



UPPER TAY COVID-19 CHURCH OF SCOTLAND COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020 - DIGITAL EDITION

A note from Neil Glover

Dear friends,

I want to tell a story about noticing.
There is always more to see.

Srinivasa Ramanujan is considered to be one of the greatest mathematicians of the last 100 years.

Yes, this is a maths story, but please bear with me. There are also taxi cabs and a reference to the Simpsons.

Ramanujan's achievements in maths are all the more remarkable given that he had little primary education, and grew up in poverty in South India. However, the gift of a maths textbook when he was a teenager was the catalyst to developing his talent. He came to the attention of the maths world in 1913, when he wrote a letter with some of his discoveries to a Cambridge professor of maths, GE Hardy. Upon reading this unsolicited letter, Hardy was stunned and invited the unknown Indian prodigy to Britain.

Sadly the British climate was not to the liking of Ramanujan and his health suffered. On one occasion he was visited by Hardy in hospital. Making conversation, Hardy remarked that the number of the taxi he had taken to hospital, Cab Number 1729, was not a particularly interesting number. To the contrary, replied the maths genius, it's the lowest number that can be expressed as the sum of two cubes in two separate ways.

Knowing that a number is the sum of two cubes in two separate ways is probably not something that you or I get particularly excited about. But it's a big deal to mathematicians. The number 1729 is called the

Hardy-Ramanujan number; there is even a plaque outside the hospital where this conversation took place. Mathematicians since have gone in search of other "Taxicab" numbers. The number 1729 has been secretly dropped into the animation Futurama, from the people behind the Simpsons.

To us, and even to Hardy, 1729 was a fairly unremarkable number. But to Ramanujan every number was something he noticed, every number had become a friend.

The genius of human life is to notice. To spot, to see, to linger on the ordinary. Because every blessed thing has its mysteries to reveal. The genius of the painter is to notice the colour running down the side of a cloud, the genius of the musician is to hear the passions of the universe held within the movement of a chord, the genius of being human is to notice the tender warp and hidden lines of the human soul. And to reach beyond, into the love that caused each soul to be.

May you go well, and go safely, and notice the treasures in the ordinary, the glory in the grey.

A blessing on you and your house,
Neil Glover, *Minister*

nglover@churchofscotland.org.uk
judy.ewer@adwgl.org.uk

For online services, visit the churches' websites or the **Churches Together - Highland Perthshire** YouTube account:

Aberfeldy: www.aberfeldyparishchurch.org
Dull and Weem: www.dullandweemparish.org
Grandtully, Logierait & Strathtay:
www.glschurchofscotland.org

Services are also available by phone-in:
01887 440446. Calls charged at local rate.

LOCAL SERVICES:

Below are a few other organisations offering lock-down-friendly services. We believe this information to be up-to-date at the time of publication, 4th June 2020. Please find more info on each company's website & social media.

Aberfeldy Steamie are continuing to provide their pick up & delivery service for vulnerable customers, on Tues & Wed (where possible). In order to assist those most in need, they ask customers to please carefully consider if their requirements are essential.

Email: info@aberfeldysteamie.co.uk
Leave a message on: 01887 820087
Call or text: 07561 061446



The **Birks Cinema** have set up interactive online activities so that you can continue to interact with them during this time and have a bit of fun! Craic 'n' craft, chair-based exercise, interactive story and song for 4–12 year olds, lego club for children with additional support needs, and many more.

Email birkscommunity@gmail.com to join in. If you need Lego, Paper, or other craft items let them know.



Breadalbane Bakery can deliver fresh bread, cakes, vegetables, fruits and dry goods. Place orders by midnight Monday, for Wed delivery. Grandtully Village Hall 12:30 Logierait (on left of straight) 13:00 Pitlochry Train Station 13:45-14:15 Contactless delivery straight to your boot is possible too.

