



Drumoak & Durris NEWSLETTER

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March 2022

**Welcome to the Spring edition of the Drumoak and Durris
Newsletter**



Some of you might have been wondering what's happening with the bridge and we're pleased to say we've made some progress. CDD CC & PBAG had a meeting with the council on 21st Jan and as we didn't get through all our points, reconvened on 4th Feb.

The meetings were chaired by Alan Wood, the Director of Infrastructure Services and Donald Macpherson, Head of Structures was there too. A few of our local councillors attended (Cllr Wendy Agnew & Cllr Sarah Dickinson were at both meetings) and Cllr Peter Argyle attended as Chair of the Infrastructure Services Committee. We had representation from CDDCC (Mark Ansell) and PBAG (Alan Holmes and Anne Shearer).



You may recall that the Bridges Plan has £750,000 in it for Park Bridge in 2024 but not re-opening the bridge to traffic. We've been pushing for the basis of this decision, and it appears that it is not a final decision, just a recommendation by council officers based on the proximity of other bridges, Grade 1 listing, the design and its use. The future of the bridge has still to be considered by the Kincardine & Mearns Area Committee and we know that they

have already expressed a preference for the bridge to be re-opened to light vehicles.

Our concern about the absence of any structural assessment of the bridge, determining its load-bearing capacity, has been heard by Alan Wood and he has undertaken to see if he can get an independent assessment carried out. This would be a major step forwards as currently we say the bridge could carry traffic and the council disagree. An independent assessment which is then independently verified will settle the matter. It may take some months to get this done but we are very pleased with this development after more than 2 years of pushing for it.

So, we're not there yet, but we are an awful lot closer than we were this time last year.

And huge thanks to all of you that sent emails and contacted Aberdeenshire Council because it's you in the community keeping the pressure on that's making this happen.

Thank you!

We can be contacted on info@parkbridgeactiongroup.com or visit our website at <https://www.parkbridgeactiongroup.com> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SaveParkBridge>

Anne Shearer. The PBAG Team



*In God's grace, opening our doors
and reaching out to bring
God's love, peace and joy to all.
Why not taste & see?*



From the Manse

Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

Psalm 27:14

We have all waited in for a trade-person to arrive to fix the broken machine or a parcel to be delivered or for a phone call. Waiting can be hard, we are not used to waiting, to being patient and we are not used to doing nothing.

Have you ever thought that Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday, March 2nd this year and comes to a conclusion on Easter Sunday (17th April), is all about waiting and preparing?

During the period of Lent, Christians traditionally give something up for 40 days. This might be chocolate or cake (or both!), or it might involve giving up time to a good cause or taking on, or renewing a new task or skill, like attending a Lent Bible Study. Lent though is also a time to stop and to remember the journey that Jesus took to the cross. It is a time to recall the temptation He faced and His suffering but also what Jesus did for you and me which we share in, on Good Friday. It is a time to recall and celebrate in His resurrection on Easter Day and celebrate our coming resurrection too.

Lent is about waiting and preparing. It is about wondering about the extent of God's love for each of us, that He would allow His Son to be crucified for us, so that we can once more be right with God again...and with each other.

During Lent, when you are waiting in for a tradesperson or parcel, or just waiting in, why not stop and spend a moment or two with the Lord. I am certain you will be blessed as you wait for and with the Lord.

Prayer

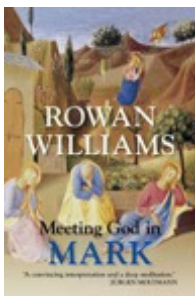
*Oh God as we wait at this time of Lent
Help us to remember that whatever we give up for Lent
Can never match what you gave up for us:
Namely Your Son Jesus Christ.
As we wait on you
Hear our thoughts and prayers of gratitude to you.
Draw close to us
So that no matter what tempts us
We know that you are with us
Giving us strength through the Holy Spirit.
In Jesus name we ask all this.
Amen.*

Lenten Cross



Would you like to host our Lenten Cross for a night in your home? During Lent this wooden cross (about 50cm high approximately) is journeying around the area. You can sign up for this by simply emailing Drumoakdurrischurch2020@gmail.com to say you are interested and we can arrange a suitable evening to drop the cross off at your home. You are not required to 'do' anything with the cross, other than to put it somewhere in your house, say a short prayer (which is optional) and send a photo of the cross to the above email address. The following day, you then drop off the cross to the next person who would like to receive it. There are 40 days in Lent, and it would be wonderful if the cross could have accommodation in a different house for each of these days. Speak to Rev Jean Boyd (01330 811 031) if you would like to know more about this.

