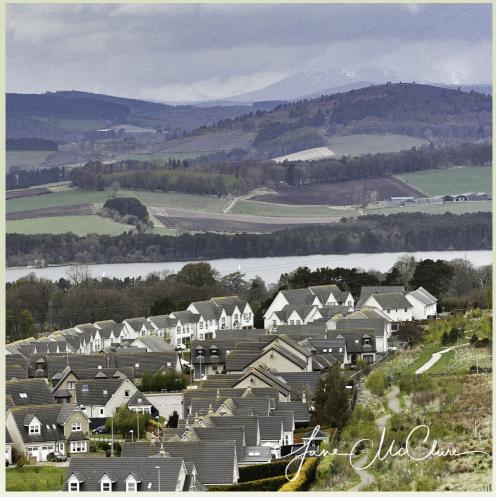
## **Westhill Bulletin**

Summer 2021 Issue 166





View from Golf Club over the western boundary of the Orbital Trail – see page 7

Published by Westhill & Elrick Community Council Westhill website – www.westhillelrick.org



www.midmartimbercentre.co.uk

# TIMBÉR CENTRE

Smiddy Croft, Comers Road, Midmar, AB51 7PS

## TIMBER PRODUCTS & BUILDING TIMBER

- FENCING & POSTCRETE
- GARDEN BARK
- SHEET MATERIALS
- DECKING
- CHIPBOARD FLOORING
- PLYWOOD
- PLASTERBOARD
- WEATHERBOARDING
- INSULATION
- PALLETS, CRATES & BOXES
- ROOFING FELT



#### GARDEN SHEDS, SHELTERS, MOBILE FIELD SHELTERS

Timber cut to size
 Competitive prices
 Delivery available







Tel/Fax: 01330 833581

#### **CONTENTS**

Ashdale Hall	23	Milne Hall, Kirkton of Skene	42
Ashdale Hall Class Timetable	24	Open Award Group D of E	69
Bill's Gardening Corner	58	Rotary Club	8
Chairperson's Report	3	Scouting	83
Christine Beattie		Senior Citizens Club	42
Citizens Advice Bureau	80	SensationALL	76
Cllr Alistair McKelvie	13	Skene Medical Group - Patient Info	51
Cllr David Aitchison	14	Skene Parish Church	29
Cllr Iris Walker	17	Sooyang Do Martial Art	23
Cllr Ron McKail	11	Tennis Club	
Community Church	75	Varapunya Meditation Centre	36
Elrick Primary School	76	Volunteering Opportunities	
Environment and Litter Projects	41	WECC Community Support Fund	58
Gardening Club		Westhill A2B Dial-a-Bus	86
Girl Guiding		Westhill Bike Club	84
Girls Brigade	35	Westhill Bowling Club	52
Golf Club	64	Westhill in Bloom	4
Health and Wellbeing - Melanoma	30	Westhill Orbital Trail	7
JogScotland Westhill	70	Westhill Walkers	79
Lions Club Book Sales	52		
Macmillan Cancer Support	58	See also Notices list on the next page	ge and

See also Notices list on the next page and Adverts Index on page 88

Disclaimer: The inclusion of adverts in the Bulletin does not imply that WECC promotes or endorses any particular business or service.

#### SUBMITTING ITEMS FOR THE BULLETIN

We distribute over 5000 copies of the Westhill Bulletin quarterly to houses and businesses in Westhill and surrounding villages. We offer good advertising rates and are keen to support local businesses and services.

Adverts and articles for the autumn issue should be sent in by **Friday 6th August**. The Bulletin will be distributed from 28th August.

All contributions or enquiries should be emailed to: westhill.bulletin@gmail.com

Telephone enquiries re adverts or articles to:

Bulletin Editor – David Ritchie on 01224 744058 or 07989 637461

Articles should be submitted as **Microsoft Word** documents attached to an email. Articles larger than 600 words may be edited.

#### 2021 advertising rates:

Eighth Page £30, Quarter Page £55, Half Page £90, Full Page £170 Inside Covers £200, Back Page £230

(There is a small additional one-off charge for new adverts and when changes are made)

For more details on advertising see www.westhillelrick.org/bulletin

#### **BULLETIN DELIVERY**

The Bulletin is delivered by an army of dedicated volunteers. More deliverers are always required to replace retiring helpers and add to the pool of relief helpers.

If you can spare an hour or so four times per year to help deliver the Bulletin in your locality or nearby then please ring David Ritchie on 01224 744058.

#### **NOTICES**

Advertisers Index88	Scaffold Tower Hire1	8
Banking Services in Westhill6	Useful Numbers9	1
Household Waste & Recycling Centre6	Westdyke Leisure Centre2	1
Lions Club Book Sales6	Westhill 10k7	6

#### Westhill & Elrick Community Council

#### Chair

#### weccchair@gmail.com

Mervyn Barr, 6 Kingswells View, Westhill, AB32 6RZ Tel 07890 802181

#### Vice-Chair

William Monroe

#### Secretary

#### weccsecretx@gmail.com

David Ritchie, 11 Fare Park Drive, Westhill, AB32 6WE Tel 07989 637461

#### Treasurer

treasurerwecc@gmail.com

Gordon Prentice

#### **Bulletin Manager**

westhill.bulletin@gmail.com

David Ritchie, 11 Fare Park Drive, Westhill, AB32 6WE Tel 07989 637461

#### Planning Convener

planningwecc@gmail.com

Diane Priestley

#### **Ordinary Members**

Hilary Benson

Malcolm Collie

Heather Cook

Donald Davidson

Becky Ferguson

Audrey Findlay

Kate Lumsden

Alan McCue

Justin Reid

Kenneth Stewart

Raymond Swaffield

Community Council meetings are held on 2nd Thursday of each month at 7pm normally in Holiday Inn West, Westhill and are open to all residents of Westhill & District

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the meetings are currently being held using Zoom. Residents are welcome to join the Zoom meetings.

Contact the secretary at weccsecretx@gmail.com to get the call details.



#### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Welcome to the Summer Bulletin. The long-delayed spring has finally arrived, with the seasonal sounds of the dawn chorus and lawnmowers, cleared of cobwebs, coming back to life. As I write the next phase in the relaxation of Covid restrictions is imminent and we will soon be able to enjoy the company of family and friends indoors, subject to the remaining restrictions.

Of course alongside the drive to meet family and friends indoors has an opposite, seasonal drive to get outdoors and enjoy the fresh air and sunshine, and maybe longer term, plan a holiday abroad in an even sunnier country on a "Green List". With this in mind, our recently formed Health and Wellbeing Group have produced some guidance on how to enjoy sunshine with minimum risk of injury or longer term illness, see page 30.

During the lockdown many of us adopted new behaviours with walking and cycling probably being the most accessible and popular. The health benefits, both physical and mental are undoubtedly significant and it will be great if the changed behaviours become regular habits.

With such health benefits in mind I'm delighted to say that all the development work required to make the Westhill Orbital Trail truly "Orbital" has now been completed. The route past the golf clubhouse offers some great views from the upper level of the car park. It's a bit of a climb to get there but well worth it. You might also like to take out social membership of the Golf Club and if you develop a thirst after your climb you can pop into the Clubhouse for some refreshments. See page 7.

With the success of the Orbital Trail Project, the Sculpture Project and the Phoenix Project, we are now considering what further community improvement projects might be suitable for 2021/22. We have had two suggestions so far; firstly improved facilities in Denman Park to further encourage outdoor recreation and exercise and secondly cleaning and dredging the Denman Park ponds. We will welcome any further suggestions. For this year or next so please send your ideas to <a href="weecsecretx@gmail.com">weecsecretx@gmail.com</a>. They don't need to be highly detailed, just provide an outline of what you have in mind and an indication of the benefits you think it will bring to the community of Westhill.

This Covid year has clearly demonstrated the strong community spirit in Westhill and what we can achieve by working together for the common good. Around 50 volunteers attended one of our recent litter picks from various sources including Westhill Winter Resistance, Rotary, WECC plus several "independents". To encourage volunteering and help connect those who might wish to volunteer with those organisations and groups looking for volunteers, we have created a table on page 57. There are quite a few opportunities available so why not take a look.

Traditionally early summer is the time for planting and historically we have focused on hanging baskets on lampposts in Westhill and Elrick. This year we will aim to create a highly coloured focal point by way of placing twelve whiskey-barrel planters in and around the Holiday Inn roundabout and hanging a number of flower baskets on the "green wall" at the Boar Sculpture.

#### Westhill in Bloom

In 2020 Westhill in Bloom was run as a gardens photos competition. It is back to the normal format this year. We would love if more people would take part to compete for the lovely trophies and other prizes. See the application/nomination form on page 4 and return it by 26th July. More details and the form are also on our website <a href="https://www.westhillelrick.org/events/westhillinbloom">www.westhillelrick.org/events/westhillinbloom</a>. The judging will be held in early August.

Have a great summer.

Mervyn Barr Chairperson WECC



#### Westhill in Bloom 2021 Application/Nomination Form

If you are nominating a friend or neighbour please add their contact details below and your name and telephone number in the "other information" section.

Name			
Address			
Phone Number			
Email Address			
Please tick the category you would like to enter:			
Best basket/container Best communal garden/residential street			
Best front garden Best back garden			
Other Information			
Date Signature			
Please email to: WesthillinBloom@hotmail.com or post/deliver to David Ritchie, 11 Fare Park Drive, Westhill, AB32 6WE, by 26th July 2021. Judging will be held in early August.			
There will be small prizes for the winner in each category.			

#### **KEVIN ALLAN**

PAINTER + DECORATOR

Interior & Exterior
Private & Commercial
Free estimates

Tel: 01224 743241 Mobile: 07753 380852

Email: kev.m.allan@googlemail.com



CLASSIC EYELASHES
VOLUME EYELASHES
HENNA EYEBROWS
EYEBROW &
LASH TINTING
WAXING

Working from home
9 ASPEN GROVE, WESTHILL, AB32 6QF
07510 311732



#### YOUR LOCAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

**LED Lighting** 

**Interior Lighting** 

**External Lighting** 

**Xmas Lighting** 

**Certifier of Construction** 

Rewires

**Extensions** 

Additional Sockets
Internal & External

Testing

**EICR Reports** 

**PAT Testing** 

**Phone Points** 

**Smoke Detectors** 

**Heat Detectors** 

**Fuse Board Upgrades** 

Wall mounted TV's

**Surround Sound** 

**Sonos Systems** 

**FREE ESTIMATES** 

**NO JOB TOO SMALL** 

**DOMESTIC** 

**COMMERCIAL** 

**INDUSTRIAL** 

**MAINTENANCE & REPAIR** 

Contact : Doug Smith Phone : 07890 949998

E-mail: westhillelectrical@sky.com Web: www.westhillelectrical.co.uk



## Westhill Household Waste & Recycling Centre

Westdyke Avenue, Westhill



#### Recycling facilities for:

Glass Bottles & Jars, Paper, Cans, Plastic Bottles, Textiles, 'Tetra Pak' type cartons, Garden Waste, Household Batteries, Lead Acid Batteries, Engine Oil, Electrical Appliances, Pressurised Containers, Scrap Metal, Wood, Hardcore & Rubble

#### **Opening Hours**

Monday to Sunday 9am-4.30pm Friday 9am-4pm Online booking required at www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/ recyclingcentrebookings

## Westhill and Skene Lions Club

CHARITY SALE OF BOOKS, DVDs, JIGSAWS & BOARD GAMES AT WESTHILL SHOPPING CENTRE 1ST SATURDAY EACH MONTH 9am to 12pm

NEXT 3 SALES ARE: 5th June, 3rd July and 7th August

All proceeds go to local good causes & Lions International Disasters Fund

Donations of books, etc., welcome on the day or freephone

0345 833 5963

## WESTHILL & DISTRICT COMMUNITY MINIBUS

Charity No SC043773

Two WESTHILL COMMUNITY MINIBUSES are available for hire by clubs and organisations

Can take 14 or 16 passengers Both minibuses have towbars

Driver Supplied or Self-Drive CONTACT DAVID RITCHIE 01224 744058 or 07989 637461



Email: westhill.minibus@gmail.com
\*Volunteer Drivers Wanted
for a few hours each month

## BANKING SERVICES IN WESTHILL

**MOBILE BANKS** 

Bank of Scotland – not currently operating RBS – not currently operating

#### **POST OFFICE**

The Post Office in Co-op at Westhill
Shopping Centre can be used for bill
payments and cash deposits (with debit
card or personalised pay-in slip) and
withdrawals. Cheque deposits can be made
for most major banks with a completed
pay-in slip. Ask for envelope for your bank.
It is open: Monday-Friday 9am-5.30pm,
Saturday 9am-1pm

#### ATMs IN WESTHILL

- Inside Co-op store
- Outside Tesco store
- Inside Costco store
- Westhill Service Station shop in Elrick

#### Westhill Orbital Trail - Connecting to the Countryside

The project team is pleased to report that the Orbital Trail is now virtually complete. Much has been achieved in the last three months to link up paths and tracks that we have all been walking for years into one continuous trail. All that remains is agreement to be reached on the preferred route for the eastern side of town. Currently this is unresolved so we are unable to publish a full description or a map, but as soon as it is resolved, we will publish the agreed route in full on our website and Facebook pages.



The three links added are at Carnie Woods, Westhill Golf Club and Lawsondale Woods. The first of the three new links added was at the western entrances/exits at Carnie Woods where previously the only access was by scrambling over collapsed dykes. Here permission had to be sought from the landowner, Aberdeen City Council. This was achieved at the end of January with work, including an accessible ramp completed by our contractor by the end of March, with the bonus of additional space being cleared in the car park adjacent to the B979.

Work at the Golf Club was in two stages once agreement was reached with the Golf Club and Stewart Milne Homes as to the best access point which happened to be through an old wrought iron field gate that separated the two properties. Volunteers spent 56 hours carving a path through the pine trees at the back of the 7th green and 5th tee and then through the bushes and scrub between the mound and the boundary wall to the gate. Work to bridge the drainage ditch between Broadshades and the Golf Club was completed by our contractor at the end of March.

Creating a path through Lawsondale Woods was another order of magnitude altogether. Whilst the potential was identified in the autumn we realized that it couldn't be done without voluntary support and permission from the landowner, in this case INEOS. Volunteers duly came forward and to date have invested over 250 hours of time to clear a path through the "jungle"; a fantastic community effort. Lately we hired a woodchipper to reduce the volume of waste on the bank and expect that the woods will need ongoing maintenance, particularly to improve the drainage as some stretches can take a few days to dry out after prolonged rainfall.

As you walk around, you will see taller posts pointing to Garlogie, Kirkton of Skene and Hill of Keir. Note that these are not part of the official Orbital Trail and that there is no signposting beyond the start point but they are suggested routes to take if you haven't done so before. And if you're in need of refreshment, Green Pastures Café and the Golf Club [members and social members] are both on route and make you very welcome.

Although much of the route is on tarred surfaces, there are four sections on rougher terrain, so please select appropriate footwear. Note too that some sections are on private tracks and roads so please observe the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. The "statutory right of responsible public access to land" in Scotland means:

- · Taking responsibility for your own actions
- Respecting people's privacy and peace of mind
- · Helping land managers [farms and golf courses in this context] to work safely and effectively
- · Caring for the environment
- · Keeping dogs under proper control

Also, please ensure that you take all litter and dog poo home with you rather than leave it for others. Thank you

Most properties in Westhill are within about half a mile from an access point to the Trail. Please enjoy and feedback to WECC Facebook page (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/westhillandelrick">www.facebook.com/westhillandelrick</a>) where you will also find a link to our website to see some before and after photos.

A Gordon Prentice

E: prenticeg.wecc@gmail.com

#### **Rotary in Lockdown**

Despite the slow relaxation of Covid restrictions, Rotary is still unable to hold face-to-face meetings so we continue to conduct our regular activities via Zoom. These have been able to include some extremely interesting speakers, our regular committee and business meetings as well

as a bingo night held jointly with another club in Eyemouth. We're even getting the hang of using breakout rooms to enhance the social experience of the meetings.

Spring saw the blooming of our End Polio Now crocuses across Westhill so we hope you enjoyed the flush of colour while they lasted. We'll soon be working on getting the hanging baskets ready and are working with the WECC to enhance this year's offering with some additional planting around the town.

With the winter now passed we have been able to get out again, also co-ordinating with WECC, to start our regular litter picks. Over the lockdown period we have seen an increase



in the amount of litter being dropped in a few areas around the centre of town. Whilst we are happy to provide our voluntary service to help the town stay clean and tidy we would like to ask all residents to play their part and either use the litter bins around the town or take their litter home.

Over the last few months we have been able to continue our charitable donations to the local food banks and provide additional support to Befriend a Child, Westhill Resilience Group and Grampian Women's Aid.



Whilst lockdown restrictions stopped the Kiltwalk going ahead this year, three of our members took part in a virtual Kiltwalk. They completed the 10 mile course from Skene via the Dunecht Estate to Old Wester Echt and back with smiles on their faces. In the course they raised over £2,500 for their charities Alzheimers Scotland, St John Scotland and FND Hope UK and this amount will be boosted by a further 50% from the Hunter Foundation taking the total to over £3,750. Steve Portelly, Cliff Eastmond and Jim Arbuckle are seen here full of smiles at the end of the walk.