Telephone: 01887 820481
breadalbanepantry@yahoo.com

Breadalbane Community Larder: Operating from the Lawers hall in Aberfeldy Parish Church and offering a home delivery service on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 11-12:30pm.

For more info, call 07513 652597 or email: breadalbanecommunitylarder@btinternet.com

Covid-19 Support Aberfeldy from the Tay Valley Time Bank, Birks Cinema Trust and Upper Tay Transport Group. Prescriptions collected, shopping, grass cut, pets walked, or just a blether. All at the end of a phone. Over seventy volunteers covering Aberfeldy and the surrounding area, and even up the glen.

They'll take your order, buy it for you, phone you to tell you the cost, then deliver it to your door. Safely – 2 metres apart! You can pay by cash, cheque or bank transfer. They'll be in a yellow vest, wearing gloves and will have an identity card.

Mobile: 07507 479555 (09:00-17:00)

Crieff Food Company: Orders can be delivered locally to Crieff and the surrounding area, or collected without the need to enter the shop.

Telephone: 01764 655 817
Email: info@thecriefffoodco.co.uk



Fonab Farm Foods delivers on a weekly basis throughout Highland Perthshire direct to your front door. Soups, mains, vegetable dishes and puddings all available.

Mobile: 07565 297501
Email: fonabfarm@hotmail.com
www.eventboxesltd.com

Feldy-Roo is a food delivery service based at The Fountain Bar & Restaurant in Aberfeldy, offering free delivery to over 70s and to the most vulnerable living in self-isolation. They have delivered in Aberfeldy since the middle of March, and more recently to Dull, Weem, Grandtully, Logierait, Strathtay, and more!
Telephone: 01887 820418

SERVICES CONT:

Handam - Refill Station are offering a home delivery service in Aberfeldy, Pitlochry and anywhere in between for pasta, rice, beans, pulses, snacks, herbs, spices and many more. All packed in paper bags or recycled glass jars, and dropped off at your door or in a safe place. View their product list at

www.handam.co.uk, then email handam@gmail.com with your order.

Kenmore Bakery: Fresh bread and rolls delivered on Tuesday & Friday:
Lawers Hotel car-park (10:00)
Fearnan Village Hall car-park (10:30)
Ardeonaig Hotel car-park (10:30)
Fortingall Village Hall (11:00)
Keltneyburn monument (11:30)
Killin Hall car-park (11:30)
Camserney Hall (12:15)
Secure an order by contacting 01887 830556 or email: kenmorebakery@hotmail.com

Macdonald Brothers: Butchers based in Pitlochry & Aberfeldy, are happy to help out with a delivery of meat, veg, fish etc. If you phone the shop to place your order, they will deliver to your door.
Telephone: 01887 820 310

Pets Etc are offering a reduced opening time (Mon-Fri, 11:00-15:00) to allow more time to make home deliveries of pet food and supplies.
Email: alisonmcleod9@gmail.com
Telephone: 01887 822797
Mobile: 07798 654926

Pitlochry Festival Theatre are running a Telephone Club, to help combat loneliness, and [#PFTLightHopeJoy](#): an online series of activities for all ages, on their Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and YouTube channel. Children's make and do, songs, poems,

Picture taken along the River Tay, at Grandtully.



cookery, gardening, stories, dance routines, acting tips - all sorts of everything to brighten the day.

Telephone: 01796 484623. Email: chat@pitlochryfestivaltheatre.com

Premier: Breadalbane Stores
Free delivery service for elderly in Aberfeldy area. *Telephone: 01887 829494 or 01887 820400*

Strathtay Stores: Delivery of groceries, collecting medicines, lift to the doctors. *Telephone: 01887 84020*

Thyme, Errichel: Delivered to your door. Boxes of fresh fruit, veg, salad, frozen meals, milk, butter, cheeses, toilet rolls and more. Delivering to Pitlochry, Fearnan and everything in between. *Telephone: 01887 820850. Email: enquiries@errichel.co.uk*



Taymouth Courtyard Shop: Local home delivery service, and drive-up collection service; they can place items straight into your car boot. Place your order by calling 01887 830756 and pay over the phone. They have a large car park and daily deliveries of fresh bread, milk, veg, meat & other store cupboard staples. They are open 09:00-16:00, Monday - Saturday (closed on Sunday).

info@taymouthcourtyard.com

SUPPORT & ADVICE

We believe this information to be up-to-date at the time of publication, 4th June 2020. Please find more info on each organisation's website.

