

Westhill Bulletin

Winter 2024
Issue 180



Westhill & Elrick
Community Council

Westhill Christmas Community Event

Westhill Shopping Centre
Saturday 7th December
from
4 to 5 pm

Music and Carols with Brass Band
Switch on Tree Lights
Free Hot Chocolate and Goodies

**Bring the Family
and enjoy a
Community Event**



Westhill & Elrick
Community Council



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CONTENTS

Aberdeenshire Lieutenancy.....	10	Rotary Club.....	19
Alzheimer Scotland	89	Scouting.....	90
Ashdale Hall	32	Senior Citizens Club	26
Ashdale Hall Classes.....	33	SensationALL	76
Bill's Gardening Corner	20	Spear Physio Says.....	17
Boys Brigade	49	Varapunya Meditation Centre	70
Citizens Advice Bureau.....	63	Ward 13 Councillors	7
Clothing Donations Appeal	25	WECC Chairperson Report	3
Community Church	64	WECC Community Support Fund.....	69
Gardening Club	45	Westhill Green Spaces Update	75
Girls Brigade	32	Westhill & Elrick Community Action Plan.....	89
Golf Club.....	69	Westhill A2B dial-a-bus.....	37
Jog Scotland Westhill	78	Westhill Bowling Club	40
Kingshill Parish Church	68	Westhill Business Association	81
Kirkton of Skene Community Action Plan.....	45	Westhill Tangent	49
Library News.....	88	Westhill Walkers	87
Lions Club Book Sales- Garage Space required. 20			
Looking Forward to 2025.....	24	See also Notices list on the next page	
Macmillan Cancer Support	37	and Adverts Index on page 92	
Men's Shed.....	50		
Milne Hall, Kirkton of Skene	13		
Photography Club.....	46		

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

SUBMITTING ITEMS FOR THE BULLETIN

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

Adverts and articles for the Spring issue should be sent in by Friday 31st January. The Bulletin will be distributed from 27th 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 07989 637461. Articles should be submitted as Microsoft Word documents attached to an email. Articles larger than 600 words may be edited. Photos can be included but send them separately from the Word doc.

2025 advertising rates:

Eighth Page £36, Quarter Page £64, Half Page £103, Full Page £195,
Inside Covers £225, Back Page £260

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

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

BULLETIN DELIVERY

The Bulletin is delivered by an army of dedicated volunteers. More deliverers are always required to replace retiring helpers and add to the pool of relief helpers. If you can spare an hour or so four times per year to help deliver the Bulletin in your locality or nearby then please ring David Ritchie on 01224 744058.

NOTICES

Advertisers Index	92	Scaffold Tower hire	91
Banking Services in Westhill	4	Useful numbers	91
Household Waste & Recycling Centre	4	Westdyke Leisure Centre	58
Lions Club Book Sales	4	Westhill Pool	65



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Elected Councillors

The four Aberdeenshire Council Ward 13 Councillors named below are exofficio members of the Community Council. They attend the monthly meetings when they can but do not have voting rights. They put articles in Bulletin about current topics (see pages 7 to 9). They are also ex-officio members of two other nearby Community Councils in Ward 13.

Councillor Fatima Joji | Councillor Ron McKail | Councillor Craig Miller |
Councillor Iris Walker

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



Hello, my name is Arthur McArthur and I have been elected to act as Interim Chair of Westhill and Elrick Community Council (WECC). I was reading the Summer issue of the Bulletin and I saw a call for people to come forward to serve on the Community Council so I thought now I am semi-retired what a great opportunity to have a positive involvement in this fantastic community.

I have actually lived in Westhill since 1983 when I came up here from London on a short contract and never went back. My wife and two daughters came with me and we bought a house in Westhill in 1984. Shortly afterwards my youngest daughter was born up here. Westhill has and still is a really great place to live and bring up a family. All three of my girls are now married and they have each lived in Westhill for a period, with some of my eight grandchildren also going to school here.

In the early nineteen eighties, I served on the former Residents' Association and was the Editor of the Bulletin, which was a much more basic document back then than it is now. However, this was before the wonder of Microsoft Word! Since then Bulletin has developed into a very comprehensive guide to our local community and it is now delivered by 70 volunteers to over 5000 homes.

For the first time, Aberdeenshire Council had a common election date for all community councils in Aberdeenshire, over 60 of them. By the closing date, there were exactly 17 nominations for WECC, which is the maximum number of Community Councilors allowed by the constitution. So, WECC is now up to strength and has some new members, me included. All members are listed on page 2..

Residents can't fail to notice the hard work that has been done by WECC leading an army of volunteers to help to make our community an even more pleasant place to live. Work is now virtually complete in Denman Park which now boasts a more comprehensive rework of high-quality paths and new bridges. It is now possible to walk from the business areas of Arnhall to the Shopping Centre through the very pleasant environment of Denman Park. Work on tidying up some of the previously neglected planted areas will continue over the winter with the help of volunteers.

Litterpicks are organised twice monthly, please feel free to come along for an hour, meet new people, get some exercise and feel that you have done something worthwhile. The next pick will be on 14th December with another planned for 18th January 2025. We meet at 10am at the Bowling Pavilion/Petanque Area in Denman Park.

I am most impressed and would like to thank the Westhill Green Spaces Team who are out and about most Wednesdays to keep many of the paths and green areas looking great. The hanging baskets and summer bedding plants were particularly long lasting this year. Let's hope that the winter pansies thrive equally well.

After many months of work and engagement with the community, the Westhill and Elrick Community Action Plan has now been finalized and more information on this can be found on page 89.

We are also looking forward to the annual Christmas Switch-on event on Saturday 7th December 4pm to 5pm at the Shopping Centre. Please come along whether or not you have little ones with you, as it's a fun afternoon to get you into the Christmas spirit.

WECC had a special meeting recently to hear about the process for the next Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. This determines where future development will take place and how much development we are likely to see in Westhill and Elrick. As the process progresses, we will be keen to hear from residents about areas that you would wish to protect and areas where you think further development could be accommodated.

Finally, if you are interested in coming along to a WECC meeting, they are all held in public at 7pm at the Holiday Inn on the second Thursday each month. It would be great to see more people attend, and especially some of our younger residents.

BANKING SERVICES IN WESTHILL

MOBILE BANK

RBS – Wednesdays 11am–12 noon
at Trinity Church car park

POST OFFICE

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

ATMs IN WESTHILL

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

Westhill and Skene Lions Club

CHARITY SALE OF BOOKS, CDs, DVDs & JIGSAWS

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**For all other enquiries and free estimates
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WARD 13 COUNCILLORS



Cllr. Iris Walker



Cllr. Ron McKail



Cllr. Fatima Joji



Cllr. Craig Miller

Low's Traditional Fish & Chips Frying High with Success!

Congratulations to Low's Traditional Fish & Chips shop in Westhill's shopping centre for gaining its place amongst the UK's top fish and chip shops by achieving the prestigious National Federation of Fish Friers Quality Accreditation. The NFFF, the trade body that represents the nation's fish and chip shops, runs the scheme as a way of raising standards within and enhancing the profile of the fish and chip industry. The scheme is a way of rewarding and promoting shops that provide good quality products and high standards of hygiene, as well as friers who show a high level of competence.

To qualify Low's went through an inspection by an NFFF Approved Assessor who assessed the shop's presentation, hygiene and cleanliness, staff training, equipment, frying and sales skills and most importantly the quality of the cooked product.

To be recognized as one of the top fish and chip shops by the NFFF is indeed an honour and is a credit to the staff for their continued hard work and efforts to maintain the excellent reputation which Low's has achieved and signals to customers that they can buy their fish and chips with confidence where the award is displayed.

South West Aberdeenshire Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) Provides Free Confidential Advice to 8000 Clients and Saves them over £1.07 million.

It has been said of the CAB network that if it didn't exist you'd have to invent it. There is an element of truth in this statement in that it applies to a service which provides an excellent and outstanding service as was highlighted at its recent AGM held in the Holiday Inn Hotel.

Last year this charity helped deal with over 8000 client enquiries with problems ranging from debt and energy bills, discrimination, housing problems, workplace disputes and legal woes. In many of those cases the clients were in crisis, for example some were on the verge of homelessness.

In each case the team of advisers – many of them volunteers – provided expert help and support, often resulting in a financial gain. Indeed, if added together the amount of money put into peoples' pockets, through finding unclaimed benefits, withheld wages, compensation or written-off debt, the total amount is **£1.07 million**. And that's just in one year, with similar figures for any of the 16 years the CAB office in Westhill has been in operation. Moreover, that support is not only free, impartial and confidential but is delivered with a sympathetic attitude and a shoulder to cry on. The phrase heard most often from clients is "I wish I had come to you sooner."

Where would those thousands of people have turned to if CAB hadn't been here? And what would have happened to them? And that £1.07million - isn't it better in the pockets of residents who will of course spend most of it in local shops and businesses, thus helping the economy.

Grahame Paterson, Chief Officer for South West Aberdeenshire CAB says "We are proud to serve our community and are looking forward to the future with excitement as well as realism. Not only to try and endure in this challenging funding environment but have the will to thrive. Our clients, current and future, deserve no less. This vital civic advice service is worth investing in and protecting. Such is the stewardship responsibilities of us all.

To achieve this, we continue to work in partnership with Aberdeenshire Council, public bodies and third sector organisations”.

For information to anyone who would like to be a key part of the work of the Bureau, through volunteering, supporting CAB’s work as a donor (corporate and individual) or becoming a trusted partner please contact Grahame Paterson, Chief Officer, South West Aberdeenshire CAB. enquiries@swacab.org.uk.

Westhill’s Winter Operations.

Snow Warden Scheme. Requests for Volunteers

The Snow Warden Scheme was set up in 2018 to promote community resilience and provide support for community groups to help themselves. The purpose of this scheme is to encourage individuals to come together as a community and carry out snow warden duties on public footways. It should be noted that Snow Warden activities do not impact the winter treatments provided by the Council under our Winter Maintenance Operational Plan. Therefore, Aberdeenshire Council does not make any financial savings from this scheme.

