

MELDRUM CONNECT

Connecting Kirk & Community
A Newsletter for the Meldrum Community



Big shout out to Garioch Distillery for providing an excellent new shelter for the Trishaw, which gets community members out and about in Meldrum. Thanks to the volunteers who make these little trips so entertaining for the cosy travellers.

Here are some recent events and many events to look forward to.



1st time Judy Murray has visited Meldrum Tennis Club and she gave some coaching advice to many young tennis players.

2nd Ladies Cycle, organised by Meldrum Paths Group (using their E-Bikes). It was a grand day out visiting stone circles and hidden treasures near Chapel of Garioch. ebikemeldrum.org

3rd year of Men's Breakfasts. The next one is on 20th September



4th October is the Harvest Thanksgiving, where this farming community comes together to show appreciation of the food we, often, take for granted.

5th Annual Community Christmas Tree Project, which shows the work and creativity of all our clubs and organisations doing such valuable work for our small town.

6th November is a talk by the NHS Grampian Archivist, at Fyvie Castle, organised by National Trust for Scotland (NTS).

7th December is an opportunity to sing 'Carols for Christmas', at Methlick Parish Church.

9th October is when the NTS visit the James Hutton Institute.

11th October is the time to join Scottish Opera at Haddo Arts.

13th October. The Guild have a talk on Scams and Fraud, which will be useful.

21st December is the 8km Kayleigh's Wee Stars run, if you are feeling energetic, to raise some cash for their work.

26th September at Daviot Village Hall, is a Young Musician's Concert, featuring pupils from Meldrum Academy.

That gives you a flavour of, just some, of the events taking place this Autumn.

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ABERDEENSHIRE LIEUTENANCY

The Lord-Lieutenant's Update



Appointment of New Vice Lord-Lieutenant and Six Deputy Lieutenants for Aberdeenshire



I am delighted to welcome The Lady Saltoun DL as my new Vice Lord-Lieutenant following the retirement of Joanna, The Marchioness of Aberdeen DL. I am also very pleased to appoint six new Deputy Lieutenants, each of whom brings a unique set of skills, experience, and service to Aberdeenshire. From charitable and community leadership to military service and commercial expertise, they have already made a significant contribution to our communities throughout the county. The newly appointed Deputy Lieutenants are: The Marquess of Aberdeen and Temair Bt DL (George), Mrs Sarah Bell DL, Major (Retd) Nicholas Champion MBE DL, Mrs Laura McNeil DL, Major (Retd) Toby Rider MC DL, Commodore Hector Robert (Bob) Sanguinetti RN(Retd) DL. Aberdeenshire is a wonderfully diverse and beautiful county

with an enormous number of individuals and voluntary groups who work tirelessly to enhance the quality of life and cohesion in our communities. We take great pleasure in recognising such selfless contributions.

Meldrum Sports

I enjoyed another glorious day attending Meldrum Sports and this is such a historic and key fixture in the cultural and social life of the village. Douglas Petrie, Chairman, and his hard-working committee delivered another triumph of a day.



Opening of the Trishaw Facility

I was delighted to join members of the Trishaw Group at the opening of their new facility at the Glen Garioch distillery. They provide the most wonderful service to local residents and having had the opportunity of travelling in the trishaw I would highly recommend it to anyone!



Anniversaries, Birthdays and Honours

Myself, or one of my Deputies are always delighted to visit on the day of special milestones, 60th, 70th or 75th wedding anniversaries and 100th and 105th birthdays and present a card and personal congratulations. Please do look at our web site for further information:

Congratulations to Mr Fred and Mrs Alice Sinclair who celebrated their Diamond Wedding at the end of July. Sarah Mackie, DL was delighted to visit and share in their celebrations.

The Aberdeenshire Lieutenantcy would like to know of any individual or voluntary organisation who has made an exceptional contribution for the wider benefit of others in their community. The Lieutenantcy will assist in giving full consideration for appropriate recognition.

www.lord-lieutenant-aberdeenshire.co.uk or contact us on info@lordlieutenant-aberdeenshire.co.uk



You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram – 'Lord-Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire'

Very best wishes to you all Sandy Manson, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire



KAYLEIGH'S WEE STARS TURKEY TROT 2025



Kayleigh's Wee Stars are delighted to be hosting their second festive running event on **Sunday 21st December** at Meldrum Legion. Last year saw over 100 runners brave the winter weather to run 8km, raising funds for terminally ill children and their brave families. Together they raised over £3000! The event will have a family festive feel to it with Christmas Activities for runners' families and refreshments for all. We are a local charity and really appreciate your support.

