

# alyth voice

30th Edition, October 1999

Minimum Circulation: 1100

Song for the Millennium

## "The Bonnie Alyth Burn"

This song was first performed in June this year at a concert in the Town hall.

The words are by Elma Mitchell, the music by Claire and Elizabeth Strachan and sung by Janey MacFarlane

Tapes of the song, including poems by Elma are now available at Fashionwise, Seasons, the Post Office in Alyth and also the Music Box, Blairgowrie. They can also be purchased by e.mail from the Alyth Voice on [alyth.Voice@bigfoot.com](mailto:alyth.Voice@bigfoot.com)

A donation from the sale of these tapes will go towards the Town Millenium Clock project.

## ALYTH MILLENNIUM CALENDARS

Year 2000 calendars with views of Alyth

For details see Page 1 of Aug or Sept 99 issues

## Crooked Dreel & Concealed Hinge Society

The above society challenge through the auspices of the WEB and any Media, readers who belong to a Club/ Association or small Town to a day of Festivity, Games and Merriment for the mutual enjoyment of all concerned sometime during the Year 2000. In the first instance either E-Mail to Alyth Voice, or write via the Alyth PO, Perthshire.

Still NO takers - Does any reader have a friend or acquaintance somewhere who may be in, or know of a group/association who may accept the challenge?

**AN OVERSEAS VISITING PARTY WOULD  
BE VERY WELCOME!**

## *The Braes Barn Dance (erstwhile "Berry Ball")*

*Alyth is indeed a braw place to live, with anither invitation for us tae the Barn Dance (erstwhile BB) wi' circa (not circus) 350 happy folk, including umpteen very well -brocht up bairns, enjoying the music o' Ian Camerons duo and that fine singer, Rosemary Lothian, but we did miss your all-night fiddling, George.*

*There were fowk frae a' the airts, as weel as locals and farming friends, but we missed you, AndrewK. and MattieJ. and quite a few others.*

*Ye just had to see the revellers giving it laldy on, and around, the stourless, concrete flair - Czechs, Poles, Danes, Canadians, Orcadians, Fifers, Forfarians and other Brits, but two young Poles, Annie & Majic (can't spell in correct Polish) really made the jigging come alive. Wha needs posh polished planks?*

*This time the Perth & District Pipe Band with Pipe Major Scott Murray (and that Big G. drummer) played - in full kilted kit - to everyone's delight.*

*Did you know that that band won grade 2 at Pitlochry Highland games?*

*Did you really skive plunk off skule 50 years syne tae help George's Dad wi' the horses and ither farm chores, Gordon Alexander (Julie's paw-in-law)?*

*Elizabeth and George thank all who made this anither great Do; the pies and pieces providers and servers; the hot kettle carriers, the Barn transformers (especially one moustached Fred Astaire), and all the Barnstormers who attended, with or without carry-oots, up Toutie Street on that balmy August nicht.*

*Hopefully you'll make it at next invitation, Moira's friend, Elspeth.*

*We're sure Gary's cosseted coos appreciate the weel-scored court (by hose and Mandy), the blocked up draughts, the fairy lights, the much-peched balloons and the nice fresh straw upon which to sit.*

*We certainly did! you just had to be there to savour it all!*

*Josie*

*Why has the name changed from Berry Ball to Barn Dance? and worse still I was on holiday at the time. Ed.*

# EDITORIAL

There doesn't appear to be a lot on in Town this month according to our diary but I am sure that coffee mornings, bingo teas and the like will all be taking place. Are the Organisers of these events wary of advertising them?

Bonfire night is on the 6th November, "Money for the Display" is needed and the Community Council have asked that you give generously to the collecting tins, which bear this symbol in Pubs, Shops and with the Collectors.



Do not forget to complete the enclosed nomination form for COTY (See P4 for details). We have lots of worthy people in the town who deserve recognition.

Rehearsals have started on Monday nights in the Ogilvy Rooms for the AMS performance of "Annie Get Your Gun" The Society still want more male members, else Cowgirls will outnumber the Cowboys. "Oh, the deadwood stage is runn....." - Oh, how I wish that I could sing!

