

MENSTRIE MATTERS

Autumn 2019

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Menstrie Castle Open Day

A previous Premier of Nova Scotia declared that Nova Scotia Day would be celebrated on

10th September and this year is ten years since that declaration.

We are celebrating this day on Sunday 8th September by opening the Castles commemorative room. You will be able to see inside the room, enjoy refreshments and view some of the history of the founding of this Canadian Province.

We will be raising the Nova Scotia Flag at 2.00pm and then stories and pictures of the Castle and its history in a marquee.



ENSTRIE TARTAN WALK 2019 – SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 1100 – DUMYAT CENTRE

As we come around to the time of our annual walk we have altered the way in which we do this from previous years in order to make the walk more enjoyable and sociable. It will also open up the walk to all ages and abilities. This year we will set off from Domyat Centre at 11am and aim to complete our route and return to our finishing point at the centre at 1pm. This walk is designed to get everyone together and enjoy a walk with our friends and family. All monies raised on the day will be split between Menstrie Community Council and MCAG. Every penny will be put back into the community and spent on local projects.

Last year, we raised a total of £1,500 which was passed on to Menstrie Community Council and was spent on Christmas lights, Gala week and other community projects as they have the last few years. This amount of funds helps greatly in local projects with a sole aim – to make Menstrie a better and safer place to live.

However, the whole point of starting the Tartan Walk a few years back was not only to raise funds for the community but more importantly to help make our small community a friendlier, happier place to live. Enable people who did not know each other apart from saying “hello” in the passing to get to know each other better and become friends. Fund-raising can be carried out through sponsor forms (located in the SPAR, Scotmid and The Forge) either as individuals or as a family or just donations handed in on the day.

Its everyone’s community so why not join us to make it a wee bit better.



Save the date for the **TARTAN PARTY!!**
Set to coincide with the Tartan Walk, there will be a family friendly Ceilidh and disco on;
Saturday 7th September from 7pm



This will be hosted by Menstrie Community Action Group at the Domyat Centre.
Look out for ticket details on the OUR DUMYAT CENTRE FB page, or at the Domyat Centre.

From The Chair

Yes, summer has arrived and Mid-town gardens is looking fabulous
Fun filled times at our annual Gala week hope you all had a great time, it is great
to see the whole village work & come together
Focus for the next coming months is working on our community action plan,
introducing some new features along the woodland path and build on making
Menstrie a better place to stay. I am especially keen to talk to anyone with a street
art interest/painting for a local project.

Nova Scotia day will be upon us in no time, look out for the fun filled day planned
at the museum Open Day and of course the opening of our castle museum with
stories and legends present to tell of the history.

Great to see Menstrie Community Resilience Group back in action during the
recent high waters, great band of volunteers turned out to help the more vulnerable
in our village in a time of need.

Any ideas you may have for the village whether it be events, theme, actions or im-
provements - please feel free to drop me a line on
thechair@menstrie.org or mobile 07919008035

Dave Sharp

Chair, Menstrie Community Council

Gala Day

We were so lucky with the weather
again this year!

Pictured is:

Beano the clown performing on
Gala day 2019

Let's hope Beano can make it back
in 2020

A big thanks to Menstrie Petrol
Station, Tanuj @ Spar, Grahams
Chemist & everyone else who spon-
sored and helped out.

We are already planning for 2020 so
if you want to get involved come
along to our meeting on the 3rd
Tuesday of the month in the Dumyat
Centre at 7.00pm, you will be made
very welcome



TRIBUTE TO JOHN (JOCK) McMILLAN

John was born here in Menstrie on 30th June 1923, in what was known as Cosy Corner - officially 1 Brook Street, the Stable House, where his dad was a carter. He was one of seven children, with four brothers and two sisters, and having reached his 97th year, was the last survivor. The family moved in 1937 to Abercrombie Place, to the "height of luxury", with electricity, running water and an inside toilet.

The five brothers all remained in Menstrie, while the girls moved away on marriage. John attended Menstrie Primary School from 1928-35, then Alva Academy from '35-'37, leaving at the age of 14. His first job was on the poultry farm at Middleton Kerse. He was offered an apprenticeship with the Co-op Bakery, then in Park Road, but that didn't last long because John couldn't stand being cooped up inside - he needed to be out in the fresh air.

