

# MENSTRIE MATTERS

## Winter 2019



A Happy Christmas

and

Peaceful New Year for 2020

from all at Menstrie Matters



A beautiful Autumnal shot by Jason Curl, our thanks for the use of the image

## Chair's Note

It's that time of year again, clocks just went back, nights drawing in and heating on!

During the winter months could I ask that if you have elderly or vulnerable neighbours, just pop in and have a chat, offer a cuppa and make sure all is well?

You will notice that all the planters and baskets are empty but all the spring bulbs have been planted to bring us some colour come spring.

Festive activities are underway with our annual Festive lights switch on, visit from Santa confirmed for Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December following the Christmas movie at 1500.

We had our annual general meeting beginning of October and it was great to see so many new faces who are all keen to join and help out, a special thanks should be given to Caroline Crawford who has recently stepped down as Secretary after serving 29 years, thanks Caroline you have done us all proud and we all appreciate the time and commitment given over the years!

There is always loads of events going on in the village please keep an eye social media and our website [www.menstrie.org](http://www.menstrie.org). Or join our WhatsApp group for volunteering around the village.

Many thanks and speak soon

Dave Sharp

Chair, Menstrie Community Council





# Festive event

**Saturday 7th December**

**Film show for children at 3.00pm  
in the Domyat Centre**

**Santa visit and Lights switch on  
follows film at around  
5.00pm in the gardens,  
(please wear warm clothes)**



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**Opening hours**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>9am to 5pm (closed 1pm - 2pm)</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9am to 1pm</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9am to 5pm (closed 1pm - 2pm)</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9am to 5pm (closed 1pm - 2pm)</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9am to 5pm (closed 1pm - 2pm)</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9am to 12.30pm</b>

## From Your Local Councillor

It's been a busy few months in the village and beyond, we had some trees that were in a dangerous condition and required to be felled, this took four long arduous weekends to fell the trees and clear the timber, but the path now looks far more open and more importantly safe.

I was privileged to be invited to attend the opening of Diageo's new Technical Centre in October, this is a world class facility which supports the work of Diageo across the globe, it was a truly enlightening visit, learning a great deal about what the company does in our wee village.

On the same day I attended the official opening of the new Tullibody South Campus, this new school complex is one of the most advanced in Scotland, I was very impressed with the whole experience, Keith Brown MSP opened the campus saying it felt more like a Secondary school facility than a Primary school, I can only agree.

The one area that will stay in my mind is the Immersive room, here children can experience a huge variety of landscapes, zones and cities without leaving Tullibody! The two youngsters who showed me a round took great delight in showing me the 'snow' landing on my arms as I stood in the snowstorm.

Of course our own new Nursery is coming on leaps and bounds and I look forward to seeing it in the near future.

My surgery is held in the Domyat Centre each Tuesday if I can assist you in any way, or email me on;  
[lsharp@clacks.gov.uk](mailto:lsharp@clacks.gov.uk)

## Menstrie Parish Church Guild

The Guild has changed to a Monday afternoon and it is hoped this will encourage and welcome new members to join us .

Meetings are held on the last Monday of the month at 2.30pm in Rooms 2/3.

Diary;

**Monday 25th November** we are having a talk from **Ochil Mountain Rescue Team** which should be most interesting. We will also hold a Bring & Lucky Dip.

**Monday 9th December** at 6.45 for 7pm **Our Festive Dinner** is at “The Birds & Bees” in Causewayhead.

**Monday 27th January** at 2.30pm sees the first meeting for 2020 is on when we are holding our first “**Burns Supper**” which should be most enjoyable

**Monday 24th February** at 2.30pm we are having Mrs Lesley Christie from Bridge of Allan to speak on the Guild Theme “**Companions on the Road**”

**Monday 30th March** is our **Open Evening** at 7.30pm when we welcome back “**Jack Delaney & Friends** “ This is always a popular evening so take note of the date.