Lenten Fellowship



This year Drumoak-Durris Church and Banchory East Church are joining together to host a Lenten Fellowship. We hope this study will take place in person, as well as being live streamed to your home. You can either study this alone or why not invite someone to join with you as we journey through lent. This year, we are planning to study Meeting God in Mark: Reflections For The Season Of Lent by [Rowan Williams](#). More information will follow but if you would like to know more, please contact Rev Jean Boyd (01330 811031).

Suggested links for Rowan Williams' book:

<https://www.eden.co.uk/christian-books/easter-and-lent-books/lent-books-for-individuals/meeting-god-in-mark/>

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Meeting-God-Mark-Reflections-Season/dp/0281072507>

Easter Programme



All services are subject to COVID restrictions. Please check the Church website and Facebook pages for updates

On Thursday 14th April a Maundy Thursday Communion Service will be held at 6pm in Drumoak Church Hall.

On Friday 15th April Durris Church will be open for a Quiet Time of Reflection between 1pm and 3pm. You are welcome to come and go as you please.

On Friday 15th April a Lenten Cross journey through the parishes of Drumoak-Durris, Banchory Ternan East and Maryculter Trinity will take place. Details on the website.

On Sunday 17th April at 10am we will hold an open-air service at Durris Church Glebe, with refreshments to follow.

All are most welcome to join with us for these events.

Celebration of 200 years of worship at Durris

This year marks 200 years since a new building was built for worship at the site of Durris



Church. Since then, there have been several changes to the building. Drumoak-Durris Church plan to have a weekend of celebration for this with a special weekend in June. There will be an exhibition on Saturday 18th June with refreshments in the Kirkton Hall, followed by a service of praise and thanksgiving on Sunday 19th June in Durris

Church. The Moderator designate of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Rev Iain Greenshields has accepted an invitation to come to be with us during this service. Following the service, there are plans for a celebratory lunch as well as other events and competitions. Please put these dates in your diary and come along to celebrate with us.

Drumoak-Durris Friendship Club



After almost two years our group met under strict Covid guidelines on December 6th, 2021. We had a good afternoon, and it was a joy to see so many folks again (39). We had a few words from Jean, followed by some carols and a quiz. William Blackhall entertained us with some funny stories from his early days. We then enjoyed a cup of tea and wrapped biscuits. We finished with some Christmas songs. Sadly, since then William has passed on. He will be greatly missed in many areas. We hope to meet next on February 7th and March 7th, same time, same place. Keep safe and well. Amy and the Committee.

Craft, Coffee and Chat



It is now almost two years since we had our last meeting and how our lives have changed since then, in many ways.

We know that some ladies would like the Coffee & Chat group to restart and rest assured, we are hoping it will be able to recommence this year. Our plans are ongoing, and we hope to be able to share news with you, hopefully by the next edition of the Newsletter in the summer.

Till then, Norma and Marion send our best wishes to everyone and if you do need to make contact, please call Norma Menzies on 01330 844542 or Marion Nixon on 01330 811663.

Christmas Collections

The Christmas collections resulted in an amount of £197-39 for Aberdeen Street Pastors, and £197-40 for Mary's Meals. Many thanks to all who contributed.

<https://www.drumoakdurrischurch.org>

Drumoak Durris Crathes Bowling Club



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We've enjoyed a successful indoor bowling season so far and, following a successful leaflet drop, we are delighted to welcome a number of new Bowling Members, as well as our returning ones. Our Indoor Open Triples competition was held in November, where we were joined by a number of bowlers from various clubs around the area. We are now looking forward to hosting our Indoor Open Pairs competition at the beginning of March, before seeing out the rest of the indoor season and heading into the outdoor season. The Opening of the Green will be held on 2nd April at 2pm. Everyone is welcome to come along, whether you would like to join in or simply spectate, we'd be happy to see you. Outdoor 'Hat' nights will be held on Tuesday nights and Friday nights at 6.30pm. Our Vice President Paul Betteridge has also recently completed a coaching course and we intend on holding a 'Try

Bowls' evening, which would be an ideal opportunity for new bowlers to come along and give it a go. I'd also like to take the opportunity to thank our greenkeeping team who work very hard to ensure our green is in the best condition possible.

