



www.braemarbuzzard.org.uk

Braemar Community Action Plan Launched

Braemar's Community Action Plan was launched on 21st May at the Primary School to a packed hall filled with locals as well as representatives from CNPA, Aberdeenshire Council and Marr Area Partnership, among others.

Entertainment was provided by Wheesht Choir and The Blaeberries Traditional Music Group and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The Plan has identified four themes for action:

- **Visitor Strategy, Attractions & Services** - there was a good local response at the launch and a meeting will be held in July to discuss progressing actions identified in the plan including a Visitors Strategy and customer service training.
- **Community Services, Facilities & Transport** - a working group has begun looking at garden composting schemes, adult learning classes, and community information sharing through a Facebook page.
- **Young People** - the working group is concentrating on the problems with the playpark and investigating the possibility of an Outdoor Gym and Bike Park.
- **Housing, Employment & the Economy** - this group is trying to establish the framework for a Community Right to Buy scheme so that should any opportunities arise Braemar will be in a position to take advantage.

The Plan is a living document which will evolve and change with the needs of the village. It should not be considered a tick list of actions to be completed one-by-one. In order for any of the plans to become a reality there will need to be community involvement, working alongside statutory agencies to deliver the outcomes identified by numerous consultations during 2012-13.

Chairman of the Co-ordinating Group, David Geddes said, "These aspirations are not being imposed from above, these are the needs as set out by the people living and working in this village."

If you would like to get involved in any of the groups please contact Maggie MacAlpine ☎ 41245 or 07808 156 396, or email: maggiemacalpine@btinternet.com



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Editorial

Braemar News Group

www.braemarbuzzard.org.uk

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Past and current editions of the Buzzard as always can be viewed online on our website: www.braemarbuzzard.org.uk Extra copies of the Buzzard can be obtained from the garage or the art gallery. Donation tins are at all these outlets for any contribution you would like to make towards costs.

For advertising, contact Maggie MacAlpine ☎ 013397 41245. Adverts cost £15 per eighth of page.

Community Update:

New open top bus service

was launched on May 1st. It stops at Braemar, Braemar Castle, Balmoral, Ballater and Glen Muick. It will run at weekends through until September and daily during the school holidays, 5 trips each way per day. The cost is £12 for a 2 day ticket, hop-on, hop-off or £24 for groups (3 adults, 2 adults and 2 children, 1 adult and 3 children.) It's a great initiative from Stagecoach, let's hope it's a success.



Braemar Mountain Sports Shop have had their planning permission approved to extend the shop - providing greater storage facilities and opening a cafe. The cafe will be open 7 days a week and building works are now underway.

Marr Community Planning Group Case Studies 2012/13

Marr Area Partnership has over the past year developed a series of case studies to provide evidence of community planning in action and how it works on the ground in Marr. These case studies include the Ballater Cellars (youth project), introduction to wind energy and community training sessions, social media training. These and more can be viewed at <http://www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk/> under Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership.

New Community Council following recent elections the make up of the new community council are as follows: Interim Chair: David Geddes; Vice Chair: Selena Hill; Treasurer: Alasdair Colquhoun; Secretary (vacant). Other members: Andy Anderson, John Kinsella, Joanne Morris (new member) Graeme Mitchell (new member), Carole Paterson, John Torrance. A big thank you to retiring members, John Macpherson and Pete Holden, for all their hard work on the village's behalf.

Braemar Village Hall has been very well used again this year, providing a venue for a myriad of events including The annual Panto, ten concerts, six film shows, two weddings, a Burns Supper and a host of other, locally, organized events. The hall and its facilities, although very well worn, are still providing a good service. However, the roof is a major cause for concern especially during the winter months when rain leaks into the west end of the building on a regular basis. There is some good news, thanks to Aberdeenshire Council, we now have £20,000 to add to the Village Hall funds to have the roof completely redone; which should be undertaken this year! On a personal note, I find it a little sad that we have not been able to generate more support for this sterling facility. Few village residents who have used the hall have not been impressed by the extremely well used, tiered seating and stage equipment that is always available for us to use and enjoy. It will be great to see some Action in order to Plan for future generations to use our Village Hall, which is, when all is said and done, the real Heart of our Community.



