

# THE CULTER COURIER

ISSUE NO. 183

May 2026



Culter Gala Facebook page



## CULTER GALA 2026 WORLD CUP MAGIC!

**SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY**  
**CULTER SCHOOL PLAYING FIELDS**  
**1.00 PM TO 5.00 PM**

See page  
21 for more  
details

# KIPPIE SUMMER CAMP AWAITS

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CAMP  
2026



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Week 1 - Once Upon A Time  
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away day Skyline

Week 3 - Sky High  
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Week 4 - Around the World  
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Week 5 - By the Seaside  
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CCC Chair, Andy Roberts

## Culter Community Council - from the Chair

Welcome to this edition of the Culter Courier.

### Possible Removal of Culter Dam

The River Dee Trust is examining the possibility of removing the Culter Dam. Their motivation is to open up access for fish to the Leuchar Burn, Ord Burn and all the other connected watercourses, in the hope that this could increase salmon populations in the Dee catchment. They recognise that removing the dam would affect flow rates downstream, and this could change the risk of flooding our residents in Millside and The Paddock currently face. The Trust is conducting flood risk assessments.

A group of residents are keeping a close eye on the evolving set of studies, and we the Community Council are shortly to meet the Trust for an update.

### Post Office and Banking Services

I mentioned in the last issue that Liam Kerr MSP had engaged with Link about the way we are all suffering from the ever shrinking access to banks all along Lower Deeside.

As a result, Link charged its operating company, Cash Access UK, with looking again at Lower Deeside. They are now proposing a Cash Hub in Culter. They

describe a Cash Hub as a manned counter service which allows customers to withdraw and deposit cash, pay bills, top up gas and electric, request bank statements, and request change. This is intended to be an interim solution ahead of a long-term Banking Hub. The one difference with a Banking Hub is that it is run by a rota of staff from different banks.

At present Cash Access UK is seeking premises.

It is looking possible that we will once again have a level of banking services in the village.

### 'Green energy' proposals

Planning applications continue to be submitted between Thurso and Edinburgh for power lines and supporting facilities. There are none at present in our own area. Local authorities continue to



*The River Dee Trust is examining the possibility of removing the Culter Dam. Their motivation is to open up access for fish to the Leuchar Burn Ord Burn and all the other connected watercourses."*

*- Andy Roberts, CCC Chair*

challenge some of these applications – asking for further detail, or refusing the applications. As the proposed works form part of a UK-wide power strategy, we must expect that agreements will be reached at some point.

The Public Local Inquiry (PLI) on the Hill of Fare windfarm application was held last September; the Reporter is compiling her report to the Scottish Government.

### Finally....

If there is anything troubling you, or you want to know who to contact about something, do please get in touch.

### Andy Roberts

Chair, CCC

## Culter Community Council

### Chair

Andy Roberts

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### CCC Meetings:

Meetings are currently held either in the Village Hall or using Zoom.

If you wish to attend a meeting please contact the secretary in advance at:

[secretary@cultercc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@cultercc.org.uk)

Meeting Dates: 26<sup>th</sup> May, 25<sup>th</sup> June, July (No Meeting), 18<sup>th</sup> August

Minutes can be found online at [www.cultercc.org.uk](http://www.cultercc.org.uk) or accessed from any library.

### Culter Courier

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**August Edition**

**2026 Courier**

**Deadline for articles: 19th June**

**Publication date: 31st July.**

## Planning

### Recent planning applications

Planning applications are few in number this winter.

There have been two applications for extensions to houses, one for an enlarged conservatory, and the second to extend and renovate a traditional granite cottage.

### Developments on existing proposals

Planning are allowing the one enforcement case in our area to continue, pending completion of a separate development on the same site.

### Proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan (LDP)

Work continues on compiling the next LDP, proposed for 2028.

Aberdeen City Council (ACC) submitted their Evidence Report to Edinburgh last summer, and Edinburgh set out what else is needed before it will be accepted. ACC are working through the revisions, and it may well be late summer before we hear anything further. As I mentioned in our last edition, the Evidence Report is an entirely-new requirement, both for Edinburgh and for local authorities, so this first time through the new process was never going to be smooth.

The period for developers to propose sites they would like to build on closed last October. We have yet to see the list of local sites. The informal message we have had from ACC is that they do not want to include any significant new sites in Lower Deeside.

### And finally.....

Do get in touch if you want to know more about anything I have mentioned above, whether local to Culter or further afield.

### Andy Roberts

Planning Officer, CCC

## Councillor Malik

**It has been an exceptionally busy three months at the council, with two full council meetings taking place, including the all important budget setting meeting. These discussions are always critical, as they shape not only the council's priorities but also the financial pressures placed on residents.**

During this period, I was pleased to move an amendment to Councillor Boulton's motion regarding ongoing flooding issues



Councillor Malik.

at Millside Paddock and Culter Den. These areas have experienced repeated and distressing flooding incidents, and it is vital that meaningful action is taken. I was equally delighted when Councillor Boulton accepted my amendment and incorporated it into her motion. The intention behind this was clear: to ensure that dedicated funding would be allocated towards a long-term flood prevention scheme for these vulnerable communities.

Unfortunately, as has become all too common, the SNP opposed both the motion and the amendment. Disappointingly, during this process, the convener of finance was seen to laugh at the outcome—something I found deeply inappropriate given the very real concerns and hardships faced by the residents we were seeking to support.

I have proposed £500,000 for flood prevention in labour budget.

The budget debate itself highlighted stark differences in priorities. Labour proposed a 3% increase in council tax, while the SNP put forward a 6.8% rise. If implemented, this would bring the total increase in council tax over the past four years to a staggering 24%. Councillor Boulton, meanwhile, proposed an even higher increase of 8%.

I could not support any of these proposals. In my view, council tax is already too high and increases of 6.8% or 8% place an unfair burden on households, particularly at a time when many are already struggling with the cost of living. Residents are being asked to pay significantly more, yet there is little evidence of corresponding improvements in public services. This is simply not acceptable.

In contrast, our alternative budget focused on delivering practical support where it is most needed. For example,

we proposed an additional £600,000 for winter maintenance. The severe disruption experienced in areas such as Culter, Cults, Bieldside, and Milltimber this past winter—where roads and pavements went untreated for extended periods must never be repeated. Safe and accessible infrastructure during winter months is not a luxury; it is a necessity.

I remain fully committed to standing up for Lower Deeside and ensuring that the concerns of local residents are heard at the council. Your experiences and feedback are invaluable in shaping the work I do.

Long overdue broken fence at Malcolm road has been repaired

If you have any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch. I will always do my utmost to resolve matters on your behalf and to represent your interests as effectively as possible.

### Councillor Malik

[mmalik@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:mmalik@aberdeencity.gov.uk)  
07876745826

## Councillor Boulton

### My article focuses on this year's Council budget 2026/27.

There were three budgets set on March 3rd, General Revenue, General Fund Capital Programme and the Common Good.

Following our settlement from the Scottish Government we had a revenue funding shortfall of £11.022m. In order to close this gap we had to decide on what to set the council tax at, what savings we could potential make on existing spend and if there were income generating opportunities which could be included. I put forward a budget proposal as did all political parties but for this article I will focus on what was in the ruling SNP/ Lib Dem administration's budget which was the one that was approved as they had the numbers to vote it through and what was in my budget proposals, that disappointingly weren't taken on board by the SNP/ Lib Dem.

