

# Middlefield **Mirror**

Spring 2017



## In this issue:

THE VERY BEST OF  
NORTHFIELD

THE IMAGINEERS  
TENANT AWARDS

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# Middlefield Mirror

Summer Edition 2017

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## Editorial

### Welcome to the summer edition of the Middlefield Mirror.

In this issue we have articles covering the Best of Northfield Awards, Geronimo @ The Hub and St Machar Parent Support Project.

We also have news from Northfield Academy and Middlefield Community Project.

If you would like to get involved and join the editorial team or if you have ideas for this community publication you can easily get in touch with us. The staff at SHMU are able to support and train anyone living in the area if they are interested in developing their ideas, or their skills in writing, proof reading and photography.

So, please don't be shy, this is your magazine, written, edited and designed by folk from Middlefield.

If you live in the Middlefield area and would like to come along to the editorial meetings or submit an article then get in touch with **Laura** at **shmu** on **01224 515013** or email **[laura.young@shmu.org.uk](mailto:laura.young@shmu.org.uk)**

The magazine is now on Facebook as well so you can search for Middlefield Mirror and like the page for regular updates.

You can also view this magazine, alongside previous editions on the **shmu** website **[www.shmu.org.uk](http://www.shmu.org.uk)** then click the 'PRESS' option

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## Middlefield resident praised for commitment to tenant engagement

An Aberdeen tenant is celebrating winning a prestigious award for his commitment to Tenant Participation.

The Tenant Information Service have honoured Aberdeen City Council tenant Paul McMenemy at their conference earlier this year. Paul won the Frances Nelson MBE award which celebrates the hard work of an individual who has made a real difference in their community or wider area.

Mr McMenemy has been actively involved in Tenant Participation at Aberdeen City Council for 11 years after hearing more about it a tenant open day. He quickly grew in confidence and was soon Chairman of a number of groups including the Aberdeen Housing Service Review Group. During his work with Tenant Participation Paul has undertaken a number of service reviews which aim to improve the Council's housing

services. He has also been instrumental in organising study visits from other local authorities as he believe that it is important to learn from other tenants and their landlords.

In addition to his work with Aberdeen City Council, Paul attends a number of community groups including his local community council where he is vice-chair and he is a board member of The Disabled Persons Housing Service.

Paul McMenemy said: "I was absolutely thrilled to win this award, but I can't take all of the credit. I would like to thank all of the other tenants, residents and volunteers I have met and worked with over the years as their efforts really do make a difference.

"Getting involved in tenant participation has helped give me a lot of confidence; I have

made some good friends and developed new skills."

Aberdeen City Council Communities, Housing and Infrastructure convener Councillor Yvonne Allan said: "Aberdeen City Council has a strong record in Tenant Participation and we are proud to be recognised for the work we do in partnership with our tenants and residents.

"I am delighted that the enthusiasm Paul has for tenant engagement has been acknowledged. He and his fellow housing volunteers play an important role in helping us develop policies and improve services that benefit all of our council tenants.

"I would like to congratulate everyone involved in Tenant Participation and encourage them to keep up the good work."





## St Machar Parent Support Project News

If children don't receive the right support then the rest of their lives can be affected. That's why St Machar Parent Support Project was formed back in 1992. We were formed to help with educational attainment initially but we now provide a holistic approach enabling us to deal with all the varying issues that families are affected by.

The project's management committee is made up of locally elected people and we also have two advisors. There are five members of staff and we are based behind St Machar Academy in the old janitor's lodge. We are currently working within the St Machar Academy associated schools area and more recently we have been working jointly with Northfield Total Place, where it was identified that there was a need for support within the area.

We can attend meetings with parents and support parents, either on a one to one basis, or within a group. One of the unique services we offer is home visits, we can visit a family within their own home where they feel at ease allowing us to build a positive relationship from the onset.

We are needs led and can cover issues such as benefits, advice and support surrounding children with additional needs and Kinship

care. The project also runs a Summer Playscheme for children and parents/carers that we have worked with within the year, we provide day trips out of the city at a very small cost to the family ensuring no one is excluded. Our parents' groups give people the opportunity to share advice and speak with other parents over common issues, staff at the project are experienced and approachable, and are therefore able to offer support in many ways.

If we don't know how to help we will find someone that can. We have many links with other agencies, in and around the city where we can find the right service for the need of the family.

Aberdeen City Council and the Fairer Aberdeen Fund contribute financially towards the running of the project alongside other funders.

We sometimes struggle for a venue as our own project is too small to have a crèche but we have successfully managed to run support groups within schools and local centres. The Kinship group is a great example of how beneficial a group is for those carers who feel isolated when facing bringing up a child/grandchild.