The minimum joining requirement is for at least two people from two separate households to form a group. Equipment, PPE and grit is provided, in addition to training material. When there is snow fall the effects can be minimised by quickly clearing footways and preventing the formation of compacted snow.

For more information on our Snow Warden Scheme and how to apply, please visit the website. <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/roads/winter-maintenance/snow-wardens>

Footway Winter Treatments

Aberdeenshire Council Roads Winter Maintenance follows a risk-based approach in line with the national Code of Practice. Footway winter treatment is categorised by a hierarchy of footways (F1-F4), this has been developed in order to prioritise the busy town centre areas where there is most pedestrian traffic. These footways categories are defined as follows.

F1/F2 Footways

- F1 footways are main pedestrian routes in busy central areas of urban communities where shopping and business/commercial facilities are concentrated.
- F2 footways are busy pedestrian accesses routes, linking the central areas to areas of significant housing density, school academies and transport interchanges.

The standard to be aimed at on F1/F2 footways is that these footways should be kept in a safe condition for pedestrians other than in storm conditions. This to be planned to allow treatment of F1 footways to be completed, as far as practical, before 0800 hours. The treatment of F2 footways to be carried out in normal working hours and following the completion of any F1 footways.

F3/F4 Footways

- F3 footways link residential and industrial areas to the busy central areas of larger urban communities and also main footways located in smaller towns and villages that do not have a F1/F2 network.

The standard to be aimed at on F3 footways is that these footways should be treated only after completion of treatment on F1/F2 footways and then only when conditions are severe enough to prevent the safe passage of pedestrians and are likely to persist for a period in excess of 48 hours.

- F4 footways are footways with low usage, short estate roads to the main routes, cul-de-sacs and rural footways.

F4 footways will receive snow clearance only, and this will be dependent on available resources.

Westhill Footways

In Westhill, the sections of footway that would meet the F1 criteria are those that front the shops at the Shopping Centre. However, these footways are privately maintained and are not the responsibility of the Council.

The footways adjacent to the public roads forming the Old Skene Road/Hays Way/Westhill Drive loop (including links to Elrick Primary and the Health Centre) are designated F2 and their treatment will commence at 0800 hours.

Grit Bins, What is Council Policy?

Aberdeenshire Council have provided around 2000 grit bins that are strategically placed around Aberdeenshire for the Public to access.

Through the MyAberdeenshireApp or alternatively on the council website the following services are available:

- Grit bin locations across Aberdeenshire – find the nearest grit bin to your location
- Submit a request for a grit bin to be filled
- Submit a report of damage to a grit bin
- Submit a request to have a grit bin relocated/moved
- Submit a request for a new grit bin

The grit bin policy and criteria aim to control the number of grit bins on the network. Maintaining and refilling current stock of around 2000 grit bins is a costly activity, hence the need to ensure grit bins are only located at areas of greatest need. These locations consider gradient, the proximity of other grit bins, whether the footway is already an F1 or F2 priority and accessibility for refilling. Grit bins are intended for use on the public road network and their contents should not be used for private driveway or garden path treatment.

Requests for existing grit bins to be filled can also be made at the Aberdeenshire Councils website. The aim is to respond to such requests within 48 hours but cannot always be guaranteed.

Aberdeenshire Council Budget Savings

The consultation period of members of the public to comment on potential savings items has now closed. The survey results have been compiled and will be factored into the setting of the 2025/26 budget at the appropriate time.

Thank you to all residents who took the time to participate in this consultation exercise.

Surgeries

Cllr Iris Walker holds her surgeries on the first Saturday of each month at Westhill Library from 10.00-11.00. The next dates are Saturday 7 December and Saturday 4 January.

Cllr Craig Miller and Cllr Ron McKail hold joint surgeries on the second Saturday of each month at Westhill Library from 10.00 to 11.00. The next dates are Saturday 14 December and Saturday 11 January.

No appointments are necessary, but to avoid waiting time you can contact us ahead of time to book a specific time if that is more convenient for you.

Cllr Joji is available to meet residents and can be contacted through the channels indicated at the foot of this

We would also like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year !

Cllr. Iris Walker/ Tel. 07876 475272, email cllr.i.walker@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Cllr. Ron McKail/ Tel. 01224 742095, email cllr.r.mckail@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Cllr. Fatima Joji / Tel. 07787 955311, email cllr.f.joji@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Cllr. Craig Miller / Tel. 07788 187521, email Cllr.c.miller@aberdeenshire.gov.uk/ Facebook: *Craig4Westhill*



Aberdeenshire Lieutenancy The Lord-Lieutenant's Update



The Lieutenancy team continue to have the honour and pleasure of participating in a number of memorable events and celebrations across the Aberdeenshire Lieutenancy. Over the Summer I have had the privilege of attending many Highland Games and local shows. I have also visited many interesting venues including The Grampian Transport Museum at Alford. The museum is one of the region's top visitor destinations and hosts the most wonderful array of transport exhibits ranging from the travelling chariots of the 1800s to some of the fastest cars built. The group are photographed standing beside the 1924 HP Daimler Shooting Brake which was commissioned for King George V from Hooper & Co. of Piccadilly and which is on loan to the museum from the Sandringham Estate in Norfolk to mark the Coronation of Their Majesties last year.



One of the Lieutenancy's roles continues to be to ensure that messages of congratulations are delivered from Their Majesties, The King and Queen to those celebrating their 60th, 70th or 75th wedding anniversaries and 100th and 105th Birthdays. Myself or one of my Deputies are also delighted to visit on the day of such special milestones and present a card and our personal congratulations. Information can be found on the Aberdeenshire Lieutenancy website. <https://www.lordlieutenant-aberdeenshire.co.uk/>

Learning about The Monarchy and The Aberdeenshire Lieutenancy



Deputy Lieutenant Professor Dr James N'Dow OBE visited Crombie Primary School, Westhill in September to give a presentation on the Monarchy and how the Aberdeenshire Lieutenancy works to support His Majesty the King. He thoroughly enjoyed his interaction with the pupils, their sincere interest in the work and wellbeing of The King and The Royal Family and their many astute questions, including about his own work as a surgeon. He was inspired by the teachers and pupils alike, with their interest, attentiveness and enthusiasm.

Honours and Awards

The Aberdeenshire Lieutenancy is keen to know of any individual or voluntary organisation who have made an exceptional contribution for the wider benefit of others in their community and assist in giving full consideration for appropriate recognition. Please contact us at the email address below, in confidence, should you have any suggestions. Please do look at our web site for further information: www.lord-lieutenant-aberdeenshire.co.uk or contact us on info@lordlieutenant-aberdeenshire.co.uk



King's Award for Enterprise

I recently had the great pleasure of presenting The King's Award for Enterprise in International Trade to both Deep Casing Tools of Westhill and Maritime Developments Ltd, now based in Cove. Deep Casing Tools have shown outstanding sales growth in recent years due to their focus on innovation and listening to their customer's needs. Maritime Developments' award

reflects the company's "Outstanding Short-Term Growth" in overseas sales over three years. Many congratulations to both innovative and progressive companies who are showcasing the best of Aberdeenshire enterprise.



You can also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)
search '[Lord-Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire](#)' on each platform.

Very best wishes to you all

Sandy Manson, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire



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www.hiaberdeenwest.co.uk | 01224 270300

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:

Further evenings with music artists are planned. For more up to date details see the posters on local community information boards and our Facebook Page for these and all other events.

Regular activities:

- Jazzercise, every Monday and Wednesday 9:45-10:45am and also Wednesday 6.30-7.30pm
- Westhill Sooyang Do martial art group hold classes for children and adults on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Phone Chief Instructor Dave Bremner: 07970 188825. See advert on page 62
- Skene Youth Club for Primary 1 - 7, Thursday evenings 6 - 7pm, October to April.
- Alba Black Belt Academies - age 3 to adult. Held on Wednesday afternoons. Call 07818 200371 for details.
- Baby Sensory -Thursday mornings
- Mindful Movement with Qigong, Tuesday 7pm till 8pm and occasional weekend dates.

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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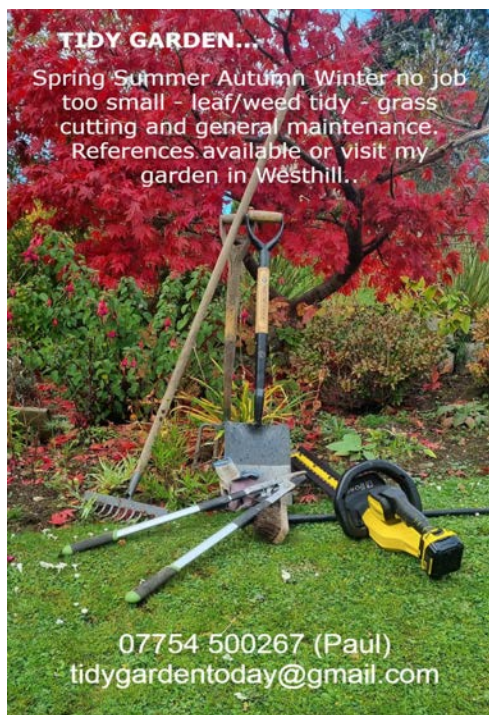
For an appointment at re-furbished salon in Dunecht please contact the following:

Mobile: 07870 731597

Email: pamela.taliho@gmail.com

TIDY GARDEN...

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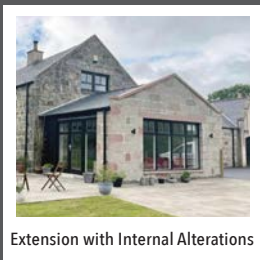
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SPEAR physiotherapy says.....

As we move into winter and colder weather there is often a change in our exercise habits as we adapt to less daylight and cold temperatures.

