break.

Even before you acquire your pup, this should be taking place. Puppies that are well handled by the breeder and exposed early to noise and children before six weeks of age, will already be more confident, sociable and able to handle the stresses of changing home better than those that have not. When purchasing a pup, find out where it was brought up, in a family home or on a puppy farm with little interaction.

Once home, his learning experiences should continue. Most modern vaccines allow your pup to be out and about by eleven weeks, however much can be done before then. He should be introduced to children as early as possible. Encourage him to approach them, use treats if necessary. Try not to let the children wind him up or crowd him until he's more confident. If you don't have children, I'm sure your friends' will be

more than happy to visit. Once vaccinated, take him near a school, where he can be accustomed to screams and shouts and strangers.

Try to encourage lots of visitors. This stops him becoming territorial. Guests should ignore him until he's sitting quietly so as to discourage jumping up and getting over excited. Introduce him to the postman. A biscuit may help to teach him he's not some one to be scared of.

Get him used to vacuum cleaners and washing machines. If he runs away ignore him. By making a fuss, you may think you are helping him but actually you're reinforcing his fears.

Once vaccinated, take him out as much as possible to get him used to cars, buses, pushchairs and other loud noises.

It is a good idea to take him to puppy classes. Not only does this help with his training, it also lets him meet other dogs in a controlled environment, where he can learn he has nothing to fear.

Socialisation and introducing your pup to new sites and sounds can be a lot of fun for both you and your pup. So enjoy these precious few months. A little bit work now, can lead to a much more pleasurable relationship in the years to come.

(Article submitted by Ardene Veterinary Practice)

CRAFT CLUB

Our craft club meets at Balmedie School on Thursdays at the new time of 6.30 pm-7.30 pm for all primary school children - cost £1.50 per child. We try all sorts of craft and this session will include the special occasions of Halloween, Guy Fawkes and our favourite Christmas time!

We work with lots of different materials, felt, glue, paper, cardboard, wool and of course glitter and sparkle. We also have a tuck shop.

So do come and join us!

For more information contact Catherine 01358 743114.

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SHIPWRECKED!

It was recognised from earliest times that the north east coast of Aberdeenshire was a severe hazard to shipping. It was not until 1802 that the first lifeboat was established at Aberdeen. Early rescue equipment included what was basically a small cannon ball with a line attached fired from a mortar known as Captain Manby's Patent Apparatus, as much a danger to the sailors to be rescued as a lifeline! Later line-throwing equipment used rockets which were more accurate and less lethal.

Early mariners had few if any navigational aids; lighthouses and beacons were nonexistent. Much of the coast has modest tidal strengths and an added complication of coastal fog or haar which occurs principally in summer months when south easterly winds cool over the North Sea. In January 1800 and November/December 1876 the same south easterly winds produced terrifying storms resulting in catastrophic shipping losses.



The following wrecks occurred on Balmedie Beach and some can still be found:

Fruitful Bough a fishing vessel – on 9th December 1961 she was grounded on sands in thick fog. (Pictured)

Star of the Wave a steel trawler – on 10th January 1926 was blown ashore and wrecked.

Mary a Banff schooner – on 15th December 1900 washed ashore on the sands at Balmedie. Today only her ribs remain

Ross Khartoum an oil standby vessel from Grimsby – 19th December 1980 swept ashore after engine failure. Attempts to refloat her failed and she lay in the sand until 1984 when she was broken up and all wreckage was removed

Imperial Prince a steam trawler - on 19th

October 1923 ran aground off Black Dog/Belhelvie.

Fairy a British steamship – 25th January 1937 started to take in water whilst trying to ride out the storm force south east winds.

Thanks to Aberdeenshire Council Ranger Service for some of the information.

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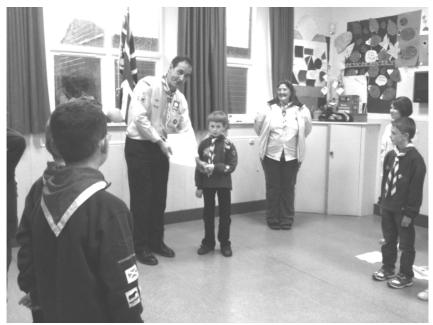
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HIGHEST CUB SCOUT AWARD FOR BALMEDIE CUB

In June 2010 Kieran Thomson gained his Chief Scouts Silver Award which is the highest award a Cub Scout can earn and involved a lot of hard work by Kieran.