Parents can be referred by professionals or self-refer. If you feel you would benefit from our

project feel free to contact the office on 01224 487813.

Over the last 12 months we have ran a variety of groups as shown below:

**Supporting Parents who have children with Additional Needs (St Machar)**

**Supporting Parents who have children with ADHD and Autism (Northfield/St Machar) St Machar Project**

**Supporting Carers/Grandmothers who are KINSHIP carers) Hub Middlefield (Northfield/Mastrick/ St Machar area)**

**Parents and Teens Group (Northfield) Hub Middlefield**

**Confidence Building Group Parent Project (Northfield)**

**Parent Group Drop In Manor Park Primary (Northfield)**

**Drop In at Cornhill Primary School ( Northfield and St Machar area)**

**Drop In at Tillydrone Flat (St Machar Area only)**

**Young Mums at Cornhill Primary School (Northfield /St Machar area)**

**Drop In at Sunnybank Primary School (St Machar area)**

**Drop In at Riverbank Primary School (St Machar area)**

## Middlefield Opens its Doors

The first residents of a new development in the Middlefield area have moved into their homes. Aberdeen City Council are working with CHAP to build 99 new homes on the former Smithfield School site and the first twelve have been successfully let.

These properties have downstairs bathrooms and bedrooms so are ideal for residents with mobility issues. The whole development is a mixture of house types and sizes, from one-bedroom flats to four-bedroom houses. Aberdeen City Council hope that the next batch of houses in the Smithfield

development will be completed by November and they will be able to get tenants in before Christmas. Every home in the Smithfield development has a private garden and it is expected that there will be green space and a playpark within the site.

Just down the road, another eighty properties are being built next to Manor Walk. These will follow a similar design to the houses on the Smithfield site. Aberdeen City Council are anticipating the first lot of these homes being open to tenants from October this year. Homes will be released back to

the council gradually between October this year and early 2018.

There has been positive feedback from the residents who have moved into the area already.

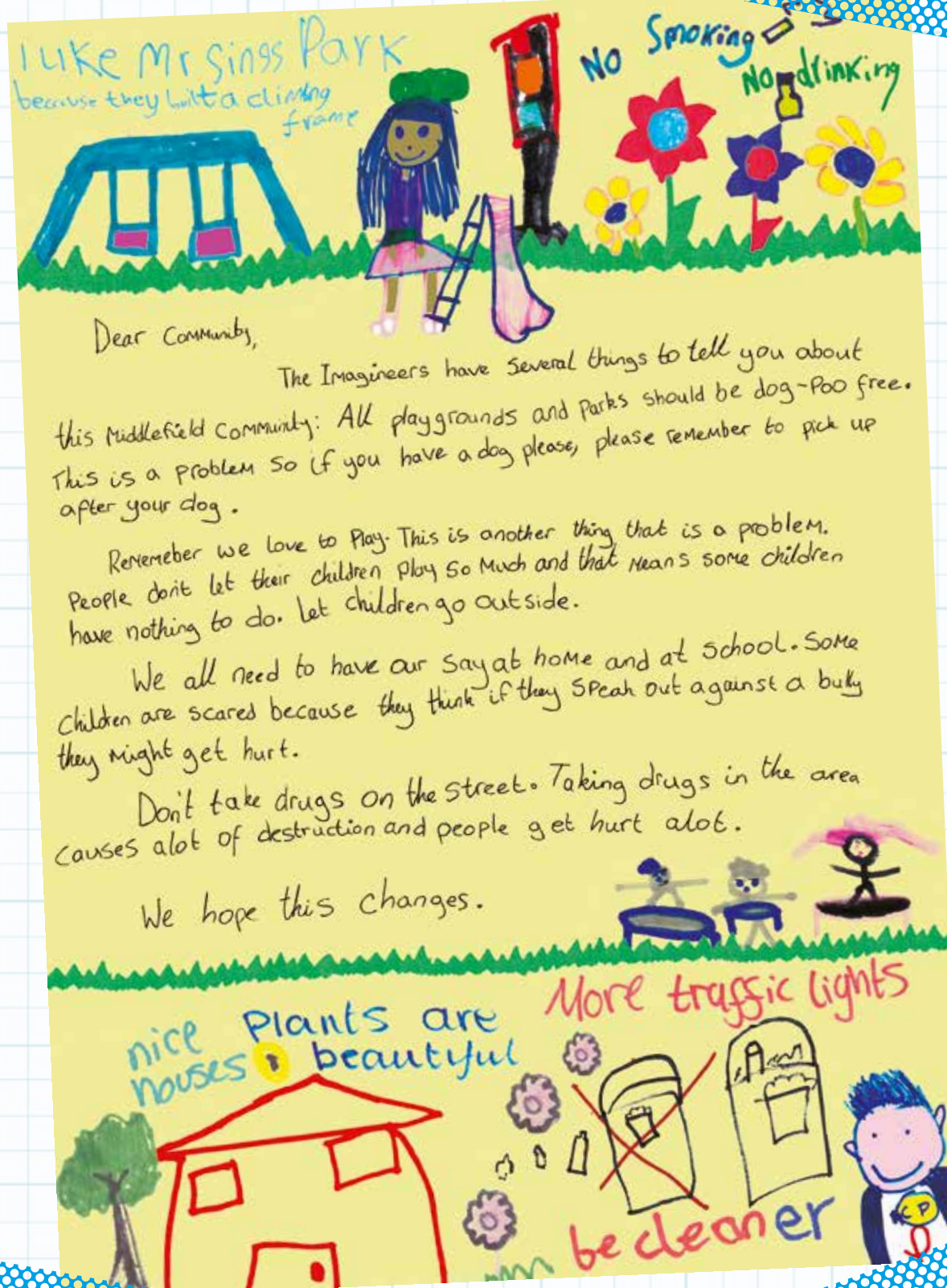
Alan Cowie, Senior Housing Officer for the area said: "The new builds will take new people into the community who otherwise might not have come into the area.

