Westhill Bulletin

Winter 2022 Issue 172







Open Morning

Friday 2 December 2022



Published by Westhill & Elrick Community Council

Westhill website – www.westhillelrick.org





Abercrombie operate two dental practices in Westhill with a great reputation for preventative and cosmetic dentistry treatments and aesthetic treatments such as Botox and fillers.











Principal dentist and clinic owner Dr. Naga Narra commented: 'At Abercrombie, we're all about combining the latest technology and advanced techniques with excellent patient care.

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Dr. Narra continued: 'We know that some people feel a bit nervous about coming back to a dentist and may not have been for a couple of years given the pandemic. We are lucky to have a great and friendly team of receptionist and nurses, therefore we can offer as much support as possible.

At our Smile clinic, we offer intravenous sedation on a private basis, which many patients find helpful, particularly when getting implants, multiple restorations or during an extraction.





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Opening hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am–5.30pm Tuesday 9am–7pm | Friday 9am–4.30pm Saturday 9am–5.30pm (private appointments only)

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

Milne Hall, Kirkton of Skene32

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 spring issue should be sent in by Friday 3rd February. The Bulletin will be distributed from 24th February.

> 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.

2023 advertising rates:

Eighth Page £33, Quarter Page £59, Half Page £96, Full Page £180 Inside Covers £210, Back Page £240

(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.

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Tim Yeomans

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

The agenda is placed in the noticeboard outside Nisa a week before the meeting and posted on the Westhill website www.westhillelrick.org

If you would like to join the meeting remotely a Zoom link can be sent - contact weccsecretx@gmail.com



CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Welcome to the Winter edition of the Westhill Bulletin. At the time of editing the last Bulletin, WECC were progressing activities related to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and despite her subsequent, sad demise we will continue these to completion, and I can confirm that we now have permission from both the City and Shire Councils to name the stretch of road between the Tesco Roundabout and the traffic lights at the

Brodiach Burn "Jubilee Drive". Currently we are awaiting costings for purchase and installation of the signs.

WECC have enrolled in the **Aberdeenshire Growing Living Greenspaces** initiative which has been launched by the Greenspace Project* and is designed to work with community groups to support biodiversity improvements, through planting projects and positive changes to the Landscape Services maintenance regime.

* For full details of the Project see: — https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/environment/greenspace/growing-living-greenspaces/

Carnie Woods is a favourite recreational area for many residents and visitors to Westhill, and I'm pleased to report two bits of good news; firstly most surviving pathways have been brought back into full use along with new pathways that have been created by intrepid users and secondly our treasurer is currently busy seeking possible funding for a 1 km+ "accessible" through path West-East suitable for use by persons of all abilities.

Of course Storm Arwen damaged the woods and caused many prolonged power outages resulting in cold, dark homes. It's now generally accepted that such storms and outages are likely to recur and this, along with the threat of energy disruptions due to the Ukraine situation, have led our Planning Group to produce advice on how to prepare for and cope with power outages. See page 17 for details. This article also has details of the Warm Hubs available in Westhill.

Elsewhere, I am very pleased to announce that the Westhill and Elrick Community Action Plan (CAP) has now got underway with the launch of our Consultation Survey, designed to gather information on issues and concerns in our locality. For our survey to have real value we need to gather a representative sample of views from the approximately 4000 households of Westhill and Elrick so please go to below website or use the QR code to have your say: https://engage.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/westhill-and-elrick-community-action-plan



Paper copies of the survey can be picked up from the Library and Storie, Cruden & Simpson

During the summer our locally based Charity SensationALL suffered significant damage to their premises through vandalism. To help prevent a recurrence the WECC Community Support Fund (CSF) granted SensationALL funds towards upgrading their security camera system. If you think your organisation would benefit from some financial support, please see page 8 for details on how to apply.

WECC were honoured recently with a specially arranged visit from the Northern Alliance, an association representing all eight Councils covering the Shire, City and Northwards; all the way to Orkney and Shetland. The focus of their joint interest was to see and hear first hand, details of some of our projects and how we work as a Community Council; and you might wonder "why their interest"? The short answer is that WECC have been held up to them, to be a very good model of an effective Community Council and arguably one of the best in Northern Scotland. This was a great accolade and pays credit to all those within and outwith WECC who through voluntary effort make it such a success. Sincere thanks to you all.

Finally at the time of writing we are busy planning for our Xmas event on Saturday 3rd December which will, like 2021, be a combined effort between WECC, MAPP town centre management, and of course Santa himself. See poster on front cover. Whatever your beliefs, be sure to have a great festive season.



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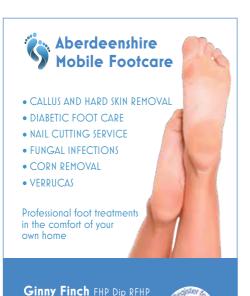
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Councillor Iris Walker (Westhill & District)

Household Recycling Centre (HRC)

Since Summer there has been lots of debate about the online booking system in place at HRCs across Aberdeenshire. The original proposal was to trial a hybrid system at two sites. While some areas opted to trial a hybrid system with open access on some days of the week, others opted for the booking system to be fully removed, from 28th November. Much of the discussion

centred around how to keep trade waste out of household recycling centres when the removal of the booking system goes live in some areas and on some days.

The booking system was first introduced as a traffic management tool and as a protective measure for customers and staff when centres first opened after the Covid lockdown in March 2020. The introduction of the booking system also resulted in a reduction of waste typically associated with trade.

Waste collection and disposal is not included in business rates charges and all businesses across Scotland have a legal duty of care to separate and recycle their waste – the more waste they produce, the more it costs the business.

In Garioch (which includes the HRCs in Westhill, Inverurie and Insch) we decided to keep the online booking system in place at least until the trial at other centres is complete next Summer and data from each style of operation can be analysed. Although not everyone is entirely happy with the booking system, most constituents are and report a positive experience in terms of being able to book a space and to be able to safely dispose of their recycling on site.

Child Protection

Protecting children is the responsibility of every member of the community, not just child protection services. Remember – if you suspect abuse, do not rely on someone else to notice. If you would like to speak to someone, seek help or pass on information or concerns contact:

Social Work – Monday to Friday during office hours – Tel: 01467 537111 or evenings and weekends on 03456 081206.

Police – 999 for emergency situations or 101 for non-emergency.

Do not worry about being wrong: you may only know one part of the story. Other people may know more, and your action could be the key to ending a child's suffering.

Cosy Bosie Project

Live Life Aberdeenshire launched their Cosy Bosie project recently. A cosy bosie can be a knitted or crochet hat, gloves, scarf, baby cardigan, jumper, lap blanket, blanket, dementia item, etc. These are donated to libraries from crafters in our communities and distributed to those in need. Libraries will be receiving donated items for distribution. If you know anyone who would benefit from a cosy item, please email <code>libraries@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</code> and a member of the library team will be in touch with you to find out what is required.

If you would like to find out more about the project go to: https://www.livelifeaberdeenshire.org. uk/live-life-at-home/cosy-bosie/.

Please note that my consultation surgery on 3rd December has been cancelled. My next surgery will be on 7th January 2023 but as always, I can be contacted by email, phone or Facebook. I hope the Winter season is kinder to us than last year. Wishing you a very happy Christmas when it arrives and a peaceful, healthy and happy New Year.



Councillor Iris Walker – Westhill and District phone 07876 475272 email cllr.i.walker@aberdeenshire.gov.uk



Councillor Craig Miller

Landscaping

I wrote in the last Bulletin regarding the number of questions I had received from residents regarding tree cutting, communal areas maintenance and grass cutting. I am pleased to report that a number of areas have now been attended to and many of you have written to me expressing support. Work continues in this important area in terms

of making our town look more attractive but there are still areas which have not had attention. Please do let me now if you have specific areas of concern.

Bin collections/household waste centre

A few residents have raised the issue of missing bin collections with me and off-cycle collections have been arranged whenever it has been practical. Please be aware that if your bin collection is missed, leave your bin out on the street and it will be picked up at the first available opportunity. Feel free to contact me directly on this issue as a few of you have reported that the online reporting system results in an acknowledgement but not a resolution. Local councillors should now be informed as a matter of routine if a route is missed as part of a process improvement change.

The household waste recycling in Westhill will retain the current booking system as part of the Garioch trail area. Many of you have indicated that this is your preferred method and leads to more efficient operation of the centre.

Aberdeen Rapid Transport Initiative

Discussions are underway regarding a proposed rapid transport link along the Westhill corridor in the coming years. This is an exciting development that will improve public transport options for transport in and out of the city. There will be a public consultation on this commencing in 2023 and I would encourage you to look out for information regarding this so that you can have your say. It's your chance to shape the future. In conjunction, Aberdeen City Council website is currently displaying proposed changes to traffic management in the city centre which I encourage you to familiarise yourself with.

Surgeries

Councillor Ron McKail and myself have restarted public consultation surgeries. They are held at the library at Westhill Primary on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 10.00-11.00. Anyone with an issue is welcome, and whilst no appointment is necessary you can contact either of us to set a specific time if you want to be sure of getting your issue on the table. The next 2 surgeries are on Dec 10 and Jan 14, 2023.