**Monday April 27th** Is our **AGM** followed by a quiz is at the usual time of 2.30pm. All are welcome to any of our meetings.

Laura Christie  
Secretary

## **The Forge Coffee shop**

Main street, Menstrie, 01259 763202

Why not come in and enjoy some freshly made sandwiches, wraps, toasties or baked potato (gluten free options available), then follow it up with a delicious cake or scone (all made freshly on the premises) and a nice hot coffee or tea.

**Special offers include: hot filled roll (bacon, square sausage, fried egg or scrambled egg) plus a hot drink for £4.25.**

or

**Any of our cakes/scones plus a hot drink for £4**



Tapas evenings once a month, please check our Facebook page for details

**(The Forge Coffee Shop)** or pop in to the shop to book or find out when the next night is. £15pp and BYOB. 7pm -11pm

In addition we can cater for parties (minimum of 10) offering tapas, tailored menu or buffet. children’s birthday parties or any social gathering.

## COMMUNITY COUNCIL EDF SMALL GRANT FUNDING

The Community Council administer a Micro grants Scheme where individual and non constituted groups can apply for up to £250 to carry out an activity on behalf of the community. The decisions on these grants are made at a Community Council meeting whereby applicants should submit a simple application form outlining their project together with costings.

Application forms can be obtained from the Community Council and if you are interested in applying please contact Caroline Crawford on 01259 761573 or menstriecc641@gmail.com. Alternatively just contact any other Community Councillor.

## The Menstrie Community Resilience Group (MCRG) - "We Warn, Inform & Assist"



MCRG is a subgroup of the Community Council. We aim to...

- Warn the community via social media of pending or on-going major incidents that impact Menstrie.
- Inform the community as a situation develops and recedes.
- Assist emergency services and council staff where safe to do so and, when flooding is a concern, make flood protection equipment available for the community. We will also ask the community for help when required.

We will...

- Post Facebook messages to ***Menstrie Legends and Community*** as ***Menstrie Resilience***
- Tweet as **@MCRG\_Menstrie**



These are some of our resilience group members who met in September to find out about work happening in Menstrie to help protect us from flooding. The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) are a charity we and the council work with and they manage a small band of flood volunteers who regularly visit our "inspection locations" to check they are clear of any debris that might stop water flowing freely in channels. These inspection locations are at "Deaf hills", Long Row, Victoria Terrace and of course

the Menstrie Burn. The volunteers log issues and pass this information to TCV and the council to action clearance works if needed. They also clear simple blockages too, when it's safe to do so, and report monthly with photos and their findings to the TCV coordinator, Amanda Malcolm.

These volunteers have been helping to protect Menstrie for almost two years now and with additional regular maintenance work by the council's Community Payback Teams the risk of flooding in Menstrie is being reduced, so a big "**THANK YOU**" to you all.

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**HUGE** congratulations to Amanda and her colleagues

They have won TCV's national "**Green Hero Award 2019**" for their work with communities, like ours. Some of you may also recognise Amanda for her work with the children in Menstrie Primary for TCV

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Here is a tube presentation about the work they perform - <https://youtu.be/x7pMtrqahDQ>

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If you would like to join MCRG as a member, or just a volunteer to be called upon during emergencies, please email us - [menstriecommunityresilience@gmail.com](mailto:menstriecommunityresilience@gmail.com)

### Small grants for equipment and materials

For community groups whose activities benefit people living in Clackmannanshire, Falkirk and Stirling local authority areas.

The maximum grant is £500

For details and an application form, go to

[www.cfslalottery.org.uk](http://www.cfslalottery.org.uk)

**Community Grants for Clackmannanshire  
Falkirk Stirling Local Authority areas**





## MENSTRIE BOOK CLUB

Come along to Menstrie Book Club,  
The First Wednesday of each month  
In The Forge at 7.30pm



Menstrie



## Christmas Craft and Community Fair

Dumyat Centre  
Sunday 1st December  
11.00am—3.00pm

*Local Crafts, Produce, Preserves, Decorations, Coffee and Cake, Menstrie Voices.*

*Face Painting, Prize Draw.*

*Come along for your Christmas Gifts and support local Trades*

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Thanks to all of the residents who are contributing towards the costs of the ongoing maintenance work on the Estate. If you have not yet joined this voluntary arrangement and would like to participate please make your payment on the 1<sup>st</sup> of every month.