Our membership continues to increase and we are pleased to welcome another two new members in Alison Forsyth and Ash Major. Alison is a pupil support assistant at Westhill Primary and is well known around the town. Ash joins us from Elgin Rotary, having recently moved into the Westhill area, and both are keen to get involved in our activities. If you feel that you would like to give something back to the community either by joining Rotary or simply to lend a hand with some of our projects, then please get in touch – *john.glascodine@gmail.com*.



"Bank on us for a bonnie garden"

Grass cutting and lawn care.

Hedge trimming, pruning and cutting back.

Planting and potting.

Weeding and leaf removal. Spring and Autumn tidy-ups. Holiday cover.

Small tree work.

Turf laying and preparation.

Fence maintenance and painting.

Deck staining.

Assembly, maintenance and repairs to: Garden structures, furniture and greenhouses.

Path and driveway cleaning and repair

For all other enquiries and free estimates Contact Eric Banks on 07923988896 bonniebanks.gardening@gmail.com



SPECIALIST IN

KITCHENS & BATHROOMS
LOFT & GARAGE CONVERSIONS
GARDEN DECKING & OUTHOUSES
SHOP FITTING

ALL JOINERY WORK UNDERTAKEN & ALL TRADES SUPPLIED

т 01330 833904 м 07801 971316

E stevemackenzie@freeuk.com

1 GREEN MEADOWS | SAUCHEN | AB51 7JF

# Westhill Fencing and Decking

Decorative/security garden fencing; Lap panel fencing; Storm damage repairs and replacement; Wooden gates, steps, handrails and trellising; Bespoke garden decking designed and built; Supply and build sheds, log stores and tree houses

Over 15 years experience. Quality workmanship, reliable service, competitive pricing.

Contact Roger Benton on 01224 791646 or 07711 501 795 e: roger@westhillfencing.com www.westhillfencing.com

f www.facebook.com/westhillfencingdecking





#### The little Plumber

#### No job too little

Prompt and reliable service

- Domestic plumbing repairs
- Toilets, basins, sinks, taps
- Chokes, leaks

#### **David White**

(CIPHE Registration Number 00039660) 26 Harvest Hill, Westhill, AB32 6PU Tel: 01224 744461 or 07776 233559 (m) E-mail: admin@littleplumber.co.uk www.littleplumber.co.uk





# Ace of Trabes GARRY TRIMMER WESTHILL 01224 317716 MOB: 07825 323939 garrytrimmer@yahoo.co.uk Builder with over 30 years experience Reliable service, quality guaranteed Tiling Decorating and wallpapering Joinery All types of house and garden maintenance No job too small.

Free estimates

#### B. MACKLAND BUILDERS

**BUILDING, JOINERY, ROOFING & EXTENSIONS** 

16 Snipe Street, Ellon, Aberdeenshire, AB41 9FW Telephone: 01358 268743

Email: brianmackland@gmail.com
Website: www.b-mackland.co.uk

Building Renovations · Roof Repairs

**Carpentry & Joinery · Home Extensions** 

**Loft Extensions · Repointing · Driveways** 

Over 30 Years Experience Free Estimates

Domestic & Commercial Work Undertaken

**All Work Guaranteed** 

**(D)** 



#### Ron McKail, Councillor for Westhill and District

#### Why are Changes Being Proposed for Council Wheelie Bin Pavement Collections?

During the next 4 years the Government has set waste collection targets to reduce waste going into landfill. On recycling the target is 70% which currently in Westhill is 44% or there abouts. Therein lies the problem and if we fail to achieve these targets financial penalties will be imposed. Council funds could be better used for other services such as schools, care of the elderly or repairing pot holes, etc., instead of paying these financial penalties.

Council Waste Management officers have investigated good practice in Scotland and elsewhere and what is being considered is to change from a two week collection to a three week system. This will include providing a third wheelie bin with the sequence being on week 1 waste collection; Week 2 non paper recyclable materials; and week 3 paper and card. The Food caddy would continue to be collected weekly. The funding for providing the third wheelie bin is dependent on Zero Waste Scotland agreeing the council's funding bid. A further development which is in the pipeline is the building of an Energy from Waste (EfW) plant at Altens which is a combined project with Moray and City council. When operational this plant will reduce or eliminate the need for landfill facilities.

#### What is Happening at Westdyke's Household Recycling Centre (HRC)?

Westdyke's HRC is one of the busiest of the 15 recycling centres run by the Shire council. It's open 7 days a week; handles over 4000 tonnes per year with 70% being recycled. As a consequence of the pandemic lockdown a booking system was introduced a year ago to ensure physical distancing was maintained to protect visitors and staff. This arrangement has worked well, reducing waiting times and has avoided build-up of traffic on neighbouring roads. Bookings are made online or by phone



and initially a site attendant monitored entry at the gate to check bookings. Having a staff member checking car numbers is not an efficient use of their staff. However with a Covid-19 grant from Zero Waste Scotland an automatic number plate recognition system is now in place which allows for staff to continue with their job responsibilities of advising customers and responding to their queries, maintaining safety protocols and removing contamination from skips.

#### **Booking arrangements for:**

Vehicle Access: 8 visits every 4 weeks for cars, MPVs, 4x4s.

24 visits per year for vans, pick-ups, minibuses, cars with 8 ft (maximum length) trailer.

**Vehicles Banned:** Tippers, vans with over 4 wheels and those over 3.5 tonnes, plant vehicles and trailers over 8 ft.

Pedestrian Access: Available daily from 1200 to 1230pm

#### **Response to Questions Asked:**

Why do we not provide a garden waste collection?

A survey was conducted which included a charge of £40 per year and the take up was low.

#### Why are glass bottles not included in our recycling bin?

Broken glass contaminates the other items in the bin (paper and card for example) and reduces the price of the recycled items. In the near future the 'bottle deposit scheme' will be introduced by Zero Waste Scotland encouraging us to return our bottles to the supermarket we bought them from.





The Guild of Master Craftsmen Certificate of Ouality and Service

#### **Established in Westhill since 1984**

Your Assurance:The National Guild of Master Craftsmen is the largest organisation representing skilled tradesmen. Its aims are to protect the skills and integrity of its members and clearly define the skilled from the non-skilled thus enabling the general public to choose a National Guild of Master Craftsmen member to

provide the service they require.

KITCHENS: BATHROOMS UPVC WINDOWS & DOORS

LAMINATE FLOORS: STAIRS CERAMIC WALL & FLOOR TILING

**INSURANCE WORK** 

Please call for more information

Tel (01224) 742201 Mobile 07976 931210

#### **Contact Trevor Tosh**

email: westhilljoinery@gmail.com



SLATING • POINTING • GUTTERING • ROUGHCASTING FLAT ROOFS • TILING • uPVC CLADDING

5 St Peters Lane, Aberdeen, AB24 3HW

Tel & Fax: 01224 634826

Mobile: 07770 872100

Email: barry.tmslating@gmail.com

#### Councillor Alistair McKelvie



#### Education

All S4-6 pupils at Westhill Academy are undertaking their SQA assessments in May. These got off to a smooth start on 10th May with Higher and Advanced Higher Mathematics and National 5 Numeracy. The pupils had three full weeks back in classes this term to consolidate learning and do practise assessment questions before their assessments started. Pupils

will still attend classes right up until the date of their assessment in each subject, to maximise time with their teachers.

All parents/carers were invited to an online information session in late March with the school Senior Leadership Team, when this year's assessments were explained and parents/carers had a chance to have any questions answered. Pupils had an online assembly to prepare them for what to expect during the assessments and had the opportunity to ask questions too. The presentations from these events are on the school website for reference.

This year's assessments will be marked by teachers to determine provisional grades for the SQA. This marking is subject to rigorous quality assurance, including 'cross-marking' of anonymised papers by teachers in other schools and verification by the SQA. No pupil's work will be marked by one teacher alone – all pieces will go through moderation of some kind, prior to the SQA issuing final results in August.

Westhill Academy has again performed above the benchmarks for Literacy and Numeracy, in a recent Education report. The report also highlights the Academy's attainment levels in the year 2019-2020, outperformed both the levels seen within Aberdeenshire and the National standard. As above, the 2020-2021 year will be much more challenging, with the disruption to the delivery of Education, and the difficulties the pupils and Teachers have endured for many months. However, I am confident the School and students will rise to the challenge and again provide attainment results to be proud of. Well done to both the Staff for their endeavours and to all the leavers in S4, S5, S6 who gained these grades.

Elrick Primary is to have a new roof installed over the summer months, as part of the Council's Schools Improvement programme. Both Staff and the Parent Council have welcomed the investment into the school, as a much needed enhancement to the school environment.

#### **Rapid Covid 19 Testing Kits**

The new Community Collect programme is designed to help people test themselves, and the above tests are available for people without symptoms throughout Aberdeenshire. The lateral flow home tests are aimed at identifying positive cases more quickly, as we can spread the virus to others before symptoms appear. Residents who don't have the three main Covid symptoms, i.e. a new continuous cough, high temperature, or loss or change in sense of taste or smell, are encouraged to get tested.

The kits allow anyone who is not displaying Coronavirus symptoms to test themselves twice weekly. It is recommended that as many people as possible voluntarily test themselves, as it is estimated that 1 in 3 people with the virus do not display any symptoms. By taking the tests, we will be able to protect our family, colleagues, and the wider community by ensuring we are not spreading the virus unwittingly. Order online via <a href="https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/order-lateral-flow-kits/condition">https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/order-lateral-flow-kits/condition</a> or telephone 01467 538222.

#### **Westhill Shopping Centre Car Park**

At the time of writing I await a response from the Shopping Centre Management as to the necessary repairs to the road surfaces. I first raised this with the Centre Management back in February, when it became evident that the severe winter weather had taken its toll on an

already stressed road surface. I am therefore disappointed that the once referred to potholes, are now turning into mini craters, no more so than at the entrance at the junction with Old Skene Road. It is the responsibility of the Shopping Centre owners to have this rectified as soon as possible.

#### **Local Transport**

The new bus service which replaced the former X17 is now settling in, with the bus Service No's 5, 6, and 6a. Service 5 operates every 30 minutes between Union Square and Westhill/ Elrick. Service 6 operates similarly between the city and Westhill but will include Berryhill Circle. Service 6a operates as Service 6, but also includes Elrick. The timetable also indicates the Service route that includes Total Oil and Gas in the industrial estate. Use the following link to access the bus timetable https://tiscon-maps-stagecoachbus.s3.amazonaws.com/ Timetables/North%20Scotland/Bluebird/Westhill%20Kingswells%2019th%20April%202021. pdf.

> email cllr.a.mckelvie@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or telephone 07850 329179 Alistair McKelvie



#### Councillor David Aitchison

In the spring issue I commented on the roll-out of the Covid vaccination which was then underway and providing first vaccinations to many of us. As I write, the latest information available shows that first vaccinations continue to be delivered to younger age groups while encouragingly second vaccinations are now virtually complete for Aberdeenshire's over 65's. Indications are that the delivery of the vaccination is on track to be completed in accordance with the timetables set.

I have had conversations with neighbours and friends who, like me, found the whole process at the vaccination centre to be exemplary. NHS Grampian are to be congratulated on how this enormous logistical operation has been carried out in such a smooth and efficient way. To roll-out the vaccination so efficiently and to treat those affected with the virus over the last year shows what an invaluable service everyone in the NHS provides to our communities.

However, as we return to something which is more like normality in our day to day lives it remains important that we continue to follow the specific guidance which applies to our own local area and community.

Along with the other councillors, I have been made aware of a few instances of anti-social behaviour in some parts of Westhill. Our community experiences very low numbers of this type of incident and in fact very little crime overall so when it does occur it is perhaps more noticeable. Councillors, council officers and the police are all aware of the issue. It is important that the authorities are aware of the full extent of any problems when they occur so do not hesitate to contact Police Scotland on 101 to report an incident.

I can be consulted at any time by telephone or email on any issue and also hold surgeries at Westhill Library. My next surgery will be advertised when public health guidance permits these to resume. Check www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk for a full list of dates.

> Councillor David Aitchison Mobile 07876 475227

cllr.d.aitchison@aberdeenshire.gov.uk





**GRADE A DRIVING INSTRUCTOR** 

07971 417679

mlj26@btinternet.com

MARIE JAMIESON ADI WESTHILL

#### Rae Brown & Co. Ltd.

JOINERS AND BUILDING CONTRACTORS

**SINCE 1975** 

## Traditional Methods to Contemporary Living

Kitchens, Doors, Windows, Roof Repairs, Plastering, Extensions, Loft Conversions

> Office & Workshops: Farburn Terrace, Dyce, Aberdeen, AB21 7DR Tel: 01224 723420 info@raebrown.co.uk

www.raebrown.co.uk





## Mark Mennie Glazing

Local Glazier with over 35 years experience

REPLACEMENT DOUBLE GLAZING SERVICE
(Faulty, misted, condensated double glazing replacement service)
5 year guarantee on all double glazing

COLOURED GLASS SPLASHBACKS (Any RAL or BS4800 numbers)



FOR ALL YOUR GLASS AND GLAZING PLEASE CALL 07918 081339 or 01224 789889 FOR A FREE QUOTE

Email: markmennieglazingltd@hotmail.com
Please visit my gallery and like Mark Mennie Glazing on Facebook

## **Save your Memories**

We can convert your:
Photographs, Slides, Negatives, VHS tapes,
Camcorder Videos, Cine Film or Music CDs to
DVD, USB Flash Drive or Cloud Storage
for viewing on your TV, Phone or Computer



Protect your precious memories and share them with friends and family Samples and prices on the website

www.PHOTOStoDVD.org.uk info@PHOTOStoDVD.org.uk Tel. 01569 750697

#### **Steve Gray**

Plumbing and Heating Ltd

With over 40 years experience, this family run business provides the highest level of workmanship at competative rates.

- Plumbing & Central Heating
  - Boiler Replacement, Repair & Servicing
  - Bathroom Installations
  - Emergency Repairs
  - Landlord Certificate
  - No Job Too Small

m: 07966 079 557 t: 01224 749 193

e: stevegray192@btinternet.com



### TRANSFORM YOUR FLAT ROOF



- BBA certified to last in excess of 40 years
- Maintenance-free unique waterproofing system
- No cracks, rot, blisters or leaks guaranteed

That's why it is installed on many of the UK's best known buildings including British Standards Institute and Heathrow Airport.





Your local registered installer: T&M Slating

Telephone: 01224 634826 Mobile: 07770 872100

Email: barry.tmslating@gmail.com



**Roof Assured** 





#### Councillor Iris Walker (Westhill & District)

#### Path from Westhill to Kirkton of Skene

There is a community aspiration across two neighbouring community councils (Echt & Skene and WECC) for the flooding issues which periodically affect this path to be addressed. Various partners are working on the issue and there is a lot more work to be done to find a resolution as well as there being no budget identified for any remedial work. It would be really useful if residents could report individual incidences of flooding as they occur for statistical evidence. Again, these can be reported via the MyAberdeenshire app.

#### **Antisocial Behaviour**

There has been a disappointing increase in antisocial behaviour in Westhill and Kirkton of Skene over the last while with reports of verbal abuse, damage to property and littering (in particular broken glass). Police Scotland are aware of some of the incidents but it may be the case that they are under-reported. It is essential that each incident is reported to Police Scotland on 101 – their service delivery is driven by statistics and if they don't know it's happening, they cannot take the appropriate action. Police officers have been visiting schools to work with the young people who are known to be engaging in antisocial behaviour. Some of the antisocial behaviour though has involved adults and again Police Scotland have engaged with those involved. As we head into Summer, let's hope that we can all enjoy going about the local area safely and in peace.

#### **Household Waste Collection**

Previous Bulletin articles back in 2019 highlighted planned changes to the waste collection service which would see three-weekly cycles (still a kerbside collection each week) to encourage more recycling, improve the quality of materials collected and to significantly reduce the amount of household waste sent to landfill. The funding expected from Zero Waste Scotland (ZWS) was at that time turned down so the changes did not progress. ZWS now has some £70m to assist councils to increase recycling rates, to improve their systems and for communication. Aberdeenshire Council has submitted an Expression of Interest to ZWS which has been accepted; an application is in the process of being submitted, with a decision expected by July. A report will go to councillors in August. If the application is successful there will be a great deal of communication and engagement with residents, based on the pilots that have been running in three areas of Aberdeenshire for the past year or so. Recycling rates have plateaued at around 43%, meaning we send around 73,000 tonnes of waste to landfill each year. This tonnage will have to be reduced now that the landfill ban is coming in to effect in Scotland. I have had a number of gueries recently on this subject following a press article so to summarise, there are changes proposed, but nothing has been agreed yet - much more detail and discussion to follow, including advice to those with larger families, medical needs and restricted space, all of which are accommodated within the present system.

#### Melanoma

I am really pleased that this Bulletin has an article dedicated to the subject of Melanoma (see page 30). It is really important to be aware of UV exposure from any source and to always keep an eye on any skin changes. As cases of melanoma continue to rise, the article highlights some really good sites for further research.

#### Looking ahead

At the time of writing, things on the Covid front are steadily improving. We have all had to make changes in our lives; some we would be happy to keep doing and others we can't wait to see the back of! Whatever you have planned, I hope you have a great Summer. No local shows or galas this year again, unfortunately, but hopefully we can all get some time out from our usual routine.