Councillor Craig Miller Cllr.c.miller@aberdeenshire.gov.uk Tel. 07788 187521

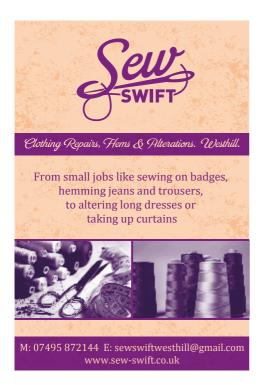
WECC COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND

The current Westhill Bulletin business model has allowed WECC to generate surpluses from advertising revenues over production costs. Since 2011 WECC has chosen to make some of these surplus funds available as donations to local voluntary groups as finances allow, and around £40,000 has been donated to a wide range of groups over these last 11 years.

The last round of donations for this financial year will be considered in February 2023. Closing date for applications is 3rd February.

See https://westhillelrick.org/people-make-a-place/donations/ for Guidance Notes and the Application form or contact treasurerwecc@gmail.com

At the October 2022 round members agreed to make donations to the Monday Discussion Group, Skene Primary Parent Council, Elrick Primary Parent Council and SensationALL.







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Ron McKail, Councillor for Westhill and District

Slow Broadband Connectivity? How to get up to Speed?

A daily frustration for many households in Westhill and Elrick is dissatisfaction with poor internet connection. This situation affecting over one hundred households in the Westhill area is not only frustrating but

impinges on personal use and will adversely affect those who use the internet for managing their business. For those with an issue with digital connectivity support is available from Aberdeenshire Council's Digital Engagement team whose brief is to get home and business users and communities across our area up to 'speed'. If you need advice please contact the Digital team: email: digitalengagement@aberdeenshire.gov.uk. Phone 01467 533704/01467 469322.

Meadowlands Estate. Responsibility for Maintaining the Public Areas Disputed by Owners SIPP

For the Meadowlands house owners with whom I've had contact they were assured that on the purchase of their property the public areas (grass areas, shrub borders, etc.) would be maintained by the company with ownership of these areas. This issue becoming complicated with changes of ownership from Greenbelt to Rubislaw Estates who in turn sold the tenure of these areas on to a third organisation of which ownership was until last week not known to those on the estate who contacted me. A source of frustration is that the public areas have not been maintained for more than a year and of particular concern was the large grass area adjacent to Meadowlands Close. On being asked to investigate who were the owners of the public areas along with fellow councillor Craig Miller we conducted a Land search. This confirmed that the current owner was a trustee of a pension company SIPP based in Bothwell Street Glasgow. A spin off from initial contact with SIPP was the grass area mentioned above was cut a couple of days later. However I've since been advised by SIPP's consultant that the cutting of the grass was carried out on a "gratuitous basis and not as a legal obligation" adding that "for obvious reasons, there is no planned maintenance programme in position or proposed". Furthermore, he is of the view that there is no contractual relationship between the owner of the public areas and the Meadowlands householders. This information and the stance taken by SIPP will I assume be a major concern for house owners at Meadowlands and also as a local councillor this was not the outcome I was expecting. If it is felt I can be of further help please get in touch.



Get On Your Bike!

Cycling UK have made small grants of up to £1500 available to groups who may want to get involved in taking forward cycling related projects. This funding stream is called 'Shift' and using

modules designed by Cycling UK expert support as well as funding to run activities, is available that will help people jump on a bike, instead of into their car. To apply, contact the development officer <code>andrew.campbell@cyclinguk.org</code> for support with access to training, networking and expert advice.

Councillor's Surgery

Along with Councillor Craig Miller we will be holding monthly surgeries on the 2nd Saturday of each month at Westhill Primary from 10am to 11am. The next 2 surgeries are on December 10 and January 14, 2023.

Councillor Ron McKail



Councillor Fatima Joji

I am delighted to use this space to engage with constituents and provide any updates. Since election in May it has been great to engage and support several events locally and correspond with constituents on a range of issues, working towards a solution. I would like to congratulate my old Primary School, Elrick Primary, on their 40th anniversary. It was privilege to attend the celebrations, and walk through the familiar corridors, noting beautiful changes within and outside the school.

Recycling

At our last Garioch area committee, we voted to keep the booking system for recycling. Indeed, we have had correspondence welcoming this system, commenting on its usefulness and ease of access. If anyone has any issues using this system, please don't hesitate to get in touch. On the topic of recycling, I would also like to remind residents of the very useful **myAberdeenshire app** which is available where you download yours. Through this app, you can get information on bin collections and many council services local to the area. You can also report any issues. This is a great option if you have issues navigating the main website and are looking for an app that will disseminate information relevant to your postcode.

Meadowlands Grass Maintenance

As a resident myself, for years we have had issues with locating the owner(s), and challenging the lack of maintenance of the grass land situated between Meadowlands Close and the park. This is a popular access point for many residents looking to go the park with their children and take their dogs for a walk. It can be seen visibly by many residents in the area from their houses. A massive thank you to my colleague Councillor Craig Miller for his skills in locating the owner, which my colleague Councillor Ron McKail has highlighted on page 11. There is still the issue of consistency and legal obligations maintaining this land, which we are working on and will continue to engage with residents on this.

Finally, I would like to commend the Westhill Community Sport Hub for their work supporting the development of physical activity and sport in our area, and wish to congratulate them on their recent AGM.

If you have any issues, I am eager to help and available to contact by phone 07787 955311 or by email cllr.f.joji@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.



YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS

The Westhill & District Community Sports and Leisure
Hub (SCIO) is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to work with
the committee, partners and members to further the aims of the Hub.

Our Key Aims:

- 1. Work with local clubs and partners to promote sports and leisure participation in the area
- 2. Assist the Westhill 10K committee to organise and promote the annual Westhill 10K run
- 3. Develop and drive forward proposals for a new sports and leisure facility in Westhill

If you are driven, enthusiastic and eager to see improvements in sports and leisure facilities in Westhill we would welcome your help.

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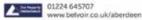
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Westhill Household Waste & Recycling Centre

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Monday-Saturday 9am-5.30pm

ATMs IN WESTHILL

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

Warm Spaces in Westhill & Emergency Help

As the colder winter weather begins it is useful to think about how to organise yourself for dealing with any emergency that may occur such as power cuts, floods, severe weather, fire or a major incident.

In Westhill there are a number of organisations now providing warm spaces where people can meet, have refreshments, make new friends and keep warm. Help with transport to the warm spaces can be provided. Phone David Ritchie on 07989 637461.

Monday — Oasis Creative Wellbeing Café at the Westhill Community Church from 1-3pm. It provides a simple style café where you can meet people and simple refreshments will be provided. See page 70.

Tuesday — **The Men's Shed** are offering a warm place **from 11am-3pm** for all over 18 and it is free to attend. A light lunch is provided plus tea and coffee. For more information see page 83.

Wednesday — WARM WEDNESDAYS at Trinity Church from 12-4pm, the lounge will be open and you will be able to enjoy a bowl of soup, a cup of tea and a chat. Contact the church office for further information on 01224 742512 or Rev Stella 01224 745955.

Thursday — The Senior Citizens Group meet at the Trinity Church from 2-4pm and is open to anyone over 55; the group meets fortnightly in the back hall. There is a cost of £20 per term covering a variety of activities and entertainment plus refreshments. Contacts are Heather Cook on 01224 741194 or Mika McKenzie on 01224 742004. There is a Christmas Lunch on 8th December at the Holiday Inn. For more information see page 24.

Emergency Phone Numbers

Emergency Services	999	Loss of Power	105
Police Non-Emergency	101	Gas Emergency	0800 111 999
Westhill Surgery	01224 849400	Scottish Water	0800 077 8778
NHS 24 Scotland	111	Fallen Tree(s)	via Police on 101
Floodline Scotland	0345 988 1188		

Communication Sources

Ready.scot/prepare, Northsound, BBC Scotland, BBC Radio Scotland 92-95FM 810 MW, www. westhillelrick.org, www.facebook.com/westhillandelrick, Westhill Winter Resilience Facebook

Emergency Kits

Due to the disruption last year of storm Arwen when many homes in the area lost power, residents are being encouraged to prepare a small Emergency kit in case they need to evacuate their homes in a hurry.

Essential items	Additional items that you might want to include
First Aid Kit	Cash and credit cards
Radio and torch plus spare batteries	Spare keys for the car and house
Bottled water and non-perishable goods	Spare glasses/contact lenses
Mobile phone and charger	Toiletries
Warm clothes/blankets	Pet supplies
Photocopied documents: driving licence, passport and insurance	Notebook and pencil/pen



Out & About



We are delighted to announce that 9 children from Dunecht primary School have joined our RotaKids programme. President Margaret Currie is shown presenting badges of office to President Molly Glass-Park, Secretary Jude Reith and Treasurer Essen Hull-Bailey.

RotaKids is a fun and exciting way for children aged 7-12 to make friends and get involved with important activities in the community, all while having a great time in the process—www.rotarygbi.org/projects/young-people/rotakids.



7 intrepid Westhill Rotarians and Friends cycled 20 miles around the Dunecht Estate in aid of Shelterbox on Sunday 16th October. We were favoured by glorious autumnal weather and raised over £2000 in sponsorship to purchase 3 Shelterboxes. Shelterbox is currently providing essential aid to those suffering the devastating effects of flooding in Pakistan. Any further contributions are welcome on this link: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/westhillrotarybikeride.

