

Middlefield **Mirror**

Spring 2018



In this issue:

MIDDLEFIELD RANGER
SIMPLE GLORY
MIDDLEFIELD
COMMUNITY PROJECT

www.shmu.org.uk/press

Middlefield *Mirror*

Spring Edition 2018

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Editorial

Welcome to the spring edition of the Middlefield Mirror.

In this issue we have articles covering the UDecide event in Middlefield, our new Countryside Ranger dedicated to the area and Boogie in the Bar.

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**

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** then click the 'PRESS' option

FUNDED BY



MIDDLEFIELD PARK AND GREENSPACE PROJECT UPDATE

Middlefield gets its very own community ranger as the community begin forming a vision for the new park.

Work is continuing to progress on the new park in Middlefield being created as part of the Middlefield Project. The scheme has received funding from the Scottish National Heritage Green Infrastructure Fund, with additional funding coming from Aberdeen City Council, Nestrans and Sustrans. The aim is to create a new user-friendly community park out of scrubland, and it includes raising the Scatterburn from underground to above ground to work as a flood alleviation scheme. The project is also creating new pedestrian and cycle friendly paths, improved pavements on two streets beside the development, and installing new landscaping to create an attractive park area which will be user-friendly to the residents living in the surrounding areas.

A new community ranger, Vicky Ewan, has now started working in the Middlefield area on the project. Her role will be to promote and support environmental activities in the

park and surrounding green spaces among residents, along with undertaking curriculum-related environmental activities in conjunction with local schools. The aim is to get the community out and about enjoying exploring the park and local wildlife as well as looking at ways to support local biodiversity. She is keen to hear any thoughts or ideas you may have. If you want to discuss anything with her, please contact Fran on the email address below and she will put you in touch.

The park itself is now in an exciting phase of development, as contractors have now finished work on some of the site including raising the Scatterburn, adding fencing at the allotments, and forming the bunds. Work on other parts of the site including creating the cycle/walking paths is likely to start soon. Things are hotting up as the community steering group are now discussing ideas for what they want in the new park, such as new play parks and equipment,

new trees and plants, and an area for community growing. This is in addition to deciding how they want the park to look once the landscaping commences. New community members are welcome to join the group, so if you want a chance to have your say in what the park should have, you are more than welcome to join the community steering group and come along to the meetings. If you want to find out more or even just fancy getting out for a wee tour of the park to see how things are progressing, please give Fran a shout!

For more information please contact Frances Smith: FraSmith@aberdeencity.gov.uk. If you would like to find out what's happening in the park or join the group of local people who are involved in redeveloping this park, please check their Facebook page for news and dates of the upcoming meetings – everyone is welcome! www.facebook.com/Heathryfoldgreenspacemakeover/

The most up to date map showing the basic plan for the park which will be finalised when the community make their final decisions. It's not too late to get involved and have your say!



Middlefield Community Project

Under 11's Easter Playscheme 2018

The playscheme was planned by volunteers from Middlefield Community Project and organised by staff. This was to focus around the children who attend our under 11's groups on a regular basis. The reason for this was that we get to know the children before we take them away on trips. If there are spaces left after our groups have booked in, then we open to other families and we put this on our Facebook page.

We booked Northfield Swimming Pool for the playscheme but it had to close for refurbishment. We had to then find some other activities to fill the gap. We rearranged the trip and were very grateful that Aberdeen Science Centre were able to accommodate 50 children at short notice and allow us to visit them. They put on two different science sessions: one was small scientific things like how energy works, and the children loved seeing how after you rub a balloon

with your hair you can then move an empty can around without touching it. They then showed the tuning fork and how it vibrated, and we could see this when it was put in water. The second session was about volcanos and I was very impressed as a lot of the children had a lot of knowledge of stone types (seemingly from playing Minecraft) then they went on to build their own volcanoes. They added different chemicals and watched how they reacted together to get the foam to come over the top and down the sides. Then the children had a look around enjoying the interactive nature of the centre.

We then came back to the centre where they made squishy bags of slime with Lori, made some chocolate nests and did games in the hall.