For anyone exercising outdoors some thermal layers can be required on colder days. If it is not you but your children who exercise outdoors then wrap them up cosy and warm. As a volunteer coach I know cold children are miserable children.

Cold muscles are also more susceptible to injury so keep them warm. If exercising outdoors don't do the cool down at training whilst outside. Get yourself home, then cool down and stretch. Warm muscles are happy muscles.

For those opting for the gym in the winter or a change of routine, caw canny initially. Our bodies thrive of change and being excited differently BUT they do not like too much change of load. Put together a plan for gradually increasing the load and stick to it.

If you are returning to the gym after injury; seek advise from one of our Physiotherapy team. Our team has a great gym knowledge and can help put together a return to fitness plan.

A change of season can also mean a re-evaluation of life goals. Do you aspire to work on your core and improve your injury threshold? Pilates can be a great way to do this. At SPEAR we offer group classes, small group classes and 1:1 sessions for those wanting to work on an individualised wellness plan. At SPEAR you can get give the gift of wellness this Christmas with ideas such as gift vouchers for physiotherapy treatment, pilates and sports massage. We also sell great stocking fillers such as spikey balls and foam rollers. SPEAR Westhill is also a local drop off point for Abernecessities donations. Just drop donations off in our reception area.

Happy training and good luck with all your wellness goals. To make an appointment at SPEAR call 01224 900102 or book online at www.spearphysiotherapy.co.uk.

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Out & About



Are you 16 or 17 and want to level up your leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving skills this summer? Westhill Rotary Club is sponsoring spots for the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), running from July 5th to 19th, 2025 and you could join in – completely FREE!

Through an exciting week of outdoor activities, challenges, and adventure at Nethybridge, you'll develop skills that will boost your confidence and set you up for success. All your travel to and from camp is covered too! Ready to take on the challenge? Get all the details and apply at www.ryla1010.com

Community

Our regular litter picks continue around Westhill, tackling the surprising amount of discarded rubbish and helping to keep the town tidy. Plans are underway for our annual Senior Citizens Christmas party at the Ashdale Hall, where a large crowd is expected for an enjoyable afternoon. Our Rotarians also run a monthly Bric-a-Brac stall at the Ashdale Hall Market, selling quality pre-loved items to support youth projects.

Potential for a Westhill Pétanque Club

Westhill & District Rotary have completed the construction and official opening of a twin lane pétanque court in between the tennis court and the bowling green (in front of the Pavilion) at Denman Park. We are now looking for individuals interested in playing pétanque at club level around the North East or just friendly games for beginners within Westhill. Anyone interested in participating in forming a club or just playing should contact David Dent, davidwdent25@gmail.com

Any Rotary clubs interested in matches with Westhill Rotary, should contact Pushp Vaid pushpvaid@gmail.com.



Social

Our program of speakers has been varied, with presentations on Shelterbox and a talk from Kathleen Tan of Aberdeen's Rotaract Club, offering insight into a fellowship network for those aged 18-30. We also attended a Rebus play at the theatre, preceded by a meal at the venue. Recently, despite changeable weather, we enjoyed an excellent Club Barbecue hosted by Dot and Grant Williamson in their garden.

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



BILL'S GARDENING CORNER

So many things to do before the really cold weather comes around.

Clean out your green house and pots and tools. Start with the windows, wash with hot soapy water, dry with paper; do the pots and seed trays next; fill seed trays with compost. Take the best seeds, cover them with some compost and fine sand then dampen them, cover and label. Next give the floor a good brush, dampen it & cover with paper. Keep an eye out for frosts.

Have a good festive time & look forward to a good year next year.

Bill



Westhill Lions Club Book Sales – Garage Space Required!

Regular visitors to the shopping centre on a Saturday morning will be aware of the monthly charity book sale run by Westhill Lions Club. Since 2003 we have raised over £80,000 for local good causes and disaster appeals. We are needing to find one or more garages to store the books, tables & jigsaws. 30 boxes of books only needs a space of 3ft by 2ft. If you have a bit of spare space in your garage and would like to help please contact the secretary David Ritchie on 07989 637461

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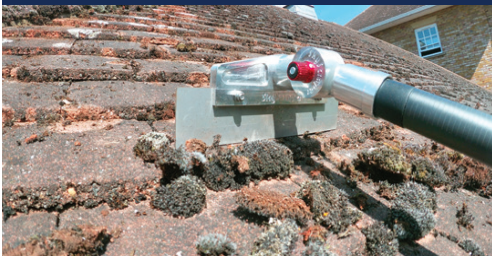
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LOOKING FORWARD TO 2025



As the year draws to a close and the last Christmas treats are gone, thoughts always turn to holidays. All-inclusive holidays in the Mediterranean remain a popular choice, as do cruises, especially with families. The advantage of being able to budget is a big plus for some. However, I am increasingly finding that my customers are looking for something a little different. With this in mind, I thought I would share a few holiday ideas to make memories that offer value for money.

THAILAND - A destination that makes for a brilliant and affordable choice for a family trip. It's a melting pot of culture and adventure, with fantastic beaches perfect for family fun. Thailand offers a range of family-friendly hotels, and the ever-popular Elephant Hills Camp in Khao Sok National Park is an ideal spot for creating lasting memories with the kids.



When to go? - March and April offers ideal weather for a beach holiday.

Cost of meals and drinks? - Meal for 2 People, Mid-range Restaurant, Three-course - £20. Local Beer (0.5 litre draught) £1.60. Cappuccino £1.59. Coke/Pepsi (small bottle) 52p.

QATAR - An excellent option for something a little different, with the added benefit of a fantastic all-inclusive, all-important waterpark entertainment and kids' clubs. I have that covered, too - Rixos Premium Qetaifan Island is for you—direct flight from Edinburgh, too.

When to go? Qatar is a year-round destination, although temperatures are at their highest in our summer months. So, whenever you choose to visit, you can be confident that the sun will shine in Qatar.

BALI - Ranked as one of the most child-friendly destinations in Asia. There is a range of family accommodation on offer. Away from the beautiful beaches, you will find temples, fire shows, monkeys and waterfalls. Your holiday can be as active or relaxing as you choose; diverse activities keep everyone entertained, ensuring an exciting and memorable family holiday.



When to go?

The dry season is April - October, a fabulous choice for school summer holidays.

Cost of meals and drinks? It is similar to Thailand - a 3-course meal for two people in a mid-range restaurant is around £20. Local Beer is around £2.20. Coffee £1.80. Coke/Pepsi (small bottle) 52p.

I hope I have inspired you to consider looking further afield for your next family adventure. If you want to know more or simply need help with travel plans. Contact me via the advert on page 67 - or follow me on Facebook/Instagram for updates.

Heather Reynolds, Travel Counsellors

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A huge thank you to each and every one of you who has given so generously in response to our call for clothing for the service users in the Hampton by Hilton Hotel – you are stars, and your donations have made such a difference to the lives of these young men who are so far from home and in such need. It is such a witness to the kindness and compassion that exists in our community.

Currently, we are especially in need of **men's jackets, sweatshirts / hoodies / fleeces, jeans, boxers, socks, trainers and backpacks.**

If you require any further information about this ministry or if you work for or have a business who would be keen to partner with us in any way, please contact sandramcgregor@westhillcommunitychurch.org

DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT:

WESTHILL COMMUNITY CHURCH: - Tuesdays through to Saturdays
from 10am to 3pm

TRINITY CHURCH, WESTHILL DRIVE: - Mondays, Wednesdays and
Fridays from 9am to 12 noon

Westhill Senior Citizens Group

We hope that you are well and still managing to get out and about.

The Seniors Group is a lovely way to meet new friends and get yourself out. We meet in the hall at the back of Trinity Church on Ashdale Drive from 2pm to 3.30pm. We have entertainment for an hour then refreshments (please bring your own cup). Please note that parking may be limited due to ongoing building work at the back of the Hall.

We re-started on the 5th September and had a variety of entertainment. The Drama Wives; Once upon a Tune; Banchory Country Dancers and an accordionist & guitarist/singer – which went down well.

OUR PROGRAMME

Thurs 12th Dec – Christmas party Holiday Inn 12 midday to 3.30pm

2025

Thurs 9th Jan – Jack Macpherson- singer

Thurs 23rd Jan – Quiz and Games

Thurs 6th Feb – tbc

Thurs 20th Feb- The Critter Keeper

Cost - £10 for 2025

Whilst Dial a Bus is still able to bring the Seniors to the meetings we have managed to hire the Westhill Community minibus to take people home.

If you would like any further information please contact:
Heather Cook on 01224 741194 or heathercook@tiscali.co.uk
or Mika Mackenzie on 01224 742004

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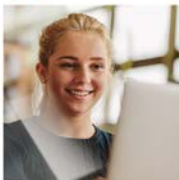


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As 2025 approaches, now is the perfect time to review your pension and retirement planning. Here are 3 steps to ensure you're on the right track:

1 - DO YOU HAVE MULTIPLE PENSIONS?

If you've worked at different companies or switched careers, you may have several pension pots. Now is the ideal time to locate and review these to maximise their efficiency and avoid paying multiple fees.

2 - ARE YOU MAKING ADEQUATE PROVISIONS FOR THE FUTURE?

Review your current contributions to ensure they align with your retirement goals. Are you saving enough to maintain the lifestyle you want after you stop working?

3 - GET IN TOUCH FOR A FREE CONSULTATION

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ASHDALE HALL (WESTHILL DRIVE)

HALL NEWS

The Main Hall was repainted by local painter Graham Christie during the Tattie holidays. A big thanks to him and his friend Andy Innes who provided scaffolding and time to fix our broken stage curtains for free.

FUNDRAISING

We are planning more fundraising this year including a Ladies night on November 29th and a Kids disco on December 20th as well as others in 2025. But we really need people to join the fundraising committee and help come and organize.

