

CIRCULARS SENT OUT
ABOUT HALL FROM MR
GARIOCH - 1955

ABERDOUR PARISH HALL.

This is a circular to let the people of the village and Parish of Aberdour know that a Public Meeting is called for Tuesday, 20th September, at 8 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Now, let us tell you what the meeting is about. Recently, we have been encouraged by those in authority to proceed with the improvements to the Hall which were in our minds several years back and which at that time came to nothing because Government grants at that time were stopped owing to the country's economic condition. Evidently such grants can now be obtained, provided we can do something locally. For every £1 we raise they say they will give us 30/- and that seems a fair offer. They restrict this grant to improvements and new building.

If you ask the Committee of the Farmers' Ball, or the Church-women's Guild, or the Committee of the New Year's Ball, or indeed any Committee that has to handle things in the kitchen and ante-rooms when a big occasion arises what they think of the conditions they have to work under, they will tell you it is a pretty murderous business, especially the feeding of the crowd. Now, we of the Hall Committee have proposed a new kitchen to be built on to the side of the Hall and to turn the present kitchen into a proper men's cloakroom. On the other side of the passage it is proposed to build a new ladies' cloakroom. It is also proposed to modernise the equipment in the new kitchen as our present equipment is very limited. Now, that is, shortly, what we are proposing and we think the authorities will be very favourable to giving us a grant. While Hall charges pay for year to year expenses only, money for new accommodation must be raised otherwise and that is precisely what this meeting is about. We have one of the nicest halls in Buchan but to make it right we really must have more room. At our meeting on 20th Sept. Mr. Parkinson, who is one of the Hall Trustees, is to have a plan drawn on a blackboard for you all to inspect and which will explain exactly what we have in mind.

Now, some will say what has become of the money raised after this last war. The Hall was in truly a sorry state at that time. That money went on new windows, etc., lighting, heating, redecoration and such like, and the Government grant people gravely disappointed us when they classed most of our expenditure as upkeep costs. Grants have never been given for upkeep -- only for new buildings and new materials. But in any case, they stopped the grants anyway. So that was where our cash went and we had no option unless the Hall was to become a wreck. The Hall was made beautiful and rightly so. The position is entirely different now because we are after new building and new equipment -- not maintenance or repairs.

Therefore come to our meeting on the 20th and give us your help and suggestions for organising things so that we can take advantage of what is offered from Government sources.

In the name of the Committee,
John Birnie, Chairman.
D.B. Garrloch, Secy. and Treas.

New Aberdour.
10th Sept., 1955.

ABERDOUR PARISH HALL.

Since I sent round the previous circular about raising funds to improve and modernise our Parish Hall, a wonderful response has been made. The following is what has been decided on :-

- (1) A concert fixed for 11th November to be organised by Mr. Parkinson.
- (2) A FREE GIFT SALE for 8th December and a dance to follow during the evening. The draw for the RAFFLE will take place on the same date. As regards the hour for opening the sale and the person who will open it, a notice later on will be issued. Already we have been promised the following gifts for the Raffle :- a sheep, bottle of whisky, bottle of rum, Christmas cake, half-quarter corn, 100-666 cigarettes, roast, pair of cushion covers and a windcheater. Will anyone who can add to this list let me know as soon as possible so that I can get the list published. I'm quite sure there are folks in the district who would like to do so.

As regards the sale here are the particulars:-

Convener : Mrs. Garrioch.

Work Stall : Mrs. Parkinson ; Mrs. John Irvine; Mrs. Noble; Miss Esther Smith; Miss Annie 'Tichie; Miss Anna Gatt.

Airy Stall: Mrs. Bell; Mrs. Davie; Mrs. Geo. Stephen; Mrs. Webster.

Toffee Stall: Mrs. Joseph Turbell; Mrs. Edward Ross; Mrs. Pennie (Helena-more); Mrs. M. Thomson (East Mains).

Cake Stall : Mrs. Hannah ; Nurse Gatt ; Miss Bunty Rennie; Miss B. Garrioch
Miss Mary Irvine.

Childrens Stall : Miss Isabel Gattloch.

Miscellaneous Stall: Mrs. Wm. Kennedy, Jnr.; Mrs. Smith, Killyquharn.