My quest for an Heritage columnist and now a football correspondent continues. I have to say that it is a nice feeling to write something which you know will be read and appreciated (maybe torn up) by so many people. That is always the readers option, or maybe the reader may choose to comment - Letters these days to the Voice seem to be in short supply.

## LITTLEWOODS COUPONS

**Contrary to the press, weekly pools coupons are still being collected but not on a door to door basis**

**If you wish to enter one please contact the Wool Shop, Airlie St,  
They are collected from there on Friday morning**

## ALYTH VOICE EDITORIAL BOARD

The Editorial Board members and their contact 'phone numbers are as follows :

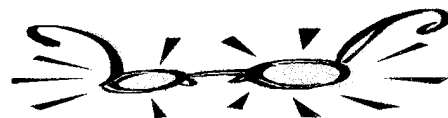
Sheila Fisher	632847
Billy Gordon	via Post Office
Jessie McLean	632684
Jim O' Brien.	632484
Paul Prettyman	
Callum Strachan	633140

Please ensure that articles for publication are submitted by the 21st day of each month.

**Note :** The views expressed in the Alyth Voice are not necessarily those of the Editors, nor can they accept responsibility for the accuracy of any article.

## Dates for your diary

Monday nights @ 7.30pm Ogilvy rooms - re  
hearsals for "Annie Fet Your Gun"  
Sat 9th Oct Coffee morning, St Ninians Church  
Airlie St Hall, 10 - 12noon  
Tues19th Oct Ladies Badminton starts in the Airlie St  
Hall @ 10.30. New members welcome  
Fri 29th Oct "Good as New" sale Alyth town Hall  
@ 7pm. Community Council  
Sat 30th Oct "Jumble Sale" Alyth Town Hall. at  
2pm. Community Council  
Sat 6th Nov Bonfire/fireworks night in the Jubilee  
Park



## WATCH THIS SPACE

Thursday 16th December

Alyth Town Hall

Afternoon & Evening

**KEEP THIS DATE/TIME FREE**

**SOMETHING NOT SEEN FOR MORE THAN**

# 40 years

Have you guessed yet?

Clue:- A jam jar just won't do!

# DISNEYWORLD

The worlds **BIGGEST** School

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**\*\*\*WALT DISNEY WORLD\*\*\***

**ALYTH PRIMARY SCHOOL ARE COLLECTING TOKENS FROM THE DAILY RECORD & SUNDAY MAIL TO QUALIFY FOR THESE TRIPS**

**Please give them your support, cut out those coupons and hand them in to the Post Office or Lunans News Agent**

## **EVERY ONE COUNTS**

Dear Sir,

I hope that is the last we've seen of Adam Neve. My old school pal, Peg has regularly sent me editions of the Voice and many's the time I've thrown it down on the floor because of his insane rantings.

You ask, "Does anyone know who Adam Neve Is?" Could twenty nine of us who went through Alyth School with him ever forget? We've all been marked for life. All the years I knew him he was an objectionable little \*\* He was aye different and !!!! he even liked the skin on the custard. Moan? The little \*\* could whinge for Scotland. If he found a penny in the street he'd moan because it wasn't a threepenny bit. He reckoned he was brave, up in the Den with his leather flying helmet (with earflaps). Looked more like \$\$\$\$\$ ET. A black slug twitching its feelers would give him a fleg.

If anyone dares start a campaign to bring Adam Neve back I'll personally come up to Alyth and sort them out.

Ena H. (nee Braynes). Secretary KANOO TV  
(Keep Adam Neve out of the Voice)

ED: Very strong feelings, but in the first sentence she says he was "an old school pal" ? It makes you think and wonder what did happen in the Den?

This is typical of a number of letters received and we had to print one of them - but still no formal identification?

## Alyth FC

Sat 25th Sept saw the home side at Jubilee Park hosts to Bridgeton, a fast flowing side with some good football but not intending to take prisoners.



A first half full of Alyth pressure but a few quick breaks from the visitors, a very fast, skilful winger, and suddenly Alyth were THREE goals down. Heads began to droop BUT not the crowd!