Advice Direct Scotland: For advice on scams: 0808 164 6000
<https://www.consumeradvice.scot/>
Free, practical advice and information about coronavirus for Scottish citizens:
www.coronavirusadvice.scot/

Age Scotland Helpline: Free, confidential phone service for older people, their carers and families. Information, friendship and advice. 0800 12 44 222 (Mon-Fri 09:00-17:00)

Brothers In Arms: Support for men in Scotland of any age, feeling down, stressed or anxious.
www.brothersinarmsscotland.co.uk

Citizens Advice:
www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scotland/
Universal Credit Help To Claim Helpline: 0800 023 2581
www.cas.org.uk/helptoclaim
Or contact Perth Citizens Advice Bureau: 01738 450580
per-advice@perthcab.org.uk

Council Tax: Information and support 01738 477430

NHS Inform: Scotland's national health information service. 0800 22 44 88
www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus
COVID-19 helpline: 0800 028 2816

Parent Club: Advice for parents.
www.parentclub.scot/topics/coronavirus

Perth and Kinross Council:
www.pkc.gov.uk/coronavirus
www.pkc.gov.uk/bensandcovid19 (Benefits)
www.pkc.gov.uk/coronavirus/communitysupport
www.pkc.gov.uk/localtaxes (Council tax)

Mental health: Download the 'Directory of Services' PDF accessible here:
www.pkc.gov.uk/mentalhealthresources

Breathing Space: 0800 83 85 87
Samaritans: 116 123
Childline: 0800 1111

Ready Scotland: Information on how to help your community and find support.
www.readyscotland.org/coronavirus

Scottish Government:

www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/

Domestic abuse: Support and advice
www.mygov.scot/domestic-abuse/
If you or your children are in immediate danger and need help, call 999.

Scottish Welfare Fund - Crisis

Grants: A crisis grant to tide people over until their next wage or payment. 01738 476900
www.pkc.gov.uk/scottishwelfarefund

Self-employment income support:

For self-employed or a member of a partnership who have lost income due to the coronavirus.
www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-a-grant-through-the-coronavirus-covid-19-self-employment-income-support-scheme

Newly self-employed hardship fund:

For people who became self-employed on/after 6 April 2019, who have not been able to access support through other schemes or have exhausted all other avenues for business support. The fund is a one-off grant payment of £2,000: <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/selfemployedhardshipfund>

Support Choices helps people living in Perth and Kinross to get the social care and support that they need. Contact them for help with understanding and navigating the changing processes for accessing Social Work support during this time. 01350 729130
supportchoices@otbds.org

Tayside Cares: Information, advice and assistance regarding coronavirus for residents of Angus, Dundee, Perth and Kinross: www.taysidecares.co.uk

Wellbeing Support Team Aberfeldy:

Information, assessment, emotional and self-management support. Available over the phone or email. 01887 822462

Young Scot: Information and advice for young people aged 11-26 in Scotland.
www.young.scot/campaigns/national/coronavirus

'Knowing'

Written by a community member.

So you're wondering exactly
where it went. Whipped
from a pocket by the western wind
on your weekly trip to town?
Or tangling in a cupboard corner
with the Christmas lights,
the jigsaw that's lost two pieces,
the mice?
Or has all your knowing fled where
slaters scuttle,
to the garden shed?