We continue to support our local community with our litter picks around Westhill. Rotarians, friends and other volunteers including community ambassadors from Tesco have been helping to keep our paths and green areas free from litter – "Together let's keep Westhill Clean!".

October 24th was World Polio day. Rotary International has invested \$2.6 billion in polio eradication since starting a vaccination campaign in the Philippines in 1979. The purple crocuses that you see all around Westhill are there to raise awareness of this campaign and our members have been out and about planting more of the crocus bulbs which we hope to see blooming in spring!

Westhill Rotarians have been selling raffle tickets in aid of Charlie House at the Westhill shopping centre and we'll be manning the ticket sales at the Bon Accord centre during November and December. The prize is a Suzuki Vitara SZ-T mild hybrid worth £23,749, courtesy of C&M McDonald.

If you would like to find out more about Rotary and give something back to the community either by becoming a Rotary member or simply to lend a hand with some of our projects, then please get in touch — Secretary@Westhill.rotary1010.org or take a look at our Facebook page facebook.com/westhillrotary.

Volunteer with us!

Compass Project Navigating healthy, sustainable living

Compass is transforming the former Waldorf School site into a centre demonstrating practical solutions for healthy, sustainable lifestyles.

With four buildings to refurbish and a 4.1 acre site including woodland and grassy areas, we plan to turn the site into a community space with productive gardens including orchards and bee-keeping.



Craigton Rd, Cults

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Want to get involved?

- ✓ Outdoor work: gardening, woodland maintenance, composting, bee-keeping
- ♪ Professional-led workshops
- e.g. dry stone walling sessions
- Join us: Wed PM / Thu AM / Monthly Sat

Find out more & get involved: www.camphillwellbeing.org.uk/compass



Compass is a project of local charity, Camphill Wellbeing Trust. The Trust provides medical and therapeutic services to help patients and their families address illness. build resilience and maintain wellbeing.



Camphill Wellbeing Trust is a business name of Camphill Medical Practice Ltd A limited company registered in Scotland No.SC120539 Charity No. SC01629' Registered office: St John's, Murtle Estate, Bieldside, Aberdeen AB15 9EN



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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 Wellbeina 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 9EF

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What's new in the World of Travel

In this issue I am looking back at a fantastic year! January started slowly but as more restrictions were lifted, the desire to travel abroad returned rapidly. It had been a while since we had been away, we were all a bit rusty, sometimes not everything went to plan, but all in all, it's been an enjoyable year, getting back to doing what I love.

As my thoughts turn to what 2023 has in store, I thought I'd give you a sneak preview of what's new in the world of travel.

ATLANTIS THE ROYAL – Billing itself as 'the most ultra-luxury experiential resort in the world', this sister to the iconic Atlantis the Palm goes all out when it comes to absolute comfort and extraordinary experiences.

IKOS PORTO PETRO – Ikos resorts new ultra-all-inclusive offering in Majorca. Set right on the water's edge, this chic resort welcomes you to a tranquil haven, where adventure, relaxation and indulgence are the order of the day. Suitable for all ages, this is luxury all inclusive at it's finest. Exemplary service and attention to detail. Dine on meals designed by Michelin chefs and sample the very finest of wines.

JAPAN – Japan has opened it's borders to tourists after more than 2 years. The cap on daily arrivals and the requirement for a visa has been lifted. I know it's a place on a lot of "wish lists", now is the time to start planning your trip as there will be a lot of demand in the coming months.

BUSH CAMP – The award winning, Elephant Hills luxury tented camp in Khao Sok, Thailand is a wonderful experience. I have sent many visitors there in the past. The new Bush Camp in Chang Mai, Northern Thailand, promises to be just as popular. Offering guests, a unique experience, learning about these majestic animals in a responsible and sustainable manner.

DREAMS CORFU RESORT AND SPA – the first of the family friendly Dreams resorts to open in Greece. Offering a luxury all inclusive package that includes reservation free dining, top shelf drinks and 24 hour room service. On the seafront, 5 minutes from Gouvia, ideal for water sports and boat trips. Lively kids and teens clubs and plenty of sports on offer to keep the family entertained.

As always, if you would like more information or wish to discuss your travel plans for the coming year, you will find my contact details on page 10.

Heather Reynolds, Travel Counsellors







SCAFFOLD TOWER FOR HIRE

The Community Council has a scaffold tower which was bought to help with erecting the Christmas street 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/text David Ritchie on 07989 637461.

Westhill Senior Citizens Group

We are pleased to be back at meetings. Approximately 35 people attend on a regular basis. It's been nice seeing so many new faces.

We've had a varied programme - fiddlers, singers, Bingo, 1 person theatre show - which have gone down well.

Our programme:

Thursday 8th December 2022 - Christmas Party at Holiday Inn

We re-start on Thursday 12th January 2023 – Sing-along and Games

Thursday 26th January - Inverurie Glee Club

Thursday 9th February - A Band - "All at C Club"

Thursday 23rd February - TBC

Thursday 9th March – Tara Leiper and Banchory Singers

Thursday 23rd March - TBC

Thursday 6th April - Roy Rhodes - Singer

Thursday 20th April - Yvonne Morton



We meet in the Hall at the back of Trinity Church from 2pm until approximately 3.30pm. The cost will be £20 per person for the term. We have entertainment for an hour then refreshments which are individually packaged. We have sanitiser and wipes on the tables. If you need any further information please get in touch.

I have been in touch with dial-a bus and they should be running Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm. You will have to pre-book this.

Contact: Heather Cook – 01224 741194; Email – heathercook@tiscali.co.uk or Mika McKenzie – 01224 742004



The Westhill & District Gardening Club meet on the third Wednesday from September through to May in the Lounge at Trinity Church, Westhill Drive, starting at 7.30pm and visitors are very welcome.

Our September meeting welcomed Fiona McDonald from Rooted in Scotland, who gave hands-on advice on caring for house-plants. Her shop on Rosemount is a must for those who love house-plants, a green jungle of common and unusual plants. Neil Cameron's talk in October on Commonwealth War Graves and their gardens was interesting and enlightening and he will come again next year with another topic connected to the CWGC.

The Inter-Club Garden Quiz was hosted by Dyce Club in October and after a nail-biting tie break against the team from Brighter Bucksburn our team from Westhill won. Many Congratulations to the team of Janice Kennedy, Mary Simpson, Ian Sutherland and Paul Connell.

In November Eric Jensen gave a talk and slide show on Nature of the Cairngorms, and also judged the Members Annual Photographic Competition.

Future Dates and Topics for your diary are:

December 14th – Anne Westwood will be making Festive Floral Arrangements

January 18th 2023 - Annual General Meeting

February 15th 2023 - TBC

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



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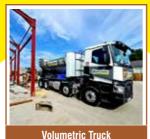
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Skene Parish Church

Maranatha. Come Lord Jesus, Come.

This was the prayer of the early Church, voiced most clearly in the book of Revelation. A longing, a desire for Jesus to return and bring with him, the fullness of the Kingdom of God. We echo that cry each time we pray – your will be done on earth as it is in heaven – and we amplify it during the season of Advent, which literally means, 'coming'.

Contrary to what you might think, the season focuses our attention not only on the first arrival of Jesus, as a baby, born in Bethlehem, but also on his promised return.

The haunting hymn – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel – is often sung on the first Sunday of Advent. It gathers together the 'O Antiphons' – ancient prayers used during the last 7 days of Advent. Each one gives a title, or name, to the coming Jesus. They are deeply rooted in scripture and comprehensively majestic in their reach.

Wisdom, Lord, Root of Jesse, Key of David, Dayspring, King of the Nations, and finally – Emmanuel or God is with us.

When we look at our world today, and the many crises that beset us individually, as families, as communities, as nations – would we deny our need for more wisdom? The kind of wisdom that Jesus showed again and again in his ministry, when he cut through the noise and words of those in authority and brought a fresh perspective on God and humanity.

Would we deny our need for this world's true ruler to be in his rightful place – bringing justice and mercy? As so much goes wrong around us – do we not long for the One we worship as King of Kings and Lord of Lords to put things right?

Would we deny our need for light in the darkness? The title – Dayspring – refers to Jesus as the morning star – that star which appears in the depth of night, when darkness is at its greatest, and yet which heralds the dawn.

The 'O Antiphons' are quite the Christmas wish list!

They were also acrostic. The starting letter of each title spells out ERO CRAS, which means 'Tomorrow, I will be', resonating with Jesus' own response, "Surely, I am coming quickly." As we enter Advent, we join in with the ancient prayers of God's people and look forward not only to celebrating Christmas, but to the day when all our prayers are answered fully.

Date	Time/Place	Event
11th Dec	6pm Skene	Carols by Candlelight
18th Dec	10.30am Trinity	Joint Nativity Service
24th Dec	4pm Trinity	Christmas Eve Service A pop-up nativity "Amazing Days"
	11.15pm Skene	Watchnight Service "Come Lord Jesus, Come"
25th Dec	10am Skene	Joint Service of Celebration "Behold"
1st Jan	10.30am Trinity	Joint Service of Worship

Everyone at Skene Parish Church wishes you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Here are some of our events to which you are warmly invited.