A significant cost Included in the General Revenue budget spend is the repayment of the capital programme debt, this year it was £64.311m. Some of the large spend items in the SNP/ Lib Dem's capital programme are contentious, items such as £21.7m on Union Street Central (section between Bridge Street and Market Street), purporting to enhance

the public realm and create improved active travel provision, £31.3m on the new Aberdeen Market (Flint), £57.8m on transforming the beachfront with the creation of a park. They are spending £330m on a new secondary school at Hazlehead, a Northfield Community Campus, some improvements at Ferryhill Primary School, Harlaw Academy, St Peter's RC School. This includes previously agreed improvements in this coming fiscal year at certain Victorian schools. Many of the capital projects are either fully or partially legally committed so to stop them now isn't possible, I did try at previous budget and committee meetings but wasn't successful.

The SNP/ Lib Dem have added projects costing a further £9.845m in this fiscal year however, because of the way this expenditure is structured it is forecast to amount to more than £193m over the next 5 years. Existing projects already costing £218.464m this year amounting to £649.380m in 5 years, which totals £228.389m this fiscal year and £843.178m in 5 years, which understandably some people may question. In order to balance the books they took a number of savings such as a £1m reduction in care placements for vulnerable children, reduction of 10% on subsidies to Sport Aberdeen, the Sports Village, Aberdeen Performing Arts (APA), redesign of the Curriculum Resources and Information Service for schools, a redesign of Children's services delivery model and they also used money from the council's earmarked reserve used to de-risk the council. The final part of their budget was to set the council tax budget at 6.8%.

In my capital budget I did try to bring forward the improvements required at Culter School to this fiscal year as opposed to the SNP/ Lib Dem budget which pushed out the repairs beyond 2031, the works at Schoolhill and Upper Kirkgate and the works in the Archives so that they would start this fiscal year, I pushed back the intervention at Union Street East and Justice Street I added money to provide a flood prevention scheme at Millside in Culter and the final capital intervention was to add money for repairs to the listed council owned Aberdeen Art Centre building which is run by the charity Castlegate Arts.

In my general revenue budget I didn't take any of the proposed savings such as the cuts to children's placements, cuts to educational resources, Sports Aberdeen, the Sports Village or APA which I felt Would

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## Your Elected Representatives

For every edition of the Courier we ask each of our directly elected representatives at each level of government to take the opportunity to submit an article.

This includes your local councillors, your Member of Parliament and Member of the Scottish Parliament.

While we always ask if the content could focus on local issues, the choice of subject is entirely up to the author.

Also, the views expressed in these, and all other articles in the Courier, are entirely those of the writer and do not in any way reflect those of the Editor or Culter Community Council.

Contact details are included for each should you wish to comment on the content of their articles.

### Editor

be detrimental to the wider public, I did take a couple of internal council processes savings. I did increase money for winter maintenance and suggest using the old road depot in Culter to build in additional capacity which would mean gritters wouldn't have to keep returning empty to the Tullos to refill which reduces their time spreading. I didn't use any of the council's reserves, and set my council tax at 7.96%. The difference between my council tax amount and the SNP/Lib Dems, in pounds, on a Band D is £17.98 per year. I think for the £17.98 per year is worth not taking the damaging cuts or using reserves particularly in such a volatile time. There were a couple items which were delegated to officer to process which I did appeal to the SNP/Lib Dem administration to reconsidered and they were the phasing out of the remaining lollipop crossing patrollers and the loss of an Environmental Planner post, they declined to do so. All councillors agreed the officer's recommendations on the Common Good budget.

I took the following motion to full council - Instruct the Chief Officer of Education to:

a. Review research and the impacts in schools across the UK who have removed mobile phones from pupils during class time.

b. Review the engagement strategy used with pupils, teachers and parents prior to putting the policy in place.

c. Following the review and engagement, look to roll out a policy supported by the engagement results.

d. Investigate the different types of secure infrastructure used by other schools to house the mobile phones.

e. Agree to install the necessary infrastructure required for securing the mobile phones and to put forward as part of the budget setting 2025/2026 process.

The motion was put forward to the Education Committee to consider, unfortunately the SNP/Lib Dem councillors voted to stick with the status quo. I will revisit their decision but have to wait 6 months before I can resubmit, in preparation for this I have put together a simply survey that I would be grateful



Councillor Boulton

if residents could go online using the following web address - [www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z5YWHKW](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z5YWHKW)

Hopefully when you read this article the sun will be shining and our young people will be finishing up their exams and looking forward to relaxing. Can I appeal to our young people if you are down by the river having fun can you remember to take any rubbish away with you, avoid taking glass in case it gets broken, and if you go for a swim please take care as there can be large bit of wood floating just under the surface also the water may be colder than you think!

I am delighted that after a lot of perseverance and the threat of myself and Peter from the Community Council tackling the broken fence on Malcolm Road, the council has now replaced the fence and it has immediately improved the appearance of the road.

Final few points, I am still receiving complaints about owners not picking up after their dogs, I appreciate many do, but those who don't are requested to please do so every time. Further issues that have been brought to my attention are, people are dumping recycling items that they can't get into the containers, as well as random pots of paint in the small car park on Kennerty Road. If you can't get them in the containers please take them to one of the council's recycling centres, because if they are just left it reduces parking spaces, causes a nuisance to users and an eyesore to the nearby properties. The communal bins

allocated to residential flatted properties in the village, have been getting used by individuals who are not residents, often filling them up leaving no space for the legitimate residents' rubbish. The communal bins are for the use of specific residents so please respect this.

The other two issues which seem to be repeatedly reported to me is inconsiderate parking both on and off double yellow lines, sometimes blocking peoples' drives or making it dangerous for children to cross roads or cycle to school. There is a real problem with inconsiderate parking around the area of the village Hall often causing traffic to stop to allow traffic to pass in one direction only, this has cause problems for ambulances going to emergencies. The final point is speeding on residential streets and the North Deeside Road, this issue is a matter for the police but I have been asked to mention it in my article.

I hope everyone has a lovely Summer, and let's hope for great weather on the day of the Culter GALA.

**Cllr Marie Boulton**

Independent Councillor

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01224 522178 / 01224 734712

**Liam Kerr, MSP**

**Spring in Peterculter-What's On. As the days begin to grow longer and the first signs of spring appear, it's a great time to get out and enjoy the many events and activities taking place locally and across the North East.**

Spring is also an ideal time to get outdoors and make the most of our local surroundings. Culter Community Bikes has a number of bikes available for residents to borrow free of charge, including two e-bikes, an e-tricycle, and a standard bike. Whether you're getting back into cycling or trying it for the first time in a while, the old railway line is a great place to start, and the e-bikes can take you as far as Banchory and back. A short induction is provided to help you get started.

Looking ahead, there are also some exciting community events on the horizon. At the beginning of May Rally at the River celebrates its 5-year anniversary and on the 23rd May there is the Culter Gala - always a popular local event.

The Aberdeen Highland Games will return to Hazlehead Park on Sunday 21st June. A highlight of the summer calendar, it

“  
*Hopefully when you read this article the sun will be shining and our young people will be finishing up their exams and looking forward to relaxing.*”

- Councillor Boulton



Liam Kerr - MSP

promises a full day of traditional events, entertainment, and activities for all ages, attracting thousands of visitors each year. For those interested in history, the Titanic Exhibition at P&J Live in Aberdeen offers an immersive experience, telling the story of the famous ship through artefacts, recreations, and interactive displays. It promises a fascinating insight into one of history's most well-known maritime events.