"At the end of the day the allocation process comes down to need, so whoever has the most need will be prioritized."



# THE IMAGINEERS IN MIDDLEFIELD

The Imagineers have been imagining Aberdeen as a healthy, happy and safe place for children. Here is their letter describing what they like about Middlefield and what they would still like to change about the community they live in.



## Northfield Academy



### Northfield Academy unveils its new wonder wall

A new climbing wall facility was opened at Northfield Academy by former pupil, George Stevenson.

The state of the art facility, considered one of the best of any school in Scotland, is a first for the city.

The climbing wall facility was built by Scott Muir at Dream Climbing Walls Ltd in an unused classroom space and boasts 14 lead and bottom rope climbing wall with mega roof climb. It also has 30 set climbing routes using holds from a number of manufacturers. The bouldering wall has 20 set problems to challenge young people.

Mike Will, Acting Head Teacher at Northfield Academy, said: "Our climbing room is a fantastic resource for our pupils to be inspired and challenged and represents a significant investment in the health and wellbeing of young people in the Northfield community.

"We are grateful for the support of our generous donors and supporters who have transformed this project vision into a reality for our pupils to aspire to be outstanding."

The climbing wall is set to be used by school pupils in class times and sessions will be led by fully trained school staff. The climbing wall will

also enable pupils to work towards SQA qualifications and Mountaineering Scotland climbing awards.

The project was funded entirely through grants, donations and a highly successful rock concert at the Beach Ballroom featuring Ricky Warwick of the Black Star Riders, as organised by Steve Petrie of Balfour Beattie. Significant donations by former pupils and supporters of the school were also encouraged by Mr Stevenson.



# THE VERY BEST OF NORTHFIELD

had been educated in Northfield who had moved on to higher education, employment or training. They then had their picture taken and their images were put together as part of an aspirational poster campaign and distributed the neighbourhood.

Feedback from this scheme was mostly positive but a lot of local people thought it was also important to celebrate the people who were living in the community and working or volunteering to provide opportunities for people in the area. Thus, Local Heroes was born. Local people had to nominate those who either lived, worked or volunteered in the community and made a significant difference to the area by doing so. The nominees were then contacted and had their pictures taken and their stories shared on social media.

There were 17 Local Heroes recognised for the 2016/17 run and now the Northfield Communities Team are looking for more nominations.

Do you want to nominate someone who you think goes above and beyond for their community? It's really easy! You'll be able to find a form by visiting the Northfield Total Place Facebook page or by contacting Fran or Caroline on 01224 812073.

## 2016/2017 Northfield Local Heroes

### Eilidh Mitchell

Miss Mitchell works in Bramble Brae School and always goes that extra mile for the kids there. She

stays back every night I always wonder if she has a social life. She is never far if a parent has a concern and the best thing is she always has a smile on her face.

### Pam Farmery

For serving her community both in her place of work and for all her fundraising efforts and for all she does for Heathryburn school!

### Jody Kinnaid

She is Chairperson of the Manor Park Parent Council, Middlefield Community Project committee member and started her own parent & toddler group. Jody is an extremely well known young women!