On the Friday we were very lucky as Ron Bird and a few of his drumming friends gave the children an opportunity to try drumming for an hour and they had great fun. On their way home, they all received an

Easter egg that we had received from the Trinity Centre to hand out to the children who were all delighted.

On Wednesday we were off to Blair Drummond Safari Park and the children had a great time, seeing the animals (seals, penguins, lions, deer, birds of prey, the giraffes, monkeys, rhinos and so on). They loved the newly built tower and the zip line. When we went to see the penguins they wanted to come back to see the penguin speak to them. Some were on the pedal boats and the boat to see the monkeys and all had a great time. The volunteers did a great job looking after the children needs and got the round the whole of the attractions.

The clubs run during the school term and for more information please either pop in to the hub or telephone 01224 697000 to get more information.



Adult Art Group

Hello. My name is Lori and I just started (again) with Middlefield Community Project in March 2018 as a Community Development Worker. I have had the pleasure to take over the Adult Art Group. The Art Group prepared Easter Crafts for the nursery children to sell and have also had an Easter Raffle with a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize draw. Money raised from our Easter sales and raffle totalled just over £146 with funds being split between the nurseries and the Art Group. Congratulations to Angie (1st place winner), Thomas (2nd place winner) and Zoey (3rd place winner).

Our Art Group meets on a Tuesday morning from 9:30-11:30 during school term times. The current members suggested that each person pay £1 each session to go towards stocking up supplies. We are discussing future projects at the moment and hope to welcome some new members. We have different levels of creativity in this group with some bringing special talents of their own. Some ideas that were put forward were painting, floating candles, sewing and Christmas crafts.

I am excited to be a part of this and look forward to all the exciting ideas coming to life.



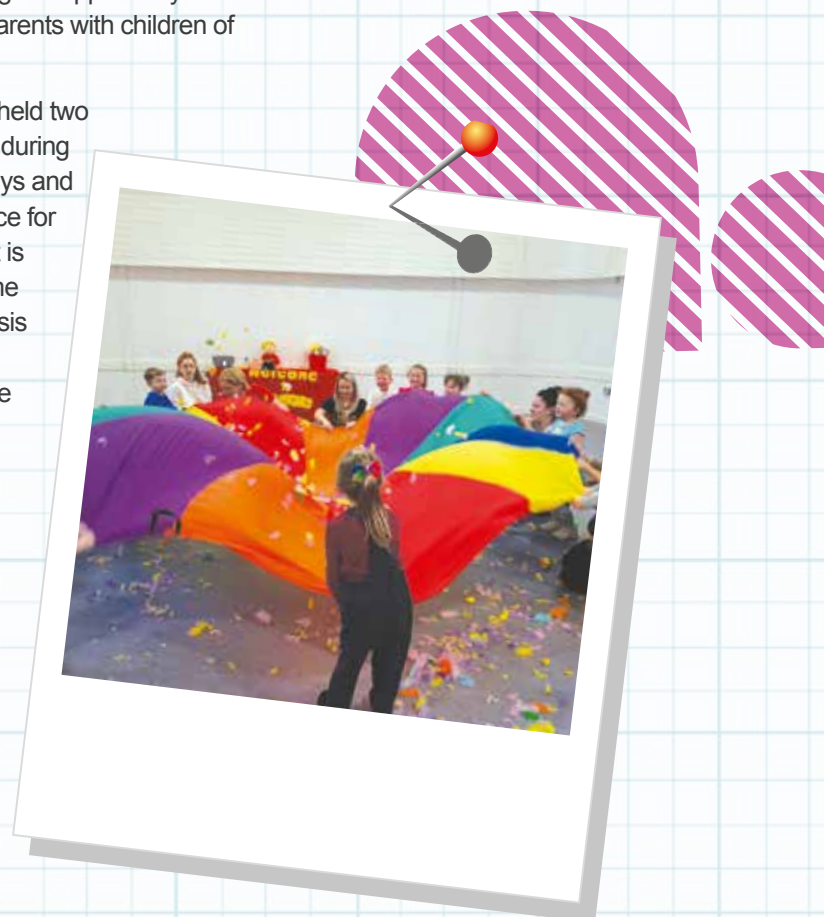
Geronimo

We are in our second year of Geronimo @ The Hub. Geronimo is a project for parents and their children under the age of 5 years, including babies. The early years are the most important in children's development where they will gain many skills needed in life. Geronimo helps strengthen relationships between parents and their children while being creative and playful. During Geronimo sessions we incorporate movement and dance, singing, being creative with every day household items, sensory play and messy play. Geronimo encourages parents to see the world through their child's eyes and encourages parents to follow their lead.