Richard Baker

St Margaret's Project **Pete Mulvey**

At their meeting on 17th April the Trustees of the Scottish Redundant Churches Trust agreed to accept the offer of transfer of ownership of St Margaret's Church from the Episcopal Church to the SRCT and to begin work with the community of Braemar, to develop the building as an Arts hub and performance venue.

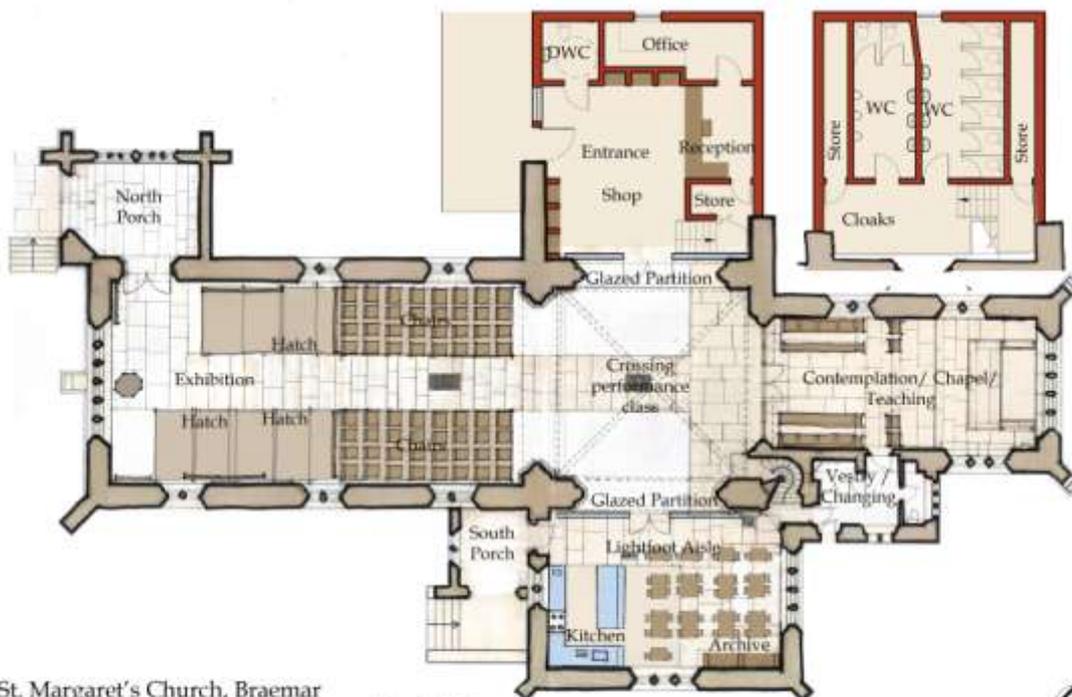
In reaching this decision they had considered an Options Appraisal study which was prepared by Simpson and Brown Architects in conjunction with Structural and Services Engineers, Quantity Surveyors and Economic consultants. The appraisal investigated the use of St Margaret's as an arts hub and performance venue both financially and in physical terms and concluded that an opportunity does exist here to create a viable centre of local, regional, national and even international significance which will enrich Braemar's appeal as a visitor destination and so boost the local economy. The appraisal also examined the fit of the project proposal within the local CAP, regional and national strategies, together with the market demand for such a development.

It is proposed that SRCT will now take immediate ownership of St Margaret's, seek funding, then undertake the repair and conversion project as illustrated in the preferred option scheme drawing at an estimated cost of approximately £1.35m. The restored and extended building will then be leased by SRCT to a newly formed Braemar Trust organisation who will manage and operate the venue thereafter.

Programming for the venue will offer a year-round fusion of community driven activity and professionally directed arts events appealing to both local community and visitor markets and helping to combat seasonality in the village. The aim will also be to encourage a wider range of complementary arts activities to spill out into other venues in the village spreading the benefit throughout the community. In this same spirit it is intended that the St Margaret's project will collaborate with other projects in the village such as Braemar Castle and the proposed new Highland Games centre to increase the number of attractions which Braemar will be able to offer to visitors in the future. As a forerunner to this Paul Anderson, who we hope is to host a new Scottish Fiddle Centre in St Margaret's, is to hold workshops in the Castle as part of his Fiddle Week in July of this year. Commercial activities such as retail, catering, conferences and weddings will also be developed in St Margaret's, themed and marketed around the creative activity.