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 for those looking for a bargain and those prices are valid to the end of March. Contact ashdalehall@hotmail.co.uk

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

Our monthly market is held in the Hall's front car park and we have a variety of stallholders selling fish, shellfish, bakery items, local fresh meat, pies, vegetables, jams, fudge, eggs, crafts, jewelry 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, for full details please see our online timetable: These are also displayed on the Hall noticeboards.

ENQUIRIES

For enquiries or to book the hall / meeting rooms or Badminton or Pickleball courts, please

e-mail Adrian Hidalgo [Facilities Manager] at : ashdalehall@hotmail.co.uk or call the Hall on 01224 740137.

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1st Skene Girls' Brigade

The girls have been busy entering the start of divisional competitions already this session where our Explorers came in 2nd in a Turn Up Craft Competition and one of our Junior Teams came in 3rd in a Turn Up GB Knowledge and Bible Quiz Competition.

We have attended the Remembrance Service in Skene Church and also our Joint Dedication Service in Trinity Church and are now looking forward to our Annual trip to Inverurie Town Hall for the Panto.

In the New Year the girls will be practising hard for the remaining Divisional Competitions in February and our Annual Divisional Display in the Beach Ballroom in March and then our own Annual Open Night on Monday 24th March in Trinity Church at 6.30pm.

Any questions please do not hesitate to contact myself:

Fiona Cumming (Captain) on **07792 471199** or email fionacumming26@icloud.com



ASHDALE HALL DECEMBER CLASS TIMETABLE

Main Hall or meeting room bookable 8am-10pm Mon-Thur and 8am-4pm Fri for groups

Monday

0930 to 1015 – Mat-work Pilates – Main Hall - Block booking required**
1030 to 1115 – Mat-work Pilates – Main Hall - Block booking required**
1130 to 1230 – Zumba Gold – Main Hall – 07891000836
1300 to 1500 – Abricabeats – Main Hall - 07960443299
1530 to 1700 - **Free to book for classes or Badminton/Pickleball**
1745 to 1830 – Mat-work Pilates – Main Hall – Block booking required**
1845 to 1930 – Mat-work Pilates – Main Hall – Block booking required**
1945 to 2045 – Badminton (private term time) - Main Hall

Tuesday

0800 to 0930 – **Free to book for classes or Badminton/Pickleball**
1000 to 1200 – Pickleball – Main Hall
1230 to 1530 – **Free to book for classes or Badminton/Pickleball**
1545 to 1800 – Baby Ballet – Main Hall – Main Hall
1815 to 1915 – Choi Kwang Do - Main Hall – hello@westhillckd.org
1930 to 2045 – Badminton (private) – Main Hall

Wednesday

0900 to 1000 – Zumba – 07729622489 – Main Hall
1030 to 1130 – Soulsa with Tammy – Main Hall – tammym2786@gmail.com
1200 to 1300 - **Free to book for classes or Badminton/Pickleball**
1330 to 1430 – Badminton (private) – Main Hall
1515 to 1715 – Clover's Kids Club – MR1
1600 to 1700 – Pam Dignan Dancers - Main Hall
1730 to 1845 – Kuk Sool Won – Main Hall - 07983981172
1915 to 2045 – Line Dancing – Main Hall – (term time)

Thursday

0800 to 0900 - **Free to book for classes or Badminton/Pickleball**
0930 to 1730 – Footstars – Main Hall – 9.30am-12.00pm, 2.00-2.45pm, 4.00-5.30pm,
http://www.Footstars.co.uk
1800 to 1900 – Choi Kwang Do - Main Hall – hello@westhillckd.org
1915 to 2115 – Badminton – Main Hall – Spaces available for players

Friday

0830 to 0915 – Mat-work Pilates – Main Hall - block booking required**
0930 to 1015 – Mat-work Pilates – Main Hall - block booking required**
1030 to 1115 – Mat-work Pilates – Main Hall - block booking required**
1130 to 1600 - **Free to book classes or Badminton/Pickleball. Book events from 12pm.**

Saturday

0900 to 1200 – Rugby tots – Main Hall - 07970690204
1230-1530 **Free to book for long term classes or for parties and events.**

Sunday - Free to book for parties and events after 2pm.

1000 to 1300 – Higher Ground Assembly – Main Hall

**All Mat-work Pilates Classes marked with an asterisk need to be block booked in advance, contact Annette on annette.macpherson@gmail.com or 07817 736525, or website www.westhill.physiotherapy.co.uk

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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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Skene Fundraising Committee -Macmillan Cancer Support

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

If you hold an event or take part in an event in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support you can pass the proceeds you raise to the Skene Fundraising Committee and this will ensure the funding will remain in the Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen area. Please contact us for further information on email : macmillanskenefundraising@gmail.com

- Three local women took part in the Aberdeen Kiltwalk and raised £1643.
- A local women did Brave the Shave and raised the amazing amount of £2553.
- A birthday party raised £900.

All money raised came through Skene Fundraising Committee and will remain in this area for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Our other events this year since the last Bulletin:-

- Echt Agricultural Show on Saturday 13/07/24, raised £287.70
- We were asked to run the Garlogie Hall Community Café on Wednesday 18/09/24 and raised £672.20.
- The Macmillan Coffee Morning held on 28/09/24 at Lyne of Skene Hall raised £ 2052.32.
- The Ashvale Inverurie Bingo Night 10/10/24 raised £637.00
- We have also received numerous other donations in addition to our fund raising events from individuals, families, groups and schools and thank them all. We are pleased to say £19,700 has been raised so far in 2024.

Please follow us on facebook: Macmillan Cancer Support-Skene Fundraising Committee to read about these events and future 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 **Fundraising for**
:-macmillan-org.enthuse.com

The funds raised by the committee remains within this area. If you would like to be a volunteer for events or join our committee please contact [Alison Troup -07974 790765](mailto:Alison.Troup-07974.790765) or macmillanskenefundraising@gmail.com

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WESTHILL A2B

Westhill A2B is a council operated minibus service providing travel for shopping or other local services or facilities. The service is free to use and is available for people that have difficulty walking, people with other disabilities or residents who don't live near a regular bus route.

This A2B service offers low floor and wheelchair accessible transport. It operates Monday to Friday in Westhill, Elrick and Kirkton of Skene.

First pick-up from 9:30am, last drop-off by 2:30pm.

You must book your journeys on this door-to-door service and can book up to 7 days before travel or 14 days for health-related trips, but no later than the day before travel.

To make a booking please call the A2B dial-a-bus hotline on 01467 535333 or email a2bdialabus@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.

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WESTHILL BOWLING CLUB

With our outdoor bowling season having ended in September there is not much bowling news to report.

Late September and October is generally a time when we can get some work done on the green to see it through the winter in as good a condition as possible to be ready for play in April. This year has been no different, and aided by some fine autumn weather we completed the works in good time. Those of you who walk past the green will have

noticed that we have removed the old leaky irrigation water tank and replaced with a new plastic alternative. We thank Vahid and Azad, two asylum seekers, for their assistance with the physical work in removing the old rusty tank. Hopefully, the new tank will give us many years of trouble free service.

We are also planning some works to raise and level the green edges and improve the looks of the surrounding banks. This will be an expensive operation and what we can achieve will be dependent on what external funding and grants we can receive.

We really want to improve the green experience for all players including the many guest players we host over the course of a season. A quick mental count up gave an estimate of around one thousand playing visitors over a season.

Over the next two years Westhill BC will hold the Vice Presidency and then the Presidency of the Bon Accord Bowling Association. This means we will be staging the later stages of Bon Accord competitions, meaning even more visiting players and spectators.



One notable success of 2024 was winning the local area Top Ten competition. *(pictured above)* This leads on to us playing in the 2025 national competition. The draw has been kind to us in that we were the first name out of the hat and all our games, up to the semi-final, will be at home. We are due to play Craightinny BC from Edinburgh in the first round in May 2025. They are a big club and a strong team. We look forward to the challenge. 2025 promises to be a busy and exciting year.

As we approach Christmas many of you will have the perennial question of "what will I get (you add the name) for Christmas". I know that in my family we have this same stress every year. So here is a suggestion for you. Get them a membership of Westhill Bowling Club. It's good for any age from about 10 upwards, male or female. It will be gift that never stops giving for many, many years. The lucky recipients will enjoy gentle outdoor exercise, great camaraderie, friendly sporting activity and the chance to meet a much larger circle of friends. We have friendly matches as well as competitive matches against other clubs in the Aberdeen area and the wider Aberdeenshire area which gives even more opportunity to expand horizons visiting different locations. All this and you will have enough change out of £50 to buy a gift card. (Change out of £10 for juniors). What's not to like.

If you or anyone you know would like to come and join us and be part of our ongoing story of bowling in the Westhill area please do not hesitate to get in touch by e mail robert.mutch@btinternet.com or telephone 07562 696193 and I'll send you the necessary details.

Westhill Bowling Club wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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SJP Approved 23/07/2024

SJP15020c_DS B1 (07/24)

WESTHILL AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

The Westhill and District Gardening Club meet on the third Wednesday of each month in the lounge at Trinity Church, Westhill. 7.30pm from September to May.

We are always happy to welcome new members who wish to learn more about gardening and nature related activities in the local area and the wider world too.

Wednesday 11th December is a Christmas floral art demonstration with Ann Westwood.

Wednesday 15th January 2025 is our AGM to which all members are welcome.

Wednesday 19th February we welcome our speaker Helen Rowe who will talk to us about butterflies and moths.

It is with sadness we announce the passing of our long-standing member June Dolman. June was a great supporter of the Gardening Club, and was involved with the RHS show on numerous occasions, on behalf of the club. She willingly shared her floral art craft with us and also ran a floral art class in Westhill.

If you would like further information on the Gardening Club, please contact:-
Press officer – Ann Westwood at ann1.westwood@btinternet.com



Community Action Plan for Kirkton of Skene

Update on Road Safety

Safety of our roads was one of the priorities identified through the residents' questionnaire. Therefore, the CAP steering group requested a review by the Road Safety Unit of Aberdeenshire Council. The unit was briefed on the specific concerns which had been raised by residents.