Some parents commented they enjoyed the messy play because they were not able to do this at

home. Others commented that the children (and adults) enjoyed the singing and dancing. One parent commented the Geronimo group helped her daughter build on her socialisation skills and helped "bring her out of her shell". Most parents said it was a good opportunity to meet other parents with children of similar ages.

Geronimo is held two days a week during school holidays and there are place for 15 families. It is on a first come first serve basis however you must be in the catchment area of Middlefield Community Project.



Nursery Garden developments

The nurseries were successful in raising £287 from their Christmas crafts sale. They also managed to raise £1048 from the sponsored Josie Jump fun day and sponsored walk. Staff, parents and children all enjoyed being involved. This money was put towards the cost of the new nursery garden fence to improve children's safety and security. The fence is now completed and helps to ensure the children are all within the main garden space and visible to all staff.

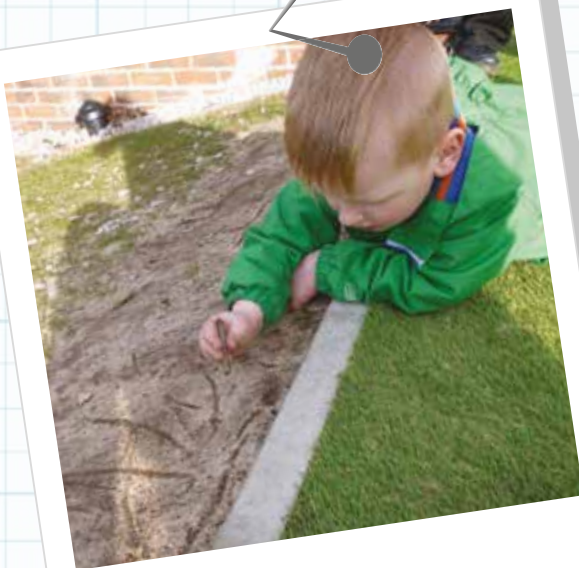
We are pleased that our new artificial grass in the nursery garden is also now finished. It took longer than first anticipated due to the poor weather conditions experienced over the past few months. However finally the children are now enjoying and benefiting from the increased space and the fact that we will be

able to use it whatever the weather. We have also used our funding that we received last year from the Coop to purchase some fantastic new outdoor resources to support, extend and challenge the children. Furthermore, these resources will help to provide a varied breadth of high quality learning opportunities.

We have bought a selection of different sized natural wooden blocks to help develop children's construction, creativity and imagination skills. These will also help to develop the children's skills and ability to cooperate and work together to create models. We have also purchased a set of larger natural wooden cubes. These are great as they can be used for a variety of purposes. They will be effective in helping to develop children's climbing skills, role play, creative, risk assessing and imagination skills. They will be able

to use the cubes to create dens houses or whatever the children pretend the cubes are.

The staff are hoping to involve the parents and children in other future developments to further increase the variety of high quality learning opportunities on offer to all of our children. We are hoping to create a variety of different learning zones within our garden. We are lucky because at the moment the garden is very much a blank canvas and gives scope for much development. The areas that we are looking to create include a quiet/seating, sensory/wild, planting (fruit and veg), mud kitchen/role play, water play, construction, music and creative spaces. We will keep you updated of our progress.



Some thanks you

We would like to say a big thank you to one of our staff member's dad (Derek Henderson) who kindly gave us some fantastic cable drums for the garden. The children love these for climbing on and using within their role play.

We would also like to thank the STV Children's Appeal who kindly donated us £2000. This will be used to get some new outdoor clothing for the children and also the staff so that everybody has the appropriate clothing to enjoy the benefits of the garden whatever the weather.