Blessings, Rev Stella

For more details go to www.skeneparish.com.

Milne Hall, Kirkton of Skene

The hall is busy most evenings but we have a large hall, small hall and meeting room available for hire mostly during the day. These are suitable for exercise classes, baby and toddler groups, craft groups, etc. Please see our Facebook Page. Our hall can also be booked for children's parties, funeral teas, etc. To enquire about hiring, please email the booking secretary – milnehallbookings@gmail.com.

Future Events: See Facebook page for further and more up to date details.

Regular Activities:

- Jazzercise, every Wednesday 9.45-10.45am and 6.30-7.30pm.
- Westhill Sooyang Do martial art group hold classes for children and adults on Monday evenings.
 Phone Chief Instructor Dave Bremner: 07970 188825
- Skene Youth Club for Primary 1-7, Thursday evenings 6-7pm, October to April.
- Alba Black Belt Academies age 3 to adult. Call 07818 200371 for details.
- Baby Sensory Thursday mornings.

email: westhilljoinery@gmail.com

 Westhill Guitar Club – every second Tuesday 6.30-8pm. See Westhill Guitar Club Facebook Page and article on page 42 for more details.

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.



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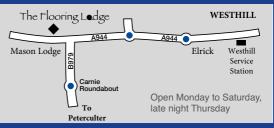
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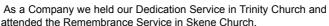






1st Skene Girls' Brigade

We are well into our new session and the girls are starting their Badgework and practising for Divisional competitions.





We are having a Mini First Aid Course for the girls and are looking ahead to our trip to the Inverurie Panto.

We have no waiting list and if you would like to come along and see what we have to offer please call Captain Fiona Cumming on 07792 471199 or email fionacumming26@icloud.com.



Litter Projects in Westhill

We are drawing to the end of our Litter Picking Season. since the wintry weather can make it dangerous or impossible to pick up litter. The good news is that our volunteers this year have found that there seems to have been slightly less litter dropped in our area. However, we do still have some problem areas that would quickly become rather unsightly if the litter is not regularly collected. We need to thank the small group of volunteers who have regularly devoted time to join in our litter picks. This thanks should include the Westhill Rotary Club group who help us by collecting on the same day, but at more distant locations in Westhill. The recent bulb and tree plantings will all contribute to improving the environment in Westhill in the coming years, so please do not spoil it by adding to the litter. Even dropped cigarette ends are unsightly on the ground, especially around seating in the park.

At this juncture I need to say that for personal family reasons, I can no longer organise the Litter Picks. I have undertaken this task for very many years, and it has been my privilege to meet many new volunteers, as well as the keen regulars and I feel that the effort has been rewarding and well worthwhile. In order for our Litter Picking to continue next Spring, we require a new person to take up the challenge. If you feel that you could possibly take this on, please contact me and I can give details and discuss what is involved. You possibly may feel that a new approach is required, and this could be your chance to try out something new and help contribute to the appearance of the open spaces in Westhill. Please give it some thought, as it would be a shame and a loss to Westhill for the Litter Picking Group to have to disband.



For further information, please contact: Raymond Swaffield, email swaffies@talktalk.net.

Westhill Library News

Library Information

Tuesday - 10am-7pm

Wednesday - 10am-7pm

Thursday - 10am-6pm

Saturday - 9am-1pm

T: 01224 472871

E: westhill.library@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

What's On?

Whether you're a reader or not, there's plenty to keep you occupied at the library and you're guaranteed a warm welcome when you visit.

Lego Club for 5 to 12 year olds Tuesdays 5pm-6pm Please book a space

Scrabble Club for adults Wednesdays 10.30am-12pm Drop in, no booking required

Bookbug for pre-schoolers Thursdays 10.30am-11am Booking essential

Alzheimer Scotland
Coffee and Conversation
Wednesday 7th December – 2pm-3pm
A monthly social group for people living
with dementia and their carers to catch
up and have a blether – drop in,
no booking required

To book and for details of all our activities please visit: www.

livelifeaberdeenshire.org.uk/libraries/

Cosy Bosie 2022

Share some warmth this winter

The Cosy Bosie project is now underway, and we are appealing to local knitters and crocheters to donate items which we will redistribute to the local community.

A cosy bosie is a woollen item to help keep people warm and can be a knitted or crocheted hat, scarf, gloves, blanket, socks, cardigan, jumper, etc., in any size (from newborns to adults).

If you'd like to donate a cosy bosie you can drop it off to us or to any Aberdeenshire library. If you or a community group would benefit from the donated items or are willing to distribute them please get in touch.

Spotlight on: PRINCH!

We've mentioned Princh before but it really is worth highlighting again.

Not the catchiest of names perhaps, but Princh is a brilliant printing solution which lets you send documents you'd like to print to the library printer. Think of those returns labels, concert tickets, travel documentation, etc.

Print jobs can be sent any time, from any place for collection within 24 hours.

No worrying about lack of ink: just download the Princh app to your phone or tablet, pay online and pick up your printing at the library. You can send prints from your laptop by visiting print.princh.com. If you prefer to pay in cash, this can be done at the library.

Our library printer ID is 10364.

For a taste of everything we're up to, please follow us on Facebook

http://www.facebook.com/WesthillLibrary.

We hope to see you in the library soon!











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If you're renting out a property then it's important to make sure you are claiming all the legitimate expenses you can so as to minimise your tax bill each year. It is important to file accurately and on time to avoid any penalties and interest.

Most of the time, when people do not fill out a tax return for a property, it is because they are making a financial loss and think a return doesn't need done. This unfortunately isn't the case and it may be that a taxable event still occurs. There are many common misunderstandings about what can be claimed Even in the case where no tax is due because of a loss a return should be filed so you are able to utilise or/and record those losses. Filing can also prevent an HMRC inspection as they will know a property is being let but don't know if it's profitable or not.

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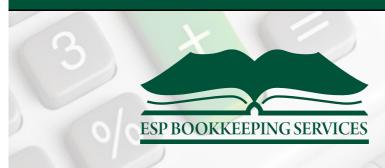
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JogScotland Westhill – running all over the world

It's been a busy few months for JogScotland Westhill since the warm summer days turned into the cooler Autumn season. Our

members have continued enjoying their twice-weekly club runs and have taken part in a wide range of events, both local and further afield.

From local ParkRuns, half marathons and 10Ks in Glasgow and Speyside, to marathons in London and even all the way across the Atlantic in Chicago, JSW runners have been making their mark. Some of this year's Couch to 5K group have now progressed to running 10K, showing a great level of commitment and enthusiasm since joining the club back in February. It's great to see so many people enjoying all the benefits that running can bring, whatever your level of fitness and experience and the club can cater for all, whether you've never run before or you're a veteran with a collection of race medals.

We also like to help and get involved with the local community where we can, picking a charity to support. This year's choice was The Repper Brothers' Fund. Set up to raise funds for brain tumour research after the death of local man Ali Repper, we chose to support the charity for 2022 because one of our members who's a nurse had cared for Ali during his time in hospital and had been inspired to take up running because of him.

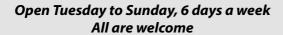
As part of our fundraising efforts, we held a special fun-run night in September which saw club members running multiple laps round Westhill before getting together to tuck into a spread of tasty home-baking, provided by members. We were really pleased that Ali's mum Linda was able to join us on the night and it was great to have her along to meet everyone. We're also planning our annual December Santa Run so we'll be donating the run subs from that night to the Repper Brothers' Fund too.

With winter fast approaching, it's sometimes harder to get out and take exercise but it's often easier if you're part of a group. We meet at every Monday and Thursday at the top car park of Westhill Academy on at 6.30pm, so if you'd like to join us, send an email to jogscotlandwesthill@gmail.com and we'll send you all the info you need. If you're a beginner, all we ask is that you can walk briskly for 30 minutes. There is a range of groups to suit a variety of paces so no matter what level you're at, you'll find a warm welcome at JogScotland Westhill.

We anticipate that you will enjoy a weekly home bake and coffee at this Kirkton of Skene destination, along the footpath from Westhill and Elrick.

Bothy 57's beverages, homemade soup, hot food, scrumptious

home bakes, soft drinks and ice cream are served both from the door and inside, heated by the log burning stove on the colder days. Jill and Steve look forward to sharing a warm welcome.











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The below are unlocked by a code which will be given to you by the ambulance call centre when making an emergency call (999)



- Westhill Dental Practice (on wall outside main entrance)
- Westhill Shopping Centre (on wall to left of Coop)
- Westdyke Leisure Centre (on wall outside main entrance)
- Westhill Swimming Pool (on wall to left of main entrance, behind the bike racks)
- Elrick Service Station (on wall to left of side entrance)



- Trinity Church (on wall to left of front entrance)
- **Milne Hall in Skene** (on wall to right of main entrance)



- Scout Hall (on side wall facing road, behind the bike racks)
- Westhill Community Church (on wall outside main entrance)



Westhill Golf Club (on wall to left side of entrance)



Accessible during opening hours only

- Abercrombie Smile Design (inside)Abercrombie Dental Practice (inside)
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- Costco (inside)
- W
- Tesco (inside)
- GPH (inside)





Westhill Guitar Club started up in May 2021. It started as a small jam circle, where a few people got together and played music. Gradually more people joined the group with different skill levels.