We also held a Bingo Night in December, and we'd like to thank everyone that attend our events for their support and raising funds for our club. Please keep an eye out on our notice boards and Facebook page for other upcoming events coming soon to the Club.

During the quieter months of January and February, we chose to only open the Club Bar on Friday nights, however our normal opening hours will resume in March - Friday and Saturday nights, from 7-11pm. Please come along and make use of our facilities. Social memberships are only £10 per calendar year, however if you become a Bowling Member then your social membership is included. And finally, anyone wishing to hire the Pavilion is requested to contact Lena Sim on 01330 811374, or message through our Facebook page.

Kevin Anderson
Club President

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**Our season of beautiful flowers
is about to begin.**

From April onwards we look forward to offering stunning bouquets for every occasion, or for the enthusiast why not try a bucket of flowers and foliage to arrange yourself.

Wedding flower options are available

Please contact Rebecca on
07720 294103 or
Rebecca.Stripling@btinternet.com

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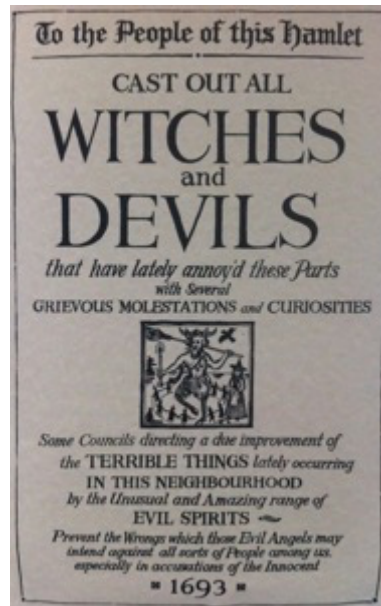


Mark Crawford: 07738 57412
Drum Station Road, Drumoak
mark1garage@aol.com

WITCHCRAFT IN SCOTLAND

It has been estimated that there were between four and six thousand witchcraft trials in Scotland, most of which were in the lowland areas of the country – like Aberdeenshire. This number is extremely high for such a small nation; with less than a quarter of England's population, Scotland had three times the number of trials.

One explanation that has been advanced is that King James the Sixth (later to become King James the First of England) believed he was the victim of witchcraft after having seen witch-hunts on a visit he had made to Denmark. Upon returning to Scotland, James attended witch trials and wrote a book on the subject. After it was published it sparked what became known as The Great Scottish Witch Hunt of 1597. This was the second national witch hunt in Scotland, with a further three to follow, the last in 1661. In each of these hunts, many hundreds of people, mostly – but not exclusively – women, were accused of witchcraft and of talking to the devil. Often the charges against the women were, by today's standards, shocking — such as a woman healing someone when they were sick, the accusers assuming if she could heal, she could also harm. The last witch to be tried and executed in Scotland was Janet Horne, in 1727, and a small stone marks the spot in the Sutherland town of Dornoch where she was tarred, placed in a barrel, and burnt.



Some of the factors which led to the torturing and death of so many women have been ascribed to a potent mix of the Protestant religion, strict morality, and ingrained misogyny of local kirk sessions – a ruling body of mainly male elders – endeavouring to stamp out what they saw as corrupting behaviour. But women were also targeted because they were vulnerable, some of them owned land that others – usually men – wanted access to or they were unmarried or

widowed. Between the first execution in 1479 and the last in 1727, at least 2,500 women and men were killed and thousands more were tortured or put on trial. Scotland carried out five times more executions than the European average.

But another interpretation can be advanced. Evidence shows that witch-hunts took off only after the Reformation in 1517, following the rapid spread of Protestantism. As competing Catholic and Protestant churches vied to win over or retain their followers, they needed to make an impact – and the battleground they chose was the witch trials. The phenomenon reached its peak between 1555 and 1650, the years when competition for ‘Christian consumers’ reached its height. This may explain why Germany, heart of the Reformation, laid claim to nearly 40% of all witchcraft prosecutions in Europe. Scotland, where different strains of Protestantism were in competition, saw the second highest level of witch-hunts, with a total of 3,563 people tried.