Kieran receiving his certificate from Group Scout Leader, Ian Thomson

To complete the Silver Award, Kieran had to achieve all six Cub Challenge badges: Creative, Community, Global, Promise, Outdoor and Fitness. As part of this work for his Community Challenge Kieran organised a coffee morning to raise money for the Haiti appeal and for his Fitness Challenge he participated in rock climbing. Kieran also spent a long time doing helpful tasks for his Granny, school, local church and family at home! Well done Kieran for all your hard work.

The Chief Scouts Silver Award can only be gained by Cub Scouts and is one of three Chief Scouts awards in the Scout Organisation. The Bronze award can be gained in Beavers, the Silver in Cubs and the Gold award in Scouts.

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WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET INVOLVED WITH ARTS EXTREME?

Arts Extreme, a major participatory arts project, is supported by the Scottish Arts Councils Inspire Fund and sponsored by Shell. Partnership between Aberdeen City Councils Arts Education Team, National Theatre of Scotland and Transition Extreme, will introduce an inspirational Creative Team to young people and communities throughout Aberdeen.

The project will be led by Creative Catalysts (artists in residence), and the shared experience of participating in extreme sports, such as climbing or skateboarding, etc. will provide the stimulus for creating participatory arts activities and events across the city involving young people, community groups and local and national professional artists.

The project will engage new audiences by celebrating the arts with young people and their communities as both participant and audience. It will draw together a high calibre Creative Team of:

- Artistic Direction by National Theatre of Scotland
- Specialist input from a range of artists
- 3 Creative Catalysts to co-ordinate activity across three Creative Hubs

Bridge of Don Academy, Kingsford and St Joseph's RC Primary Schools have been selected as the Creative Hubs and they will participate in an exciting range of activities from August 2010, culminating in a festival of events in March 2011.

Interested community groups are invited to participate in activities and events.

If you are involved in a group that could benefit and want to find out more about the project contact

Moira Milne

Principal Teacher, Bridge of Don Academy Tel: 01224 707583



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BELHELVIE BOWLING CLUB

Belhelvie Community Centre (Green Hut) Minnes Road, Belhelvie

The highlight of the season was the Freedom of the Green given to Hebbie and Mary Watson on the 7th August. They have played bowls and been involved with the club since the early sixties. The annual tournament takes place on Sunday 5 September followed closely by the closing of the green on 19th September.

We have had another successful season, when the weather has not been too unkind for some exciting play.

We look forward to welcoming some new members in 2011.

Marion Donald

Club Secretary, Tel: 01358 723126

Email: marion.donald@btinternet.com

ABERDEENSHIRE COASTAL RANGER SERVICE

Sunday 19th September

Beachwatch 2010

On the weekend when beach litter surveys are happening all over the world why not come along and do your bit for your local beach? Organised by the Marine Conservation Society in Britain, this annual event monitors litter found on beaches and uses the information collected to improve the state of our beaches for people and wildlife. Join us in the UK's biggest beach clean and help to remove and record the rubbish from Balmedie Beach. A fun and rewarding day for all the family. Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Gloves and rubbish bags will be provided. Meet at the playpark in Balmedie Country Park at 10am.

Please phone the Coastal Ranger to register on 01358 751337.

Sarah Gosden (Weds, Thurs, Fri) Douglas Gooday (Mon, Tue) Aberdeenshire Council Ranger Service c/o Stevenson Forvie Centre Little Collieston Croft Collieston

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BELHELVIE PARISH CHURCH

After the summer break, things at Belhelvie Church will be picking up again as the different groups and organisations start up for the Autumn Term. We're a church that's growing and changing together and you and yours are assured of a warm welcome here. We have good provision for children, from crèche age up 'til late teens, and lots of different ways to get involved in what we're doing; whether that's exploring faith or just meeting new people. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for regular information. Our services are at **11am** in Belhelvie Church, just off the B977 towards Dyce.