Keep an eye out on www.kayleighsweestars.co.uk and our Kayleigh's Wee Stars Facebook page for more information on how to enter. Entries will open in November!



Meldrum Men

Last Wednesday of every month 7pm-9pm at the Pleasure Park Pavilion. It's free and open to all men in the area. Can find more info on Facebook.



OLDMELDRUM RAMBLERS



This is the time of year when our countryside is at its best and Oldmeldrum Ramblers make the most of it. Recently we have visited Collieston, Castle Fraser, Hazlehead and Bridge of Alvah at Banff. Mainly we were walking in glorious sunshine.

The Oldmeldrum Ramblers group meets every second Thursday to walk for around 5-7 miles in the local area. We are a very friendly group and would welcome new members.

Oldmeldrum Ramblers are part of a group called the Grampian 50+ Network and this Network organises gatherings of ramblers from Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray. Last month they organised a "Ramblers Rendezvous" where we got to choose activities from crafts, visits, sports or walks and got the opportunity to meet with lots of folk from other groups. Some of our members went on a Network holiday to Aberfoyle in May and they thoroughly enjoyed the walks and the company.

If you are interested in finding out more about Oldmeldrum Ramblers and are aged over 50, please either phone Sandy McIntosh on 07902 200831 or email him on sandy.mcintosh@gmail.com.



OLDMELDRUM VOLUNTEERS FUNDRAISING GROUP

For those of you who don't know who we are or possibly don't even know of our existence we are a group of like minded, mainly Oldmeldrum residents, who for the past four years have organised dances, concerts and cabaret events to raise much needed funds for local organisations. We took on this challenge following on from the wonderful work previously done by Sam and the late Winnie Reid and their team. Following "The Reid Team" was a daunting task but one that we have managed to do with some measure of success.

To date we have managed to make donations totalling £12600 (Twelve thousand and six hundred pounds) some of which are £1850 to the local Royal British Legion, £1950 to MAIG, £600 to Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church, £3000 to Fly Cup Enterprises, £750 to Scottish Charity Air Ambulance and others including the local Guides Group, Scouts Group, UCAN, Charlie House, Anchor Cancer Support, Garioch Home Start, Oldmeldrum Paths Group and most recently £400 to the Community Council towards their fundraising efforts to supply a Defibrillator to the town, £300 to Meldrum Academy music department to help with their Continental trip this summer and £300 to again help the Community Council to fund their aim to get one of the CLAN Charity Book Benches for the town square this summer.

For the majority of our events we hire The Royal British Legion hall, which following its recent renovation and redesign is now a fantastic venue and well worth a visit and we thank their committee and staff, both current and past for their help and cooperation.

Finally a huge thanks to all of the local residents who have supported us so far on this journey and if you haven't managed to attend any of our events yet please do consider us in the future, remember you will be helping the mainly local organisations that we support.

Our next event is a first visit to Oldmeldrum from the award winning Irish Country Star John Rafferty on Sunday 21st September. Tickets are only £10 and you will be guaranteed a great afternoon of entertainment when you can either sit back and enjoy or step onto the dance floor. Please see the separate advert for this event which will give you details on how to get tickets.

Tickets available now from The Legion Bar
Dot Davidson 01651 873323 / 07827 392677
Stewart Begg 01224 310790 / 07722 027994

An afternoon with
Irish Country Star
John Rafferty

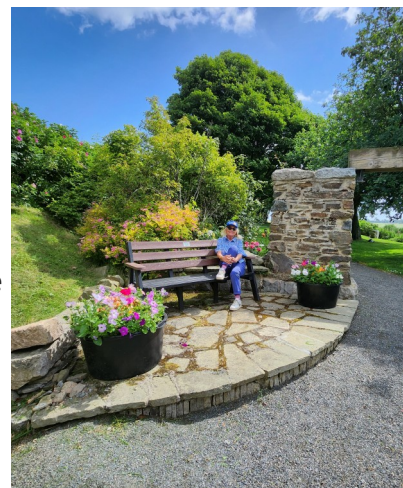
RBL Hall Oldmeldrum
Sunday 21st September 2025
Door 1.00pm Show 2.00pm to 5.00pm

Ticket £10.00

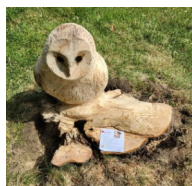
WILLIAM FORSYTH COMMUNITY GARDEN



It's been a while since I last wrote for Connect and a few new things have happened at the garden. Firstly, we have finally erected a proper sign for the garden as you can see from the picture. We also have a new sitting area where you can shelter from the wind and watch bees and butterflies on the buddleia (butterfly bush). Both the flower pots with flowers, and bench are courtesy of Meldrum Amenities Improvement Group – almost a MAIG corner. The picture shows Mary, whom I'm sure that you all know. She's currently Rotary's president and can often be seen helping in the garden.