We would also like to thank the structural and flood alleviation group who has been meeting at the hub and working within the Middlefield community, for their kind offer of building us a mud kitchen. The children will thoroughly enjoy using this as part of their role play but further learning and benefits will also include science, sharing and exploration, for example digging, measuring, volume, capacity, consistencies etc.



NORTHFIELD TOTAL PLACE TEAM

Oldtown/Marchburn Area

We are also working with our housing colleagues at the Mastrick Housing office consulting about PB money for the Improvement to the Oldtown/Marchburn locality.

Boogie at the Bar

We're planning Northfield's very own Boogie at the Bar! After the success of the same project at the Foundry in the city centre, this event will be a dementia friendly disco aiming to have a bit of fun, tackle social isolation and support positive mental wellbeing for those living in the greater Northfield area. It will be free of charge and will be hosted by staff and volunteers who have been through their dementia awareness training or have an understanding of what it means to be dementia friendly. Those who attend will be able to dance, have a drink, some stovies and a blether in a safe and friendly environment.

Boogie in the Bar events will take place on the first Friday of every month at the Sunnybank Social Club between 12:30 and 3:30pm.

Get your dancing shoes on and come along to Sunnybank F.C. Social Club for a fun afternoon.

If you'd like more information on the event, please get in touch with Darren on 01224 522270 or Wilma at Cummings Park Centre on 01224 694060.

Welcome to Middlefield

A welcome booklet has been developed with the community, and offers information about activities in the area, schools, shops, Community Centres, sport and other locality information. You can pick this up at Manor Park Community Centre

Recognising Local Heroes

This work attracts a lot of interest, as the community plays a very important role in delivering improvements. If you know someone in the Northfield Total Place area that contributes positively and has impact please contact Fran on 01224 812073

Linda Forbes

Our latest Northfield local hero will be a well-known face to many in the area. Linda Forbes has been "making sure her flock get safely across the road" for 16 years in her role as a lollipop lady up on Springhill Road. Not only is she the lady who gives a smile to every child every morning, she also takes the time to listen to

all their "interesting stories". She also has been a member of the Northfield United Free Church Choir for 10 years. On top of this Linda gives so much of her time as a volunteer for Middlefield Parish Church, having been the session clerk at the church for 11 years. In fact, she describes it as her 'second home'! Whether it be working in the free kids clubs every Thursday evening from 5-6pm, cleaning the sanctuary, taking services, playing the guitar during services, offering support to parishioners or even using her green fingers to keep the garden looking absolutely fabulous, it is clear that Linda is hugely committed to making this community a better place. Linda was incredibly humbled by this nomination and said she felt "it was a privilege and an honour" for doing what she just thinks of as 'her job'. This nomination shows that all her dedication is truly appreciated by all that know her. Well done Linda!

If you live in the Middlefield area and want to learn more about what we do, give us a ring on 01224 812073 or just pop in, we would be delighted to see you.

We are: Fran, Kev, Caroline, Wilma, Fiona, Jeni and Kay



PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING IN NORTHFIELD

A great day was had by all at the UDecide voting day at Northfield Academy on 17th March 2018. The success of the day and, the local process, was in no small part due to the dedicated volunteer steering group, supported by the Locality 2 communities' staff, which has been instrumental in shaping the participatory budgeting process in Northfield.

Out of 16 fabulous project ideas put forward by local people, 7 projects were fully funded and 2 were partially funded. This year's Participatory Budgeting fund for Northfield and the local people who came out to vote mean that the following projects will become a reality for the people of Mastrick, Northfield, Cummings Park, Heathryfold and Middlefield. The range of new activities which will be available to local people will positively impact the whole community, from the very young to the very old.

Community Café - Mastrick Parish Church will receive £3000 to develop a new community café in the heart of Mastrick - a space for people to meet and enjoy a cuppa and a chat, particularly looking to encourage carers and young families to come and socialise.