### Leanne Watt

My sister is one of my heroes; she helps me a few hours every day taking care of my 2-year-old son while I go to work and asks for nothing in return. If it wasn't for her I would still be working at a job in the evenings that I didn't enjoy.

### Fiona and Ali Rait

Fiona and her hubby Ali own and run our local baker and support many of the community projects in the area by sharing the bag tax with a different group every month. Fiona and her hubby also get involved where they can and I think it is now time they got recognised.

### Ally Reid

Ally volunteered at Northfield Outdoor Centre for many years. He always went over and beyond his duties by improving the appearance of the centre -making his own flower tubs etc. - As well as being the life and soul of the centre greeting everyone as they arrive.

### Archie Weir

Archie was chairperson within the community flat and started the men's group for over 3 years. Archie is on a rota for Middlefield church and helps where he can.

### Hayley MacMillan

Hayley is a massively energetic young woman who regularly commits herself to supporting and developing others. Through her volunteering at Northfield Academy as Head Girl and as a Prefect Hayley impacts on the lives and experiences of a huge number of young people in the Northfield community.

### Donna Sim

Primary 7s from Bramble Brae Primary nominated Donna Sim for helping them with the Silver City Surfers project and for being so helpful and kind to the community. She deserves to win this award and Bramble Brae School is so happy to have her as a part of the school project.

### Jody Reid

Jody is a warm, caring person who always has a minute to spare or a listening ear. Jody also looks after her granddaughter Chloe who, due to cerebral palsy, is in a wheel chair full time. She attends various appointments with her, as well as holding down a full-time job as a support worker for St Machar parent group.

### Jacqui Innes

Jacqui was nominated for all her hard work in Northfield Community Centre, delivering projects for children and adults. She does everything from answering the phones to holding lunches for the over 55s group to organising playscheme. She also presents a

weekly show on shmuFM to keep the community informed on what's happening in Cummings Park and Northfield.

### Chris Dunhill

The Primary 7 class from Bramble Brae also nominated Chris for all the hard work she did for the school and the local community. We would like to thank her for getting us involved with the Silver City Surfers project; we love working with Chris and the elderly people we have met through the project. Chris works really hard to help the elderly people in our community and to make sure they have fun opportunities in their lives.

The pupils said they were lucky to have someone like Chris helping them and making their year so memorable.

### Julie Gray

Julie was nominated on behalf of the staff, pupils and parents at Bramble Brae School. She is the face of Bramble Brae and was described as the most genuinely lovely, caring and warm person who always has time for everyone. She has no idea what a fantastic person she is and thinks that she does the same as any administrator in the city but we know that this is not the case. Bramble Brae wouldn't be the school that it is without Mrs Gray in the office.

### Pat Lawrence

Pat is an inspirational woman. This lady is in her late 70s yet carries on as if she were so much younger. Pat has volunteered in many capacities to help raise the areas profile. She has been part of community walkabouts that help to raise local environmental issues. Pat has attended events that

benefit the community, meetings that talk about ways to improve the area and training that helps her to develop her skills in order that she may use these skills to benefit other people. Pat is one of the Cummings North's editorial member and also has a regular information slot within as Mrs Meadows. Pat does so much under the radar for her community and in my opinion, is the true meaning of a 'Community Champion' - selfless, thoughtful, innovative, friendly, humble and generous of her time. She does what she does for the benefit of the community.

### Naveed Sarwar

Over the last 4 years Nisa has supported Bramble Brae and Northfield Academy as their charity partners which means that a percentage of profits taken from certain items in the shop are collected and then donated to the schools. We received £500 this year from them which allowed local projects to be pursued by our pupils.

### Helen Graham

Helen has been working at Middlefield Community Project in her role as Project Coordinator for 17 years.

During this time she has developed all of the services that are available within the Middlefield Community Project. She works closely with the families and staff teams within the project to ensure they are supported well. Middlefield Community Project would not be what it is today if it was not for Helen and the hard work, dedication, support, passion and commitment she has shown.





## Middlefield Community Project News

Middlefield Community Project have designed a new booklet advertising the services available in the Middlefield Community Hub. The booklet will be delivered in August to the wider area.

We now have the Healthy Hoose and the Henry Rae Charity all settled in to the Hub and we are working well together. We will be having an open day on Saturday 26th August from 10am to 2pm so people can see around the building and join in the fun and see what is available for you to do over the winter months.

## North East Sensory Services (NESS)

Employment support is available to people living in Aberdeen City who are blind, partially sighted, hearing impaired or Deaf and who are willing to make the commitment to work towards an employment related positive outcome.