By now war was on the horizon and as soon as he was old enough, John joined the RAF (as did three of his brothers). He was assigned to Bomber Command - 550 Squadron ground crew, based at North Killingholme, and he was delighted when the family arranged a surprise return visit for him recently, to celebrate VE day. After demob, John started work at the Yeast Factory where he remained for 39 years before taking early retirement in December 1985.

John and May were married in St Ninian's UF Church in 1961, completing their family with the arrival of Calum and Ishbel.

John had a variety of interests including fishing, walking and nature, and was also a keen gardener - not only was his own garden a showpiece, but you could see his influence in several of the neighbours' gardens too!

He was one of the first in Menstrie to own a car - which was frequently borrowed by his brothers. He and brother Frank owned racing pigeons for many years, winning an assortment of prizes.

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 (**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...

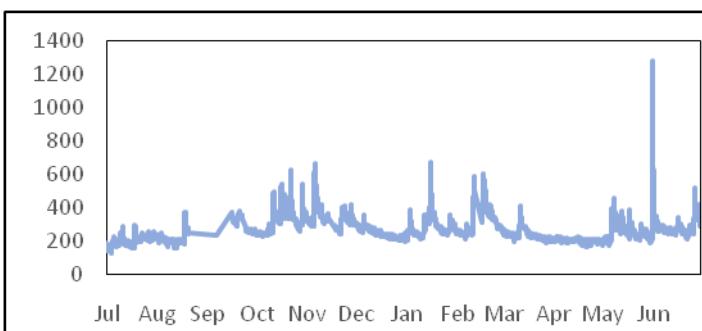
- **Warn** the community via social media of pending or on-going major incidents that impact Menstrie.
- **Inform** the community as a situation develops and recedes.
- **Assist** emergency services and council staff where safe to do so and, when flooding is a concern, make flood protection equipment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

The graph shows the Menstrie Burn water levels (mm) from the Rivertrack sensor since July 2018

The large spike shows a level of 1280mm was reached at 21:25 on the 24th June 2019. This triggered MCRG to mobilise for the first time when we deployed protection equipment from the community flood PODs.



If you would like to join us as a member, or just a volunteer to be called upon during emergencies, please email us - ***menstriecommunityresilience@gmail.com***

MRCG

Just some of the team monitoring the burn during the spell of high water in June. The group is now considered 'live' and will be monitoring the burn constantly, we now have 'pods' in risk areas to allow us to react speedily to flood risks. We hold regular meetings and training to ensure we are ready to go out to protect our village wherever we are able





Robertson Tree Care cutting back the line of sight on Hazel Avenue.

Thanks to all the estate residents who are helping to cover the costs of keeping the estate looking great.

Together we are making a difference.

The Residents Association A.G.M. is on Saturday 5th October at 10.30 in the Dumyat Centre.
We are hoping for a good turnout of residents from the Estate. Please try to attend.
Your views will help to inform our plans for the next year

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

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

We leave the summer and come into the season of autumn. Autumn is perhaps my favourite season. Although the warmth and long days have largely gone, the crisp autumn mornings, the leaves on the ground and the opportunity for indoors evenings whilst still being able to venture out comfortably always excite me. Indeed autumnal is one of my favourite words. Perhaps having spent time in education, both being taught and eaching also means that autumn promotes the sense of a new start, new opportunities and fresh challenges. The enthusiasm is still there until it runs out in midwinter! Even in the wider world, organisations for people of all ages start to resume.

The Psalmist says that ‘my times are in God’s hands’ (Psalm 31:15). This reminds us that all time is precious and belong to God and to use time wisely. We are also reminded here that if our time is in God’s hands, then we must be precious to God. Indeed, we are so precious to God that no matter what time or season we are in, we can be reconciled to God. Jesus said: Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls’ (Matthew 11:28-30). Many claim to have made up their minds on the Christian faith, but few have actually considered the claims of Christ to see if they are relevant to them.

Perhaps in this season of autumn we can find the time to consider what the Christian message and what it could mean for us.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving service will be on Sunday 6 October 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.

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

With every blessing from all at Menstrie U.F. Church,

Rev. Jason Lingiah
9 Balfour Street, Alloa, FK10 1RU
jasonlingiah@gmail.com 01259 215 278

Manse: 9 Balfour Street, Alloa, FK10 1RU



Menstrie Woodlands

You may have notice some work being carried out in the woodlands, we are trying to tidy some of the older trees up and allow the woodland floor to develop.

