

HAUD FORRIT!



Tullynessle and Forbes Hall and Community Association

Winter 2014

Chairman's report for December 2014 Haud Forrit

It is that time of year again, long nights, short days, colder, wetter – a good time to visit your local hall. Many of you have done just that and year by year more of you are using the facilities at Tullynessle Hall. This is reflected in the increased use of the hall and not just in the wintertime. This is really encouraging and is testament to the faith of all those who supported the redevelopment of the hall in 2007.

Along with the increased use of the building there is of course increased wear and tear. We have tried to keep the hall looking great by purchasing an industrial floor cleaner, replacing carpets, replacing doors and commissioning the repainting of the external woodwork. If we have missed anything let us know.

Smooth operation of the facility has been the top priority of the hall committee and as the programme has developed the work associated with keeping the hall going has increased. We now employ a cleaner and a caretaker. In the New Year a booking administrator will start to ensure that we can keep on top of any increases in demand. This contribution, albeit in a small way to the local economy.

The hall committee has been busy this year with some new ventures. We have, in partnership with the Film Club shown 2 films. 2 more in the New Year. A new senior citizens group has started and is looking very promising. On January 30 2015 we will be holding our first Burns Supper, early signs are that it is going to be a good one. It is not often we stage events, our role is usually one of

- supporting community organisations to get off the ground in the early stages
- encouraging existing groups to become strong, resilient & effective.

So far this year (April-November) we have provided £1094 financial support to local groups.

We trust that we are getting on with managing the hall and supporting the local community in the way that you would wish. If you have want to contact us or to take a look at the hall and its activities in detail then you can reach us at tullynessleandforbeshall.co.uk.

Bob Leonard
Chair

Protecting the Amenity of the Hall

One of the most pleasing things about the use of our redeveloped hall is that people in the local community now have a place where important family and social celebrations like wedding receptions and important anniversaries can be held locally and not many miles away. Already four wedding receptions including one full wedding have been booked into the hall this year. Not only have users got access to a welcoming and facility but at low cost. Several features of the hall have made this possible. Careful redesign of the hall ensured that external caterers could use it and provide all that was necessary. Another feature that hall users particularly remark upon and value is the southerly outlook across the Howe of Alford with fields and woodlands. This setting is one of the most valuable assets of the hall. It encourages use of the hall and hence supports use of the hall, rental income and thus its long term financial viability.

Recent housing developments have started to edge onto that outlook. The committee had a key duty to protect the hall's interests and hence the community's interests. It did not object to the planning applications for these housing developments. It did however write to the planning authority and make two points. One was that further housing developments along the same road would heavily encroach on that view. We also pointed out that random housing development had been the occurring in Montgarrie and Tullynessle over a number of years, some at least causing significant conflict within the community. Collectively, this housing development was considerable. The time had surely come therefore for a more planned and integrated approach to further housing development in the area. Both the planning department and local councillors were informed of these views.

Hogmanay Family Party

As dark nights and cold weather creeps in, we have some good news in that the Hogmanay Family Party will run again this year at Tullynessle Hall. Last year was enjoyed by all young and not so young and so the hall is booked again for the 31st December. This was a great family party last year where you are free to run around, make a lot of noise, dance and generally have a great time - and that's just the adults! Look forward to seeing you there!

Social Afternoon

Our first social afternoon for Senior Citizens was held in September and was a great success! We were delighted to be joined by a group from the Silver Circle in Strathdon. Some enjoyed a variety of board games and cards, draughts and dominos. Some tried their hand at New Age Curling – curling without ice and sweeping! All enjoyed a good news over a fly cup and delicious home baking provided by members of Tullynessle & Forbes WRI. By special request, another event was run in November before the winter weather set in with in addition, the chance to reminisce over old photos of the area. We would be delighted to see this becoming a regular event to enable older members of the community to meet together.

A Date For Your Diary – Burns Supper Saturday 31st January

Arrangements are being finalised for our first Burns Supper since the Hall was renovated. Look out for the posters and make sure you buy your ticket in good time!

Have you noticed the Hall's new look ? A big " Thank you" to Sandy Innes and his staff for a great job sprucing up the Hall's outside paintwork. Keeping the Hall warm and welcoming, clean and comfortable and in good condition is a costly business. We would love to tar over the car park but the cost is prohibitive. Do YOU have any suggestions as to how this could be achieved?

2015 Calendar

Next year's calendar is now available - TULLYNESSLE AND FORBES –THEN & NOW. A great Christmas present at £8! It provides a chance to look at the people and the place in the past and in the present day – a trip down memory lane for many. We want to thank all those who agreed to feature in the calendar and for digging out old photos and sharing their memories. We want to thank Clive Marsden and the staff at the ITC at Alford Academy for all their help in producing it. Its available from Loose Ends , Montgarrie , Alford Bistro and by phoning 62309 or 62273.

Theatre productions at Tullynessle and Forbes Hall.

Due to cuts in funding for the arts in general we have had fewer Theatre productions at the hall recently. However, on a happy note NEAT have received funding, higher than expected, for this year so we are hoping to increase the number of productions we can bring to you during 2015!