Perfectly appropriately, and especially given the proximity to the election, I am not able to give any political update here. If you are interested in knowing about what I am doing in the run up to the election, please visit my website.

**Liam Kerr**

MSP

[www.liam-kerr.co.uk](http://www.liam-kerr.co.uk)



## Culter and District Men's Shed

**Ewe will be amazed!!**

Visitors to the forest walks at Voluntary Service Aberdeen's Easter Anguston farm will be amazed at the animals inhabiting the woods. Sheep, rabbits, hares and giant eggs appear in unexpected corners. Finding them can be fruitful, with children winning a small prize.

For a small charge (£2.50) visitors will be supplied with a map, identifying the location of the livestock with each wooden animal having a riddle attached. Solving the riddles will earn the lucky child a small prize.

See the photo showing Jim and Graham from Culter Men's Shed handing over the exhibits, prepared by the Men's Shed, to Erin, the Easter Anguston Commercial Manager. Jim said "Culter Men's Shed are keen to support the local community and hope this donation will create a fun activity for children (and their parents) while highlighting the fantastic work of V.S.A. at Easter Anguston."

The Easter Anguston shop which already stocks a wide range of local products now sells a selection of Men's Shed wood turning products, bird boxes and other natural products.

Membership of the Shed is free and full details of the activities available at the Shed can be found on the website.

**Jim Greig**

07704 986713

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

Jim, Graham and Erin with the Animal Exhibits

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[info@briansmithfuneralservices.co.uk](mailto:info@briansmithfuneralservices.co.uk)



## Culter Village Hall

Hello,

**Spring is here! It's nearly Gala  
time and we will have our Family  
Disco on 16th May 3pm-5pm.  
Come and join the fun.**

Hopefully this year we will get our website  
up and running. It's gonna happen. This  
will show everyone what happens here  
at the hall and maybe allow you to book  
online too.

### Two's Group

Our Two's Group is full just now but we  
will have spaces come August. The Group  
runs Tues, Wed and Thurs 9.15am to  
11.10am for any child age 2 and over to  
come and have fun with other kids without  
their grown up and before they move onto  
longer hours and are aged 3 when they  
attend Nursery.

### Kindergym

There are our Kindergym classes too.  
For 3-5 year olds it's every Wed 1.30pm  
to 2.15pm and for 18mths and over  
Fri 9.30am-10.15am. There is also the  
Toddler's Group every Fri 10am-12pm.  
Take time to come along and see what  
your local community has to offer.

### 200 Club

The 200 Club continues. There are 3  
winners every month now sharing the  
prize pot. It's just £12 for the year & helps

the hall with it's day to day costs.

### Food Share Hub

The partnership with Peterculter Co-op  
store and the food share hub continues.  
It's every Mon -Fri with food items that  
are available to pick up for free on a first  
come, first served basis however please  
be considerate that there's a few folk who  
would like a share.

### Hiring the Hall Rooms

We offer competitive rates for event  
or room hire at the hall. There are four  
different spaces to choose from. The  
lounge area, The Supper Room, Main Hall  
and PG Room which has it's own small  
kitchen and toilets. Most areas have a  
sound system that can be used. The main  
hall is very big and can accommodate a  
bouncy castle up to 12 ft high. We are  
now also offering a £35 package of some  
soft play equipment. Just get in touch for  
more info.

We look forward to seeing you. For more  
information or to book an event or register  
a place at any of the children groups  
please contact us, details below.

### Fiona Jones

Hall Manager

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

01224 734371

Facebook - Culter Village Hall

## Rotary Aberdeen Deeside

### Aberdeen Deeside Rotary 25th Anniversary

We shall be celebrating the 25th  
Anniversary of the Club Charter date over  
the coming year with a number of events  
to which everyone is invited, including a  
Celebration Evening at the Deeside Golf



## ABERDEEN DEESIDE ROTARY

### Celebrating 25 years of Service and Fellowship

### 7pm, Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026

#### Deeside Golf Club, Golf Road, Bielside, Aberdeen. AB15 9DL

**Tickets £40 per person.**

Includes drink on arrival, 2 course meal, followed by Tea/Coffee & Cake.

**To book please contact Moyra Cowie, email: [moyracowie@hotmail.com](mailto:moyracowie@hotmail.com)**

We'll send menu choices for the Dinner.

Booking required by 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026.



Club on Friday 12th of June (see poster for more details). Some of the funds raised this year will be donated towards ShelterBox which is a rotary based charity also celebrating its 25th year and also go towards the Public Bench Appeal.

### Rotary Charity Bingo Night

Some sixty people including a few International Student guests enjoyed a choice of supper followed by 5 games of Bingo at the Ashvale Restaurant on the 25th of February. Including proceeds of the raffle over £800 was raised in support of our Public Bench Appeal, Shelterbox and towards our general charity fund which includes sponsoring two students at the 2026 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA).

### Public Bench Appeal

As you will have seen from previous newsletters, Aberdeen Deeside Rotary Trust are aiming to provide 10 additional benches to be installed at strategic locations along the Old Deeside Railway Line in the section from Pitfodels to Culter. With grants received to date from the Rotary Foundation, Aberdeen Propellar Fund and NESTRANS, we are already in a position to get these benches ordered. The first couple are already installed. However this initiative has highlighted that there are probably more areas in Cults, Bieldside, Milltimber and Culter where benches would be welcome so we continue our drive to raise more funds and aim to buy more than the original 10. Your help is most welcome by donating through our Just Giving Page(see below). Please also feel free to advise us where you think more benches would be welcome should we be able to attract more funding.

### Meeting Venue

Our meeting time is 6.45pm on Wednesday evenings. Access by Zoom is also available by request.

You do not need to be a member to help with or enjoy our activities. We have fun and there is no reason why you wouldn't too. To attend a meeting at the Golf Club (no denim please), get the Zoom link by e mail, or volunteer to help at any of our activities please contact our Secretary Ewen Hatchwell, see details below. Why not give it a try?

### Rotary Aberdeen Deeside

[secretary@deeside.rotary1010.org](mailto:secretary@deeside.rotary1010.org)  
[www.aberdeendeesiderotary.org.uk](http://www.aberdeendeesiderotary.org.uk)  
[www.justgiving.com/campaign/aberdeenbenchesproject](http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/aberdeenbenchesproject)

## Camphill Wellbeing Trust

### Compass Project: Progress and Activities

Spring has come at last with slightly warmer weather and longer days giving welcome relief from the darkness of Winter.

Your local medical charity, Camphill Wellbeing Trust, is excited to announce further progress towards Phase 3 of its Compass Project: Sustainable refurbishment of the former Science block and Kindergarten buildings on its site at Craigton Road, Cults to create a new East Point Health & Enterprise Hub.

Preparatory work has been going on during Winter. Vacant buildings have

### Compass Phase 3

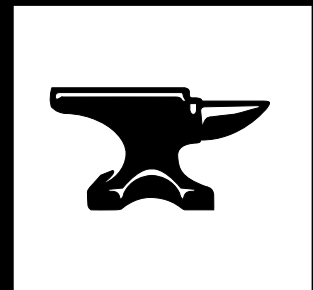


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been stripped back in readiness for new insulation, heating, lighting and fitting out. Architects' plans have been drawn up, and a planning application has been lodged (March 2026).