It should be noted that John Knox who is frequently represented as the hero of the Scottish Reformation believed women were inferior to men and were capable only of domestic acts such as bearing children. He placed blame on the ‘abominable empire of wicked women’ for the trials and tribulations of the Reformation.

In Spain, Italy, Portugal, and Ireland – each of which remained Catholic strongholds after the Reformation, and which never saw any serious competition from Protestantism – collectively accounted for just 6% of Europeans tried for witchcraft.

Another factor may tentatively be advanced. From the 16th century onward the weather in Europe deteriorated – it became wetter and colder. This phenomenon came to be known as the Little Ice Age when villages experienced freak frosts, floods, hailstorms and plagues of mice and caterpillars. So, witch hunts not infrequently corresponded to ecological disasters and crop failures, along with the accompanying problems of famine, inflation, and disease. In such a situation, witches made a convenient scapegoat.

Footnote

Claire Mitchell, QC, is currently leading a Witches of Scotland campaign and is seeking a national apology and the creation of a monument dedicated to the many female victims of the witch hunts in Scotland (*The Guardian*, 19 December 2021). In the opinion of this writer, it is an apology which is long overdue.

Robin Jackson

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Peterculter Golf Club

New Year, New Club

Start 2022 the right way with a membership at Peterculter Golf Club. Save by joining with friends with our Group Membership deal! Groups of 3 will have 5% of their first year's annual membership subscription credited to their gold card to spend in our Clubhouse and groups of 4 or more will receive 10%. Get the whole family into golf with our Family Membership, 2 adults and any number of children under the age of 18 for a one-off payment of £1174 for the first year of membership. If you're aged 18-29, our Transitional Membership is the deal for you. Not a golfer? Not a problem! Join as a social member and enjoy our fantastic menu from Chef Rodney with fresh bakes, great food every day and barista style coffee. We also hold a range of events throughout the year, from Quiz Nights to Tribute Nights, there's something for everyone. Social Membership is £20 for the year, which is credited back to your card to use within the Club for the first membership year. For all membership queries, contact us on membership@petercultergolfclub.co.uk If you're already a member and know someone who'd like to join as a full member, use our Recommend a Friend Deal and £50 will be credited to your gold card as a thank you!

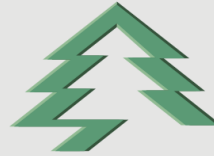
Our Family Open Day will be running this year on Sunday 3rd April. We'll have lots of fun activities and food throughout the day plus special membership offers! Keep your eye on our website and social media pages for further info.

Trevor Grose completes his two-year stint as the Club Captain in February and would like to thank Members, Staff and the Community within which we are situated for supporting the Club through the last two difficult years and looks forward to a more prosperous time for all.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their contributions to our Christmas Charity Food Drive. We received a record number of donations which were dropped off at Peterculter Parish Church for Instant Neighbour. We wish you all a very Happy New Year and looking forward to welcoming you all at the Club.



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[Perfect Peonies by Susan Lindsay, Plant Area Manager, Drum Garden Centre](#)

Someone at work today was asking me if it would be okay for them to move their herbaceous peonies from their garden to their daughter's garden as they had heard that they shouldn't be moved at all.

It's a myth!

There is no reason why you shouldn't move your peony. The prime time would be around October but no later than the end of March....do it now!!

Such a gorgeous plant, often their scented flowers are cut and used for vases indoors. These beautiful plants will give you colour from April through to June and maybe even slightly longer. Before moving remove any old material and debris from your peony. Try not to damage the roots in any way, lifting as much of these as you can, keep the new planting position away from large shrubs and trees so that your peony is not deprived of moisture.

Peonies do well in most soils but never let them dry out at all, especially if planted at the beginning of the year as opposed to the end. In wintertime the area needs to drain well as they



wouldn't like sitting in a soggy position. When planting be careful not to plant too deep as this will reduce the number of flowers you get, so keep the tips of the plant just under the soil and give it good all-round space to grow into.

In spring a feed with a fertiliser such as Growmore will suffice and remember and keep it watered through the summer months if required, they would hate to dry out. Use organic matter for mulching but keep away from the crown of the plant and not too deep. Enjoy!

