



# Strachan Today

2011

Welcome to the April edition of *Strachan Today*.

My most difficult job as Editor is finding a sponsoring printer. There is a very small group of companies who are willing to print an edition (Chevron, Dana Petroleum, GL Noble Denton, Shell, HESS, Burnett & Reid) and I now find myself asking the same person twice a year. If your company would be able to print an edition – now only 90 copies – please get in touch. The next difficult job is replacing distributors of the paper copies. I am delighted to welcome to the team: Stuart, Ruth, Frank and Aileen but two more will “retire” in the summer so if you can take an e-mail copy please do sign up for one by sending an e-mail to [lby.strachan@gmail.com](mailto:lby.strachan@gmail.com) (don’t forget to mention your home address so I can cancel the paper copy). Or please consider if you would be able to distribute a few copies to your near neighbours. The least difficult job is finding enough news – more and more articles etc. keep coming and that’s the fun part! For more news and information, go to [www.strachantoday.org](http://www.strachantoday.org).

Lesley Young

## Strachan Hall: Let us hear your views

The committee is consulting on three sets of new rules for the hire of the Hall. They are for User Groups, Private Hires, and Private Hires for Young Adults (defined as up to 21 years old). The committee would particularly like feed back from anyone under 21. Draft Rules and Comment Sheet: [www.strachantoday.org](http://www.strachantoday.org) N.B. Under the Constitution, the Hall is for the use of the inhabitants of Strachan and environs.



200 Club Winners: £50 Aileen Sheridan, £30 Ann Morrison, £15 Jill Randalls, £15 Angus Marshall, £15 Marian Buchan



Deeside Musical Society presents a new production of this hilarious musical based on the tale of the ugly duckling. A great night out for all is guaranteed, so put the dates in your diary now: 25 to 28 May at Aboyne Theatre.



## STRACHAN VILLAGE COFFEE

Good Friday 22 April  
9.30am – 11.30am



### Easter Bonnet Competition

Prizes for  
(a) Children under 12 years and  
(b) Adults

We will be serving  
Easter fare, hot cross  
buns and other treats  
plus tea, coffee and  
fruit squash

All for just £1.50  
(proceeds to Village  
Hall)

*In your Easter bonnet  
with all the frills upon  
it,  
You'll be the grandest  
lady  
in the Easter parade.*

## Tesco Vouchers for Strachan School

Strachan School are collecting Tesco vouchers for school. These vouchers can be used to purchase a variety of resources from PE equipment to Outdoor Learning materials. Mobile phones and ink cartridges can be recycled for extra vouchers. The collection box is on the signing-in table. Strachan School has been chosen as the Banchory store's nominated primary school to receive any unclaimed customer vouchers. The Sainsbury's Active Kids campaign vouchers are also being collected.



**Royal Tea in the Park** – On 29 April 2011, folk in Finzean are organising to celebrate a range of activities, starting at 2pm, to celebrate the Royal Wedding. Strachan residents are very welcome to join the fun: more information from Mel Shand ☎850674.

## New Library Service for the Village



Following a Feughdee West Community Council initiative, Aberdeenshire Mobile Library will be stopping in Strachan every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at approximately 1.45pm and will remain for about 30 minutes in total. It will stop in 2 places: on the open ground opposite Bowbutts Farm (thanks to the Neish Family) and then the Village Hall (provided the premises are not being used). The new service will start Thursday 28 April. If you are not already a member (your existing library card may be used), new cards can be issued. Books borrowed in Banchory may be returned to the mobile unit and vice versa. Other items available include talking books, videos, DVD's and C.D's. Please support this convenient way of library borrowing.

Full details at: [www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/libraries/mobile\\_libraries](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/libraries/mobile_libraries)

## Strachan Bowling Club Trophy Winners 2010/11



Duncan Trophy – Ness Morison, runner up Aileen Black; Begg Trophy – Jim Donald, runner up Sandy Ogston; Proctor Rose bowl – Margaret Booth & Ness Morrison, runners up Aileen Black & Frances Clark; Braehead Trophy – Willum Duncan & Sandy Ogston, runner up George Booth & Ian Stutter; England Cup – Willum Duncan, runner up Ness Morrison; Scolty shield – Elma Duncan & Ian Stutter, runners up Ness Morrison & George Booth, Black Cup – Aileen Black, Lesley Smith & Ian Smith, runners up Frances Clark, Ness Morrison & Willum Duncan; Dey Challenge Cup – Ness Morrison, runner up Elma Duncan; Buchan Cup – Ian Stutter; Final Fling – Elma Duncan & George Booth

Congratulations to all winners and runners up.

Bowling Club now takes a break until Monday 3 October.

Do you have times where **an extra pair of hands** would come in handy?

A one-off couple of hours? Perhaps you would like your dog trained when you are away on holiday or need someone to wait in for the vet or farrier? Need eggs collected or pigs fed, rugs taken off? Or have your dog holiday in my home rather than at a boarding kennel? Do you need your plants watered and a quick run round with the mower when you are away? Restock your fridge when you are due home

Fully experienced in all aspects of Administration and Secretarial work, equestrian duties and canine handling.

Happy to turn my hand to anything!

Audrey Dykes, Glendye, Strachan, Banchory,  
AB31 6LT ☎850342

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

Web: [www.audreydykes.co.uk](http://www.audreydykes.co.uk)

**Congratulations** to Sue and Ian Stutter on the safe arrival of their twin grandchildren, Syd (5lb 9oz) and Edie (6lb 15oz) born on 26 February 2011.