So now you've ditched the dates:
The trip to Oban, holidays,
a visit from your sister. Still,
there's other trusted things you miss:
The boy who comes to mow your lawn;
chums chit-chatting in the fish-van line;
tinned tomatoes always in the shops;
Doig's, for your new Spring socks.
And Easter Sunday should always spill
families onto Kenmore Beach
with sandwiches, beer, no fear
amidst the hooting geese.

So where now will you find your
certainties?
Listen! The blackbird still stands
on the roof at dusk, trilling notes
that drift towards your door.
Primroses spring up; Peewits
soar and tumble on the moor;
bluebells will soon spread
sky-carpet between trees.
Open the window. Isn't that the scent
of ramsons rising in the wood again?



*Looking towards Schiehallion from the Crieff Road.
Picture taken by a community member.*

Update the Breadalbane Community Larder

Written 3rd May, by Angela Harvey.

I'm pleased to report that, in the first six weeks, the Larder has distributed a total of 181 food parcels to households across the area. More than 85 people, including 27 children, are benefitting from the deliveries made by a team of 30 volunteers. We work with #Feldy-Roo and COVID-19 Support to reduce the number of visitors to any one home, especially those where people are shielding or self-isolating. We have had many messages of appreciation from those in receipt of these food boxes which encourage our volunteers immensely.

We cover an area from Kenmore to Logierait and as far as Glen Lyon. If you know someone who is struggling to make ends meet as their financial situation has changed due to COVID-19, please make them aware that the Community Larder was set up specifically for them. People can self-refer by contacting 07513 6525978 or contact the Council Support Line on 0345 30 11 100 if they require additional support.

It would be remiss of me not to take this opportunity to thank our community for their financial support and numerous donations of food and toiletries. There is a trolley near the exit in the Co-op, Aberfeldy if you would like to donate one or two items as you shop. Local retailers and businesses also deserve a mention as they donate items which would otherwise go out of date before they reopen.

The Churches of Blair Atholl

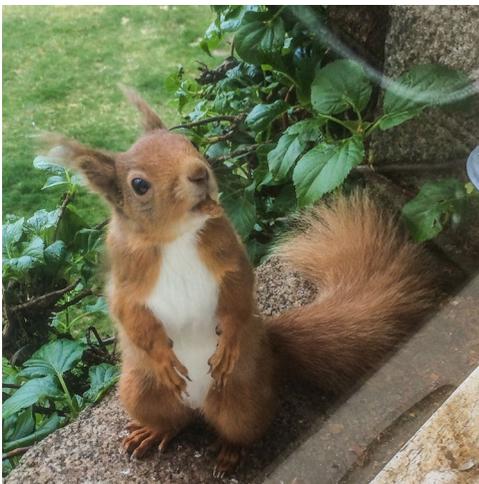
By a member of the community

There have been 6 churches in the Blair Atholl area; 3 remain standing and 2 of which are still active places of worship: Kilmaveonaig Scottish Episcopal Church and the Blair Atholl Parish Church.

Kilmaveonaig Church opposite Bridge of Tilt has been through a number of transitional stages since 1275. It was rebuilt by the local Robertson family in 1591 and burnt to the ground by government forces in 1746 after the Battle of Culloden. It was rebuilt again in 1794 and in 1898 further restoration took place. It has been in regular use ever since.

The Parish Church, located opposite the Blair Castle caravan site, was opened in 1825 to replace the 13th century St Bride's Church at Old Blair. St Bride's fell into a state of disrepair after it was by-passed by the road opened in September 1822, which now runs through Blair Atholl.

St Bride's is now a 'ruin'. Its vault is the resting place of Bonnie Dundee, leader of the Jacobite army in the Battle of Killiecrankie. The church was repaired



'I was hoping for some hazelnuts from the Breadalbane Community Larder – not more peanuts!'

in 1824 but it only remained in use until 1825 when replaced by the new Parish Church.