**Bank Account details are: A/c Name – Menstrie Mains Residents Association**

**Bank Account number 16861563.**

**Sort Code 80-22-60**

**Reference Number Your House Number and Street Name – e.g. (16 Pine)**

Without regular standing order payments we will be very limited in what we can do.

We can assure residents that all of the money collected is accounted for and it is being spent on the estate. The figures are available for inspection at any time.

We all have the same aim.....to create a sense of pride in Menstrie Mains Estate.

Please contact the Committee if you require further information on the Residents Association...

## **Menstrie Mains Residents Association**

Email address: menstriemainsra@gmail.com

Website [www.menstriemains.co.uk](http://www.menstriemains.co.uk)

Facebook @menstrie.mmra

### **Christmas Fayre**

This year's **Church Christmas Fayre** will be held on Saturday 30th November From 10 .00am to 12 noon in the Church Hall. Teas & coffees will be served in Rooms 2/3.

There will be the usual variety of stalls, Cake & Candy, adult Tombola, Children's Stall including Face painting, raffle, Gift stall and many more. CRUK are also having a stall.

Tickets priced £2.50 (which includes refreshments) can be purchased from any elder or you can just pay at the door.



## Blairlogie and District



### Blairlogie, Menstrie, Alva and the Hillfoots

The SWI are here to educate, to share, to campaign, to learn, to socialise, to build a community and of course, to have fun. From life skills and arts and crafts to raising awareness of current affairs affecting women and helping inform government issues, the SWI is proud of its heritage and our future vision. Be part of the SWI. Join us to learn how to make that perfect scone... and a bit more too! Come a see what we're about. Try it as a visitor for £3.50 per meeting. If you like it, the subscription is only £27.00 for the entire session. As well as a speaker there is always a cuppa and homebakes, fun competitions, even a raffle for only £1! *We only ask you to bring your own mug.*

Saturday 7th December	Coffee Morning
Wednesday 11th December	Crafty Christmas /Christmas Supper
Wednesday 15th January 2020	Scots Night with Supper / Stirling Gin Company
Wednesday 12th February 2020	Seated Chair Aerobics Tricia Chillas
Wednesday 11th March 2020	Travel Talk - Stuart Low
Thursday 26th March 2020	Hillfoots Group Meeting Evening
Wednesday 8th April 2020	Japanese Gardens - Kate Whyte
Wednesday 13th May 2020	AGM

For further information contact,

*Barbara 01259 762532*

*Stirling Clackmannan and West Perth (SC&WP)*

*Federation*<https://www.theswi.org.uk>

Meetings are at 7pm in Menstrie Scout Hall

### Gala Bingo Teas

Our Bingo teas are all on the last Thursday of the month, below are the dates for this session, all welcome

28th November	2019	27th February	2020
12th December	2019	20th March	2020
31st January	2020	30th April	2020
		28th May	2020



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Want to book the Dumyat Centre?  
[Dumyatcentremenstrie@gmail.com](mailto:Dumyatcentremenstrie@gmail.com)

After the summer, the centre seems busier than ever. The recent Tartan Party raised over £1,000 for the Centre, and a good night was had by all!

The centre facilities continue to evolve. We have now got computers in the community lounge for you to use and enjoy.

We have received £6,000 of funding from the Council to help us run the centre in this first year, and we are currently applying for funding to carry out some cosmetic improvements to the building, such as security lighting and signages.