Our vision is to create a welcoming multi-use space, open to all, to enhance and

“

*Come along to our monthly Free Family Friendly events on the first Saturday of each month”*

*- Camphill Wellbeing Trust*

expand our activities focussing on healthy and sustainable living. The hub will house an organic café and play café linked to a zero-waste training kitchen providing healthy and delicious café food using produce from our own gardens. A large craft room will offer a range of heritage craft and upcycle activities whilst children's items will be a focus of our charity shop space. There will be a dedicated volunteer hub as well as offices, modern toilets and baby change facilities.

The projected costs are around £880k and our fundraising for this is ongoing.

If you'd like to find out more, get involved or help us, please contact us, see details

below.

We hope that this significant investment to support the health and wellbeing of the local and wider community of Aberdeen will enable us to expand and further develop our activities.

In the meantime, come along to our monthly Free Family Friendly events on the first Saturday of each month or volunteer with us on Wednesdays and Thursdays each week.

Check out what else we have on offer by visiting our website - [www.compassaberdeen.org.uk](http://www.compassaberdeen.org.uk)

or contact us at - [compass@cw.t.scot](mailto:compass@cw.t.scot)  
01224 678830

## Culter FC

**The last three months has been busy off the pitch after Culter FC and Culter Youth FC merged to become Culter Community Football Club and are now a limited and charity registered company. The merger was completed in early January and I would like to thank Beth Towsey for the great assistance to both clubs by setting up the merger.**

This will now give a pathway for local youngsters from Culter Youth FC to adult football. It is the intention to apply for membership of the Highland East U18 Development League and in parallel application for membership of the Aberdeenshire U21 Development

League.

However, first we have to install floodlights for our main pitch at Crombie Park as the development leagues are played midweek from September to March. We have received planning permission from Aberdeen City Council(ACC) for the installation of the floodlights. Culter Community Football Club (CCFC) are now trying to raise the appropriate funds for the floodlights installation. At the time of writing there is due to be a CCFC Sportsman Dinner at the Marcliffe Hotel in March to help raise some funds. We are also applying for financial grants from various sports associations for the floodlights installation.

The club has recently started an online lotto to assist with raising funds see web address below for details and access to take part in the lotto competition. If you check the Culter FC and Culter Youth FC Facebook sites you will see full details of the online lotto competition (also see web address below). The club welcomes all persons to participate in the lotto competition. Play our online lottery to help us raise funds!

On the playing front we are currently in 2nd place in the North of Scotland Football League (NoSFL) Premier League. Played 21 matches, won 14 matches, drawn 4 matches and lost 4 matches. Recently our team captain (Richie Petrie) has been out injured for a couple of months, but will hopefully be back for selection in the March/April. We are also in the quarter final of the North of Scotland cup and John Reilly Inter Region trophy. These matches are scheduled on the 4th and 11th April.



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I would like to thank everyone including the numerous club sponsors and our loyal supporters for the fantastic support throughout last season.

Majority of all sports clubs are struggling in these difficult times and we welcome any support with regards sponsorship for the club. See below links for Culter FC Face Book Site and website for more details what is happening in the club.

We welcome everyone to visit Crombie Park in 2026 to watch and support Culter FC.

Regards and take care.

### **Gordon Thomson**

Culter FC President

[gogs.thomson@btinternet.com](mailto:gogs.thomson@btinternet.com)

[www.culterfc.co.uk](http://www.culterfc.co.uk)

Facebook - [CulterFootballClub](#)

[www.ourclublotto.co.uk/play/culterfc](http://www.ourclublotto.co.uk/play/culterfc)

## **Culter in Bloom**

**Here we are again!**

**A long cold winter and yet the bulbs and the pansies survived and came to cheer us!**

Soon we will be clearing the roadside planters to make way for summer blooms. We will be tidying the orchard, keeping St Peter looking trim and weeding and watering the flower beds.

We know all this activity is appreciated by Culter residents as you continue to donate to us and to send us messages of support on Facebook too. This year we showed our appreciation of your support by offering wild flower seeds - we hope



A Bonny Planter courtesy of Culter in Bloom

they thrive for you.

However, we do have a looming difficulty. Our committee of 7 has a total age of over 500 (!) and despite our robust health and strength we can't go on forever. We are lucky to have a small willing group of volunteers who help us clear, plant and water but we need some folk to have the overview of planning and any new ventures. We have no idea what will happen if we can't find a few more willing committee members - imagine North Deeside Road without those bonny planters.

Remember ours is a local initiative not funded or manned by Aberdeen Council (though they do offer advice and support) so Culter will probably not be blooming at all without more volunteers.

We have 4 or 5 meetings a year so it is not too time consuming. You don't need to be a horticulturist just to like flowers and want to help keep our village the pleasant place it is.

Please contact Catherine or me for further information (contact details below), we will also be available at the Gala for any questions and we have a busy Facebook page so please contact us.

We hope to hear from you soon.

### **Carol Page**

**Carol Page (07814463242)**

**Catherine Lacy (01224 733710)**

## **Maryculter SWI**

**Maryculter SWI usually meet at the Corbie Hall, South Deeside Road, Maryculter on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30 p.m.**

At our meetings, we provide a wide range of talks, activities and competitions for our members enjoyment.

With this aim in mind, we have scheduled the following events for May to June 2026. We are then taking a break in July and August, before meeting again in September -

13th May 2026

"Business Meeting, Bring & Buy and Bingo" to be followed by competitions, teas and coffees

10th June 2026

"Summer Outing" to Aberdeenshire Highland Cattle, Banchory.

If you would like to come along to one of our meetings, you will be made very welcome. The fee (per meeting) is £5 for non-members and £4 for members of



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1.00 PM TO 5.00 PM**

other SWI Institutes.

More information is available on our Facebook page or by contacting our Secretary Christine (see below).

### Maryculter SWI

Christine - 07398156039

Facebook - MaryculterSWI

## Culter Hillwalking Club

After various excitements tackling snow lately, we are (hopefully) back into spring walking, without a care for extra clothing and winter tyres.

Mount Battock was snowy, Craig Leek was snowy, Cairn William was windy, Cairnagour was windy... We saw the occasional mountain hare clad in white fur, but no ptarmigan this year. And, not too many red deer, conservationists will be pleased – or they were hiding!

To come is an impressive list of Munros: Carn a Gheoidh, Derry Cairngorm, Beinn Mheadhoin, Beinn Iutharn Mor, Lochnagar, Glas Maol, and old favourites Driesh and Mayar. However, we also offer walks taken at a more leisurely pace on Sundays, worth checking out!

See our complete programme of Sunday and Monday walks on our website (see below) or our Facebook page for photos.

Smiling Despite the Rain on Cairn William

For the most up-to-date information and extra info, please contact us.

“

*We saw the occasional mountain hare clad in white fur, but no ptarmigan this year. And, not too many red deer, conservationists will be pleased – or they were hiding!”*

- Culter Hillwalking Club

### Catherine Lacy

James Brownhill (01224 897273)

Catherine Lacy (01224 733710)

culterhillwalkingclub@gmail.com

## Culter Library

We've had a busy few months at Culter Library. Besides celebrating the one year anniversaries of our First Monday of the Month Book Group and our very popular Community Puzzle

Swap, February and March saw the delivery of two beautiful Memories Sessions, where we reminisced about the Aberdeen of days gone by with members of the local community.

We also had the pleasure of meeting some amazing new young people, with class visits from both schools and nurseries, as well as at our monthly Bookbug Session for those aged 0-5 years. We are always happy to host groups of young people in the library, whether classes or community groups, and this can be arranged by speaking to a member of staff or contacting us on the details below.

