

# BELHELVIE BANTER

Gala Disco – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June, 6.30 – 8.30  
(Tickets on sale at Whitehorse Inn)

## BALMEDIE GALA

SATURDAY 8th June 2013

**BALMEDIE PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL FINALS at 10.00**  
(at Astro Turf Pitches, Balmedie Leisure Centre)

*Doors open with Opening Ceremony at 12.00 \* Over 50  
Stalls \* Many Activities & Attractions Outside \* Variety of  
Demonstrations in the Gymnasium \* Fancy Dress  
Competition\* Grand Raffle includes  
Two prizes of £250 and Round of Golf for 4 at  
Trump International Golf Course*  
Gala night finishes with an all-ages Disco in the  
Whitehorse Inn

# PARKHILL GARDEN CENTRE & SEASONS COFFEE SHOP



**NEW Clover Composts**  
They are an absolute delight to handle and the plants love it; you will also like the texture and price!

**GROW YOUR OWN** As usual, a very wide range of Certified Scottish Seed Potatoes, Onion Sets, Shallots, Garlic, Rhubarb and when ready to plant, the full range of vegetable plants

**Summer flowering Bulbs and Tubers now in stock**

**Afternoon tea** Monday to Friday 2.30 to 4 pm (last orders)

**Only £10 for two**  
*“ that’s only a fiver each! ”*

**Coffee Shop**  
Tel 01224 724711  
9am to 4.30pm

**Garden Centre**  
Tel 01224 722167  
9am to 5pm



**Parkhill, Dyce.**  
[www.parkhillgardencentre.com](http://www.parkhillgardencentre.com)  
**Open 7 days ON THE B977 DYCE - BALMEDIE ROAD**

## EDITORIAL – Is there anyone out there?

I cannot quite believe that from the 2000 residences we reach through the Banter that there is no one out there with a little bit of time to help the few volunteers left at Tarts and Crafts. How sad that this well sign-posted cafe/craft shop is only open 1 day per week. Surely someone can spare an hour or two to do a bit of baking, make a few cups of coffee and wash up a few dishes. We have here in the village a ready supply of passing trade from tourists using the beach and country park.

I can however report that we intend to press on with the **provision of a defibrillator** for Balmedie village and will be actively canvassing for volunteers to train as **First Responders**. Clearly it makes good sense that such provision is made in all the settlements. **When two or three are gathered together we can make it happen**. Many of us benefit from basic Life Support Training through our employment and leisure activities so what better to keep up to date and be part of a group of trained individuals in the village who can make an early intervention in situations such as a heart or asthma attack, accidents or emergencies before the professional ambulance crew arrives. We would work closely and be trained by Scottish Ambulance Service. To become a volunteer first responder you must be:

- at least 18 years old
- able to demonstrate and maintain a level of fitness to meet the role
- an effective communicator with good interpersonal skills
- able to demonstrate a logical approach
- work under pressure, yet stay calm
- have a desire to learn
- reside or work in the area in which the scheme is based
- able to respond without delay to incidents
- complete a criminal records check (Enhanced Disclosure Scotland check)
- have some first aid knowledge (not essential)
- long term commitment to the role

We also need some support with fundraising. We had an excellent workshop with Annette and Sally from Community Learning and Development staff from Ellon, so we are bursting with ideas. DO GET IN TOUCH.

**To contact email: [belhelviebanter@live.co.uk](mailto:belhelviebanter@live.co.uk) or tel: 07814 254 301**

Our current advertising rates are:

Full page (A5): £60 (Black & white) £90 (Colour)

Half Page: £32 (Black & white) £50 (Colour)

Quarter Page: £18 (Black & white) £27 (Colour)

Copy of articles (Font Times New Roman 10) and adverts for the next edition due out in September 2013 require to be with [belhelviebanter@live.co.uk](mailto:belhelviebanter@live.co.uk) by **2<sup>nd</sup> August 2013**

**If you would like to assist in delivering Belhelvie Banter in your area please contact us.**

Read current and back issues of Belhelvie Banter on line at [www.belhelviebanter.org](http://www.belhelviebanter.org)

# ROBERT LAMB

Architectural Services Ltd.



---

**COMPLETE DESIGN SERVICE  
FROM PLANNING THROUGH TO COMPLETION**

---

**FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION & QUOTATION  
ALL TYPES OF DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL WORK  
HOUSE ALTERATIONS & EXTENSIONS  
REPLACEMENT WINDOWS, FRENCH DOORS & PATIO DOORS  
DORMER WINDOWS & LOFT CONVERSIONS  
DOMESTIC GARAGES  
STEADING & LISTED BUILDING CONVERSIONS**

---

**BURNSIDE STEADING. 24 SMALL HOLDINGS.  
BALMEDIE. ABERDEEN. AB23 8WU.  
TEL/FAX:01358 742771 MOB: 07766 106279  
E-Mail: robert.lamb6@btopenworld.com**

## Daftneys Doggies

Dog walking, doggy day-care  
and home boarding in Balmedie  
and surrounding area.

**Enquiries and further info:**

**Tel: 0756 429 7986**

email:

**daftneysdoggies@hotmail.co.uk**



## CARLE'S SHEDS

*Another Quality Shed*

*For a wide range of Garden  
Sheds, Summer Houses,  
Garages, Kennels, Loose Boxes  
and Field Shelters*

**Tel: 01224 722445**

[raymond.barclay@btconnect.com](mailto:raymond.barclay@btconnect.com)

[www.carlessheds.co.uk](http://www.carlessheds.co.uk)

**Moss-Side, Parkhill, Dyce,  
Aberdeen, AB21 7AS**

# The Problem with Plastic

Cllr Paul Johnston. Chair of CRNS - The community resources anti waste group.

Its always an eye opener to help at a 'letter pick' Fun events where volunteers put on yellow jackets and carry 'grabbers' and bin bags to pick up litter. People want their villages to look tidy and that's a good thing.

I was happy to help clear alongside the burn on Eigie Road, Balmedie last month. But I noticed there is a barely hidden problem.

Its all those plastic wrappers of every size, crisp bags, carriers and plastic bottles.

Did you know that very bit of plastic that has ever been made still exists in one form or another?

The main problem with plastic -- besides there being so much of it -- is that it doesn't biodegrade. No natural process can break it down. Experts point out that the durability that makes plastic so useful to humans also makes it quite harmful to nature - and in the end us as well.

Instead, plastic *photodegrades*. (That is - it breaks into smaller and smaller pieces under light and over time.)

A plastic cigarette lighter cast out to sea will fragment into incredibly tiny pieces of plastic without breaking into its original simpler compounds.

The small bits of plastic produced by *photo degradation* are called mermaid tears or nurdles.

These tiny plastic particles can get sucked up by feeding land and marine animals and damage their bodies. Even larger marine animals eat the bigger plastic, which can poison them or lead to deadly blockages. But it gets worse.

Nurdles also have the insidious property of soaking up toxic chemicals. Over time, even chemicals or poisons that are widely diffused in water can become highly concentrated as they're mopped up by nurdles. These poison-filled masses threaten the entire food chain. Remember you are the top of that chain.

Plastic has acutely affected sea birds such as albatrosses, see this: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gbqJ6F1fajc>

As I did my bit alongside the burn in Balmedie, the amount of plastic was worrying. If you knew what it did - would you really want to throw it away.?

Plastics can be very useful. It is an incredibly important material - but it is not something to throw away. It will poison generations to come. It never goes away - so don't throw it away.

If you can - avoid buying plastic bottles or wrapping- and if not then always dispose of in the proper waste bins.



# MUIRTON GARAGE LTD.



## Servicing & Repairs

- **SERVICING ON ALL MAKES AND MODELS**
- **ALL MECHANICAL REPAIRS**
- **DIAGNOSTICS**
- **MOT PREPARATION**
- **RECOVERY**
- **24 HOUR ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE**

**01358 743543**  
**07970 657101 (24 hour roadside assistance)**  
**[www.muirtongarage.co.uk](http://www.muirtongarage.co.uk)**

**MUIRTON FARM ROAD**  
**POTTERTON**  
**AB23 8UP**

## SUMMER HOLIDAYS

The clocks have sprung forward an hour and we are now looking forward to the long, light summer evenings and the prospect of summer holidays. Fingers crossed that we will have some nice warm weather and don't have to spend the longer days looking at grey rainy skies as we have done in recent years.

With the thought of holidays, many people will be thinking of jetting off for guaranteed sun and at this time of year we GPs are often asked for travel advice. I do not mean that we are muscling in on travel agencies, but rather people want to know what jabs may be required. Fortunately we have continuously updated information on this, and we can access to more expert advice if you plan to go somewhere really unusual.

Please do not book a last minute trip to somewhere very exotic if you have not had any of the usual travel vaccines. You need a minimum of 2 weeks after your jabs for the vaccines to work. So stick to the less exotic European resorts, or perhaps Florida for your last minute deals or you may get more than you bargained for!

Hepatitis A, Typhoid and all the usual UK vaccines (tetanus, polio, diphtheria, and all childhood vaccines) are regarded as important for many destinations, for example Morocco or Egypt. Depending on length of stay, destination and what you are doing on holiday, you may also need Hepatitis B, Rabies and perhaps Yellow Fever or Japanese Encephalitis vaccines. Some of these vaccines may be required if you are lucky enough to be heading on an African safari!

Another very important illness to consider is Malaria. It is vital that you know about the malaria status of your destination, as this is not an illness you would wish to catch. Taking preventative tablets, before, during and after your holiday is a hassle but potentially lifesaving. Avoiding being bitten is just as important. Dusk is when the mosquito is most active and if you are out at that time, make sure that you have applied repellent and have covered lower legs and arms to minimise exposed skin.

As you can see, planning ahead is important for your holiday. That last minute deal may not be the bargain you'd hoped for if you are not covered. This reminds me that another often overlooked thing is insurance cover. This is especially true of trips to Europe, as sadly the EC111 card is only good for immediate or emergency treatments. If you need medical transfer from a European hospital and have no insurance, the costs are mind boggling, running into tens of thousands for air ambulances. You MUST also declare all your medications and important medical history or you may lose your cover; remember insurance companies are not that charitable!

Travel clinics at surgeries can fill up quickly and it is unlikely that you will be able to get the necessary vaccinations at short notice. So for a fine summer, plan ahead, make sure you're insured and have had all the correct jabs AND enough time to get them.