Jumble Stall: Mrs. G. Bean; Mrs. Allan Burnett; Miss Lily Scott.

Dips : Mrs. Hepburn; Mrs. Johnston.

Men's Stall {corn, potatoes, etc.) and side-shows; The gentlemen present at our meeting on 20th Sept. and helpers.

Ice-cream and crisps : Mrs. Campbell (59 High St.)

Lady with the Hundred Pockets.: Miss Sheila Webster.

Tea Tables : Mrs. Wyness and assistants.

Mrs. John Scott and assistants.

Mrs. R. Kindness and assistants.

Mrs. Park and assistants.

Tea Makers--: Mrs. R. Knox ; Mrs. Joseph Cruickshank.

These are the ladies at the Stalls, etc. but we have many working behind the scenes who could not be at the Stalls for certain on that day. There is no doubt you will have preferences as far as giving goes but contact any of these ladies and let them know what you are doing. We are not to be backward in asking everybody's help for there isn't a person in the district who does not enjoy the use of the Hall at some time or other. We want to make it just right.

Another thing. Most of us would like to dip into the future. Well, here's your opportunity. Mrs. Hadden and Mrs. Scott, both of 21 High St., are out to tell you your fortune. This is a burning question with most young people, especially the girls. WHO WILL IT BE ? Well, MRS. Hadden and Mrs. Scott will put you on the right lines. All you have to do is to contact these two ladies for an appointment.

I have here a Smith's Premier typewriter in perfect order and it is for sale for the funds. It is just the thing for someone who doesn't take a special pride in his (or her) handwriting. Come and see it. It is one of those older models which has a key for every letter and so is a very simple machine to use. It needs no training to use this model.

And finally, I am just wondering if I have forgotten to tell you something that is of importance, but, if so, I'll fill in the gap when I send round my next circular telling you who is to open the sale. Now, don't wait to be asked. Let's have your assistance and tackle any of the folks I have mentioned above as to how you can help.

New Aberdour.
7th October, 1955.

D. B. G. Secy.

Aberdour Parish Hall,

Last year saw the new building at the Hall completed and the alterations and additions attended to. Now we have at last, about a year later, got the money side of it all started out when we had that last big Free Gift Sale in 1955 to raise funds for enlarging and improving the Hall. I promised the ladies, who did practically everything at that time, that I would let them know - and also the district - how things worked out. That is just what I am to do now. If by chance you do not know what has been done in the Hall it is high time you did but I think pretty well everybody does know and appreciates what has been accomplished. The question of getting help financially in addition to our own funds took a long time but we have won through and our thanks are due to the Scottish Home Department for a grant of £675, to the Deer District Council for £762, to the Aberdeenshire Education Authority for £230, and to the hard work of our Aberdour ladies and the purchasers of our goods at the Sale, another £543"9"3. We had to find another £59"3"1 ourselves but by careful management we have done that too. So the total from one source and another is £2299"12"4, which has been spent as follows:-

Messrs A & R. Scott, builders, Old Deeside	£966"15"0
Mr A Campbell, Plasterer, Fraserburgh	£106"9"7
Mr D Baird, Plumber, New Pitligo	£322"8"2.
Messrs W Bruce & Sons, Joiners, Fraserburgh	£402"12"10
Mr Roy Cooper, Painter, Peterhead	£190"14"1
Messrs Jas Scott & Co, Union St. Aberdeen	£90"8"8
Messrs Watt & Stewart, Architects	£220"0"8
Miscellaneous	£0"3"4

You will say that this is a pretty big sum but prices these days are colossal. They will seem all the more colossal when I tell you that the original cost of the various tradespeople in 1891 when the Hall was built was as follows:-

Mason work	£150
carpenter "	£220
Slater "	£49"19/-
Plasterer "	£31"10/-
Plumber "	£24"15/-

Mason work
Carpenter "
Slater "
Plasterer "
Plumber "
Painter "

£=150
£=220
£=49 " 19/-
£=31 " 10/-
£=24 " 15/-
£=14 " 10/-

£498 " 12/- all of which makes a total of
the tower and clock ~~of course~~, that did not include
the tower and clock nor the dykes round the