Westhill Guitar Club is different in the aspect that first of all it's free to join. (Just a nominal fee on the night) All you have to bring with you is a little bit of passion and willingness to share your knowledge. It's also open to the public, so whether or not you can play or just like to listen you will be given a very warm welcome.

Over the last year we have built up a good range of songs from Blues, Country, Rock 'n' Roll, Folk and even Prog Rock. So far we have had 1 public performance, at the Milne Hall Coffee Morning earlier in the year, and are always looking for somewhere else we can perform.

To sum up, Westhill Guitar Club is a relaxed grouping of like-minded people, held together by a passion for music and of course, as it "says on the tin", guitars. We play guitars, sing, talk about music, and most importantly, learn from each other.

We meet fortnightly on a Tuesday from 6.30pm to 8.30pm at The Milne Hall, Kirkton of Skene. *Everyone Welcome*

Visit https://www.facebook.com/westhilllguitarclub for our next get-together.



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SKENE MEDICAL GROUP - Patient Info

As we roll round to another winter, the news is full of reports about NHS waiting times, pressure on hospitals and emergency departments, and these being exacerbated by the usual increase in illness through the winter months. General practice faces similar pressures, both directly through the increase in demand for appointments, and indirectly through the impact of the difficulties hospitals are facing affecting the patients we seek to look after. It paints a difficult picture, at a time when recruitment, retention and well-being of NHS staff is at an historic low.

As a partnership, we are grateful that Skene Medical Group has weathered many of the storms of the last 3 years though there has been a cost in terms of the pressure on all our staff, medical and non-medical. We were amongst the first practices to return to more normal ways of working after the pandemic and now offer all routine appointments within 2 weeks, without any triage, either on phone or in person depending on the needs and wishes of patients. All urgent needs are handled on the day by our duty team which usually consists of two GPs and a nurse practitioner. This is an outstanding level of service and compares favourably to what was offered before the pandemic and what is offered by many practices locally and nationally. Over the last few months we have also restarted chronic disease management clinics, joint injections, minor surgery and contraceptive implants and coils. These are important services but do take time that would otherwise be used for regular appointments. The expansion of pharmacy support in the practice over the last years has been an excellent addition and it may be that you are contacted by one of our experienced pharmacists about your medication and some aspects of your health.

We have had a number of questions and complaints regarding some difficulty contacting the surgery on the phone to book an appointment, with there sometimes being significant delays getting through to one of our reception team. This has only been in a minority of cases but nevertheless it is something that as a practice we are keen to address. We have as many as possible members of the reception team answering the phone lines, which are attended at all times when the practice is open. We have, however, had an unprecedented level of phone calls to the practice, partly due to the backlog in hospital waiting times causing concern and questions for patients, partly due to an increase in demand for healthcare after the pandemic. There has been a change to the number displayed when patients are called from the practice or other NHS sites including many GP surgeries, hospital clinics and other community NHS services. All calls display the same 0300 373 0717 number. This has led to a large number of patients, many of whom are not even registered with us, contacting us in error when they have been phoned by other NHS sites in Grampian. The difficulties our local pharmacies have experienced have also led to an increased number of calls. We are hoping to move to a system which allows queuing on the phone line, to avoid the need for people to hang up and phone again if the line is engaged. This, however, is something that is being rolled out by Grampian Health Board and as such is out of our control. Our reception staff seek to help each and every caller to the best of their ability. We understand it can be frustrating to have to wait to speak to them, particularly when calling concerned about a healthcare issue, but it is important that our staff are accorded the respect and courtesy they deserve at all times.

Notwithstanding the issues raised above, if you have concerns about your health please do phone the practice. Unfortunately we do not accept letters or e-mails with queries. If you have a health concern, please call us to arrange an appointment. The reception team will sign post you to the most appropriate member of our multi-disciplinary team, please engage with our reception team to allow them to assist you. Phoning allows us to respond as quickly as we can to your concerns whereas information contained in letter or email can take some time to be processed.

The practice will be closed each of the public holidays over Christmas (26th/27th December) and New Year (2nd/3rd January) but will otherwise be open as normal. As a practice, we would like to wish you all a healthy and happy time through Christmas and into the New Year.



Girlguiding Westhill District

It has been really great to welcome a lot of new girls into Westhill Girlguiding units this term! We have also had a large number of girls move up from Rainbows to Brownies and from Brownies to

Guides. We have welcomed as many new girls from our waiting lists as possible.



We have had lots of varied activities for the girls this term. Lots of fun unit meetings and the girls have been working towards a variety of badges. 3rd Brownies took advantage of the nice weather and explored around Denman Park for one of their unit meetings.

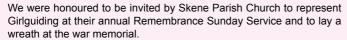
At the beginning of term Rangers (14 to 18 years) enjoyed a busy weekend away in Edinburgh, Harry Potter sight seeing walk, a day at Go Ape Dalkeith, visit to Dynamic Earth as well as experiencing the atmosphere of the Edinburgh Festival.

Our units took part in Pencil Express this term which was showcased in Westhill library on 15th October. Pencil Express challenged our members to express themselves in any way they could imagine using a pencil. There were 3 suggested topics:



- Me as an individual
- Me in the community
- Me and my world

Thank you to all the girls for their creative submissions. Thank you also to everyone who visited the exhibition







Thanks to all who supported our recent raffle to raise funds for Fyvie Guide House renovations. This is our local residential property owned by Girlguiding Gordon and Girlguiding Banff & Buchan. The money raised will go towards kitchen and dining room extension keeping the house modernised for future residential trips for our Westhill girls. The total raised in full for the event was as a whopping £16,567! Good luck to those who entered the fantastic prize draw.

As winter approaches we look forward to Christmas pantomimes with the Rangers unit going to Peter Pan at HMT and some of the other units going to Dick Whittington at Inverurie.

Girlguiding is run by unpaid volunteers. Without their time and effort the organisation would not exist. Thank you so much to all of our volunteers who give up so much of their time so that our girls can have these great opportunities. We are struggling to fill all of our volunteer spaces and have opportunities for leaders, unit helpers and Friends of Guides fundraising positions. If you are interested in being part of this great organisation we would love to hear from you!

Karin Mackenzie, Carol Lee & Jane Robb,
District Commissioners
westhilldc@gmail.com





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Skene Fundraising Committee – Macmillan Cancer Support

We take this opportunity to thank all who have donated so generously to Skene Fundraising Macmillan Cancer Support.

We supported a collection at Marks & Spencers for Macmillan on Friday 23rd September from 11am-5pm.

On Saturday 24th September we held our annual Coffee Morning at Lyne of Skene. We were pleased to have raised a total £1830.05 at the event.

On Thursday 27th October a Bingo & Supper evening was held at the Ashvale Chip Shop in Inverurie and we raised £614.00.

Our next event will be a Burns Supper at Echt Hall on Friday 27th January 2023. Please check our Facebook for more details.

You can follow us on Facebook – *Skene Fundraising Committee-Macmillan Cancer Support* to read about these events. In addition we do place posters around Westhill with the next up-coming event(s).

To donate to Macmillan Skene Fundraising Committee go to macmillan-org.enthuse.com.

The funds raised by the committee remain within this area.

If you would like to be a volunteer or join our committee please contact me at the number below.

Charity No SCO039907
Alison Troup - 07974 790765

Fundraising for



Westhill Tennis Club

The tennis is less frequent at Denman Park at this time of year, however the committee is busy planning for next year. We are due to hold our AGM just before the Bulletin goes to press and as we are currently operating with a small committee, we are looking for additional volunteers to get involved. The roles don't require much time but are vital in allowing the club to continue operating. Please get in touch if you are interested.

Throughout 2022, it has been brilliant to see the courts being utilised by members and the junior coaching programmes. We also held a successful club championships towards the end of the season and congratulations to all the winners.

Our men and ladies had a solid season in the North East of Scotland Summer Leagues with all teams finishing fourth – which must be a first.

Throughout the winter, our social tennis sessions for adults continue when the weather allows on Mondays from 7pm and Saturdays from 2pm.

Fees – our half-year rates (until 31 March 2023) are:

Adult - £40, Family - £80, Couple - £70, Student - £20, Junior - £15, Child - £8

Packages can be found at: https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/WesthillLawnTennisClub/Membership/Join

Benefits of membership include:

- · Free court time for members with online booking sheet
- · Social tennis sessions for adults on Mondays from 7pm and Saturdays from 2pm
- 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

Email: westhilltennisclub@outlook.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/westhilltennisclub

Website: www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/WesthillLawnTennisClub

Coaching: Vikki Paterson vikkipaterson@hotmail.com

Enjoy your tennis!



1st SKENE BOYS' BRIGADE



The new session of Boys' Brigade is well underway. We have good sized groups in Anchors and Junior Section and a smaller group in Company section.

The Anchors recently had a visit from the Aberdeen Mountain Rescue Team, getting a talk about how the mountain rescue team help people as well as seeing the



rescue vehicle and equipment and trying a few mountaineering knots.

Junior Section have been playing a lot of team games as they vie for the squad challenge shield. They have also been working closely with the company section boys learning drill, ahead of the Armistice service.