Construction of the Free Church Of Atholl started in 1843 but the building at Kings Island south of Blair Atholl was liable to flooding and in 1855 a site was obtained in Bridge of Tilt for St Andrew's church. When the Blair Atholl Parish Church opened in 1825, two large churches were now close to one another so St Andrew's was removed in 1968. The site of St Andrew's, close to the Tilt Stores, is now a rest garden.

In 1821, Baptist missionaries erected a thatched building in Kilmaveonaig. In 1836, a new church was built in Bridge of Tilt but it was closed in 1886 and converted into a private house.

Delicious, tangy - and easy peasy! It's quite rich, so serve in little pots or ramekins with summer berries and lemon shortbread biscuit, or a wee meringue on the side. Can be made the day before needed.

Recipe: Lemon posset

2 lemons
125g caster sugar
425ml double cream

1. Finely grate zest of 1 lemon. Juice both lemons (roughly 100ml).
2. Put juice and zest in a pan with the sugar over a low heat and slowly bring to boil, stirring occasionally until sugar dissolves.
3. Pour in the cream. Stir till combined.
4. Pour into ramekins. Allow to cool and put in the fridge for a few hours.

Cycled to the local shop for a bottle of gin so we didn't run out during the lockdown, but as I put it in my basket I thought, what if I fall off my bike & break it? So I drank it all outside the shop.

Good thing I did, I fell off the bike 7 times on the way home.

The silver lining grows...

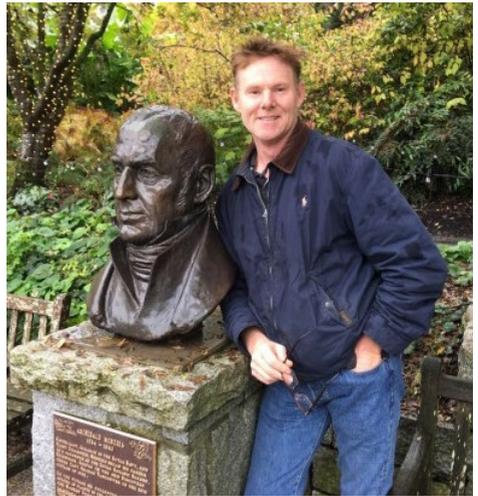
Written by a community member.

My friend in Strathpeffer was certainly not alone in responding to my COVID-19 driven communication. Another of those who came back with the good news that across-the-seas in Calgary all was well, so far, was Ken. Ken was originally from Liverpool, emigrated to Canada many years ago and we met working in Alaska in the mid 70's. We have not met since we went our own ways late in the 70's but have kept in touch at least once a year since. My missive stirred Ken to respond when a story with a link to Aberfeldy appeared in his local newspaper. "SCOTLAND OR BUST" was the headline.

The story tells of the work of a locally based sculptor who had embarked on a project to reproduce one of the works of his father, Jack Harman, that he himself had assisted to make 48 years before. This bronze bust, of the famous botanist Archibald Menzies, is destined to be housed at Castle Menzies near Aberfeldy and that made the link.

The original of the sculpture sits in Vancouver's 55-acre VanDusen Botanical Garden. The reproduction, which Harman should have completed by the end of April, is the result of a campaign that began three years ago. Writer Graeme Menzies was working on a guidebook called "111 Places in Vancouver You Must Not Miss", and his publisher wanted him to find some of the hidden, under-appreciated gems in the city. This eventually led him to VanDusen Botanical Garden.

"There's this lonely little bust of Archibald Menzies, which caught my attention because of the last name,"



Red Deer-based sculptor Stephen Harman with the bust of Archibald Menzies, which his father created in 1972.

says Menzies, in an interview from his Vancouver home. "The more I dug into it, I found that, apparently, it's the only one of him in the world." What also emerged was, that in addition to being a famous botanist, Archibald Menzies circumnavigated the globe twice, was involved in the Vancouver Expedition as chief science officer, reached the summit of the Mauna Loa volcano in Hawaii and was a veteran of the Battle of Saintes in the Caribbean. Quite a colourful character.