In-person consultation surgeries remain postponed but online methods are working really well and I am happy to arrange an online appointment to discuss any local issue – phone on 07876 475272, email cllr.i.walker@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or Facebook/Tweet me.



Councillor Iris Walker - Westhill and District

Councillor Iris Walker, 2 Burnland Place, Elrick, Aberdeenshire, AB32 6JU



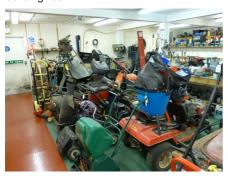
## WESTHILL AND DISTRICT MEN'S SHED

make friends, share interests and help our community

#### Good news.... It will be old news by the time you read this!

As I write in early May we are opening the shed. As you will realise this includes a lot of organising to stay covid safe. Our shed supervisors were trained in the last week of April with a cascade to the members shortly afterwards. We will be firing up the woodwork projects include garden benches, picnic tables, etc. As we have been unable to help residents with gardening equipment the engineering shop will be going flat out repairing mowers while the stores will be dealing with those and garden tools as well. It is like the shed is holding its breath and the photos show the workshops waiting to clear out equipment we have accumulated over lockdown but could not work on.

We held a tool sale in the shopping centre on 8th May. It was the first in over a year so we worked hard to get things ready to sell. Thanks and congratulations must go to all who contributed by preparing goods in advance, stood in the cold to sell the items and of course those who donated items we were able to prepare for sale. The total cleared from the sale was an amazing £986 which can go towards the necessary replacement of the original building roof.



Engineering with plenty to work on



The so called clean room not ready for use yet (it is for painting, etc.)

contact@westhillmensshed.co.uk Tel 01224 917345 www.westhillmensshed.co.uk Registered charity SCIO number SC042663

#### SCAFFOLD TOWER FOR HIRE

The Westhill Residents' Association purchased a scaffold tower for erecting the Christmas lights. The tower is available for hire to Westhill residents. The platform working height is 2.73m.

Charges are £15 per day for 1 to 2 days, then £5 per day for each additional day, or £45 for one week. Transportation available at £10 each way.

For more information and to book the scaffold, call David Ritchie on 01224 744058.

#### A. REID GARDEN SERVICES

All Garden Work

Trees & hedges trimmed and uprooted, removal of garden rubbish, turfing and fencing, patios, driveways and pathways.

All types of gravel supplied and laid.

General tidy ups.

All types of landscaping.

CALL NOW FOR A FREE ESTIMATE







Paws and Claws
Dog Walking and Home Boarding



#### Services

1 hour dog walk – visiting local woods, forest trails or the beach

30 minute individual one to one dog walk

– Ideal for the smaller/older dogs

Puppy visits – approximately 30 mins of indoor and
outdoor playtime

Home Boarding – fully insured and licensed home boarder providing a home from home experience

Cat Care and any other pet care can be discussed to suit your requirements

- All dogs are transported in a spacious van
- Fully licensed Home Boarder from Aberdeenshire Council
  - Fully Insured, Public Liability, Care Custody & Control & Key Cover

Tel: 01330 860709 / Mobile: 07762 489999 Email: mariemackenzie1@outlook.com



## Westhill **B**oiler Services

## Looking for a new Boiler?











- Boiler Installations Power Flush
- **M** Boiler Repairs
- Landlord Certification
- Boiler Servicing
  - Central Heating



## Westhill **B0**iler Services



## Tel: 07534 934 965 www.westhillboilerservices.co.uk

Westhill Boiler Services LTD is an Introducer Appointed Representative of hiber Energy Ltd., a company registered in England and Wales (Co. Reg. No. 11228917). Registered Office: Linen Court, 10 East Road, London, N1 6AD. hiber Energy Ltd. is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FRN 810654) as a Broker, not a Lender, and offers credit facilities from a panel of lenders. The credit is subject to application and status.

#### WESTDYKE LEISURE CENTRE

#### 4 WESTDYKE AVENUE, WESTHILL

TEL: 01224 743098

EMAIL: westdykeleisure@gmail.com

FACEBOOK: Westdyke Leisure Centre

#### Mini-Kindergym\*

A fun and stimulating parent and child exercise class for children aged 12–24 months. Developed to encourage toddlers' co-ordination and social skills. Stimulating equipment is used including a ball pool, soft play, climbing frame, trampoline, parachute, etc.

Friday: 9.30-10.15am (crèche available) 10.45-11.30am

#### Kindergym\*

An exciting structured class for children aged 2+ to encourage co-ordination, balance, confidence, social skills, etc. A large range of stimulating and challenging equipment including beams, a climbing frame, jumping box, trampoline, parachute, etc.

Wednesday: 1.30-2.15pm, Thursday: 9.30-10.15am, 10.45-11.30am & 1.30-2.15pm + crèche is available at 1.30pm on both days

#### **Jumping Jacks**

An exciting, imaginative, structured class for pre-school children who attend on their own.

Classes help to develop children's co-ordination, concentration, balance, basic gymnastic moves, etc.

Tuesday: 10-10.45am, 1-1.45pm & 2-2.45pm

#### Indoor Bowling\*

For both beginners and experienced players. Monday 1.30-3pm

#### ALL CHILDREN'S CLASSES ARE LED BY QUALIFIED, EXPERIENCED COACHES

#### **OUTSIDE LETS INCLUDE:**

Westdyke Community Club, Pilates, Yoga, GCRA, Sooyang Do, City of Aberdeen Gymnastics, Men's Indoor Football, Early Learning Football, Sew Swift, Lads Club Amateurs, Active Schools Netball and Football

#### **DENMAN PLAYGROUP**

Monday-Friday 8.30am-2pm Age 2.5–4 years

Our qualified staff run a warm and welcoming playgroup offering a fun environment catering for each child's individual needs

#### CENTRE RUN CLASSES MARKED \* ARE NOT RUNNING YET DUE TO LOCKDOWN RESTRICTIONS

Class times may be subject to change once we re-open after lockdown

Due to limited opening hours the best way to contact us is by email

Where possible please like our Facebook page to keep up to date with latest info



#### **Enjoy top quality Camphill Fish** direct to your door and support a local charity

Camphill Fish is a joint initiative between Camphill Wellbeing Trust and family-run Aberdeen fish merchant J Charles. Through Camphill Fish, J Charles will donate 10% of your order value to CWT at no additional cost to you.

The money raised will help patients, many of whom have learning disabilities, chronic conditions or cancer, to access our therapeutic services.

#### ORDER ONLINE TODAY! www.expressfreshfish.com

**Exclusive FREE Delivery Offer: CWT Supporters ONLY!** 

Those within Aberdeen City & local areas [postcodes AB31, AB32, AB33, AB39, AB41 & AB51] enjoy free delivery on orders over £30.00

To claim, enter 'CWT' in the Notes box then enter the code 'LOCAL' on the checkout page.



#### Please support us by placing an order!

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, our fundraising opportunities are limited. Please support us by placing an order & share this opportunity with family & friends

#### www.camphillwellbeing.org.uk/camphill-fish



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 9EP



57-59 N Deeside Road, Bieldside, Aberdeen, AB15 9DB

#### Welcome back!

We re-open fully from Wed 28th April Wed - Fri, 10am - 4pm

(dependant on COVID restrictions)

#### **RESERVE & COLLECT!**

View items for sale in our shop window, listed on our Facebook page and on our online gallery at www.camphillwellbeing.org.uk/the-blue-door

Check the website or our Facebook page for the latest updates.



#### Please do not leave donations outside the door when we are closed!

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. A limited company registered in Scotland No.SC120539 Charity No. SC016291 Registered office: St John's, Murtle Estate, Bieldside, Aberdeen AB15 9EP

www.camphillwellbeing.org.uk 01224 862008





## WESTHILL **BATHROOMS**

- **Full bathroom installations**
- Supply and install
- Install only
- All trades supplied
- Discounts from wholesalers available
- Free estimates
- Full plumbing maintenance & installation
- From tap washers to full systems
- Call outs available

#### WESTHILL PLUMBING

Neil Craig Plumbing, 10 Meadowlands Drive, Westhill, AB32 6EJ Tel: 01224 749994 Mob: 07801 198 930 email: neilcraigph@btinternet.com



Ashdale Hall reopened on April 26th for children's classes and on May 17th for exercise groups capable of socially distancing, unfortunately not for parties and events bookings which we hope can be allowed back in July or August, Covid regulations allowing.

The Westhill Market has enlarged since reopening from lockdown in March as local people and crafters have been setting up new businesses. We normally have between 20 and 25 stalls selling a range of local foods and handmade craft items on the first Saturday of the month. Normally 600-800 local residents attend.

A local hot food van has been based in our rear car park. The Feed Baron Gastro Food Truck sells high quality food and snacks Monday to Friday mid-morning to mid-afternoon and also attends the Market.

Since last year the kitchen and foyer have been painted and a new kitchen has been fitted. The floor in the Main Hall has been resurfaced and varnished.

Hopefully we will see customers old and new soon – see next page for the June timetable. Updates to the timetable are posted at www.ashdalehall.co.uk.

#### Sooyang Do Martial Art

Sooyang Do Martial Art International are delighted to officially announce the reopening of our classes in Westhill and Skene, following our temporary closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although many of our instructors have continued to teach, via a variety of imaginative methods during our enforced closure and have succeeded in retaining an astounding level of interest and on-line participation, we will all be delighted to return to something at least approaching "normality".

Sooyang Do has been a huge part of the sporting life of Westhill since our founding in 2003 and the massive and enduring success of our martial art in Westhill is due, in no small part, to our fantastic team of instructors, led by the hugely experienced Chief Instructor – Mr Dave Bremner 3rd Dan, who had already achieved great success in other martial arts prior to learning of Sooyang Do and going on to become a vital and integral part of our team all those years ago.

We look forward to welcoming both new and existing students to our classes in Westhill and to enabling you all to benefit from our unique and exciting martial art system, which is suitable for all ages and ability levels and to being part of our remarkable success story.

All Sooyang Do instructors are highly trained, highly qualified and hold all necessary First Aid and Child Welfare certification, as well as being conversant and practised in all aspects of COVID-19 protocol. **See our advert on page 56.** 

**Bruce Wood – Founder and Master Instructor** 

#### ASHDALE HALL JUNE CLASS TIMETABLE

#### Monday

- 0930 to 1015 Matwork Pilates Main Hall Block booking required\*
- 1030 to 1115 Matwork Pilates Main Hall Block booking required\*
- 1230 to 1430 Abricabeats (1 to 4 years) Main Hall
- 1500 to 1600 Zumba Main Hall Book online^^
- 1615 to 1815 Free to book for classes or badminton
- 1830 to 1930 Jazzercise Main Hall Online booking with Jazzercise
- 1945 to 2045 Badminton (private term time) Main Hall

#### Tuesday

- 0945 to 1045 Jazzercise Main Hall Online booking with Jazzercise
- 1100 to 1200 Spear Pilates Main Hall Block booking required++
- 1215 to 1315 Zumba Main Hall Book online^^
- 1330 to 1600 Baby Ballet Main Hall
- 1800 to 2030 Choi Kwang Do Main Hall From week of 7th June hello@westhillckd.org

#### Wednesday

- 0945 to 1045 Jazzercise Main Hall Online booking with Jazzercise
- 1100 to 1300 Free to book for classes or badminton
- 1330 to 1400 Badminton (private) Main Hall
- 1600 to 1730 Pre School and Tap/Ballroom/Latin Main Hall
- 1745 to 1845 Spear Pilates Main Hall Block booking required++
- 1915 to 2045 Line Dancing Main Hall (term time) from 1st September

#### **Thursday**

- 0945 to 1045 Jazzercise Main Hall Online booking
- 1100 to 1730 Free to book for badminton or classes
- 1800 to 1945 Choi Kwang Do Main Hall From week of 7th June hello@westhillckd.org
- 2000 to 2130 Badminton (private) Main Hall

#### Friday

- 0830 to 0915 Matwork Pilates block booking required\*
- 0930 to 1015 Matwork Pilates block booking required\*
- 1030 to 1115 Matwork Pilates block booking required\*
- 1130 to 1800 Free to book short term until Tea dance or parties/events return

#### Saturday

- 1000 to 1100 Choi Kwang Do Main Hall On hold
- 1200 to 1730 Script to Screen Drama Classes J. Ogilvie 07989 484315

#### Sunday

1400 to 1500 – Badminton (private hire)

#### Free to book short term for classes until parties/events return

- \*All Matwork Pilates Classes marked with an asterisk need to be block booked in advance, contact Annette on annette.macpherson@ymail.com or 07817 736525, or website www.westhill.physiotherapy.co.uk
- ++ Spear Pilates Classes marked with a cross need to be block booked in advance, contact pilates@spearphysiotherapy.co.uk
- ^^ Zumba Classes marked with a chevron need to be booked in advance, contact Heather on 0790075887 or email hd\_pt2020@outlook.com

Hall Facilities Manager Tel. 01224 740137 or e-mail ashdalehall@hotmail.co.uk

#### Braemoral Joinery Westhill Ltd

All Building and Joinery Work



New Builds. Extensions. Sun Lounges.

Mob: 07977 420043 Tel: 01224 741247

www.braemoraljoinery.co.uk



**DVSA Approved Driving Instructor** 

07816 449106

spectrum driver training @outlook.com

www.facebook.com/ spectrumdrivertraining

#### **STEVE STRACHAN**

COVERING: WESTHILL & SURROUNDING AREA

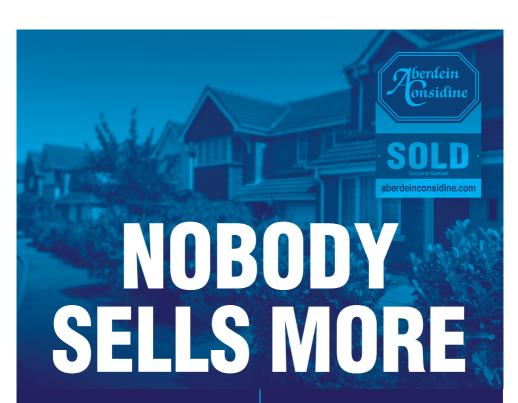


Dependable, reliable local locksmith and joiner

Cluny Locksmith and Joinery offer locksmith and joinery services across Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire

- 24/7 emergency locksmith call-out
  - Non-destructive entry
- UPVC repair for both windows and doors
  - All aspects of joinery work undertaken

Contact us for a free quotation or for 24/7 locksmith www.clunylocksmithandjoinery.co.uk Mobile: 07976 394050



WESTHILL PROPERTY EXPERTS

Aberdein Considine sells one in four homes across the northeast – more than any other agent!

To book a free valuation with our Westhill property experts, visit acandco.com/numberone



PROPERTY LEGAL FINANCIAL



Smoke and Fire alarms

New legislation

Don't be alarmed 
We have got you covered!

#### CONTACT US FOR A FREE QUOTATION OR TO DISCUSS YOUR REQUIREMENTS







#### ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR



We offer first class electrical services across the North East. Our fully qualified, professional electricians are on hand to support you and are committed to providing an outstanding customer service every time.

- Lighting Design & Installation
- Additional Sockets, TV & Phone Points
- Mains Board Upgrades
- Inpsection, Testing & Certification
- Landlord Services (EICRs, PAT Testing etc)
- Commercial Maintenance Guaranteed Fast Response
- All Aspects of Electricial Maintenance & Repairs
- EV Car Charging and much more

GET IN TOUCH FOR A FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTE TODAY

www.electro-tek.co.uk / 01224 791914 / info@electro-tek.co.uk



#### Skene Parish Church

I love the imagery of the story behind Pentecost, a Christian festival which is celebrated 50 days after Easter. The disciples and followers of Jesus are all huddled together behind closed doors. They had been told by Jesus to wait and pray in Jerusalem. They were not to go anywhere until they received the gift of the Holy Spirit. This gift was going to empower them to go out into the world to tell others the good news of God's love. They had a massive task ahead of them and they needed all the help they could get.

We're told that as they prayed, a sound like a rushing wind could be heard. The windows and doors are blown open and everyone who was inside finds themselves outside talking about Jesus. Not only that, but we see this small group of believers grow exponentially in number as the church is founded. The book of Acts, which we are reading through as a church family, records the tremendous impact of the Holy Spirit and the spread of the gospel far and wide. It's a gripping read.

For over a year now, many of us have been shut up behind closed doors. Restricted in where we can go and in who we can let in over our threshold. It might have felt like we were hibernating through a particularly long winter (not just metaphorically!). And as restrictions lift, we may find ourselves a little hesitant to get back out again. It's not necessarily easy to imagine returning to our old haunts or filling our diaries with catch-ups and activities. Our confidence may have been hit and our physical mobility may have decreased during the pandemic. And, of course, it's important that we still adhere to the rules that are in place, which aren't always easy to decipher.

Sometimes, what we need, is a little encouragement or the comfort that someone else, who understands how we are feeling, is there to keep us company.

We love welcoming people for our in person worship services on a Wednesday afternoon at Trinity Church (3pm) and a Saturday morning at Skene Kirk (11am). And we would be delighted to see more people come along and try them out. It is different and yet being together has been a great source of joy for many of those who've been already. It's been great to see some new faces and be reunited with others.



We are looking forward to celebrating Holy Communion at our services on Wednesday 9th June (Trinity) and Saturday 12th June (Skene). This will follow our online Holy Communion service on Sunday 6th June.