The Next production appearing here for us will be on **Thursday January 15th at 7.30** and it is **Rumpelstiltskin**, with the excellent Northumberland Theatre Company who have visited us a few times now with some wonderful plays ... Rumpelstiltskin

An adaptation of this classic fairy-tale by acclaimed Olivier Award winning children's playwright Mike Kenny.

'Straw turns to gold, magic and mayhem are in the air...' Wonderful storytelling, humorous yet darkly scary and written in Mike's inimitable style, full of physical comedy, in witty rhyming couplets with songs and music.'

Suitable for 6+.

Tickets will be available from The Bistro or online through www.neatshows.co.uk nearer the time.

'I have always had a fascination with fairy stories. The best fairy tales contain deep truths about living. I assume they were probably told in kitchens, around fires, probably the telly of their day. They're stories that can grip you whatever your age. Rumpelstiltskin has always been one of my favourite stories, ever since I was young, and I'm not sure why. It's built on a series of boasts and bad bargains. I just think we all know that, when the Miller declares that his daughter can spin straw into gold, it's not going to turn out well.



NTC are one of my favourite companies. It seems to me that they do theatre the way it is supposed to be done. I love to write plays which are for everyone, whatever their age, class or cultural background. It's rare these days that we all gather round to listen to stories that apply to us all. When I watch NTC they return me to that time when I was a child listening to stories, and even further back than that, to a time when people sat in kitchens, and around fires spinning yarns. I'm really happy to be a part of it.'

Mike Kenny

Hot off the Press...

On **May 8th** we are also going to have the production “**Hiraeth**”, Welsh for “longing/nostalgia/pride in your roots”.

This is a drama reflecting issues affecting the UK countryside as younger generations leave rural life for more secure urban futures and the impact this has on the people and places they leave behind. It's a tale of adventure, heartbreak and hilarity accompanied by music and Welsh cakes.

We may have other shows before and after this date which are yet to be confirmed. If you would like to be informed of all the theatre productions we have at the hall, or any of the other activities here, just request to be added to the emailing list. Other shows are being programmed as this newsletter goes to print so look out for further news in the next newsletter, on the hall or NEAT websites, via posters or via email.



Craigievar Film Club

Craigievar Film Club begins its 10th season in October (please see the programme below). Films take place in Tullynessle and Forbes Hall at 7.30pm. The cost of a single ticket is £4 or £30 if you would like a season membership. In addition we are putting on some community films in conjunction with the hall which are priced at £5 and not covered by the membership. Tea and coffee are available at film club showings. If you would like more information or to be on our mailing list then please contact us on craigievarfilmclub2007@yahoo.com.

2014

Oct 9th Philomena

An elderly woman searches for the son she gave up for adoption decades earlier. She is accompanied by a journalist with his own demons to face in this heart-wrenching two-hander.

Oct 23rd The Grand Budapest Hotel)

The concierge of an interwar Mitteleuropa hotel finds himself in a game of cat and mouse when he is left an expensive painting by a guest. Colourful, witty, inventive and star studded.

Nov 6th The Bridge Rising

Plucky Highlanders take on the government, big industry and the Bank of America in their fight to end the tolls imposed on the new Skye bridge in this fascinating documentary.

Nov 20th Locke

Over the course of one night-time car ride a man's life begins to unravel. Filmed entirely inside the vehicle, other characters are heard only by phone in this intense British minimalist journey.

Dec 4th Intouchables

An unlikely camaraderie rooted in honesty and humour develops between a handicapped millionaire and his streetwise ex-con caretaker in this French hit based on real events.

Dec 29th Saving Mr Banks

Walt Disney hopes his California charm will win over the redoubtable P.L Travers. He wants to make her book Mary Poppins into a movie. She resists, hiding the painful genesis of her novel.

2015

Jan 8th The Lunchbox

A mistaken delivery in Mumbai's famously efficient lunchbox delivery system connects a young housewife to an older man as notes pass back and forth between them.

Jan 22nd Underground

A restored silent classic with a great new score tells the story of a love triangle featuring pioneering scenes in the London Underground which bring out the comedy and tension.

Feb 5th Wrinkles

An astonishing cocktail of friendship, resistance and life set among the unexpected landscape of an elderly care facility in this animated Spanish feature based on an award-winning comic.

Feb 19th The Rocket

A ten year old boy, believed to bring back luck, is forced to move. In the most bombed country in the world he enters a giant rocket building competition hoping to win the lucrative prize.

March 5th The Dallas Buyer's Club

Real-life Texas cowboy Ron Woodruff was diagnosed with AIDS in 1985 and given 30 days to live. Here he takes matters into his own hands and sources the non-approved drugs he needs.

March 19th Cinema Paradiso

A famous director returns for his mentor's funeral in this paean to the humble local cinema which sits, with the church, at the heart of the community in a small Italian town.

March 21st Ceilidh

Additional Community Films:

Friday 26th September 2014

Sunshine on Leith

Saturday 15th November 2014

Gravity

Friday 20th February 2015

Captain Philips

Friday 24th April 2015

TBA

HOGMANAY FAMILY PARTY

at

Tullynessle & Forbes Hall

on

31 December 2014

From 7:30pm to 12:30am

We will provide the great venue and music

You provide your food and drink

Tickets £7.50 for Adult & £2.50 per child

(Available from the bistro)

(PLEASE DONATE A RAFFLE PRIZE)

Event run by volunteers

All help on the night gladly accepted!