To mark this important development in the life of St Margaret's, an Evensong Service was held by the Episcopal congregation on Sunday 16th June in the church as their farewell to the building and the new life of the building, as a village asset, will commence with a concert featuring the children of Braemar Primary School on the 19th June followed in the summer by the first international event in the

venue featuring the Youth Symphonic Orchestra Rijstreek on Friday 2nd August.



St. Margaret's Church, Braemar
Plan - Preferred Option : Alternative Arrangement for Exhibition

February 2013

Simpson & Brown Architects

Proposed development of St Margaret's Church - note both storeys of the two storey extension are shown

Kindrochit Castle Pete Mulvey

Readers may have noticed that preparatory work has now been completed on the Kindrochit Castle site - cutting back vegetation and removing trees and shrubs to permit detailed investigation of the ruins to be undertaken. A firm of conservation Architects have also been appointed to draw up a detailed scheme of consolidation, interpretation, lighting and access proposals for the site and they are to report back to Aberdeenshire Council next week, following a meeting with Historic Scotland regarding some technical details.

When detailed drawings are received from the Architects the next stage is to put the work out to tender and get Scheduled Monument consent for them. Significant amounts of funding have already been allocated to the project by both Cairngorms National Park and Aberdeenshire Council, sufficient it is hoped, to enable the work to be completed this year.

Aberdeenshire Council are currently preparing information boards to be displayed which will explain to the community and visitors what is happening on the site. They are then to arrange a half-day exhibition in the village with detailed plans on display to allow the community to comment on what is proposed. These comments will however be largely confined to the access proposals, lighting and interpretation material - as the technical aspects of the restoration work will be dictated by what Historic Scotland will permit for a Scheduled Monument of this importance - but it will serve to keep the community informed and engaged.



Paul Anderson's Fiddle Week

The first Braemar Fiddle week will be held 8-14 July comprising workshops, master classes, sessions, Ceilidh and concerts led by Paul Anderson and Jonny Hardie. Braemar Castle will host the fiddle workshops. Information/Booking contact Pete Mulvey ☎ 013397 41079 or view online at www.braemarfiddlecamp.com

Do you have any odd jobs needing done?

cleaning gutters, mowing lawns, splitting logs.

Then contact Iain Mackay

Tel:013397 41245
Mob: 07753278597



All jobs considered



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The closing date for this position is Monday 1st July 2013.

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Invercauld Forestry

Some of you may have noticed a machine on the hillside above the Callater car Park. This machine is doing ground preparation called “mounding” for new trees to be planted. Mounding is turning over a turf so that a tree can be planted behind this in the exposed soil, with some protection from the elements, provided by the turf. The machine operator, Doug, has 60,000 mounds to do this spring. As you’ll note this type of ground preparation has less of a visual impact on the landscape.

Over the next 18 months a total of 398,000 new trees, mix of a Scots Pine and Native Broadleaves, will be planted over this site once the new fence is completed.

The Morrone new planting site above Braemar Golf Club is in its third year and due for a ‘beat-up’, which is where dead or eaten plants are replaced. The trees planted come from a nursery environment where they have had an easy life. Once planted on the open hill they are exposed to the elements. Sometimes the plants’ reaction to this is to go into shock, where they appear to stop growing. In the meantime they are producing a root system, and may only start to grow upwards after 3-5 years depending on the richness of the soil. The ground preparation for Morrone was different, in that an experimental technique was used which looks like ploughing (which it isn’t) whereas the system used above the Callater Car Park is mounded which is easier on the eye.

Mature Scots Pine like the ones behind the Keiloch car park were planted in 1880, so as you can see they take a long time to grow. If you have any further questions please don’t hesitate to contact us here at the estate office.



Braemar Dog Show

Sunday 14th July (as part of the junior games weekend) in the games park. There will be 6 categories and entry will cost £2 per category or if you want to enter your dog into all 6 you will only pay £10. All proceeds from the show will be donated to the SSPCA. You may register your dog from 1pm and the event will begin at 3pm. Special prize for “Best in Show”. The event is organised by Louise Kelly and Susie Farquharson, for more info ☎ Susie on 41382 or visit Louise Kelly in Braemar Highland Heritage Centre, The Mews.

