

seatonscene

Summer 2017



In this issue:

PLAYPARK REFURB

SEATON STARS

WILDLIFE IN THE PICTURE

SAFETY IN SEATON

www.shmu.org.uk/press

Image: Gordon Griève

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editorial

We hope you enjoy reading this magazine. Inside we have news about Friends of Seaton Park, Langstane Housing Association and the St Ninian's Play Park redevelopment.

Seaton Scene is put together by the good people of Seaton and we need your help to fill the pages. Staff at shmu are on hand to help out with anything you need so please don't hesitate to get in touch.

If you would like to get involved in the next edition of Seaton Scene then you can phone shmu **01224 515013** or email **laura.young@shmu.org.uk**.

Meetings are held at STAR Flat on Fridays at 12:30pm on the following dates:

First meeting – 6th October

Second meeting – 20th October

Content deadline – 3rd November

Proof – 10th November



Cover Image: Jim splaine



Supported by



New Faces in Seaton

On Monday 3rd July, a team of Community Development Workers from Aberdeen City Council moved to a permanent base in the Seaton Learning Centre. Gillian Anderson and Nick McKenzie who are part-time and Marion Watson who works full-time are managed by Graham Donald a Community Development Officer.

Over the coming months, we intend to support the community of Seaton to start up new groups within the Learning Centre which will cater for the Communities interests. To help get projects and engagement moving we have organised an eight week Art and History course, which is fully subscribed and has been made possible by using the winnings from the UDecide vote.

Tying in with the Seaton Primary School Open Day on 15th September, we are also planning an event which will run alongside the Open Day and give the residents of Seaton an opportunity to meet us and have a look around the building. From some early engagement with the community we have some ideas which we hope will appeal, but would welcome any suggestions you may have. Building on the current Learning Centre programme, we will aim to provide a range of activities and services to benefit all residents.

We have already made links with a range of local groups and organisations, such as Friends of Seaton Park and carried out



consultations with residents regarding Phase 2 of the Backies Project. The Seaton Recovery Project has moved from its old premises into the Learning Centre and we are all feeling enthusiastic about working with partner organisations, old and new to provide a quality service to the people of Seaton.

If you would like to get in touch give us a call on 01224 277927.

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.

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.

Parents can self refer to the project as well as professionals. If you feel you would benefit from our project feel free to contact the office on 01224 487813.



Aberdeen City

£60,000
REFURBISHMENT
FOR SEATON PLAY AREA

ST NINIANS COURT PLAY AREA



A Seaton play area is to be refurbished by Aberdeen City Council at a cost of £60,000.

The St Ninians Court play area is in the north-east area of Seaton and virtually ringed by four multi-storey buildings - Balgownie Court, St Ninians Court, Inverdon Court and Lord Hays Court.

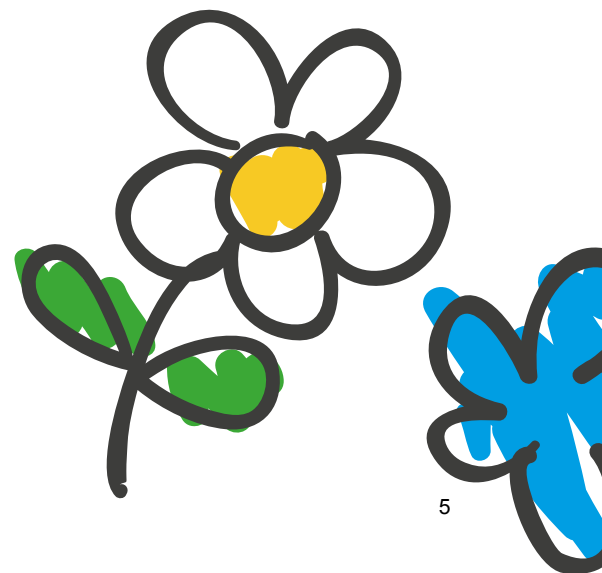
Aberdeen City Council Area Supervisor (Play) Yvonne McLeod told Seaton Scene: "This play area is being updated as part of the

ongoing refurbishment programme which has already seen almost half of all the city's 145 play areas upgraded over the last four years.

"Several different suppliers presented options for the site but after careful evaluation and consultation with a number of different local groups this particular option was chosen as the winning bid.

"It is too early to give a precise timescale for completion of the project but barring unforeseen

events it will be finished before the end of this year."