We offer education, volunteering, job-seeking and in-work support including compiling CVs, interview skills and techniques, IT support, guidance and signposting and employer support. The service is available for anyone with a sensory impairment aged 16+.

**Janice Gray,**  
**Employment Officer**  
**North East Sensory Services**  
**21 John Street**  
**Aberdeen AB25 1BT**  
**Tel: 0845 27 12345**  
**Email: [janice.gray@nesensoryservices.org](mailto:janice.gray@nesensoryservices.org)**



## Geronimo at the Hub

Geronimo has arrived in Middlefield in the form of holiday playschemes for early year's children (0-5 years) and their parents. Following a successful start in the Easter holidays, sessions were planned for Summer and October by Middlefield Community Project in collaboration with the A.C.C. Creative Learning Team. These sessions are made possible by funding from Children in Need. The idea for the Under 5's playscheme came from parents looking for activities for their younger children while older brothers and sisters are involved in the Under 11s playscheme. A dozen or so families are involved in the Middlefield pilot project and they regularly give feedback which allows us to alter the programme to suit particular needs

Lindsay from the Creative Learning Team co-ordinates the tutor input for the sessions. Geronimo is all about play, making time to play as a family and as a community. It is about learning, exploring, risk taking, problem solving, building positive attachments through play but, most importantly, it is about taking the time out to play. Anywhere can be a playable space and anything, food for the imagination. Sessions are led by artists, enabling parents to play, making the leap into seeing things differently and facilitating their children's play. In

this environment they follow their child's lead with imagination and creativity being used to its maximum.

The Geronimo Project first started in Torry. Lindsay explains: "We know without doubt that children learn in their early years through play, we know that future inequality is already present when children reach the age of 5. To get it right for every child, to narrow or close the gap, we know that it must begin in early years. This is the challenge that Creative Learning has embraced through the Geronimo Project."

Geronimo @ the Hub is based at Middlefield Community Hub. The twice weekly play sessions are facilitated by 3 artists on a Wednesday and 2 musicians on a Friday who provide the materials and the space for the creativity, play and inspiration to happen. Playing together and experiencing the world through the eyes of the children fosters the sense of positive attachment. In addition the children are learning valuable creativity skills which contribute to learning flexibility, collaboration, problem solving and developing their imagination.

Geronimo shows that expensive materials are not necessary for quality creative and playful experiences, in fact less is more to encourage open ended play. We have so far had a session

devoted to cardboard boxes of all shapes and sizes (what child doesn't like a box to play in?!), also exploring making and playing with salt dough and play dough and outdoors sessions with Aberdeen Play Forum in loose parts play. Sessions are divided between indoors and outdoors in order to encourage families to explore the natural landscape around them. Each session ends with a shared sandwich lunch for parents and children to enjoy together, promoting the sense of community.

The project has had ongoing tangible benefits. In the evaluation from the pilot project in Torry, parents reported how their confidence and their children's curiosity and confidence grew with each session. The ultimate impact measurement, however, will come when the children enter school and, with nurture, it is hoped the Geronimo generation will have a head start.

If you're interested in discovering more about Geronimo and/or Geronimo@the Hub, please contact; Lindsay Dawson, Creative Project Coordinator (Early Years and Families), Creative Learning Team, Tel 01224 611161 or Lillias Leighton, Project Officer, MCP @ the Hub; Tel 01224 697000.

## The Healthy Hoose

The Healthy Hoose staff have been seeing the residents of Middlefield since August 1999. We offer a wide range of healthcare services and can deal with many of your health queries and concerns saving an unnecessary journey to your surgery. Your GP knows we are here and is happy for us to help you if we can.

We provide a service for everyone in the community with all contacts being confidential. We have access to Language Line.

You can be seen at the Healthy Hoose if you live in Middlefield or Cummings Park and are registered with a GP in Aberdeen. We relocated on 20th April to The Hub on Manor Avenue from Logie Place. We are extending our area to cover Heathryfold & Northfield.

### Nurse Practitioners

The nurse practitioners at the Healthy Hoose offer a drop-in system and a wide range of services, some of which are listed below:

- **minor injury/minor illness advice and treatment**
- **smear tests/well women/well man checks**
- **emergency contraception (morning after pill), free condoms, pregnancy testing and most types of contraception**
- **immunisations - children and adults**
- **health information leaflets**
- **smoking cessation advice and nicotine replacement therapy**
- **reviews of long term conditions i.e. asthma, diabetes, heart disease**
- **also available for telephone advice on 01224 558928**

Opening times are:

**Monday to Friday**  
**08.45-1pm & 2-5pm**

Please see reception or our Facebook page Healthy Hoose for early closing times for training or meetings.