The safety review has now been completed, covering the village itself, the half mile to Skene School, Barclay's Brae and the Old Skene Road beyond Kesson Gardens. It involved research into records of vehicle speeds and accidents, plus a detailed site visit.

If you would like a copy of the whole report, please contact us (below). Copies will also be available at Bothy 57.

The Road Safety Engineers' recommendations fall into four categories:

1. Monitor and refresh centre line markings at the corner beside Bothy 57 to discourage close passing of vehicles.
2. Remove the hedge around the car park to improve visibility. Install a fence to encourage pedestrians to cross the road away from the corner.
3. Cut back foliage which affects visibility at Kesson Gardens and Manse Road junctions.
4. Install line markings and bollards in the car park to direct cars away from where pedestrians (especially children) enter the car park from the play park or the Milne Hall.

Some of this work may require us to identify funding. Before any of these recommendations is taken forward, we would be grateful for the views of residents and other road users. Please give us your thoughts via the contact details below. **Keeping in touch**

If you have any questions/comments about the Community Action Plan, or would like to get involved, please e-mail us on KirktonOfSkeneCAP@gmail.com. Alternatively, write to us via the Milne Hall letter box.

Kirkton of Skene CAP Steering Group

We started our new session in August by taking advantage of the light evenings with location shoots in and around Aberdeen practising our landscape and street photography.

In September we tried some sports photography with a trip to the Mountain Bike Trails at Burnett Park, Banchory. As well as plenty of fresh air and exercise we managed to get some great action shots.



In October we had the opportunity of a guided tour round the Bon Accord Baths. The B-Listed building is currently part of a community led restoration project. The Baths were an excellent subject for architecture photography and a nostalgic trip down memory lane for many of our members. Add pic 1

October also saw the Hunter's moon, the third supermoon of the year. For this we headed to Dunnottar to photograph the moon rising behind the castle. We were lucky with the weather getting enough breaks in the cloud to capture those big moon shots.



Now that the dark nights are upon us our meetings will be indoors at the Milne Hall. One exception will be a trip into Aberdeen to photograph the Christmas lights and market. To round off our current session a Christmas night out is also planned.

We welcome new members at any time of the year. If this sounds like something you would enjoy then please contact Westhill.Photography@outlook.com. We meet at the Milne Hall, Kirkton of Skene on a Thursday night from 7 - 9pm.



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1st Skene Boys' Brigade



The new session has started well with good numbers in all sections. Anchors have been very active with a hike up Brimmond Hill. Junior section and Company section has focussed on physical challenges and team games: Pirates is always a favourite. We currently have 4 helpers going

through Youth Leader Training. This will greatly increase our flexibility and also lower the average age of the officers considerably!

In September 1st Skene's Jason Collie was selected by the Aberdeen & District BB Battalion to be part of the colour squad presenting the BB colours to His Majesty the King at the Braemar gathering - a proud moment for us all.



October saw us say farewell to our trusty minibus - but it has found a new home with the Westhill and District Community Minibus group so is still available for those who used to use it. Contact David Ritchie on 07989 637461.

November saw our participation in the service of remembrance at Skene Kirk as well as our annual dedication service. In December we will have our usual Christmas card delivery service in Westhill and Kirkton of Skene. With postal costs ever increasing this is a great way to save money whilst helping us to fund our activities. Collection boxes are in Skene Kirk and Trinity Church.

We still have places for anyone interested so feel free to come along and give it a go - just contact me for details.

Niall MacBeath - Company Captain

Contact: niall.macbeath@btinternet.com or via our Facebook page: 1st Skene-Westhill Boys' Brigade

Westhill Tangent

As part of the commitment to help in Ukraine (<https://tash4ukraine.weebly.com>) I am humbled to see the amount of Christmas boxes (1000) ready for transporting to the orphanages and shelters in the country. The boxes were filled with various items e.g. pencils, notebooks, puzzles, cards, toothpaste and brushes, hat, gloves and socks to name but a few of the items. The work at TASH-based in Errol- is undertaken by local volunteers, Ukrainians and various groups throughout Scotland who collect and check donations. There has recently been a wishlist set up through Amazon.

There are many other parts of the world that require/need help and any help (as I am sure other charitable organisations will confirm) is better than none. THANK YOU.
It is at moments like this that my faith in the human race returns.

Donations can be dropped off at 12 Leddach Gardens, Westhill
Ann Hudson, tel. 01224 740080



Westhill & District Men's Shed

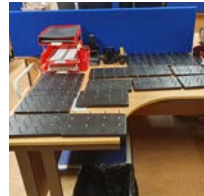
Make friends, share interests and help our community

We have been a bit at sixes and sevens lately. To catch up we have a couple of events in November that will be passed by the time you read this: a Xmas lunch at the shed and our last tool sale of the year. You can call in the shed anytime you want something, so missing the tool sale is not the end of the world, and we will dig it out (or phone and ask to save traveling on 01224 917345)

Raffle The raffle is going well. Bring the books back to the shed to pay.

Twiddle Boards

The SheShed made some "twiddle boards" for rehabilitation for stroke victims. They run the nuts onto and off the bolts to improve dexterity. The elastic band boards help improve motor control in other ways. Several physiotherapy departments wanted some and in the end 15 of each were made and handed over free of charge.



Tree bench

This strange bench is made in two parts so final assembly can be done around a tree. The customer wants to paint it themselves.

Westhill sensory garden

We were also delighted to be asked to make the 'furniture' for a preschool sensory garden.



Engineering shop

This continues to be very busy.



We have an excellent relationship with Aberdeenshire Council guys at the recycling centre in Westhill. They look out mowers, strimmers and many other tools; we pick these up and on occasion have refurbished a mower and put them for sale within a few hours. The pictures show a mower being worked on and a very old (but the owner says very good) pair of loppers being repaired on the pillar drill.

Opening Times

Monday 10am - 4pm, Wednesday 2pm – 8pm, Friday 10am - 4pm

Why not come along to the Shed and joining us- it is free and you will be helping the community.

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Westdyke Leisure Centre

Facility Bookings:

The following are available to book at the centre:

- Main hall
- Coffee Room
- Kitchen facilities
- Pitches - Football and Rugby
(Inside Changing Rooms available)



The centre is available for parties, one off sessions and block booking if holding classes. Contact us by email to arrange bookings, to view the spaces, or for more information on ***DenmanCC@hotmail.com***

Office hours 8:30am to 2:30 pm Tel: 07565 912522



Classes/ Activities available:

- Aglow Sports Konsult Denman
- Toddlers Group Elle
- Arts
- Guitar Lessons with Matthew Lunan
- Men's Indoor Football
- Mindfulness with Qigong
- Rehab and Physical Activity Class
- Slimming World
- Pilates
- Westdyke Community Club (FC)
- Westhill Table Tennis Club.



Like our Facebook page for the most up to date information

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For more information: denmanpg@hotmail.co.uk



Denman Pre-school

Denman Toddlers Group

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Contact us

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Everyone is welcome to join us for any of our services and meetings. Sunday morning worship is at 10.30 am, followed by refreshments. If you are unable to attend in person, please feel free to join us online, or follow the service later via our YouTube channel. Full details and links can be found at www.westhillcommunitychurch.org



Our Minister

Our minister, Dave McCarthy, joined our church in March 2024. Before joining us, he served churches in Edinburgh and Glasgow. His passion is to serve local communities but above all to share the love of Jesus Christ and to let everyone know that they are welcomed by God. His office door at the church is often open, so please feel free to drop in!

Dave can be contacted at dave@westhillchurch.org

Church Office

You can call our office on 01224 737380 or email office@westhillcommunitychurch.org

Room Hire

We have rooms available for hire by both community and commercial groups. For more information, please check our website or email bookings@westhillcommunitychurch.org

Food Bank

Contact the team on 07379 836380 or email foodbank@westhillcommunitychurch.org

Other Assistance

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



The Green Pastures Café

Our café is open 10am – 3pm Tuesday to Saturday and we are pleased 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!

No prior booking required



Special Services & Events for Christmas

You will be welcome at our services & events over the Christmas and New-Year period.

- | | | |
|--------|----------|--|
| 15 Dec | 10.30 am | Nativity Service |
| 15 Dec | 6.45 pm | Carols in the Cafe
(in the Green Pastures Café) |
| 22 Dec | 6pm | Beer & Carols at Broadstrait Inn |
| 24 Dec | 4pm | Christingle
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christingle |
| 24 Dec | 11.30 pm | Watchnight Communion |
| 25 Dec | 10.30 am | Christmas Day All-Age |
| 31 Dec | 11pm | New Year Crossover |
| 5 Jan | 10.30 am | New Year All-Age |



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"Our job is to stay open and gentle, so we can hear the knocking on the door of our heart when it comes. The irony is that I never meet anyone who doesn't want to be loved or held or forgiven. Yet I meet a lot of folk who hate religion. And I so sympathise. But so did Jesus. In fact, He didn't just sympathise, He went much further. It seems more like this Jesus came to destroy religion and to bring life." Bear Grylls, Mud, Sweat and Tears



Westhill Swimming Pool

Hot Sun, Cool Fun: Dive and Refresh!

Your local pool in Westhill would love you to come and join a swim session. The timetable offers something for everyone. From the lane swimmer who powers through to the family who wants to play and increase water confidence. Locals have told us that the deep-water swim is great for their mobility and wellbeing.

Have you looked at our timetable or looked at which sessions you could attend? Our staff can help you find a session that suits your needs. To ensure a place in a session, you can book through our App or website. If you need help with booking, the pool staff can assist.

We are always pleased to see you - you can walk in and often you will get a space during a session. The pool offers a warm sitting area and Wi-Fi while you wait.

We have a suggestion box at reception please help us know your thoughts.

Timetable

(Via Facebook)



Deep water swim – suitable for anyone who is confident in deep water – this is a 15m length swim.

Pool Play Session - aimed towards family groups where the floor is raised and the large floats and toys are out.