If you would like to book a place for one of these services, or find out more about our services, call our Church Secretary, Eva Will, on 01224 742512. You will also find details on our website <a href="https://www.skeneparish.com">www.skeneparish.com</a>.

#### Health and Wellbeing - MAY IS MELANOMA MONTH

As this article is being written, it is the beginning of May which is Melanoma Month. With lockdown measures at last easing, we are all looking forward to summer and being able to get out and about more, especially on sunny days. The sun helps to give us a better sense of wellbeing and provides important vitamin D. However, it must not be forgotten that the sun can also bring dangers. At the moment, it looks like summer holidays abroad are unlikely, but it's easy to forget that the sun in this country can catch us unawares at times and people get sunburnt.

Annual cases of melanoma, a particularly serious form of cancer, are increasing at an alarming rate. In July 2019, Cancer Research UK reported that 'skin cancer rates have rocketed by 45% in 10 years'. If caught early, melanoma can be treated and the risk of further problems is low. If not caught early, it can be fatal. Unchecked, melanoma can spread internally very quickly and widely affecting vital organs. Until recently the outlook for people with advanced melanoma was very poor. In the past few years there have been big advances in treatments but, they are expensive for the NHS and have risks of side effects, some of which can permanently affect the quality of life.

The cause of melanoma is virtually always ultra violet radiation which can come from overexposure to the sun or misuse of sunbeds. The good news is that, with simple precautions, it can be prevented. MacMillan Cancer Support publish a booklet 'Be Safe in the Sun' which advises:

- stay in the shade at the hottest times of the day (11-3pm);
- · wear a hat, long sleeved top and sunglasses when in the sun;
- · do not use sunbeds:
- use sun cream when out in the sun (Sun Protection Factor SPF 30 or more).

Recognising that not everyone will follow this advice and because sadly, probably some readers of this article will have already allowed the damage that in time will lead to melanoma appearing on their body, it's important that everyone knows what to look out for. Melanoma usually starts in a mole, so it's good to get into a routine of checking your skin every month to watch out for any changes such as new moles or existing ones that are changing in appearance.

#### It's as simple as ABCDE

- A Asymmetrical do the two halves differ in shape?
- **B B**order are the edges uneven?
- C Colour is it uneven with different shades or colours?
- D Diameter is it more than 6mm in diameter?
- E Evolving has it been evolving and changing in appearance?

If the answer to ANY of these questions is 'yes' then get it checked by the GP. Use the new eConsult service which can be accessed through the Skene Medical Group website, allowing you to send details and a photo without any delay.

In summary, for the health and wellbeing of your family, please enjoy sunny days safely, get into the habit of checking your skin regularly and get any concerns checked straight away by a doctor, preferably through eConsult.

For more information on melanoma visit the following websites which have been used as sources for this article.

Cancer Research UK - www.cancerresearchuk.org

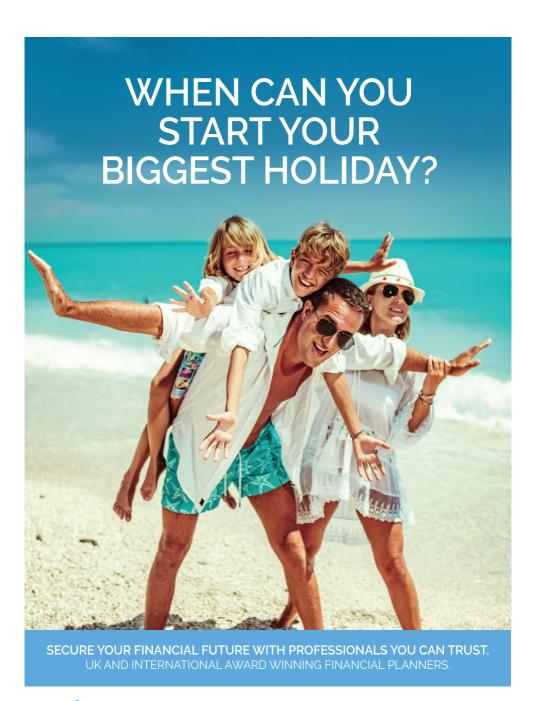
MacMillan Cancer Support - www.macmillan.uk

NHS - www.nhsinform.scot

British Association of Dermatologists – www.bad.co.uk

Melanoma UK – www.melanoma.org.uk

Melanoma Action and Support Scotland, MASScot - www.masscot.org.uk





3 Abercrombie Court, Westhill AB32 6FE Tel: 01224 747889 www.forbeslawson.co.uk



- · Affordable Pricing
- Newly Refurbished Salons to allow for Social Distancing

· All Aspects of Gent's Barbering

BOOK ONLINE

at www.thehappybarber.co.uk or download the Nearcut App

- · Family Friendly
- · Kids' Sports Car Barber Chairs
- · DVD Entertainment



#### Visit Us At:

535 Great Western Rd, Mannofield - 01224 379155

Unit 2, The Green, Portlethen - 01224 379200

Mason Lodge, Skene, Westhill - 01224 743288



#### We look forward to welcoming you soon!



- Carpets
- Vinyls
- Karndean Amtico
- Laminates
   Wood Floors
- Pergo
- Blinds
- Professional and Friendly Service
- Wide Range
- Competitive Prices

## The Flooring Lodge

Mason Lodge Skene Westhill Aberdeenshire AB32 6XR

Tel: 01224 744333 Fax: 01224 744388

Email: sales@theflooringlodge.co.uk











## LOW & CO HAIR DESIGN

# OVER 20 YEARS OF HAIRDRESSING EXPERIENCE

Stockists of:



LANZA

facebook.com/LowAndCo ■ lowandco6 Unit 6, Westhill Shopping Centre Westhill AB32 6RL



Bring this advert to RECEIVE 30% OFF YOUR TREATMENT Valid until 31st July 2021

# Beaux Boutique

E beaux.boutique@hotmail.com

☐ facebook.com/beauxboutique ☐ beauxboutique\_

- BEAUTY ROOM -

Low & Co Hair Design, Unit 6 Westhill Shopping Centre, Westhill AB32 6RL

#### HARLEY WAXING

EYE TREATMENTS
Waxing, Tinting, Nouveau LVL

## NAIL TREATMENTS Gel Nails, Manicures,

Footlogix Pedicures

SPRAY TAN

MAKE-UP

0800KAN APPOINTINEN 986



## Luxury new homes near Westhill

3, 4 and 5 bedroom homes for sale across Aberdeen city and shire. Discover our popular developments close to Westhill.



#### COUNTESSWELLS ABERDEEN

Located nearby the Aberdeen suburbs of Cults, Bieldside and Kingswells, yet only a 10 minute drive from the city centre, Countesswells is a prestigious and popular development of 3, 4 and 5 bedroom homes, boasting peaceful forest walking trails right across the road.



#### COWDRAY MEADOWS DUNECHT

Situated on the edge of the picturesque village of Dunecht, Cowdray Meadows is an intimate development of 3 and 4 bedroom homes, offering you a peaceful location with excellent connectivity.



#### THE BRAMBLES SAUCHEN

A charming countryside development of just 27 luxury 3, 4 and 5 bedroom homes, nestled in the peaceful village of Suchen and ideally located just 15 minutes from Westhill, Alford and Invertine.

To find out more and enquire, visit kirkwoodhomes.co.uk.

## 1st Skene Girls' Brigade

We are still not meeting up face to face but we had an online Fun Night with The Critter Keeper where all the girls' could join in by zoom. It was a super evening seeing lots of amazing creatures and everyone enjoyed it.

Fingers crossed we will be able to resume with an Enrolment date once schools return in August for a new session but any updates will be on our Facebook page.

Any enquiries please call (Captain) Fiona Cumming on 07792 471199.



## **Girlguiding Westhill District**

Due to generous donations from Westhill Friends of Guiding and Westhill & Elrick Community Council Community Support Fund, we have been able to partly subsidise this year's Girlguiding UK membership fee for the girls and young women in Girlguiding Westhill – MANY thanks to these organisations!

We are delighted that all units are currently offering guiding experiences either face-to-face outdoors, virtual – or both – to girls. This term, we have enjoyed seeing girls move on to new sections and brand-new members welcomed into Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. We currently have 10 units and 239 members.

Thanks and well done to Emma Macpherson, 2nd Westhill Rainbows – who was surprised on her doorstep during a Rainbow Zoom meeting, with her 5 Year Long Service Award. Thanks too to all volunteers who have been able to continue to offer guiding to their units whilst balancing other work and home life priorities this year – there's nothing better than seeing the girls' smiling faces during meetings – even if it is on a screen!

We have hosted guests from Girlguiding Scotland Peer Educators to "The Critter Keeper" at some recent Zoom meetings. Girls have enjoyed sharing lots of badgework completed over lockdown – the Brownie Baking badge being one of the most popular, illustrating everything from the Easter Story to the Brownie Story to Harry Potter. Units have been making Easter sock bunnies, learning how to camp (virtually and outdoors)



and fun activities as simple as pulling funny faces!!

As it begins to become possible for us to start meeting outdoors again, we hope to bring you an update of how these meetings are going in the next edition!

Well done to the girls below who have received the following levels of Section Awards:

2nd Rainbows - Bronze to Neve, Ellie and Ella

- Silver to Ella, Caitlin, Laya and Isabelle

3rd Rainbows - Bronze to Emma

- Silver to Emma and Amina

Caroline Gray and Alison Smith, District Commissioners westhilldc@gmail.com





## Be kind to one another whenever possible, it is always possible.





#### MINDFULNESS MEDITATION

The current popularity of Mindfulness Meditation stems from its success in reducing the stress and other adverse consequences of modern living. It works not by training the mind to resist the pressures and tensions but instead to give the mind something else to do, to fill it with something harmless and learning that thoughts are not real. Mind-full-ness is just that. And what is simpler to use than natural physical sensations which already exist.

**How do you do it?** Sitting, on a chair or cross-legged on a cushion, back straight, eyes closed, hands resting one on the other, breathing calmly, observe.

**Observe what?** Observe your breath as it flows naturally in and out. Or observe the movement of the abdomen as it rises and falls. Observe it but do not control it.

Where to start? It is best to start with a meditation teacher, because it is easy to get it wrong, wasting time. And it is handy to have someone to set the duration, answer questions and so on. The centre is here to help.

**How to join?** As Covid19 restrictions are eased, the centre intends to open for the public possibly this summer. If you are willing to learn, check our web and Facebook page for further information or call.

We are bringing this ancient wisdom to the modern world through **Facebook Live** and **YouTube**. Every Wednesday at 8am we also have a mindfulness support group via Facebook live.





Tel: +44 (0)1224 632557







# thekitchengallery



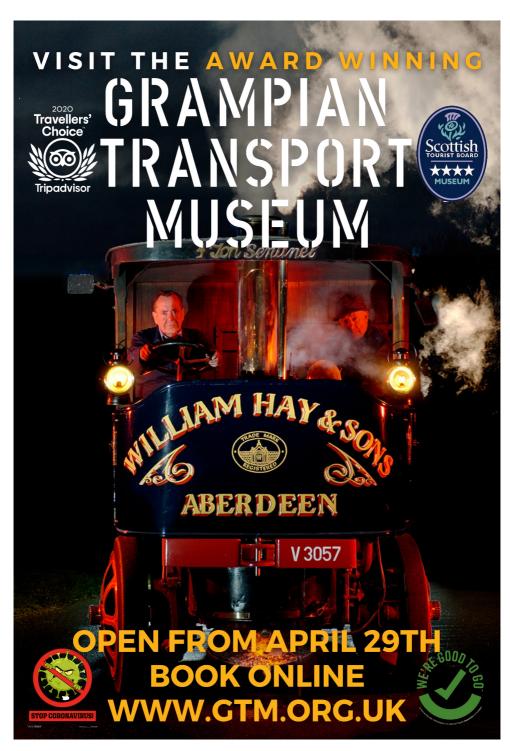
## **Design | Supply | Installation**



## NEW Bathroom Showroom NOW OPEN

## To book an appointment call David on 07717 734933

Visit our showroom at Unit 1, Westhill Service Station Elrick, Aberdeenshire AB32 6TJ 01224 905050 sales@the-kitchen-gallery.com www.the-kitchen-gallery.com





## **Sainting and** Decorating

\* Domestic and Commercial Service

\* All types of interior and exterior paint work

\* Complete Surface Preparation

\* Wallpap<mark>er Hangin</mark>g

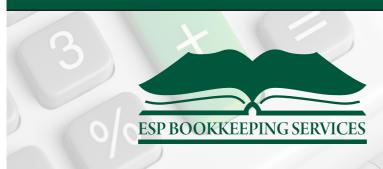
\* Ozone Disinfection Service

\* Free Estimate



M: 07930 895516

E: robpainting16@gmail.com



If your business paperwork is getting on top of you, why not give us a call to see how we can resolve your issues.



Bookkeeping







Cash & Profit





ESP Bookkeeping Services, Craigshannoch, Alford, Aberdeenshire, AB33 8EE Tel: 01975 563411 Mobile: 07719 593 997 Email: info@espbookkeeping.co.uk Institute of Certified bookkeepers - Practice no. 2519

www.espbookkeeping.co.uk

## **Environment and Litter Projects in Westhill**

Britain is suffering an epidemic of littering and fly-tipping. 30 million tons of litter are dropped per year which is five times more than in the 1960's. Our organised Litter Picks resumed in April. WECC and Rotary both Pick on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. WECC start at the Tennis Court Car Park and the Rotary start from the Shopping Centre Car Park. Together, with support from Tesco, McDonalds and Dave Cowie and his Resilience Group, we completed highly successful events. It was very upsetting to see another mess in Denman Park, less than 24 hours after it was picked clean. Additional further litter



picks had to be carried out at Carnie Woods and Denman Park to clear this. We would like to thank Barbra Crane and a few, disgusted, socially minded residents, for their help in this. We have noticed this disturbing trend, especially in the last year, and it unfortunately includes a significant increase in dog poo bags being left around. It is a disappointing development. Two years after our initiative to deter dog fouling, we have had complaints that our "Eyes Watching You" posters are frightening children. Perhaps we need a new approach! Any suggestions? One dangerous activity performed by the night drinkers, is throwing bottles at the stones in the park. The broken glass endangers children, dogs, and walkers. The park is for the enjoyment of residents of Westhill and beyond and should not be turned into a tip with dangerous glass strewn about. This problem sadly applies also to Carnie Woods. We get comments that the police should do more, but perhaps the parents of these youths should do more? We are aware that there are problems with existing litter bin capacity in Denman Park, following a significant increase in carry out foods being consumed there. We are currently in discussion with Aberdeenshire Council to have this problem addressed. A litter pick toolbox is in ongoing discussion with the Shopping Centre Manager, who has offered a home for it. We are keen to see this plan is implemented. The fly tipping incident at the farm track, just beyond Meadowlands was cleared thanks to David and John from the Rotary and safely deposited in our large litter bin. We detected a sewage leak incident at the Lawsondale burn, where sewage seeped out from a water drain outlet. SEPA, Scottish Water and the Council were notified, and the incident is now escalated to the Network Analyst. We do not have an update yet. The Environment Group, WECC and the Arnhall Moss Group are keen to bring forward a 3-phased approach to



making Denman Park a more conducive area for residents, visitors, and shoppers. In Phase 1 Heather Cook's plans is to purchase and install more seats, waste bins and a covered area. Phase 2 is to clear out the ponds and woodland. Phase 3 is to create a community garden. All these ambitions are on the provision that funding can be secured. The planned "Bee Bombs" are just about ready to be planted out, after the last frosts, by the end of May.

Our dates for Litter Picks in 2021 are: 12th and 26th June, 10th and 24th July, 14th and 28th August, 11th and 25th September, 9th and 23rd October, 13th and 27th November.

All our picks start at 10.00 and last one hour. All kit, apart from gloves will be supplied and all are welcome to join in.

For further information, or if your group may be interested in borrowing our Litter Picking Kit, please contact: Raymond Swaffield, email <a href="mailto:swaffies@talktalk.net">swaffies@talktalk.net</a> or Ken Stewart, email <a href="mailto:kennethstewart@talktalk.net">kennethstewart@talktalk.net</a>.

## Milne Hall, Kirkton of Skene

Work is progressing well with Phase 2 of the extension and upgrading of the kitchen. Our contractor is doing a great job with the work considering these difficult times.

The hall has now reopened subject to Covid restrictions. The hall is busy most evenings but we have a large hall, small hall and meeting room available for hire during the day. These are suitable for exercise classes, baby and toddler groups, craft groups, etc. Please see our Facebook page for prices but regular bookings do get discount. Our hall can also be booked for children's parties, funeral teas, etc. To enquire about hiring, please message us via Facebook or email the booking secretary – milnehallbookings@gmail.com.

Future Events: See Facebook page for further details.

#### Regular Activities: As Corona Restrictions Allow

- Jazzercise, 7.15-8.15pm every Thursday.
- Westhill Sooyang Do martial art group hold classes for children and adults on Monday evenings. Phone Chief Instructor Dave Bremner: 07970 188825.
- Indoor bowling every Tuesday evening during the winter months.
- Skene Youth Club for Primary 1-7, Thursday evenings 6-7pm during term time.
- Alba Black Belt Academies age 3 to adult. Call 07818 200371 for details.
- · Baby Sensory Thursday mornings.