Because we are getting busier and busier, we need to keep bringing people on board to support us. If you are interested in helping us run the centre, whether as a trustee, or as one of our many desk volunteers, please get in touch – come along to our volunteer cheese and wine evening on 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

The past year has been an important one for the centre. We're looking forward to building on the success in year 2.

Mairi, on behalf of Menstrie Community Action Group

## SAVE THE DATE!

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

7-9 pm

## Volunteer cheese and wine evening!

A thank you for those who have volunteered, and a chance for those who would like to volunteer to find out more....

## LIBRARY UPDATE

We welcome everyone to join us in the #Reading For Pleasure and Reading for Wellbeing trends that are sweeping the entire UK. You don't have to do anything, except join the library and relax with a good book.

It's as easy as that.

We have been exceptionally busy sourcing the latest books. Our star authors include adult authors - Alan Titchmarsh, Sue Moorcroft, Mark Billingham and children's authors Jude Lennon, Morag Hood and many others. Our star publishers include Canon Gate and MacMillan Kids and others. We also thank the public who have donated books. We have done a change-over of books across every section. We have also been very busy with primary school visits, engaging them in Bookbug sessions and our pre-school Bookbug.

We have had successful story-times in the summer and started a Lego Club this autumn.

### **Save the date!**

Thursday 23rd January 2020 – 7pm - 9pm – Scottish themed evening with author Kate Donne, plus book signings.  
Monday 9th March 2020 – 6:30 – 8pm – Twilight Afternoon Tea with author Liz Treacher, plus book signings.

Our guest authors have books for you to borrow in the library.

The opening hours for Menstrie Community Library and Lounge are:

**Monday: 10:00am - 2:30pm**

**Thursday: 5.00pm - 7.00pm**

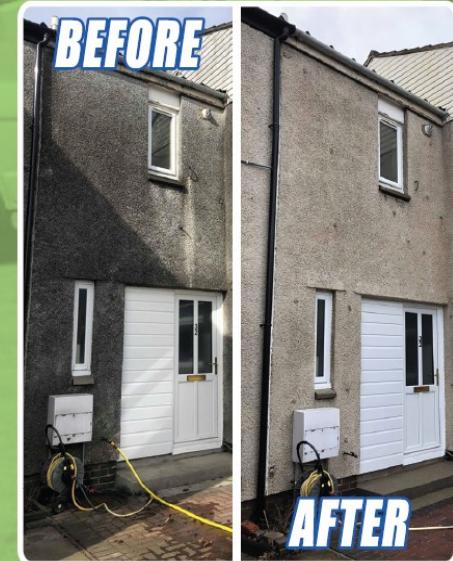
**Friday: 10.00am - 12.00noon**

**Saturday: 10:30am - 12:30pm**

The team would be delighted to see you and help you sign up to join the library.

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Claire Wiltshire - West Lothian



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Lynsey Nicol - Falkirk



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Greetings from the Minister of Menstrie United Free Church of Scotland Rev. Jason Lingiah

Sometimes in life we question who we are and sometimes people have different opinions about this. Some have high opinions about themselves, some are more humble, some class certain people to be important. Self-esteem and self-image are very important things and often society does not give people value or time, especially those who are vulnerable.

In the Christian faith, all life is value. In the book of Psalms, we are told that life is valued. Psalm 139 tells us that we are ‘fearfully and wonderfully made’ by God and speaks about how we were formed and ‘knitted together’ by His hand. It is clear therefore that the Christian faith gives worth and purpose. As we come towards the season of Christmas, it helps us to remember those who are less fortunate.

As we look at life, we realise that things are not as it should be. I wonder if we blame God for these things? Rather, if we take the time to consider the Christian message (rather than rely on what others may have said to us about Christianity) we see that Jesus came into the world to restore this order and to remind us of our worth and ultimately to bring salvation to all who call upon His name. This season provides us with a timely opportunity to consider the claims of Christ.