### Banchory Cabs

Your local taxi service

Long or Short Hire Accounts  
welcome

Phone WILLY

☎850345 / 823500 or  
07973785383

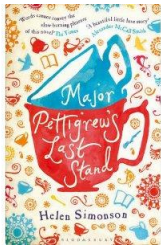


**Strachan Scottish Country Dancing** The last evening of the current season will be on Friday 15 April at 8pm in the Village Hall. The object of the evening is to have fun and Isobel McMillan walks us through each dance before we have a go at dancing it to music. Wine, beer and soft drinks are provided and you are asked to bring a snack to share at the mid evening break. We finish by midnight. Cost is £5 per person. For more information please call Robert

Brown ☎850571.



**Strachan Women's Rural Institute** celebrated its 86<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 17<sup>th</sup> February with supper at the Feughside Inn. Aileen Sheridan had the honour of cutting the Birthday Cake.



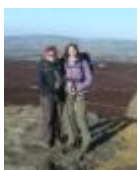
**Strachan Book Group.** Our next meeting will be on 18 April at Althea Dickens' house. The book for discussion is **Major Pettigrew's Last Stand** by Helen Simonson. Strachan Book Group has now joined Banchory Library and for our next meeting will be reading **The Silver Darlings** by Neil M Gunn – on loan from the Library! For more information about the Book Group, call Lesley ☎850581.

### Popular Minister moves on



The Rev Jack Holt will lead his last service as Minister of Birse and Feughside on Easter Sunday 24 April at 11am, before leaving to take up a new ministry at Polwarth Parish Church in Edinburgh. Jack and Sandra arrived 16 years ago, raised their three children here, and became a backbone of the community. Jack's encouragement and enthusiasm was felt by many and those who heard his sermons could have been left wondering if he should have been a stand up entertainer. He will also be remembered for his participation in local musical and theatrical events. Jack oversaw the merger of three parishes into a single church at the centre of the Parish in Finzean. We wish Jack and family well in their future endeavours.

### Strachan Ladies seek your support



Hazel Ewan of The Cottage and Tricia MacPhail of Manse Croft are trekking to Machu Picchu to raise money for Breast Cancer Campaign. The Inca Trail is a personal challenge and an opportunity to raise money for a good cause. The charity aims to beat breast cancer by funding innovative world-class research, leading to improved diagnosis, treatment, prevention and cure. Hazel and Tricia have been training by heading off to the local hills, adding miles on our hiking boots. Hazel says, "So far the weather has been very kind and we have been blown away (quite literally at times!) by the breathtaking scenery on our doorstep and will keep on hiking when we return from Peru". They set off for their 10 day trek in early April as the rainy season comes to an end and will trek for around 6-8 hours a day at high altitude and sleep under canvas with temperatures down to -10C at night! They will also stay with a local family. With the departure date looming, Hazel and Tricia have so far raised over £1,500 for Breast Cancer Campaign. They have paid for all their travel and kit, so 100% of all donations go to the charity. If you would like to donate or find out more about Breast Cancer Campaign then please do visit: [www.justgiving.com/TriciaMacphail](http://www.justgiving.com/TriciaMacphail)



researching the cure

## Calendar of events – April 2011

**Every Thursday:** Deeside Village Hopper from former Post Office

### Friday 1 April

School closes for Easter Holidays

9.30-11.30: Under 5's Group (Village Hall)

### Sunday 3 April

11am: Service (Birse & Feughside Church)

### Wednesday 6 April

7.30pm: Lent Lecture (B& F Church)

### Thursday 7 April

12.30: Lenten gathering (B& F Church)

### Friday 8 April

9.30-11.30: Under 5's Group (Village Hall)

### Sunday 10 April

11am: Service (B & F Church)

### Friday 15 April

9.30-11.30: Under 5's Group (Village Hall)

12.30: Lenten gathering (B& F Church)

8pm: Strachan Scottish Country Dancing (Village Hall)

### Sunday 17 April

11am: Service (B & F Church)  
Sing and See (B & F Church)

### Monday 18 April

School re-opens

### Thursday 21 April

7.30pm WRI (Village Hall) "Talk on South Africa"

7.30pm: Agape Meal Communion (B & F Church)

### Friday 22 April

Good Friday – School Holiday

9.30-11.30: Village Easter Bonnet Coffee Morning (Village Hall)

7.30pm: Good Friday Service (B& F Church)

### Saturday 23 April

10am Strachan Junior Football Team Training\*

2-4pm: Daffodil Tea (Finzean Hall)

### Sunday 24 April

9am Easter Breakfast (Finzean Hall)

11am: Family Easter Service (B & F Church)

### Thursday 28 April

Mobile Library in village (see above)

### Friday 29 April

Royal Wedding – School Holiday

9.30-11.30: Under 5's Group (Village Hall)

### Saturday 30 April

10am Strachan Junior Football Team Training\*

\*On pitch, unless unplayable, in which case, Village Hall

Many thanks to



Human Energy

for printing this edition



Trampoline available. Buyer collects and makes donation to Village Hall  
Funds Phone Jane ☎850273

**Next edition of Strachan Today (May 2011):  
deadline for copy 13  
April 2011**

### Attention all budding MacRooneys and MacRonaldos!

Strachan Junior Football team is keen to recruit some new players! The team is open to all P3 to P7 girls and boys in the Strachan area and competes in the Mid-Deeside Small Schools League. Having won the B division last year, it is now playing in the A division against other small schools – Drumoak, Finzean, Durriss and Lairhillock.

Training is at Strachan football pitch every Saturday from 10:00 to 11:00 during term time. It is a great way for the kids to get some exercise, have fun and make new friends in the village. Why not come along for a kick about next Saturday morning?

The coaches are Mark Daines ☎850253 [mark@daines.me.uk](mailto:mark@daines.me.uk) and David MacFarlane ☎850657

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