CLAN Cancer Support is

marking its 30th Anniversary – 30 years of providing cancer support services, free of charge, to anyone affected by cancer. CLAN’s Area



Coordinator based in Ballater, Gemma Powell, said “We simply could not have reached our 30th anniversary without the generous and ongoing support of so many people in the community. Local fundraising helps us to maintain and develop services in the area. “We’d particularly like to thank all those who were involved in making the fourth Tartan Trek™ at Balmoral Estate the success that it was. Thank you also to the Castleton Dancers who presented a



Some of the Castleton Dancers presenting a cheque before setting off on the Tartan Trek

cheque. Your continued support is very much appreciated.”

CLAN is looking for more volunteers to get involved by helping at fundraising events, by offering time, information and support to clients, and by helping in the charity shop in Ballater.

For more information about CLAN’s local support services please contact 01339 756318 or visit www.clanhouse.org

Ceilidh in aid of Anchor Unit

On Saturday 13th July there will be a ceilidh in the Junior Games Marquee in the Games Park. The ceilidh starts at 8pm and the band playing are the New Distillers. Tickets are £10 per person or £18 if you require transport; buses leaving from Banchory, Aboyne, Ballater and Crathie. Tickets must be bought beforehand. There is a licensed bar on the night and a raffle. All proceeds of the night are going to the Anchor Unit at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. The Ceilidh is being organised by Fay Jolly any queries please ☎41233.



Braemar Castle

The crispest Easter morning on record saw the re-opening of the Castle with the 8am **Ecumenical Service** followed by a welcome cup of coffee in the courtyard – and the sixth season of community operation got underway.

April was a busy month. The **Easter Treasure Hunt** was again a great success with 79 visitors. The **Open Evening for the village** on Thursday 4th gave people a chance to enjoy a sociable evening catching up on plans for the year. The highlight came on Tuesday 16th, when mineralogist, Roy

Starkey, entertained almost 40 guests at the launch of the **Farquharson Mineral Collection** exhibition. Roy's midas touch has transformed boxes and boxes of dull stones into a fascinating display.

Our new venture in May, **Murder Mystery Dinners** were a rollicking success, with guests coming from, Inverurie, Aberdeen and Ballater as well as Braemar and bringing extra business to the village. Guests dined royally, with canapés served in the drawing room where Queen Victoria regularly sipped afternoon tea. An excellent dinner was enjoyed in the grand setting of the dining room with the actors doing a sterling job of thoroughly confusing our visitors, definitely an idea to be repeated.



Easter Day Service



Above: Murder Mystery Dinner May 2013

Left: New open top bus - spot the Braemar Castle pic!



We were delighted to be able to work with Stagecoach on planning for the open top bus and couldn't ask for more visible advertising than the Castle on the back and sides of our new tourist attraction. And we're pleased to say that visitors are taking advantage of our 2 for 1 offer.

Work on the front section of the roof is now complete and work will continue on the rear turrets from inside the Castle. Planning is on-going to secure the remaining funding for the roof. And our new double-sided notice board, in the castle car park to encourage visitors into both the Castle and the village, should now be in place.

We have just been awarded a certificate of excellence from Trip Advisor as being in the top 10% of businesses worldwide earning consistently high ratings from visitors We're always short of volunteers, all help is appreciated, to get involved please ring Doreen Wood ☎ 41407

Braemar Castle's Jacobite Day 2013

Sunday 28th July is the date for this year's Jacobite Day at the Castle. All the familiar attractions - Jacobite Camps, archery, Horseback UK, 18th century sheep shearing demonstrations, plus games of skill and chance, stalls, exhibitions, hog roast and much more will be there.



As always, many hands make light work so if you can lend a hand even for just an hour or so, your help will be appreciated. We need help on the gate, with programmes, on the stalls, at the car park etc so please email or call Marilyn if you can offer assistance mjdante@hotmail.co.uk or ☎ 41225

Braemar Junior Games

12-14th July



A weekend of entertainment starting with a fund raising dinner in the marquee on Friday with dancing to the Kinnaird Ceilidh Band and guest appearance by Paul Anderson. The Games proper start on Saturday at 1200 with the adult hill race at 2pm. The organisers would like to remind all last year's trophy winners that these should be returned to Andy Anderson at Birchwood, Chapel Brae prior to the weekend - and a special plea for a lost trophy. **The Chanter trophy has gone missing - if anyone knows of its whereabouts please phone Andy on ☎41599.** Sunday is the family fun day starting at 1130 and Heart of the Park challenge at 1200. So put the dates in your diary and join us for a fun weekend.

