

February 2012

### **2011 Goes Out with a BANG!!**

You may have heard that the end of 2011 brought with it a nasty shock, most particularly for the ladies of the Craft Club, when a piece of the Hall ceiling collapsed with a Bang on the morning of the School Nativity Concert!

Sadly, even after George the Builder had been in, tidied up and 'made safe' the potential for further unexpected collapse was a risk and so the various events we are used to hosting through the winter have been cancelled – the Hogmanay Ceilidh; the Burn's Supper and the Curler's Ball were all called off.

The Hall Committee have started the year with a very clear plan to get the hall open again as soon as possible and the disaster of the ceiling collapsed has certainly helped to focus our minds! We know that the weather in the late stages of 2011 contributed greatly to the problems we face with the Hall – the wind has taken far too many slates off the roof, allowing the bad weather to create areas of damp which contributed greatly to the problems. There are also issues with the windows, with insulation levels throughout the building and we are aware that the Hall is sadly overdue for a facelift.

Over the past few years we have held a number of events which have meant that without grant funding we have been able to purchase new, comfy chairs, new curtains and most important of all a new roof for the Small Hall. As you may understand this does mean that we do not currently have a substantial amount of money in the bank!

In order to deal with the most pressing aspects of this we have already begun applying for grant funding which, along with an insurance claim, we hope will mean that we can begin to commission the necessary work required to get the hall re-opened as soon as possible. Over the coming few years we will continue to pursue grant funding in order to complete the major aspects of work which are required to take the Hall from its build date in Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee year through 2012, Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee year, and into the future with a positive future.

However ... please don't imagine that this is an easy prospect! We have a number of fund raising activities in mind, and would welcome with open arms anyone who is able to help! We hope to run a jumble sale (probably in Aboyne); a concert; there will be the usual Morven Walk; the Fun Day and ..... *INSERT YOUR OWN THOUGHTS HERE!!*

We hope to involve all the different groups who use the Hall regularly in any major decisions which we make regarding the Hall, and would also anticipate their involvement in any and all fund raising activities – this is YOUR Hall – it belongs to the entire community NOT just to the committee.

We saw a wonderful demonstration of community spirit which enabled the school to remain open and we would hope that the same level of community spirit can be demonstrated in our ability to reopen the hall quickly and to continue to develop it and its use in the future.

**Don't forget that there is also our website to find out what's happening in Logie Coldstone**

[www.logiecoldstone.org](http://www.logiecoldstone.org)

**As well as the website there is also a large new notice board outside the Hall! And we have the recycling facilities too so check out the notice board next time you are chucking out those jam jars!**

And don't forget that we can email this newsletter to you – saving on printing costs and delivery time!! Let us have an email address and save us some shoe leather!

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### And in other news ...

<p>The Commission on Rural Education will be visiting Aberdeenshire on Monday 27 February to speak to and to hear directly from communities about the issues that concern them. There will be a public meeting in Huntly that evening and anyone who wants to speak to members of the Commission is welcome to attend.</p> <p>The meeting is likely to be in the Gordon Schools at about 7pm but full details will appear on the website, <a href="http://www.commissiononruraleducation.org">www.commissiononruraleducation.org</a> when they are confirmed.</p> <p>Parents from Logie Coldstone school have been invited to meet the commission at Clatt during that afternoon.</p>	<p><b>Logie Coldstone Walking to Health Group</b></p> <p>We meet every Thursday outside the hall at 1.30pm. We either walk from there or drive a short distance before going for a gentle walk for 1/2 to 1 hour. We then have a cup of tea or coffee and friendly chat in the Refined Tearoom. I know some people are worried that they will have to lead walks if they come along but that is not the case. We just want them to come along and enjoy the fresh air, exercise and company. Everyone is busy these days so if they can't come every week it is not a problem. 'Just come along when you can and see if you enjoy walking with the group'.</p> <p>If anyone wants more information they can contact me, Anne Heath, on 013398 81558.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gardening</b></p> <p>We had a Weeding Session at the Hall last year and hope to do the same thing again – date to be advised!!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Morven Walk</b></p> <p>On 27<sup>th</sup> May we plan once again to scale our local mountain, followed by a great barbeque for the whole community!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Fun Day</b></p> <p>This will be the 23<sup>rd</sup> June, before the schools break up and as usual there will be quite a bit of pre-work, on the day work, and tidying up work so expect to be asked to help.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Duck Race</b></p> <p>In April we will be selling the ducks for the Duck Race on the 6<sup>th</sup> May.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Jumble Sale</b></p> <p>April 28<sup>th</sup> we will be holding a jumble sale in Aboyne, at the Victory Hall! We will be collecting jumble in the week before and again will be asking for help on the day to set up, to help sell, and to clear up!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wednesday, 11th April</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>'The Little Red Hen and Friends'</b></p> <p>As part of The Puppet Animation Festival 2012, and supported by the Woodend Outreach Project, Logie Coldstone is being offered a puppet-making workshop run by the highly experienced and talented Ailie Finlay from 'Flotsam and Jetsam'.</p> <p>'The Little Red Hen and Friends' is aimed at 3-8 year olds. Listen to The clever Little Red Hen tell her story and then have fun using lots of buttons, bows and even sparkle to make your own puppet, play with them together and even put on your own show!</p> <p>Full details to be confirmed but look out for posters closer to the time. Contact Emma Palmer: 013398 81220 for further information.</p>

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Generous-Hearted Landowners of Logie Coldstone – This is for you. Feel the Love this Valentine's Day!