Langstane Housing Association

Groundbreaking Langstane Housing Association celebrates its 40th birthday with a richly deserved reputation.

Seaton-based Langstane Housing Association (LHA) is celebrating its 40th birthday. Founded as a charity in 1977 with only two staff housed in a former dairy, LHA now employs 85 people with satellite offices in Aberdeenshire and Moray. In the second part of our two-part series, Seaton Scene explores LHA's outstanding success story in social welfare. Proud of its Seaton roots, LHA plays a very active role in Seaton supporting Seaton Community Enterprise, Seaton Backies project and Seaton Taking Action on Regeneration (STAR).

The first two members of staff were soon to be joined by a new Finance Officer and Director of Housing. Then, considerable money was available for housing although initially it was primarily for inner city renewal in Glasgow. This was seen by many as unfair and it was not long before more funding was made available for other organisations such as Langstane.

When the Housing Corporation came into existence in Scotland and specialist groups like the Cyrenians identified its funds as a means of getting money, Langstane followed suit and accessed funding to buy large amounts of property. On one occasion, it bought almost an entire street, Bloomfield Road, and a piece of land nearby.

In those early days, Langstane was governed by a committee who met in the disused Balgownie Dairy on George Street where they sat on upturned crates and boxes! As LHA grew, it was agreed that there be a clear distinction between the role of the committee and the executive officers and develop a more business-like structure. Ultimately the committee stepped back from the day-to-day running of LHA; the Chief Officer took charge; and a senior management team was established.

Langstane's first Senior Officer, one of the original committee members,

took up the post in 1983 with a staff of nine and a property portfolio of 250 flats. It did, however, have an extensive development programme and was the fastest-growing Association in Scotland, attracting £4million in grants annually from the Housing Corporation. There was a significant connection early on to the old Lodging House with several of the staff and committee having worked there. It took LHA 10 years to acquire the Lodging House and transform it into suitable living accommodation.

Rather than advertising its properties, Langstane made an arrangement with the local authorities giving them 50% of nominations for all its empty properties. This provided much-needed accommodation to people who had no chance of being housed due to the local authorities' policy of providing family accommodation. Langstane has, over the years, allocated

properties from in-house waiting lists and nominations from the local authorities. Although currently taking 100% nominations (except for housing transfers), LHA will, in the very near future, once again take back control of its own housing list.

Langstane's first property was flats built on the site of the former dairy. Properties were also bought from Aberdeen University, banks and a textile business. Word soon got around that if you wanted to sell an entire block Langstane was a good place to start! From the outset, it was not solely interested in providing accommodation in Aberdeen and spread further afield - buying and renovating property in Peterhead, Fraserburgh, Banff, Keith and other rural centres.

Nor was it interested in just housing - it wanted to provide hostels. Prior to 1981, the only place homeless women could go was the night shelter which was highly unsuitable for their needs. Langstane bought 91 Crown Street and Aberdeen Cyrenians took over the running of this as a hostel for homeless women. This was the first of its kind in Aberdeen and was funded by Aberdeen City Council and the Cyrenians.

The Association went on to pioneer many initiatives. One of the first, carried out in association with social workers for a local psychiatric hospital, saw the resettling of four men into a shared flat - a first in the North-east. The Homemaker Scheme in Dee Street saw the Cyrenians provide tenancy support to those provided with a tenancy through Langstane.

Another initiative was easier access to housing for people from ethnic minority communities. Langstane was given a property by the local authority with the idea of working with what was then Grampian

Race Relations on a programme that would encourage people from ethnic minority communities to apply for housing.

Information leaflets were printed in various languages - a ground-breaking initiative. These were sent to various groups, restaurants, places of worship and to Grampian Race Relations. The project was balanced with a 50/50 split between mainstream applicants and targeted applicants with what was seen as positive discrimination.

Another significant move was setting up an Enhanced Management Project with residents from Langstane's Care Hostel (Fraser House) in Dee Street. The hostel was set to close and Langstane wanted to ensure that none of the residents were made homeless. There were 28 people living in the hostel which looked very much like an institution with a common dining room and food prepared on the premises. Talking to the residents it was clear that this was not the environment they wanted to live in preferring a more domestic set up. LHA had a seven-flatted property at St Martha's in the Spital and this was used to provide more domestic accommodation with support. This was initially very challenging work as it was a first of its kind, and in a sense the forerunner of the supported accommodation community programmes which were to be more commonly run after that.