Braemar Creative Arts Festival 23-26 October 2013

It's happening again! Year two of the festival, and it's looking even BIGGER and BETTER - book the dates in your diary and tell your friends...

Attendees last year loved the mix of different strands - Music and Dance, Art, Crafts, Literature & Drama and Cooking so the plan is to keep the wide variety of classes and to expand on areas that proved really popular last year. The music section will welcome back Lurach with their mix of whistle, fiddle, instrumental group work and step dance classes but expand to welcome Dave Martin with his percussion and Big Fat Ceilidh, Fiona Driver with fiddle (and husband with guitar) plus a spot of chanter and drumming thrown in. On the art side, Colin Robertson will back to teach acrylics and Fiona Haldane with pastels, as well as Anke Addy teaching photography. Newcomers Freya will teach screen printing and Hilary Duncan with ceramics. The willow weaving proved a big hit last year so will return (book early!) and the craft section will be expanded to include new patchwork, crotchet and lace making, millinery, felting bags and book binding. The festival is looking forward to welcoming the Scottish CDA who will be helping to develop theatre skills. The popular creative writing class will be repeated and a new class on review writing added. And if this line up doesn't already give you problems in what to choose, there will a series of cooking (and eating!) sessions courtesy of our local chefs, sharing their skills with us on how to cook everything from venison to Cullen skink, asian dishes and gooey puds.



To raise the profile of the festival the organisers would again like to invite everyone, in the spirit of 'Creative Arts', to design, create and prominently display a '**Braemar Haggis**' using wool, sacking, bin bags, leather, wood, heather... Mar Lodge and the Youth Hostel excelled themselves last year - so come on all you groups, businesses and creative families in the village, join in the Haggis making. Let your imagination run riot. A stupendous prize WILL be forthcoming for the best effort together with FAME & GLORY!

Programmes and booking forms will be available by end August. More information www.facebook.com/events/357264787683525/ or pop into the art gallery or ☎Marilyn Baker 013397 41225

Braemar Folk - Moray Gordon

by Selena Hill

Moray grew up in Blairgowrie in the 1950's and 1960's. His father taught him to sail at Findhorn where the family had a holiday home, and he learnt to ski at Glenshee. There was no thoughts of golf at this stage! Moray left school at 17yrs old and with no plans to go to college, he started working part time on a local farm doing general farm duties.

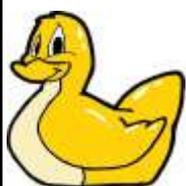
Under pressure from his folks to get a job and a career he moved to the Dalmunzie Hotel, near the Spittal, with a view to moving into hotel management. Whilst there he became friendly with the ski instructors at Caird Sport. Moray lasted two years at the Dalmunzie before he began working with Caird Sport as a ski instructor, skiing regulations being not quite as strict back then! It was during this time that Moray first met Pamela, a young cafe worker. For the next two seasons he worked as a ski instructor in the winter and moved down to Finegand Farm in springtime for the lambing. For the summer Moray moved to Loch Morlich to teach sailing and canoeing with Cairdsport. During this time, he also spent 4 months in Australia, working on a cattle station.

Moray then decided to move abroad and started a ski instructors post in Andorra. It was here that he started his BASI (British Association of Ski Instructors) exams. Moray still has friends from his time in Andorra. In 1975 it was a relatively unknown ski resort with approx 10 or 15 instructors, unlike today when there are hundreds of instructors. Moray worked in Andorra for 4 winter seasons coming back to Britain in the summer, either to the Isle of Wight or to Tighnabruaich on the west coast, to teach sailing.

In 1978 Moray moved back to Scotland for good, working as head ski instructor for Gustav Fischnaller and the old Glenshee Company. During this time he stayed at the Fife Arms Hotel and met back up with Pam. In the summer months they both went to Loch Tay, Moray shepherding and Pam working in the hotels. For one season Moray decided not to be a ski instructor as he felt it might be time to get a REAL job. He got a full time job on a farm in Fife but it didn't suit him and he moved back to Glenshee and Braemar. Moray and Pam got married in 1980, bought a house and settled into life in Braemar. When Gustav moved on Moray took over the Ski School as Manager until 2003, now as fully qualified BASI 1 instructor and trainer.