As we look forward to the coming months, our annual Aberdeen Reads summer challenge will kick off in June with a number of events running at Culter Library and across the library service throughout the summer holidays. Details will be announced closer to the time.

Finally, if you would like to join the library in the meantime, simply bring some ID to your local branch and we can sign you up within a couple of minutes. Alternatively, you can sign up online via the library website. Please note that children under 16 do not require ID to join.

We very much look forward to seeing you over the coming months.

### The Culter Library Team

culterlibrary@aberdeencity.gov.uk

01224 070155



## Somewhere

There is place known only to a few,  
not because they covet it for themselves  
but, because they want to keep it  
from being lost and stolen and destroyed.

They have always nurtured this place  
as best they could – and they were sad  
that it had to be hidden away – they  
helped the folk that lived there  
'though there were so many dangers  
and it was not easy,  
as many forgot as they toiled  
there was nowhere more beautiful.

Many of the bad folk  
tried to take it away  
from those who struggled  
to keep this place fine,  
but, for every one of the bad folk  
there were a hundred good.

And say that someday soon  
this secret lovely place  
will be revealed to all,  
stretched through the wedge of night  
partway between the sun and the moon.

This land.  
This Earth.  
That we call home.

by Adam Parry  
Local Poet

## Village Defibrillators Update

**The Heritage Hall has recently had a defibrillator fitted.**

This brings (to our knowledge) the number of defibrillators in the village to 8, these can be found at the following locations:

- Men's Shed
- The Ploughman
- The Village Hall
- Kippie Lodge
- The Retirement Park
- Culter Church

- Culter School
- The Heritage Hall

Some of them will only be accessible when the building is open and others need a code which you can get from the Ambulance service. Have a look at the ones near you to become familiar with them.

If you're on your own use the hands-free speaker on a phone so you can start Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) while speaking to ambulance control. Do not leave a casualty to look for a defibrillator yourself, doing CPR is more important.

It is scary if someone collapses but doing something is better than doing nothing. The British Heart Foundation website (see below) provides videos and guides on how to do CPR.

**Heritage Hall Team**

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



## 58th Culter Scout Group

### Beavers

We kicked off January by celebrating Scottish heritage in true Highland style with our Thistle Award. The Beavers threw themselves into their very own Highland Games, complete with an enthusiastically competitive game of Tug o' War. They also made delicious Cranachan puddings and explored some of Peterculter's local landmarks, including the War Memorial and the Rob Roy statue.

Next, we turned our attention to the Digital Citizen Level 1 badge, which sparked some eye-opening conversations about just how far our digital footprints can reach. The Beavers also learned how to create strong, impressively tricky passwords – valuable skills as they grow in confidence online.

Our work on the Emergency Aid Level 1 badge brought plenty of energy to the hall, with some very speedy recovery positions on display. The Beavers learned about the importance of getting help, who to ask, and how to respond in different emergency situations.

We are now working towards our Space and Builder activity badges,

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exploring both our planet and how it is viewed from space. We'll be rounding off the term with a space-themed camp at Templars and a visit to the NESCol Planetarium – an adventure the Beavers are already very excited about.

It has been a packed, joyful and rewarding term, and we couldn't be prouder of everything our Beavers have achieved. A special congratulations goes to Daniel Jones, who was presented with his Chief Scout's Bronze Award.

### Cubs

The Cubs have been busy indoors over the winter months, enjoying a wide range of activities. Alongside their usual games, they have built Airfix models and taken part in an egg drop challenge, where they had to engineer a device to protect a falling egg.

They have also been learning knots and working towards

### 58th Culter Scout Group

their Communicator and World Challenge badges.

A special thank you goes to Victoria from Culter Vets for bringing Richard the parrot to visit us. Richard was an enormous hit with all the Cubs and made for a very memorable evening.

### Scouts

Our Scouts have had a busy winter term, developing their food preparation and outdoor cooking skills using camping stoves. While we have a large repertoire of

indoor games to enjoy during the colder months, dodgeball remains the firm favourite every time.

In February, the Scouts enjoyed an indoor camp at the Sir Arthur Grant Centre near Monymusk. During the camp, they spent an afternoon tubing at the Alford Dry

“  
Our Scouts have had a busy winter term, developing their food preparation and outdoor cooking skills using camping stoves.”

- 58th Culter Scouts Group

Ski Slope. We are very grateful to the residents of Peterculter Retirement Park, whose generous donations paid for the tubing session. It was thoroughly enjoyed by Scouts and leaders alike.

We were also delighted to welcome District Commissioner Mike Wynn to camp, where he presented our leader, Luke Nicol, with his 25-year service award. Congratulations to Luke, and thank you for the many years you have spent inspiring Scouts and supporting young people to enjoy the outdoors and challenge themselves.

The Scouts have also enjoyed climbing and bouldering at RGU, and at the time of writing, we are looking forward to a trip to the NESCol Planetarium to round off the winter term.

### Could You Join Us?

If any of our activities sound like fun, we are always delighted to welcome new adult leaders to any of our sections. We are a very supportive team, and being involved is hugely rewarding – and great fun too.

To find out more, please contact Bren at the email below.

**Bren Hector**

[bren.hector@culterscouts.org.uk](mailto:bren.hector@culterscouts.org.uk)

## Deesiders Walking Group

We love our spring walks as the weather is getting warmer and things are coming back to life.

On our Tuesday walks we usually do an average of six miles. These normally tend to be six fairly easy miles and are suitable for all fitness levels. We have our own WhatsApp group so we can keep members updated of any news or changes.

Twice now during a frosty walk we have seen a phenomenon called Rainbow frost/ice crystals. We are in awe as it is so stunningly beautiful, a photo does not do it justice. I have read that this is due to the way light interacts with the ice crystals causing optical or prism effect, usually when the sun is low in the sky.

As a group we will sometimes have a social get together and recently attended one of the meal and quiz evenings held at the Royal China restaurant. It was an enjoyable evening even though we proved ourselves not to be very knowledgeable.

Please feel free to join us on one of our Tuesday walks. For more information please contact me.

**Debbie Mackenzie**

[Debbiemackenzie67@gmail.com](mailto:Debbiemackenzie67@gmail.com)

# Peterculter Golf Club

The sun is shining and warmer weather is on its way – a bit of a contrast to the worst start to the golfing year we've had in a long time.

We had some flooding in February but damage was limited to the bunkers in the lower half of the course and thanks to the greenkeeping staff we were very quickly back playing.

By the time this goes to press the traditional opening competition of Captain vs Vice Captain will have taken place on March 21st signalling the start of the summer golfing season.

The Gents popular Winter League was hit by bad weather at the start of the year with the Final played on March 15th in windy but dry conditions. The winners were Iain Bruce and Ricky Will – two Culter loons - both I'm sure are well known to many of you reading this article. The runners up were Derek McKilligan and Stuart McIntosh. Congratulations to all.

The Ladies Section pre season social was very successful with a buffet and fashion show. Aberdeen's Tiger Lily Boutique showed their new summer fashions and accessories. The models were all members from the club with ages from 40

Winter League Winners and Runners-up: Iain Bruce, Ricky Will, Derek McKilligan & Stuart McIntosh.

to 92, so very inclusive! As ever a great night at the club.

We took delivery of our new clubhouse furniture in early January - so come up and see the new look for yourself and enjoy a meal or a coffee.