There will be some heavy tree felling through September and access to the woodlands and pathway will be severely restricted at times, indeed there will be times when the path is closed. We will try and keep this to a minimum but it is for **the SAFETY of ourselves that this is done. I will post on Social media when the exact times are.**

If you are looking for firewood just come along and give us a hand with the clearing and then help yourself, also if anyone has a heavy duty chipper that we could borrow for the branches etc there will be wood chippings available.

New Project

We have been informed that funding for our new project in the woodlands has been granted via the Lottery, this will see new habitats installed for amphibians to the west of the village, the work should commence early September and result in a great new area of interest for the village. More details in the next issue with plans and project details.

Below is a list of the Councillors and their roles, also included are the contact details for your local Councillors

MENSTRIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL CONTACT LIST - 2018/19

DAVID SHARP (Chairperson)	32 Eastmains eastmains32@gmail.com	01259 769070 Mob 07919 008035
CAROLINE CRAWFORD (Secretary)	12 Colsnaur sec.menstriecc@my-inbox.net	01259 761573 Mob 07940 545369
JUDY COLLIER (Treasurer)	26 Middleton judycollier26@gmail.com	01259 761576 Mob 07771 621715
STAN PATERSON	5 Burnside Road	01259 761570 Mob 07808 847341
ELIZABETH COOK	37 Abercromby Place cookelizabeth93@gmail.com	01259 761820 Mob 0745 4011965
OBAID REHMAN	19 Blackthorn Grove	
NICOLA SIMM	19 Pine Crescent nicolasimm2@hotmail.co.uk	Mob 07885 649281
EVELYN STALKER	28 Broompark West evelynstalker@btinternet.com	Mob 07521 416228
IRENE ROSEWEIR	35 Eastmains	01259 762501 ireneroseweir@btinternet.com Mob 07724 405276

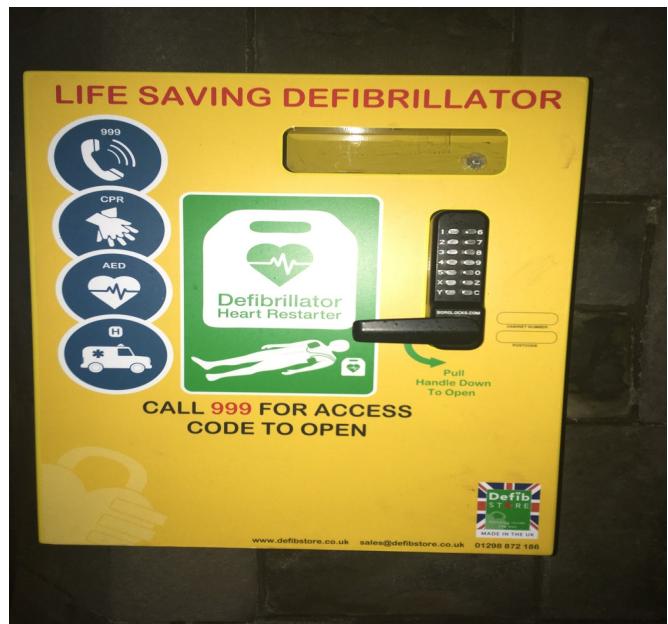
The Community Council meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.00pm in the Dumyat Centre, There is always work to be done, if you feel you could assist please get in touch with any Council member.

Life Saving Defibrillator

The Community council has obtained funding to install a new Defibrillator located at the front of the Church Hall in the village centre.

This is an automatic style unit with instruction for use on the inside of the box. Access can be gained by dialling 999 and follow the instructions you are given. This can save lives, this can make a difference, please familiarise yourself with the location, training sessions will be held in the village in the near future, please watch the Community Facebook pages and the Community website for further details

Dave Sharp (Chair)



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MENSTRIE SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCH CLUB



The Senior Citizen Lunch Club will resume on 5th September after the summer break. This is held in the Dumyat Centre Dumyat Room on every second Thursday from 12.00 - 15.00h.

There is an exercise class prior to the lunch suitable for all abilities. The lunch consists of a main course and sweet, followed by tea/coffee/biscuits served in the Library area. The cost is £3.50 and anybody over the age of 60 is welcome to come along. After the lunch there is occasional entertainment or carpet bowls or bingo.

We have now been running successfully for the past three years and have further funding to continue for another three years.