If you are looking for some colour in the garden in the earlier part of the year look out for Forsythia Lynwood, Hamamelis, Ribes, Viburnum bodnantense Dawn and check out Salix gracilistyla Mount Aso to name but a few. A selection of these will carry you through to when your peonies will start bursting into flower.

Here's to a lovely happy and healthy year for everyone 😊

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[Compass: setting the direction for 2022](#)

Local medical charity, Camphill Wellbeing Trust (CWT) launched Compass in September 2020 to transform the former Waldorf School site on Craigton Road. The project has made great progress towards demonstrating practical solutions for healthy and sustainable lifestyles thanks to the support of our **local community**.

Compass has received a fantastic **2101 hours of volunteer support** which recently helped us plant 40 raspberry canes and clear space for fruit trees. In preparation for the next growing season, we are re-designing the layout of our **no-dig beds** to accommodate further fruit bushes and vegetable plants. These will increase the selection of organically grown produce that will be available to the local community through our **Produce Pop-Ups** later this year.

Funding Success

We are delighted to have secured funding from various sources to develop our outdoor garden areas for the local community. This includes funds for a **composting toilet**, gardening equipment and 3-years costs for an outdoor areas manager. This places Compass in a strong position to support our volunteers with improved facilities onsite as they help develop the garden areas and get the project off to a great start for 2022! We have also been able to purchase an Avant Loader from Angus Chain Saws, which has already been put to good use for some of the heavier outdoor work.



Looking ahead

To start the New Year, we invite you to tell us how you would like to see Compass develop. Simply fill out our **questionnaire** (available by emailing compass@cwt.scot) and send it back to us. We are also seeking members for a **Compass steering group** to help the project continue to move in the right direction. Register your interest by emailing: compass@cwt.scot. We look forward to hearing from you!

Can you lend a hand?



Join us by signing up to our Facebook event page (@CWTCcompass), or emailing us on: compass@cwt.scot

To find out more visit:

www.camphillwellbeing.org.uk/compass. You can also support us online:

<https://localgiving.org/charity/CWT/project/CWTCcompass/>

About Camphill Wellbeing Trust:

CWT is a medical charity providing an extended and integrative approach to health and wellbeing. It aims to address illness, build resilience and maintain wellbeing.



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Save the Date!

This year Durris Church will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the church building. We plan to host a weekend of celebrations on 18-19th June with an exhibition of photos, local stories and history; activities for children; and teas, coffee, juice and homebakes at the Kirkton Hall. Kids! Look out for details on Art competitions!!! On the Sunday there will be a special service in Durris Church to celebrate our 200 Year Anniversary when the Church of Scotland Moderator hopes to attend, and we'll enjoy a light lunch together in the Kirkton Hall afterwards. So, save the date and come along to join in celebrating Durris Church and your local community!

If anyone has memories, photos, memorabilia they wish to share please get in touch with Ronnie Mitchell 811 900 or email drumoakdurrischurch@gmail.com

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HOMEOWNERS – IMPORTANT NOTICE

In February 2019 the Legislation relating to smoke detection in your home changed.
All domestic properties in Durris/Drumoak could be affected.

You need to have the following: -

- One smoke alarm installed in the room most frequently used for general daytime living purposes.
 - One smoke alarm in every circulation space on each storey, such as hallway and landing.
 - One heat alarm installed in every kitchen.
 - All fire alarms are to be ceiling mounted and must be interlinked.
- Carbon monoxide detectors are to be fitted where there are carbon fuelled appliances (such as boilers, fires, open fires, heaters, stoves, or a flue).

The Regulations come into effect in February 2022.

For a free survey and quotation, please contact: -

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Volunteer with us!

Compass Project

Navigating healthy, sustainable living

Compass will transform the former Waldorf School site into a centre demonstrating practical solutions for healthy, sustainable lifestyles.

With five buildings to refurbish and a 4.1 acre site including woodland and grassy areas, we plan to turn the site into a community space with productive gardens including orchards and bee-keeping.

Want to get involved?

- ✓ **Outdoor work** including creating no-dig beds, harvesting, composting, weeding etc.
- ✓ **Indoor work** with stripping out of facades
- ✓ **Professional-led workshops** i.e. dry stone walling sessions
- ✓ **Produce Pop-Ups**

Find out more & get involved:
www.camphillwellbeing.org.uk/compass

f Follow us: @CWTCcompass

Compass is a project of local charity, **Camphill Wellbeing Trust**. The Trust provides medical and therapeutic services to help patients and their families address illness, build resilience and maintain wellbeing.