Lunchtime Swims - Monday to Friday from 12pm.

Early Morning Swims - Tuesday-Thursday from 6am.

Tel: 01467 536994 Email: westhill.swimmingpool@aberdeenshire.gov.uk Facebook: @westhillpool

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Kingshill Parish Church

We still are seeking a new minister to replace Rev Stella, but have Rev Mark Rodgers, formerly hospital Chaplain, working with us as a locum. Our Deacon Fiona Blair and ministry workers Callum Ross & Stuart Harbinson are also working hard to keep things ticking over in the congregation.

We are having a lot of work done at Trinity with our Office Annex at the rear progressing and various other upgrading works with new Solar panels, and heating improvements. Hopefully the surface of the new rear car park will be completed by the time you read this as parking has been challenging over the last few months. Please can people coming to our events at Trinity continue to avoid parking at the Ashdale Hall who have their own events running.

We have a packed timetable of services coming up over Advent so please come and join us. Merry Christmas to you all.

Eva Will (Church Secretary)

Christmas Services in Kingshill Parish



Sunday 1st Dec 10.30am	Skene Kirk	1st Sunday in Advent
Sunday 8th Dec 10.30am	Skene Kirk	2nd Sunday in Advent
Friday 13th Dec 7.15pm	Kingswells Community Centre	Kingswells Community Carol Concert
Sunday 15th Dec 10.30 am	Skene Kirk	3rd Sunday in Advent
Sunday 15th Dec 2pm	Trinity Church	Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance (joint with Berridale Funeral Directors)
Sunday 22nd Dec 10.30 am	Trinity Church	4th Sunday – Nativity Service
Tuesday 24th Dec 6pm	Trinity Church	Pop-up Nativity for all ages (Dress up as your favourite character from the Nativity!)
Tuesday 24th Dec 11.15pm	Kingswells Village Hall	All age Christingle Service
Tuesday 24th Dec 6pm	Skene Kirk	Watchnight Service
Wednesday 25th 10am	Skene Kirk	Christmas Day worship
Sunday 29th Dec 10.30am	Skene Kirk	Sunday worship



Goodness, time for the Winter Bulletin already. It has been a very full year at the Golf Club. Our normal programme of fixtures has now reached its end, and we are looking forward to our prizegiving where we can, no-doubt, congratulate and commiserate with each other in equal measure. Our Opens have been very popular this year and attracted visitors from across the country (even a few from further away). Our Corporate Members have all made the most of their outings

to the course and visitors and outing groups have been welcomed throughout the year. We have also had some very popular social events ranging from Burns Night to Undercover Oasis. Two upcoming events, The Christmas Fayre and Christmas Part Night seem to have sold out already. All in all, a very busy year.

Golf doesn't stop just because the season is over. The few days at the beginning of November were perfect golfing weather but throughout the winter the stalwarts will get wrapped up and go out even on the coldest days. In fact, our winter membership offers have been very popular this year, giving people the opportunity to try out the course before they decide whether to commit to membership, so perhaps people are just looking for ways to make the most of the opportunity to get out. Of course it is good exercise, but for many the chance to meet friends and perhaps come in to the Clubhouse afterwards for a hot bowl of soup and a good chat is just as important.

I saw an item on the news recently about the rising popularity of "competitive socialising". That doesn't surprise me. It is what lies at the heart of club membership after all, whether you choose golf, football, rugby, darts, whatever. Yes, we all like to win if we can, but for most of us the social aspect of membership is just as important. So, Westhill Golf Club welcomes all our members and visitors. Come along, enjoy the competition, but don't forget the benefit of socialising as well.

Karen Templeton, Club Captain

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 £44,000 has been donated to a wide range of groups over these last 13 years.

- At the October 24 round three donations were made:
- Men's Shed, to repair public benches at Blackhills Place
- Skene School Parent Council, towards purchase of a literacy teaching aid
- Westdyke Leisure Centre, towards cost to enhance lighting

The next round of donations will be considered in February 2025.

Closing date for applications is 7th February.

See <https://westhillelrick.org/people-make-a-place/donations/>

for Guidance Notes and the Application form or contact treasurerwecc@gmail.com



VARAPUNYA Meditation Centre

A CENTRE FOR LEARNING AND PRACTICE FOR ALL

Often we find that Buddhist 'temples' in the west are places that people look at and wonder what goes on inside. Well, at the Centre in the rural settlement of Kinmundy, just 30m walk from Westhill, you may be surprised. In our small traditional Scottish cottage, we have only two downstairs rooms that double up as meeting rooms, dining room, visitor accommodation and shrine/chanting/meditation practice rooms all-in-one! Upstairs are just two small bedrooms for the one resident monk and one visiting monk. We do have stables & a barn for storage, tools, grass cutters etc but space for our daily practices, meditation, teaching and larger events/short courses & a small kitchen, has been strictly limited so far.

This is why, if you have walked past recently, you will have seen some changes. Through a kind sponsor, we have recently built a fully insulated garden room/office which we will use year-round for small group teaching and practice, food offering, as well as for other small events. That will allow us to use the two downstairs rooms in the cottage as a dedicated small shrine room and visitor overnight accommodation.



In addition, after four years of fundraising, we have at last laid the physical foundations for a new larger meditation (Uposatha) hall which we will use as our main shrine room, for our larger events and for group teaching and practice. Uposatha is a Sanskrit word which is given different meanings including a place for coming together, a place for cleansing or clearing the mind and for confirming commitment. This commitment is simply pledging to oneself to pursue a life that is all about living a moral life of love, kindness and compassion, not just for oneself but for all other beings. To be able to do this we must learn to clear the mind of all the negativities we have accumulated and which we often still carry – such as jealousy, anxiety, worry, stress and self-blame – working with mindfulness meditation practice to be able to live with greater awareness i.e. mindfully in our day-to-day lives. It is now universally recognised as an important lifelong practice to improving both our physical and mental health.

This is why we focus our 'outreach' activity with the NHS/Scottish government programmes and small charities, in the communities of Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire, on the learning and practice of Mindful Living and Mindfulness Meditation. A practice for seeing clearly the negative 'mind' thoughts that we carry with us like a heavy 'rucksack' on our backs. Instead, we make space for what is positive, useful & helpful in our busy, stressful lives. It becomes your own lifelong self-therapy!

Next spring/early summer we will be able to bring our courses 'home' to our new facilities. But, in the short term, by the time this is published we will be half way through our second short course in Westhill (our ninth in total) and will offer a third course in Westhill in January/February. At the moment this is possible through the kind support of Westhill Bowling Club who provide the town centre premises for us. You can register your early interest in that third course at meditationatvmc@gmail.com

In these ways we hope our presence near Westhill will provide a place for learning and practice of mindfulness meditation for all, no matter what your faith or belief. As an active member of Interfaith Scotland we work with all faiths or none to make lives more positive, meaningful & joyful. Mindful living is an opportunity for everyone! Feel free to come and drop in or just wander around. We may not always be there so you can call too – see our web site at <https://www.varapunyacentre.com/>

May you all find more happiness and peaceful in these challenging times.

Ven. Ajahn Sujana, Abbot - Varapunya Meditation Centre, Westhill



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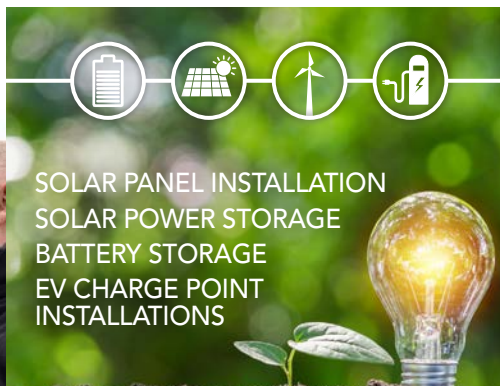


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Westhill Green Spaces Update

Denman Park

Recent visitors to Denman Park will have noticed that the contractor's compound has disappeared and the transformation of the path network is now complete. All that remains is for the grass seed to grow over the compound and along the verges of the newly laid paths, all 900m or so. Regular users will know that the grass areas can get very wet in the winter, so with the addition of new paths, new seating and a picnic bench, along with two new bridging points, time spent in the park should be much more restful and enjoyable. Work on tidying up some of the previously neglected planted areas will continue over the winter with the help of volunteers and support of the Council's Landscape Services team. Thanks must go again to the Scottish Government's Place Based Investment Programme administered by Aberdeenshire Council for the funding.



Please visit the park if you haven't already done so over the summer and let us (the Community Council) know what you think of the new features and what future improvements you would like to see.

Volunteer activity

As you will see from the photo, a small group of regular volunteers took on the task of refurbishing and repurposing the old pond bridge that the contractor moved to create a **third crossing point** that also extends the circular route around the ponds. *What a great job they did too!*



In addition, they also cut back overhanging vegetation on the **Westhill Orbital Trail** at Broadshade, Meadowlands and Lawsondale as part of our annual routine maintenance programme. The most recent task was to replace the magnificent display of summer **bedding plants** around the "green wall" at the junction of Westhill Drive and Old Skene Road with winter pansies provided by the Council.

Thanks again to all volunteers. We couldn't do what we do without you.

Over the winter, and as mentioned in the last issue, and depending on progress in Denman Park, we hope to find time and resources to remove the remaining 160m of **boardwalk in Carnie Woods**, working alongside the City Council's Ranger service and others.

We also have plans to apply for funding to upgrade existing paths at **Westdyke Leisure Centre** and at the **entrance to Pitcairn Lodge** so that they can be used by all abilities.

Litter Picks

Twice monthly organised litter picks have been ongoing throughout the year in conjunction with our friends in Rotary. These take place on a Saturday morning, with WECC's team focussing on the east side of town from our store in Denman Park and Rotary heading westwards from Crombie Primary. The Rotary team will be hibernating over the winter, but WECC's team have volunteered to keep going once monthly if weather allows. Provisional dates are Saturday 14th December and Saturday 18th January.