A protected half time break and a PEP talk from the Manager. The injection of experience at the back in the form Rob Kydd. 1 goal, 2 then 3 GOALS in rapid succession from Drew Mollison followed by an home goal (great cross from Drew) and Alyth were leading 4 - 3. What a come back.

Lack of full fitness led to Bridgeton's last minute equaliser. Final result 4 each, a draw. A fair result on the day. Some fitness training is needed & less shouting.

**ps. Anyone know what was said in the PEP talk?**

## LAST MINUTE E-MAIL

From: CSMO34@aol.com <CSMO34@aol.com>  
To: alyth\_Voice@bigfoot.com <alyth\_Voice@bigfoot.com>  
Subject: Hello to Home  
Date: 25 September 1999 17:16

Hi,

My name is Claire Mollison. You probably don't know who I am, but if you are from Alyth you know my last name. My dad is Eric Mollison and every other Mollison is either my Aunt Uncle or cousins. I am presently at University playing basketball in the USA. Could you please put in the next Alyth voice a hello to the Mollison clan from me, Claire at Uni in Charlotte North Carolina USA. Tell them that I say hi, and that I love them and I will see them soon. Tell my granny Catherine Mollison that I love her lots and lots.

I would really appreciate it,

Yours Claire Mollison, <csmo34@aol.com>

## ALL WITH THANKS

### P.A.D.S.

*I should like to thank all who gave so generously to the "Door to Door" collection for P.A.D.S. when the sum of £409.47p was collected.*

*Many thanks also to all the collectors.*

*Janet Young. Springbank Road*

## HOSPITAL MEMORIES

*I wish to thank all relatives, friends and Neighbours for the Cards, Gifts, Flowers and Visits I received during my stay in Ninewells Hospital.*

*It makes those long hours pass so much quicker and that friendly face or memory from a card etc... makes a difference.*

*Thanks again. Ian Fotheringham*

*Ed; He's right, we all probably have someone to visit and we should make the effort!*

## ALZHEIMER SCOTLAND PARACHUTE JUMP

*I would like to thank everyone who sponsored me to undertake the jump*

*Altogether the sum of £298.00 was raised. special thanks to Maraget Darroch who allowed me to leave my sponsor form in her shop.*

*It was exciting, I loved the jump and hope to repeat the experience*

*Thank you all Heidi Robertson*

## THE TEDDY BEAR TRAIL

The TEDDY BEAR COMPETITION sponsored by ALYTH & DISTRICT BUSINESS ASSOCIATION, had over 70 completed entry forms returned by the closing date the 31st of August 1999.

The winner picked at random by the vice-chairman Mrs. F. McNeil was Jamie Buckley aged 5 from Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands who received a large teddy bear. As there were so many entries it was decided to have a consolation prize and this was won by Linn Robertson, St. Ninians Road, Alyth, who received a small teddy bear.

A big thanks must be expressed to the following, Mrs. J. McGill for her organisation of the competition, Mrs. F. McNeil for her kind donation of the prizes, Mr. & Mrs. G. Rintoul at David Sims (thanks Stanley) for all the photo-copying, to all the businesses who placed a teddy bear in their windows in so many different ways and gave everybody so much fun during the summer months and to all who took part and made it all so worth while. Michael Kay Chairman.

## MONA GOWAN

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## Alyth Youth Partnership

At the AGM held on the 23/9/99 the following committee members were elected:

George Allan: Seonaid Don: Mary O'Neill: Caroline Scott: Joe Murray: Natalie Jeffrey: Gary Neave: Sean Wallace & Robert Stewart.

**ALYTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
ARE TO HOLD  
A GOOD AS NEW/JUMBLE SALE  
on Friday 29th & Saturday 30th October  
in ALYTH TOWN HALL  
GOOD AS NEW ON FRIDAY 29th AT 7PM  
JUMBLE AND CAKE & CANDY ON SATURDAY  
30th AT 2PM**

Time for a good clear out before the Millennium! Items can be taken to the Post Office or Town Hall. We will be collecting door to door from 16th October.

To arrange for uplift of goods please contact one of the following: Dennis Melloy 01828 632284, Pat Eady 01828 633521, or Billy Gordon at the post office. All types of items in good condition will be accepted.