Of course we could hope that we'll have a lovely warm sunny summer here, but sadly depending on this is probably a forlorn hope!

**Dr. A Forbes**





## 20 YEARS OF ROTARY IN BRIDGE OF DON

The Rotary Club of Aberdeen Balgownie has had a busy programme this winter with regular speakers at Thursday meetings and a number of fund-raising events to maintain our charitable activities. Our current membership is 30 (from most walks of life) – much the same number as when we were founded in 1993.

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated our first 20 years with a fine meal, a selection of photos and memorabilia and, a few ‘short’ speeches and reminiscences.

Just a reminder: we cover the area from Balmedie to Bridge of Don and we meet at 6 for 6.30 on Thursdays at Mains of Scotstown Inn. You are most welcome to visit us and see what Rotary is all about. **Mike Daw**

# K.F. Watson Electrical

Commercial - Industrial - Domestic



Ellon: 01358 789739  
Aberdeen: 01224 566450  
[www.kfwatsonelectrical.co.uk](http://www.kfwatsonelectrical.co.uk)

### "JOBING A SPECIALITY"

Outside sockets & security lights  
Extra sockets & telephone points  
Loft lights & power to sheds  
Oven/cooker repairs  
Down lights  
Replacement trip style fuse boxes  
Mains wired smoke detectors  
Electric showers  
Extract fan installations  
Electric under floor heating

Fixed Wiring/Periodic Inspections

**SELECT**

Building Standards  
Approved Certifier



Free Estimates  
& Advice

All Electrical Work Undertaken  
Our Prices won't SHOCK you

From a Socket  
to a Rewire

## **MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE –**

### **NEW ELLON & DISTRICT LOCAL FUNDRAISING GROUP**

Marie Curie Cancer Care has been expanding its fundraising capacity by forming local fundraising groups across the UK. In January 2013 a group of around 10 volunteers from the area met for the first time at the Kirk Centre in Ellon. Subsequent meetings have been held within the Community Meeting Room at Ellon Police Office.

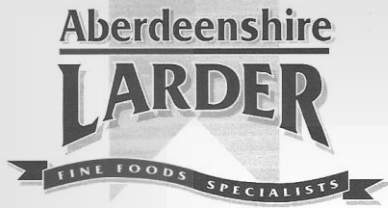
To date we have held a two day collection at Tesco Ellon raising a fantastic £1700 and on 19 April the Cock and Bull Restaurant, Balmedie hosted a fun Quiz Night raising an amazing £1620!

The Group is to hold a "Blooming Great Tea Party" at the Kirk Centre in Ellon on the morning of Saturday 15 June 2013 as part of Marie Curie annual summer events - all are welcome with a small donation sought for tea/coffee and home bakes.

Whilst the Group is in its infancy we are delighted with the great support received to date from local businesses and residents. Every £20 raised provides an hour of care provided by Marie Curie specialist nursing staff in the local area. Marie Curie is known for its delivery of services to cancer sufferers, however the same service is delivered to people suffering a wide range of terminal illnesses, the focus being on supporting people who wish to spend their final days at home, be that with family, friends or just in the place that they feel most comfortable.

The Group will be arranging other events in the future, but in the meantime we are always looking for local people or businesses to arrange their own fun events that will raise funds for Marie Curie Cancer Care. If you have any plans to hold such an event be it large or small, and would consider doing this in aid of Marie Curie, then please get in touch. Everything raised will be used locally to help those in the final days of their life.

**Local contact - Bill Archibald, Belhelvie. 07545 079345**



## **Factory Meat Shop**

*Quality meat at reasonable prices*

*“Where Customer Quality  
& Service Comes First”*

*Beef, Lamb, Pork, Game, Sausages, Bacon & much more*

*Shop Hours: Mon – Thurs 8am – 4pm*

*Fri 8am – 5pm and Sat 8am – 2pm*

**Unit 3, Broomiesburn Road**

**Ellon, AB41 9RD**

**Tel: 01358 727857**

## **BELHELVIE CHURCH UPDATE**

### **Coffee Haven at Belhelvie**

**Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> April was the first morning of a new venture called “COFFEE HAVEN” in the Forsyth Hall at Belhelvie Church and by all accounts it was a great success for all involved.**

**Tea, coffee and a delicious choice of home bakes were on offer and in the warm and welcoming atmosphere there was plenty of time to chat to friends or make new ones.**

**COFFEE HAVEN is staffed by volunteers, and the purpose of providing this service is to have a new venue where people of all ages and stages can come and meet other folk in comfort without having to travel any great lengths. Easy parking in the Forsyth Hall car park is an added benefit.**

**We don't charge for the refreshments as we want to offer this space as a service to the community, but donations are always more than welcome!**

**The best recommendation is to give it a try and to help you do this, here are**



**the dates to put into your diary so you can bring your friends, neighbours or even your family along to enjoy the benefits of the “COFFEE HAVEN”**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June from 10.00am until 12 noon.**

**Look forward to seeing you there.**

**Community Shop and Post Office –  
Family owned for over fifty years  
Friendly place to shop offering newspaper  
deliveries and National Lottery**



**Smith & Co  
ABERDEEN, AB23 8UY**

**The Shop, Potterton  
Tel 01358 742670**

# **Dickies Pharmacy**

## Opening Hours

Mon-Fri: 9.00am – 5.30pm

Saturday: 9.00am – 12.30pm

Rowan Drive,  
Balmedie,  
Aberdeenshire.  
AB23 8SW

Tel: 01358 741226

## Services

- A prescription collection service from the following local surgeries:  
Ellon Health Centre, Danestone Medical Practice, Jesmond Drive,  
Oldmachar Medical Practice and Scotstown Medical Group
- We can provide oxygen cylinders for patients.
- Disposal of Unwanted and Expired Medicines.
- A NHS supported stop smoking programme.
- Emergency Hormonal Contraception.
- The Minor Ailment Service.
- Confidential advice and support.
- Coming Soon is the new Chronic Medication Service!



## **Sunday School**

Would you like to come along and join us at Belhelvie Church Sunday School? We meet in The Forsyth Hall on Sunday morning at 10.45am. We have lots of fun listening to stories from the Bible, arts and crafts work, and singing. We then go over to Church to join in the last 10 minutes of worship and finish around 12md. All children from the age of 3years to 12 years are welcome. For any further information contact **Rev. Dr. Paul McKeown tel. 01358 742227 or Mrs Aileen Lamb 01224 704317.**

## **Summer Holiday Club – WASTEWATCHERS**

Plans are afoot to follow up GOING BANANAS and CHAMPION'S CHALLENGE with another dose of summer fun at the Forsyth Hall in August. Dates are still to be confirmed, but the club will run for **three days** during the week of August 12<sup>th</sup> 2013. This year we are planning to team up with Better Balmedie for one of the days to – quite literally – get our hands dirty as we think about this beautiful world God's given us, and what we can do to look after it (and ourselves!).

**Watch out for more details before the summer via school mailings, posters around the community and the Belhelvie Church Facebook Page.**

**Christian Aid Week** ran from 12th-18th May this year, and as usual we collected door to door within the parish. Christian Aid aims to help people in poverty out of poverty, regardless of race or creed. As part of our fundraising at Belhelvie we had a **Quiz Night and Supper** on Friday 10th May, and all proceeds went to the work of Christian Aid. This as always was good fun (and a competitive night!).

Our annual **Memorial Service** will be held on Sunday May 26th at 11am. This is a service where we remember those from our parish who've passed on during the year, specifically those whose funerals I've conducted. Their names are read out and representatives of their families are invited to come and light a candle in their memory. Once those candles have been lit, any other folk who are carrying the pain of bereavement are able to come up and light a tea light in memory of their loved one too. Many folk find this a helpful milestone along the way, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Finally, please remember to 'friend' us on Facebook to keep up to date with what's going on in your local church of Scotland and, if you have the time and interest, you could check out our sermon blog at <http://www.sevengoodsongs.blogspot.com/>

**There is also a Golden Zumba class on Monday mornings in the Forsyth Hall from 9.45am - 10.30am followed by refreshments and chat. Come along and exercise with plenty of fun and laughter.**

**Rev Dr. Paul McKeown**

# REID PLUMBING & HEATING SERVICES LTD.

Reid Plumbing & Heating Services is a family run company which was founded over 28 years ago. We pride ourselves in delivering exceptional quality to all customers both residential and commercial. We specialise in:-

## **Bathrooms**

- Full design service
- New installations
- Refurbishment of existing
- Forming WC facilities in cupboards
- Towel rails

## **Tiling**

- Wall tiles
- Floor tiles
- Under tile heating
- Re-grouting existing tiling

## **Central Heating**

- Full design service
- New installations
- Boiler changes
- Upgrade of existing systems
- Designer radiators
- Boiler services
- Landlord Gas Safety certificates

## **Kitchens**

- Full design service
- New installations
- Refurbishment of existing
- Granite worktops
- Installation of gas appliances
- Cooker hoods

## **Gas Fires**

- New installations
- Upgrade/replacement of existing
- Servicing/gas safety checks

## **Traditional Plumbing**

- Lead work
- Cast iron gutters & downpipes
- Outside garden taps

If you wish to discuss any element of work we undertake, please do not hesitate to get in contact with George Reid.

**Reid Plumbing & Heating Services Ltd.**



**Arborley  
North Beach Road  
Balmedie**

**01358 742339**

## STRABATHIE RAILWAY

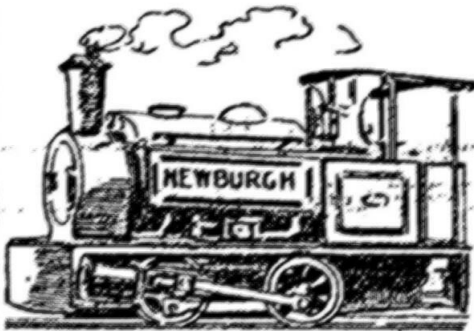
All my life I've been interested in railways. The interest waxes and wanes but just now it's waxing with the result I'm reading all sorts of railway related stuff.

Anyway, a few months ago I bought some railway magazines from Rosie Nicol which she got from her brother and sold for Better Balmedie funds at our car boot sale. Browsing through a magazine actually called "The Railway Magazine" published in March 1948, I came across an article about a railway line which ran from the Bridge of Don to Strabathie/Black Dog. I had never heard of this line so decided to find out what it was all about and this is the story.