# Middlefield Community Project

## Nursery News

### Fun Over the Summer Holidays

The summer holidays have flown by with some lovely sunny days and other very wet days! Soon we will be looking forward to starting the new term. We would like to offer a very big warm and friendly welcome to all our new families who will be starting in nursery and of course a big welcome back to our current families returning to us for another year. We would also like to wish all our older children moving onto Primary One, all the very best and every success in their exciting journey of becoming a school pupil. We always love it when children and their parents/carers come back to visit us and let us know how things are going so please feel free to come back and visit us anytime. We also love seeing the children in their new school uniforms as they always look so grown up!

The summer holidays have very much been enjoyed by all the children attending our nursery. They have been on outings to Dizzy Rascals Indoor Play Centre at Laurencekirk and Smugglers Cove down at Aberdeen beach. At both settings, the children benefited from lots of energetic fun and the treat of having lunch at the café, where they were very excited at being

able to choose their own food from the menus. Some children liked the food so much that they licked their plates clean! The children also liked going on the different modes of transport during these outings. The journey to Dizzy Rascals was in the minibus, which was certainly very quiet on the way back with lots of tired, but happy children and staff! The journey to Smugglers Cove was on the 'big bus' (in the children's words). Other spontaneous outings were enjoyed when the weather was fine, going to the nearby park behind the Hub building. The older children also enjoyed a trip to the theatre to see one of their favourite stories, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt.'

The Project also enjoyed a visit by the Play, Talk, Read Bus where staff, children, parents and carers participated in a variety of fun activities.

### Nursery Garden Developments.

Now that we have been in our setting a while, the Nurseries will be looking to see how they can effectively develop the current outdoor space into an exciting and stimulating play area, providing a variety of high quality learning opportunities. Clearly this improvement project is going to be ongoing and will take time.

However, we would love input from all of our service users as to any suggestions of potential developments or resources that they would like us to plan into the garden improvements. Recently we have been very fortunate to secure funding from ASDA and also earlier on in the year The Coop, to help finance these developments. We would like to thank both these organisations for their kind donations. These will greatly help fund some new resources. However, we are also looking at being cost effective and innovative in developing our children's learning opportunities by using natural items such as logs and tree stumps. Furthermore, we are considering other items such as tyres, pipes, guttering, cable drums, crates and other similar loose parts play resources. These all have fantastic benefits and enhance children's potential learning opportunities.

Such resources actively encourage open ended learning, problem solving and developing creativity. Loose parts resources help to develop more skill and competence than most modern plastic toys. They can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up, and taken apart and put back together in multiple ways. They are materials with no specific set of directions that can be used alone or combined with other materials. Loose parts can be natural or synthetic. We look forward to working in partnership with all our service users to create a fantastic outdoor learning space for all our children to enjoy.

## Under 11's work

Well we said goodbye with a party to our primary 6's who moved up to the Youth Flat. The other groups had a busy term and enjoyed the games and craft activities.

Club times for after the summer:

**Monday 28th August 3.15pm to 4.45pm: Primary 1-2's**

**Wednesday 23rd August 3.15pm to 4.45pm: Primary 3-4's**

**Friday 25th August 3.15pm to 4.45pm: Primary 5-6's**

### Summer Playscheme

The playscheme has been busy

with a trip to Brechin centre they had great weather and the children loved the park and the jelly bellies that they spent most of the day jumping on.

On the Fridays, we have been doing swimming and lots of arts and crafts and other activities and making good use of the Outdoor pitch for games.

The next trip was down to Craigton Park where the children had a great time on the boats, trampolines, crazy golf and the train and tractor.

Then we had our annual trip to Cromdale with a stop off at Aberlour

park for a run around on the way to and back from Cromdale.

While at Cromdale the children visited Landmark, they went to see the butterfly garden, some of them did the Tarzan trail, and had lots of fun on the roller coaster and the water rides and getting wet in the labyrinth at the end of the day.

The day after the P1-3s went home the P4-5s went to Loch Morlich where the weather was brilliant and had fun in the water and on the beach.

# CIYPP

## Middlefield, Heathryfold, West Heathryfold, Cummings Park

In June, as part of community awareness, Cash In Your Pocket (CIYP) held two information days at The Hub, Manor Avenue.

By promoting and setting up an information stall within the Hub, residents were able find out about services available and take the first step to getting help around money, health and care-related issues.

CIYP spoke to 62 people, providing awareness and help with debt, attendance allowance, savings, child benefit, help for students, Community Care Grant, Warm Home Discount and reducing energy costs.