We also have a new visitor, Ollie the Owl. He's always there but doesn't say much. Why not take the kids to meet him?



You may not know that the Meldrum Community Garden Project is a small Scottish registered charity whose sole focus is the two-acre wooded garden we call the William Forsyth Community Garden, named in memory of the famous botanist born in Oldmeldrum.

It has been sponsored with both money and volunteers almost entirely by Oldmeldrum and District Rotary since inception in 2004 although steps are in hand to get sponsorship elsewhere.



Interested in learning more, then visit us on Facebook. Click on this QR code.

Norman Brammer, Chairman, Meldrum Community Garden Project

ALZHEIMER SCOTLAND

Alzheimer Scotland offers a group in Oldmeldrum for people living with dementia and their carers.

Meldrum Social Group meet normally on the first Thursday of each month from 1.30 -2.30 pm at the Town Hall in the Square. At the group we have games and activities, tea and coffee and quizzes. Recent activities include planting seeds and making clocks. Our Community Groups are there to be enjoyed by anyone living with dementia or experiencing difficulties with their memory, including their families and friends. All are welcome; people who can attend independently **and/or for** those unable to do so should come with a companion who can provide any support for them. Contact Susan at swestcott@alzscot.org or tel 07876 003154 if you would like any further information.

We also run Carers Groups in Ellon and Inverurie. These are for carers to come along to and they can share their experiences, get advice and have a friendly chat with our dementia advisor. If you would like to come along to a carers group please contact Mags Corbett at mcorbett@alzscot.org or telephone 07769 366 175.





On Monday 12th May The Guild went on their outing to Fife Lodge Hotel in Banff where we had a lovely Lunch which was served by attentive staff. We then headed up to Threaplands Garden Centre where we had time to do some shopping. It was a beautiful sunny day which made the bus journey very enjoyable. Our thanks go to Bains Coaches and their friendly driver.

The Guild Syllabus is as follows:

8th September 2025	Ruined Church Buildings Speaker: Bob Littlejohn
13th October 2025	Talk on Scams and Fraud Speaker: Jill Ewen
10th November 2025	Talk on Chelsea Pensioners Speaker: Mhari Watt
8th December 2025	Christmas Party

The joining fee is £17. All meetings are held in Morris's Hotel at 2.30 pm.

The Guild are having an Outing on 29th September 2025 to Garlogie Inn. The bus will leave the Church Car Park at 11.30 am.

CYCLING WITHOUT AGE SCOTLAND OLDMELDRUM

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All contact details overleaf

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ACTIVE SCOTLAND

TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

BEREAVEMENTS

Mr Sandy Emslie	14th May 2025
Mrs Mary Paterson	1st June 2025
Mr Alexander (Sandy) Kemp	13th June 2025
Mr Don Murray	18th June 2025
Mrs Catherine (Cathy) Catto	24th June 2025
Mrs Christine Dickson	30th June 2025
Mrs Pam Mackintosh	30th July 2025
Mr Roderick Walker	6th August 2025





North East Aberdeenshire National Trust for Scotland Members' Centre

(A registered Scottish Charity SC02422)

In June we visited Udney Green Church and heard all about the work that architect Tony Eddison has carried out so far and what his development plans are for the Church. This is an exciting project, potentially creating a fantastic community space. Definitely worthwhile finding out about and supporting. Our visit to Delgatie Castle in July was blessed with glorious weather with the Castle looking wonderfully romantic. It was great to hear all about the history of the Castle, the vision of Capt. John Hay to rescue and restore it and the ongoing work of the Delgatie Castle Trust to maintain it as a place we can all enjoy. We are looking forward to our visit to Arbuthnott House and the Grassic Gibbon Centre in August. Keep a look out for more information about our collaboration with the talented musicians from Meldrum Academy in September.