Milne Hall Management Committee is registered as a charity (SC045034).

**Help wanted** – if you feel you could contribute in any way in looking after and improving the hall, you will be made most welcome. Please contact 01224 742804.

## **Westhill Senior Citizens Group**

It is with great sadness that (yet again), due to COVID-19, we have been unable to operate since the middle of March 2020. Now that many people have received both vaccines and things are beginning to open up again we would hope that we should be able to get back to our meetings towards the beginning of September 2021. We will keep you posted!

Our Senior Citizens Group are part of the Westhill Community Resilience Group which is also working in partnership with The Rotary Club, Westhill Community Church, Trinity Catholic Church, Westhill & Elrick Community Council and Skene Parish Church – the aim is to try and reduce social isolation in these difficult COVID times. Through these Groups we have tried to contact as many of the older and vulnerable people in Westhill who have been shielding and don't have friends and family nearby. If you know of anyone in this position that would like some help then please let me know and I can pass this on. In April our Senior Citizen Volunteers delivered 54 Easter eggs – which went down well. The Resilience Group delivered a further 350!!

During "normal times" our Group meets every alternate Thursday from 2pm to 4pm in the Hall at the back of Trinity Church and is open to those age 55 years and over. Cost is £3 per session for refreshments along with a £6 annual subscription (paid in Aug/Sept). Each fortnight we have entertainment for around an hour then tea/coffee with biscuits/cakes. We will continue to keep in touch with our members on a regular basis and keep them informed as to our restart date.

I hope that you are able to have a little more freedom over the next few months and will be able to meet up (socially distancing) with your family, neighbours and friends.

Contact Heather Cook for further information – heathercook@tiscali.co.uk telephone 01224 741194.



#### DOG WALKING AND PET CARE SERVICES

Kelldun Canines is a dog walking and pet care service based in Kirkton of Skene. Our aim is to make sure your dog has had a fun filled walk so they can return home happy, tired and with lots of new friends!

1 HOUR GROUP WALK

HOUR GROUP WALK

INDIVIDUAL WALKS

SMALL ANIMAL VISITS



Fully insured



DBS checked



Dog First Aid Trained





Find us on Facebook!



Telephone: 07711770114 Email: kelly@kellduncanines.co.uk



## GUITAR LESSONS

BASED IN WESTHILL

RGT Registered Tutor

RGT@LCM

- All Ages Welcome
- · Beginner to Advanced
- · Acoustic/Electric Guitar
- · Online Lessons Skype, FaceTime, Zoom
- Rock, Pop, Metal and Blues Styles Covered
- GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE



WWW.LUKEANDLEARNGUITAR.COM LUKE@LUKEANDLEARNGUITAR.COM



## Qualified Foot Health **Practitioner**







Routine & Preventative Foot Care · Corns/Hard Skin Toenail Cutting · Verrucae

Trudi C Deans

DipCFHP MPSPract

M: 07598 382597

HOME VISITING PRACTICE • APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE **NEW PATIENTS WELCOME** 



**BOB THE GRASS MAN** 

**GRASS CUTTING AND GARDEN MAINTENANCE** 

ARTIFICIAL GRASS LAYING **AND MAINTENANCE** 

07813 029083





## WESTHILL/BANCHORY HEALTH & THERAPIES PRACTICE



## CARING FOR YOU FROM TOP TO TOE

An integrated well-being health clinic

- Chiropody/Podiatry
- Counsellinfor business lockdown restric exology & Reiki
- **Sports Massage**
- Acupuncture
- **Body Stress Release**

**WESTHILL** 01224 740885 westhillpodiatry@gmail.com

SUITE 5 WESTHILL SHOPPING CENTRE



**BANCHORY** 01330 825333

banchorypodiatry@gmail.com 6 SCOTT SKINNER SQUARE BANCHORY



VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR A FANTASTIC RANGE OF QUALITY USED CARS, VANS AND 4X4'S

WITH OVER 50 VEHICLES IN STOCK, YOU'RE SURE TO FIND A GREAT SELECTION

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING SPECIFIC?

WE SPECIALISE IN SOURCING VEHICLES FAR AND WIDE

WWW.WFSTHILLCARS.CO.UK

# MOT's, SERVICING AND DIAGNOSTICS

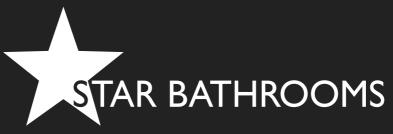
OUR HIGHLY SKILLED TECHNICIANS ARE AVAILABLE TO SERVICE AND MAINTAIN YOUR CAR TO THE HIGHEST OF STANDARDS

WE ALSO CARRY OUT TYRE FITTING, AIR CONDITIONING SERVICING AND DIAGNOSTIC FAULT FINDING

CONTACT US ON 01224 744411

EMAIL WESTHILLCARS@BTCONNECT.COM

ENTERPRISE DRIVE, WESTHILL INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, WESTHILL, AB32 6TQ





Design | Supply | Installation

To book an appointment call Mark on 07915 055309

sales@starbathrooms.com

www.starbathroomsaberdeen.com







## A local, family run company based in Westhill.

Protect your heating system against unexpected breakdowns with our care plans.

From only £10 per month

Visit our website for more details www.onlyheating.com



- Boiler installations
- Boiler repairs
- Boiler replacements
- Boiler servicing
- Central heating
- Safety inspections
- General plumbing
- Landlord safety certificates
- Power flushing
- Pump repairs

- Renewable energy products
- Solar heating
- Stove installation
- Unvented hot water cylinders
- Underfloor heating

#### 



















Onlyheating.com Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority in relation to credit brokering Reg no.774682 Credit is provided by Hitachi Personal Finance, a division of Hitachi Capital (UK) Plc authorised and regulated by Financial Conduct Authority. 3 Keirhill Avenue Westhill Aberdeenshire AB32 6AY SCOTLAND



## NorDan YOUR JOURNEY, OUR PROMISE

Timber, glass and aluminium make up the raw materials of our windows and doors. Which style fits your home the best? Let us guide you through inward and outward opening products, glazing options, energy efficiency and the possible combinations of these and other factors. It's a lot to take in but we're here to help and guide you.

After having spent a lot of time at home lately, you might have found yourself thinking about all of the things you'd like to change in your house, and we can help you with that. From small extensions to garden rooms and new builds, our friendly Residential team are here to guide you through the whole process. From the forest, to our factory, to your family home.

www.nordan.co.uk

## **HOMEOWNERS – IMPORTANT NOTICE**

In February 2019 the Legislation relating to smoke detection in your home changed. All domestic properties in Westhill 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:

Cumming Fire & Security Ltd 01467 643917 or email cfs.ltd@dial.pipex.com

For Peace of Mind in your Home – contact us now

## **APC PROPERTY SERVICES**

All Roofing/Pointing/Granite work
Walls/Slabbing/Decking/Fencing/Tree work
Bathrooms/Interior-Exterior painting

Est 2007

Fully Insured & Disclosure Scotland approved Local tradesmen – References supplied

Contact Rob/Derek - 07761 975225 or 01224 749159

Craigston Cottage, Kingswells, AB15 8RJ

## Looking to rent out your property?

Here at Belvoir Aberdeen our highly skilled and knowledgeable team are on hand to talk through the options we have available for you.

Contact us today:

Phone: 01224 645707

Email: <u>Aberdeen@Belvoir.co.uk</u>
Web: www.Belvoir.co.uk/aberdeen

## **BELVOIR!**

Property is personal





## **SKENE MEDICAL GROUP**

#### **Surgery Update**

We would like to thank all of our patients for their patience and support over the last year. Skene Medical Group has remained open and has been busy since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic. It has brought new challenges to us all. Going forward we want to assure you that looking after your health remains our top priority. Unfortunately Coronavirus still remains a threat in spite of declining incidence and the roll out of the vaccination programme. As a result things are not back to 'normal' and we have had to make a number of changes to the delivery of healthcare to make it safe for all.

At the start of the pandemic we adopted a 'total triage' system as per Scottish Government guidance. This was intended to reduce the footfall in the practice to keep both patients and staff safe. Initially this consisted of telephone triage but meant our phone lines were overwhelmed and patients had great difficulty getting through. We then adopted the NHS Grampian endorsed eConsult service. In addition to providing self help resources it allows patients to submit their health concern to a clinician. Patients then get a response by the end of the next working day. This may be an email reply or phone call from a GP or Advanced Nurse Practitioner. Patients who need examined are then booked in for a face to face appointment. Although eConsult has its merits, it is not a perfect system for patients nor medical staff. As it is provided by a third party we have no way of changing the templates or questions it asks. However, there are a number of medical conditions it allows us to manage remotely and efficiently without the need for patients to take time away from home or work for an appointment. We are aware that not all patients have access to or are able to use the internet. Because of this we have telephone appointments available every day for such patients. Following a phone call those who need a face to face appointment are given one.

We undertook an audit of practice activity in January. That month alone we provided 1,840 phone consultations, 1,743 eConsultations, and 1,610 face to face appointments in addition to a number of home visits. Since then eConsult demand has increased and we now receive more than 500 per week. As we continue to restructure our clinical team we are unable to meet this demand. Therefore eConsult will change to being available to use from 8am on Monday morning to 6pm on Friday evening. This will allow us to start reintroducing some suspended services such as minor surgery/gynaecology/joint injections. Chronic disease management (e.g. diabetes, asthma, heart disease monitoring) was initially suspended as Covid appeared, again on the direction of Scottish Government/NHSG. We have restarted these services but not surprisingly with a huge backlog. We ask for your patience and understanding as we work through this.

We are constantly trying to modify our service to meet patient demand in a safe way. None of us have worked through such a challenging or stressful period in our healthcare careers. The working day has been much busier and in addition we have had to spend many more evenings and weekends away from family in planning meetings and working extra sessions to meet eConsult demand.

We ask for your understanding and patience as we do our best to put your health needs and safety at the heart of what we do. Disappointingly, we have had an unprecedented rise in the number of complaints and instances of verbal abuse to clinicians and staff. We have to adopt a zero tolerance policy with regard to this and would encourage you to support us trying to support you at this extremely busy time.

#### WESTHILL BOWLING CLUB

The sport of Lawn Bowls, as its name implies, is played on a manicured area of fine grass and can only be enjoyed outdoor in the better weather of the summer months when we have the warmer days to make the grass grow. (In Scotland at any rate).

Unfortunately, this year we have suffered an extremely cold winter where the green was continuously frozen, followed by an unseasonably dry early spring and now an unseasonably cold early May. All of this means the grass isn't growing as it should. The application of hard graft by the green keeping team and all the lawn treatments and fertilisers makes no difference if there is no warmth in the atmosphere.

So sadly the start of the bowling season has had to be delayed until the playing surface can recover to a standard we are happy with.

That's the bad news. But the good news is that when we move to Level 2 on 17th May we can look forward to a near normal season of bowling with club competitions and Bon Accord Bowling Association competitions. The pavilion can be fully opened, albeit with some Covid related, but manageable restrictions.

We will have all our club competitions. Singles, senior singles, pairs, triples and fours. The winners of these will go on to represent Westhill in the area finals in 2022, with the winner from the area going to the national finals in Ayr later that year. Unfortunately, there will be no national nor international events in 2021.

We will also be able to interact with other local club and the resumption of the Bon Accord Bowling Association fours league. We were champions in 2016, 2017 and 2018 and were narrowly pipped for the title in 2019. There was no opportunity to reclaim our crown in 2020 so we are more anxious than ever to pick up the challenge in 2021. If you are walking past the green any Friday evening, Westhill are the team wearing the very distinctive bright yellow with dark blue trim shirts. Give us a cheer. There will be a lot of shouting and cajoling between the team members, feel free to join in and give us some encouragement, especially if it's a chilly, wet night and help ensure that the only things the opposition leave Westhill with are a chill and a losing feeling. Bowls IS a friendly game but at that level it's also about winning.

With the help of the bowling gods we will have a successful season on a whole number of different levels and the grass will grow luxuriant and verdant on the green.

We are always looking for new members. We have equipment available for new bowlers and plenty of members willing to offer free advice and coaching. We have a special introductory reduced price of membership for new or returning ex members of £40 for the year. There are no other costs. That allows you to play every day (subject to some current Covid restrictions) and full access to all competitions. We also offer further reduced membership rates for juniors and students. If interested please contact the club president by email robert.mutch@btinternet.com or telephone 07562 696193.

## Westhill and Skene Lions Club Book Sales

The monthly Lions Club Book Sales at the shopping centre restarted in April and will continue on the first Saturday each month from 9am to 12pm. The next few month's dates are 5th June, 3rd July and 7th August.

Prices are: fiction £1, children's 50p, non-fiction £1 or £2, DVDs & CDs 50p, jigsaws £2 or £3

Donations of books, CDs, DVDs and jigsaws can be brought to the sales or accepted at any time by contacting David on 07989 637461. They can be delivered to 11 Fare Park Drive or David can collect.

If you are looking for a particular book or author you can text David on 07989 637461 and we will look out for it.

All the proceeds from the book sales go to local and international charitable causes.

Westhill and Skene Lions Club has now been running for 17 years, after being formed as a branch club of Aberdeen Lions Club in 2003. The Lions motto is "WE SERVE" and we are a small part of the largest and most committed voluntary service organisation in the world. There are over 45,000 clubs and more than 1.3 million members worldwide.

https://www.lionsclubs.org



## Stuart Grassick

## General Builder, Westhill

Stonework Roughcasting

Extensions Patios/paving

Concrete work Drainage

Underpinning Floor tiling

Hard and soft landscaping

Tel: 01224 741380

Mob: 07484 125143

E-mail: stuart.grassick@hotmail.com



# aandm

## **Complete Bathroom and Kitchen Installation**

Plumbing I Joinery Plastering I Tiling

All work is fully guaranteed and covered by public liability insurance

Call Martin on 07825788012
Email: aandmbathrooms@yahoo.co.uk
www.aandmbathrooms.com

## thinking of buying or selling?

make your move now and let us help you get the best possible price as well as great service



local property shop and legal office
prominent location in westhill shopping centre
longest established property agent in westhill
FREE pre sale valuation and market advice
FREE initial purchase advice
competitive sale and purchase quotes
special deals for first time buyers
24/7 window and large screen advertising
professional photographs and video tours
website and social media advertising

Plus wills, powers of attorney and estates

t 01224 740718 e westhill@storiecs.co.uk



Solicitors • Estate Agents • Notaries





## **Hugh Will Property Maintenance**

All types of building work and property maintenance undertaken including extensions, garages, wood burning stove and fire place installation, pointing, harling, slating, repairs, ground work, etc.

If you would like a free estimate so you can get your building project started then please don't hesitate to get in touch with Hugh.

Call: 07791 804278 or 01224 733423 • Email: h.will251@btinternet.com



"Very happy with the job that Hugh has done for us. We now have a lovely patio and beautiful dry-stone wall. All the work was completed to an excellent standard, with no mess or hassle.

I would certainly recommend Hugh to potential future clients."

David H, Peterculter



### SOOYANG DO MARTIAL ART

WESTHILL - SKENE - CULTER - KEMNAY - BANCHORY

Opening soon in Inverurie/Kintore and Dunecht

Full Sooyang Do or specialised self-defence classes

All classes led by Dave Bremner, an experienced martial artist in traditional aspects as well as the sporting side of this way of life

Juniors 5-11/12

Adult/senior classes – 11/12 to no upper age limit

For more class information contact dbmartialarts28@gmail.com or 07970 188825

## **Volunteering Opportunities in Westhill**

Many organisations and clubs in Westhill rely on volunteers to sustain their activities. Below is details of some of these groups and how volunteers can get involved. If you would like to add your group in the next Bulletin contact westhill.bulletin@gmail.com. This list is also updated at https://westhillelrick.org/volunteering.

Rotary – Westhill and District – Rotary is open to Community Minded people 18+. They participate in social and community based activities supporting Charities and worthy causes: Local, National and International. Currently meeting alternate Thursdays by Zoom. Returning to weekly Thursday 6.15pm at Holiday Inn, Westhill Drive. Contact John Glascodine, secretary@westhil.rotary1010.org, 07977 059152. https://www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/homepage.php?ClubID=1524. Article on page 8.

South West Aberdeenshire Citizens Advice Bureau – SWACAB delivers an Advice and Information service and practical assistance and advocacy on issues of concern for local residents. The service is delivered by phone, email, video-calling, helpline, webchat and face-to-face. There are many volunteer roles: including adviser, wide range of administrator roles, Board member, fund raiser, social policy. Volunteers are supported and trained by specialist staff, using an accredited programme to use individual skills and life experience and to provide/improve other skills for employability and work experience. Office hours are weekdays with plans to extend to an evening or weekend service. Contact Eveline Crossan, enquiries@swacab.org.uk, 01224 747714, www.swacab.org.uk. Article on page 80.

**SensationALL** (based at Old School on Westhill Drive) – SensationALL provides services for children and adults with complex conditions and disabilities. We are here for ALL ages, ALL conditions and ALL members of the family. Our inclusive support groups, activities and play sessions improve sensory processing, communication, learning, self-regulation, emotional awareness and general development. We are currently operating virtually therefore have reduced volunteering opportunities. However, we are in need of help with Facilities Maintenance, Gardening and DIY/Handyman. As soon as inperson activities restart we will require volunteers to help in our sessions. Register your interest now to be contacted when opportunities are available. Contact Service Co-ordinator Sofie Colvin, *info@sensationall.org.uk*, 01224 746699. www.sensationall.org.uk. Article on page 76.