Company section are working towards their King's badge and President's badge awards, together with DofE Silver and Bronze awards.

At time of writing we are preparing for an activity weekend for the boys in Company section and 3rd year Juniors which will involve hill walking and mountain biking – fingers crossed for good weather.

We have four of last year's senior boys, all of whom were awarded their Queen's Badge, returning as staff sergeants.

We participated in the service of remembrance, and the UK wide Master-Team quiz competition.

We will also be running our usual Christmas card delivery service within Westhill and Kirkton of Skene.

We have no waiting lists, so please feel free to join us. Remember...The Adventure begins here!

Niall MacBeath, Company Captain

Tel: 01330 860226 | niall.macbeath@btinternet.com

For the winter article, we will focus on the excellent work of our Ladies and Junior sections:

Ladies Section - Coaching Sessions

At the end of August, we registered with Scottish Golf's new initiative and ran 5 coaching sessions for ladies to 'Get Confident in the Basics' of golf. These proved to be very popular and everyone enjoyed taking up a new sport in a relaxed and fun environment. We will be running more sessions in Spring and Summer next year. The dates for these are not yet finalised but anyone can register their interest by logging onto the 'scotland.golf.golf' website and selecting Westhill Golf Club. All equipment is provided and no previous golfing experience is needed.

Junior Section - Update

It has been another busy year for junior golf! We have 120+ junior members and our popular 10-week beginner coaching programme was full. Popular events for new beginners are the GolfSixes. Congratulations to our young team who won our League. Another favourite was the 36 stroke Flag Event. In July, we held our Junior Summer Camp. We had some great weather and 24 excited juniors. Great fun was had by all.

For our more advanced juniors playing off the 9-hole red tees, we played in some friendly matches against Stonehaven, Kemnay and Peterculter. For our older juniors playing the 18-hole whites, we had another good Junior Pennant season, finishing as runners-up to Murcar. Well done to all our juniors who represented the club in the inter-club matches and competitions.

For more information about junior golf next year, please contact westhilljuniorgolf@gmail.com.

Westhill Golf Club



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- 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 came into effect in February 2022.

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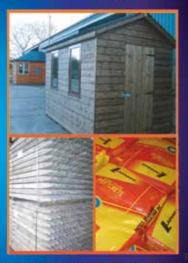
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Senior Citizens Christmas Party

Sunday 4th December 2022 2.00 pm - 4.30 pm Ashdale Hall Westhill

Deadline for booking extended subject to availability

Booking forms available at:

- Westhill Post Office Westhill Trinity Church
- Westhill Community Church Westhill Library
 - Blackhills Court Skene Shop

Further information - email: fsqlog@sky.com









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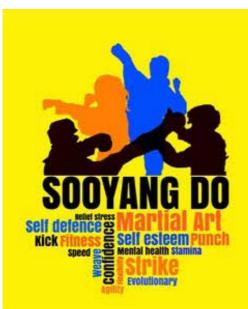


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I would certainly recommend Hugh to potential future clients."

David H, Peterculter

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The classes would possibly be during the day as I teach full martial art classes in the evening. In these dark nights, if you want that little bit of confidence and technical ability along with some light exercise/stretching – join me in using my 45+ years of martial art experience. Looking to have classes in Skene – Dunecht – Kemnay. Send me a PM or text and tell me what area you are interested in – and what days are best for you – I will co-ordinate info and get back to you.

Dave Bremner – chief instructor – 07970 188825

Thank you to all our students, helpers, instructors and all the parents who join together to make this fantastic martial arts class the success it is. Have a great festive period – see you in 2023.

Westhill & District Round Table

Round Table is an organisation for young men (there is a sister organisation called Ladies Circle) aged 18-45 years, focusing on helping the local community with the option to help national and international causes.

The last three years have been difficult for all organisations and it has been no different for us BUT we have not been idle. The Santa Sleigh tour/collection has continued thanks to online donations, and the following organisations that have been fully committed to helping us continue – donations have been granted as an additional reward, the true reward is seeing the delight on the faces of the children and their parents/grandparents. These groups are the Swimming Club, Scouthall Playgroup, SensationALL and the Boys Brigade, who turned up when asked and seemed to enjoy themselves despite the weather – so a massive thank you from us all again.

We entered a team for the 72 hole golf challenge set by Macmillan in 2021 – a long day, first tee 6.30am and finishing at 9.30pm – but an excellent day out with good company.

The Round Table generator was used at Dunecht Hall providing heat, light and a hot meal during the power cut last year and was much appreciated by all.

We have been unable to organise the Westhill Gala in recent years due to covid, as we wanted to keep as many people in the community as safe as possible without encouraging any breaking of the guidelines. The Westhill Gala in the past donated money to the Ashdale Hall and the swimming pool which has been a great asset to the whole community, ran the largest football tournament in Scotland held outside the SFA, local groups have added to the Gala, e.g. the Beastie Safari, Inter School Swimming Gala and the Bike Ride.

The future of Round Table activities depends on commitment from a larger number of people and although we have lost members due to the age ruling this means that we have space to include new members who are community minded and committed to helping others – are you the person we are looking for? The Gala depends on the community, both individuals and groups to make it work. How would you explain to a child that Santa's sleigh may not come this year? Do you have the commitment?

The main advantage to belonging to an organisation is that you have the support, knowledge and experience along with insurance cover for any activity undertaken.

Contact Westhill & District Round Table via Facebook.

Westhill & District Tangent

I have had the amazing experience and honour to represent Tangent in helping to check, box, list, and wave goodbye to a total of 23 lorries, 7 trucks, 2 coaches full of items to Ukraine. I say amazing because despite our own difficulties in Britain we have achieved this overwhelming achievement and the honour (humbling) to meet consulate members from Poland and Ukraine at a reception and heard ow grateful they are of our efforts. The volunteers never forget that the people are brave and proud of their country and deserve our respect. Thank you for the donations in response to my poster at the shops and Tesco.

Ann Hudson



WESTHILL AND DISTRICT MEN'S SHED

make friends, share interests and help our community

FREE Repair Workshop

Bring in anything that needs to be fixed; from a wobbly chair to an electrical item that doesn't work, a mower that needs the blade sharpening or does not start or a watch that needs a new battery and we will have a look at it. If we can fix it on the spot we will. The repair will be free but you may need to pay for spare parts or leave it with us so we can order them in – but it will be your decision. This is being held on **Wednesday 30 November 2022, 2pm to 7pm**.

Last time we did this got 21 repairs in, ranging from woodwork repairs to lamps and electrical. 12 were fixed on the spot, 8 were retained as we needed to get spares and one was taken away again without us looking at it (don't know why).

It went very well. The shed was happy to do something for the community (where can you get a small repair done these days – never mind at what cost!). Seeing the shed pull together and enjoy the challenge of instant repair when we could and finally that a lot more people know where we are and what we can do. So come along and we will see what we can do!



Repair workshop reception

Warm Place

To help with the increase in the cost of living we are running a free Warm Place at the Shed every Tuesday from November. See advert on page 83 for details.

We are co-ordinating this with all the groups in Westhill doing similar events (see page 17). There will be posters, Facebook, websites, etc., with the list of locations, days and times. At time of writing only Friday has no event on. See our website for up to date list of events and locations.

Gardening Equipment

We know the gardening season is over but we do have a lot of mowers, strimmers, hedge trimmers, etc., ready to go and tools (spades, forks, etc.). We won't be doing any more tool sales outside Markies until Spring so drop into the Shed when we are open if you want to choose from a rich haul.

Opening Times

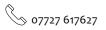
Monday 10am-4pm, Wednesday 2pm-8pm and Friday 10am-4pm.

Why not come along to the Shed to see what we do in more detail and consider joining us. *SheShed:* ladies only, is every 2 weeks on a Monday evening from 6pm to 8.30pm. Just drop in, no experience at DIY is necessary, we can teach woodwork from scratch.

contact@westhillmensshed.co.uk | Tel 01224 917345 during opening times www.westhillmensshed.co.uk | Registered charity SCIO number SC042663



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What a year this has been! Starting off with the gradual easing of Covid-19 restrictions, to the summer festive spirit of the Queen's Jubilee; and then on to the turbulence of the autumn months. Indeed, autumn began with the sudden death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. After having over 179 Prime Ministers serve throughout her 70 year reign across her realm, 15 of whom were UK Prime ministers, there is a strong sense that a page was turned in history with Her Majesty's passing. Reflections on her long and eventful reign will continue for years to come, but most people are deeply comforted by her exemplary life and legacy of faith, commitment and sacrifice. Her life was not just an example, but a lively challenge to us all, to dare to believe and to be. And with Her great inspiration as a thrust towards the future, we gladly share the joy of His Majesty, King Charles III's accession to the throne. May His reign be long, fruitful and peaceful.