If you've been away from the church for a while (or have never been) then our Harvest Service at 11am on Sunday October 3rd is especially for you. It's part of a national initiative called "Back To Church Sunday" where we're encouraging folk who've lost the habit of coming on Sundays to give it another go. Why not come and see how things have changed since you last visited?

Other Sundays to note are: 5th September when the Guild are dedicated; 19th September, 31st October and 12th December (Communion), 14th November (Remembrance),28th November(6:30pm – Christingle Service), 5th December (Carol Service with Bon Accord Silver Band) and Friday 24th December (11pm – Watchnight Service).

Belhelvie Parish Church Social Committee are promoting the following events all of which are to be held in The Forsyth Hall, just behind Belhelvie Church

Thursday 28th October – Fashion Show by CatWalkers of Ellon. As well as clothes, jewellery and fashion accessories some of which may be bought or ordered at the show. J&K Shoes also hope to be there with a selection of shoes. There will be a Prize Draw with Wine and Nibbles included in the Entrance Fee of £7.

Saturday 20th November - Christmas Coffee Morning, Various stalls.

Friday 10th December – Bruce Davies in a Songs for the Season Concert in aid of our Right Christmas Appeal.

Now that Broadband has been installed at the Forsyth Hall, Aberdeen College is launching a new course 'Computing for the Terrified' a 13-week introduction to the Internet and e-mail starting on September 3 from 9.30 to 11.30. Further details on 01224 612330.

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Belhelvie Community Council wants to hear YOUR views

There is money available to spend and we want **YOUR** views on how best to spend it.

We held a Planning for Real Exercise using 3D models of villages on Saturday 4th September 2010 at Potterton Community Centre from 10am to 5pm

You may not have managed to come along and give us your suggestions on how to improve the environment in which you live.

As a resident of **Belhelvie**, **Potterton**, **Blackdog** or **Whitecairns**, we feel that it is important to obtain your views on how best to spend Planning Gain* money in your area, as this is **your community**.



If you missed the opportunity then it's not to late to contact:

Wishart McBride on 01358 742884 or email your views

email your views to BCC

belhelviecc@yahoo.co.uk

^{*}Planning Gain money is developer contributions that are given to the community by developers who are building in this area.



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RAINBOW ROGUES, ELLON, ABERDEENSHIRE

Rainbow rogues is a supported toddler group for families who have a very young child with either a disability or additional support need. It provides a quality play environment for the children and their siblings, while parents and carers are supported by a Community Learning and Development worker. The group meets on two mornings a week during school terms at Esslemont School, near Ellon. Tuesday and Thursday 9.30 am to 11.30 am.

The group was established five years ago in response to locally identified need. Parents of very young children related problems that prevented them from accessing mainstream groups or in being unable to find a suitable group for their child's health or behavioural needs. The group is open to Mums, Dads or other carers such as grandparents; and is free. All staff are experienced and have been checked by Disclosure Scotland.

Parents and carers who bring their children to the group have the chance to take part in their own programme of discussion, interests and information sharing while the children are cared for by the play staff. Brothers and sisters under school age are also welcome to attend the sessions.

For more information please contact Sally Sheehan, Community learning and development worker at the Ythan Centre Ellon on 01358 729237 or email sally.sheehan@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

St Columba's, Braehead Drive, Bridge of Don are a friendly, welcoming community with a lot going on.

Mass Times:

St Columba's Sunday at 09.45; inc children's Liturgy and Wednesday and Saturday at 10am. or Ellon - Our Lady & St John the Baptist, Union St Ellon Sunday at 10.30, For details of other services contact the parish office 01224 621581 or http://stcolumbas.bridgeofdon.org.uk

Other Activities:

Youth Group:- Monday 6.30pm and Prayer Group:- Tuesday 7.30pm

House groups in Balmedie and Potterton. For details contact parish office.

Thursday 6pm Silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament –

1st Thursday of each month at 7.30pm – Healing service

Friday 2.30pm Divine mercy devotions

1st Friday of each month 09.30 First Friday Devotions

Parish school

Free transport is available to St Peter's Primary in King Street, Aberdeen.

The head teacher is Mrs Jo Martin. For further details contact 01224 485611 or www.st-peters.aberdeen.sch.uk.

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TARTS AND CRAFTS

11th to 19th September.