## Allotment

### Nutshell

An award winning production at 2011 Edinburgh Fringe, we now have the opportunity to bring this show to Logie Coldstone!

The show takes place ideally on an allotment, or a green outdoor space and follows the complex and quirky relationship between sisters Dora and Maddy as they live out the seasons on their allotment, playing out their rivalries among the plants, and when the unexpected rocks their uneasy balance, it's time to do something radical... The dark comedy is a celebration of gardening, with the actresses digging, planting and performing on top of a shed. With changeable weather constantly shifting the nature of the allotment, ALLOTMENT is a feast for the senses - a tale of life, death, Pink Fir Apple potatoes and the secret power of worms.

The production uses a 'living set', one that is created by the community a few months in advance of the tour. The company ideally wants to bring together Mother & Toddler groups and the Elderly to create a planting project. The aim will be for the groups to create, decorate & plant the containers that form the set and keep them alive over the summer!

Small children and elderly people like to take things at a slow pace and are two groups that often have little contact but much to offer each other. The project links in with government and local council initiatives to encourage gardening, growing of food and health awareness. As a company, Nutshell are committed to this type of creative engagement as a way of helping strengthen community ties and encourage greater social cohesion and inclusion.

Nutshell's Education and Outreach Officer will facilitate the planting project and it is expected that there will be 2 outreach sessions between April and July prior to the performance in September.

When the containers are ready, Nutshell's production manager will transport them to the performance site and project participants will hopefully come and see the show. The Outreach and Education Officer will visit each community a number of times during the run up to the performances to set up and run the project liaising with the venue where necessary.

With this in mind we are looking for a suitable outdoor space for the project. Although the planting initially will be in pots the hope would be to self-regulate the project following the show and develop an area into a potential allotment/community garden space to enable those that are interested to continue developing their 'green fingers'!

So, this is where you land-owners out there with the BIG hearts- yes, you know who are - can spread the love and watch the flowers grow on a small, quiet, at present under-utilized patch of your green pastures or scrub land - we're not that fussy :O) Or if anyone has any ideas of any local orphaned public ground that could be developed into a kind of 'guerrilla garden' we'd like to hear from you too!

Also we are looking for anyone who is interested in having a go & joining in the fun - no experience necessary, just enthusiasm :O) Contact: Emma Palmer 013398 81220.

The timetable for this production is: Workshops/outreach: exact dates to be confirmed but likely to be April-June  
Performances: w/c 27th August or w/c 3rd September

## Logie Coldstone Primary News

The Primary School has been busy in the start of the year with a K-nex workshop (if you haven't heard of this is a bit like click together plastic Meccano!!) making and testing crash-test cars! Hopefully they did get snow for their two day skiing trip to the Lecht. The School Topic this term is the Vikings! They've been learning about healthy breakfasts and watching the local wildlife – mainly the birds for the RSPB Big Schools Bird Watch but also discovering a fat rat when moving the compost bins!!

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### Woodend Outreach Project

Woodend Outreach Project has also included Logie Coldstone in a bid for an exciting project which involves putting an artist in residence in 3 local communities for around 4 months later in the year. The artist (whether a musician, visual artist, film maker etc) would use their chosen art form to work with the community on creating a new piece of work in response to a chosen myth or legend from the area.

An outline plan would involve -

May – Project Manager starts planning; chatting with groups in each community, recruiting artists in partnership with groups etc

June – Artists recruited and paired with community groups and lead organisers in each area.

July – Introduction events in communities – art celidh's, artist talks, performances etc

August – October – 1<sup>st</sup> stage of work development in each community (workshops, talks, guerrilla arts). This involves selecting a 'story' that is of interest/relevance to the participants. Using the chosen art form to create a response to this (piece of music, film, painting, sculpture or sound art etc)

October – December – groups visit each other learning about their stories and each others work. Links to be made between the work and overall presentation discussed (performances, workshops, talks). App development to start (this will be a way for others to get involved in the project)

January – April 2013, new work toured across Deeside. App to be completed

The key aims of the project are:

to increase the participants' knowledge of and confidence in engaging with different art forms – in most cases the participants will never have worked with an artist before ( the fund we are applying to is called 'First in a Lifetime' so we have to target people who've never or rarely been involved in the arts before). The project will also increase their knowledge of contemporary artistic practice, develop creativity, skills, cultural identity and ownership of their own creative outcomes and strengthen links between different groups and different ages.

Contact Emma Palmer 013398 81220 for further information.

### ABOYNE WHEELERS GROUP

As many may be aware a new group is being formed to help promote and develop informal wheeled sports i.e. skateboarding, BMXing and in-line skating, in the area with plans to build an outdoor facility in Aboyne. If you are interested in becoming involved in the planning and development of this project or if you would like to offer support in any way even a brief acknowledgement of your interest would be greatly appreciated :O) Please contact Emma Palmer 013398 81220/ email epalmer964@aol.com THANK YOU :o)

This space has been deliberately left blank for you to give some thought to what you could do to help in the village! Could you help out at any, some or all of the events that are being organised? Could you organise something yourself? Could you do a spot of gardening with the younger members of the community?

If you can manage to attend an event in the village that would be great too – we'd love to see you!