Thanks again to all who give up an hour of their time on a Saturday, and other days too, to keep our town looking clean and tidy, for a few days at least! Oh yes, and please don't be tempted to feed the gulls. It only encourages them to forage and scatter litter, making our litter problem even worse.

Thanks for reading. If you would like to comment on any of these activities or join us in these voluntary tasks, please use the email addresses below. Thank you.

WECC contacts:

Gordon Prentice – prenticeg.wecc@gmail.com Mervyn Barr - mervynbarr@yahoo.co.uk



SensationALL are award winners!

We were overwhelmed to be named 'Small Organisation of the Year' at the recent Celebrate Aberdeen Awards! This award is a fantastic boost for all our staff, volunteers and supporters as it recognises our mission to support families across Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire.



- Every week we interact with an average of **140** different individuals during at least **20** play sessions, social groups or specialist emotional programmes!
- 2 main venues (Westhill and Aberdeen) plus ad hoc outreach sessions across the northeast, from Stonehaven to Inverurie to Balmedie!
- Working with schools to deliver Chill-OUT assemblies to teach self-regulation skills through a fun, interactive session.
- Neurodiversity workshops & bespoke training for anyone who wants to learn more about conditions like Autism and the associated behavioural and sensory issues.
- Family support sessions, information mornings, and advisory consultations to help people feel better equipped to care for their neurodivergent loved ones.
- NO FORMAL DIAGNOSIS NEEDED

Demand for our sessions and support continues to grow (currently there are over 150 names on waiting lists!) so, we are desperately trying to raise more money to expand our timetable. Help us by supporting our upcoming events:

- **Firewalk, Saturday 23rd November** – last places available to take this fantastic challenge of walking over hot coals! Plus, there will be games and entertainment for spectators.
- **Christmas Fayre, Saturday 7th December**, this event is for our registered families, but you can support by donating items for our tombola (bottles, chocs, gift sets etc.) or volunteer to help out on the day!
- **Fundraising Ball, The Chester Hotel, Aberdeen, Friday 14th March 2025** – a fabulous evening of food, dancing and fun! We are putting our sensory spin on the evening so there will be some fantastic surprises to make the night special. Reserve tables or tickets now! Sponsorship packages also available.

Email events@sensationall.org.uk to find out more.

Or you could organise a **fundraising event** of your own – a coffee morning, a sponsored run, a bake-off competition, the options are endless! We appreciate every penny that is donated to us.

If you have any spare time, please consider **volunteering** for us. We would love to hear from new volunteers, including teens doing their Duke of Edinburgh awards, anyone interested in gaining experience working in our sessions or anyone who wants to give back to their community. There are loads of different ways to get involved so get in touch! volunteering@sensationall.org.uk.

SensationALL is here for **ALL** ages and **ALL** conditions with or without a formal diagnosis. If you'd like more information about our services visit our website or contact us at info@sensationall.org.uk, you can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok.

Event	Date	Description	Ticket Prices
Firewalk	Saturday 23 rd November	Could you walk over hot coals? Or the Old School House, Westhill	£20 entry + £100 fundraising target
Santa's Grotto	Saturday 7 th December	Specialty designed grotto for registered families to meet Santa and meet to support local children and their siblings	Tombola and refreshment donations welcome or purchase to help out
Sensory Ball	Friday 14 th March 2025	A fabulous night at The Chester Hotel, Aberdeen, with some SensationALL sensory games	Tickets of £10 or individuals welcome
Quiz Night	Friday 14 th March 2025	Get your team of 4 together to test your general knowledge	The SensationALL fee, £100 per person

events@sensationall.org.uk

Find us at www.sensationall.org.uk or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok.

CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHTS

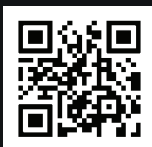
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Jog Scotland Westhill (JSW)

For those of you who don't know us (or have seen us running round Westhill in our yellow t-shirts and wondered who we are), we are a friendly and inclusive local jogging group that caters to all abilities. We meet on Mondays and Thursdays at 6.30 pm in the Westhill Academy car park (at the main entrance to the Academy) and run for approx 1 hour with groups completing various distances from 5K – 10K. We have 5 different pace groups ensuring there really is something for everyone. If you're a beginner, all we ask is that you can walk briskly for 30 minutes, and if you're already a regular runner, you'll find plenty of running buddies in our different pace groups.

During the Summer months of lighter nights, as well as running round Westhill on Mondays and Thursdays, we also had a few runs out at Dunecht Estate for a change of scene.

The first running night of each month, is "Bun Run" night and is always popular with runners being rewarded with a fine array of homebakes (or shop-bought goodies – we're not fussy!)

During the year so far, club members have continued to take part in lots of events, covering all sorts of distances from 5K races, weekly ParkRuns, 10K races, half-marathons, full marathons and Ultras!

We are also planning a 10-week Learn to Run programme, lovingly called "Couch to 5K (C25K)", and it's anticipated that this will kick-off in February 2025 with the intention of those who complete the programme taking part in the Balmoral 5K run which is taking place on 26 April 2025. Further details will be shared once the programme has been finalised – watch this space!

At JSW, we're always keen to welcome new members, so if you're looking to join a friendly social running group to help keep you motivated, and would like to come along or find out more information about us please contact jogscotlandwesthill@gmail.com or visit our website: <https://www.jogscotlandwesthill.org>





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Wood & Wool Website



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🌐 wood-and-wool.co.uk

f [woodandwoolatthestudio](https://www.facebook.com/woodandwoolatthestudio)

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

*The Blue Door raises money for Camphill Wellbeing Trust -
a medical charity supporting an extended approach
to health.*

Camphill Wellbeing Trust is a business name of Camphill Medical Practice Ltd.

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



www.camphillwellbeing.org.uk 01224 862008

Compass Project NORTH POINT New Community Facility!



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www.camphillwellbeing.org.uk/compass



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Compass is a project of local charity, the **Camphill Wellbeing Trust**



Camphill Wellbeing Trust is a business name of Camphill Medical Practice Ltd
A limited company registered in Scotland No. SC120539 Charity No. SC016291
Registered office: St John's, Murtle Estate, Bieldside, Aberdeen AB15 9EP

Westhill Business Association



Westhill Business Association (sponsored by
Westhill & Elrick Community Council) met for
the first time on 4th November.

The Association aims to provide an environment
for local businesses to meet together, to
collaborate to support the community in a
variety of ways, and to provide a 'voice' for
businesses based in the Westhill area.

The next meeting will be in January.

For further information,
please contact elaine@elainemanley.co.uk

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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. As well as a full range of preventative and restorative dental treatments, such as dental implants, white fillings, crowns & flexi-dentures, we also offer cosmetic options like tooth whitening, veneers & Invisalign.'

'We offer Cone Beam CT scans and OPG X-rays and our iTero system means we can offer 3D scans for dentures, crowns, bridges and orthodontic treatment rather than taking impressions. We also have our own dental technician and lab on site, providing a fast turnaround on private dentures and denture repairs. We even offer dental plans and patient finance and are currently accepting new private and NHS patients.'

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 & 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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Aberdeenshire AB32 6LP
01224 742 513

abercrombie-smile@outlook.com

Opening hours:

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



Westhill Walkers

Open to all no matter what your age or ability

We have had a busy autumn with our regular walks. A few had to be amended for various reasons but we enjoyed climbing Geallaig Hill near Ballater, the Kirkhill Forest, the Burn o'Vat and Loch Kinord, Carn an t-Sagairt Mor and Glen Gelder from Balmoral. Thanks need to be given to our group of walk leaders but we would love to have both more walkers and more leaders. Why not join our friendly relaxed group and enjoy the wonderful countryside we are so lucky to be able to enjoy?

We walk on alternate Sundays throughout the year with a choice of walks during the summer months. New members will always be made very welcome. For more information please see our web site (westhillwalkers.org) for our programme, walks blog and contact details (westhillwalkers@gmail.com) and our Facebook page for updates and photos.

Two forthcoming walks – all welcome. For more information and to put your name down please contact westhillwalkers@gmail.com	
8 December	Pitmedden Estate
26 December	Our Annual Boxing Day walk from Bridge of Don to Fittie and back. A chance to work off some of those extra calories or maybe to add a few more with a coffee stop on the way.



Westhill Library News

Opening Times/Contact Info.

Tuesday	10am - 7pm
Wednesday	10am - 7pm
Thursday	10am - 6pm
Saturday	9am - 1pm

T: 01224 472871

E: westhill.library@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

W: www.livelifeberdeenshire.org.uk/libraries/

New!

A3 printing and photocopying

We have a lovely new printer and can now offer printing services on A3 paper as well as A4.

High-quality printing and photocopying are available at a cost of 16p per side for black and white and 88p per side for colour.

What's On?

Scrabble Club for adults

Wednesdays 10.30am – 12pm

Drop in, no booking required

Bookbug for pre-schoolers

Thursdays 10.30am – 11am (term-time)

Booking essential

Saturday Games for young and old

First Saturday of each month, 9.00-12.30

Drop in, no booking required

Lego Drop In for 5 to 12 year olds

Last Saturday of each month, 9.30-12.00

Drop in, no booking required

For more events and to book, please visit:
www.livelifeberdeenshire.org.uk/libraries/
and search for 'Westhill' in Events.

Summer Reading 2024

622 adults, children and family groups signed up at Westhill Library for this year's Summer Reading. Well done to everyone and congratulations to the lucky winners whose collection cards were pulled out of the draw. We hope you enjoy your prizes!

'When in doubt, go to the library'

J.K. Rowling

Spotlight on:

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

If you're visually impaired, the library offers various resources which can help you to access books, newspapers and magazines.

Audio books are available from our digital library as well as on CD and Playaway (a small, preloaded audiobook player).

We have an extensive range of large print books available, both fiction and non-fiction. Large print books have a larger typeface to assist people with low vision. Electronic books can be downloaded from our digital library and the text enhanced to the required size.

