



## A Fund Raising Extravaganza!!!

The Scots Handsel was a great success with the Hall filled to capacity! The entertainment was top drawer and the money raised is a reflection of that – a whopping **£678.82!!**

## The Duck Race

Bob McLaren and his team did a great job (including rounding up the escaping ducks!!) and almost 100 people and a P&J photographer came along to enjoy the spectacle. The fund raising was boosted by wonderful donations from individuals and The Airedale Lounge and the total raised on the day was **£773.93!** The duck's name? BRIDGET!

## Arts & Crafts

We have started an informal craft club on Wednesday mornings (fortnightly while the sun shines but if the weather is bad then we'll be sewing, knitting, patching, and chatting!) Dawn (81163) or Anne (81539) can let you know when the next meeting is if you want to join us!

## TRUST AGM

**17<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30pm**

Please join us at the first **LCT AGM**, also for approval of final accounts of Welfare Trust.

## Local Business?

Do you run a local business? Would you like to be included in a small local directory to be issued to all house holders around Logie Coldstone? If you would, please supply Dawn with a note of who you are, what you do and contact details and depending on the level of interest we'll see what happens.

## LOGIE COLDSTONE TRUST

### A Hall at the Heart of the Community

**Neil Sutherland** and **Bill Fraser** introduce this special edition of the LCT Newsletter about the work they are doing on behalf of the community to plan the redevelopment of the Hall.

As many of you will know, we have been commissioned by LCT to carry out a Feasibility Study and Business Plan for the redevelopment of the Hall. In plain language this involves:

- Finding out what people use the Hall for, and what improvements to the Hall and its facilities would make it better for them.
- Doing some research to see what else the Hall could be used for if it provided better facilities.
- Design work to show how the Hall could be adapted to meet the present and future needs of the community.
- Looking at the Hall's finances to make sure that it can meet its running costs and be a sustainable community business.
- Finding out how the work of adapting and redeveloping the Hall can be funded from the various sources of grant aid available.

The third member of the team is Andrew Keir, also probably well known to most of you. Andrew is an architect who lives in Logie Coldstone and who is very experienced in adapting traditional buildings for modern uses.

Over the last few weeks, we have been meeting with members of the groups and organisations, formal and informal, who use the Hall to find out what you use the Hall for and what ideas you have for improvements. We have not come away short of suggestions!

**The next part of the work will be to show the community the design proposals for the redevelopment of the Hall. Plans will be on show at the Hall on Tuesday 10th June. Come along to meet the consultant team, see the Plans, and let us know if they will give the community the new Hall they are seeking.**

### Who uses the Hall?

Overall we met with representatives of 27 organisations and interest groups who use, or might use, the Hall. The number of representatives of these groups totalled 96 but because a number of them represented more than one group or organisation, the meetings involved 60 individuals, a good proportion of a community of approximately 200 households. The groups we met with are listed at the end of this Newsletter.

### What do you want in a new Hall?

At each of the meetings, we asked users what they used the hall for, what facilities they needed and how these might be improved. Along with the results from earlier consultations and the "Mind Maps" produced from these, we have compiled a list of needs which we can use to start the process of designing how the Hall, which was built in 1897, might be upgraded and adapted to meet the needs of the 21st Century.



It is clear that there are several features, mentioned by almost all users, that will have to be included in the design for the upgraded Hall:

- Better heating in all parts of the building. Ideally this should maintain the building at a constant temperature, with the possibility of adjusting the temperature in certain parts as users require.
- A single entry to the whole building with access from a reception area to the main hall and other rooms from this central point. This would allow more than one group to use the hall at the same time.
- Toilets that are similarly accessible to users of all parts of the building without their having to pass through another part of the building, possibly in use by others, to reach them.
- An improved, larger kitchen, suitable for use by outside caterers and accessible from the reception area.
- A “small hall” for meetings and functions that don’t need the space of the main hall.
- An office or training room for small groups, equipped for computer access and presentations.
- Sufficient storage for furniture and equipment required by users.
- Increased provision of car parking, with safer access to the road.
- A safe pedestrian route from the village, particularly the school, to the Hall.

In addition to these general issues, particular groups of users had more specific requirements that they would like to see included:

- Mother and Toddler Group: Baby changing facilities, and a moveable partition in the main Hall.
- Youth Club: Secure storage for projects and work in progress. A comfortable seating area with a café atmosphere.
- Sports users: Increased ceiling height in the main hall. Space for spectators and players waiting for their turn. A sprung floor in the main hall for sports and also dancing.
- Pipe Band: Multiple spaces (preferably four) in the building for practice and rehearsal. Storage space for band uniforms and equipment. Improved acoustics for the pipe band in the main hall.

### **Who else might use the Hall?**

Besides the local users who we have talked to, there are other potential users of the Hall who would be attracted to come to a modern, well equipped Hall. Most of these would need no more than the sorts of facilities we have listed above; these would include public agencies like the CNPA and Aberdeenshire Council, who need good facilities for meetings and conferences, private users looking for a place to hold functions (including weddings), and training providers running outreach courses.

An improved Hall would offer the potential for cultural activities such as touring plays and musical performances. North East Arts Touring can offer support for this kind of activity and they have suggested that to be suitable for performances a Hall should be able to provide a performance area of 15 feet square, and preferably a separate room adjoining the Hall for performers to prepare in.