Golf and Social memberships can be accessed via the PGC website or by contacting Mandy (see email below). There are also Quiz Nights, Fish Fridays and other social evenings throughout the year – just check the PGC website for dates of events.

## Liz Davidson

Club Captain

[www.petercultergolfclub.co.uk](http://www.petercultergolfclub.co.uk)

[membership@petercultergolfclub.co.uk](mailto:membership@petercultergolfclub.co.uk)

# Culter Flower Show

Hello everyone, what a start of the year weather wise. Having the first two weeks of the year with in excess of 15 inches of snow, then thawing quickly away to give us 3 weeks of sunless days and rain, lots of rain! It is surprising how quickly the ground has dried out by the middle of March, with some decent sunshine.

The soil is probably not quite warm enough to get seeds sown in the ground, but if you are lucky to have a greenhouse, then there are no excuses in getting things started.




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Our flower show schedule is ready, but at the moment, our website is not available. If you want an electronic copy, please e-mail us (see below) and we will send a copy by return email. We will try to get a copy of the schedule on our facebook page (see below). There will be hard copies available from June, usually from the library.

If you are considering entering this year's show, but you are unsure what to do, just send an e-mail and we will guide you in the right direction.

Our next meeting will be the pre-show planning meeting which will be held at the village hall on Thursday 18th of June, starting at 7:30pm. Anyone wishing to help out is cordially invited to join us at this meeting or express their interest in helping out on the day, please call, text or email us.

Best wishes,

**Kenneth Ross**

Secretary

07776 170728

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

Facebook – [culterflowershow](https://www.facebook.com/culterflowershow)

## Culter 50+ Walking group

We have been very lucky to have had some very pleasant walks during this early part of the year, and we were fortunate to have reasonable weather for each one,

“

*Saturday 25th April, 10am-12noon, St Peters Heritage Hall, Peterculter. Do come along. Enjoy a coffee and have a chat with our members.”*

*- Culter 50+ Walking Group*

Our members enjoyed walking in the Bucklerburn area of Culter, Old Aberdeen and Seaton Park, and more recently at Castle Fraser.

Our very friendly group go walking every second Thursday throughout the year

and enjoy getting together to explore the countryside and coastal areas in the local vicinity. We usually gather for a pre-walk coffee making a social occasion of our outings.

Our membership remains good though a few decided, for various reasons, not to join again this year.

We should like to attract some new members to our group and so have decided to hold a coffee morning for anyone interested to come along and meet us and find out more about the group.

Saturday 25th April, 10am-12noon, St Peters Heritage Hall, Peterculter. Do come along. Enjoy a coffee and have a chat with our members. Contact details below for more information.

**Sheila Jones**

Secretary

[g3ymk@aol.com](mailto:g3ymk@aol.com)

07990573054

## Culter & District Pipe Band

**Culter & District Pipe Band and the 47th Culter Boys Brigade Novice Juvenile Pipe Band are gearing up for another successful competition season this year.**

Under pipe major Neil-John Robertson and lead drummer Suzie Bruce, we'll be making our debut at grade 3B, having been upgraded after our successful season last year. The competition will be tough but we've been working hard over the winter learning new tunes and

preparing for the challenge. We've also welcomed new members to the band, and we're looking forward to producing a big sound.

Our 3B band will be at four 'major' competitions this year – the British Championships, the European Championships, the Scottish Championships and the World Championships, and our Novice Juvenile band will make their "majors" debut at the British and World Championships. Both bands will also be competing at a number of local competitions over the spring and summer, including the Aberdeen Highland Games, the Stonehaven Highland Games and the Garioch Highland Games, plus a few more further afield. It's shaping up to be a busy season!

If you're a former piper or drummer thinking about getting back to playing, contact us by email or through our social media accounts. We also offer tuition, so if you're looking to get started, give us a shout!

The band is available for public and private engagements, whether as the full band, a mini band, or individual pipers/drummers. For more information, please email us. We also have a new website that's full of information, news and photos.

**Culter Pipe Band**

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

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

Facebook – [CulterPipeband](https://www.facebook.com/CulterPipeband)

Instagram – [culterpipebands](https://www.instagram.com/culterpipebands)

Culter Pipe Band



# Culter Primary School

As term three comes to an end, it has been a busy and exciting time for everyone at Culter Primary School, with pupils across all stages engaging in a wide range of learning experiences.

In the early years, pupils have been exploring Scotland and learning about their family trees, helping them understand their heritage. In the upper school, classes have focused on a variety of historical topics. Primary 3 and Primary 4 have been learning about Ancient Rome, Primary 5 have been exploring the Vikings, Primary 6 have been studying Ancient Egypt, and Primary 7 have been learning about the Jacobites.

Pupils have also enjoyed several educational trips. The youngest classes visited Duthie Park, while Primary 6 visited the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh. Primary 7 travelled to Culloden Battlefield,

“

*Pupils have also enjoyed several educational trips. The youngest classes visited Duthie Park, while Primary 6 visited the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh. Primary 7 travelled to Culloden Battlefield.”*

- Culter Primary School

bringing their classroom learning to life in a meaningful way.

Looking ahead, Primary 7 are preparing for their upcoming residential trip to Dalguise in Perthshire, which is sure to be a memorable experience. Stay tuned to hear how they get on!

The school has also been delighted to receive a new outdoor library, designed and created by the Culter Men's Shed. This provides pupils with access to books, comics, and stories during playtime, offering a quiet and creative alternative within the playground. With plenty of exciting opportunities still to come next term, the school community is looking forward to what lies ahead. For now, everyone at Culter Primary School wishes pupils, their families, and the wider community a relaxing and happy Easter.

With best wishes from,  
**Primary 7 Communication Pupil Voice Group**

Culter Primary new outdoor library



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# Culter Mills Social Club

## Club Facilities

Newly refurbished throughout. Members lounge with 75 inch TV, dog friendly. Function Room (bookable for private events including weddings and funeral teas). Beer garden and dome bookable for afternoon teas/private parties. Bowling Green (with changing facilities) Also Snooker Room (with two tables).

Membership is open to all. New members and guests welcome.

For more details please see our Club Facebook page (see details below).

## Upcoming Events / Activities

9th May

- Saturday Dance - Steven Carcary Gavin Piper 8pm - 11pm

14th May

- Tea Dance 1.30pm - 4pm

28th May

- Tea Dance 1.30pm - 4pm

13th June

- Saturday Dance - George Rennie 8pm - 11pm

25th June

- Tea Dance 1.30pm - 4pm

25th July

- Saturday Dance - Johnny Duncan 8pm - 11pm

28th November

- Festive Prize Bingo - 7.30 pm

6th December

- Rita Riot Christmas Party

18th December

- Tea Dance 1.30pm - 4pm

20th December

- Festive Music Bingo 4pm

31st December

- Hogmanay Party with Totico

## Outdoor Bowling 2026

Bowling Section opens 18th April 11.00 am, first jack under the guidance of re-elected President Steve Davidson, the green is already looking in great condition.

Last year's big winners Keith Murison and Eileen Bremner will be looking to defend their trophies.

Let's hope for another hot season.

## Regular Activities / Events

Busy Fingers - Lounge every Thursday 1-4pm.

Knitting/crafting group with chat and tea/coffee.