Upcoming events are listed below:

26th September, Daviot Village Hall 7:30pm – Concert featuring young musicians from Meldrum Academy (tickets will be available through Eventbrite)

9th October 10:30 am – Visit to the James Hutton Institute, Aberdeen (Free to members but booking essential)

6th November 10:30am Fyvie Castle – Talk by Fiona Musk, NHS Grampian Archivist

7th December, 3pm Methlick Parish Church – Carols for Christmas (Tickets £12 include tea/coffee, mince pies and shortbread available through Eventbrite)

If you are interested in attending any events email ne.aberdeenshire.mc@gmail.com for tickets and more information.

Non-members of the Members' Centre are very welcome to attend events. A £3 donation is requested for talks, which are free to members (unless it is a ticketed event). Light refreshments are available to buy after talks.

If you are a member of the NTS and would like to get more involved and help support our local properties then join the North East Aberdeenshire Members' Centre. Annual membership costs £12. To join contact Dr. Alistair Flett, Easter Crichton Cottage, St. Katherine's, Aberdeenshire. AB51 8SR (01651 891620).

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Meldrum Connect Community Funding Grants



Throughout 2024 Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church awarded a total of £3310 to local community groups. This included grants to Meldrum School, Village Church, MAIG, Meldrum Paths Group, The Community Garden, Girl Guiding and Toddlers.

The grants are provided from our Benevolent Income Fund. This is income from investments which originated from a legacy for the benefit of deserving causes locally and is administered by the Kirk Session.

The scheme is open to those groups and organisations working for the benefit of the community in Meldrum and Bourtie Parish, i.e., the local area.

If you would like to find out more about applying for a grant for your group in 2025 please email us at:

info@meldrumandbourtiechurch.com



MELDRUM SAPPERS IN WORLD WAR II

By Peter Myers

The Royal Engineers are among the "teeth" arms of the Army. Their range of responsibilities stretches from the troops in the forward positions to those at the base camps. To fulfil these roles, every sapper of the Royal Engineers should be a tradesman. At least four men with Oldmeldrum connections served as sappers in World War II.

Sapper **John Brechin**, of 276th Field Company, Royal Engineers, (pictured) was fated to be killed in action on October 24, 1942, aged 25. His company was serving with the 51st Highland Division. It was the second day of the Second Battle of El Alamein, and it is likely he was a member of a mine-clearance team entrusted with the hazardous task of clearing safe lanes through the enemy minefields using mine detectors, which were not always reliable. Sappers then had to resort to prodding the ground with bayonets. Sapper Brechin's grave is in the El Alamein War Cemetery, Egypt, and is one of more than 8,000 burials there. His former home at Burnside Cottage, Distillery Road, was used as an office by 304 Battery, 127 (Highland) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, when it was based at Oldmeldrum in 1940-41.



William (Bill) Duncan was living at Langside, Whiterashes, when at the age of 20 he was called up for service in the Territorial Army and ordered to report to Royal Engineers No. 6 Training Battalion at Elgin in December 1940. He later served with the RE in North Africa and was in Tunisia in May 1943 when the Allies declared victory over the Axis forces in that campaign. Bill later served in Italy, where the sappers excelled in building bridges over rivers, as seen in the accompanying photo, and laying roadways, often under enemy fire, to aid the Allied advance. In 1946, Bill boarded the Cunard troopship *Scythia* to be repatriated to Britain. He was demobilised at Ripon, Yorkshire, on October 24, 1946, after almost six years' military service. His service trade on release was carpenter and joiner, and his unit had been 229th Field Company, Royal Engineers.

After the war, Bill lived in Rosebank, Oldmeldrum, with his wife, Jane. He devoted 40 years of his life to the Oldmeldrum branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland and was instrumental in setting up the museum in the Legion Hall.

Alexander (Sandy) Barron also served in Italy and was in the Royal Engineers (Postal Section). He was attached to the main base Army Post Office in Naples and played his part in the efficient distribution of the forces' mail, which was so important in maintaining servicemen's morale. Sandy worked for many years as a grocer at Adam Duthie & Co's store (now Berry's) in Oldmeldrum.

James (Jim) McKay served throughout the war as a sapper in the Royal Engineers. He was later well known as a motor mechanic at Fraser's Garage, Urquhart Road, Oldmeldrum, and was a member of the local branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland.

Dear Friends,

September always carries with it a sense of new beginnings. The days shorten, the air turns crisp, and the rhythm of life changes as schools reopen and many community groups begin their autumn programmes. In the church, we too mark this time as a season of welcome.

One of the things we hold most dearly is that the church is not only for “members” or those who already attend—it is a place for *everyone* in the community. Whoever you are, wherever you are on life’s journey, there is a place for you here.