Come along and enjoy what is a very sociable occasion and the opportunity to make new friends.

Contact Caroline Crawford on 01259 761573

Menstrie Bowling Club



We thought we would tell you just how much the club has come along this year, The Men's team won the Balfour Trophy, the premier competition in the Clackmannanshire and Kinross Bowling Association, We have a County Champion in Mitchell Wilson who won the U-25 Singles for the 3rd Year. Of Course the Club is not all about Bowls, We recently held a Speakers Night where we managed to raise the fantastic sum of £770.00 for Strathcarron Hospice. We hold regular functions in the Clubhouse where all are welcome, even if you are not interested in playing bowls don't hesitate to pop in where you will find a welcoming atmosphere and great banter!

Check us out on FB

Village Choir

We have met a number of times but our numbers are small, we need a few more folk to come along on a Thursday night to make this work, it's not about how great your voice is or whether you can sing solo on stage, its about having some fun, signing in the group, exercise and fitness (you need to get your lungs working) and company.

We are not religious, contemporary, gospel, Gaelic but we will have a go at most stuff, even Abba!

So come and join us, each Thursday 7.00pm – 8.00pm you never know you might enjoy it.

Les Sharp



A Beautiful Picture e taken by James Bryce

CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCILLORS:

COUNCILLOR LES SHARP

lsharp@clacks.gov.uk

Mob 07854 370904

(Surgery held each Tuesday 6pm-7.00pm
in the Dumyat Centre)

COUNCILLOR DARREN LEE

dlee@clacks.gov.uk

Mob 07814 173964



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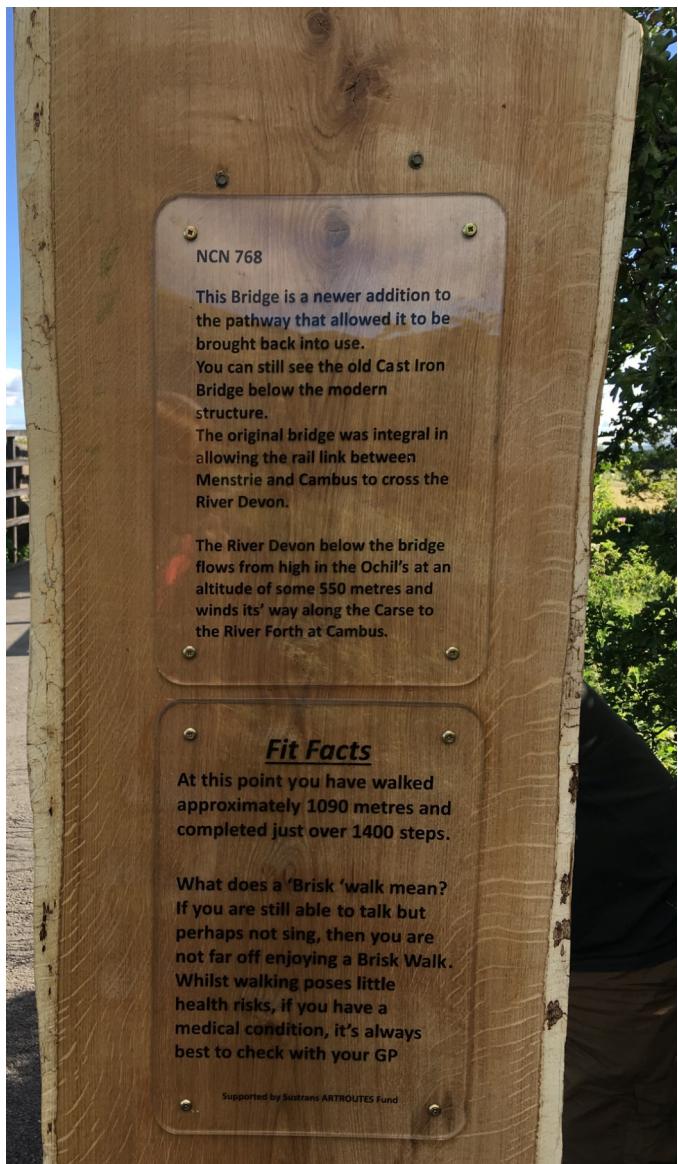
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For Menstrie Matters

Contact;

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01259 763549

Community Website...www.menstrie.org

Community Council...

menstriefcommunity@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

