

HAUD FORRIT!



THE NEWSLETTER OF TULLYNESSLE & FORBES PUBLIC HALL ASSOCIATION

Spring 2013

Mary Emslie was born at Terpersie in 1929 and went to Tullynessle school - in the days before the authorities provided school transport and school diners. Mary is well known for her doric poetry

A FEW MEMORIES OF MY SCHOOLDAYS AT TULLYNESSLE

I wis born at Terpersie as were my three sisters and my brother. In my second year at school I hid scarlet fever and chicken pox so I spent seven weeks in Aboyne Hospital along wi' several ither pupils frae the school. It wis thocht that the pupils spittin' on their slate tae clean it had spread the infection - slates were never used after that!

We hid two miles tae walk tae school which wis nae verra fine when it wis stormy. The Dominie wisna very happy if we were aff school for a couple of days if it wis snowy . We had tae tak tae the fields doon the length o' the Kirk. We came on tae the main road beside the stables, and were told "Dinna ging near the stables" cos we nicht get flachines as tinkers sometimes slept there.

At school we got soup a' the winter months. The weekly soup routine wis, tattie, lentil, broth, pea, tattie. The parents gave the vegies, tatties, a hen and beef for the soup. When we saw a motor bike and side car appearing we shouted " Here comes Maxie wi' his taxi" we knew he wis deliverin' rabbits for our soup! He wis the game keeper from Knockepoch estate and lived at Denburn on the Suie(The blue corrugated iron house which has been replaced in recent years)

When we were playin' rounders and we aye birlid roon the flag pole but ae day when Hilda's (Matthew) turn came, it gave way and there wis some shoutin' tae get abody clear.

An auld wifie who had a ferm beside the Kirk used tae tak pity on homeless mannies. There wis Neepie Reid, the Greetin' Baker and Sandy Allan. The Greetin' Baker sometimes came past the school. He sang "Doh" then sang to us but the Dominie always interrupted our fun! Sandy Allan married the auld wifie.

The Dominie wisna vera pleased when I left school because he wanted me tae stay on but I got an exemption tae leave school when I wis 13 years and 9 months so I could help at hame.

PICTURE REQUEST FOR T&F HALL CALENDAR 2014!!

I know it seems early but, as Calendar Co-ordinator, I am already receiving pictures to choose from for next year's calendar! It's never too soon!!

I hope you are all enjoying this year's calendar. I'm told it's the best yet! Thank you to everyone who supplied great pictures to choose from, especially if any of yours are included. All the usual conditions apply, i.e. you can email pictures with a good definition; put them on a CD or send me a good A4 colour print; only choose pictures taken within 10 miles of the hall. (The subject matter may be miles away, as long as you can SEE it from within 10 miles, e.g: Lochnagar!) We cannot use wide panoramic shots as the composition is spoiled when it is cropped.

I have already been given some wonderful wildlife shots, so now I'd like you all to send great pictures of scenery, pets, local events and especially people at work or involved in hobbies, eg: a postie with his van, the fish mannie, a local group out walking in a lovely setting, a dance or ceilidh in the hall, a farmer with his dog/plough/beasts, etc. Surprise me!! Maybe you already have some shots that might be suitable? If they aren't used this time, they may well be on another occasion.

If you have suggestions for changes or improvements to the calendar, then we'll be happy to take them into consideration. You've got until about August to send stuff, but please don't wait, I'll be delighted to receive pictures at ANY time!!

So keep you camera handy and GET SNAPPING!! Thank you so much -
Sue Gassaway, Syllavethy, ALFORD, AB33 8AQ. Tel: 019755 62273



Art Class

The art class is held on Thursday mornings, and runs for 10 sessions in the autumn, and 10 sessions from January to March, for between 12 and 14 participants. During the sessions we try out different techniques and materials, and some people in the last year have been exploring projects of their own which continue over several sessions.

When I first became involved in teaching the class, it was at the invitation of Suzie Hunt, who was unable to do all the sessions due to other commitments. In the 2011/12 sessions we had two different groups meeting on different days, but when I took over the class for 2012/13, I decided to amalgamate the two groups. Many in the classes had been painting together for several years, and had formed good friendships, and I was very pleased to find that the two groups worked very well together. I have been delighted to see people make real progress in their art, and more importantly really enjoying being absorbed in creative activity.

My own art career began rather late in life. Although I studied art at school, my working life was as a psychologist with children with learning disabilities in Newcastle and then back in Aberdeen. I started evening classes with Alison Ewan in Aboyne and Suzie Hunt, as well as going on several painting holidays in Italy, Greece and Spain. When retirement approached, I decided to apply to Gray's School of Art (having earlier vowed I would not never inflict more studying on myself!), but ended up having four very stimulating, albeit demanding, four years of painting. It was great to get dressed in the morning in paint splattered clothes ready for the day ahead, and to spend time surrounded by students of all ages and personalities. Mature students were made very welcome, and a wealth of life experiences certainly helped in exploring subject matter. A new lease of life began!