Whether you’ve been part of the church for years, haven’t stepped inside for decades, or aren’t even sure what you believe, the welcome remains the same: you are welcome – and you belong.



This autumn, there are several opportunities to gather as a community:

- **Autumn Fayre** – Saturday the 27th September in the Church Hall
- **Family Friendly Harvest Sunday** – 5th October, celebrating the gifts of the earth
- **Messy Church (Halloween/Bonfire Theme)** – 2nd November, for children, families, and the young at heart (costumes encouraged!)
- **Christmas Connect Café** – Saturday the 8th November, a time to share food, laughter, and conversation
- **Tunes and Tea** – Every Friday in the Church from 4-5pm. Come for friendship, a cuppa and to sing the ol’ classics.
- **Open Doors** – 1st Thursday of the month. Come in, rest, and enjoy the peace of the church building.

Whether you come often or haven’t been in years, please know that these events and our services are open to *all*.

Life is not always easy, and for some, autumn can feel heavy as the days grow shorter. If you are struggling, lonely, or simply in need of someone to talk with, please don’t hesitate to reach out. A listening ear, a warm cup of tea, or a place to sit quietly can make a difference. The church is here for you. Our pastoral team would love to visit. And if you would like to help, be a member of our pastoral team, visiting and offering support to those in our community please get in touch.

It is also hard to believe that it has been two years since we first began putting together the *Meldrum Connect* magazine for the whole community. What started as a simple idea—sharing news, stories, and encouragement—has grown into a resource that reaches far beyond the walls of the church. Our hope has always been that these pages bring a sense of connection, whether by highlighting local events, offering reflections for the season, or simply reminding us that we are part of a community.

We hope you have enjoyed reading *Meldrum Connect* as much as we have enjoyed providing it. Thank you for welcoming it into your homes and for letting it be part of your reading!

Lastly, as children return to school, as farmers gather in the harvest, as each of us faces changes and new chapters, may this be our blessing for Oldmeldrum and beyond:

May the turning of the season bring strength for today and hope for tomorrow.

May the work of many hands, in field and classroom, home and workplace, be blessed.

May those seeking community find welcome,

and those carrying burdens find rest.

And may we discover, together, that we are never alone.

With every blessing for this season of gathering,

Rev. Alisa McDonald

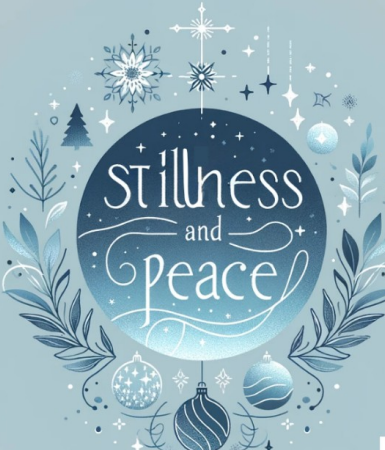
Minister of Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church

PASTORAL CARE

If you, or anyone you know would like a visit from someone from the Pastoral Care Team, please get in touch with either Eileen Oliver on 07775 606640 or Sheila Simpson on 07866 130175.

We are also looking for people to join our Team to provide occasional visits to people in the Community. If you have some free time and think this is something you would be interested in, please let us know.





**Sunday 30th
November
at 2.30pm in
the Church hall**

*A Service of healing
and hope for those
who find this season
hard or have lost a
loved one.
Tea/Coffee served*

HEALING AND HOPE
All Welcome




@ Meldrum and Bourtie Church Hall
Games // Table Tennis // Music // Tuck Shop

2nd Friday of the Month
P5 - S6 at 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Meldrum and Bourtie Church Hall,
Albert Road
For more information contact Alisa.McDonald@churchofscotland.org.uk
www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com SCN: SC015960

MELDRUM & BOURTIE MEN'S BREAKFAST

Can you believe it! This November the Meldrum Men's Breakfast will have been running for 3 years, amazing.

The men's breakfast is designed to encourage, empower and build up men. It is open to any man regardless of background. It is there to allow men the opportunity to be themselves in a safe environment. These are arranged quarterly. The men's breakfast is a way of sharing a meal together, and listening to a variety of speakers (one each event) on a range of subjects pertinent to men.

We hold it in Meldrum church hall, on the main road - so it is easy to find and there is parking available at the church car park which is close by. Though we have no fixed charge, we do put out a donation bucket to cover costs.