In 1899 The Seaton Brick and Tile Company decided to move from Seaton to Strabathie to take advantage of the large clay deposits in the area. The company built a state of the art brickworks there and at one time employed about 100 men producing millions of bricks and tiles which had to be transported to the main railway network or to the harbour in Aberdeen. The only way to move heavy loads by road at this time was by horse and cart or wagons pulled by traction engines, both methods being slow and expensive, so the company decided to build a railway from the works to Bridge of Don. The single line was laid to a 3 ft. gauge which was and still is used on some industrial railways as opposed to the 4 ft.8.5 in. used on the national railway. The work of laying the line was done by the brick works employees under supervision of Board of Trade engineers. The line travelled east from the works to fairly close to the sand dunes where it turned south and gently wound its way parallel to the coast, passing the Murcar Golf Club and round the edge of the Royal Aberdeen golf course. It then terminated at a point at the east end of what is now Links Road, Bridge of Don and an unloading platform was built. In the 1960s we lived at 11 Donmouth Crescent and our garden backed on to Links Road, only about 100 yards from the end of the railway. I wish I had known about it then.

The laying of this line was greeted enthusiastically by the newspapers of the time where hopes were expressed that this could prompt the start of other narrow gauge

systems in areas not served by the national network and that this line might be extended as far as Newburgh or even Collieston! It was also suggested that the tramline from the city to Bridge of Don be extended to meet the rail line in order for the company to run their train direct to the network railway goods depot at Waterloo, paying the corporation for the privilege. None of these schemes came to fruition but the railway ran successfully for many years not only transporting bricks and tiles



SADDLE TANK LOCOMOTIVE FOR NARROW GAUGE WORK



## New dance aerobic classes

**FIRST CLASS FREE!!!**

Classes held at Forsyth Hall,  
Belhelvie

Mon & Wed evenings 8-9pm

Saturday mornings 9.00am

Burn up to 600 calories in one fun and powerfully effective 60-minute total body workout. Every Jazzercise class combines dance-based cardio with strength training and stretching to sculpt, tone and lengthen muscles for maximum fat burn.

For more information contact:

Claire Murray: 07824 552883

<http://www.jazzercise-uk.com/>

# jazzercise®

it shows

cardio

strength

stretch



[jazzercise.com](http://www.jazzercise.com)



## Rowancott Herbs

**Herbal medicine and  
Aromatherapy massage  
provide a real and holistic  
alternative for chronic,  
stress-related & many  
other health problems**

*Erica Hollis BSc MNIMH*

tel: 01651 862359

mob: 07817 181 072

for more details see:

[www.rowancottherbs.co.uk](http://www.rowancottherbs.co.uk)



# Cadgers Garage

BELHELVE VILLAGE, ABERDEENSHIRE

**MOT  
TESTING  
STATION**

**LOCAL PICK-UP & DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE**

**Mon – Fri: 8am – 6pm**

**Saturday: 8am –**

**MOT's •  
REPAIRS •  
SERVICING •  
BODY REPAIRS •  
PAINT SPRAYING •**



**Telephone:  
(01358) 742284**



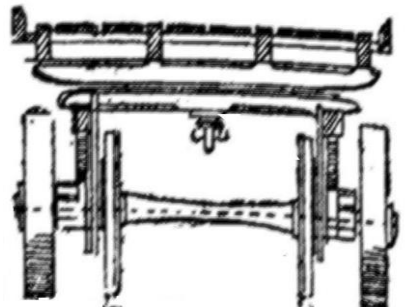
but also employees and golfers to Murcar Golf Club.

The locomotive used was a small but powerful saddle tank steam engine of the type used extensively in coal mines, quarries and harbours. The line drawing of the engine shown here, has the name NEWBURGH written along the side, which perhaps was wishful thinking. It was supplied by W.Bagnall & Co. of Stafford, a well known manufacturer of industrial locomotives and at a later date motive power was supplemented with petrol engined Ford and Albion trucks adapted for passenger use and fitted with wheels to run on the railway, rail buses in other words.

The line drawing of the wagons to be used shows an arrangement whereby the wheels for use on the railway could be raised and a set of wheels suitable for the road could be brought into use.

When the brickworks closed in 1924 the Murcar Golf Club actually bought the line and ran it successfully until 1949. Can you imagine- tram to Bridge of Don, train to Murcar, game of golf, a pint or two in the club house, train back to Bridge of Don and tram into town-could life get any better?

There's not much evidence of the railway to be seen now, a cutting and an embankment on the Murcar course and the bell that was rung to herald the departure of the last train of the day which I thought was still in the club house but on enquiring found it was no longer there. I had a wander at Blackdog but only saw what could have been a cutting at the west side of the water treatment works but could actually be a drainage channel. I wonder what happened to the steam locomotive because I think it was bought new in 1899 so it was only 25 years old when the works closed and these have a working life of about 50 years. A fair number of Bagnall locomotives are still working on preserved railways but not NEWBURGH.



STEAM OR HORSE TRACTION FOR 3 FOOT GAUGE RAILWAY

The Strabathie Railway was also known as The Murcar Railway and The Belhelvie Railway. I had a walk along the side of Royal Aberdeen Golf Course but had to use my imagination to see any trace of the railway, perhaps the line of the track when standing at the top of one of the higher dunes. The track is shown on the Ordnance Survey map for 1930 which can be viewed on the internet at <http://maps.nls.uk/os/view/index.cfm?sid=74400642>.

The Murcar Golf Club has produced an excellent book on the history of the club and a whole chapter is devoted to the story of the railway which was very important to the development of the club prior to 1948 as travelling to Murcar would have been difficult until the use of the motor car became widespread.

**Alan Leith**



Family  
photography  
and a free gift  
for just £25

“ Our photography session was  
incredibly enjoyable and we have  
beautiful photos to cherish. ”

## Capture the moment

Buy a **Family photography experience**  
for just **£25** (usually £160) and you will  
receive the following:

- A one hour photography session
- A viewing appointment showcasing  
the images from your session  
arranged at your convenience
- One 8" x 6" contemporary framed  
portrait of your choice

To book call 01358 743 061

**Barrett & Coe** *fantastic photography*

**Barrett & Coe Aberdeen** 1 Mitchell Brae,  
Balmedie, Aberdeenshire AB23 8PW

[www.barrettandcoe.co.uk/aberdeen](http://www.barrettandcoe.co.uk/aberdeen)



## MURCAR LINKS GOLF CLUB

*Join Murcar Links Golf Course & play one of the  
finest links Championship Courses in Scotland*

- Fully stocked Pro Shop
- Lessons available from our Professional,  
Gary Forbes - Tel: 01224 704370
- Superb Practice Facilities
- Catering available daily
- Individual & Corporate Memberships Available
- Visitors Welcome

*Murcar, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, AB23 8BD*  
*Tel: 01224 704354 email: [golf@murcarlinks.com](mailto:golf@murcarlinks.com)*  
*[www.murcarlinks.com](http://www.murcarlinks.com)*



### **PUBLIC HEARING: CONCERNS OVER PROPOSALS TO SITE WINDFARM SUBSTATION AT BLACKDOG**

A group of concerned residents and supporters attended a public hearing on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April in The Whitehorse Inn, Balmedie. The purpose of the hearing, which followed a site visit to look at the proposed development, was to give members of the public an opportunity to respond to proposals to establish an electricity substation in the village of Blackdog. If approved, this sub-station will provide an onshore connection to the electricity grid for power produced by the proposed 11-turbine offshore wind farm. The development is a joint venture between Vatenfall UK and Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group (AREG). Most residents in the area are opposed to this proposal for Blackdog, which is linked to a £230 million offshore wind farm scheduled to deliver power in 2016. Those present were informed that it forms part of a power station and demonstration site which will have an eventual 7000 turbines producing power offshore.

The establishment of the substation was described as crucial for the European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre (EOWDC) planned for nearby Aberdeen Bay; approval for the scheme was granted on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2013. Eleven Aberdeenshire councillors, Council planning and other personnel, plus representatives of the developers attended the hearing to discuss the controversial proposals before a lively audience of concerned residents. Presentations opposing the plans were given by local residents Edna Booth and Nicola Brown, community councillors David Watson and Michael Slaughter and a solicitor representing the Trump Organisation.

Topics were wide-ranging and included concerns about many previous 'dumpings' of things such as asbestos, tyres, lead, etc. in several landfill sites at Blackdog, as well as issues such as vehicle access, health hazards and de-commissioning. AS

# Jesmond Joinery Ltd

kitchens/bedrooms/bathrooms  
supplied and fitted/ceramic tiling  
contact Bob Pirie



piriebob@btinternet.com

07775991196

01358 743299

Parkview Potterton  
Aberdeen  
AB238UY

## **N.A.THOMPSON** *Plumbing and Heating*

Over 30 years experience  
**GAS Safe Registered.**  
Central Heating Systems  
Boiler installation/replacement



**Bathrooms and all types of plumbing and heating work  
undertaken**

**FREE Quotes - Tel: 07778 373 600**

**Call your local expert today for a job Well Done!**

## **TARTS AND CRAFTS \*Open Saturday 10am – 4pm only\* due to a severe shortage of volunteers.**

**(Telephone 01358 742002) situated behind the Library in Balmedie.**

We have re-opened our doors following refurbishment kindly funded by Clariant Oil Service Ltd in Dyce. Despite a busy opening day on 6<sup>th</sup> April we continue to struggle to open more than one day each week. *Where are all the volunteers? Ed.*

The current volunteers are having serious discussions about the future and if we cannot attract more helpers we will have to close the doors for good. The time for the final decision is looming large and if the situation does not improve by the end of May then we can no longer avoid making a very difficult decision.

Being a volunteer means doing a variety of jobs such as working the till, selling crafts, taking orders from customers, cooking and baking a range of dishes. The range of jobs is good experience when applying for Catering College or any of the hospitality professions.

In addition to being a café, we are an art gallery exhibiting paintings by local artists. We stock a wide range of crafts made locally. We have on offer products to suit both those who want to spend their pocket money to items for people wanting to invest in something more exclusive.