Weekly Sunday Bingo 2-4pm

Bacon Bap and a Yap - every second Saturday of the month 10am-12 midday

## Culter Mills Social Club

Facebook - [cultermillclub](#)

## Scotch Broth - Traditional Music Group

We started back together after New Year rather later than originally anticipated having postponed our usual Scotch Broth Social evening, initially when one of our members suddenly

passed away and then because of the snow. But mid-January saw a goodly crowd of us, with a surprise guest artist, and we had a most successful and enjoyable evening in St Peter's Heritage Hall.

As has become the norm we were treated to short spots by anyone who wanted to, MC-ed by Shirley. We had a good and fun selection from contributors, ranging from Rob's Bach Fugue on the keyboard; via Bothy Ballads led by Charlie on the accordion; to Shirley's amusing rendition of "Inky Pinky Parlez-vous"; a Northumbrian tune from Colin on his latest instrument - Leicestershire small pipes; to "Dedicated Follower of Fashion" from Adrian with his guitar and in good

Scouts   
21<sup>st</sup> Aberdeen (Cults) Scout Group

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- \* Bric-a-Brac
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- \* BBQ

**SATURDAY**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> MAY 2026**  
**10am - 1pm**

**Cults Scout Centre, South Avenue, Cults**

Raising funds to equip young people with #SkillsForLife.

Small entrance fee applies.

voice. All interspersed with a variety of more traditional offerings on fiddles and whistles by others.

Our guest artist was Kenny Hadden, one of Scotland's top whistlers and flautists, recognised also in the Scottish Traditional Hall of Fame for his services to local communities and encouragement to the younger generations, particularly at the School of Excellence in Traditional Music at Plockton. Kenny came hotfoot from appearing at Celtic Connections in Glasgow - the foremost traditional music festival in Scotland - where he shared the stage with Cameron Nixon, a young singer and fiddler, from Culter, and we were most grateful to Kenny for giving up his time to join us, all the way from literally across the road, also in Culter. Thank you again, Kenny. Those of you who have been supporting the Heritage Centre for years may remember Cameron joining us 10-15 years ago when he sang at the Christmas Music concert afternoon for several years before his voice broke. His father still joins us at Scotch Broth when he can.

We also had a light-hearted quiz on Christmas carols and hymns - not always as simple as you might think - and finished up with a stramash for everyone. Many thanks to all who came and / or contributed to the evening, and hope we'll see everyone again next year.

Several of us are also members of Cults Folk at the Hub and entered the Traditional Music and Song competition day of the Aberdeen Branch, to defend our shield from last year. We won again - although we were the only entrants for that class but we felt we'd played well and the adjudicator was very complimentary. It was also enjoyable and fun.

We've welcomed a new member over the last few weeks, an accomplished guitar player, now familiarising herself with the variety of music we play. Later on in the Spring we expect to be playing for Tor-na-Dee residents.

If anyone would like to join us, on any instrument at intermediate level, do come along on a Sunday evening 7-9pm in St Peter's Heritage Hall, near the old station, in Culter. Music, music stands and a cuppa provided.

**Christine Miller**

01224 730091

## Culter Theatre Club

**Back in February, Culter Village Hall was host to the Scottish**

CULTER THEATRE CLUB PRESENTS

# THE VICAR OF DIBLEY



**5th, 6th, 12th & 13th June 2026**  
7.30pm at Culter Village Hall. Doors Open 7pm.

Join us as we bring this hilarious and beloved comedy to Culter this summer!  
Bring your own bottle & snacks, table seating.  
Book online or at the village hall. Tickets £15



[www.cultertheatreclub.co.uk](http://www.cultertheatreclub.co.uk) **NODA**  
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### Community Drama Association's Aberdeen District - Festival of One Act Plays.

After an absence of many years, we were excited to once again have an entry in the competition, performed alongside those from Banchory Drama Club and Bon Accord Players. Our team were delighted to receive the prize for 'Best Moment of Theatre'. As I write they are now making final preparations before heading up to Orkney to represent Culter Theatre Club (CTC) in the next round of the competition. Well done and good luck to all involved.

Meanwhile, we are now well underway with rehearsals and preparations for our 2026 summer production - "The Vicar of Dibley."

Following the passing of the Reverend Pottle, the parishioners of Dibley are introduced to their brand-new vicar -

Geraldine Granger - a progressive, level-headed, chocolate-loving... woman! With the locals in uproar, Geraldine presses on with the task at hand, hoping her endearing personality and joyful ministry will win them over eventually.

Based on the classic BBC sitcom, this much-loved stage adaptation follows Geraldine's trials and tribulations as she navigates the quirky characters and charming eccentricities of the village.

Join the Vicar and fellow parishioners on the 5th, 6th, 12th and 13th of June for what promises to be an unmissable evening of blessed laughter. With a hilarious story, outrageous characters, and possibly even a wedding on the cards, you really won't want to miss it. The event is table seating, and we encourage you to bring your own refreshments.

So, is it worth getting a ticket to see

The Vicar of Dibley? No, no, no, no, no... definitely yes! Head over to our website where tickets are available now. Don't delay - they always go quick!

I look forward to seeing you all there.

### **Matt Howie**

Chair

[www.cultertheatreclub.co.uk](http://www.cultertheatreclub.co.uk)

Facebook - [cultertheatreclub](https://www.facebook.com/cultertheatreclub)

## **Peterculter Parish Church**

### **Services**

Service 10.30am each Sunday. All are welcome.

You can catch up with our YouTube Channel or watch the service live online. The church though isn't just a Sunday service.

### **Instant Neighbour**

Monday 10am-12noon. Donation/collection point for Instant Neighbour who support those in food poverty.

### **Coffee and Singing**

Coffee every Thursday 10-11.30am.

Coffees, and cake every second Saturday morning 10-11.30am.

Singing Group on a Tuesday evening at 7pm from May.

### **Drumoak Church Hall**

Friendship club Drumoak Church Hall at 2pm on the first Monday of the month which has speakers from local groups and coffee and cake.

Sunday afternoon worship once a month (details on church website)

### **Durris**

We no longer have a church building in Durris. When the building closed a cherry tree was planted as a living witness to the worship that had taken place over the years there.

We will be erecting a plaque to go along with tree on Sunday 10th May at 2pm. You are welcome to join us for this or any of the events above.

### **And finally....**

There is also a variety of local groups using the church halls throughout the week from country dancing to Yoga, Cubs, Beavers and Culter Pipe Band. More details for all of the above can be found on our website or via telephone (see below).

### **Rev Emma McDonald**

Minister

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**CULTER GALA 2025**  
**WORLD CUP MAGIC!**

**SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY**  
**CULTER SCHOOL PLAYING FIELDS**  
**1.00 PM TO 5.00 PM**

# CULTER GALA 2026

## WORLD CUP MAGIC

**MONDAY 11 MAY -  
SATURDAY 23 MAY**

### **FOOTBALL MAGIC SCAVENGER HUNT**

Daily in Culter Library.

Put your sleuthing powers to the test with our tricky scavenger hunt. Suitable for all ages. Please note that children under 8 years old must be accompanied by an adult.

Football themed books and colouring sheets are also available at the Library.

**FRIDAY 15 MAY**

### **GALA QUIZ NIGHT**

Culter Mills Club, 7pm for 7.30pm start. £10 per table of 4 people. Tables can be pre-booked via the Gala Team, email [cultergala@gmail.com](mailto:cultergala@gmail.com) or Facebook

**SATURDAY 16 MAY**

### **FAMILY DISCO**

Culter Village Hall, 3-5pm. £7.50 per Child (siblings half price), includes snack goody bag. Book in advance via Village Hall contact details below.