Vinespring Church has continued to witness the impact of these events and changing times on members of our community. Moments of great elation soon submerged with concerns about the cost of living and energy crisis as winter approaches. These are truly challenging times. For so many people, the struggle is real; hope is a distant concept. Despair seems to be the resignation. Many are terribly worried about the future, their children, their loved ones. Yet, we cannot by worrying add an inch to our heights nor improve our conditions. The life-conditions around us have resulted in increased cases of depression and even suicide. As we are faced with the stark realities of how weak and futile human effort and man-made systems can be, there remains an even greater reality: God is FAITHFUL. God, still invites us to put our trust in Him through faith in His Son Jesus Christ; to believe His promises, and to walk by that faith. He promised to supply all our needs according to His riches in glory. God's Word reminds us that 'even the very hairs of our head are all numbered'. God really does care that much. But we have to trust that He loves us. We have to trust Him: for wisdom, for direction, for strategies through the times of drought.

Building faith in the love of God in Christ is what we have continued to do at Vinespring Church. Learning together about God's wisdom, deepening our understanding of His Word, and building an abiding relationship with God's Holy Spirit and each other, has remained our primary focus as a ministry. It is to this liberating experience that we invite everyone who may be seeking or asking questions about the times we are in. There is no need to walk alone, so do feel free to come along to any of our meetings. On that note also, we would like to invite everyone to our **Christmas Special Service**, on **Sunday 18th December**, at Aboyne and Banchory Suites, Holiday Inn Westhill. More details to follow via our website and social media pages (www.vinespringchurch.co.uk, www.facebook.com/vinespringchurch).

As the year comes to an end, we pray that everyone finds the help they need. And, that it is a happy and joyful end to the year for all of our Westhill Community, and the nation at large. Merry Christmas everyone, and a very Happy New Year when it comes.

Team Vinespring

Oasis Creative Wellbeing Cafe

Oasis Creative Wellbeing Café is a new drop-in café for adults (18 years upwards) which recognises and promotes positive mental health and wellbeing. The atmosphere is warm, friendly and relaxed, offering a simple way to slow down, be present, connect with others, learn a new skill or just chill out by being there – enjoying the beautiful outlook with a free cuppa. You can participate in some of the activities, e.g. jigsaws, dominoes, origami, painting, board games, crafts, etc., with an opportunity to do some light gardening, kite flying and group walks. The Café offers a way to build up friendships and links with others and is a great way to combat isolation that we all can feel at times.

For more information contact Westhill Community Church at 01224 737380 asking for Leslie or Hazel who will return your call



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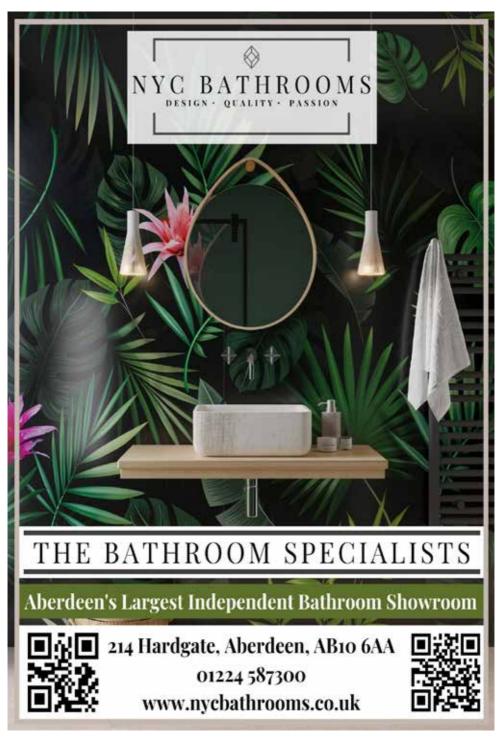
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LIVING MINDFULLY IN A 'TOPSY TURVY' WORLD

The current world seems to be increasingly 'crazy', with multiple wars between nations; conflicts between parties; unstable governments; global food shortages; housing, food and energy price crises. The media bring it into our lives in real-time. Everyone is affected and it seems that we must all take part in the 'mess'. Life has become ever so complicated. Or has it?

'Life' and 'living life' are two different things. Life refers to a healthy body and a clear mind. Living life is an acquired skill for a good



life. A good life is a life that we are fully connected with, a state of fully 'being with' despite the chaos around us. It's not about neglecting the chaos around us but being mindfully aware of it, knowing what we can change and what we cannot, and not allowing events, that we have no influence over and cannot change, to take over our lives.

Mindful-awareness involves being fully in the present, moment by moment, undistracted, being fully connected with the present, cultivating mindful-living in every aspect of life. Hence, it is not some sort of separate life/living but life itself, living a life skilfully and on-purpose, more free from the mental and physical suffering that comes with those 'side shows'. It is a particular state of absolute freedom of mind that was/is the essential part of Buddhist teaching and practice. So, the practice of mindfulness meditation is one of the important starting principles and practices for mindful-living and living in harmony with oneself and with the rest of the world – calming the troubled mind and developing awareness to see how we can live our lives in the world but not be 'eaten up' by it!

The Varapunya Meditation Centre, a Buddhist monastery on the edge of Westhill, Aberdeenshire, is open to all and invites you to come and learn the skill of mindfulness meditation and mindful living. It is now well established that mindfulness meditation is a skill which, for many, leads to a more calm and peaceful life in the midst of the challenges we face. We offer various sessions at the Centre and also in collaboration with NHS Grampian and Aberdeen Health & Social Care Partnership at NHS Health Village, Aberdeen. We do not charge for what we offer and the Centre runs entirely on generous donations from its members.

For more information:

Website: https://www.varapunyacentre.com/contact | Email: varapunya@gmail.com

Westhill Buddies

Are you struggling with your mental health? Now that we are in to the winter period with lots of dark nights and mornings a lot of people struggle at this time of year.

Westhill Buddies are here to help you.

We are a peer support group that meet every 3 weeks in the Trinity Church Hall on a Friday afternoon. We at present are all females but welcome males as have done in the past. We tend to alternate our meetings with 'buddy time' where you can discuss any problems/ difficulties that you are having and there is a high chance that someone in the group has experienced that also and can give you support/advice. Then the following meeting could be a speaker, or discussion. We have had CPN's, OT's, relaxation, art therapy, quizzes and some trips out to name a few activities that we have covered in the past.

If this is something you feel would benefit from, please contact myself on *rhona.stewart@aol.com* and I can give you more information.



Westhill Swimming Pool

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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@westhill communitychurch.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.

Office Hours

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

Services

Every Sunday at 10.30am - Morning Worship

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 is open 10am–3pm
Wednesday to Saturday and we are
excited to see you!
Please check our Facebook page
for updates and exciting new additions
to our menu as well as a date for our
next bistro night!

Room Hire – We have rooms available for hire by both community and commercial groups. Please check our website or email bookings@westhillcommunitychurch.org for more information.

2022 WESTHILL COMMUNITY CHURCH CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 18th December – Nativity Service – 10.30am

Saturday 24th December – Family Christingle Service – 4.00pm

Saturday 24th December – Christmas Eve Midnight Service – 11.30pm

Sunday 25th December – Christmas Day All Age Nativity Service – 10.30am

All of us at Westhill Community Church wish you and those you love a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year





Charity No. SC017801

After the school summer holidays it was straight into our first big camp with all sections attending the Gordon Gathering district camp at BA Stores in the first weekend of September.

Beavers attended for the day, whilst all older sections camped for the weekend. There were lots of activities for the youngsters to take part in including assault courses, crate climbing, laser tag, inflatables, science experiments, pancake making, archery, driving, cooking, offsite water activities, and a campfire and ceilidh. Our young people



had a great time although bad weather on the Sunday cut short the final day. Our thanks to the leaders and parent helpers who assisted us that weekend.

We were all saddened with the passing of our former patron the late Queen. We lowered our scout hut flag to half-mast as a mark of respect and sections spent time reflecting on the life of the Queen and her support of scouting. Scout headquarters will write to the Royal Household at an appropriate time to start a conversation about our next patron.

At the end of September we held our annual AGM and it was great to be back to holding it face to face in the scout hut rather than on zoom! It gave an opportunity to talk about the work of the group over the last year and look ahead to 2023, when we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary in Westhill!

Young people from our older section enjoyed weekend camps in Inverness and also Aberfeldy in the October holidays. 'Cally Rally' and 'Almost Haunted' gave our scouts and explorers further opportunities to camp, undertake scouting activities and meet new people. They all had a great time and our thanks again go to the leaders who gave up their weekends to look after them.

Another milestone moment for us will be the return of Soup 'n' Santa, our annual festive fundraiser. The event took a break over the pandemic but we are delighted that it will go ahead this year at the scout hut on Saturday 26 November from 12.00pm until 2.00pm. We will be serving home-made soup, chocolate and bottle tombolas, festive games plus Santa has RSVP'd and confirmed that he will be dropping into our grotto to say hello to anyone who wants to meet him. Tickets will be by donation for families or £3pp on the door. We normally raise funds for the Scout Group but this year we will be raising funds for 'World Scouting's Ukrainian Refugee Fund. It's a great event to kick start the festive period and we look forward to seeing as many people there as possible.

As ever, all of our camps and activities could not happen without the dedication of our adult volunteers. All of our leaders, assistant leaders, assistants and committee members are unpaid and volunteer to provide our local youngsters with **#SkillsForLife**. We are extremely grateful to them. Due to adult/ child ratios we have limited spaces for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. We are unable to increase the number of child spaces unless we secure additional adult volunteers. If you would be interested in volunteering with us please get in touch.