**For more information please contact**

**Judith on 01358 742477 or Tracey on 01224 935815**

## **BALMEDIE LEISURE CENTRE**

As you are no doubt aware, our new entrance is now fully operational - Phase 1 of an ambitious programme to improve the facilities at the Leisure Centre.

Finances are in place for the completion of the café and we are actively trying to secure further funding for the fitness suite, both of which we hope to have completed by the end of the year.

Our website [www.balmedieleisure.co.uk](http://www.balmedieleisure.co.uk) is also nearing completion so lookout for our announcements on Facebook.

Balmedie Leisure Centre is a non-profit making, charitable organisation, established in 1986 and has a Management Committee of local volunteers. We provide a broad range of community learning, sporting and leisure-based opportunities to individuals and community groups at reasonable cost.

The Centre applies for funding on an annual basis to Aberdeenshire Council towards the costs of running the facility and generates funds from admissions and fundraising. Any help whether voluntary or financial would be very much appreciated. It really is great to see the Leisure Centre so busy therefore can I thank all customers for their continued support.

Finally with so much going on at the centre, the car park does get congested; a proposed extension, with line marking, should help alleviate this in the future. With our customers safety in mind, please park with consideration and refrain from parking on the pavement around the entrance to the car park. The Nursery has kindly given permission to utilize their car park after six o'clock, so there is no excuse! **Bill Murray Committee Chairperson.**

*Balmedie Pet Crematorium Ltd*



Wardhead Croft, Balmedie,  
Aberdeenshire, AB23 8YJ  
Tel 01358 742753 or 07818 408195

[www.balmediepetcrematorium.co.uk](http://www.balmediepetcrematorium.co.uk)

At Balmedie Pet Crematorium,  
we offer a dignified and private cremation  
service for your pet  
Please call or visit our website for further  
information

# Douglas Leal

**Chiropodist / Podiatrist**

*Surgery:* 72 Hutcheon Street  
Aberdeen AB25 3TB

*Treatments include:*

Local Anaesthetics  
Nail Surgery  
Ingrown nails  
Corns  
Callus  
Diabetic Care  
Insoles for Fallen Arches

Telephone 01224 639379

or

01358 742620

HPC REG. CH17891

**Home Visits Available**

## Servicemaster Garden Services



Grass-cutting & Weeding \* Pruning & Planting  
One-off Tidy-ups or Regular Visits  
Driveway & Patio Cleaning & Sealing  
**FREE QUOTATIONS**

Tel: 01358 741199 or Mob: 07912 781368

email: [servicemasterabdn@btinternet.com](mailto:servicemasterabdn@btinternet.com)

20 Tormentil Crescent, Balmedie

*We deliver boxes of organic  
fruit, mushrooms, eggs and  
vegetables*



## BRIDGEFOOT ORGANIC VEGETABLES

For further information:

**Colin J. Ward**  
**Bridgefoot**  
**Newmachar**  
**AB21 7PE**  
**01651 862041**

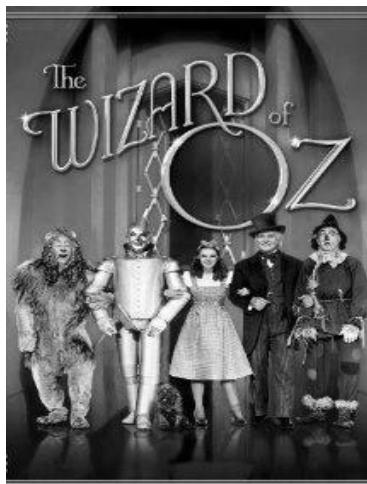
[bridgefoot.organics@btopenworld.com](mailto:bridgefoot.organics@btopenworld.com)  
[www.bridgefootorganics.co.uk](http://www.bridgefootorganics.co.uk)

Soil Association registered since 1991

## BRIDGE OF DON ACADEMY - "THE WIZARD OF OZ"

3<sup>RD</sup> - 5<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2013

Following on from the success of Bridge of Don Academy's production of "Oliver!" in June, it seemed only right to maintain the theatrical momentum and buzz that was created by repeating the experience in 2013. Everyone involved in "Oliver!" gained from the experience and many discovered that they had more talent and confidence than they had thought previously.



After some deliberation it was decided that this year we would be following the yellow brick road to "The Wizard of Oz". The story of Dorothy's trip from Kansas farm to the Emerald City is another classic musical with some timeless songs, memorable characters and no small amount of cackling. There is also the small matter of Toto the dog and all the staging headaches that this creates! Its large supporting cast also allows for the development of a true ensemble, with the whole cast contributing to the success of the piece.

We announced the show to a packed Assembly Room and posted notice of auditions for the seven principal roles and the chorus. Dozens of pupils from all year groups auditioned at lunchtimes and after school. It was a long, but rewarding, process and the production team were surprised and delighted by the depth of the talent that we have in the school and by the effort and endeavour shown at the auditions.

There were some difficult choices along the way, but we settled on a cast that we are sure will provide a show well worth seeing. Melissa Buchan takes on the role of Dorothy and she is joined on the journey to the Emerald City by Megan O'Brien, Shelly Cunningham and Amy Anderson as the Scarecrow, Tinman and Lion respectively. They are helped by Megan Allan as Glinda the Good Witch/Auntie Em and hindered by Amy Evans as the Wicked Witch of the West/Miss Gultch. The Wizard himself is played by Josef Boon, last seen as that old rogue Fagin. There are also multiple roles to be taken on by a talented and enthusiastic 40 strong chorus drawn from across all year groups.

Rehearsals have been underway since November and we have made enormous progress in blocking the scenes, developing characters and working as a full ensemble in the large scale choreographed set pieces. The cast have been enthusiastic and focused in rehearsals; some of them putting in up to 6 hours a



week throughout the winter months and into the spring. We are all committed to delivering a show that can top last year's success with "Oliver!"

"The Wizard of Oz" is a longer show than "Oliver!" so we have managed to squeeze in a little extra time at work in the drama studio to keep up the pace needed to produce the show that we want without having to rush at the end of the process and put ourselves under extra pressure. There has been plenty of scope for the chorus to adopt multiple roles: singing trees, flying monkeys, Winkies, assorted people of the Emerald City and, of course, Munchkins. At the same time, there are far more scenes than last year that involve a small number of characters – so the acting skills of the principals are really being put to the test and the line learning has proved a challenge. We have all done an enormous amount of work to perfect the large scale, choreographed set piece numbers so crucial to producing a successful musical.

The next steps will be to add the layers of character and movement necessary to producing believable and engaging characters.

Beyond the drama studio there are a great many elements to be brought together for the performance week in July. However, we have the experience of last year to help guide us in terms of timing and priorities. Our set designers are fairly advanced in their plans for how the production will look – including ideas on how to present an intimidating wizard and how to make a witch melt! The sourcing and production of costume is gathering pace, with Mrs Thomson and Mrs Hall of the Home Economics department taking on that considerable task once more. Some characters such as Munchkins will be able to source clothes from home that can be adapted to create their costumes. Other costumes, such as the Tinman, will have to be bespoke – but are also coming together very nicely. Mrs Fettes has entered prop sourcing mode and some of the shelving in her room will once again become the repository of the odd assortment of items needed to dress our production effectively. Some items will have to be built from scratch – oversized hourglass anyone?

We are also looking forward to the S1 Leadership day and the production of the programme for the show. Last year, the S1s did a terrific job in putting together a programme and in doing so helped create the buzz that made the whole experience such a great success. The eye-catching poster designed by S2 pupil Joel Simpson will soon be on display everywhere a potential theatregoer might lay eyes on it! Currently, we are recruiting some senior pupils for stage management roles –and possible cameos in the background of some of the bigger ensemble scenes. Later, we will be looking to other pupils to take on make-up and prop duties, and parents and staff to help with the get in and get out. The help of all of these people was invaluable last year and the show cannot be performed without the good will and good work of many beyond the cast and directorial team.

**Bridge of Don Academy's production of "The Wizard of Oz" will be performed at the Aberdeen Arts Centre on the evenings of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2013. Tickets are priced at £12 (£10 concession) and are available from the school now.**

**D. Haggarty Deputy Head**

# Newmachar Tree Surgery



Newmachar Tree Surgery gets the job done!

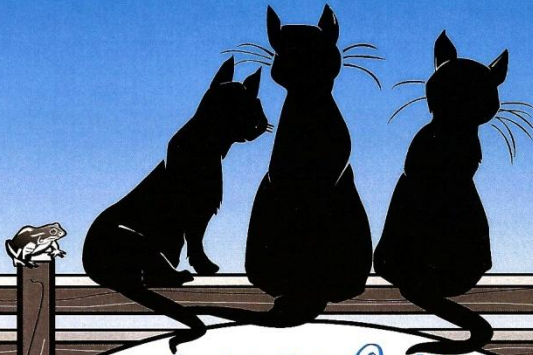
You name it and we can provide it. With experienced staff working around the clock, you can be sure we will get the job done and get it done right. Newmachar Tree Surgery are a fully insured, Aberdeenshire based company with a safe and professional approach to all aspects of tree pruning, tree felling and hedge cutting work in the Grampian area.

**Mob: 07721 551055 Tel: 01651 863404**

Tree Felling | Grass Cutting | Hedge Trimming | Fencing & Decking



[www.newmachartreesurgery.co.uk](http://www.newmachartreesurgery.co.uk)



## Frogmore Cattery

The North East's  
Premier Cat Hotel

Craigand, Frogmore Steading,  
Newburgh AB41 6BD

Tel: 01358 741965 • Mob: 07909 738960

E-mail: [susan@frogmorecattery.co.uk](mailto:susan@frogmorecattery.co.uk)

[www.frogmorecattery.co.uk](http://www.frogmorecattery.co.uk)



**TheStore**  
our farm, our passion - your lifestyle

# FRESH & HOME GROWN

direct from our family farm

- ABERDEEN ANGUS BEEF • HOMEBRED LAMB • LOCALLY SOURCED VEG • SCOTTISH DELI PRODUCTS • GOURMET HAMPERS • CHEF PREPARED MEALS WE CAN DELIVER TO YOUR DOOR IN THE ABERDEENSHIRE AREA • DELICIOUS HOMEMADE LUNCHES • HEALTHY READY MEALS

**VISIT OUR FARM & COFFEE SHOP. OPEN 7 DAYS.**

Westfield, Foveran, Aberdeenshire AB41 6AY Tel: 01358 788 083

[www.thestorecompany.co.uk](http://www.thestorecompany.co.uk)

Follow us or become a fan  



# BOB DEANS

Quality Painter & Decorator

Interior & Exterior

Private and Commercial

Competitive Rates – No VAT

For a prompt and reliable service  
Tel: 01224 692577

Mobile: 07901 696980

email: [Bobdeans618@btinternet.com](mailto:Bobdeans618@btinternet.com)

# GRP

ABERDEEN LTD



## GRP Storage Boxes

Customised sizes, choice of colour and shape



Available for both onshore and offshore applications



[www.grpaberdeen.com](http://www.grpaberdeen.com) Tel: +44 (0) 1224 897238 [www.msddesignltd.com](http://www.msddesignltd.com)

MSD Design Ltd, Unit 1, Logman Centre, Greenbank Crescent, Aberdeen, AB12 3BG



Children's Nursery, Newmachar  
**01651 869078**  
kelly@flowerpotschildcare.com  
[www.flowerpotschildcare.com](http://www.flowerpotschildcare.com)

## CREATIVE BRANDING FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Whether you're just starting out or you want to grow your business, with great design you'll stand out from the competition.