The same name link caused Graeme to bring the bust to the attention of Clan Menzies, eventually leading to the plan to make a reproduction to be placed at Castle Menzies where young Archibald made his start in life, toiling in the Castle gardens.

It is hoped that the current restrictions will have lifted sufficiently for the bust to be shipped to Castle Menzies by August, so that an unveiling ceremony can be held to coincide with the annual general meeting of the Menzies Clan Society.

QUIZ: Name the book!

1. 🌳 🐼 🌳
2. 🍷 🧑 👑 🦋
3. 🐼 🚂
4. 📞 2 2
5. 🧐 🧐 🧐 ➡ ⚖️
6. 🎄 🚗 🍌
7. 🦉 ❄️ ↩️ 🌳 🏠
8. 🐉 🐉 🧑 🧑
9. 🐕 ➡ 🎩
10. 🐉 🐘 🐘 🐘 🐘

I spy a spider!

Do you like spiders? Some are lovely, but here's a story about a really mean spider who lives in Aberfeldy. If you see him, watch out! He plays tricks and he might play one on YOU! Maybe your Mum or Dad could read you this story or you could read it to your wee sister or brother.

Once upon a time, there was a very mean spider called Gobbledygook. He lived in an old bush outside a big house in Aberfeldy. Every night he spun his sticky web and he caught lots of flies. He LOVED eating flies and he loved eating them SLOWLY! He was really mean and horrible!

First, he wrapped the flies up in silky thread, so they could not escape. Then he sucked out all the juice from the flies – YUCH! Then he nibbled and nibbled till he had eaten every tiny bit of the fly up. Then he licked his lips and said, "Yummy, yummy, flies in my tummy!" And he curled up and went to sleep.

Nobody liked Gobbledygook! And he didn't like anybody! Especially little boys and girls! There were two little boys who lived in the big house and one little girl. One boy was called Callum – he was seven years old; his brother Finlay was aged three. Their wee sister, Phoebe, was five years old. They lived with their Mummy and

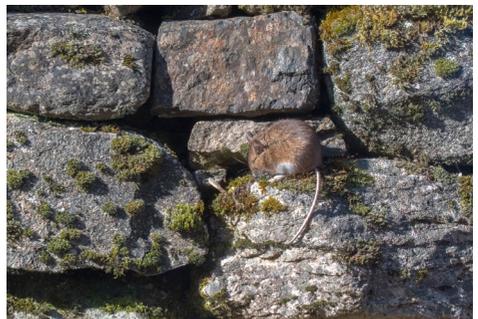
Daddy and Granny.

One night, Gobbledygook made a plan to scare one of the children. He started to spin a HUGE web from the bush to the garage wall in the dark. He made the web extra sticky and crept back into the bush and waited.

Suddenly, in the morning, the front door opened and Callum came running out to play. He was going to the park. He was laughing and shouting and he wasn't looking where he was going. Without warning, he ran smack into Gobbledygook's sticky web and his face was covered in strong, silky web threads. They even got up Callum's nose, like a bogey! Callum yelled! He said, "Yuch! I'm covered in spider's web stuff! Help, help! Mum! Dad! Help!"

Callum's Dad came to the door to see what the noise was about. He laughed when he saw Callum trying to get the sticky stuff off his face. "That'll teach you to look where you're going," said Dad. Callum was not a happy chappie! "It's not funny!" he muttered.

But Gobbledygook laughed even more than Dad! "Ha! Ha! That was a really good joke I played today," he said. And he curled up and went back to sleep to dream of juicy flies and other nasty tricks he could play. *Sent in by a member of the community.*



Another little local living near Acharn!

'I spy Aberfeldy'

Name the building! Bonus questions & hints under each photo.