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

01224 734371

Facebook - Culter Village Hall

**SUNDAY 17 MAY**

### **CULTER SCOUT'S DUCK RACE**

1-3pm, at Culter Burn, Station Road South. Please walk or cycle to event, area will be with limited parking.

### **CULTER SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL**

Afternoon Tea and Cakes - 2-4pm, St Peter's Heritage Hall. Please walk or cycle to event, busy area with limited parking.

**SUNDAY 17 MAY**

### **STORY TELLING**

Grampian Association of Storytellers - 2-4pm at St Peter's Heritage Centre. Suitable for all ages. Please walk or cycle to event, busy area with limited parking

**MONDAY 18 MAY**

### **BOWLING HAT NIGHT**

7pm onwards at Culter Mills Club, School Crescent. Entry £2, all welcome.

**WEDNESDAY 20 MAY**

### **CAR TREASURE HUNT**

6.30-7pm start, from Culter Mills Club. £3.00 per person. Tea, coffee and sausage rolls afterwards.

**THURSDAY 21 MAY**

### **FOOTBALL MAGIC STORY AND CRAFT SESSION**

Culter Library, 3.30pm to 4.15pm, Ages 6+. This will be a drop-in session, no need to book. Come and enjoy some football-themed crafting in your local library. Children under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult.

**SATURDAY 23 MAY**

### **CULTER GALA 2026**

World Cup Magic at Culter School Playing Fields, Coronation Road. Official opening of gala 1pm, finishes 5pm.

Lots of stalls and activities including Remote Control Cars; Culter and District Pipe Band; Bouncy castles; face painting; Zoe Skea football match; Raffle; and Music by Undercover Oasis.

Culter and District Pipe Band's Pipeathon around Culter from 5.30pm, see Culter Gala facebook page for route and times.

Email: [cultergala@gmail.com](mailto:cultergala@gmail.com) Facebook - Cultergala

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL THERE!**

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if you can and be considerate  
of our neighbours!

58CS

58TH CULTER SCOUTS

# The Heritage Hound

The Hound has been busy over the winter months, following leads and answering your many inquiries for information about the local area. It is also 'talk season', with groups across the City requesting interesting input for their members programmes.

In the last Courier, we went back a hundred years and relived some of the events which happened in the area in 1926. In this edition, let's have a bus ride along the village and spot how things have changed since the "Roaring Twenties".

I might be tempted to take a trip out of Aberdeen on one of the new "Gordon Line" buses. They are the new 32-Seater Albion Super Saloons. The buses run, every 40 minutes, between the Wallace Statue and Culter Square. The special through fare is only 5d! I am promised "Steady Speed, No Racing" and "comfort and confidence are assured". I can spend the day visiting relatives and get the last bus from Culter to Holburn Junction leaving at 10.50pm - "Watch by Night for Purple Light" is their

memorable motto.

We reach the outskirts of the village, just before the 7th milestone. The driver has to pause for a few minutes as a herd of cows makes its way down the brae towards Pittengullies Farm. There are still open fields on our left hand side, but work has begun on some small villas, on the railway side, just opposite the gravel pit. The bus soon reaches the first occupied dwelling - Priory Hill. In 1892, John Johnston, then managing director of the Culter Paper Mills, built this "commodius" house, set in 2 and a half acres of ground. However, he only lived a few more years, dying in 1897. The house was eventually sold to W.J. Middleton who ran a wholesale manufacturing stationer, printing and book-binding business in Adelphi Court, Aberdeen. The upset price, for the purchase, was £1000.

Opposite Priory Hill, I look out the window and take in some of the names of the older Victorian villas - Callievar, Dunmyat, East Bank and West Bank. East Bank, I am told is where I can find Alexander Lorimer, the Culter Dentist. Just a little further along the road the bus arrives at the Elizabethan-style Duff Arms Hotel. This hotel, the Gordon Arms Hotel, and Hildesay House were all built around the

same time - the Gordon Arms was the only one, however, to get a licence.

A road on the right leads up to the cairn. At the end of the road there are a few Culter children playing in a triangle of trees, known locally as "Stott's Widdie". Mr Stott being the proprietor of the Duff Arms Hotel. Opposite there are a few more Victorian villas - Boyndie, Dee View and the Knoll. We seem to be entering the village proper now, with many more houses - Viewfield, the Brae, Ardshiel and the Glen. There is a large imposing house on the left called Eastleigh. This is the home and surgery of Dr Robert Rannie. He owned the first motor car to be seen in Culter. Dr Rannie also built the start of Church Terrace, from the top of the Station Brae.

The corner shop is called "Mackie's Pharmacy" and at 19 Church Terrace is the Culter Telephone Exchange. There is a row of shops at the end of the Terrace. The first of these is a shop and tearooms run by Jean Reid. I believe this is very popular with scholars from Culter School who can get a hot meal at a very reasonable price. On the doorstep next door, stands an elderly gentleman with a white beard, a clay pipe hanging from his lips. This is William Gillespie. He sells feed stuff and oatmeal. He also sells locust beans,



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which are very popular with local children. They can buy a capful for one penny. Mr Gillespie was the last miller to grind meal at the Meal Mill at Maryculter.

In the August edition, we will continue our trip through 1920s Culter.

You can get in touch, as usual through the culter.net website or email (see below).

### Callum Stuart

The Heritage-Hound

[www.culter.net](http://www.culter.net)

[heritage@culter.net](mailto:heritage@culter.net)

## Forecourt Art Group

Spring has arrived and with it the start of our sales events. During March, several members took part in an exhibition at the Acorn Centre in Inverurie and six members also exhibited and sold art at the Gordon Art show, also in Inverurie. Just now, several members are preparing for the Inverbervie art show, which will be held over Easter week in Burgh Hall.

Our next event will be our favourite annual exhibition in the Heritage Hall, Peterculter which will be open to the public every Sunday from May 3rd to the end of September with the sale of afternoon teas.

In the mean time, we have continued to showcase our art in Union St at Glenhouse and Social Monkey and have swapped out our art in Cammies at Cammachmore



### Art Group Members at Acorn Centre Inverurie

and The Stack at Muchalls. Our members have had some fabulous meals in each of these venues allowing us to have a welcome get together as well as showing support to each of the venues who are, in turn, supporting the art group. We are also hoping to reopen a previous partnership in Ballater at the Orca café, which is now under new ownership.

We have several exhibitions and sales events planned for 2026 as well as two 'pop up shop' weeks in Montrose, so it will be a busy year for everyone.

Membership places are currently available.

Further details visit our Facebook Page or email me.

### Paula Silvester

[forecourtartgroup@outlook.com](mailto:forecourtartgroup@outlook.com)

Facebook - Forecourt art group

## May Musical Extravaganza...

**A celebration of music and song from local choirs and musicians.**

Vox Amabile and Musical Midgies 2 local choirs will be performing in the May Musical Extravaganza - a charity concert - at the Music Hall on the 23rd of May.

Both, Vox Amabile and Musical Midgies, choirs rehearse at Culter Church on Thursdays, children from 6-7pm and adults from 7-8pm

If you would like more information and tickets for the concert please see the Aberdeen Performing Arts website.

[www.aberdeenperformingarts.com](http://www.aberdeenperformingarts.com)

If you would like more information about joining the choirs please contact me.

### Morag Simpson

07818 464546

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