LOGOS • BUSINESS CARDS & STATIONERY • WEBSITES  
ADVERTS • FLYERS, POSTERS & BROCHURES

Call **07920 124224** or email  
[hello@fionarobertsongraphics.co.uk](mailto:hello@fionarobertsongraphics.co.uk)

 **Fiona Robertson**  
GRAPHICS

[www.fionarobertsongraphics.co.uk](http://www.fionarobertsongraphics.co.uk)

## GOUGH DECORATOR PAINTING AND DECORATING



*Domestic & Commercial*

*Quality & Competitive Work*

*Experienced Working at Height*

*Free Quotations & Free Advice*

*Interior & Exterior Painting* **Phone Douglas on** *Wallpaper Hanging*

**07975512456**

Or look at the web site

[www.goughdecorators.co.uk](http://www.goughdecorators.co.uk)

## **NEW!!BELHELVIE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME!!**

Further to break- ins in Belhelvie at the end of April. Members can join via [www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk](http://www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk) and look for Belhelvie on that site. The next meeting will be on June 13th 7.00pm at The Green Hut.

Details from

Paul Collier  
**07825 216 233**

## **BELHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Hydrogen Capture and Storage**

Representatives from CKD Galbraith, Estate Agents and Property Consultants, and Aberdeenshire Council gave a presentation at April's meeting, outlining plans to be submitted to Aberdeenshire Council's Planning Department for the erection of a wind turbine at Balmedie Quarry. The 400kw output turbine would produce electricity for the production of hydrogen to be used to power twelve hydrogen-powered buses, as part of the Council's drive towards greener fuels and energies.

### **Bancon Presentation**

Representatives from Bancon Developments Ltd attended the March Community Council meeting to give a brief description of their proposals for the development of the West Balmedie site. Amongst these are included erection of new primary and secondary schools, supermarket, several hundred houses and other amenities. It was stressed to the developers that community presentations would be essential to inform them of such a major development.

### **Donation of £1000**

The Community Council received a donation from Jesmond Gospel Trust to be spent on facilities in Balmedie. They purchased and installed two benches, each with two flower planters at either side and forwarded the remaining monies to 'Better Balmedie' to purchase plants for the planters.

### **Wester Hatton Landfill**

The Community Council is presently making representations to the Formartine Planning Service regarding the restoration and landscaping of the Wester Hatton Landfill due to the lack of action regarding it by the site operators; hopefully we'll see some improvement here before too long!

### **Community Council Membership**

*Anyone interested in becoming involved with the Community Council is encouraged to attend one of our meetings – these are held on the third Monday of each month, normally in Balmedie Primary School during school term time.*

**AS**

# RJG Property Maintenance Ltd, BALMEDIE

FOR ALL YOUR PROPERTY REQUIREMENTS



Ames Taping \* Painting & Decorating \* Timber & Joinery \* Masonry & Paving  
Gutter & Patio Jetting \* Insurance Work Undertaken \* Fully Insured  
Tel 07827 276 710 [www.rjgmaintenance.co.uk](http://www.rjgmaintenance.co.uk)

**1st Class Footcare**  
one step ahead

Janine Henry BSc (Hons) MChS  
Mobile Podiatrist/Chiroprapist

E: [firstclassfootcare@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:firstclassfootcare@hotmail.co.uk)  
M: 07586268049 HPC and State Registered

**Martin Stallard**  
GRASS MOWING  
GARDEN  
MAINTENANCE  
Tel: 01358 742833  
07778 344855

**LOKAL LOKS**  
Rapid Response  
Emergency Locksmith  
Call Peter on  
07703472390

**ANDERSON JOINERY & FLOORING**  
Potterton, Aberdeenshire

Supply and/or fit Amtico, Karndean, Laminate, Solid Wood, Carpet, Vinyl etc and General Property Maintenance for a free quote or further information, call Marc Anderson on **07716829484** or email:  
[Andersonjoineryandflooring@gmail.com](mailto:Andersonjoineryandflooring@gmail.com)

## GHOST TRAIN WALK

In June 2010, my very dear friend, Marion Bell, was diagnosed with cancer. To add to the blow, the cancer she was suffering from was found to be at an advanced stage and her deterioration was rapid. It was hard to witness from my perspective but must have been horribly upsetting for her daughter, Carol Ritchie, and family.

Soon after the diagnosis, Marion's Doctor provided her with details for Macmillan Cancer Support and advised that she would make an appointment for one of their Nurses to visit her. Within a couple of days, a Nurse arrived at their home and proved to be invaluable from that day forth. She immediately provided them with the number for the financial team at Macmillan and, within a week, they received a letter informing them of the benefits Marion was due as a consequence of her condition. They saw the Nurse on a regular basis and she worked closely with Marion's GP regarding her medication. Marion was also offered a bed at a local Macmillan hospice one day per week, along with transport for getting there and back, as respite for the family. Alongside providing support for Marion, the Nurse provided regular emotional, yet honest and practical, support and advice for Carol and the rest of the family to assist them throughout this difficult time.

In November 2010, Marion sadly lost her brave battle with cancer and her family and friends miss her terribly. To honour her memory, on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2013, I will be taking part in the Ghost Train Walk. This is an overnight walk from Grantown-on-Spey to Forres, a distance of 23 miles. The walk uses the Dava Way, which is a railway walk and most of the route follows the old Highland Railway line.

Having recently undergone surgery to remove cartilage in my wrist, this will be quite a challenge for me. As a consequence of this injury, my life has been on hold for many months. This is nothing compared to those suffering from cancer or dealing with it in their lives in another fashion but I feel that this is a great opportunity to get a bit of my life back whilst getting fit and doing something meaningful in memory of a dear friend.

It is safe to say that all of us have been affected by cancer at some point in our lives - whether that is friends, family, or even ourselves perhaps. Until a cure exists, we strive to ensure our loved ones are comfortable and receiving the best possible care and support. The team at Macmillan Cancer Support become invaluable in these circumstances and, in my opinion, receive little recognition for the support and care they provide.

If this cause means something to you, donations will be graciously accepted and can be made at [www.justgiving.com/hannah-darnell](http://www.justgiving.com/hannah-darnell).

I'm not afraid of the dark and most certainly not 'afraid of no ghosts' - so here goes  
**Hannah Darnell, Potterton**



### **3<sup>RD</sup> BELHELVE BROWNIES (POTTERTON)**

We have just come back from a brill camp at Haddo House. It was a bit touch and go as to whether it was happening with the alterations to the Pheasantry but Bob Wallis was our hero and sorted all that out for us.

We got to pitch our own tents, it's a bit difficult but our leaders said we were very good at it. Brown Owl had bought enough mallets for us to have one each so we could all bang in the tent pegs. Our theme was The Wizard of Oz so we went to the Land of Oz. In between making our tents untidy, fetching water, doing the cooking and washing up we followed a yellow brick road which we had to make first. We made diplomas for the Scarecrow's brains and a medal for the Lion's courage.



**Brownies making  
medals for the  
Lion**

We made an origami Toto and enjoyed the origami so much we did lots more. We got to run around a lot and spent lots of time in our tents which is why we got them so untidy. We did get them tidy enough for inspection though.

At our weekly meetings we've all been concentrating on lots of different interest badges. Ten different badges getting done at the same time, is a nightmare for our leaders. We had a badge testing night where many of the parents helped with the testing and all said they enjoyed it.

We have also been completing our "Anything Goes Challenge". There's a list of challenges which we can choose from. We are either doing them by ourselves or mostly in wee groups. The challenges are not set around a theme this time; they are activities which can be completed using all the things we have in our Brownie cupboard. It has been so much fun we asked the leaders if we could keep doing it for longer. Some of us want to get all 50 challenges completed.

If you know of anyone who would like to join us please get in touch with

**Katherine Hebron-Scott 01330 833448  
katherine@hebron1.orangehome.co.uk**

## **BETTER BALMEDIE**

During the spring and despite the rain and bitter cold, we've been busy in the polytunnel, growing plants on for planting out around the village, and for our Plant Sale on 1st June.

Everything is, of course, a bit late this year due to the long hard winter, but, as I write this article, it is good to see the wonderful show of daffodils around the village, taking over from the crocuses which eventually peeked out their little heads. It does us all good to see Spring finally here, and to look forward to getting our planters filled with summer plants, so busy times are here again.

We aim to maintain our stall at the forthcoming Farmers' Markets, which this summer are to take place monthly until September, and we will be present at the Balmedie Gala on 8th June. Plants can also be purchased at the polytunnel on Wednesday and Saturday morning.

New members and visitors are always welcome. Our monthly meetings are held in the Leisure Centre on the last Thursday of every month, at 7pm. We have a variety of speakers; at our most recent meeting we had a slide-show on the wildflowers of Donside, a reminder of the most wonderful scenery just on our doorsteps, a real incentive to get out there after the dreich winter months and make the most of what is around us. On a similar note, we look forward to another slideshow later in the year, on the coastline of the North-East (a date for your diaries? - 28th November.)

We enjoyed a most interesting Spring Workshop in April given by the Head Gardener at Leith Hall, who came to visit us. We look forward to going to Leith Hall on 29th June to visit the beautiful gardens there.

