



The Collieston **BLETHER**

**No. 20
December
1993**

BACK THE PIER AS STRUCTURE CELEBRATES ITS 100th

In April 1992 and April 1993, during the A.G.M.s of the Harbour Trustees, the pier structure was examined by the Consulting Engineer. The extensive works carried out three years ago remains in good order, but the structure is endangered by faults on the exterior wall which should now be repaired. The estimate for this work is £24,000.

The Trustees are involved with both Regional and District Councils in efforts to obtain grants, but Collieston will have to contribute about £5000.

The Pier Fund currently stands at about £5000 – a level that should be maintained to cope with minor works and emergency repairs which could be required at any time.

1994 is the Centenary Year of the Pier during which the Trustees will arrange various fund-raising activities.

The first event will be The Harbour Ball on Friday, March 25. The New Inn, Ellon, will again be the venue, and the Tilty Ceilidh Band from Fyvie have been engaged. A free bus will run from and to Collieston. More information and tickets in January.

Another Art Exhibition in the Community Centre will be arranged for the week-end August 13/14 with the theme "The Sea and Ships". In addition, a sponsored walk is planned from Port Erroll to Collieston – six miles of rough going along the cliff path.

The Trustees hope for support from all Collieston lovers, wherever they live, in raising funds in the Centenary Year to render the Pier strong enough to face the gales of its second century.

SCOOP THE POOP...

A volunteer is required from the High Town / Forvie Court area – preferably a dog owner – who will take responsibility for emptying the newly-installed Dog Bin and replacing the plastic bag for ongoing use. Please contact: Mick Sheehan, Tel: 751244.

FIREWORKS COLLECTION ROCKETS

Over £120 was collected in Cransdale at the Bonfire and Fireworks display – a Roman Candle of appreciation to all those who contributed. Also, a Starburst of thanks is due to Penny Beveridge for her cash donation towards the Fireworks.

To all those who are unsure of the role of the Amenities Committee the following extract from the Constitution should help clarify the position:

"The objects of the Committee are – to maintain, protect and preserve the character and amenities of the village..."

A full copy of the Constitution is available from the Chairman, Mick Sheehan, 26 Low Town, Tel: 751244.

A copy of the minutes of all Committee meetings are displayed on the Noticeboard beside the Post Office following each meeting. To keep up to date with what's going on in the Village please read.

❄️ **A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR
TO OUR
WORLDWIDE READERSHIP** ❄️

*Subscriptions for postal delivery of "The Bletcher" during 1994 – at the bargain rate of £1.50 – are now due. Cheques should be made out to G.S. Ritchie and sent to
Sea View, Collieston, Ellon, Aberdeen AB41 8RS.*

THROW A SNOWBOULE ON BOXING DAY

The Collieston Boules Club A.G.M. was held on Friday, November 26, when Steve Ritchie, having completed his statutory three years as President, stood down in favour of Lewis Mackie. Alex Ross was elected Vice-President. The Creels were awarded the Sutton League Cup once again, and James Bolland received the Donald Rosebowl Singles Trophy. Under-14s Champion was Angus Page. Be on piste for the Snowboule Open match at the Bouledrome on Boxing Day!

BITS OF BLETHER:

★ The bus taking Senior Citizens to their Christmas outing on Friday, December 17, will leave the Post Office at 1.30pm and return from Briggies at 4pm.

★ Slains School Christmas Carol Concert will be on the evening of Monday, December 20. Time to be advised.

JUST THE TICKET – IF YOU'RE LUCKY

Tickets for the ever popular Burns' Night can be booked through Amenities Committee members at £4 each.

If this fails then contact John Robertson, Tel: 751313, who acts as a clearing-house for unsold tickets.

This evening is one of THE big events in the busy Collieston social calendar and tickets are much in demand for the limited seating. So book early to avoid disappointment – as the Bard used to say.

FONT FAREWELL AS IT RETURNS TO FORVIE

The red granite font from Forvie Kirk, retrieved from the sand-submerged building at some time past, is now in Scottish Natural Heritage's Forvie Centre where Area Officer, Bob Davies, has cleaned it and put it on display. The font, on loan to the Centre from Ellon and Slains Parish Church, was originally sited outside the Manse but was shifted to outside the Church when the Manse was sold.