Meldrum had their Men's breakfast Saturday 31st May at 8.30am, it was well attended by men from the town as well as from the church, a few of our regulars were away. It is a good way to show that Christian men are fairly normal and safe to mix with! The gospel message always goes down well when you get fed. We receive a full Scottish cooked breakfast and really good coffee before we listen to the morning speaker. We had Alan Fraser from Tearfund Scotland, everyone really enjoyed what Alan was saying about the work of Tearfund and how he got involved with them.

Our Next event is Saturday 20th September and our speaker is Stuart Watt from Mintlaw Community church, come and hear what he has to say. We expect a good number, so please note the date in your diary and book your space, either by emailing or texting Billy (07968000610 or info@meldrumandbourtiechurch.com) or letting him know after church services. Booking your space helps with the catering as it is useful to know how much to cook. Hope to see you there..



**PRAISE
MENS
FELLOWSHIP
BREAKFAST**

Sat 20th Sep 2025 -- Doors open 8:15 am

Guest Speaker: Stuart Watt
Mintlaw Community Church

**Location: Meldrum Church Hall,
Albert Road, Oldmeldrum AB51 0DB**

To Book: Call 07968 000610 or
email:
info@meldrumandbourtiechurch.com



FELLOWSHIP

5th Annual Community Christmas Tree Project



We are ***again*** inviting everyone in the community to take part again in our Community Christmas Tree Project. Any local businesses, clubs, charities, school classes, families and individuals, etc. are invited to contribute elegant, quirky, or entertainingly decorated trees which transform Meldrum Church into a Christmas wonderland. The church will be open for various events throughout the month of December for the trees to be on display. With a Open Day for tree voting later in the month.

**So, would you like to make a tree?
There is no cost to be involved,
it is absolutely free!**

All while you can advertise your group or organisation.

The last three years we have had the most imaginative and wonderful designs by individuals from the community as well as organisations including Co-Op Oldmeldrum, Physiotherapy and Pilates Company, Meldum Health Walks, Ramblers, Oldmeldrum Green Growing Space, Meldrum Primary School, St. Matthew and St. George Church, Naughty Knitters, Meldrum Library, The Rotary just to name a few.

This year we hope even more individuals/families/groups take part in bringing our community together for our Community Christmas Tree Project.

If you can let us know if you are preparing a tree by 16th of November and set up for trees will take place on Friday 21st November.



ARTICLES

Thank you for your enthusiasm in supplying the range of articles in the Meldrum Connect magazine.

If you have a story to tell or an event to advertise that you think would interest the community, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Please email us at meldrumconnect@gmail.com.

Deadline for our next
Meldrum Connect
is
16th November 2025

ADVERTISING in Meldrum Connect

Local charities can advertise for free and local business for a small charge depending on size. Please contact Fiona Morris our Community Liaison at meldrumconnect@gmail.com

Cost per Issue		
Advert size (based on A4)	Black & White	Colour
Half	£80	£160
Quarter	£40	£80
Eighth	£20	£40
Sixteenth	£10	N/A
Discounts available for multiple issues		

Meldrum Connect reserves the right to refuse or amend any advertisements, or submission and accepts no liability for any omission or inaccuracy.

Published by Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church and printed by McKenzie Print, Wellheads Crescent, Dyce. All issues available at www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com

If you have enjoyed reading our newsletter and would like to contribute to the ongoing work of Meldrum and Bourtie Church you can make a donation via this QR code.



CHURCH HALL HIRE

A **spacious** hall perfect for any function
some quick facts

- Fully accessible
- Fully fitted spacious kitchen
- Fully heated
- Parking
- Conveniently located
- Chairs and tables available
- Smaller lounge area – suitable for meetings – 10/12 people
- TV screens - & stand (small extra Charge)
- Wi-Fi (available on request)
- Outside play area – perfect for that summer party
- Tent and/or gazebo available (small extra charge)



Whether you're looking to host a one-off meeting or a weekly/monthly class or group, the hall has a range of facilities to accommodate most uses. **Just get in touch to find out more.**

To book the hall or private lounge area please use our booking form available on our website – just follow this link - <https://www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com/hall-booking-details>



Runs every Tuesday &
Thursday morning
9.30-11.15 Oldmeldrum Parish
Church Hall



Suitable from birth up to 5
years old

First session is FREE

5 sessions £12.50



Snack is provided- just bring a plate and a drink.
We also provide tea/ coffee & biscuits for the adults.

We have a dedicated baby area, crafts, themed activities
and seasonal end of term parties!

Each session ends with song time led by a member of the
group.

New families always welcome!



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THE POWER OF...

WEDNESDAY

PEER SUPPORT GROUP FOR
PARENTS AND CARERS OF
CHILDREN WITH ASN.

