

'M' WAS FOR MARY FAIR ... 'J' IS JUST FOR JUNE

MARY FAIR CAME STORMING BACK!

What a great day!

We had a record turn out for our 2016 Mary Fair, with some new things on offer.

The day's events were officially opened by Lumsden Community Association (LCA) Chair, Jill Pratt, introducing a very talented young local piper, Murray Watt.



Murray was followed by the double award winning Rhynie Primary School dancers who performed very energetically for around 45 minutes.



The dancers were in turn followed by local musicians - Ian Rae and Nicola Tierney - who included some Lumsden music among their set.

Elsewhere in the hall we featured an art show from Aberdeenshire artist Bruce Sutherland and a professional photographic studio from Melissa Fisher - check out her website at www.apiniphotography.com.

Other stalls in the hall covered ceramics from Fiona Hudson and extensive displays of crafts and needlepoint from local experts Becca Mayo and Sue Cross.

Outside in the marquee we featured a book-folding stall courtesy of Create with King, plants for sale, a book stall to raise funds for Lumsden Primary School and delicious hand-made dog biscuits from Kelso & Titch.



Solanne, Lucas, Tako and Caitlin - a fabulous group of artists from the Scottish Sculpture Workshop - devised costumes for the children in attendance and a community stall was open for villagers to express their views on the future

development of the village play park and the prospect of a community shop.



The entire small marquee was given over to all things for children - the Kids Corner. As well as various games and quizzes we also featured the very special Lumsden Biscuit - unique to the community of Lumsden. It was first baked in 2016 by a group of local young bakers who were mentored by volunteer master bakers from within the Lumsden Community Area.



And while all this was going on, a small team of dedicated cafe volunteers managed to serve over 120 people with six different varieties of home-made soups and more delicious sweets than could be counted.

Meanwhile, outside we had a 25 bird clay shoot, courtesy of the Kildrummy Gun Club, as well as an impressive display of tractors and vintage vehicles.



Oh and the goat. And the delightful wee lambs who earned their keep with a game of guessing their combined weight.



Which was guessed EXACTLY at 63 kilos by Kate Cowe from Lumsden who received a bottle of malt whisky for her powers of deduction. And to keep the lucky streak in the family, Kate's husband Alex won a second bottle of malt as the successful picker of the whisky squares winning number. Andy Stronach was also a double winner, with the senior shooting trophy to his name as well as the vodka squares prize.

And for once it didn't rain - at least, not properly. And it certainly didn't snow.

Thanks to everyone who turned up to make this a successful fundraiser for LCA and well done to everyone involved in the organisation and running of this community-spirited event.

THEATRE NIGHT - TALES OF A GRANDSON

Come and hear the history of Scotland, as told by one of Scotland's favourite storytellers - we said.

And indeed it was the history of Scotland, told in an entirely new and inventive way.

The show was very funny, hugely entertaining and extremely informative. It should probably be billed as a playful way of revising your history.



Speaking of history, two years ago, when the present committee was voted in, we conducted a community survey to try and understand the types of events that would be popular in the village.

The biggest winners by far were films, theatre and music, all of which we have managed to provide.

Yet the audiences numbers are frequently disappointing, which is a great shame, given the amount of effort and expense that goes into setting up these events.

If there is something else you would rather have, or if you have a preference for a certain type of film or show, please let us know at events@lumsdencommunity.co.uk. That way we might be able to tailor the performances more closely to the majority view.

Perhaps it's the time of year? Do you prefer to come to evening events in the autumn/winter and keep the summer evenings free? Just let us know.

Or if we are wasting our time, let us know that too and we'll concentrate our energies elsewhere.

PARKING

We have received a complaint from Aberdeenshire Council about a number of cars parking in front of the recycling area between the hotel and the village hall.

The council requires clear access to the recycling area at all times to be able to manoeuvre the collection vehicles and we need to comply with their request to keep the area clear in order to retain the recycling facilities.

WALKING GROUP STARTING UP

Hopefully you will have seen the information about a proposed walking group starting in Lumsden.

There's one free 'test' day left - Tuesday 7th June.

Call Alan Melrose on 07769-908668 or 013398-80081 for more information.

BISTRO NIGHT

Come and support our fundraising efforts by popping along to the next Black Cat Bistro - which will be on Saturday 25th June.

Doors open 5-8pm and we will have a licence for those special cocktails.

Booking from 11th June through to 21st June - all welcome.

Call Susan on 07773 000939 to secure your table.

STORYTELLING ...

Finally we thought you might be interested in some random shots from our year-long Storytelling project.

Just because we have held the official launch doesn't mean that we've finished ... it just mean the end of phase one. Or the end of the beginning, if you want to be historical about it.

Anyone who believes they have some good stories or would like to share some photographs, please get in touch. As our Tales of a Grandson storyteller said on Friday 13th ... everyone has a story to tell.

'all of the people who are not in the history books but who are very important to local and national history in Scotland'.

So if you would like to share your memories and get them written down before they are lost, just contact any committee member or email events@lumsdencommunity.co.uk.