North East Open Studios ~ Tarts & Crafts will be taking part in NEOS again this year. We will be exhibiting two local artists' work, Janet Whitelock who paints mainly in acrylics, painting local scenes and animals and Lyn Elrick who is a portrait artist.

We will also be having some of our crafters in the cafe during the week to demonstrate their work. Please come and join us and experience the wealth of talent in the area.

Tarts and Crafts cafe & gallery is situated behind the Library in Balmedie, just follow our signs. We have good parking facilities and disabled access.

We are staffed entirely by volunteers and aim to meet the needs of the community by providing a much needed meeting point as well as support local community projects.

We serve delicious home-cooked food, catering for all tastes and special dietary requirements. All soups, cakes, and bread rolls are baked on the premises using fair-trade ingredients where possible. We serve fair-trade coffee along with a variety of herbal teas.

Our craft section is an outlet for local artists and crafters. You can buy anything from handmade chocolate to jewellery and wood turned bowls. We have solo exhibitions by local artists which change every month in a wide variety of mediums. Workshops and demonstrations are organised on a regular basis giving you the chance to try some of the crafts for yourselves.

Our opening times are 10 – 4pm on Weds, Thurs, Fri and Saturday. Please come and visit us to sample our home bakes and relax in a friendly atmosphere, whilst shopping for that unique gift.

We are always looking for volunteers so please contact the cafe by email or phone to ask – as little as 2 hours a week would be much appreciated. info@tartsandcrafts.co.uk Tel: 01358 742002



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Extracted from FORMARTINE "LOCAL POLICING UPDATE"

Grampian Police have a number of force-wide policing priorities: Antisocial Behaviour, Community Focus, Force Reputation and Standards, National Security, Public Protection, Road Casualty Reduction, Serious and Organised Crime & Drugs, Violence, Efficiency and Productivity.

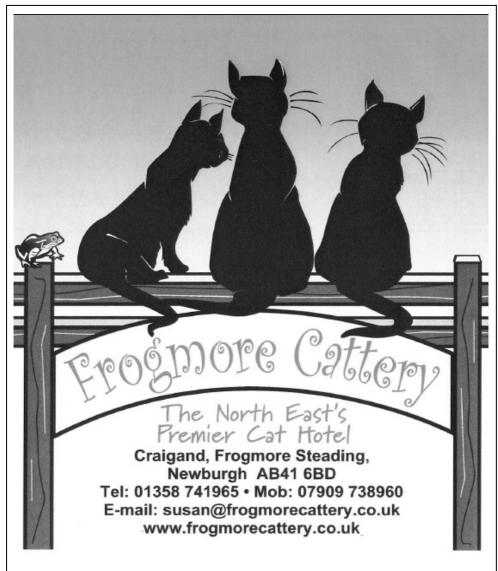
Our local Formartine police team are focussed on dealing with 3 local issues identified through research, analysis and consultation.

- 1. **Anti Social Behaviour** in general but particularly around alcohol, underage drinking, youth annoyance, vandalism and antisocial driving.
- 2. **Road Collisions and Speeding** in particular the number of vehicles being driven recklessly and at speed within our communities.
- Community Focus a visible police presence is important within communities to enhance community safety, well being and provide reassurance.

What they have done so far is work in partnership with other agencies, local business and community representatives to allow them to:

- forge closer working links with the three Community School Networks including attending the 3 academies to speak about good citizenship among young people and attending parent evenings to reinforce this and youth alcohol problem.
- support "Pub Watch" and other community based efforts to reduce the number of alcohol related incidents.
- support the "Kill the Speed" campaign run by Grampian Police to address issues of anti-social driving and undertake other activity with a view to reducing road accident rates. This has included carrying out speed surveys after local consultation and enforcement in those communities where problems were evident.
- increase the use of the Police Mobile Office to raise the profile of policing in smaller communities.
- increase joint working with elected members to raise the profile of the police work required and being done in our area.
- support "Shop Watch" and other anti-shoplifting efforts in the area.