In the summer months, Moray had a few different jobs e.g. gardener at the Tulloch Lodge Hotel and estate worker at Mar Lodge. It wasn't until 1982 when the green keeper left Braemar Golf Club and they needed someone who could drive a tractor that Moray got a permanent summer job and he continues to the present day to look after the greens at the Club.

Moray and Pam have two sons - Derek born 1989 and now in the RAF and Jamie born 1992 and now working in Braemar. Moray continues to ski at Glenshee and this year accompanied some of the Braemar Primary 7s to Aviemore, where they enjoyed victory in their skiing. Moray likes fishing and still loves sailing in his Old Man's Boat. Moray and Pam are now hoping to move to Findhorn so that Moray can continue with his sailing but that's not to say that Moray will be abandoning Braemar altogether. He has enjoyed living here and feels it is a great place to bring up the kids. Hopefully Braemar Golf Club will benefit from Moray's skills for a little while longer!



Clunie Duck Race on May 18th raised £245 for the Explorer Scouts' trip to Norway. The first three ducks across the line were 194, 13 and 192 - the recipients of the cash prizes being Selena Hill (first); John Duff and David Wilkinson (two second prizes) and Amelia Till (third). Pouring rain and a rising river made for an interesting time - thanks to everyone who supported the duck race (and collected the ducks!)



BRAEMAR GUIDE CENTENARY SHIELING

This small self-catering hall is managed by Girlguiding Kincardine & Deeside. It is ideal for short holidays, parties and events and is well used by youth and community groups and other visitors. It is within a few minutes walk of the village centre next to Braemar Showground.

The hut has a well equipped kitchen, 2 toilets and 2 showers. There are mattresses for 24 people, and tables and chairs

Rates: Overnight - Adults £7 per head per night. Children - £4 per head per night.

Events and parties - price on application.

Discounts are available for youth and local community groups.

For more information and booking please contact:

Sue Burgess s.k.burgess@tiscali.co.uk or 013398 86016, 07968 093984

Ballater Victoria Week 2013

Scarecrow Trail

3-11 August

Comedy Night

Duck Race

Pet Show

Films

Music and Sports

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4x4 BBQ Safari

Picnic

Talent Show

Family Ceilidh

Ghost Tours

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Children's Events

CLAN Quiz

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and lots more...!

Full programme published July 12



www.ballatervictoriaweek.co.uk

Highland Games Centre

Another very exciting proposal for a new visitor attraction was unveiled to the community on Thursday 9th May when the Royal Highland Society presented the results of a feasibility study to establish a Highland Games Centre in the Princess Royal and Duke of Fife Memorial Park in Braemar. Over several months, working with consultants, the interpretive concept and preferred location for the centre has been explored with the village community.

The proposals which were presented illustrated a two storey building located on the site of the existing open stand at the North side of the ring. The new building will incorporate raked spectator seating facing into the park with the visitor accommodation tucked in below - similar to modern football and other sporting venues. Within the centre will be facilities to display the large collection of artefacts which are held by the Society, including the many trophies of the legendary Highland athlete Bill Anderson. Visitors will also be able to get 'hands on' with the skills of Highland Games events - tossing the caber and throwing the weights - through a series of virtual interactive displays. A quality restaurant and retail facilities will also be included - along with modern toilet facilities for able-bodied and disabled customers.

In addition to the visitor benefits the Centre is expected to provide significant employment opportunities for locals in both full and part-time roles.

Presenting the proposals Secretary of the Highland Games Society, William Meston said 'We

believe that this facility will greatly enhance what Braemar can offer to visitors. The Society is committed to extending the use of the Princess Royal Park with

plans to operate this under-cover attraction throughout the whole year.



Your local councillor... Geva Blackett



One year on as your local councillor I have been on what can only be described as a sharp - but very interesting - learning curve. One day is never the same as the next but of course there are plenty of frustrations and far, far too much driving! The roads don't seem to get any better and hardly has one pothole been reported when another six pop up but credit where credit is due, the council did a fantastic job on the whole of keeping us mobile over what has been a very long winter. Thank you to all those who kept our roads open and well gritted!