**Westhill Men's Shed** (based at the old library behind swimming pool) – Men Shed members make, repair and sell everything from DIY tools to garden benches and garden equipment. You meet others, have a chat and solve the world's problems over a cup of tea. You don't have to work in the workshops but if you can you get the satisfaction of making something and keeping the lights on. Open to men and women over 18. Contact the secretary Nick Pilbeam, *contact@westhillmensshed.co.uk*. 07745 829750. www.westhillmensshed.co.uk. Article on page 18.

**WECC Litter Picking Group** – Westhill and Elrick Community Council organise Litter Picking in Westhill and surrounding areas on the 2nd and 4th Saturday each month at 10am for 1 hour, equipment provided. Anyone can participate. Meet at Westhill Tennis Court Car Park. Contact Raymond Swaffield, *swaffies@talktalk.net*. Article on page 41.

**Westhill Scout Group** – We provide scouting activities to local children aged between 6 and 18 years. Looking for adult volunteers to help us with delivering a fun and varied programme of outdoor and indoor activities that help give #SkillsForLife. We welcome crafters, fire-lighters, tidy-uppers, book-keepers, activity planners, administrators, groundsmen and helpers. Try our 'Taster sessions' in the "Four Week Challenge" Contact Group Scout Leader Chris Pinnell or Deputy Chair Bruce Christie. *joinus@1stwesthillscouts.co.uk.* https://www.1stwesthillscouts.co.uk. Article on page 83.

**Girlguiding Westhill** – Girlguiding helps members discover their full potential by having fun and enjoying new adventures. There are four sections – Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers. Adult Volunteers 18+. Contact District Commissioners Alison Smith and Caroline Gray. <a href="west-tilde:we

**Westhill Voluntary Action** – The Westhill Winter Resilience Facebook page, set up by Dave Cowie in December 2020, has been renamed Westhill Voluntary Action and is followed by over 1800 residents. If any group in the Westhill area needs more volunteers for a project or task they can post a request on this page.

### **WECC COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND**

Westhill & Elrick Community Council has a surplus of funds due to the strong demand for advertising in the Westhill Bulletin. Some of these surplus funds are available for donations to local voluntary groups.

WECC started to give donations in 2011 and since then a total of around £36,000 has been donated to a wide range of groups. See <a href="https://westhillelrick.org/people-make-a-place/donations/">https://westhillelrick.org/people-make-a-place/donations/</a> for Guidance Notes and the Application form or contact <a href="mailto:treasurerwecc@gmail.com">treasurerwecc@gmail.com</a>.

There was no donation requests received for the May 2021 round. The next round of donations will be made in October 2021. Closing date for applications is 8th October.

## **Skene Committee of Macmillan Cancer Support**

Thank you to all who generously contribute to the Skene Macmillan fund, using our online Enthuse link on our Facebook page, or by giving donations via committee members. In the past the Skene committee arranged a variety of fund raising, community social events for Macmillan. With no events being possible this past year, we are indebted to the donations which continue to be made.

It is uncertain when we will be able to resume fundraising events. The committee would welcome any help in organizing events, when restrictions are removed. If you can help in any small way, please get in touch. Macmillan desperately need the funds and helping a local committee like Skene, ensures that the contributions stay in our local area, helping local patients and their families.

Kath MacBeath, Tel. 01330 860226

## **BILL'S GARDENING CORNER**

Whether or not it's snowing, freezing or raining, there is one thing you can be sure of, THE WEATHER has a mind of its own; like many others, we have lost plants, but some are starting to come back with side-shoots, so all is not lost; let's be thankful and look forward to oncoming warmer days.

No mater what weather, we gardeners still must think about planting; whether its seeds or veg or flowers, we still have to wait for the right weather; at this moment in early May a bit of heat would be fine in the garden and veg plot. Greenhouses and cloches give good protection against the worst of the elements, giving plants and seeds a chance to get started.

My garden is full of weeds and they look great (could win a prize for them) so I will be getting out the kneeling pad, fork and a flask of tea and dig them out.

It's good to see more people taking up gardening, it is very good for your mental and physical health, so go forward and enjoy the art of gardening; one of the best exercises to get into and it is good for all ages.

**Bill Loudon** 

## JOHN MULLEN JOINERY

Your Local Joinery Service Serving Westhill Since 1985

Full design, supply and fitting of kitchens and bathrooms Mirrored Wardrobe Doors Interior and Exterior Doors and all other joinery works All small maintenance jobs undertaken

NO JOB TOO SMALL For free quotation

Tel: 01330 860140

E-mail: mullenthejoiner@btinternet.com

Glenview, Leylodge, Kintore, Inverurie AB51 0XY

### Alison Donaldson BAcc CA

How is my business doing this month?

I'd love to grow my business can I afford I wonder what our profit will be this year?

I need a Chartered Accountant, but can't afford one on a full, or even part time basis....

I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland, with 15 years experience across a wide range of businesses and industries, and currently a director and trustee of a leading Scottish charity, specialising in the following areas:

- Monthly management accounts
- Annual accounts
- Budgeting and forecasting
- Cashflow forecasting
- Business planning

If you feel your business could benefit from any of the above and wish an informal and, initially, free discussion about your business requirements, then please contact me on:

AlisonDonaldsonCA@yahoo.co.uk or T. 07711 043865

# Chris Western Heating, Plumbing & Servicing

Specialising in all types of Heating, Plumbing & Ventilation work

Oil & Gas Boiler Servicing, Repair, Installation & Commissioning Work

Gas Safe Registered for Commercial & Domestic Work

No job too big or too small

I have 30 years experience in the industry

enquiries\_cwhps@yahoo.com 07462 333668 | 01224 744953



FMA are delighted to announce that we have relocated to Westhill. We do:

- Accountancy
- Corporation Tax Returns
- Income Tax Returns
- · Book-keeping
- VAT Returns
- · Payroll Compliance

We are a dynamic and progressive accountancy firm, bringing a raft of experience when it comes to business acquisition and disposals, business growth and consolidations.

call NOW on 01224 208729 or info@fyfemoirassociates.com www.fyfemoirassociates.com

We have moved to:

Arnhall Business Park, 5 Abercrombie Court, Prospect Rd, Westhill AB32 6FE





## **Acumen** Financial Planning

architects of financial promise

# Supporting families through all of life's performances.

We help clients achieve their full financial promise, whatever the future may hold.

- Savings & Investments
- Tax Planning
- Pensions & Retirement Planning
- Estate Planning

4 Kingshill Park, Venture Drive Arnhall Business Park Westhill, AB32 6FL Tel: 01224 432 227 info@acumenfp.com acumenfp.com

Acumen Financial Planning Limited is authorised & regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. FCA number 218745 Tax planning and tax advice is not regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.







CREDIT & DEBIT CARD PAYMENTS ACCEPTED





#### Westhill Tennis Club

After a busy year in 2020, we are pleased to say that membership has grown once again this year. In the first month of the season, we have registered nearly 200 members of all ages. This is fantastic for the club and we appreciate the support of the local community. Hopefully, the weather will be kind and the courts will be busy throughout the summer season.

At the time of writing, we are still waiting for the repainting of the courts to be carried out, which will substantially improve the playing surface. This requires a dry spell of weather and should hopefully be done over a few days in May. We will keep members informed throughout.

After the cancellation of the leagues last year, our men and ladies are back in action again this season facing clubs across the north east. We wish all four teams the best over the next few months.

The club still has two crucial committee roles open – Secretary and Chair – and require these roles to filled to remain operational. If you could support the club with these positions, or in any other way, please get in touch.

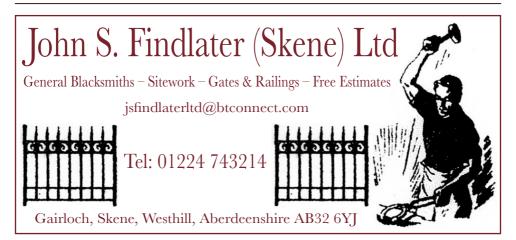
Our 2021/22 membership runs from April to March but we welcome membership applications at any time. Our annual membership fees are: Family - £160; Couple - £140; Senior - £80; Student - £40; Junior - £30 (11-17 years); Minis - £16 (10 or under on 31st March 2021).

#### Benefits of membership include:

- · Free court time for members with online booking sheet
- · Social tennis evenings for adults on Mondays and Thursdays from 7pm and Saturdays from 2pm
- Competitive tennis in the North District leagues, both men's and ladies' teams
- Opportunities to play in social leagues playing against other local clubs
- Coaching opportunities for all members and organised coaching sessions for minis and juniors from a qualified coach
- · Entry to the Wimbledon Ticket Ballot
- · Social events throughout the season

The courts remain limited to members only due to COVID-19 and the administration of tracking court usage. It is expected that this will remain the policy in the first half of the season so our 'Pay and Play' function is on hold. However, we are continuing to monitor the situation. If you have any questions, please get in touch – contact:

Email: westhilltennisclub@outlook.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/westhilltennisclub Website: www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/WesthillLawnTennisClub



#### **Tax Planning**

With the new tax year starting on 6 April 2021, now is the time to review your personal tax, to make sure all tax reliefs and allowances available have been utilised in the current tax year. It is also an ideal opportunity to take a wider review of your circumstances and plan for the year ahead. Tax never requires a one size fits all approach as each taxpayer and each year will be different. Planning properly going forward can have a dramatic effect on your personal finances.

Tax planning is the process of organising your finances so that you don't pay more tax than is necessary whereas tax avoidance on the other hand, typically involves reducing your tax bill via some form of investment scheme.

Common end of tax year planning includes but is not restricted to utilising capital gains tax allowances, ISA allowances, pension allowances, dividend allowances, transfer of marriage allowance, inheritance tax and charitable gifting to name but a few.

If you require advice or guidance on tax planning as we reach the end of the tax year or indeed for the year ahead, please do not hesitate to contact our team. We can provide a comprehensive review, tailored to individual needs and circumstances.

For more details please give us a call on (01224) 747889 or email enquiries@forbeslawson.co.uk

Forbes Lawson Wealth Management Ltd is Authorised & Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) No 210696





### **Westhill Golf Club**

I can't remember two more unusual spring periods than the last two years. In 2020, we had no golf. In 2021, it has been oddly cold and dry. If you look at your own gardens you'll see we've had challenging growth conditions for anything green. This has also been the case for the golf club. However, thanks to the proactive nature of our greens team we have been able to encourage the growth along. With golf being recognised as a healthy outdoor pursuit most

golf clubs have seen an influx in membership enquiries. It has therefore been fantastic to welcome almost 80 new members to the club since February this year. It's also nice to see that a good proportion of the new members are from the Westhill area.

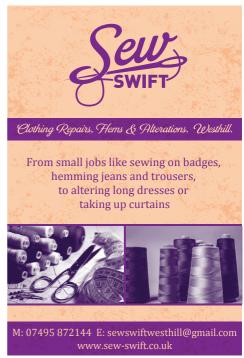
Junior golf is also back and bouncing! After a quiet year, we knew we would get a few more beginners due to us opening the entry to P5, 6 and 7s. However, we were not expecting nearly seventy beginners! We have now closed our lists for this year. In conjunction with Scottish Golf, we are planning several fun events over the summer for new golfers. The emphasis is having fun and learning new life skills.

At the end of April Ryan Bruce joined us and opened the Ryan Bruce Golf shop within our clubhouse. This is a fantastic addition to what we can offer members and visitors. He has a fantastic range of apparel for Gents, Ladies and Juniors so I'd encourage you all to come and visit him!

It's nice to see that lots of residents are already making use of the Westhill Orbital Trail which passes through the golf course. I remind walkers to stick to the path to ensure you are out of the way of stray golf balls. Please also be aware that we routinely operate machinery on the course so please keep your eyes and ears open for your own safety.

Alan McCue Club Captain







## **CUMMING FIRE & SECURITY LTD**



Tel: 07817 749943
Email: cfs.ltd@dial.pipex.com

## FREE ADVICE & QUOTATIONS EVENING SURVEYS AVAILABLE

- Intruder Alarm Systems wired or wireless
- Fire Alarm Systems wired or wireless
- Fire Extinguishers & Blankets
- Electrical Work all types
- Smoke & Heat Alarms (New Regulations)
- Portable Appliance Testing
- CCTV & Door Entry Systems
- EICR Testing
- Covid-19 Compliance
- Safety Signs & Equipment



For Peace of Mind at Work or Home
– Call Us Now







- Highly trained professional barbers
- · Luxury barbershop
  - Ruger barber stockists
- Amazing barbering experience & service

£5 off your first visit\*

T&c's apply visit www.westwithstyle.co.uk

## West |with| style

- Racoon international hair extension specialists
  - Highly trained & experienced stylists
- In-depth consultation at every visit & amazing service.





Unit 6 Ashdale Drive, Westhill, Aberdeenshire, AB326LP www.westwithstyle.co.uk
Tel; 01224 741313 / 744927







## $N\,Y\,\underset{\text{design. Quality. Passion}}{PA\,T\,H\,R\,O\,O\,M\,S}$



**VISIT OUR SHOWROOM:** 214 HARDGATE **ABERDEEN AB10 6AA** 

www.nycbathrooms.co.uk 01224 587300 sales@nycbathrooms.co.uk





## **DAVID MASSIE**

## CARPENTRY & JOINERY SERVICES LTD

(OVER 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE)

All joinery work undertaken Stairs, Doors & Windows: Manufacture & Fitting

Tel: 01330 811906 Mobile: 07816 596541 davidmassiecjs@gmail.com

FREE ESTIMATES



21 Carnie Avenue, Elrick, Westhill, Aberdeenshire AB32 6HS

DOGGYDUDES is an established dog grooming business, in operation since 2014.

Most breeds of dogs are catered for and with just one dog being taken at a time, you can be sure that your pet will receive a very personal and professional treatment.



Tel 01224 744279

Mobile 07834 974180

WWW.DOGGYDUDES.CO.UK



We have over 25 years' experience working with individual and corporate clients on a number of small, medium and large architectural projects throughout the north east

- Free initial consultation · Full design service
   Building consents obtained
- · Extensions and alterations · Conversions · New builds

Tel: 01224 782035 Mob: 07783 148045 Email: info@groundwaterdesign.co.uk 41 Bracken Road Portlethen AB12 4TA www.groundwaterdesign.co.uk



## **Duke of Edinburgh's Award**

#### **WESTHILL OPEN AWARD GROUP**

Contact Katie, Paul and the team of volunteers at WesthillDoE@aol.co.uk or look online at www.WesthillDoE.co.uk

CONGRATULATIONS to our latest Award completions – very well done:



Bronze Award: Cameron Christie, Erin Armishaw Certificate of Achievement: Jason Collie



Silver Certificate of Achievement: Erin Abercrombie



Gold Certificate of Achievement: James Marriner

It is ironic that at a time when the Duke of Edinburgh's Award is being celebrated in the media for the positive lasting impact it has on participants that we find the future of our Open Award Group in doubt. Many of you will have received an email about this which you can read on our website so I'll keep it brief here.

We are a successful volunteer led Open Award Group willing and capable of fulfilling the known local need but we may no longer be authorised to do so. Throughout our 14 years we have been operating through Aberdeenshire Council who are the Licenced Organisation. DofE Scotland has decided that each Award Group should now be a Directly Licenced Centre (DLC) through a school or uniformed group each of which will pay a licencing fee. Aberdeenshire Council was offered the option to move to DLC via conversations with Duke of Edinburgh Scotland and accepted this offer. We were not consulted. We want to continue offering the Award locally – everyone we speak with wants us to continue – but, as you can imagine, there would be major logistical challenges for us 'going it alone' as a DLC without the umbrella organisation of Aberdeenshire Council. We are continuing to try to find ways forward and have at last had a meeting with a representative from DofE Scotland. So thank you to everyone who sent us really supportive emails. We are also conscious of the many local organisations with whom our participants volunteer their time and the loss that would be to them. We will keep you posted and just hoping there is a way to make it possible to continue.

So, in better news, we restarted Thursday evening meetings in April focusing on Expedition section training. The meetings are held outdoors which we are all thoroughly enjoying. Much more realistic doing first aid training, navigation and camp-craft outside! All our teams will do their Expeditions this summer in our local area. Bronze Award participants will start and finish in Westhill. Silver and Gold Award teams are venturing out towards Midmar for their Practice Expedition and South of Clachnaben for their Qualifying Expedition. Once again this year there is to be no tent or Trangia stove sharing and currently the advice is no sharing of transport. Those provisos apart, we just want all our participants and leaders to enjoy themselves!

Meanwhile, keep adding evidence on **eDofE.org**, keep being creative in deciding your challenges for Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections, and please do submit your programme planners so we can help you meet all the Award requirements for the different sections.

Remember, if you have STARTED YOUR AWARD, even with another Award Group, and need help to finish it, contact: WesthillDoE@aol.co.uk

### JOGSCOTLAND WESTHILL

2021 certainly hasn't turned out the way anyone was expecting, and that goes for us at JogScotland Westhill too. We'd managed to restart the group in September 2020 after a 6 month lockdown and everyone was



really enjoying running together again. However, when January rolled around, we were all disappointed as we found ourselves back in lockdown, once more unable to enjoy our twice weekly meet-ups.