We continue to enjoy visits both from individuals who just drop by (there is a presence at the polytunnel every Wednesday and Saturday morning 10 to 12 am - everyone welcome.) and from groups. On 8th April we enjoyed the company of the young people from the Ellon Resource Centre, who along with their carers joined us for tea and cakes and a planting session - a good time was had by all. Visitors in the last year have included our local Brownies, who must be congratulated on how wonderful their planter ( by the Leisure Centre) looks at present with its colourful show of spring flowers. We continue to try to keep on top of the litter problem. 16 members plus supporters were out on our most recent litter-pick, and we managed to fill 5 wheelie bins. Members of the community are most welcome to join us on these outings. What a difference it makes to the look of the village, at least for a few days!

For more info: [www.betterbalmedie.org](http://www.betterbalmedie.org) or [www.facebook.com/BetterBalmedie](https://www.facebook.com/BetterBalmedie), or contact [allan\\_jeffrey@ymail.com](mailto:allan_jeffrey@ymail.com) (tel.01358 743851)

# BPH

Plumbing Heating &  
Gas Services Ltd

## A full range of plumbing heating and gas services...

- Qualified Gas Service Engineer
- Landlord Safety Certificates
- Magnaclean Power Flushing System
- Full Boiler Installation
- Bathroom Suites
- Kitchen Installations
- Extensions, Renovations
- All Jobbing and Maintenance

Jobs to do!

---

---

---

---

*No job too small!*



73

uk  
uk



## PARISH THREADS      by      MARY CANE

### ‘I COULD SEE THE WIND’

Did you know that a long time ago there was a freshwater loch in Belhelvie?... Yes there was. It stretched all the way from Ardo down to Butterywells at Potterton. Then one long cold winter rather similar to this long cold winter, a flock of geese came in to land and then the temperature dropped suddenly. It was so cold the water froze around their legs, and so when those geese flew away they took the loch with them... They say it is up beyond Methlick now.

This month the ice has retreated and there's been a flap on here in the garden. The pigeons are making themselves comfortable in the hedge. When they murmur to one another, they are supposedly saying: 'Tak twa coos Davie, Tak twa coos'.

During the cold and windy late spring, I took to armchair adventuring. I read John Buchan's stories of the far North. His son Johnny inherited the title Lord Tweedsmuir and came to live in Potterton House on Hogmanay 1952. Apparently he resembled one of his father's heroes and he is reputed to have kept a badger and a barrel of oysters in his rooms at Oxford. He and his wife Priscilla were only able to enjoy the woodland at their new home in Belhelvie for three weeks though because the great storm of January 1953 blew down most of the trees. However they set about replanting enthusiastically and any mature Canadian Maples growing near Potterton House date back to that time. Lady Tweedsmuir was the M.P. for South Aberdeen for some years and she was instrumental in the passing of the Protection of Birds Act in 1954. They grew to love this area especially the variety of birdlife. We have moorland and grassland, woodland and sea species, as well as migrant birds here in Belhelvie. Maybe it takes an outsider to appreciate the beauty and variety of a familiar place. Lady Tweedsmuir presented Sunday school prizes at the church and some people in Belhelvie still remember her.

After last year's wet autumn more fields than usual have been ploughed up in the parish this spring. On a windy day last month I saw a sight as strange as a flying loch. Over a newly sown field near the dunes, the earth was hanging in the sky taking on the shape of the wind. The brown swirling cloud settled again, but in Moray where the soil is lighter they needed snowploughs to clear soil from the roads.

Now the season is at last moving on. The Beech buds are coppery against blue spring sky. Their lime green leaves will soon emerge, softly folded, fanlike. Starry white Wood Anemones have appeared in the grass overnight.

Just before the sap rose and dark purple flowers boiled out of their little black hoof shaped buds, we cut down two big Ash trees. They had taken up residence here without anyone noticing for 50 years or so and were shading a Beech hedge.

## **PROMPT PLUMBING**



**Call**

**Dave Williamson**  
40+years experience  
of all types of  
**Plumbing Work**  
**Emergency Call-outs**

All jobs from tap washers  
to tanks and showers

**07810 477940**

**01651 882291**

Daisy Cottage, Whiterashes.

## **Cadgers Taxis**

**And Minibus Hire**

4/8/16 Seater cars/Minibuses  
People Carrier, Contracts, School runs



3 Scott Terrace,  
Belhelvie AB23 8YT

**01358-742370**

**positivepaws**  
puppy school 

### **Invitation to puppy owners**

Have fun socialising and training your puppy using kind, effective, modern methods in a relaxed, family-friendly environment

**Small classes for individual attention with a qualified instructor**

**CLASSES HELD AT WHITERASHES HALL**

Puppies accepted from completion of vaccination course.

**One-to-One training also available**

For further details contact:

**Billie Machell DipCABT, MAPDT 00748**

**Tel: 01651 862310**

[www.positive-paws.com](http://www.positive-paws.com)



Underneath one, tucked deep into the leaf mould we unearthed a green wine bottle with a deep punt in the base. It looked nearly as old as the trees. We pondered on who might have finished off a bottle of Burgundy in the corner of the garden by a couple of Ash saplings.

Standing in front of a waist high chopping log, billhook in hand, I reduced the mountain of Ash branches to a small hill of kindling. The job took time but it was soothing and productive. With a bird-song accompaniment I was as happy as a monk with a manuscript.

## **EDITOR'S REMINISCENCES**

Mary's reference to the Tweedsmuir's reminded me of a fascinating day the Belhelvie guides spent as Lord Tweedsmuir's guests at Potterton House. This followed from an enquiry sent by a very young Morag Sutherland and simply addressed to his Lordship at the House of Lords. His prompt reply invited us to come and visit him. The next time he came north from London to Edinburgh he would make the journey especially to greet us. We had free run of the house, garden and woodland and there we cooked him a camp style breakfast (in the rain!) which he ate with relish before showing us round the house and garden. Some girls were enrolled into the movement and made their Guide promise in the conservatory which I recall was completely steamed up with all the hot girls and wet cagoules.

The house was a treasure trove of artefacts from around the world. Not only gifts to his wife Lady Priscilla in her role with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and from his life in Canada but also from his travels working in Africa and South America as well as in the high Arctic with the Hudson Bay Company and his year spent living with Inuit. There was even a great bell from the front of a Canadian train. The girls took great delight in giving that a boing!

Indeed there were also many items belonging to his father, the author John Buchan the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Tweedsmuir. Our host 'Johnnie', the eldest of Buchan's three sons, claimed that although this famous author did own a typewriter he preferred the simple dipping pen, of which he had a collection and used these to write his many pieces including "The 39 Steps". He claimed his father did not master anything more elaborate and technical than the simple pen preferring that to the more modern fountain pen. I seem to remember being told that the great man could not even master the technicalities of riding a push bike! But perhaps his adventurous son was using a bit of poetic licence to impress the girls. He was a truly charming host and very responsive to a barrage of questions from the girl guides. All thanks to Morag and her note to the House of Lords.  
**AJ.**



## **1<sup>ST</sup> BELHELVIE RANGERS**

Last term we were working on our 'Together We Can' badge. This badge lets the Rangers investigate the UN's eight Millennium Development Goals which were set in 2000 to combat extreme poverty across the world by 2015. We looked at the 5<sup>th</sup> goal: Together we can improve maternal health. We've learnt how dangerous it can be for a mother in a war-torn country or those with poor health systems. We've played games to see just how unfair it can be to not have access to good maternity care. Did you know that the risk of maternal death is 1 in 11 in Afghanistan compared to 1 in 4700 in the UK? Now we are trying to help change the world by raising money for a maternal charity by selling baked goods; the Rangers have still to vote on which charity to support.

We have not managed to meet very much recently as the Rangers have been busy preparing for exams. As the exams approach, I am reminded of all the extra things the Rangers and I have learnt from Guiding; project management, team work, problem solving, and leadership skills. All of these attributes will look great on their CVs.

We'll be taking a break over the summer holidays but please get in touch in the meantime if you are interested in joining as a member (women 14-26 years) or as a helper (18 years +) to add to your CV too!

**Susan Osbeck**

**01224 703335 s.osbeck@rgu.ac.uk**

## **SWRI**

Almost at the end of our syllabus but what a strange beginning of the year. We had to cancel February and March meetings due to the horrible weather. It was most disappointing. Anyway we have had our 2013 AGM and our speaker for May is Rosie from Better Balmedie. We have an outing in June to Ross's Bakery before the summer break. Back on Wednesday 11th September at Eigie House 7-30pm. Please come along and give the SWRI a try, we are a friendly group of ladies of various ages and new faces are made very welcome. Eigie House is a comfortable warm venue with easy parking and access for the less able. If you would like more information give me a ring

**Elaine Strachan on 01358 743173.**

Have a good summer break.

## **BALMEDIE CRAFT CLUB**

The craft club runs on Thursday nights from 6.30-7.30 in Balmedie School. The club welcomes all primary school children at the cost of £1.50 per night, we make lots of different crafts from painting, gluing, baking and even try sewing. Soon will be time to make a special Father's Day present. This year again we will have the chocolate stall at the Gala so please give us a go there. The craft club runs until the end of June and will resume second Thursday after the Summer holidays.

**Catherine 01358 743114**





## BRAMBLES (Belhelvie Rambles)

BRAMBLES is now an established walking group!

Since the end of February we have been meeting up to walk in Belhelvie Parish and further afield. We have been around Balmedie village via its numerous paths, through the Country Park, Balmedie Beach, the Magic Woods and Balmedie House. We've been along Aberdeen Beach to Fittie, and around Kingseat village. Longer walks have included visits to Haddo House and Old Aberdeen, Cruickshank Gardens and Seaton Park. Numbers have ranged from 6 to 14 people. All our walks are over easy terrain, with emphasis on fun rather than record-breaking speeds!

We meet for short walks every Thursday - 10am at Balmedie Leisure Centre

Long walks are on the first Sunday of each month. Walks planned for June, July, August and September are to Milton of Crathie, the River Don, Monymusk and Bennachie.

You'll be very welcome if you come and join us!