This year, for the first time, we were all able to SEE if the road to Glenshee was open without depending on out of date information on websites. The webcam has been a fantastic bonus – with over 70,000 hits from its launch to the beginning of April, it seems to be viewed from all around the world and is a great advertisement for this village; I am just waiting for Braemar Castle to put up a banner on the fence so that can be seen all round the world too! There are now plans afoot to put a similar system up on the Cairn O' Mount; it is just a shame that the CNPA haven't rolled this out on ALL the snow gates in the park like I suggested they should over four years ago (come in Brian Wood?), it would make life for all our residents, businesses and tourists so much easier and is actually not expensive to set up.

The launch of the Braemar Community Action Plan was one of the most exciting community events I have ever attended. It was wonderful to see such a huge turnout from the community – every age group was well represented. Now we need to turn the community's vision into reality and as your local councillor, I will be working hard to make sure all the different council departments are aware of this document and helping wherever I can. As part of the Housing, Employment and Economy working group, I am also really looking forward to meeting the housing challenge - community ownership is a route we must be prepared to look at, partly because the community can have its own allocations policy which means we can ensure at least some housing for local people and hopefully stop the drain of young people from this brilliant village we all love so much.

Email: Cllr.G.Blackett@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Tel: 013397 41541 Mobile: 0787 647 5269

Club News

Traditional Music Group - Moorfield Hotel



The Monday night music scene has grown with a beginners half hour at 7pm followed by our regular session. We generally play set tunes for an hour or two with 'open mike' after that. Our band, the Blaeberries, feature low and high whistle, fiddle, guitar, keyboard and bodhran. They've become a popular attraction at local events and have played as far afield as Crathie! All welcome, whatever the instrument or ability. We'll be taking a summer break soon but will be back after the Games. Come along, mail info@braemarbuzzard.org.uk or call Dave ☎ 41516.

News from SWRI ☎41225

Following an appeal from the SWRI to the women folk of the village, Marilyn Baker (President 2013/14) was delighted to welcome several prospective new members, ranging in age from 30s to 70s to a wine and cheese social evening last month in the Colonel's Bed, Invercauld Arms Hotel. Many came along with ideas and suggestions for next year's programme and the committee hope to put some of these innovative ideas into practice. The first official meeting of the 2013/2014 SWRI will take place on Thursday 19th September in the Colonel's Bed at 7.30. but we may arrange a trip to Pitlochry Festival Theatre before then. Watch out for posters nearer the time. If you want to add your email address to the SWRI database to be kept informed of what's happening and when, please email Marilyn at mjdate@hotmail.co.uk

Braemar Local History Group after a successful winter session is now looking forward to its summer activities which includes the very popular Historical Walk about the village on a Tuesday evening (notice boards for info, all welcome). Also being looked forward to is the BBQ at Auchtavan which coincides with the Jacobite and Tartan walk which will commence at the Keiloch on Saturday 20th July. A new venture for BLHG will be a display of photos and local artefacts at the Castle between 3rd and 11th August. The History Group continue with their quest to enhance the archive and will gladly accept any suitable material. Contact the Group's archivist Roger Sudworth ☎ 013397 41511 A big thank you to Robin Kennedy who recently offered some 200 photos for cataloguing.



Junior buzzard



Braemar School has two Music concerts in June - the first at 2pm on Tuesday 18th at the Glenshee ski centre for parents of the children as well as invited guests. The second concert is in St Margaret's Church on

Wednesday 19th June at 7pm. The music for the concerts is currently being written by the children themselves (with a little adult help - we are a primary school after all!) No well know songs - it is songs the children have helped compose taking their inspiration from the surrounding mountains. The children will be accompanied by several professional musicians and although details have yet to be finalised, BBC Radio Scotland will also be involved.



32 Scouts & leaders from Deeside District (21 of which are from Braemar) will be attending the Norwegian International Jamboree in Stavanger from 6-14th July. During the week there will be 15,000 scouts from Norway and other countries camping in a huge 'Scout village'. The theme of the jamboree is 'Quite Impressive' with lots of activities including pioneering construction, cooking all meals on open fires, overnight backpack hiking, visits to the famous Pulpit Rock and much more.

The camp will have its own daily magazine and camp radio and of course, its own special camp song, 'We Got What It Takes'.



Paws for thought...

Name: Guinness (My owners had just come back home from a holiday in Ireland when they found me and as I was black with a white head they thought it would be amusing to give me this name!)

Breed: Cross Border/Working Bearded Collie

Age: Ten years old this summer

Story: My owners bought me from a puppy farm in the Borders where I wasn't well treated and when I was shown to them they thought that there was something wrong with me as I was too scared to move. I was kept in a concrete kennel all by myself with no other puppies to play with. Luckily they saved me from the farm and I try to be very well behaved but I still get really frightened if I am shouted at.