Awesome Tech in Northfield Academy – The group will

receive £1880 to run a 5-week course with the Northfield Science Club for up to 20 pupils aged 11-17. We will take the participants through a project-based programme, building, maintaining, controlling and programming autonomous vehicles in a fun and challenging course.

Veterans Aberdeen - The North East Scotland Disabled Veterans Association will receive £2,600 to allow them to offer an extra weekly session, which provides friendship, support, hot meal/ snacks, and companionship to ensure veterans living on their own do not suffer long periods without care and contact.

Simple Glory – A local group of young people will receive £800 to allow them to take their own float to Grampian Pride in May, to highlight LGBT issues and how important groups like theirs are for young people who are at risk of social isolation

Lunchtime Drama Club – A local lad working with Shazam Theatre will receive £2,360 to provide two schools in Northfield the opportunity to run free weekly lunchtime drama groups, which will informal and fun and would focus on basic drama skills and games.

Extreme Summer – Transition Extreme will receive £3000 to support young people and

their families to access positive community engagement opportunities and providing an alternative for young people at risk of taking part in risk-taking and anti-social behaviour, through running free skate park coaching sessions through the summer

Boogie at the bar – AFCCT will receive £1500 to host a free dementia friendly disco once a month in the Sunnybank Social Club, which will include music, dancing and a light lunch. Those who attend will be able to dance, have a drink and a wee blether in a safe and friendly environment.

MUSC: Meet You in St Clements – St Clements Scottish Episcopal Church will receive £638.50 as part funding to improve their kitchen facilities, to allow them to increase and improve their free school holiday meals provision to local children

Streetsport – The Denis Law Legacy Trust will receive £638.50 as part funding to allow their free weekly Streetsport session at the Bill Burr astro in Northfield to continue. This attracts over 100 young people every week and provides a safe, fun and positive environment for young people.



Glory for Northfield

The Youth Work in Schools Team at Northfield Academy and staff from the Capacity Building Team have been supporting a group of young people from Northfield Academy in developing skills and confidence around playing musical instruments, performing, team working and responsibility. The young people have formed a band called Simple Glory, the line-up has been flexible making them more of a musical collective with vocals, electric and acoustic guitars, bass guitar, ukulele and drums. They have learned a number of songs by their favourite bands and artists such as Panic at the Disco and 5 Seconds of Summer.

They have taken every opportunity to perform live and in front of an audience including a charity fundraiser and a Burns' Day Lunch at Cummings Park Learning Centre, the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Prize Giving at the Beach Ballroom and most recently at the UDecide event at Northfield Academy on the 17th of March where they had been supported by local Capacity Builders to make an application

for funding to hire a float and perform at the Grampian Pride Parade in May 2018. Two of the group confidently gave a quick presentation about the experiences they have had and how they had grown in confidence. It was no shock when they were successful in their bid for £800. Congratulations to Alicia, Kelsey, Ella, Ike, Heather, Kim, Emily, Morgan, Ellis and Elliott for working hard to achieve their goal.

In addition to the hard work on a musical theme, members of the group are also engaged at Cummings Park Learning Centre in a project to decorate the Music Room.

There are a range of people to whom thanks must go to; Kev, Fran and Sara from the Capacity Building Team and to members of the St Nicholas Rotary who were instrumental in the establishment of this activity for young people. Of course I couldn't forget our Youth Worker Dave Holroyd and the enabling role he plays with the group.

Plans for the future include taking time to reflect on their

experiences and write them up in a Dynamic Youth Award (SCQF Level 3), to develop opportunities for skills development around instrument maintenance including re-stringing, setting up and making repairs to electronics (anyone who has put a guitar into an luthier to be set up will know that this a cost they would rather avoid). Group members that have art skills are being engaged in designing a piece of work for the float for the parade.

In summary these young people are developing their competence in hard and soft skills which is creating new confidence for them; they are demonstrating this by taking on leadership and coordination roles as the band progresses and develops, discovering new abilities which are feeding into new aspirations such as volunteering opportunities and preparing to stay on at school for further study and to apply to be part of the incredible Prefect Team at Northfield.