Membership of the library gives you free access to thousands of newspapers and magazines on the Pressreader app. The app can be set to convert text to natural-sounding speech so you can listen to the content.

Aberdeenshire Libraries also offer a VIP postal service which is available for those who are visually impaired to receive CD audiobooks or Playaways by post.

More information on all these resources can be found on the Live Life Aberdeenshire or speak to us in the branch.



Westhill & Elrick Community Action Plan

Westhill and Elrick Community Council spent 2023-2024 undertaking questionnaires and surveys with various focus groups in Westhill and Elrick to find out what residents felt were the challenges and issues that needed to be addressed. This process has now been completed by agreement with Aberdeenshire Council and the completed Community Action Plan can be found on the WECC website at <https://westhillelrick.org/2024/11/07/westhill-elrick-community-action-plan> and on our Facebook page. Hard copies are available at Westhill Library.

We are now looking to Westhill and Elrick residents of all ages to volunteer to be on a steering group and individual project groups. As you will see these themes have included the following topics: Young Peoples Voices, Communication, Sports and recreation, Facilities, Community activities, Green transport and outdoors. Each theme has the feedback from the consultation and describes the next steps that will be involved to bring them to fruition over the next five years.

If you are interested in supporting us in any of the areas or would like further information please contact us on planningwecc@gmail.com



Alzheimer Scotland offers groups in Westhill for people living with dementia and their carers

Westhill Social Group meet normally on the first Wednesday of each month from 2-3 pm at Westhill Library. At the group we have games and activities, tea and coffee and quizzes.

Our Community Groups are there to be enjoyed by anyone living with dementia or experiencing difficulties with their memory, including their families and friends. All are welcome; people who can attend independently and/or for those unable to do so should come with a companion who can provide any support for them.

Contact Susan at swestcott@alzscot.org or tel 07876 003154 if you would like any further information.

Our Westhill Carers support group meets once a month at Westhill Library on the third Tuesday of the month from 2pm – 3pm. The group is for unpaid carers who support someone with dementia to get together for a chat with others in the same situation, share information and experiences. These sessions are informal, to discuss what's important to you at the time.

Sometimes we'll also invite speakers from other organisations to attend so we can find out more about other supports in the community. Please contact Mags on 07769 366175 or email on mcorbett@alzscot.org if you are interested.

There is no charge for coming along to our groups, but people are welcome to make a donation towards tea & coffee if they wish.



1st Westhill

Our sections started back at the end of August and our young people have already had lots of fun working on badges and learning new skills.

Redwood Beavers enjoyed learning about the fire service during a tour of the Anderson Drive fire station in Aberdeen whilst Amazon Beavers had fun tubing at Garthdee.



Members of Kaa cubs attended the Howling camp at Fordell Firs in Fife which saw over 450 cubs from across Scotland join together for a weekend of adventure including abseiling, caving and laser tag. Meanwhile Shere Khan cubs practised their navigation skills with a night hike expedition in Kirkhill Forest to reach Tappie Tower.



Keir scouts enjoyed paintballing at Battlegrounds and Westwood scouts had fun at a climbing wall session at RGU.

During the October holidays some of our Explorers attended the 50th anniversary Cally Rally camp at Moy near Inverness which saw our young people do mountain biking, water sports and dance the night away with a live ceilidh band.

All of the activities that our young people enjoy would not be possible without the dedication of our adult volunteers.

Scouting aims to actively engage and support young people to develop their personal, practical and life skills which will help them do more, learn more and be more not only in childhood but into adulthood too.

Scouts UK is implementing changes to make volunteering easier. By making the process easier the aim is to attract more adult volunteers to ensure even more young people can benefit from scouting. Adults can volunteer with scouts on a regular or irregular basis and in a variety of roles whether it be 'front facing', interacting with young people, or in supportive roles such as admin, record keeping and event organising.

We currently provide activities for 174 young people however with additional volunteers we could provide places to even more. We have over 135 young people on our beaver, cub and scouting waiting lists. Unfortunately without additional volunteers some young people on our waiting list may not get the chance to join.

If you are interested in ensuring young people in Westhill get the opportunity to gain #SkillsForLife please email gsl@1stwesthillscouts.co.uk.

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Aberdeenshire Council

All Enquiries 0345 6081208

Air Training Corps..... 01224 749151
Ashdale Hall 01224 740137
Boys' Brigade 01224 742262

Childcare

Schools Out Club
(Old School House 01224 465202

Citizens Advice Bureau..... 01224 747714
Community Centre..... 01224 472874
Community Mini-bus..... 07989 637461

Dentists' Surgery

Abercrombie Dental Practice,
NHS – Abercrombie Court,
Prospect Road 01224 745447
Business, Private –
Ashdale Drive 01224 742513
Westhill Dental Practice,
Old Skene Road 01224 741339

Doctors

Doctors' Surgery 01224 849400
Results 01224 849392
Repeat Prescriptions 01224 849393

Electricity Emergency 0800 300999
Gardening Club 01224 748045
Gas Emergency 0800 111999
Golf Club 01224 743361
Girls' Brigade, 1st Skene 07792 471199
Girl Guiding..... 07974 963717
Health & Social Care Office..... 01467 537745
Lawsondale Pavilion..... 01224 742836
Library..... 01224 472871

Nursery

Bridges 01224 744741
Childcare Info 0800 2983330

Playgroups

Scout Hall 07717 442164
Denman Preschool..... 07727 617627

Pharmacy

Pharmacy, Porter – Shops..... 01224 742742
Pharmacy, Porter – Surgery 01224 279489

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or email..... contactus@scotland.police.uk

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Elrick 01224 472910
Skene 01224 472915
Westhill 01224 472900

Religion

Church of Scotland Minister 01224 745955
Trinity Church 01224 742512
Westhill Community Church 01224 737380

Secondary School

Academy 01224 087850

Scouts..... 01224 746773
Water Authority 0845 6018 855

Westhill Men's Shed 01224 917345

Sports

Swimming Pool..... 01224 472872
Tennis Club..... 07929 191816
Westdyke Leisure Centre 07727 617627
Westhill Bowling Club 07562 696193

Vets

Ardene House Vets..... 01224 740700
Veterinary, Town & Country 01224 741685

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.

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

Building Trades & Other Tradesmen

A. Reid Garden Services	82
aandm Bathrooms	16
Abel Interiors	13
Affordable Jet Washing	23
A-J Roofing	82
APC Property Services	5
B. Mackland Builders	41
Barry Willox Joinery	73
Blue Flame Heating	74
Bonnie Banks Gardening	6
Braemoral Joinery	15
Cala Homes	inside front
Chris Western Heating,	
Plumbing & Servicing	74
CL Garden Sevicees	82
David Massie Carpentry & Joinery	5
Docea Painting & Decorator	21
Duncan Bathrooms	83
Duncan Heating	84
Electro-Tek Electrical Contractor	21
Helping Hands Home Services	82
i-Protech	72
Joe's Gardening Services	82
John S. Findlater (Skene) Ltd	17
K. Milne Plumbing & Heating	38
Kevin Allan, Painter & Decorator	82
Kinnellar Plant Hire	66
Kirkwood Homes	59
Lister Domestic Electrical	42
Lockfit	15
Mark Mennie Glazier	54
Midmar Timber Centre	52
MJS Landscaping	41
Mr Gardener	78
MRK Groundworks	46
Only Heating	47
Painting & Decorating	73
Rae Brown & Co. Ltd	38
Roofing Made Easy	67
RS Joinery	5
Smart Blinds	41
Steve Gray Plumbing & Heating	6
Stuart Grassick Builders	18
T & M Slating	72
Tidy Garden	14
Voytek Plastering and Painting	73
Westhill Bathrooms	85
Westhill Boiler Services	22
Westhill Electrical Services	74
Westhill Fencing & Decking	30
Westhill Kitchens & Bathrooms	53
Woodend Sustainable Homes	36
Transport & Driving	
Spectrum Driver Training	14
Westhill Community Minibus	4
Westhill Taxis	57

Health & Leisure

Abercrombie Dental	86
Around the Sun	30
Broadstrait Inn	48
Ciamo Roma	51
Compass Project	81
Dans Centre	27
Green Meadows Counselling	85
Hair by Lauren	38
Happy Barber	35
Holiday Inn Christmas Party Nights	77
Holiday Inn Family Hogmanay Party	55
Holiday Inn Scots Bar	12
Inchmarlo Golf Centre	27
Kippie Lodge	80
La Precision	20
Lee Beauté	16
Milton of Crathes	23
Pam Dignan Dancers	35
Sleeping Beauty	back page
Sooyang Do Martial Arts	60
Travel Counsellors	67
Trudi Deans Foot Health Care	82
West with Style	71
Westhill Chiropractic Clinic	18
Westhill Health & Therapies Practice	36

Professional Services

Aberdein Considine	29
Acumen Financial Planning	62
Bridges Pre-School Nurseries	11
Brimmond Financial Planning	31
Clovers Kids Club	41
Creative Compass	39
Denman Pre-school	25
Doggie Style Dog Grooming Salon	14
ESP Book-keeping Limited	26
Forbes Lawson Financial Planners	56
Fyfe Moir & Associates Accountants	61
Grampian Accounting	34
Grampian Credit Union	85
Groundwater Architectural Design	42
ITS Fire & Security	63
James Milne Chartered Accountants	57
James Wilson PC repair	35
Luke and Learn Guitar	16
Magnus Accounting	54
McCue Wealth Management	44
Oven Valet	81
Paws and Claws Day Care	14
PC Paul	25
Perfectly Pressed Ironing Service	6
Photos To DVD	6
Robert Gordon's College	inside back
Storie Cruden & Simpson	43
The Cleaning Company	38

Retail

Blue Door Charity Shop	81
Foxlane at Carnie	42
GPH Builders Merchants	28
Jastina's Flowers	34
The Flooring Lodge	27
Vintage Cloud	21
Wood and Wool	79



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