For more information about Brambles, contact **Alan Leith 01358 743 759**

### **DATES FOR**

### **YOUNG FARMERS**



**May 14th** - stock judging at Gateside, Udny kpo James Irvine, 7.30pm start.

**May 21st** - machinery valuation at Sellars in Oldmeldrum, 7.30pm.

**June 4th** - a Farm Tour at Hamish Watson's at 7.30pm.


**For each event - Cars leave Ellon Park and Ride at 7pm.**

If you are interested in any of these please feel free to come along.

Phone Stacey Delday (chairman) 07943 571000 or Amy Johnston (secretary) 07584409682 if you need a lift.

**Amy Johnston**

**ServiceMASTER.**  
*Clean* Carpets & upholstery

professionally cleaned 

**Because there's no one more serious about service.**

Deep cleaning plus fast drying for carpets & upholstery using the latest Truckmount technology .

Hard floors stripped & sealed including Amtico & Karndean, leather renovation, carpet and fabric protection and more!

Recommended by leading manufacturers and insurance companies.



ServiceMaster (Aberdeen) [www.servicemaster.co.uk](http://www.servicemaster.co.uk)

**01358 741199 07912 781368**

Email: [servicemasterabdn@btinternet.com](mailto:servicemasterabdn@btinternet.com)

20 Tormentil Crescent, Balmedie AB23 8SY

## **B.P.D. Builder**

**Balmedie**

All types of Building Work Undertaken



- NEW BUILDS • RENOVATIONS
- GARAGES • CONSERVATORIES
- EXTENSIONS • ROUGHCASTING

**Tel 01358 742046**

**Mob 0784 151 7298**

**email [bpdbuilder@live.co.uk](mailto:bpdbuilder@live.co.uk)**



## **Wayne Combe Roofing**

All roofing work under taken including pointing, flat roofs, leadwork, slating, tiling, gutters, pvc soffit and fascia and gutters, also roof cleaning and roughcasting. All work guaranteed.

**Contact me on 07592 403051 for a free no obligation quotation!**

1 Harris Drive, Aberdeen AB24 2TF [waynecombe@btinternet.com](mailto:waynecombe@btinternet.com)

## BALMEDIE LIBRARY

Eigie Road, Balmedie AB23 8YF Tel: 01358 742045

OPENING TIMES	MON	2.30 - 4.30	THURS	10.00 - 1.00
		5.30 - 7.30	FRI	Closed
	TUES	Closed	SAT	10.00 - 1.00
	WED	2.30 - 4.30		
		5.30 - 7.30		

The first Thursday of each month (term time only), there is a Rhymetime session for under-fives from 11.30 – 12.30 come along and join in the fun.

Adult and Junior Books, Talking Books, DVDs and CDs

Photocopier, free internet access and scanner available.

You can now download Audio Books & eBooks to your computer, cell phone, iPod or eBook reader, unfortunately not to a Kindle but you can if you have a Kindle Fire, free at [aberdeenshirelibraries.lib.overdrive.com](http://aberdeenshirelibraries.lib.overdrive.com) Contact the Library for further details.

*Look out for the Summer Reading Challenge which will be starting again towards the end of June.*

*Last year's Challenge was really successful and Balmedie Library had not only the most participants for our size of library but we had the most children who completed the Challenge, so well done to all who took part and we look forward to seeing you all during the summer break.*

**Maureen Muirden**

## BALMEDIE SCHOOL

The Magic Woods is a wooded area behind the school which is for the whole community to use. Our Eco Committee organised a terrific Eco Week in March. We worked with The Conservation Volunteers and parents to make the Magic Woods a better and more accessible place to be. Activities included listening to wildlife recordings, making log animals, a leaf tunnel, a wicker fence, a wildlife hide and a sensory path. Thank you to our Eco Committee, parent helpers and volunteers who helped make this happen. This work will hopefully go a long way in helping the school achieve our first Green Flag for Eco Schools. **We will keep you posted!**

A number of our P6 and P7 pupils are taking part in the Ellon Schools Golf Tournament at the end of the month. This is at Ellon Golf Club. **We wish them luck.**

A group of Aberdeen College students studying sport are currently working with school to organise a Health and Wellbeing sport event in May. Children will work in groups and try out a number of special sporting activities.

**Let's hope the sun shines!**

**Allison Conner Deputy Head Teacher**

**Need Pet Help???**

Call Jayne...

## **ANIMAL NANNY**

Registered Dog Walker  
& Cat Sitter

Member of NARPS

Established 2004

Please call **01358 742252**

or

**07774 728940**

5 Kirkhill Way  
Potterton  
AB23 8ZB



## **Pauline Wood Antiques and Collectables**

**Shop Now Open**  
Specialising in  
Grandfather Clocks and  
Quality Furniture  
Antiques Bought & Sold

**Open 7 days**  
Tel: **01358 743002**  
Jalna, Manse Road  
Potterton, AB23 8UB  
email: [pwac@supanet.com](mailto:pwac@supanet.com)

## *Balmedie Hair and Beauty*

Unit 1 Whitehorse Buildings, Balmedie, 01358 742888

*A full range of hair & beauty treatments including ....*



*Colour treatments  
Racoon hair extensions  
Weft extensions  
Acrylic / Gel nail extensions  
Waxing  
Bio-gel overlays  
Eyelash extensions  
St Tropez spray tanning*

**BALMEDIE  
CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH**

All our Services are at  
**Balmedie Leisure Centre**  
Eigie Road, Balmedie  
**Every Sunday at 11 a.m.**  
Everyone Welcome

In the last Edition, I made comment that our Church was looking again at a **Church Building**.

I am pleased to say things are looking positive, we still have a few stages to go through, but we have planning permission for a small Church, big enough for our needs. We are finalising the ground, next to the outdoor courts at the Leisure Centre - near the shops.

It will be small, but will be available to the community, during the week. We intend to have a copy of the plans at the Balmedie Gala.

Our Services are informal and family friendly - everyone is welcome and you are invited to come visit us – without any obligation. If you have questions, please telephone me:

**Rev. Andy Cowie 01224 703248**

**Summer** - We are wanting to experiment with a summer play scheme this summer, it is likely to run on Thursday evenings. All children will be welcome. Details to follow.

Our Church is here to help and support, be it a happy occasion or sad, we are here for Baptisms, Weddings, funerals or if you simply need a listening ear. For further information, please contact our Minister, Rev. Andy Cowie 01224 703248

Last month I mentioned that we were involved with opening a new Church in Glen Clova. Last month I had the privilege of Ordaining their new minister, Rev. The Honourable Mrs Ruth Leslie Melville. I thank those who travelled with me to the Esk Church.

**POTTERTON CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH**

Our Services are now at  
**Potterton Community Centre**  
**Every Sunday at 6pm**

Everyone Welcome If you wish to contact us: Minister, Rev. Andy Cowie 01224 703248

**Our Church folks are delighted to be back in the village on Sundays, but Church is more than a Sunday.**

**It has been brought to our attention that there is a lack of things for adults to do in Potterton. We have thoughts about trying to arrange some sort of gathering, a friendship type of group?**

**If you have an interest or another suggestion, please contact Margaret Cowie on 01224 703248.**

**Church Planting**

One of the roles I hold is Chairman of the Church Planting Network for the Congregational Federation in Scotland.

This is an exciting role, while many Christians only hear of Churches closing, I meet folks from the four corners of Scotland, who gather to share their dreams, to encourage each other, to start new Churches.

.It's exciting, the Churches are tiny but Jesus said 'where 2 or 3 gather in My Name'. Please pray for them. Rev. Andy Cowie



# MICHAEL DUNCAN

## BUILDING AND SLATING CONTRACTOR

EST. OVER 25 YEARS

- *All Slabbing and Lockblock Undertaken*
- *Garden Walls Built and Harled*
- *Patios and Paths Laid*
- *Steps Built*
- *All Drainage and Siteworks Carried Out*
- *Subcontractors Provided*
- *Forklift and Scaffolding Hire*
- *Building Materials Supplied and Delivered*

**Why not phone for a  
FREE quotation today?**

West Pitmillan Business Centre, Foveran, Ellon,  
Aberdeenshire AB41 6AL

Tel: (01358) 789562 • Fax: (01358) 789106

Mob: (Mike) 07710 903535 • (Keith) 07810 212503

E-mail: [mike@michael-duncan.co.uk](mailto:mike@michael-duncan.co.uk)

## **POTTERTON UNDER 5s GROUP**

After running for just over one term (Jan-May) we have established a lovely welcoming group of mummies, daddies and children.

So far we have celebrated Red Nose Day and raised just over £30 for charity by holding a Teddy Bears' Picnic.

We have had lots of fun every week with the puzzles, games and activities, as well as doing lovely craft pieces for Mother's Day and Easter. A lot of mess was created on our Easter session with painting eggs and eating chocolate.

This term we will hopefully enjoy some days out if the weather holds up and of course celebrate Father's Day with some more crafts.

All newcomers welcome, we run every Friday (term time) 9.30-11.30 at Potterton Community Centre. For more information please contact: **Kelly (07764747183) or Leyonee (07545634550).**

## **POTTERTON PLAYGROUP**

Well that's us into our final term of the school year so all the children going into P1 after the summer are beginning their Rising 5s. This includes teacher visits from Balmedie School, homework every week and also their 3 half-day visits to meet their teacher. It's all very exciting for them.

The Spring Fayre was a complete success and it was lovely to see the children had their own stall selling things they made and plants they had grown. There were many faces from the community who came for a cuppa and a fine piece so it was a great morning for a catch up.

This term we will have Sports Day – let's hope the weather is nice for that. A project on life cycles and mini beasts which will incorporate a nature trip to Haddo House and of course Graduation for the children who are leaving to go into P1 after summer.

## **A FLYING DOCTOR RETIRES**

Many resident of Belhelvie parish use the surgeries of Scotstown Medical Group at either Scotstown or Udney Station. Senior GP, Dr. Paul Rhodes, retired on May 3<sup>rd</sup> after 32 years in the practice. His friendly attitude and experienced advice will be missed by many, and we wish him well in his part-time career in the aviation industry. In his earlier days, Paul was a serious amateur diver, but his aim in semi-retirement is to stay above the water line: he is taking up kayaking!

**Mike Daw**

## Leigh Alexandra Soft Furnishings

Made to measure in your own fabric

- Curtains, Pelmets/valances
- Roman blinds
- Cushions, tiebacks etc
- Straight or bay tracks

Measure and fit service available.