Having a presence at the Hub created a great opportunity to encourage new savers into the Credit Union. By offering a free £50 joint junior savings promotion with St Machar Credit Union, 25 new accounts have been opened.

Visitors to the stall could enter a free prize draw to win £20 of Lintmill Butcher Voucher and pick up Fareshare breakfast cereal/ bars and muesli.

Delighted prize draw winner and local mum of two, Claire Smith, who's youngest daughter attends the zero-two playgroup took advantage of free savings for both her girls. CIYP also provided information and advice about other services and referred Claire to SCARF for help to reduce

heating costs. A referral was also made to the Fire Service for a free home safety check.

Based on positive feedback received from residents, CIYP have arranged to hold regular information sessions at the Hub. These will take place the first Tuesday of every month from 11am-1pm, from Tuesday 22nd August until December.

Cash In Your Pocket offer free and impartial advice to anyone in Aberdeen City. If you are finding it difficult to manage your money, or would like help or advice relating to a money-related issue, please get in touch.

**Freephone: 0800 953 4330**  
**e-mail: [info@ciypp.co.uk](mailto:info@ciypp.co.uk)**  
**website: [www.ciypp.co.uk](http://www.ciypp.co.uk)**





# The BIG move

In our Spring edition, we announced the exciting news that the Station House Media Unit building in Woodside would undergo a million pound make-over following a successful application to the Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Fund. Work begins in late August on the new purpose-built accommodation, which will significantly extend our existing building. The new building will include new radio studios, a recording studio, TV studio, an IT suite, improved training facilities, an edit suite and some fantastic new social space. The building will also be the main office base for the organisation. During the estimated 12 month building period, staff and services will be based at Aberdeen City Council's Rosehill House Day Centre on Ashgrove Road West.

The relocation is due to take place during the week commencing 21st August with CHAP

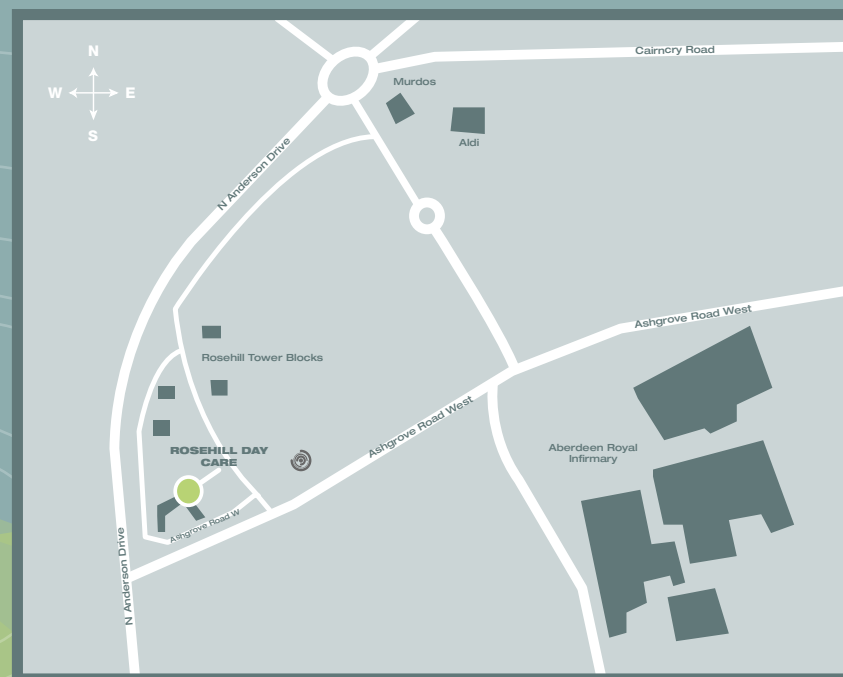
Construction starting the building work on the 28th August. Although this is a time of upheaval, it is also a time of opportunity, with Rosehill House offering more space to develop our services and try out new work before returning to our new building. Staff will ensure that volunteers and service users are supported to continue their programmes in our temporary location, and look forward to sharing news of new and expanded projects and services in due course.

shmu also continues to work on a fundraising plan to ensure the new building will meet all of our needs, and also for Phase 2 of the build, which will transform the existing building into a small community venue.

## Travel advice from Middlefield

If you're coming to the new building from Middlefield:

Get the Number 37 bus (Stagecoach Bus) from North Anderson Drive. The bus will take you directly outside the new building. Get off before the traffic lights where North Anderson Drive meets Ashgrove Road West.



## councillors comment

### Gordon Graham

Well folks, people are stating that they are beginning to see a real difference in the area thanks to Aberdeen City Council and I can assure you that, not only will his work continue but it will be further enhanced.