Our runners are a resilient and determined bunch though, and since the start of the year many of our members have continued to run solo or in pairs to keep up their fitness, take part in virtual runs and to reap all the benefits that regular running provides.

That spirit of resilience is especially true for one of the group's Jog Leaders, Matt Huntington, who's been a regular runner at JogScotland Westhill for the last two years and a leader for just over a year. He hasn't let lockdown restrictions hold him back and has set himself a particularly tough running challenge for 2021. His 365 Days of Courage for Kathy challenge will see him running every day of the year, clocking up an amazing 4500kms with a daily 10K, a half marathon each month and taking part in the Loch Ness Marathon in October. His motivation to take on such a demanding feat is to commemorate his sister Kathy who sadly passed away due to breast cancer in 2018, and Matt is celebrating her life by using his challenge to raise funds for Friends of ANCHOR who provided Kathy and her family with a huge amount of support during her illness.



His determination to keep going no matter what even included running his daily 10Ks in the confines of his hotel room during a recent trip to London where he was working as a technical official for the Olympic swimming selection trials. Due to Covid restrictions he wasn't able to get out and about in his free time, so he improvised and completed the daily target by running loops of his 8 metre long hotel room! Like many regular runners, Matt uses the online app Strava to monitor his runs so all those loops were tracked on the app, just the same as a 'normal' outdoor run. There's an old joke in the running community that says if a run's not on Strava, it didn't happen, so Matt can definitely prove that he didn't let lockdown get in the way of achieving his goal.

You can follow Matt's progress on Instagram – just search for **365daysofcourageforkathy** and if you'd like to help his fundraising efforts for Friends of ANCHOR, just visit <a href="https://www.virginmoneygiving.com/giving/">https://www.virginmoneygiving.com/giving/</a> and search for **365 days of courage for Kathy**.

Hopefully by the time you're reading this, Aberdeenshire will be back in Level 2 and we'll be able to start our group runs again without social distancing. If you'd like to join us, send an email to <code>jogscotlandwesthill@gmail.com</code> and we'll be in touch with all the info you need. We're a social running club and meet on a Monday and a Thursday at 6.30pm. We have a range of groups for all abilities of runner so if you want to join us, just get in touch, whether you run every day like Matt, or you've never run a mile in your life.

# LISTER

DOMESTIC APPLIANCE ENGINEERS 3 ANDERSON AVENUE, ABERDEEN AB24 4LR Tel: 01224 488865

# SPARES AND REPAIRS TO MOST MAJOR MAKES OF APPLIANCES

Washing Machines, Tumble Driers, Dishwashers, Cookers, Microwaves, Vacuum Cleaners. etc.







Whether they are large or small, Lister does them ALL

email: KJLISTER@BTCONNECT.com web: www.listerelectrical.co.uk



# **Maintenance Matters**

**Property and Garden Maintenance** 

Gardening | Hedge Cutting
Grass Cutting | Fencing
Handyman Service
Landlord Repairs
Painting | Pressure Washing

Beechgrove Garden Contractor for 10 years
Local, honest and reliable
All waste recycled when possible
SEPA Licensed waste removal

07905 164379 | 01224 741803 mcglashanmike1@gmail.com



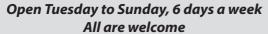
Bothy 57's ambition is to create a welcoming outside shelter on the neighbouring site of a former garage

We anticipate that you will enjoy a weekly ice cream and coffee at this Kirkton of Skene destination, along the footpath from Westhill and Elrick. So, if you have any suggestions or comments on the idea of an outside shelter, please

email us at bothy57skene@gmail.com



Bothy 57's beverages, home-made soup, hot food, scrumptious home bakes, soft drinks and ice cream are served from the door. Also, Jill and Steve look forward to sharing a warm inside welcome now we are serving at tables in the cafe again



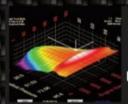




Working with the Echt and Skene Community Council, we attempt to mitigate the occasional flooding at 3 places on the footpath to Westhill. We're making some progress. However, we prioritise a result if more people can *log any flooding on https://online.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/apps/roadfaults/* thank you. Generally, if anyone would like to get involved with this then please email *contact@echtandskenecc.co.uk* 

# //C.A.R.S

# Caledonia Auto Revive Services



# Regain Remap Revive

Fully Mobile, Friendly, Reliable Service



CARBON CLEAN, ECU REMAPPING, DPF CLEANING SPECIALISTS

- Lower Emissions up to 75%
- Restore & Improve Economy
- Restore & Improve performance
- # 100% Safe and Eco-friendly
- Lifetime Warranty on All Software

- Reduce Wear & Tear
- Improved Drivability
- Smoother Engine
- # 100% Genuine Tools
  - Insured & Certified

**Authorised Dealer Of** 







Mark@CaledoniaAutoReviveServices.co.uk
Give CARS a Call 07399 023 233





# Financial advice made personal

We recognise that talking about money and finances is personal – sometimes sensitive. So it's reassuring to know that there's someone on hand who can help you address your needs, understand your goals and realise your dreams.

We offer a friendly and approachable service, backed by the strength and security of FTSE 100 company, St. James's Place Wealth Management; and being local means we're here to help whenever you need us.

Let's start a conversation.

### MCCUE WEALTH MANAGEMENT LTD

Partner Practice of St. James's Place Wealth Management

Mark McCue MA (Hons) Chartered FCSI

Director

Tel: 01224 745200 | 07596 196084 Email: mark.mccue@sjpp.co.uk www.mccuewealthmanagement.co.uk



The Partner Practice is an Appointed Representative of and represents only St. James's Place Wealth Management plc (which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority) for the purpose of advising solely on the group's wealth management products and services, more details of which are set out on the group's website www.sip.cou.kproducts. The St. James's Place Partnership and the titles Partner and Partner Practice' are marketing terms used to describe St. James's Place representatives.



New Builds
Extensions
Alterations
Renovations
Kitchens
Windows and Doors

For a free estimate please contact Davie info@dgrconstruction.co.uk or call 07926 268471

DGR Construction 6 Meadowlands Place Westhill AB32 6EB



ALL JOINERY WORK UNDERTAKEN
& ALL TRADES SUPPLIED

KITCHENS & BATHROOMS DOORS & WINDOWS

FOR FREE QUOTATION
T. 01224 742273
M. 07724 880194
E. barrywillox83@icloud.com
Dawson Drive, Westhill



Westhill: 0845 388 8138



## **Services**

Every Sunday at 10.30am – Morning Worship We returned to physical services in March. You can book a place via our website each Thursday.

Our services are all shown online for anyone who can't come along in person.

Please join us on YouTube. Search for Westhill Community Church and you can see all of our online services plus tune in on Sunday for the latest one! We'd love to see you there!

www.westhillcommunitychurch.org



Our café opened in May, with all necessary restrictions and precautions in place. See our Facebook page or church website for more information. Bookings can be made via our website www.westhillcommunitychurch.org

Room Hire – It may be possible to hire our rooms in accordance with any Government guidelines. Please check our website or email bookings@westhillcommunitychurch.org
for more information



If you need assistance of any kind you can contact our team by calling Sandra on 07484 603593 or email sandramcgregor@westhillcommunitychurch.org

Our Food Bank is also open and you can access this by calling the team on 07379 836380 or email foodbank@ westhillcommunitychurch.org

We appreciate it's hard to ask for help but please don't suffer in silence. If you need assistance just call. Your call will be treated in confidence with great love and care.

Please check our website for updates and opening hours once the lockdown eases. www.westhillcommunitychurch.org

### **Youth Activities**

Check on our website or get in touch with our Youth Pastor, Daniel.ferguson@ westhillcommunitychurch.org to find out more!

### Office Hours

Hours may vary currently. You can call our office on 01224 737380 or email office@westhillcommunitychurch.org

THERE IS HOPE – In a year of confusion, frustration, loss, hurt and pain – 'hope' is a message we all need. I suffer from depression and my own mental health has suffered greatly at times over the past year. It's been so difficult to navigate lockdowns, lack of routine and lack of human contact.

Over the course of the year, there have been moments of light and joy that have broken through the tough times. Times when the sun has shone, when friends have been in touch, when family have lifted me and when my faith has held me up. My question for you is where do you find your hope? This year has taught me that a lot of the things that I was placing my hope in aren't as secure or firm as I thought. Finances, Job Security, Social Interactions – all of these have been in doubt – so what is left when all that is stripped away?

From my own experience my faith has given me hope in the dark days. If you know me, you will know that I am not interested in "religion" – my faith is not based on being perfect or following rules. My faith is based on a relationship with Jesus which has time and time again given me hope. The hope that I am loved unconditionally, that there is someone who will always lift me up from my darkest moments. This hope has been so real, not an idea, concept or theory. My faith in Jesus has proven to be the one thing I can rely upon throughout the toughest of times, when it feels like the world around me has been falling apart. Jesus has brought me hope, love, joy and a deep sense of fulfilment despite what has been happening around me. My simple message is that whatever you are facing, whatever you are going through, you're not alone. I believe that Jesus knows what you face and he is walking beside you. There will be a better day ahead for you, there is hope.

**Daniel Ferguson** 

# "A SensationALL Space!"

We are so delighted to have raised the funds to extend our car park and install an inclusive and accessible play area – it has been a long-time dream of the Charity and we've worked very hard to make it happen – with works currently ongoing we plan to open in early June!



The park will remain a public space, but we want to take this opportunity to ask Westhill residents for their continued support around park security.

We, like many others, have been appalled at the recent spate of vandalism in the local area and have genuine concern for the specialist equipment we are installing. This space is no longer a council play park, it is fully owned and maintained by SensationALL, and should anything happen we will be forced to close the area with immediate effect. We do not have the funds nor the resources to replace the equipment, and so we are putting out this plea to ask parents to ensure their children are aware of this and that they understand that any damage or vandalism will be devastating to our small organisation and the lives of our service users.

Please be aware that we have installed 24hr HD CCTV to monitor the playpark and we will not delay in submitting recordings and images to the police should anti-social behaviour occur.

Thank you so much to our neighbours and the whole community for your support, patience and understanding as well as Aberdeenshire council for their unwavering support of the project.

We cannot wait to see you over Summer!

Team SensationALL x



# Elrick Primary School celebrates its 40 year anniversary!

At Elrick we are making plans to celebrate this

milestone and are keen to hear from ex pupils, especially ones still living in our community. Perhaps you have some photos or memorabilia you could share, or you might be willing to be interviewed by one of our current pupils?

Either way please get in touch with us. Tel: 01224 472910

Email: elrick.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

To celebrate and mark the occasion we will have a recipe book full of our pupils' family favourites with a splashing of memories of years gone by. There will also be an eco-friendly bag4life available in June, follow us on Facebook to find out more @elrickprimaryschoolparentcouncil.









# The Leading Invisalign provider in Aberdeenshire



# Go wireless!

invisalign®

# Now welcoming new and private patients

Both practices provide NHS and Private treatments.

We have an enviable reputation of providing high quality treatments in all aspects of Dentistry including Dental Hygiene and also in Non- surgical Facial treatments. We are currently expanding and are registering new NHS patients at Abercrombie Smile.

### Specialist treatments include:



DENTAL IMPLANTS



SEDATION



TEETH WHITENING



PARTIAL DENTURES



ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT



FACIAL AESTHETICS



DENTAL HYGIENIST



CEREC

Abercrombie Dental Practice 10 Abercrombie Court, Prospect Road, Westhill, Aberdeenshire AB32 6FE Tel: 01224 745447



Opening hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-5.30pm Tuesday 9am-7pm

Friday 8am-4pm Saturday 9am-5.30pm

24 hr emergency number 07522 896 485 (private appointments only) 3 Ashdale Drive, Westhill, Aberdeenshire AB32 6LP Tel: 01224 742513



www.abercrombie-dental.co.uk



### Westhill Walkers

### Open to all no matter what your age or ability

Well, here we are, approaching normality at last. With the relaxation of Covid rules, Westhill Walkers have started meeting together for group walks, albeit with restrictions. As an official walking club we are allowed to meet in a relatively large group but we have decided to restrict the numbers on each walk to ten at the moment. This makes it much easier to observe social distancing. Walks are currently on an ad

hoc basis with members being emailed about the next proposed walk and booking a place on a first come first served basis. As only members of the same household can car share we have been keeping to local areas for our group walks.

To date we have had two walks every second Sunday with one being a bit easier than the other to gently break in those of us who have lost fitness over the lockdown period. Members have explored local forests and others have walked from Westhill through Garlogie Woods to Dunecht and back and from Westhill to Hazlehead and from Collieston to the Sands of Forvie. One advantage of lockdown has been the realisation that there are so many beautiful walks almost on our doorstep.

On other days smaller groups of individuals have climbed Mount Keen, Lord Arthur's Hill and Carnferg whilst many have been exploring the new Westhill Orbital Trail (see page 7).





We all look forward to being able to meet in larger groups when that day eventually arrives. Until then, look after yourself, enjoy your local area and keep an eye on our website at <a href="http://www.westhillwalkers.org">http://www.westhillwalkers.org</a> and our Facebook page for updates.

### Message from Ms Christine Beattie to Westhill Community Church and the Westhill community

I moved to Westhill just over 2 years ago to be near my work and to start the next journey in my life. The Community Church gave me a purpose and a reason to carry on with my catering career and I thank them for that whole heartedly. To Lesley, Scot, Daniel, Becky, Sandra, Ian and all of the 'Church family' at Green Pastures Cafe. To all the lovely customers whether regular or maybe even only once, I enjoyed the banter, the laughs and the friendly atmosphere.



The next chapter is about to begin but alas it won't be in Westhill due to bereavement and change in circumstances. I say a BIG thank you to all the lovely people of Westhill I met whether out a walk in the summer taking pics of flowers, or even walking to the shops; especially to the lady that gave me the idea to buy a back pack, it definitely helps with the shopping, just a small gesture but its kind. To Susan for believing in me, giving me a job when I needed it most, to neighbours at 9, 11 and 12 Broadshade Drive for their kindness when I moved here. Westhill is a unique place, you all should be proud of what you have achieved in these unnatural times.

I am sure if I had decided to stay here in Westhill I would have still been made most welcome so I say sadly Good Bye to everyone. In March I moved away to start the next stage of life!!

# **Westhill and District Gardening Club**

As with many local community groups the Gardening Club meetings are still suspended. From June the club would normally have had a summer break and held the next indoor meeting in September. By then we hope many of the covid-19 restrictions may have been changed or perhaps lifted, so fingers crossed for better news in the next issue of the Bulletin. In the meantime we hope for a lovely, sunny summer and that you all enjoy your gardens.

If anyone would like information about the club please email us at westhillgardenclub@gmail.com.

# SOUTH WEST ABERDEENSHIRE CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU (SWACAB)

A year like no other

citizens advice bureau

Over a year ago, when the pandemic was sweeping across the world, South West Aberdeenshire Citizens Advice Bureau closed its doors to the public, planned ourselves into working teams, and carried on working to advise the residents of Westhill and our wider operating area. Many of our volunteers have been working remotely to provide our clients with vital advice and information on a wide variety of issues ranging from debt to immigration to pensions. Staff members have both worked from home and office to support volunteer advisers and clients alike. Our helplines have never been busier.

This last year, we have seen a 25% rise in client numbers from 1621 in 2019 to 2081 in 2020, particularly in the areas of Benefits; Money Advice and Debt; Finance and Charitable Support; Employment; Utilities and Communications; and Family and Relationship. It is clear that people have been worried about reduced income because of furlough, job insecurity, redundancy and managing limited finances and household bills. We have seen the number of food projects in our area rise from 3 to 20, whether they are a food bank, community pantry, fridge, or freezer; or waste food projects which convert supermarket food into nutritious meals. The stresses of home working, home schooling and reduced income have meant that family and relationships have suffered too.

The impact of our services is reflected in the Client Financial Gain (financial gain to clients as a result of bureau interventions) we have achieved to date – £2.78 million.

### Expanding our facilities to meet rising demand

We have continued to develop existing and new projects in the bureau and have recently appointed a deputy manager and three other new staff members. We are developing a new appointment system and can also "see" clients by using Attend Anywhere or Near Me, both platforms based on the NHS system for remote consultations. We extended the bureau workspace to accommodate new projects and to aid social distancing. With our recently appointed Health & Safety advisers, we are in process of planning for the safe, phased return to bureau of our clients, home-working volunteers and our newest cohort of trainee advisers.

And of course, in addition, we now cover Kintore, Kemnay, Blackburn and Newmachar.

We are a free, confidential, impartial, non-judgemental service which provides holistic advice – which means that you need to tell your story only once. We make sure that you're informed of the options available to you and that you make the decisions about how you take things forward. On the rare occasions we may not be able to help, we have a wide range of secondary agencies who will assist.

Call us on 01224 747714; email enquiries@swacab.org.uk or contact us through our website www.swacab.org.uk

# The Oven Valet **Oven Cleaners**

Doing the jobs you hate! Bringing the sparkle back to your oven Using Non Toxic, Non Caustic Products in Your Home



01330 823079 07920 483233



E: info@theovenvalet.com www.theovenvalet.com



### WESTHILL CHOI KWANG DO

hello@westhillckd.org @westhillckd

# Crush your fitness goals while learning how to protect yourself

£50 limited time new starters offer covers your.... first year annual membership, uniform, all classes up to and including your first grading.