To keep up to date with our latest news or to apply to our waiting list, see our website www.1stwesthillscouts.co.uk.





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ASHDALE HALL (WESTHILL DRIVE)

During the Summer we've being doing work on our garden and planted a new flower bed. We have put hanging baskets and planters at the Hall entrance. In October we relined the front car park spaces with the help of a grant.

FUNDRAISING

We had a fundraising Ceilidh and a Christmas Craft Fair in November and we hope to put on a couple of fundraisers on in the Winter and Spring. Anyone interested in joining the fundraising committee should contact the hall as we plan to do fundraising for hall improvements. Possible ideas include a local cinema night, car boots, bingo, quizzes, talent nights, booze and burger tastings, ceilidh. But we need people to help.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

We are always looking for extra local people for the Committee. Please contact the Hall if you are interested.

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

We have various time slots available during the week for let, please email the Hall if you are interested in making a regular booking or for parties/events. Our event prices have not changed in four years. Contact ashdalehall@hotmail.co.uk.

Monthly Tea Dances are on the 2nd Friday of every month 1.30-3.30pm.

WESTHILL MARKET (9am-1pm, 1st Saturday every month)

Our monthly market is held at the Hall and we have stallholders selling fish, bread, cakes, local fresh meat, pies, vegetables, jams, fudge, eggs, bespoke cards, crafts, jewellery and more.

We really need the support of the local community for the Market to be able to continue and to expand as stalls will only come back if more local people come.

Most of the products at the Market are locally sourced and made, with little or no food miles involved. Come along to see the fantastic quality and choice of the goods on offer and help the environment.

HALL CLASSES AND EVENTS

We offer a wide program of exercise classes, martial arts, children's dance classes, etc., for full details please see our timetable online at http://ashdalehall.co.uk/current-timetable – these are also displayed on the Hall noticeboards.

ENQUIRIES

For enquiries or to book the hall/meeting rooms or badminton courts, please e-mail Adrian Hidalgo [Facilities Manager] at: ashdalehall@hotmail.co.uk or call the Hall on 01224 740137.

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Are you local? Have great ideas? Interested in building community spirit?

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Are you interested in making a difference in your local community?

South West Aberdeenshire Citizens Advice Bureau is now interviewing for volunteer advisers for our next recruitment intake.

Due to the impact of the pandemic and the escalating cost of living crisis there has been a substantial increase in the demand for advice from members of the public and we are now seeking to recruit volunteers to train as advisers.

What does South West Aberdeenshire Citizen Advice Bureau do?

We offer free, independent, impartial and confidential advice to the public on a wide range of subjects. Examples of regular issues we receive enquiries on include: welfare benefits, money and debt, housing, employment, immigration, consumer, energy issues, relationship issues and legal matters.

When does the next volunteer training course begin?

The CAB Adviser Training Programme starts on *Monday 9th January* 2023.

If you would like to apply, please telephone 01224 747714 or click the link on our website https://www.swacab.org.uk/volunteer/apply or email us at enquiries@swacab.org.uk.

What can a volunteer role offer you?

Would you like to join our team as a volunteer?

Volunteering with us has several benefits including:

- · Flexibility around days that suit you best
- · Meeting new people
- Expanding your knowledge
- · Helping your local community





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) & 10.30-11.15am

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: 1.00-1.45pm, 2.00-2.45pm (crèche available)
Thursday: 9.30-10.15am, 10.30-11.15am & 1.30-2.15pm (crèche available)

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: 10.00-10.45am, 1.00-1.45pm & 2.00-2.45pm

Indoor Bowling

For both beginners and experienced players. Monday 1.30-3.00pm

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

OUTSIDE LETS INCLUDE:

Westdyke Community Club, Pilates, GCRA, Sooyang Do, Men's Indoor Football, Early Learning Football, Sew Swift, Lads Club Amateurs, Zumba Gold, Rugby Tots, AAC and Qigong

DENMAN PRESCHOOL

Monday-Friday 8.45am-2.00pm 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

Where possible please like our Facebook page to keep up to date with latest info For any more information, please email us: westdykeleisure@gmail.com





T. 01224 275711
M. 07724 880194
E. barrywillox83@icloud.com
Kirkton of Skene, Westhill





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WESTHILL
BIKE CLUB

CYCLING
WITHOUT AGE
SCOTLAND

CYCLING
Without Age Scotland (CWAS)
Being able to get outside is something that many of us take
for granted, whether that's part of our daily commute, to
do a bit of physical activity, or simply to enjoy the fresh air.

For many people, however, mobility issues and other barriers can limit being able to get outdoors.

People living in care homes can be particularly affected. Even in care homes with a full range of activities, getting outdoors regularly can prove challenging. That is where CWAS can help.

CWAS is a movement started in 2012 in Denmark by Ole Kassow and Dorthe Pederson. Ole
wanted to help the elderly get back onto their bicycles, but he had to find a solution to their limited
mobility. The answer was a trishaw. He started offering free rides to the local nursing home
residents...and the rest is history!

The core aim of CWAS is always the same: to enhance and enrich lives by giving people of all
ages with mobility issues, access to the beaufill outdoors through pioneering trishaw rides,
access which is denied to so many people simply because of age or limited mobility. Evidence
suggests an improvement in mental health and well-being for those who use the service and for
volunteers.

The success of this initiative depends on volunteers, and as the local
Bike Club for the Westhill & Eirick Community we are keen to support
setting up a Westhill "chapter" of Cycling Without Age Scotland.

If you're part of a group who looks after people with these needs
or you'd like to volunteer or want more information, please do
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Westhill Walkers

Open to all no matter what your age or ability

We have been enjoying the fine weather and long summer days and getting out and about in the stunning countryside we are so lucky to have on our doorstep. Our walks have taken us north, south and west and to hill, glen and coast. They include Glen Clova, Pannanich Hill by Ballater, the Bullers of Buchan and Slains Castle and a traverse of the Hill of Fare. You will find photos of these walks on our Facebook page.

Summer is over and the days are definitely much shorter but we will be continuing our walks throughout the winter. Forthcoming walks include The Firmouth and Glen Tanar, Fetternear, our traditional Boxing Day walk from Donmouth to Fittie and a Brimmond/Elrick Hill circular. If you are interested in joining any of these walks please have a look at our programme and use the contact details below to find out more about them. We have had several new members joining us but are always pleased to welcome more.

We walk on alternate Sundays throughout the year with a choice of walks during the summer months. For more information please see our website (www.westhillwalkers.org) for our programme, walks blog and contact details (westhillwalkers@gmail.com) and our Facebook page for updates and photos.



USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Aberdeenshire Council	
All Enquiries0345 608120	8
Air Training Corps01224 74915	1
Ardene House Vets01224 74070	0
Ashdale Hall01224 74013	7
Boys' Brigade01224 74226	2
Childcare	
Breakfast Club; After School	
Club; Holiday Club07770 94372	23
Schools Out Club	
(Old School House)01224 46520	
Church of Scotland Minister 01224 74595	5
Citizens Advice Bureau01224 74771	4
Community Centre01224 47287	' 4
Community Mini-bus07989 63746	1
Dentists' Surgery	
Abercrombie Dental Practice,	
NHS – Abercrombie Court,	
Prospect Road01224 74544	7
Business, Private –	
Ashdale Drive01224 74251	3
Westhill Dental Practice,	
Old Skene Road01224 74133	9
Doctors' Surgery01224 84940	0
Results01224 84939	2
Repeat Prescriptions01224 84939	3
Electricity Emergency0800 30099	9
Gardening Club01224 74804	5
Gas Emergency0800 11199	9
Golf Club01224 74336	1
Girls' Brigade, 1st Skene 07792 47119	9
Girl Guiding07974 96371	7
Health & Social Care Office01467 53774	5
Lawsondale Pavilion01224 74283	6
Library01224 47287	1
Nursery	
Bridges 01224 74474	1

Childcare Info0800 2983330 Playgroups
Scout Hall07717 442164
Denman Preschool07727 617627
Pharmacy, Lloyds - Shops 01224 742742
Pharmacy, Lloyds – Surgery 01224 279489
Police (non emergency)101
Post Office (Shops)01224 740858
Post Office (Ind Est)01224 740010
Primary Schools
Crombie
Elrick
Skene
Westhill01224 472900
Secondary School, Academy 01224 087850
Scouts
Swimming Pool01224 472872
Tennis Club07929 191816
Trinity Church 01224 742512
Veterinary, Town & Country 01224 741685
Water Authority 0845 6018 855
Westdyke Leisure Centre 01224 743098
Westhill Bowling Club 07562 696193
Westhill Community Church 01224 737380
Westhill Men's Shed01224 917345

Did we get your number right?

Are you missing from the list?



If you need any changes, why not get in touch by email?

westhill.bulletin@gmail.com

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Exploring creative pathways

Creativity is at the heart of a Robert Gordon's College education. The curricular and co-curricular learning available in art, music, drama and technical theatre activities develops confidence and wellbeing. Our pupils have the opportunity to learn in outstanding facilities with passionate and driven specialist teachers who help pupils explore their creative pathways.



Join us at our Open Morning on Friday 2 December 2022



Independent co-educational day school for children aged 3 to 18 years.