Camphill Wellbeing Trust is a business name of Camphill Medical Practice Ltd
A limited company registered in Scotland No SC120539 Charity No. SC016291
Registered office: St John's, Murtle Estate, Bieldside, Aberdeen AB15 9EN



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ASPEN VILLA CROSSROADS DURRIS AB31 6BX

News from Drumoak and Durris Playgroup

Drumoak and Durris Playgroup is pleased to finally announce that our toddler and Creche sessions are back up and running after such a long time – but getting to this point has been no mean feat! Thanks are due to so many people, especially the volunteer led committee with one member in particular standing out and taking over as our Play Leader, just when we were floundering. Lynne Watson has taken over the running of the groups with her able assistant, Kirsty McIntyre, by her side.



Given our poor portacabin at Crossroads had been out of use for nearly two years, it was looking a bit sorry for itself. It needed a deep clean and new risk assessments put in place, to ensure we were Covid safe. Lynne leapt into action breathing a new lease of life into the premises. If anyone has been up to Crossroads recently you will notice our newly revamped outdoor area, which the toddlers simply love. We also extend our thanks to her family for helping to bring her vision to life!

An amazing donation of a playhouse from John Reid and a wealth of lovely toys, from the kind souls in our community, mean there is plenty for the children to explore and play with. This



outdoor area allows the children to free flow in and out of the building, making it a safer space during Covid times too. Such a small insignificant space has suddenly been transformed into a key area which the children just love. The addition of a mud kitchen, kindly donated by local firm, Sangster & Company, has made for some interesting cooking experiments!

Sadly, at the end of the year we bid farewell to Vivika Kerridge, our long-standing staff member of four years. She did so much for our groups and kept our groups running during Covid times by braving the harsh Durris weather up in the woods to run Outdoor Tots. Sadly, our woods at Crossroads are currently unsafe after successive storm damage, but hopefully we will be able to play back over there soon.

We run a toddler group where an adult can stay and play with their little one/s. These sessions run twice a week on a Tuesday and Thursday from 9.30-11.30 and are open to all aged 0 – pre-school nursery age. They involve some informal play, an age-appropriate art and crafts session, singing and story time. The children are thriving and those accompanying them are benefitting from a cup of tea and a good chat.

We also run two creche sessions per week on a Wednesday and Friday where children aged 2 – pre-school nursery age, can attend unaccompanied for two hours. These sessions are a fantastic preparation for nursery. It has been so wonderful watching the little ones settle into these sessions and gain a little independence from their parents, something which is brand new for a lot of the children who have come into the world during the ongoing pandemic. It is so fantastic to have these groups in our community and we would urge anyone interested in joining in the fun to get in touch with Lynne on DrumoakandDurrisplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk

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[Peterculter Medical Practice](#)

Thank you to all our patients for continuing to follow the current guidance around Covid 19.

Some of you will already be aware that our receptionists have had a change in job title to Care Navigators; their job is unchanged, but we feel the new title better reflects what they actually do. They are trained to take information over the phone which helps our doctors/nurse practitioners ensure patients get help from the right person in the right timeframe. They follow protocols to direct people who would be best helped by different services to the correct care i.e., directing people with dental problems to a dentist and eye problems to an optician. They also have an important role 'behind the scenes' too with prescription requests, hospital letters etc. When they ask you for information or direct you to other services they are doing so on behalf of the doctors and according to practice protocols so please bear this in mind and be respectful of them as they carry out their job.

To free up our Care Navigators to help our more vulnerable patient groups, who cannot use online services, we would like to remind those who can and have medications on repeat prescription of 'Patient Access'. This service allows you to order repeat prescriptions online from the comfort of your own home 24/7 and the prescriptions are sent to your preferred local pharmacy ready for you to collect. Guidance on how to sign up is on our website. Please try to remember to order your medication (by phone or online) in plenty of time allowing a minimum of 2 days before you want to collect your medication. Unless truly urgent, prescription requests are not done same day. If you forget and run out remember that (under the urgent provision of repeat medication service) your pharmacy may be able to provide you with a supply of a medication from your repeat prescription list without a prescription from your GP.