Teaching others has helped maintain my own enthusiasm for painting - it is very rewarding encouraging others to explore new approaches and to achieve success in their work.

The class will start up again in September, and all the current members have decided to continue. There will therefore be limited availability of additional places, although a couple of new people would be welcome.

Anyone interested should contact Lyndsay Stewart at:
flstewart2@btinternet.com or tel. 013398 81159.

Providing Help to Other Groups Redeveloping Their Community Halls and Other Community Developments

When Tullynessle and Forbes Hall and Community Association was redeveloping Tullynessle and Forbes Hall, we received help from other groups who had redeveloped their halls, such as at Midmar. The Association has continued this spirit of helping other community groups as we were helped. The redevelopment of our hall has been very successful, in part due to that help we received. Indeed the Big Lottery, which grant aided much of the redevelopment, made it one of its case studies of such schemes. Other community groups redeveloping their halls have thus turned to us for help and advice and we have been happy to provide it. For example, a talk on redeveloping a hall was given to one group with people from over 12 halls. Committee members from other halls being redeveloped like Ballater, Keig and Moneymusk have visited us and sometimes a committee member invited there to address their committee. The research and consultation document produced by the Tullynessle and Forbes Hall and Community Association on which the hall redevelopment plan was based has been widely circulated.

When grant aid was received from Scottish Power to install a wood pellet based heating system a condition of the grant was that a wider educational value would come from it. Groups like Speyside railway volunteers and committee members of other halls have visited the hall to see our heating system. The Forestry Commission has shown our system widely in exhibitions on use of sustainable wood fuels. We are members of the Aberdeenshire Sustainable Community Halls network and have given talks to groups through that. Most recently, a four page paper on choosing and using a renewable wood based fuel supply, based on our own experience, was written by committee members for a presentation to a large meeting on this in Kingussie.

We will continue to help other community groups where we can.

This little known poem by Charles Murray, never included in any of his collected works, was written for Aberdeen Students and appeared in their magazine "Alma Mater" on April 20, 1925.

THE BAG *by Charles Murray*

Hae ye ever heard a gowfer, when he lost the half-a-crown
He was daft aneuch tae wauger on the game,
Explainin how his driver or his niblick loot him doon,
Or the mashie or the niblick was tae blame?
I've heard them blame the caddie, I've heard them blame the tee,
The heather, an the fairway ,an the flag,
Or ban the bunker waitin far a bunker shoulda be,
But I've never heard a gowfer blame the bag.

O late my girth's been growin - I'm as fit tae rowe as rin -
An I canna aye be buyin bigger breeks,
An the dam-brod an the totum dinna help tae haud me thin,
Sae I've spent a soud o siller upon cleeks.
But weary fa the gowfin, though I swear an sweat an strive,
Dae ye think that I can waggle? -Deil a wag.
An I fear I fin my temper even shorter than my drive,
The morn - I'll cairry naething but the bag!

Congratulations To Simone Sinclair Of Montgarrie!

Did you pick up from the library, a free copy of a book "My Favourite Place – a tribute to Scotland's best loved places" ? The book was a present to the people of Scotland as part of a national project run by BBC Scotland and the Scottish Book Trust. People were invited to submit stories, poems, lyrics, letters, diaries and art works. The book contains a selection of the best of these as well as pieces from authors such as Michael Palin, Liz Lochhead, Alexander McCall Smith and Sally Magnusson.

Simone, who works at the Community Centre in Alford, submitted a piece entitled "Bella's Kitchen" - Bella being her grandmother who lived in Nitshill in Glasgow, which was selected for inclusion in the book from the many hundreds of entries submitted.



Showing at Tullynessle and Forbes Hall on Thursday, June 6 at 7:30pm

Seven Ages by Kepow Theatre Company



A comedy from one of the UK's leading touring theatre companies. Fresh from a sell out WORLD TOUR to Canada, America, New Zealand and Hong Kong! This wonderful comedy theatre show explores the seven stages of life that Shakespeare says we go through.

Garnering 5 star reviews at the Edinburgh Festival, Seven Ages had a sell out run and then transferred to London's West end for three weeks, receiving a standing ovation on the last night. Essentially a comedy - with touching moments in it - Seven Ages has been seen at over 350 venues across the UK. A comedy show that will make you think and laugh. IDEAL FOR ALL AGES. Video clips at: www.kevintomlinson.co.uk

Essentially a comedy - with touching moments in it - Seven Ages explores the idea that we go through seven stages in life. From infancy - through love and wisdom - to growing old disgracefully.

Fresh from a sell out world tour, Seven Ages has been seen at over 300 venues across the UK. It received 5 star reviews at the Edinburgh Festival before transferring to London, where it received a standing ovation on it's opening and closing nights!

Taking true stories from their own upbringing, Tomlinson and Hood create amusing or touching scenes based on a variety of topics. These topics often include; childhood adventures, falling in love, finding a job, becoming a parent and enjoying new hobbies in retirement.