#youthworkchangeslives
#becauseofcld
#aspiretobeoutstanding

Police Inspector Input

Communities throughout the North East, and Northfield in particular, are not without their challenges but changes are possible and according to the residents, the work of the community and partners working in and around Oldtown have made a positive difference.

On Tuesday 27 March, Police, along with a range of partners including SFRS, youth workers, councillors, Street Pastors, City Wardens and housing officials hosted a third drop-in session where anyone with concerns about local issues could pop along for advice.

A similar multi-agency session held in October was extremely successful in identifying emerging issues and allowed officials to take proactive action early on to tackle potential problems including littering, vandalism and fly-tipping.

It was a fantastic opportunity for residents to get access to all the right people in one place who

can help tackle the issues which affect the area most. Everyone who was in attendance on that night has a duty of care to work with the community to make a difference, but we need residents to work with us to tell us their concerns to help us do this.

The determination and effort of all those involved has resulted in significant reductions in crime and Anti-Social Behaviour. The focus will be helped over the coming months by continued partnership working and a strong Policing presence.

The regeneration of Middlefield has been ongoing for several years and involved community consultation as a key part of the process. Being shortlisted in the 2017 SURF awards in the category of Scotland's Most Improved Place is a fantastic achievement to all involved.

During February, officers from Northfield carried out an operation in Middlefield to target one of our local Priorities, Road

Safety and Road Crime, which was identified by the community as a local issue. The operation was carried out between Thursday 15 February and Friday 16 February and checked vehicles for road-worthiness and associated safety issues.

The operation was assisted by Road Policing officers and in total, 154 motorists were stopped, warned, educated or reported for any offences identified. Road safety and tackling road crime is a priority for us in the Northfield area. Through listening to our community we have addressed some of their concerns.

Faces will change but our work will continue and as a CPT we will remain visible and accessible within Northfield and will strive to address the issues that you raise. #NorthfieldCPT

Karen Main
Inspector,
Northfield CPT



VSA Carer's Resource Service

Do you have a caring role?

Anyone of any age who helps, or intends to help, a relative, friend or neighbour who cannot manage without their support has taken on an unpaid caring role.

Some people have just started looking after someone; others have looked after someone all their life.

Many care for more than one person, and sometimes their own health is affected.

VSA Carers Resource Service can offer advice, information and support on all aspects of caring. We can also provide access to charitable grants and signposting to other organisations. We offer training and development for carers, counselling and peer support.

For further information please contact either Jackie Dunlop or Donna Lawie on 01224 212021 or visit our website www.vsa.org.uk.

Looking for funding?

Are you a charity or a community group looking for funding? ACVO offers free one-to-one advice on funding, fundraising and business planning. We can help with developing income generation strategies, support you with particular types of fundraising (trusts and foundations, individual giving, digital etc) and provide feedback on draft funding applications. Drop us an email and we can meet for an informal chat to explore options. Get in touch with Kaja: kaja.czuchnicka@acvo.org.uk or 01224 686078

Spring is in the Air!

Spring has finally arrived so now's the time to spring clean your finances! Cash in Your Pocket (CIYP) can help you!

CIYP aims to help anyone in need to access the right support and advice to improve their finances. By providing a single point of contact, we can refer you on to the most appropriate organisation(s) to get the help you need.

By getting out and about in the community, we can speak directly to people. This is often when they identify they have a problem and need information or advice. If you get help quickly, you're less likely to reach crisis point.

In March CIYP had an information stand at the Hub, along with an

advisor from Scarf's Home Energy Advice Team, and shmuFM, who were recruiting local volunteers. We spoke to almost 30 people including members of a Kinship Carers group. We had queries about free childcare and the blue badge scheme, and Scarf were able to arrange 6 follow up home visits to give energy-related advice.

We are planning to hold more events like this in the Middlefield area soon so keep an eye out for our posters and on our Facebook page!

To find out more about us and how we can help you can contact Cash in Your Pocket on our Freephone number **0800 953 4330**, follow us on Facebook or look at our website **www.ciyp.co.uk**.