At the UF, worship every Sunday is at 10am to which all are welcome. The Remembrance Service will be on Sunday 10 November at 10am and there will be a short Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in Menstrie at 3pm that afternoon. Carols and Coffee will be on Friday 6 December at 7:30pm and the Family Christmas Eve Service at 7pm, both in the Church.

More information can be found in the Alloa Advertiser or on Facebook @menstrieufchurch

With every blessing from all at Menstrie U.F. Church,  
9 Balfour Street, Alloa, FK10 1RU. Email [jasonlingiah@gmail.com](mailto:jasonlingiah@gmail.com) tel 01259 215 278

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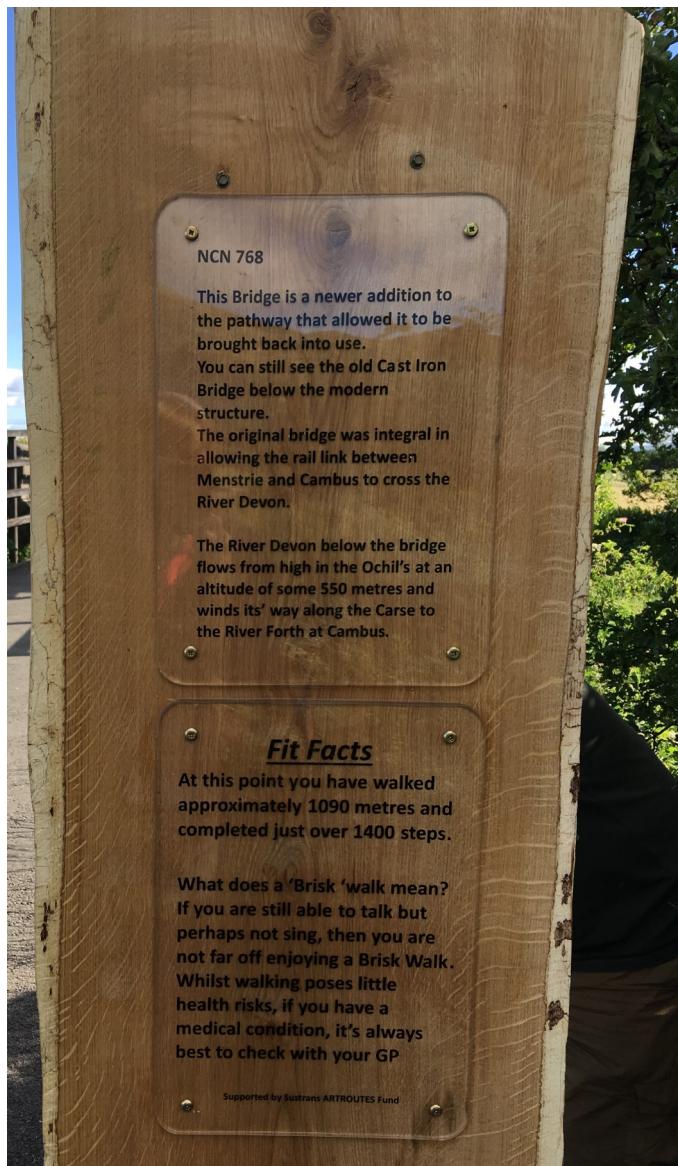
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For Menstrie Matters

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**Community Website...www.menstrie.org**

**Community Council...**

[menstriecommunity@gmail.com](mailto:menstriecommunity@gmail.com)

**Menstrie Gala....**

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Huge Thanks!

To The Community Payback Team for the fantastic job they have done in painting the bridge over the burn.

The Community Council funded the purchase of the paint and the guys did a terrific job in getting it painted, we all feel it adds to the appearance of the village, especially in the black colour away from the odd pink colour it has been for the last few years.

Thanks also to Stan, Bob and the team for the work being done to maintain our flower baskets and tubs, they take a lots of watering and feeding through the summer, (despite this years rain) and without them we wouldn't have the glorious displays we all enjoy so much.