**YOUR LETTER  
or ARTICLE  
COULD BE HERE - FREE!!!**

**THE ALYTH HOTEL  
CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS  
CORPORATE FUNCTIONS  
CHRISTMAS PARTIES,  
DINNER DANCES, SPECIAL OAP MENU.**

Why not hold your work's or family Christmas party at the Alyth Hotel? Our first class restaurant is the ideal venue for such an occasion.

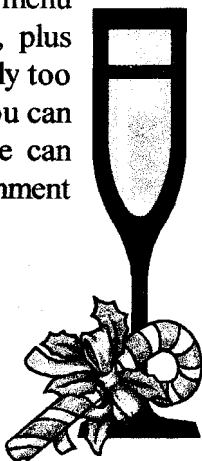
We have an exciting traditional menu excellently prepared by our chefs, plus our friendly waiting staff will be only too pleased to look after you so that you can relax and enjoy your evening. We can also arrange transport and entertainment for you should you require.

For further information and a leaflet

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Fax: (01828) 632355

E-mail: [info@alyth-hotel.co.uk](mailto:info@alyth-hotel.co.uk)



## ALYTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD 1999

In continuation of the successful and firmly established Alyth Citizen/Young Citizen of the Year Awards the Community Council invites nominations for 1999/2000. Any person from the Alyth area or immediate vicinity will be eligible.

In making their choice from nominations received the Community Council will have particular regard to those who have given freely of their time to help others in the Community, have worked for the betterment of Alyth or perhaps in their everyday work have constantly gone beyond the call of duty or have been noteworthy in some other way.

Please complete the Voice insert with your nominations for both Citizen and/or Young Citizen of the Year.

**ALL FORMS TO BE RETURNED TO THE  
POST OFFICE, AIRLIE STREET BY MON-  
DAY 22 NOVEMBER.**

## Scottish Country Dancing

Mrs Dutch would welcome some new recruits for her class in the Lesser Town Hall on Thursday evenings @ 7.30pm  
Next class starts on the 21st October

### Gentlemen!

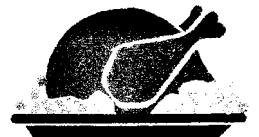
Alf would be pleased to have some competition.

For more information please ring Alyth 632164 or 632939



## Colin Nicoll BUTCHER

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# Public Notices

## Alyth Youth Partnership

My name is Rikki Beattie and I am a third year student from Northern College Dundee. I am currently on placement with the Alyth Youth Partnership until 10th December 1999.

As part of my placement I will be attempting to develop and implement various projects. These are to include a Job Shop, Youth Information Point, Young Mums Support Group, Motorbike Project and Community Profile amongst others. There are also at present two youth groups running. On Wednesday nights 7.30- 9.30pm is the 15+ group and the 12+ group meets on a Thursday at 7.00- 8.3pm. New members welcome. To ensure that these projects continue after my placement is complete we are also looking for volunteers who can give a few hours per week to help out in the above projects. There would be training and support on offer for the volunteers. If there is anyone interested in coming along to help out they can contact myself at the Alyth Youth Partnership building (formally TSB) on 633644 or just drop-in.

Yours sincerely Rikki Beattie. Student

## SHELTERED HOUSING, SMYTHE STREET, ALYTH

On Friday 10th September I officially inaugurated work on the new sheltered housing site at the old laundry. The complex which is due to be completed by September 2000 is an innovative joint development by Servite Housing Association, a Scottish Charity and supervised by Scottish Homes.

Servite, which was established in Tayside in 1974, now manages over 1200 houses in the area and specialises in the provision of a range of housing for the elderly.

Sheltered housing is especially designed for older persons and priority is given to those over 65 years of age who wish to retain their independence but may be looking for the added security that this type of housing and the Warden service provides.

The development will consist of 15 one bedroom cottages and 11 two bedroom cottages. There will be communal facilities including a common room, kitchen and a Warden's office, which will be located in a separate block in the middle of the development. All properties will be designed to "barrier free" standards with level access throughout the site and will benefit from energy efficient gas central heating and hot water.