If you have any issues or concerns you wish to discuss contact 24 hours non-emergency Service Centre 0845 600-5-700 or text 07739 93 4444 email: mylocalpolicingteam@grampian.pnn.police.uk



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Susan Barrowman

BALMEDIE FRIENDSHIP GROUP

The Friendship Group begins its meetings again on 31st August 2010. The group meets on Tuesdays, 2-4pm every two weeks in the lounge of Eigie House, Balmedie and welcomes members aged 50+ from all over Belhelvie Parish.

The programme up to the Christmas break is as follows:

Aug 31st	Whist and Triominoes or Bingo
Sept 14th	Pat Murray – Mercy Children's Homes in India
Sept 28th	Denis Shepherd & Friends Entertain
Oct 12 th	The Couthie Company Entertain – TBC
Oct 26th	Quiz (teams of 3)
Nov 9th	Captain David Alton – 'What's in a Name'
Nov 23rd	Beetle Drive
Dec 7th	Alan Cameron – Ellon Historic Trail
Dec 14 th	Christmas Party at the Whitehorse Inn, Balmedie

Members pay £2 per meeting and are asked to bring a small raffle prize, the fee covering tea and biscuits and the raffle ticket

For further information please contact

Mrs Vic Deans	President	01358 743634
Mrs Margaret Murison	Secretary	01358 742285

BELHELVIE S.W.R.I.

The Belhelvie branch of the SWRI meet on the second Wednesday of every month from September to May. There is usually an outing or meal in June.

Meetings are held in the Forsyth Hall, beside Belhelvie Church at 7:30pm. There is plenty of parking and easy access for the less mobile.

Our syllabus is varied with talks and demonstrations or why not just come along for a chat. A warm welcome awaits you. Why don't you give us a try?

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Aberdeenshire (General Inquiries)	0845 608 1207
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Cllr Hendry	01358 743091
Cllr Johnston	01651 851198
Cllr Loveday	01651 872591
Balmedie Library	01358 742045
Eigie House	01358 743506
Community Centres - Bookings (Belhelvie and Potterton)	01358 727910
Balmedie Leisure Centre	01358 743725

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Catholic Church	(Parish Office)	01224 626359

SCHOOLS		
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Balmedie Primary		01358 742474
Emergency Contact	0870 054 4999	PIN 021290
Ellon Academy		01358 720715
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Dates for your Diary

Sept 2010		
Sun 19	Beach Watch - Balmedie Beach Clean up	From
	1	10.00am
Mon 20	Belhelvie Community Council - Potterton CeC	7.30pm
Fri 24	In-service, Balmedie Primary	
Fri 24	Local Holiday, BoDA	
Mon 27	Local Holiday, Balmedie Primary, BoDA	
Thur 30	Better Balmedie (Basic gardening), Balmedie Primary	7.30pm
October		
Sun 3	Harvest Service - Belhelvie Church	11.00am
Thur 7	End of school term, BoDA, Ellon Academy	
Thur 7	Balmedie Bookends group - Whitehorse Inn	8.00pm
Fri 8	End of school term, Balmedie Primary	
Mon25	School Term begins, BoDA, Balmedie Primary	
Tues 26	School Term begins	
	Balmedie Primary, Ellon Academy	
Thur 28	Better Balmedie (Floral Art demo) - Venue TBA	
Thur 28	Fashion Show - Forsyth Hall	7.30pm
November		
Thur 4	Balmedie Bookends group - Whitehorse Inn	8.00pm
Sun 14	Remembrance Service - Belhelvie Church	10.50am
Mon 15 &	In service days, Balmedie Primary	
Tues 16	and Ellon Academy	
Sat 20	Christmas Coffee morning - Forsyth hall	10.00 -
		noon
Thur 25	Better Balmedie (Bee talk), Balmedie Primary	7.30pm
Sun 28	Christingle Service, Belhelvie Church	6.30pm
Mon 29 &	In-service days, BoDA	
Tues 30		
December		
Thur 2	Balmedie Bookends Group - Whitehorse Inn	8.00pm
Sun 5	Carol Service with Silver Band - Belhelvie Church	11.00am
Fri 10	Bruce Davies Concert - Forsyth Hall	7.30pm
Tues 21	Term ends Balmedie Primary, Ellon Academy,	
Wed 22	Term ends, BoDA	
Fri 24	Watch Night Service - Belhelvie Church	11.00pm