Pathways Have Moved

After 15 years of being based within the Middlefield area Pathways have moved office due to the Haudagain Roundabout improvements and the new link road being built right through where our office was situated. We are now based at Powis Community Centre, (1st Floor), 11 Powis Circle, AB24 3YX. Our phone number remains the same, 01224 682 939.

This move, while necessary doesn't affect our commitment to the people of Middlefield and our Keyworker for the area, Claudia Karl, continues to see people

locally at Manor Park Community Centre on Monday afternoons between 12 and 4pm. As Claudia is always busy it is always better to call for an appointment on 01224 682 939 to avoid waiting.

Although last year in Aberdeen was very challenging for employability in the city, Pathways still managed to successfully help 237 people into sustainable work and Claudia is ready to help you to do the same. Just give her a call, make an appointment and find out how we can help you!

PATHWAYS – Start Your Journey With Us



Mayhem with Mischief Makers at Your Local Library!

Aberdeen City Libraries will again support the Tesco Bank Summer Reading Challenge Scotland. This year will celebrate 80 years of The Beano with children following clues to explore Beanotown, meeting old favourites including Dennis the Menace and Gnasher and helping them find mysterious buried treasure!

The Challenge runs from Friday 6 July until Saturday 25 August and encourages children to visit their local library three times during the holidays, choosing two books at each visit to count towards a final total of reading six books to complete the Challenge.

Any library book can be read, from picture books to talking books and children receive stickers and rewards at two, four and six books but can borrow up to fifteen books at each visit. Look out for our special prize draws and competitions.

For more fun and activities, check out the Summer Reading Challenge website www.mischief-makers.org.uk where children can also create a personal reading profile and add books they've read to the Book Sorter. Fun, free

events will take place in libraries throughout the holidays for children taking part in the Challenge.

For more information visit your local library or our website www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/Library

Summer Reading Challenge Events:

Mischief Makers - Join us for a free, fun, story and activity session celebrating 80 years of The Beano. For children aged 5 - 12 years.

Mastrick Library
Tuesday 14 August
2.30 – 3.30pm

Northfield Library
Monday 6 August
3.30 – 4.15pm

*Booking is essential
for both events*

Contact details:
Mastrick Library
T: 01224 788558 E:
MastrickLibrary@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Northfield Library
T: 01224 695104 E:
NorthfieldLibrary@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Wellbeing Corner

The Wellbeing Team are based in Aberdeen and are keen to help spread the word about what activities, services and opportunities are available for older adults and how you can get involved in your community.

The Wellbeing Team have been involved in the Boogie in the Bar events taking place in the Sunnysbank Club – there is an article featuring this within this edition of the magazine.

Are you part of a community group who would like to know more about Wellbeing? Call us on **01224 522270** or email **wellbeing@aberdeencity.gov.uk**.

Looking to get active again?
Looking for a gentle way to return to exercise?

Middlefield Hub provide a gentle exercise class suitable for all abilities who want to start exercising again. The class is predominately seated, although there are standing options too.

The class is ideal for those who are:

- older adults
- with long term conditions
- looking to return to exercise after some time away & over 50yr
- new to exercise & over 50yr

It's a fun class with plenty of options & all done to music.

The class is also FREE!!

Tuesdays 11am – 11:45am
Middlefield Hub, Main Hall

The Big Move

Work is well underway at shmuHQ in Woodside. Our contractors, CHAP, have been hard at work since August last year and haven't been put off by the cold snap we recently experienced.

We have secured a significant amount of funding to pay for the fabric of the building, but we are currently working hard on a fundraising strategy to ensure we have enough money to pay for the equipment to turn it from a fantastic building to a state of the art community media centre.

Our aim is to enhance the facilities we already have so we will install two new radio studios and we will have a big communal social area, similar to what we had in the old building but we're also going to have an IT training room and a TV studio with a control room. We want to use the expansion of the building to expand our existing programmes to reach new people in our target areas.

A state-of-the-art building was identified as a need as part of our 2010-2017 strategic plan so we're really excited that this is becoming a reality for us this year.