Favourite Games: When I first came to live in Braemar my family lived up at Glenshee Ski Centre. I loved living up there - every day was an adventure. I love the sound of engines and machinery and there are lots of exciting motorised things to play with. My idea of fun is racing my owner up a hill on his skid-doo and then playing a game of tug-of-war with the ski tows. I could do it all day! I've actually become a bit of a TV and internet celebrity because of it. Unfortunately, due to all this media attention, people have found out how much fun it is and now they come up to Glenshee with skis and snowboards to play with tows too! Since we moved down to the village and I am a little older, I love to sit in the window to watch all that is going on. I have great fun barking at everyone who passes.

Pals: Every morning I meet up with my pals Holly and Jasper and we all go for a walk together. Our owners, the two Joannes, come along with us but really they just slow us down as they chat too much...



Reporter: Richard Baker

What's on in and around your village?

Mobile Library Service

Tuesdays

Once a month service. More information
☎ Aberdeen Library & Information Service 01651 87270



Village Bin Collections - Thursdays

Wheelie Bins:

June 27th
July 11th, 25th
Aug 8th, 22nd

Recycling:

June 20th
July 4th, 18th
Aug 1st, 15th



Did you know ? Bumblebees

- There are 24 species of bumblebees (Bombus) in the UK
- Bumblebees are larger & hairier than honey bees so can venture out on colder days - and are better suited to colder climates
- Only the females can sting and they only do so when feeling very threatened
- Bumblebees have smelly feet! And leave a scent after visiting a flower which stops other bumbles wasting energy visiting the same one



Date	Event
June 17 Mon	Braemar Community Council 7.30pm Braemar School
June 20 Thur	Walk in the Park 7-8.30pm with Mar Lodge ranger service. An evening stroll around Mar Lodge. £3 adult U-16 free. Booking 013397 20164. (Repeated every Thurs evening until end of Aug)
June 22 Sat	Clan Cancer Support Strawberry Tea in Crathie Village Hall 2-4 pm. Entry £3
June 29 Sat	Ant Antics - Mar Lodge Ranger Service 2-4 pm £3 adult U-16 free. Booking 013397 20164
July 1 Mon	Alastair Savage Trio - concert Village Hall 8.00 pm. Alastair returns to Braemar with his fiddle.
July 12-14	Braemar Junior Games weekend - Friday 12th fund raising dinner in the marquee 7.30pm Tickets £25 from John Kinsella 013397 41679. Saturday - Games starting at 1200. Sunday Family Fun Day - incorporating the Braemar Dog Show - in the Games Park from 1130. More details www.braemarjuniorgames.com
July 13 Sat	Dragons & Damsels. Join Balmoral and Aberdeenshire Rangers to explore the wildlife of the shores of Loch Ullachie. Free. Meet at car park in Ballater. 11.00 am - 1.00 pm
July 13 Sat	Ceilidh 8.00 pm Games Park marquee - in aid of Anchor Unit. Tickets £10 need to be purchased in advance
July 15 Mon	Braemar Community Council 7.30pm Braemar School
July 20 Sat	Braemar Local History Group - Jacobite walk and BBQ at Auchtavan
July 23 Tue	Cairngorms Ceilidh Trail - concert Village Hall 8.00 pm
July 28 Sun	Jacobite Day, Braemar Castle
July 30 Tue	Feis Ros returns to Braemar - concert by traditional musicians in the Village Hall 8.00 pm
Aug 2 Fri	Concert as part of Aberdeen International Youth Festival at St Margaret's Church - the youth symphonic orchestra Rijistreek
Aug 3 -11	Braemar Local History Group display of photos/artefacts at Braemar Castle
Aug 16 Fri	Celtic Horizon in concert - Village Hall 8.00 pm
Aug 18 Sun	Flower & Craft Fair Village Hall
Aug 19 Mon	Braemar Community Council 7.30 pm Braemar School
23-26 Oct	Braemar Creative Arts Festival
More Ranger events	www.balmoralcastle.com click on 'activities' www.nts.org.uk/Property/Mar-Lodge-Estate/Events/All



Please send news/articles for the Buzzard to:
info@braemarbuzzard.org.uk

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