Seven Ages has been praised for it's wonderful combination of comedy, drama and pathos, as it explores two of the most important questions one can ever ask oneself: Why am I here? and What's important in my life? A truly unique show, that makes one re-assess one's priorities in life, whilst simultaneously making you laugh.

"He reminds me of a young Robin Williams" - Paramount Comedy Channel *****

"Excellent, this is a must see show!" - The Times *****

"Fantastic! Magical comedy theatre!" - Edinburgh Herald *****

"Hilarious and heart-warming, a truly unique show!" - The Scotsman *****

Target Audience

All ages. 6-106 year olds. Suitable for family audiences.

People who like Morecombe and Wise, The Two Ronnies, etc.

Teddy Bear's Picnic



The sun shone brightly and the Tullynessle Hall looked very cheerful bedecked with Easter decorations all around. The stage was decorated with bunting & banners. There were fun games and lovely Bear Tales from Ali Webber in the back meeting room - many thanks Ali! There was colouring to be done and face-painting to be had, an Easter egg hunt was held and to round everything off a lovely Best Dressed Teddy. A delicious picnic snack was served including cupcakes made by the lovely Margi Rosam. Happy helpers made tea and coffee and a great time was had. Unfortunately the snow on the ground must have kept many toddlers away so not as many children came along as was hoped but we hope that those that did had a fab Teddy time! Date is in the Calendar for 2014 so keep your Teddy handy for next year!

Murder Mystery Evening "Death at Dumplings"

For the second year the Association hosted a Murder Mystery evening in April by the well known Cluny Players and once again it was a sell out. The audience enjoyed a three course meal with coffee/tea while the cast whisked us off to Dumplings Holiday Camp and entertained us with their antics and hilarious script written by Susan McArthur. Money raised from the event was donated to Aberdeen's Maggie Centre.

First Aid Course

The Association's committee is committed to providing learning opportunities for the community. With this in mind we organised a one day appointed person First Aid course in the hall in November. We offered it free to participants and the available places were quickly filled. Feedback from the course was very positive and as a result of donations from those attending we can run another course in the future should there be demand. Contact any committee member should you be interested.

"It was wonderful to have an opportunity to attend the Appointed Person's First Aid Course on my doorstep. Having arranged first aid at work training in the past I know the amount of work which goes into organising such a training. The quality of the teaching was excellent and the event was very well organised. Well done Tullynessle Hall committee!" Christine

New Year

We are in no way rushing the year away nor are we beckoning the next winter on given this winter is only just starting to leave us ;-). That said, this is an early heads up that there will be a New Year's Eve Party in the Hall this year provided we have enough volunteers. The booking is on the Calendar and Doug, our trusty DJ, is booked!

Arrangements will be advertised nearer the time but keep us in mind for another great family party to welcome in 2014!



Hall Developments

Regular users will have noticed a new face around the Hall, others may have noticed a grey van regularly parked at the hall. The committee are delighted to have a new hall keeper in post. Stuart Malcolm came on board in late autumn and has quickly got to grips with the running of the Hall. He has worked hard to freshen up the hall and to keep the building warm and accessible in the wintery weather. He has quickly got used to the wood pellet heating. He commented "It's like a baby – I've kept an eye on it, fed and cleaned it – the only difference is I haven't needed to change a nappy!"

Thank You!

We always welcome and are grateful for help given towards running the hall.

A BIG thank you to the Mackies of Whiteside for all their help with the snow clearing during the winter months. With a heavily used hall their help has been invaluable in keeping the car park as safe as possible for hall users.

We have had a problem with the hearing loop system. We have been fortunate to have been given help and advice from Ian Bruce to resolve the problem which will increase the enjoyment of events at the hall for those who are hard of hearing.

How To Contribute To Hall Funds For Nothing!

Do you do any of your shopping online? Then it is simple to contribute to hall funds at no additional personal cost!

Go to **www.tullynessleandforbeshall.co.uk** Click bottom right hand side "Online Shop". Then click the tab "buy.at/" and up comes a screen showing many popular retailers including M&S, ASDA, Amazon, Next, SAGA, and Mothercare. All you have to do is click on the name of the retailer you want to buy from, and shop as normal. A donation then goes from the retailer to the Hall Association. There is no extra charge to you and no extra charge on the prices which are often below what you will pay in the retailer's shops!

Regular Events - For regular events at the hall check the website.

www.tullynessleandforbeshall.co.uk

PS; Our web site

www.tullynessleandforbeshall.co.uk
had 13,623 hits over the last year.

PPS; Indoor car boot sale at Tullynessle Hall
Saturday 6th July 11am till 2pm.
Please e-mail if interested.

Tullynesslehall1@gmail.com



Saturday 14 September 2013
Alford Transport Museum

Raising funds for:



Fun for all the Family!

29 mile or 13 mile run + kiddies run
Phone Stuart on 01330 833477 for details



www.KTbikerun.org.uk