All the flats are linked to an emergency alarm service with staff on call most nights and during the day. The garden areas will be maintained by Servite and communal areas will be furnished and maintained to a high standard.

The final rent and service charge figures will be available nearer the time but an estimate of the total cost, including all services will be

## FLU VACCINATIONS

Summer has flown by, and it is again the time of year when we start to think about organising our annual flu vaccination programme. Flu is a highly infectious acute viral illness and while most healthy people can recover quite quickly from it there are certain groups who remain more at risk of developing complications following it.

Immunisation is recommended for those of any age who have asthma or chronic bronchitis, long-standing heart problems, kidney disease, diabetes, problems with their immune system and all those aged 75 and over.

We will be starting the immunisations in mid-October so if you fall into any of the above categories and would like to have the immunisation contact Alyth Health Centre to make an appointment.

If you require further information, leaflets will be available at the Health Centre, or you can make an appointment with one of the nurses to discuss any questions you may have.

## ALYTH & DISTRICT BUSINESS ASSOCIATION.

It is with regret that A&DBA committee have to notify members of the resignation of their secretary Mrs. M. Ross. Marion has served the Association, looking after all the minutes, letters, newsletters and communications over the last three years and her presence on the committee will be greatly missed by all. We wish her all the best for the future.

A bouquet and small keep sake were presented to Marion by the chairman and vice-chairman in appreciation of all the hard work and time she spent on behalf of the association. We wish to announce that Mrs. Irene Rintoul has kindly agreed to take over as secretary from the 29th September 1999  
Chairman, Michael Kay

in the region of £250 to £270 per month. Of course, depending on individual financial circumstances, housing benefit may be available to help with these costs.

The building work will be completed in September 2000 and applicants will be contacted before then by Servite to discuss any information and queries about this development.

The application forms are now available and applications will be assessed in accordance with Servite's Letting Policy to ensure that those in the most need are given priority. Full assured tenancies will be offered to the successful applicants.

Application forms are available from Housing and Care Services Department, Servite Housing Association, 118 Strathearn Road, Broughty Ferry, Dundee, DD5 1JW or telephone 01382 480915.

Councillor Ian Miller

# ADVERTISEMENTS

The Alyth Voice WEB site is: [www.bigfoot.com/~alyth\\_Voice](http://www.bigfoot.com/~alyth_Voice)  
E-Mail Address: [alyth\\_Voice@bigfoot.com](mailto:alyth_Voice@bigfoot.com)

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Web - [www.btinternet.com/~gordonville](http://www.btinternet.com/~gordonville)

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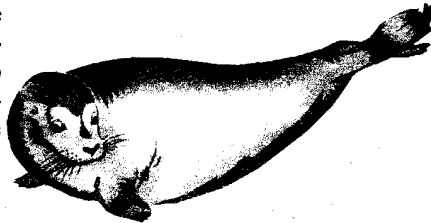
19 Commercial St, Alyth.

Tel: 01828 633632

# NATURE WATCH

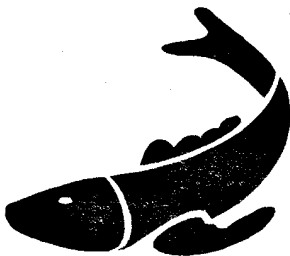
## HONEY BEES

Somebody came to see my wife recently and said, on learning that I was away in Norway looking at beavers, 'I cannot understand why people try to bring back animals that we were only too glad to get rid of'. So far as the beaver is concerned she was completely wrong. The beaver became extinct in Scotland during the sixteenth century because it was hunted to out for its fur and castoreum (a substance found in the beaver's scent glands that was used as a medicine in Medieval times and as a base in the manufacture of perfumes.



By the beginning of the present century the European beaver was extinct through most of its former range, although it continued to exist in numbers in Russia. Isolated populations of beavers survived in southern Norway, the Elbe delta, and the Rhone delta. In the 1920s, however, beavers were reintroduced to Sweden from Norway. There were further reintroductions in other parts of Norway and in other European countries, including Latvia. Then, in the early 1990s the European Union's Habitat Directive placed a responsibility on member states to consider the restoration of habitats and species of plant and animal to places from which they had been lost. So far, following the Directive, the Netherlands has reintroduced beavers and the Danes are to do so next year.