Tuesday 18:00 - 19:00 Family Class

Tuesday 19:00 - 20:30 Adult Class

Thursday 18:00 - 19:00 Family Class

Thursday 19:00 - 19:45 Adult Class Saturday 10:00 - 11:00 Family Class

Ashdale Hall, Westhill Drive, Westhill, AB32 6FY



Offshore/Rotational/Shift Workers please ask for details.



www.westhillckd.org



# **CITY & SHIRE DOMESTICS LIMITED**



**LOW CALL-OUT CHARGE** 

**Domestic Appliance Repairs** and Installations

35 years experience

**Prompt and Reliable Service** 

All makes and models

Washing Machines, Cookers, Driers, Fridges, etc

www.citvandshiredomestics.co.uk

Tel: 07926 582844

Email: chill10@sky.com





**Local Gas Safe Registered Plumber** 

**Kevin Milne** 

Tel: 079180 70928 01330 833670 k.milne@live.co.uk

Boiler services, heating upgrades and maintenance, natural gas and LPG appliances, bathroom upgrades, etc.

# **GB Tiling Services**

**Free Estimates** 

Guaranteed customer satisfaction and all work finished to a high standard

All aspects of work undertaken including: ceramic, porcelain, slate, marble and mosaic, etc...

Mobile: 07706 343362

Little Brodiach Cottage, Kingswells, Aberdeen AB15 8PD



Maria Dow MSc RD MBDA Freelance Dietitian Tel 07967 739706

maria@dowsdiets.co.uk

Registered Dietitian experienced in:

- ♦ Weight Loss and Weight Loss Maintenance
- ◆ Type 2 Diabetes Remission using the Counterweight plus programme
- ◆ Irritable Bowel Syndrome (FODMAP trained)
- ◆ Food Allergies and Intolerances
- ◆ Nutrition for Sport
- ◆ Nutritional analysis of recipes and menus

Clinics at Westhill Health and Therapies Clinic, Unit 5, Westhill Shopping Centre

Digitally remote sessions also available

Tel: 07967 739706

Email: maria@dowsdiets.co.uk





# **POWER WASHING AND SURFACE RESTORATION**

Make your property look its best!

Have your outdoor surfaced areas professionally cleaned to <a href="INSTANTLY">INSTANTLY</a> improve the look of your property.

For a superior result,
call SKENE POWERCLEAN
07310 399815

® DRIVEWAYS & WALKWAYS ® BRICK-LOCK RESTORATION
® PATIOS, PATHS & DECKING ® STEPS, WALLS & RETAINERS

ian@skenepowerclean.co.ul

@ CONCRETE & SLAB PAVING @ CAR PARKS & FORECOURTS

**CALL TODAY TO ARRANGE A FREE QUOTE** 







Charity No. SC017801

After over a year of virtual sessions and then in smaller groups, Scouting was given the go-ahead to meet up outside in larger numbers after Easter. For some of our sections this meant the first time they met up in over a year! A welcome milestone in this year's Scouting journey.



Over the early spring, all sections delivered scouting over zoom and there were various quizzes, mug cakes, mug pizza, home athlete challenges plus badge work.

Between now and summer, sections will enjoy face to face activities and getting back to building **#SkillsForLife**. They have already decorated carties, built bird boxes, built towers, and played lots of team games, sorely missed during restrictions!

It was with great sadness that in January we learned of the passing of our dear colleague, Kaa Cub Pack and Westwood Scout Leader, Tim Fry. Originally from Surrey, Tim moved to Westhill in 2014 and over the years made a great contribution to scouting both locally and regionally. He will be sadly missed.

Group Scout Leader Chris Pinnell was recently presented with his **Silver Acorn Award** for his services to scouting.

Chris started his adult scouting journey forty years ago in the central belt, followed by North Aberdeenshire and then Westhill after moving here in 2000. In the last five years Chris has overseen the growth and development of Westhill Scout Group to become one of the North East's biggest groups. Normally presented at the St George's Day Awards at Windsor Castle, and attended by a member of the Royal Family, Chris will receive his official award at a later date when restrictions allow.



Also announced is a "Good Service - Medal of Merit" to be awarded to Cub Leader Rae Taylor.



# We still need new adult helpers for our sections, particularly Assistant Leaders, can you help?

No previous experience is needed and full training and mentoring is provided. Being an Assistant Leader is not as onerous as you might think, plus it enhances transferable skills and provides personal satisfaction at seeing youngsters grow and develop. Adult supporters don't have to have a child involved in the group either. However, if you do have a child on our waiting list, they will get priority when spaces become available.

If you would be willing to help please email Group Scout Leader Chris Pinnell for further information at <a href="westhill@gordondistrictscouts.org.uk">westhill@gordondistrictscouts.org.uk</a>. Watch out for our taster recruitment initiative called "The Four Week Challenge" that matches with the Scouting Headquarters recruitment scheme #Good for you.

There is currently a waiting list for our sections. To add your child's name to the waiting list please complete the form on our website <a href="https://www.1stwesthillscouts.co.uk/join">https://www.1stwesthillscouts.co.uk/join</a>.

The Scottish Government COVID-19 Protection – Level 3 became effective from 26 April 2021 which allowed us to resume club rides within these guidelines and our members have enjoyed a return to group cycling. We have also seen an influx of new members, many of whom have realised the benefits of regular cycling during lockdown. Hopefully by the time you are reading this article more restrictions will have been lifted offering even greater scope for the joys of social cycling in our beautiful Aberdeenshire countryside.

Organised club rides for all members usually start from the Westhill Community Church on Old Skene Road, full details of all rides are posted on our club Facebook page with a summary below.

\*\*Tuesday Evening Training – For those who like a bit more speed and distance

\*\*Tuesday Evening Training – For those who like a bit more speed and distance

\*\*Tuesday Beginners – For newer cyclists and those who like a more leisurely pace

\*\*Sunday Morning Social – For all abilities (no one gets left behind and always a cafe stop for cake)

\*\*We also have impromptu rides, such as Saturday Social and Friday Cake Run – open to all club members.

\*\*As many Westhill residents will be aware we had to cancel the Westhill Blike Ride 2020 and as the Westhill Gala will not take place in June 2021, we have decided to reschedule the the Westhill Resident of the Tour of Britain, a multi-stage cycling race, conducted on Britain roads, in which participants races she country to complete the race in the fastest time.

\*\*As many Westhill residents will be aware we had to cancel the Westhill Blike Ride 2020 and as the Westhill Gala will not take place in June 2021, we have decided to reschedule the new control of the famed Gala rescaled to reschedule the new control of the famed Gala rescaled the Westhill Resident of the Tour of Britain and Start of Startes, Put and the Westhill Blike Ride 2020 and as the Westhill Gala will not take place in June 2021, we have decided to reschedule the new the start of stage 8, with the route





# DOG WALKING & PET SERVICES

# Busy Days Dog Care

EST SINCE 2010

- All breeds welcomed
- Puppy visits, group and individual walks available
- Fully insured
- References available from existing customers

Professional, reliable and flexible service covering Westhill and surrounding areas

When you're busy, we care.





For all your computer requirements

- PC, Mac, tablet and smartphones
- Install, service, repair and upgrade
- Virus removal, security advice
- Internet, email, networks & wifi
- Broken screens, data recovery
- Tuition and buying advice

01224 742372

HOME SERVICE OR COLLECTION







Operating Area

Lyne of Sken

Kirkton of Skene

### Westhill A2B

Westhill A2B dial-a-bus is now operated by Aberdeenshire Council using a wheelchair accessible minibus. The service operates Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm. It will go back to a Monday to Friday service as soon as demand increases. It operates in Westhill, Kirkton of Skene, Lyne of Skene, Garlogie, Echt and Dunecht.

This is a door to door service and we can take you to the shops, supermarkets or for appointments in Westhill if time allows. We can also take you to the Interchange for onward travel into Aberdeen.

The service is open to those residents who have mobility issues or who cannot access a local service bus. This may be due to distance to walk to a bus stop or unavailability of a service bus at the time required. All service users must be

registered with us to use the service and all trips

must be pre-booked at least the day before travel. The service is now free.

During the current Covid-19 pandemic, we can only carry a limited number of passengers due to social distancing on the bus and we kindly ask all passengers to wear face coverings and carry hand sanitiser when travelling.

Time is allocated between each trip to allow for bus cleaning. For further information, to register for the service or to book a trip, please phone 01467 535333.





## **USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS**

Aberdeenshire Council	Nurcon
All Enquiries	<b>Nursery</b> Bridges 01224 744741
Adult Education Classes01224 472874	Childcare Info
Air Training Corps01224 708807	Playgroups
Ardene House Vets01224 740700	Scout Hall01224 742059
Ashdale Hall01224 740700	Denman
Boys' Brigade	Pharmacy, Lloyds – Shops 01224 742742
Childcare	Pharmacy, Lloyds – Silops01224 742742
Breakfast Club; After School	Police (non emergency)101
Club; Holiday Club07770 943723	Post Office (Shops)
Schools Out Club	Post Office (Ind Est)
(Old School House)01224 465202	Primary Schools
Church of Scotland Minister 01224 745955	Crombie
Citizens Advice Bureau 01224 747714	Elrick
Community Centre01224 472874	Skene
Community Education 01224 472874	Westhill
Community Mini-bus01224 744058	Secondary School, Academy 01224 087850
Dentists' Surgery	Scouts01224 746773
Abercrombie Dental Practice,	Swimming Pool
NHS – Abercrombie Court,	Tennis Club
Prospect Road01224 745447	Trinity Church
Business, Private –	Veterinary, Town & Country 01224 741685
Ashdale Drive01224 742513	Water Authority
Westhill Dental Practice,	Westdyke Leisure Centre 01224 743098
Old Skene Road01224 741339	Westhill Bowling Club 07562 696193
Arnhall Practice 01224 849484	Westhill Community Church 01224 737380
Doctors' Surgery01224 849400	Westhill Men's Shed01224 917345
Results 01224 849392	Westim Weirs Stied01224 917343
Repeat Prescriptions01224 849393	Did we get your
Electricity Emergency0800 300999	number right?
Gardening Club 01224 748045	number right?
Gas Emergency0800 111999	Are you missing
Golf Club01224 743361	from the list?
Girls' Brigade, 1st Skene 07792 471199	
Girl Guides07803 439175	If you need any changes,
Health & Social Care Office 01467 537745	I why not got in touch by amail? I
	why not get in touch by email?
Lawsondale Pavilion01224 742836	westhill.bulletin@gmail.com

Nursery		
Bridges	.01224	744741
Childcare Info	. 0800 2	983330
Playgroups		
Scout Hall	.01224	742059
Denman	.01224	743098
Pharmacy, Lloyds - Shops	.01224	742742
Pharmacy, Lloyds – Surgery.	.01224	279489
Police (non emergency)		
Post Office (Shops)	.01224	740858
Post Office (Ind Est)	.01224	740010
Primary Schools		
Crombie	.01224	472905
Elrick	.01224	472910
Skene	.01224	472915
Westhill	.01224	472900
Secondary School, Academy	01224	087850
Scouts	.01224	746773
Swimming Pool	.01224	472872
Tennis Club	.07913	042446
Trinity Church	.01224	742512
Veterinary, Town & Country	.01224	741685
Water Authority	0845 6	018 855
Westdyke Leisure Centre	.01224	743098
Westhill Bowling Club	.07562	696193

# id we get your umber right?

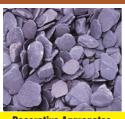
# re you missing rom the list?



# **INDEX TO ADVERTISERS**

Building Trades & Other Tradesmen		Spectrum Driver Training	25
A. Reid Garden Services	19	Westhill Cars	45
aandm Bathrooms	53	Westhill Community Minibus	6
Ace of Trades	10	Westhill Taxis	62
Alert Electrical	27	Health & Leisure	
APC Property Services	49	Abercrombie Dental	78
Aspect Building Design	62	Aberdeen Wanderers RFC	
B. Mackland Builders	10	Ametistic Beauty	
Barry Willox Joinery	74	Beaux Boutique	
Blue Flame Heating	19	Bothy 57 Café	
Bob The Grass Man		Dans Centre	
Bonnie Banks Gardening	9	Diet Consultant	
Braemoral Joinery		Dows Diets	
Chris Western Heating, Plumbing & Servicing			
City & Shire Domestics		Grampian Transport Museum	
Cluny Locksmith and Joinery		Happy Barber	
Cumming Fire & Security – Smoke Detection		Holiday Inn Tribute Nights	
Cumming Fire & Security Ltd		Lee Beauté	
David Massie Carpentry & Joinery		Low & Co Hair Design	
DGR Construction		Pam Dignan Dancers	
		Reiki	
Docea Painting & Decorating		Serenity Nails	
Electro-Tek Electrical Contractor		Sooyang Do Martial Arts	
GB Tiling Services		Trudi Deans Foot Health Care	43
Groundwater Architectural Design		West with Style	66
Hugh Will Property Maintenance		Westhill Choi Kwang Do	81
i-Protech (Electrical & Security)		Westhill Health & Therapies Practice	44
i-Protech Fire		Zen Beauty	19
ITS Fire & Security		Professional Services	
Joe's Gardening Services		Aberdein Considine	26
John Findlater (Skene) Ltd		Acumen Financial Planning	
John Mullen Joinery		Alison Donaldson Chartered Accountant	
K. Milne Plumbing & Heating			
Kevin Allan, Painter & Decorator	4	Belvoir	
Kirkwood Homes	34	Busy Days Dog Care	
Lister Domestic Electrical	71	Dim Bim Cakes	
Little Plumber	10	Doggy Dudes	
Maintenance Matters	71	ESP Book-keeping Services	
Mark Mennie Glazier	15	Forbes Lawson – Tax Planning	
MJS Landscaping	65	Forbes Lawson Financial Planners	
NorDan	48	Fyfe Moir & Associates Accountants	
NYC Bathrooms	67	Grampian Accounting	
Only Heating	47	Kelldun Canines	
Painting & Decorating	40	Luke and Learn Guitar	
Rae Brown & Co. Ltd	15	McCue Wealth Management	
Skene Powerclean	82	Oven Valet	
Star Bathrooms		Paws and Claws Day Care	
Steve Gray Plumbing & Heating		PC Paul	
Steve Mackenzie Joinery		Perfectly Pressed Ironing Service	86
Stuart Grassick Builders		Photos To DVD	16
T & M Slating		Ride On Sports Maintenance	85
T & M Slating Flat Roofs		Sewswift	65
The Kitchen Gallery		Storie Cruden & Simpson	54
Voytek Plastering and Painting		The Cleaning Company	37
Westhill Bathrooms		Retail	
Westhill Bailer Services		Camphill Fish	20
		•	
Westhill Electrical Services		Costco	
Westhill Joiners & Decking		Florist Ann Westwood	
Westhill Joinery & Building Services	12	Foxlane at Carnie	
Transport & Driving		GPH Builders Merchants	
Caledonia Auto Revive Services	72	Midmar Timber Centre	
DJ Autos	77	The Blue Door Charity Shop	
Excel Driver Training		The Flooring Lodge	32





**Decorative Aggregates** From just £3.66



From just £4.99



**Composite Decking** 



A wide range of **Fence Paint** 



**Natural Stone Paving** From just £18.99



**Porcelain Paving** From just £27.07

# www.gph.uk.com













Costco Wholesale is a membership warehouse club, dedicated to bringing our members quality goods and services at the lowest possible prices. We provide a wide selection of merchandise, plus the convenience of speciality departments and exclusive member services, all designed to make your shopping experience a pleasurable one. We are confident in the quality and value of our products, and we stand behind them with our guarantee of satisfaction. For more information visit **www.costco.co.uk/join** 

### **EVERYTHING UNDER ONE ROOF!**

At Costco, you'll find everything from groceries and electronics to clothing and cleaning supplies - all in one warehouse. We're able to bring you such great values because of our enormous buying power, and you get to enjoy the convenience of one-stop shopping. We also have a great range of ancillary services, including: • Optical Centre • Tyre Centre • Photo Services • Meat • Service Deli • Bakery • Fuel Station\*
• Hearing Centre\* (\*not all locations)

### MEMBERSHIP

The annual membership fee for **Standard Trade Membership**\* is £22 ex VAT (£26.40 inc VAT). The annual membership fee for **Standard Individual Membership**\* is £28 ex VAT (£33.60 inc VAT).

To join and start saving please provide one piece of business evidence for Trade membership, or for Individual membership your employee ID card or current pay slip to prove your employment, PLUS one piece of photographic identification for both memberships.

Costco Aberdeen, Endeavour Drive, Arnhall Business Park, Westhill, Aberdeenshire, AB32 6UF T: 01224 745 560 E: marketing110@costco.co.uk

†Sign up for membership with this advert at our Aberdeen warehouse before 31/12/21 and receive a £10 voucher to spend online at <a href="https://www.costco.co.uk">www.costco.co.uk</a>. New members only. \*Membership Criteria applies. Membership must be obtained before purchases can be made. JN28034

SHOP SAFELY AND SECURELY AT COSTCO. Costco is firmly committed to helping protect the health and safety of our members and employees and to serving our communities in accordance with COVID secure guidelines. All of our warehouse locations are open to serve you, with additional protocols in place to maintain a safe and secure shopping environment. Visit www.costco.co.uk/covid-updates for further information.