### **Design ideas and issues**

The challenge in designing in all the new facilities and requirements that people have told us about comes from the age of the building and the fact that it is very solidly built of stone. While improvements have been made over the years, the main part of the Hall is largely as it was when first built. There are also some structural defects that will have to be attended to during the building works and which may affect what it is possible to do with the building. On top of all this, Planning and Building Control standards will dictate the sizes and specifications of key parts of the design.

In putting forward design proposals, we see the key issues as:

- Improving the energy efficiency of the building through better insulation and ventilation and including a new heating system. A ground source heat pump would be a practical and proven way of heating the building. These are normally used in conjunction with underfloor heating which would have to be compatible with a floor suitable for sports use. Besides this the insulation of floors, walls, windows and roof need to be improved to avoid the present heat loss from the building.
- Replacing the annex. It is clear that the annex is now at the end of its useful life and will have to be replaced, probably with a new entrance area, kitchen and toilets and a new Small Hall. These parts of the building would thus be new from the ground up, with fewer restrictions on layout.



- Rethinking the entrance to the building. The present entrance to the Hall is very restricted, and is not accessible for disabled people. A new and more user friendly entrance could be provided as part of the new wing replacing the annex.
- Providing new toilets and kitchen. Although the toilets are relatively new, they can only be reached through the main hall. Relocating them in the new wing would allow the rooms they presently occupy to be used for storage. Similarly the kitchen has poor access and is really too small for catering functions.
- Providing sufficient car parking space. If the new wing is larger than the present annex, which it probably has to be, this will reduce the already limited parking space around the Hall. If it were possible to obtain some additional space from the adjoining field, this would provide for additional car parking and better access to the rear of the building.

## Come and see the proposals for the Hall

The consultant team are now developing the design proposals and these will be on display in the Hall on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June from 2.00pm until 9.00pm**. We hope that this will allow as many people as possible to come along to see and discuss the plans and to record **your** views about how well you think the plans will meet the community's future needs. We look forward to meeting you then.

### Groups organisations and individuals who have contributed their ideas.

Walking Group

Dancing

Primary School

New age Kurling

Mother & Toddler

Mid-Deeside Young Farmers

Towie Pipe Band

Parent Council

Public Health Co-ordinator

Community Learning & Development Worker

WRI

Youth Club

Active School Co-ordinator

Bowling

North East Arts Touring

Senior Youth Club

Curling Club

Aberdeen College

Public Health Support – Deeside

Reminiscence

Proposed Craft Club

Airedale Lounge

Badminton

First Aid Training

Youth Club Leaders

Party organisers

Senior Community Learning Worker

**If you don't think Bill or Neil have heard **your** opinion make sure you have your say by coming to the hall on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June!!**

Also delivered alongside this issue of the Newsletter you will find a Questionnaire from Mid Deeside Ltd about local transport. MDL run the Village Hopper which calls at Tarland; Migvie and Logie Coldstone on a Tuesday, this service is available to all (not just the elderly); will divert up to ½ mile off the main road to pick up and drop off passengers; drops off at various locations around Aboyne and will shortly be cheaper than using the car if fuel prices continue to rise!! This service is another one of those 'use it or lose it' types of things, just like the mobile Library which comes once a fortnight and is not just for the school! Keep an eye open for these services, they are all valuable in rural communities and we need to support them as best we can in order to assure that they support us.

If you would like to have a look through the report detailing the results of the survey which was conducted back in 2005, there are copies at the Hall either for browsing or to take away and read. Electronic copies can be provided by Anne Mathers.

Also following the Autumn Fair last year there are a number of books – so if you are short of something to read (perhaps if you here on holiday) why not ask at the Hall!

*Sadly I don't feel this issue of the Hall Newsletter can pass without comment on the very sad closure (hopefully temporary closure) of the Airedale Lounge. Glynis has been a stalwart supporter of the Hall; a great friend and neighbour and we have every sympathy with the pressures which have brought about this untimely event.*



In Hall & adjoining field

FREE Entry

### STALLS

Bottle Stall

Home Baking

Would you like to run your own stall for hall funds or your own community group, contact Anne (81539) for table, only £10.

### FOOD AND DRINKS

Teas Tent and Beer Test from 2pm

BBQ from 2pm – 4pm (Sheridan's Butchers)

Fish & Chip van from around 5pm

### FUN SPORTS

X-Country

Summer Curling

Fun Races

Basketball Shoot

Quoits

French Boules

AND MORE ...

We are always looking for helpers, donations for the Bottle Stall or home bakes for the Tea Stall, but mostly we want as many people to come along on the day and have a great, fun time!



### **LOGIE COLDSTONE TRUST**

cordially invitest **YOU** to join us at the hall on the afternoon / evening of **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June** to voice **YOUR** opinion about proposed changes to the hall.

Refreshments will be available throughout the day.

### **17<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30pm**

We also invite you to attend the first Annual General Meeting of the Logie Coldstone Trust. At this meeting the final accounts of the Logie Coldstone Welfare Trust will be presented and approved. Refreshments will be served.

Copies of the 2005 Survey report will be available.

**Organised by Logie Coldstone Trust**

For further information please call Anne Mathers (81539)