Last year Scottish Natural Heritage ran a consultation about a possible reintroduction to Scotland. The outcome of this was that the general public was greatly in favour of the return of the beaver, but several interest groups were against it. These included anglers, foresters and farmers. Salmon fishing interests were against the introduction



because they were worried that beaver dams would prevent fish getting to their spawning grounds. Foresters were anxious that beavers would eat trees, or raise water tables, which would increase the risk of wind-blow. Farmers were worried that beavers would damage flood protection levees, trample crops and eat turnips.

Conservationists were for the introduction, for the most part, although some

were against it. So far as salmon fishing is concerned the Norwegian experience is that beavers are unimportant. In their occasional building of dams they often improve conditions for young salmon by creating pools for them to live in. Generally, foresters should not have much to fear from beavers because they do not eat conifers usually, although they may bark an occasional tree. So far as broad-leaves are concerned they are fond of aspen, but rely on the commoner birch and willow. The anxiety about the raising of water tables has proved significant, especially in Latvia where the water table tends to be high anyway. In that country no control of beavers was undertaken and

their numbers grew too great, resulting in unacceptable amounts of damage to woodland and agricultural interests. The agricultural anxiety about flood measures is one that also has to be taken seriously. On the other hand, beavers are relatively easily trapped or shot, as history has shown, and so can be removed from sensitive sites. Although they do build dams (but not on the scale that Canadian beavers build them) these are often, at least in the case of smaller ones, washed away by spates. The advantages of beavers are that they are important contributors to biodiversity by creating and managing wetlands. The open wetlands and glades that result from their activity bring about a greater abundance of flowers than would otherwise be the case and encourage the presence of a great wealth of insect life. This, in turn, is important as food for all forms of vertebrate life from birds and mammals to frogs. In their regulation of waters by the construction of dams they can help with the slowing down of the flow of water down rivers, so consequently they have a part to play in water purification. The pools they make can be important assets for fisheries, both as nurseries for salmon parr and smolts, and as habitat for adult trout. It is often said that the best trout are to be found in beaver ponds. It must be emphasised that beavers are herbivores and do not eat fish. In the summer they eat mainly aquatic plants, but also enjoy willow herb, meadow sweet and other herbaceous plants. In the autumn they turn to broad-leaved trees, mainly birch, to store for winter fodder. Their need for stored wood depends on the severity of the winter. In Trondheim, where there is heavy snow cover through the winter and ice-over from October beavers need to lay in big stores to survive the cold. Further south in Europe they may hardly need to store at all, or at least lay in only minimal stores.

If the beaver is to return to us it will be important that land managers here, like their counterparts in Norway and Sweden, are allowed to remove beavers that are shown to be doing unacceptable damage.

To my mind the return of the beaver would be a marvellous thing. They are not difficult to watch, particularly if they are not persecuted. It would be wonderful to be able to watch them in the wild at this time of year (mid-September) preparing for winter, as they are doing now in Norway.

Paul Ramsay



## GB Buick & Son

### The Central Garage

#### St Andrew Street, Alyth

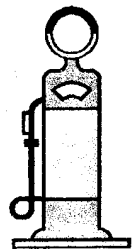
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## Piano Lessons

Mrs Susan Marsh ( Ed )  
Cherrybank, Lands of Loyal  
Alyth

Tel: 01828 633501

## Ladies Badminton

Starts on Tuesday 19th October  
@ 10.30 in Airlie St Halls

\*\*\*\*\*

New Members Welcome



# ADVERTISEMENTS

## **HIS 'n' HERS** **HAIR SALON**

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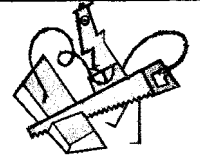
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## **IAN MILLER - Local Councillor**

**SURGERY AT ALYTH TOWN HALL (Old Council Chambers) ON 1ST  
MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7.00PM OR CONTACT BY**

**TELEPHONE:**

**S.N.P. OFFICE: 01250 876576 HOME: 01250 873304**

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