Tenants are being allocated to the new housing at Smithfield School Site and the site at Manor Walk will soon be ready. I must admit the houses are looking very good.

A lot of work is going on to improve the park next to these houses and the Hub. The area is known by different names

to different folk from the different areas bordering the space – the Moories, Heathryfold Park and Manor Park. The name will be subject to a consultation exercise.

Flood alleviation works required to the area currently referred to as Heathryfold Park has been planned and will be undertaken by the end of this calendar year.

A pedestrian priority project looking to improve crossing between Provost Rust and Manor Avenue will be undertaken by the end of this financial year.

New paths have been planned to traverse the area currently known as Heathryfold Park – the work will be undertaken by the end of this financial year.

Funding has been secured to undertake environmental improvements to the area currently referred to as Heathryfold Park. This work is scheduled to start at the beginning of next year.

**Regards, G Graham**  
01224 523594 / 07736 329751  
ggraham@aberdeencity.gov.uk

### Jackie Dunbar

First of all, I would like to say thank you. I am delighted to have been given the privilege of representing you for a third term. People often say that a week is a long time in politics, while that may be true in some regards, the last 10 years have just flown past.

Whilst the topography of Middlefield is changing, the community that is Middlefield has not. The people of Middlefield are the back bone and indeed the beating heart of the area and it is vital that we continue to have

our say on how our area is shaped in the future. We continue to have MARAG meetings, where we discuss what is happening in the area and it is a great opportunity to let us know what problems you are currently experiencing in regards to all things associated with Middlefield. The meetings now take place at The Hub, please look out for them and pop along to have your say.

At the time of writing, we are still unsure of what will be in the Haudagain triangle moving forward. A consultation was

taken last year and the community voted in favour of greenspace/retail. This is what I voted for at committee, but unfortunately this was outvoted and it was decided to go back out to consultation to choose between greenspace/retail or greenspace/retail/ single person units.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you think I could be of any help to you. You can either email me [jdunbar@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:jdunbar@aberdeencity.gov.uk) or phone me on 01224 522522 or 07733 300570

## Supporting Schools in Cummings Park & Middlefield

Improving the education and life chances of our children and young people is imperative, and I am pleased at hearing the recent news confirming that three of our local schools will receive additional funding through The Scottish Attainment Challenge. The funding is part of a Scottish Government initiative to support schools in raising the attainment of their pupils, with £750 million being invested through the five-year term of this Parliament.

In the 2017/18 academic year over £597,000 will be shared among 7

Aberdeen City Schools, and I am delighted that three of those schools are in my Aberdeen Donside constituency and within the communities of Cummings Park and Middlefield - Bramble Brae Primary, Manor Park Primary and Northfield Academy are among those that will benefit from the funding.

The money is being earmarked for schools to aid them in further prioritising improvements in literacy, numeracy and the health and wellbeing of children.

With this in mind, I would encourage parents to get in touch with their child's school to see how you can become more involved. Every school will soon have a teacher or professional responsible for promoting parental, family and community engagement and I believe that the more parental and community engagement in our schools, the more benefit to our children's education.

**Mark McDonald MSP, Aberdeen Donside Constituency**



# Community Contacts

## Alcohol

Alcoholics Anonymous 0800 9177 650  
Drinkline 0300 123 1110

## Crime

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

## Drugs

Drugs Action Helpline 01224 594700

## Dentist

Emergency - G-Dens 111

## Doctors

NHS 24 Emergency 111

## Electricity

If you have a power-cut 105

## Family Planning

Aberdeen Community Health and Care Village 0345 337 9900

## Gas

Gas Emergency 0800 111 999

Gas emergency with a meter 0845 606 6766

## Housing

Emergency Repairs 01224 219 282

Call Centre Emergency 0845 608 0929 or 116 123

## Police

Non-emergency 101

## Samaritans

Need to talk 01224 574 488 or 116 123

## Social Work

Social Work Duty Team 0800 7315520

Emergency Out-Of-Hours 01224 693936

Young Carers 01224 212021

## Water

Scottish Water Emergency 0800 0778 778

## CFINE

01224 596156

## Home-Start

01224 693545

## Pathways

01224 682 939

## Cash in your Pocket

0800 953 4330

## Citizens Advice

01224 569750

## Terrence Higgins Trust

0808 802 1221

LGBT Youth Scotland [ehpburn@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:ehpburn@aberdeencity.gov.uk)

Middlefield Community Project at The Hub 01224 697000

Manor Park School 01224 812060

Healthy Hoose 01224 661500