Youth Media

Team try their

Members of shmu's Youth Media Team got involved with the Nuart festival this year. They worked with artist, Carrie Reichardt, on her project Everyday Heroes. From picking their heroes to working with Carrie at North East Scotland College to have a shot of creating and cutting their own tiles and being involved in getting them stuck on to the wall at Rennie's Wynd on The Green the team had a fantastic time.

One of our members, Danny, opted for 80s punk group Toxik Ephex as the subject for his everyday hero mosaic. On the day his tile was put on the wall Danny met Fred Wilkinson from the band and was gifted a copy of their album.

Nuart Aberdeen is an art programme designed to present interesting and relevant street art of its time and to activate and inspire an emergent local scene whilst encouraging creative collaborations with our twin city Stavanger.

The festival returned to Aberdeen for the second time this April. Developed in collaboration with Aberdeen Inspired and Aberdeen City Council, Nuart Aberdeen provides a platform for local, national and international artists to showcase their work through a series of site-specific murals, installations, interventions, and temporary exhibitions.

The festival consisted of everything from film screenings, art workshops, artist presentations and free walking tours, giving people the chance to discover the artwork all over the city centre.

What was your favourite installation and what would you like to see next year? Get in touch and let us know!

councillor comments

Ciaran McRae and Jackie Dunbar

At the latest Communities Housing and Infrastructure Committee, a report was discussed on the outcomes of the soft market testing that was undertaken for retail/housing/greenspace or for retail/greenspace at the Haudagain Triangle. The administration stated that there should be further market testing undertaken and the results will be Aberdeen City Council's "aspiration" which will be moved forward. We disagreed with that view for a number of reasons and put forward an amendment that it should be the Middlefield community's aspirations.

You have made it extremely clear to us in the past that the land should be for retail/greenspace. This was backed up with the report stating that there was definite interest in the retail aspect but no interest in the single person housing units. We lost the debate by 1 vote which means that we still do not know what the firm plans are for the land. We now have to wait for market testing with potential developers to take place before the community and ourselves will be informed.

We have also been involved in the Heathryfold Park improvements and are happy to see that work is now

being carried out. If you wish to get involved with this project, please contact either of us or pop into The Hub.

Ciaran has been working with various departments within the council to ensure that the old Logie shops are made secure after recent break-ins and suspicious activity. Police Scotland have also been involved by sweeping the area in the evening to ensure that no illegal activity is ongoing. The building should now be secure to prevent any injury to those who have been accessing it.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with either of us.

Ciaran Mcrae

Councillor for Northfield and Mastrick North
cimcrae@aberdeencity.gov.uk
07500999617

Jackie Dunbar

Councillor for Northfield and Mastrick North
jdunbar@aberdeencity.gov.uk
07733300570

Gordon Graham

IMPROVEMENTS TO PLAY PARKS

Some of the play parks that have been refurbished or replaced as part of the council's improvement plan include Bonnyview Road; Manor Avenue; Newton Road and work is currently being completed at Oldtown.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Environmental improvement proposals have been developed in consultation with a community steering group formed to participate further in this project, and the other projects noted below.

ACTIVE TRAVEL PROJECT (NESTRANS)

Following road safety concerns from people using the new Community Hub Nestrans have offered £150,500 to:

- improve the crossings of Provost Rust Drive and Manor Avenue; and
- provide directional signs; these are due to be completed in March 18.

Following discussion with the community improvement steering group design works have been agreed.

AUCHMILL COMMUNITY WOODLAND

I love to relax and take my dog for a walk around the area especially the woodlands and footpaths that we are fortunate to have. I am delighted to say that the Heathryfold Park Steering Group and Council officers are looking to work with Scottish Natural Heritage to get funding of up to £300k to progress this and other projects in the area such as providing grasscrete to the land opposite the flats at Heathryfold Circle to allow parking without damaging the grass. The steering group had a walk around the woodland with the park ranger to identify suitable sites for equipment and areas to build an outside classroom.

Best regards

Gordon Graham
Councillor for Northfield
and Mastrick North.

Vice Convenor of Finance,
Policy and Resources.
Tel: 07736 329751

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

Middlefield Community Project at The Hub 01224 697000

Manor Park School 01224 812060

Healthy Hoose 01224 661500