Our practice pharmacy team has an important role in dealing with prescription requests, carrying out reviews with patients on regular medications and helping to look after our patients who need medications for conditions such as asthma and high blood pressure. We

have recently expanded the team and are delighted to have another pharmacist onboard. Kelly will join Valerie, Nicole and our pharmacy technician Lee-Anne in helping our patients to manage their medications.

Dr Jennifer MacDonald

=====

Crathes Community Hall – Exciting Times ahead

We are glad to say that regular events have resumed at the hall. A plethora of children's birthday parties and growing attendances at the ever-popular yoga, TRX and Zumba classes led to many more people in the community using the hall.

The ever popular "Fly" brought folk together again in early February for a welcome cup of tea, fancy "piece" and a blether. The first Saturday of each month will see "The Fly" in full swing as the year progresses and the first 200 Club draw will be on April 2nd. Be sure to get your ticket soon from one of the trustees.

The project to raise funds for the new Crathes Hall is ongoing and the dedicated small fundraising team have finalised the business plan for our approach to funding bodies and organisations.

Upcoming highlights in the hall not to be missed are -

1. Hogmanay Ceilidh – it's only twelve weeks late!!! 12 March '22 – bring the family, kids as well, but don't forget your own food and drink! Dance the night away to the amazing Clachan Yell.
2. World-renowned musicians Tony McManus & Julia Toaspern, stop off at Crathes Hall as part of their "World Tour of Scotland" on 10 June '22. Described by Guitar Player Magazine as one of the world's top 50 guitarists Tony McManus is joined by Julia, whose "bell like voice and her filigree fiddle playing are thrilling"
3. Fundraising Dinner - the black-tie dinner is going ahead at The Marcliffe at Pitfodels on 1 October '22 after having been postponed 4 times. If you think you deserve a new frock or suit then treat yourself to a ticket or a table of ten and dance the night away to Slinky, one of Scotland's best function bands.

Details of all the above events and how you can purchase tickets are contained on the website www.crathes-hall.co.uk

For those who simply want to help raise funds or donate to the new hall then opportunities exist to do so via www.localgiving.org , www.easyfundraising.org.uk or even via www.smile.amazon.co.uk

Every on-line purchase made via Easy Fundraising or Smile Amazon will generate a donation to Crathes Hall by using our Charity Number SC043007.

If you feel you could help in any other way or would like to speak to any of the Trustees, then please make contact via the website or our Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Neil McHattie

Vice Convener, Crathes Hall


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Maryfield Bronze Turkeys













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[From the Editor](#) With a stormy start to the year, many thanks must go to everyone who helped out in making sure roads were clear of fallen trees and of snow. Without these people we could have been cut off for a considerable amount of time.

It was with great sadness that I heard of the passing of Willie Blackhall. Willie came round to dictate his stories to me for the newsletter and I know a lot of people really enjoyed them. It was a real insight into the history of farming in the area. His wit and storytelling will be sadly missed.

I would also like to give my thanks to Alison Hutchison and Ann Williamson. Both have done a sterling job in helping produce and deliver the newsletter. Without them the newsletter would not have been produced. I would like to welcome on board Marjorie Taylor who will be coordinating the distribution of the newsletter.

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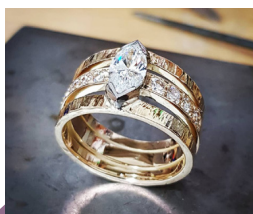


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The Blue Door raises money for Camphill Wellbeing Trust - a medical charity supporting an extended approach.

Camphill Wellbeing Trust is a business name of Camphill Medical Practice Ltd.
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DRUMOAK & DURRIS NEWSLETTER

This Newsletter has been published quarterly for over 20 years. Firstly as a community service by Drumoak-Durris Church of Scotland, and more recently by the Drumoak & Durris Community Group. It is produced and delivered FREE by volunteers to all households in Drumoak and Durris.

Editorial Team
Kevin McPhee-Smith
Ann Williamson
Alison Hutchison
Elaine Harkins

e-mail: editorddnews@btinternet.com

Useful information

Drumoak-Durris Church drumoakdurrischurch.org
Drumoak & Durris Community Group drumoakdurriscg.org
Crathes Drumoak & Durris Community Council

crathesdrumoakdurriscc.org
Aberdeenshire Council Aberdeenshire.gov.uk

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