1. What name was given to these buildings when they were built in 1880?



2. What function does this serve?



3. For a clue, follow the wee birks over the little bridge a few hundred yards. Look down!



4. Who once worshipped here, who owns it now and what happens?

Update from local CoS Parish Churches:

From Dull & Weem: As ever the congregation where possible involve themselves in community projects, like the Feldy-Roo food delivery scheme to vulnerable people and the Community Larder. Having grasped the technology, there are the weekly church services on YouTube to look forward to, and the Church is still connecting with them as the bell is rung on Thursday evening and Sunday at midday.

From Grandtully, Logierait & Strathtay: The congregation and community seem to be weathering the storm pretty well. The support provision for essential supplies including meals has been greatly appreciated. The bells continue to ring, hand bells at Logierait have been a splendid initiative and the Strathtay bell rings, in concert with St Andrew's, on Thursdays and Sundays. The Christian Aid (isolated) Lunch was much enjoyed. The frustrations are considerable but the community's strength is obvious.

From Aberfeldy: Maintaining services has been a priority; thanks to digital technology, our ministers and churches have continued to provide regular worship. Our elders have kept in contact with church members to support their individual needs and we also aim to serve the needs of the community through the Community Larder and Newsletter. In keeping with our mission to 'Bring people to God and God to people', we will continue to adapt and seek to overcome whatever difficulties are presented in the months ahead.

Keep scrolling for our final entry, from a member of the COVID-19 Aberfeldy Support team...





‘Home thoughts’ by Norman McCandlish, from Aberfeldy.

What’s yellow, covers all of Aberfeldy, up the Glens and out to Acharn, Fearnan and Strathtay and rings doorbells?

No not the Virus, the Aberfeldy Jeelie Joans.

Gilet Jaunes? Oh, please yourself!

What’s struck me about Aberfeldy since the lockdown is the outbreak of humanity. Don’t need to ask who’s your neighbour any more, it’s whoever needs help. Much, rightly, has been made of the wonderful response of Aberfeldy businesses when Covid-19 slammed the door on the 2020 Tourist season. Deep breaths all round, then an explosion of ingenuity as they refocused on serving the community in Highland Perthshire.

What has been equally remarkable is the Community response. None of the business efforts could have succeeded without the army of volunteers making the deliveries happen.

And help takes many forms. A couple of kids bikes neglected, rescued, reconditioned and now with two happy youngsters. A phone chat, and a bunch of local flowers for someone whose mum had died South of the Border. The small change of humanity is important.

There’s a shortage of PPE’s for GPs.

Tay Valley Timebank put out a call, the material was donated locally by Karelia and a squad of volunteer sewers made up gowns for our local GP surgery staff so that they can be safe making home calls. What patient would not be cheered by the sight of Dr Cox approaching their front door in a cardinal red robe, (or Dr Ashcroft in a fetching Laura Ashley number)?

When Aberfeldy is open again, when Tourists are back and Highland Perthshire is there to be savoured, I hope that the businesses which succored the community are thriving. And that Tay Valley Timebank, The Birks Cinema Trust, Breathe, Upper Tay Transport and all the other voluntary organisations whose members make up our Community, are thriving also.

To volunteer, call 07507 479555.



From the editors: We need your help! **What are three things you cherish?** We want to create a page full of the things we all love. **Get in contact via our email, below.** We’re also looking for stories, poems, jokes & photos for our next edition - or more ‘I spy’ quizzes...! As always, many thanks to everyone who sent in something and to the incredible initiatives, funds and companies included. If we’ve missed any, please let us know.

UpperTayCoSCommunityNewsletter@Gmail.com | 07836 565 528

This monthly newsletter is run by a small group from Aberfeldy, Dull and Weem, and Grandtully, Logierait and Strathtay Parish Churches. A paper edition is included inside the Atholl & Breadalbane Quair.