- WEDNESDAY TERM TIME
- 10AM - 12PM
- MELDRUM ACADEMY
LIBRARY

FOR MORE INFO



WEDNESDAY YAPS



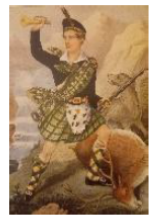


Presents... Upcoming events!



Thursday 11 September: Young Scottish pianist **Ethan Loch** gives the **Lunch Break Concert** in the **Cowdray Hall**. Presented in partnership with Aberdeen Art Gallery.

Saturday 13 September: Join **Peter Hunter** for a new look at the **poet Lord Byron's** Aberdeen childhood and links with the Haddo Gordons, illustrated with images from the Harrow School collection of Byron memorabilia.



Saturday 11 October: Scottish Opera return to **Haddo** with their brand-new **Opera Highlights** production transforming office politics – water cooler moments, scheming co-workers, awkward workplace conversations and forbidden crushes – into a witty and sparkling evening of music. A fabulous finale to Haddo Arts Presents 2025 season

Don't forget, you can catch the last two informal **Haddo Courtyard Concerts** on **7 September** (singers from HHCOS) and **6 October** (flute choir). Presented in partnership with the National Trust for Scotland.

Scan the QR code to keep up to date with events, get details, buy your tickets and sign up for our newsletter.



Follow us on social media **@haddoarts**



St Matthew and St. George, Scottish Episcopal Church, Oldmeldrum

Over the last few weeks, we have been blessed not only to enjoy the fellowship of our regular Sunday services, but also to share in the baptism of the grand-daughter of one of the newer members of our congregation. It is always a joy to welcome a new member into the Church and we all feel privileged to have participated in such a joyful family occasion. We were also delighted to welcome the Parish Church's visiting pastor Iona Dickinson and her family to have a look around our church and learn more about its history and activities. I understand they were particularly interested in the vestments – they are rather impressive!



Pastor Iona and her family with Mrs. Doreen Baillie and enjoying refreshments with our Minister the Rev. Bob Spencer



On a more serious note, we recently had security cameras installed around the Church – you may have seen the signs. Hopefully this will help discourage the anti-social behaviour from which we have suffered during the past year.

We are a small and growing congregation where all are welcome to share in our worship from whichever denomination you may come. Our services are open to all and you will be made very welcome. All are welcome to participate in Communion. Refreshments are served after the service and everyone is invited to stay if they can and join in this precious time of fellowship.

Regular Sunday Services: 10:30am: A sung service with Holy Communion



WEIGHT CHECK WEDNESDAYS

First Wednesday of the Month
Scotland Baby Clinic
16 Coutens Park
Oldmeldrum, AB510PG

**FREE Drop-in
Baby Clinic**
9:30-12:30PM

*Drop-in or Reserve
Direct Booking Link:
<https://l.btrr.to/pPEFU>



MELDRUM PÉTANQUE CLUB

The Petanque Club is located at the far end of the Oldmeldrum Golf Club Car Park
The Facility is open and free of charge at any time to members of the public young and old

During the summer season regular matches take place each Wednesday evening at 6.30 pm and each Saturday afternoon at 2 pm
Coaching is available and all level of players will be made most welcome
For further enquiries phone 07990 586 142

SHOEBOX APPEAL 2025

Thank you so much for your continued support for our Shoe Box Appeal. Your unwavering support has enabled us to send over 85,000 shoeboxes to eight different countries – Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine. From those we deliver these gifts to, thank you so very much.



Since our first Shoe Box Appeal in 1993 we have sent more than 2.7 million boxes – each one different, each one personal, each one an expression of your care and kindness towards a stranger in need.

Filled with small, practical items such as toiletries, stationery, and clothing, the individually-wrapped boxes have been distributed in schools, hospitals, orphanages and care homes, and to households in very low income communities. Many have gone to people affected by the war in Ukraine.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.



This years Shoeboxes will be distributed in Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine.

It's easy to choose gifts for people that have so little. Shampoo, a pair of socks, a notepad, a small toy, a bag of sweets - things we take for granted will seem like luxuries to people living in poverty. By filling a shoebox with simple things you can bring hope this Christmas.

2025 Leaflets, with details, are available from Meldrum Parish Church or the Church Hall, for the convenience of groups using the Hall.



Filled Shoeboxes should be dropped off by Sunday 2nd November 2025, to the Church, or to the Church Hall.