For a free estimate or advice call  
Leigh on 07979 965 908 or email:  
info@leighalexandra-softfurnishings.co.uk  
Newmachar Aberdeen



Web: [www.leighalexandra-softfurnishings.co.uk](http://www.leighalexandra-softfurnishings.co.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/leighalexandra.softfurnishings](https://www.facebook.com/leighalexandra.softfurnishings)



## Elizabeth Ann Ross MCSP

appointments and enquiries:

tel: 01651 851812

mob: 0771 442 1244

email: [physiotherapy@lineone.net](mailto:physiotherapy@lineone.net)

day and evening appointments  
health insurance approved

**treatment & rehabilitation** for  
neck/back/joint problems  
muscle/ligament strains  
sports injuries & arthritis  
pilates 1-1 & classes

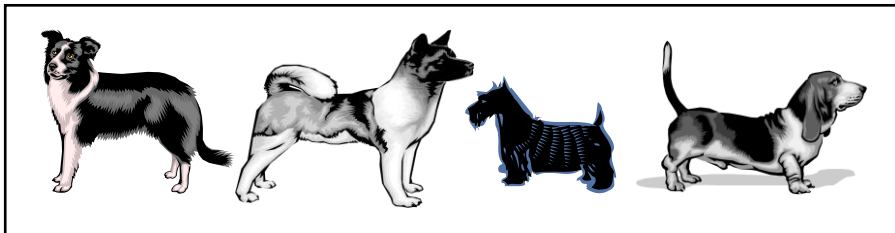
Office 5  
Oldmeldrum Business Centre  
Colpy Way, Oldmeldrum  
AB51 0BZ

## LADY & TRAMP

Learigg, Lower Rannieshill  
Newmachar AB21 0UF

**Your local grooming parlour**

Ring Kirsty on 01651 869260



Where our dog grooming is individual to your dog.

20 years dog grooming experience.

Skilful grooming to certificated City & Guilds Standards.

Member of the Pet Care Trust, the British Dog Grooming Association and  
the Federation of Small Businesses.



## POLICE NEWS

Just over a month into the new single Police Service for Scotland and I would hope that you have not seen any significant changes in the service we provide to the local communities.

The Formartine Community Policing Team has evolved slightly and now covers the three multi-member wards of Mid Formartine, Ellon and District, Turriff and District. The officers have remained the same, only the names have changed. You can rest assured that local officers are still very much committed to our local communities and the issues that are important to you and your families.

In local news, you will no doubt be aware of a recent spate of thefts in the Belhelvie and Balmedie areas. These were carried out by opportunist thieves, and homeowners are reminded to ensure property and vehicles are secured. The old adage of 'prevention is better than cure' is never truer than when it comes to your possessions being stolen. If you see or hear anything suspicious in your local area, tell us, small pieces of information can often lead to the apprehension of offenders and the return of vehicles or property.

You have also highlighted that speeding and antisocial driving continue to be an issue in our communities and I can reassure you that this is something that we take seriously. Local Community officers as well as Road Policing officers regularly carry out speed checks and patrols in the local villages and towns as well as the wider road network.

In addition to this the Formartine Community Policing Team recently received funding from our community partners to purchase a vehicle-activated speed sign which we can deploy at various locations throughout the area. Over the coming months you will undoubtedly see this being utilised in your communities, with the sign able to be sited where you tell us there is a problem. This will allow us to collect the data from speeding vehicles and analyse where our resources can be best used, thereby increasing road safety for all.

Overall, Formartine remains a very safe place to live and work and we rely on our communities to be our 'eyes and ears' and to keep us informed of local issues in maintaining that reputation. If you would like to contact us you can do so by calling in person at the Ellon Police Office or by any of the following methods

For non-urgent crime or advice, you can contact your local police office by telephoning 101.

Or by Email: [MidFormartineCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:MidFormartineCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk)

However, in an emergency always dial 999

You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter although these sites should not be used for reporting crime as they are not monitored 24/7.



# ARDENE HOUSE

VETERINARY PRACTICE

## PROVIDING FIRST RATE MEDICAL CARE FOR ALL YOUR PETS

- VET & NURSE ON SITE 24/7 FOR EMERGENCIES & ADVICE
- ROUTINE MEDICAL CARE AND VACCINATIONS
- ULTRASOUND SCANNING, DIGITAL X-RAYS, ENDOSCOPY
- VISITING SPECIALISTS IN CARDIOLOGY, OPHTHALMOLOGY, INTERNAL MEDICINE, SOFT TISSUE SURGERY, DERMATOLOGY & BEHAVIOURIST

Veterinary Surgery & Hospital  
Skene Road, Kingswells  
Aberdeen Tel: 01224 740700

Veterinary Surgery  
Jesmond Drive, Bridge of Don  
Aberdeen Tel: 01224 826121

AMPLE FREE PARKING AT BOTH SURGERIES

# Balmedie Fish and Chip Shop

Whitehorse Buildings

Open Times

4.30 - 10 pm Sunday to Thursday

4.30 - 11 pm Friday and Saturday

Traditional Fish and Chips, pies and puddings, Pizzas and Baked Potatoes

01358 742730



www.victoriagarage-belhelvie.co.uk



# Victoria Garage

## Used German Car Specialist

Suppliers of Nearly-new  
and Quality Used Cars

---

Full Garage Services  
Available

---

Local and Friendly  
with the  
Knowledge and  
Experience to Help

Victoria Hall, Belhelvie, Aberdeenshire, AB23 8YR

Tel: 01358 743053 Mob: 07887 536987 [www.victoriagarage-belhelvie.co.uk](http://www.victoriagarage-belhelvie.co.uk)

## INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

<b>GARAGES &amp; TRANSPORT</b>	<b>Pg</b>	<b>RETAIL (contd.)</b>	
Cadger's Garage, Belhelvie	14	Bridgefoot Organics	20
Cadger's Taxis	34	Pauline Wood - Antiques	40
Muirton Garage	4	Potterton Shop	10
Victoria Garage	47	The Store	24
<b>GARDEN SERVICES</b>		<b>SERVICES</b>	
Newmachar Tree Surgery	23	Fiona Robertson Graphics	28
Parkhill Garden Centre	IFC*	Flowerpots Nursery	8
Servicemaster Gardens	20	GRP Storage Boxes	25
Stallard Gardening	28	Leigh Smith Soft Furnishing	44
<b>HEALTH &amp; BEAUTY</b>		Lokal Loks	30
Balmedie Hair & Beauty	40	McKenzie Print	8
Dickies Pharmacy	10	Pets Crematorium	20
D. Leal Chiropodist	20	RJG Property Maintenance	28
Eliz Ross Physiotherapist	44	Robert Lamb Architect Services	2
First Class Foot Care	28	Servicemaster Carpets	38
Rowancott Herbs	14	<b>TRADES</b>	
<b>LEISURE</b>		Anderson Joinery	28
Jazzercise	14	BPD Builders	38
Murcar Golf Links	16	Balmedie Plumbing & Heating	32
Whitehorse Inn	IBC*	Bob Deans Painter & Decorator	24
<b>PETS &amp; THEIR NEEDS</b>		Carle's Sheds	2
Animal Nanny	40	Gough Decorators	
Ardene House Vet	46	Jesmond Joinery Services	18
Daftneys Doggies	2	K F Watson	6
Frogmore Cattery	23	Lokal Loks	28
Lady & Tramp Pet Grooming	44	Michael Duncan, Builder	42
Positive Paws	34	N A Thompson, Plumber	18
<b>RETAIL</b>		Prompt Plumbing	34
Aberdeenshire Larder	8	Reid Plumbing & Heating	12
Balmedie Fish & Chip Shop	46	Wayne Coombes Roofing	38
Barrett & Coe - Photography	16		

\*IFC Inside Front Cover

\*IBC Inside Back Cover

\*\*\*Copy date for Autumn Edition Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August

e mail: [belhelviebanter@live.co.uk](mailto:belhelviebanter@live.co.uk)

# White Horse Farmers Market



## GREAT FAMILY DAY OUT

**SECOND SATURDAY  
OF THE MONTH  
APRIL - SEPTEMBER**

**FARMERS MARKET  
AND FANTASTIC CRAFT FAIR  
FROM 10AM TIL 2PM**



White Horse Inn: 01358 742 404

Old Road : Balmedie : [whitehorseinn.co.uk](http://whitehorseinn.co.uk) : [bookings@whitehorseinn.co.uk](mailto:bookings@whitehorseinn.co.uk)



## Dates for your Diary

### June

Sat 1	Better Balmedie	Plant Sale	Poly Tunnel	10am-2pm
Tue 4	Young Farmers	Farm Tour	Ellon P&R	7pm
Tue 4	Friendship Group	Entertainment	Eigie House	2-4pm
Thu 6	Bookends	Whitehorse Inn, Balmedie		8pm
Sat 8	Balmedie Gala	Balmedie School		12-4pm
Tue 11	Coffee Haven	Forsyth Hall		10am-noon
Wed 12	SWRI	Outing	TBA	
Thu 13	Belhelvie Neighbourhood Watch	Green Hut		7.00pm
Thu 18	Friendship Group	Outing to Deans of Huntly		2-4pm
Thu 27	Better Balmedie	Talk on Birds of the Coast line	Leisure Centre	7-9pm
Sat 29	Better Balmedie	Visit to Leith Hall		2-4pm

### July

Wed 3	BoDA	Wizard of Oz Production	Arts Theatre	7.30pm
Thu 4	BoDA	Wizard of Oz Production	Arts Theatre	7.30pm
Fri 5	BoDA	Wizard of Oz Production	Arts Theatre	7.30pm
Fri 5	School Term ends	Balmedie Primary, BoDA, Ellon Academy		

### August

Mon 19	In service day	Balmedie Primary, BoDA, Ellon Academy		
Tue 20	School term starts	Balmedie Primary, BoDA, Ellon Academy		
Tue 27	Friendship Group resumes	Eigie House		2-4pm

### September

Wed 11	SWRI	First meeting of new session	Eigie House	7.30pm
Wed 25	SWRI	Whist	Eigie House	7.30pm



### **31<sup>st</sup> Annual Exhibition**

**August 10<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>  
2013 inclusive.**

*The exhibition runs  
between 10.00am  
and 4.30pm and  
admission is FREE!!*

**Inverurie Town Hall**  
(upstairs room)