In the late 1980s, Langstane, in conjunction with Grampian Regional Council's Social Work Department, developed what was known as a dispersed hostel for 10 people with mental health issues. This was ground breaking in Scotland but unfortunately this initiative did not work, primarily due to the fact that the landlord (Langstane) was providing the

support which made it difficult for the person working with the tenants to be, on the one hand, the landlord's representative and on the other, there to help. The decision was made to bring in an agency to provide the support. The project was then taken over and ran successfully by the Richmond Fellowship.

In 1982, Langstane founded Next Step Homes Limited a non-registered subsidiary, originally named Langstane SP whose focus was entirely on Shared Ownership and provided over 200 homes throughout the north east. As funding for Shared Ownership dried up, Langstane SP identified a new role for itself; a new business plan set out its aim to carry out a development programme of around 12 units per year over the next three years. This would be partly funded by reserves on a mixed tenure basis. Any surplus generated would be covenanted to Langstane.

In 2014, Next Step Homes set up its own subsidiary, Stockethill Homes, with the purpose of providing Mid-Market Rent properties aimed at people who are working but may not be a priority for social housing. The first scheme was officially opened in March 2015 at Castleton Lane and provides 32 properties in total, 14 of which are two-bedroom properties and allocated through Stockethill Homes as Mid-Market Rent.

With a current stock portfolio of 2,814 properties and a healthy development programme Langstane is proud of its past successes and will continue to be innovative, ambitious and, as it set out to do all those years ago, be a leader in the provision of good quality affordable accommodation for those disadvantaged in the housing market.

wildlife in the picture

A profile on Jim and Rosemary Splaine

Hamish Mackay

Bridge of Don couple Jim and Rosemary Splaine are among a small band of folk frequently seen in the Lower Don Valley and Seaton Park armed with cameras, lenses and tripods on mini-safaris to photograph the rich variety of wildlife.

While Jim, whose father Thomas was a professional photographer, has been steeped in the photographic world since childhood, Rosemary joined the ranks only two years ago but is learning fast under Jim's expert tutelage.

This very sociable couple, both 70, who are unpretentious to the point of shyness, celebrated their golden wedding in July, and live in a beautiful detached home not far from the mouth of the River Don. Their married son James is currently based in Dubai while married daughter Sheila lives in Bridge of Don.

Jim and Rosemary venture forth at least two or three days a week in their never-ending quest for photographic excellence. They use an array of Canon cameras but Jim emphasises that it is the quality of lenses which are instrumental in capturing and delivering first-class images.

Although the Splaines find the extensive wildlife of the Lower Don Valley and Seaton Park especially happy "hunting" ground, they also rove the North-east of Scotland to find suitable material. While Jim especially likes locations encompassing water whether it be the North-East coastline, rivers and lochs, they are also drawn to the wealth of outstandingly beautiful public gardens and parks in the region.

Rosemary, whose father William Donald was head gardener of Stewart Park, Aberdeen, for many

years is also a keen and talented gardener and the large garden of their home is wonderfully colourful, especially the beds of roses, and the Splaines consistently feature on Aberdeen City Council's annual gardens competition prize-list.

Rosemary is also very gifted with her hands - turning out ornaments, embroidery, tapestries, art drawing, card-making and stuffed animals. While undoubtedly her prolific output could have a significant commercial value, she resolutely only adds them to her own collection or gifts them to family and friends.

The Splaines do have their own favourite wildlife to photograph - Jim's choice is the woodpecker while Rosemary opts for the heron but, in truth, the couple are endeared to the entire spectrum of wildlife.

Rosemary Splaine





Jim Splaine



Jim Splaine



Jim Splaine



Rosemary Splaine



Rosemary Splaine



Community Volunteers Recognised By Aberdeen City Council

Six voluntary community workers in East Aberdeen have had their services to the city recognised by Aberdeen's former Lord Provost George Adam before he stood down at the recent local government elections.

The six volunteers were nominated by former Councillor Ramsay Milne and current Councillor Ross Grant and received inscribed silver stars from the retiring Lord Provost who was asked to recognise their service as "Community Stars".

Three of the recipients are connected with Donside Village and Donside Hydro in Tillydrone, two with Friends of Seaton Park (FOSP) and one with Seaton Taking Action for Regeneration (STAR).