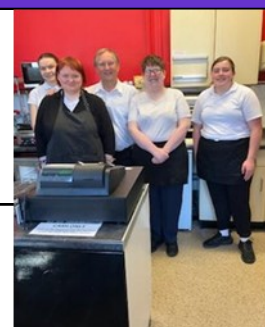
MELDRUM CAFÉ

OPENING HOURS:

Thurs	10-3.30pm.
Friday.	10-3.30pm
Saturday	10-3.30pm



We would love to open another day a week but need more staff to do this.



If you are interested in volunteering in the café speak to one of the volunteers in the café or Email mmbcic@outlook.com. Your help would be very welcome.



Scouts

1st Daviot Oldmeldrum

www.1stdomscouts.org.uk/marquee

marquee@1stdomscouts.org.uk

Our 20ft x 20ft (6m x 6m) marquee is perfect for garden parties, community events and other small functions. We can hire across Aberdeenshire and beyond, and our volunteer team will set up and take down the marquee for you.

The hire cost includes delivery, installation and collection. All proceeds from hires go towards the running of our Scout Group.

Cost: £200 for the first two nights, plus £25 for each additional night

For more information or to arrange a hire please visit our website or contact our Marquee team using the details above.



Scouts

1st Daviot Oldmeldrum

www.1stdomscouts.org.uk/join/adult

group@1stdomscouts.org.uk

Build your skills.
Boost your happiness.
Connect with your local community.

1st Daviot and Oldmeldrum Scout Group are looking for adult volunteers to join us either directly leading our youth sections or in a supporting role as part of our Trustee Board or Fundraising Team.

You shape what you do and the time you have to give. Scouts happens when a lot of us give a little—and no, you don't need to be an outdoors expert or have been a Scout previously to volunteer!

Appropriate training is provided for all roles, so if you're interested in getting involved with your local Scout Group, please visit our website or contact our Group Lead Volunteer using the details above.

Make a difference—volunteer today!

BEAVERS

cubs

SCOUTS



Station Road, Oldmeldrum, AB51 0EZ
01651 872481



Girlguiding
Gordon County

**Were you a Rainbow,
Brownie, Guide or Ranger?
Remember how much fun it
was!**

**Volunteer at Girlguiding
Straloch to help girls of
today have fun and make
long lasting memories.**

**Contact Marianne at :
ggg.enquiry@outlook.com
Or use the QR code**



VENUE FOR HIRE / CAFÉ / PICK A BOOK



OLDMELDRUM TOWN HALL

Our Community Café is open Thursday, Friday and Saturday
10am - 3:30pm.

Why not pop in for a coffee and a fine piece or a hot lunch!
Great Food – Reasonable Prices – Cash Only

We also have our "Pick a Book" that is open during café hours where you can help yourself to any of the books, no need to return.

Private Meeting Spaces available for hire - Lower Hall and Upper Hall are available for events

All Volunteers Welcome

Stop by and Say Hi !

**Enquiries: mmbcie@outlook.com
Market Square – Oldmeldrum – Inverurie – AB51**

TENNIS LEGEND JUDY MURRAY INSPIRES THE NEXT GENERATION AT OLDMELDRUM TENNIS CLUB

Oldmeldrum Tennis Club had the immense pleasure of welcoming British tennis icon Judy Murray on Thursday 19th June, in a truly memorable visit that left local players – especially the juniors – feeling inspired and energised.



Judy, a passionate advocate for grassroots tennis, spent time coaching and encouraging junior players, offering tips, praise, and plenty of motivation. Her warmth, enthusiasm, and hands-on approach made a lasting impression on both the children and adult members who were thrilled to meet one of British tennis's most influential figures.



"To have someone of Judy's stature at our community club is an honour we won't forget," said Kevin Pope, the President of Oldmeldrum Tennis Club. "She was absolutely fantastic with the juniors, taking the time to support and inspire them. The smiles on their faces said it all."

The visit was part of Judy's speaking engagement at Meldrum House and she was happy to stop by the tennis club as part of her mission to grow the game of tennis across the UK by engaging with clubs and communities at the grassroots level. Her commitment to supporting young talent and making the sport accessible to all was felt by everyone in attendance.



Oldmeldrum Tennis Club would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to Judy for her time, energy, and encouragement. Her visit has truly sparked excitement among the juniors and adult players alike – and we're confident it will have a lasting impact and hopefully bring in more members to the flailing club.

For more information about Oldmeldrum Tennis Club and upcoming events, please contact Kevin Pope on Kevin.pope17@yahoo.co.uk.