The former Lord Provost said they were being honoured for their "outstanding" work in the community and commented: "During my time as Lord Provost I was struck by the commitment of individuals like you who go out of their way to make a difference to the lives of people in our city and who are prepared to give up their own time and talent for the benefit of the wider community.

The silver stars, he explained, were a "token of my appreciation which I hope will remind you that you are indeed a star in our city."

The honoured trio are Sinclair Laing and Jim Currie for their work on

the Aberdeen Community Energy Scheme, and Jane Fullerton for her work on the Aberdeen Community Energy Scheme and Donside Village Community SCIO.

At the heart of the Tillydrone development is the award-winning Donside Hydro scheme - one of the most exciting and innovative urban community energy projects in the UK. The Donside Hydro harnesses its energy from the River Don and creates electricity which is sold on to the National Grid and the income generated will be channeled into initiatives that will achieve social and environmental benefits for the Tillydrone regeneration area.

Silver stars went to Sheila Gordon and Hamish Mackay - respectively chair and former secretary of Friends of Seaton Park whom have both played leading roles in the renaissance of the park in the past five years which has won national acclaim and a £400,000 investment programme led by Aberdeen City Council.

The sixth silver star has gone to Murdoch MacLeod, vice-chairman of Seaton Taking Action for Regeneration (STAR), who also sits on the city's Regeneration Matters group which has members from each of the city's regeneration groups.

Our Park plays
key role in
city's quest for
honours

Our Park plays key role in city's quest for honours

With the coveted Green Flag flying high in Seaton Park for the second year in succession, Friends of Seaton Park (FOSP) are hoping the Park will play a major part again this year in Aberdeen's quest for Scottish and UK horticultural honours.

FOSP chair Sheila Gordon told Seaton Scene: "Over the summer months various judging events will take place. The Keep Scotland Beautiful and Britain in Bloom judges will both visit our Park. And this year we are part of the Aberdeen City submission to Britain in Bloom for the Champion of Champions Award.

"Participation at this level is by invitation only so it is a great honour for both the city and Seaton Park. In many respects, this is the ultimate accolade. We will hear the results of the Scottish awards in September and the UK-wide awards in October.

"In August FOSP will welcome the It's Your Neighbourhood assessors. We plan on at least equalling our 91% from last year and retaining our "outstanding" assessment."

St Machar Credit Union in Seaton

St Machar Credit Union have a community collection point in the Seaton STAR Flat on Friday mornings between 10 and 11am. Need to speak to someone about a low cost loan or want to start saving for Christmas? Pop in and have a chat!



The Batmobile needs an MOT

Friends of Seaton Park News

Hamish Mackay

The national profile of Seaton Park has been given yet another major boost by winning the prestigious Green Flag Award for the second year running in recognition of its high standards and provision of quality outdoor space.

Aberdeen's Johnston Gardens has won the award for the first time while Duthie Park and Hazlehead Park retain their status as Green Flag winners. The only other North-east awards go to Aden Country Park, Mintlaw, and Haddo Park.

The much-coveted Green Flag Award is regarded as a benchmark for greenspace by Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB) which administers the award in Scotland. A record-breaking 73 parks from across Scotland have won the award this year - up three on last year.

The award recognises that well-maintained parks build healthy and stable communities alongside the health benefits that quality outdoor space provides - including enabling and encouraging exercise, improving mental well-being, and encouraging critical play for child development.

Friends of Seaton Park (FOSP) chair Sheila Gordon said: "We are delighted at again earning this prestigious award and very pleased that the success of Johnston

Gardens means that Aberdeen now boasts a total of four parks and gardens which have reached these very high standards.

"At Seaton Park, we have a formidable full-time team head gardener Derek McKay and his assistant Kat Myslek who are to be congratulated on their hard work and endeavour. This is clearly illustrated by the Park being in splendid condition this year and is sure to play a key role in Aberdeen's bid for Scottish and UK honours. And, of course, the Friends group and a large number of volunteers have also to be congratulated on their selfless input to the Park's well-being."

Sheila points out: "The Green Flag Award came after the judges had arrived unannounced so it is very heartening to know that the Park met their exacting standards on an ordinary and routine day."

Julie Procter, chief executive, Greenspace Scotland, told Seaton Scene: "With park and park budgets under pressure, it's impressive to see more Scottish parks achieving the Green Flag Award status. This is tangible evidence of the hard work and commitment of park managers, Friends and community groups.

"Quality parks and greenspaces make a big difference to our quality of life. They really are our natural health service, our children's outdoor classrooms and our towns and cities green lungs."

Matt Lowther, of NHS Health Scotland added: "It is important that the places and spaces in which we live, work and play are designed to promote good health and reduce health inequalities. Having access to good quality greenspace is an essential part of this. It means people are more likely to be physically active and socially connected.

"In many cases, the health-promoting effect is even greater for those on lower incomes. And evidence shows that if people think a park is well-maintained and easy to reach, they will use it. A good park is all of these things and the Green Flag Award recognises that."

Derek Robertson, chief executive of Keep Scotland Beautiful, commented: "Good quality green open spaces are vital to the health and well-being of local communities, families and individuals. Parks and open spaces are a fantastic asset - they are free to use and provide opportunities to exercise and socialise."



Ian Talboys



Sheila Gordon



Ian Talboys

Safety in Seaton

As a Crime Reduction Officer, I'm often asked what precautions can people take to keep themselves safer when out in the streets of Aberdeen. Firstly, I usually point out that in comparison with other parts of the UK, Aberdeen is a low crime area. That said, here are some things you might wish to consider:

- Especially during the hours of darkness, try to stick to busy, well-lit streets. Stats have shown that crime is less likely where there are possible witnesses nearby or driving past
- Only carry the minimum of valuables with you that you have to. If you have pockets or bags with zippers, buttons etc. - use them. Leave everything else at home, secured under lock and key
- Always carry a mobile phone with you when out and about. Before you leave home, make sure that it is fully charged and has plenty credit (if you can) so it won't fail you when you need it most
- Police Scotland can also provide a personal attack alarm. Just call

101 and ask for Crime Reduction to post you one out

- When using ATM's be watchful for ill-fitting parts or items which appear to have been stuck on the machine. Don't flash your cash, count it elsewhere. If concerned about suspicious people nearby, wait till later or go elsewhere to withdraw cash. Cover your right hand with your left when typing in your PIN, to thwart shoulder-surfers and pin-hole cameras
- When using the bus, try to learn the bus times, route and the locations of the stops you'll board and disembark at - before your journey. Keep the walk between bus stops and addresses to the minimum. If you're concerned about something happening on the bus, sit beside the driver and tell him what's going on. All buses are fitted with CCTV (some outside as well) and are in radio contact with their base, who can call the Police. You could also travel with a friend
- When out socialising, don't go overboard with the amount you drink. Try to stick with friends; you

look after them and they look after you. People in groups are less likely to become targets than those on their own

- Don't wander along the street with your mobile phone glued to your ear. A thief could easily sneak up behind you and steal it from your hand. Keep it in your pocket and stop in a safe place to make a call, where you can keep an eye of the area round about you
- You could also consider the Panic Guard smart phone app (<https://panicguard.com/>). For a few pounds a month, once downloaded if something happens, it can record the incident through its camera and microphone, save the footage, text a friend and alert GPS on the phone, all with a shake of the phone - and it's Police approved (Secured By Design).

If you'd like any further information how to stay safe, please feel free to contact your local Crime reduction Office by phoning Police Scotland on their non-emergency number of 101.

Fire Safety

When visiting a friend's house for the first time, I was surprised to be shown what to do if there was a fire. It seemed like a waste of time, although with the recent London tower block fire still fresh in my mind it now seems sensible. Business premises are recommended to hold a full evacuation fire drill at least once a year; in homes there is no guideline, so it's up to us to keep ourselves safe.

Is there a Fire Escape Plan for your home, and does everybody in your household know what to do? Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) recommend planning how to get out quickly at night, who is going to get any children and/or pets and where the front door key is. They also suggest identifying a 'safe room' with a phone and a window, in case you cannot escape, and regularly practising your plan, especially if you have children, and make sure any overnight guests know the drill.

After the Grenfell tragedy, concerns have understandably been voiced by people living in Aberdeen's tower blocks. Each flat in the towers is effectively an isolated concrete box built on top of each other. Concrete is fireproof and, if there is a fire in another flat in the tower, it should be contained. Whilst the cause of the Grenfell fire will not be known for some time, a large amount of concern has been expressed about the cladding.

Cladding used in Seaton blocks is non-combustible, and designed to adapt to minor irregularities on the building. Underneath the cladding is non-combustible Earthwool®

RainScreen Slabs, sealed by the cladding so, in the unlikely event that a fire breaches the cladding it will be contained within a small space. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has been working with SFRS to test materials in Seaton's tower blocks, and other city blocks.

Tower block safety instructions have been issued by ACC and SFRS, and your own personal copy is in this magazine. Take the time to read, understand and follow the advice, it could literally save your life. SFRS also offer free Home Fire Safety Visits, where staff will visit your home and chat about fire safety issues in your home, including electrical safety, smoking and using electric blankets safely.

They will also check your home, looking at rooms, paying attention to things like wires trapped under carpets and overloaded plug sockets. They also check that doors close properly and will let you know of anything that needs to be done to make yours a safer home. They will cast a professional eye over your Fire Escape Plan, or help create one if you haven't already.

Members of Scottish Fire and Rescue Service who visit your home will always be carrying identification. You should ask to see this and, if they refuse, you should refuse them entry into your home. A Home Fire Safety Visit might help put your mind at rest. If you want to book one call 0800 0731 999

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 Seaton

Catch the 1/2/13 from the Seaton area to Union Street (Trinity Centre) then cross the road over to take the 3 from Union Terrace Gardens to Ashgrove Road West then it's just a short walk towards North Anderson Drive to the new building.

Rosehill Day Centre
202 Ashgrove Rd W,
Aberdeen AB16 5EH



Northsea Court Residents Association

We at Northsea Court Residents have seen a huge change from when we first set up two years ago. We have had our common room renovated and it is now being used by the residents. There are plans to get the lifts upgraded after the overcladding works are completed. Some of the residents have mentioned they would love to see a kids group within the building.

We had an information session about fire safety and the over cladding works on the 29th June. This was a really interesting session, as residents got to see what was going up on the side of the building. Some residents had mixed feelings about the overcladding due to what happened at Grenfell Tower, but when residents asked questions we were assured that the materials used on the Seaton 7 are completely different from what was used at

Grenfell and this was tested before the works were given the go-ahead.

We have been told by Aberdeen City Council and Fire Scotland to have all drying rooms cleared out or we could lose them altogether. Please have your drying rooms cleared out ASAP.

Mixed Recycling

We are pleased to see the new mixed bins in the Bayview/Northsea Courts Car Park. We hope that this encourages more residents in the area to recycle. On the 2nd July 2017, I came across rubbish dumped by these bins and thought we need to do something about the flytipping in the area. One thought we had was to ask Aberdeen City Council to put these mixed recycling & food waste bins in our bin rooms.

Therefore, it reduces the rubbish being dumped outside, frees up

space in the car park and hopefully will encourage more people to recycle knowing they have these bins in the building.

We have asked Councillor Ross Grant if this is something that can be looked into as we have had wildlife coming to the area for food scraps. We are still waiting for an update on the situation but hopefully it will be good news.

Seaton Community Network

Are you a part of a local group in Seaton? Then join the Seaton Community Network Facebook page. This could be an opportunity for your group to showcase their work and advertise their events. It could also help encourage residents to become more involved. Just search for 'Seaton Community Network' on Facebook.

News from St Ninian's

Aberdeen Doors Open Day: St Ninian's Church

Saturday 9th September is the day when buildings all over Aberdeen not normally open to the public fling wide their doors to give you a chance to come in and have a look.

For those of you living in the area of Seaton you may well have walked past the little church with the red doors at 696 King Street but never ventured inside. We are open every

Sunday for our services at 10.30am and for different weekly activities but unfortunately we are unable to keep the building open during the week on a regular basis.

Please come in and have a wander or a seat in a surprisingly quiet space of light and colour. Simple refreshments available.

**Anytime between 10am
and 4pm.**

Coffee Afternoon

As summer activities begin to wind down, do join us in St Ninian's Church for our Coffee Afternoon – excellent home baking and good coffee or tea - Saturday 26 August from 2pm-4pm. Have a walk in our beautiful Seaton Park and come across King Street for some refreshments.

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 **ehepburn@aberdeencity.gov.uk**

Seaton STAR Flat

01224 524209

Seaton Project

01224 277930

Seaton School

01224 277920

Local Councillors

Councillor Ross Grant

01224 346621

rossgrant@aberdeencity.gov.uk

07738688458

Councillor Alexander McLellan

01224 346633

amclellan@aberdeencity.gov.uk

07500 99952

Councillor Jim Noble

01224 522051

jimnoble@aberdeencity.gov.uk

07748 760557