

TillyTattle

Summer 2017



In this issue:

.....
TILLYDRONE VISION

LOCALITY PLANNING

TILLYDRONE

COMMUNITY HUB

www.shmu.org.uk/press

contents

- 3 Tillydrone Vision
- 4 Locality Planning
- 6 Creative Writing
- 8 Tilly Gala
- 9 Imagineers
- 10 Donside Community Project
- 12 Summer Reading Challenge
- 13 What's in a Name
- 14 shmu
- 15 City Church



Welcome to your summer edition of the Tilly Tattle.

In this issue we have articles covering the Tillydrone Hub, Tillydrone Vision and the Locality Planning Partnership.

If you would like to get involved and join the editorial team or if you have ideas for the 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 who are interested in developing their ideas and skills in either writing, photography or proof reading. So please don't be shy, this is your magazine written, edited and designed by the good folk of Tillydrone.

If you live in the Tillydrone 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 you can email her on **laura.young@shmu.org.uk**.

You can also view this magazine alongside previous editions on the SHMU website **www.shmu.org.uk** then click the 'PRESS' option.

Autumn Meeting Dates

1st meeting - 24th July

2nd meeting - 7th August

Content deadline - 21st August

All meetings are held at 10am at Tillydrone Community Flat

Supported by



Tillydrone Vision 2018 Trip

Tillydrone Vision are planning another trip to Uganda during the Easter holidays next year. The charity work with the community of Tillydrone to support a primary school in Kamuli in Uganda by providing them with items donated from local people and working on projects like building a clean water pump. It allows people to come together to help people who are in a much worse situation themselves.

They recently launched their container, which some of you may have seen as you pass the church on Hayton Road. This container will be filled with items that people have donated to the community in Uganda.

Bill Mitchell, Secretary of Tillydrone Vision said: "Even if it's just one single bar of soap when we put that together with another 23 single bars of soap, we have a case of soap and that makes a huge difference to the lives out there."

The container will leave Tillydrone in October so it arrives in the school in Uganda before Christmas at which point the kids (all 2000

of them) should manage to get something simple, like a pair of shoes or some new clothing that will make difference in their lives.

Bill said: "During our last visit we think that 30% of the kids had shoes which means that 70% don't. Shoes are a big thing – they prevent injury to feet and if feet have got scratches and cuts they pick up infections and then there's a lot of illness. The people in Uganda have to pay for healthcare and a lot of them can't afford it so simple infections can be almost deadly in Uganda."

If you would like to donate you can do so by dropping items off at the church – the team are looking for anything from hygiene products to shoes to school stationery. They can't take anything over which requires electricity or batteries and their rule of thumb is 'if you wouldn't wear it yourself or put it on your own child then please don't give it to us.'

For more information on Tillydrone Vision pop into St George's Church or look up Tillydrone Vision on Facebook.

St George's Church Tillydrone News

Code Club

Tilly Code Club launched in St George's Church at the end of May. Code Club is a nationwide network of volunteers and educators who run free coding clubs for young people aged between 9 and 11 to build and share their ideas while learning along the way.

There are easy to follow guides which focus on Scratch, HTML and CSS, Python which the children use to learn new skills and make websites, animations and games. Once the children have learnt the core skills they will be able to start their own projects.

Code Club meets on a Tuesday in the church on Hayton Road 4-5pm. If you would like more information contact **info@tillycode.club**.

Summer Playscheme

The church are looking to run some activities throughout the summer for local young people. They are on the lookout for some more volunteers to help them provide these sessions. At the moment they are looking at running a breakfast club, parent and toddler sessions and a variety of activities for primary and secondary school age. If you can lend a hand then get in touch with the church on 01224 482204 or pop in and speak to someone.



Locality Planning – what does it mean for Tillydrone?

Community Planning Aberdeen are looking to work with people in the Tillydrone area to create a Locality Partnership. They have created a draft locality plan which has used information taken from local people at events throughout 2016 to create a ten-year plan for Woodside, Seaton and Tillydrone. It lays out the priorities of the community and some ideas for making improvements.

The Locality Partnership will be made up of representatives from third sector, private and public service partners as well as at least 50% of the group will be members of the community. The partnership should ensure effective working between local staff and residents and will give local people more of a say over decisions which affect the

area. The partnership will meet 6-8 times a year and the minutes for these meetings will be published on the Community Planning Aberdeen website and will be accessible to the public. For more information visit communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk.

If you would be interested in joining the partnership email Madelene on mmacsween@aberdeencity.gov.uk.

Some of the key issues for the area include improving health and wellbeing, increasing access to healthy food, improving attainment, improving transport, ensuring high quality housing, increase access to free wifi and digital skills, improve facilities for the area and increase local employment levels.

So, what does this actually mean for folk who live in Tillydrone?

Improving Health and Wellbeing and increasing Access to Healthy Food

The Locality Partnership will look at options for growing food locally and setting up a market which would provide cheap fruit and veg which is easily accessible. There are more children eligible for free school meals than are currently taking them so the group hope to increase the uptake of this opportunity to help take some pressure off parents. They aim to increase the amount of sporting and exercise opportunities in the area and to encourage the community to become active and get fitter.

Improving Attainment

The development of the new Tillydrone Hub and primary school for the area forms part of the plan

to reduce the gap in attainment between the highest and lowest achieving pupils. The new hub will increase the amount of local childcare and Early Years Places which are available to young people. Free childcare opportunities and these opportunities will be offered at non-traditional times as lots of families in the area work shift patterns and don't always need childcare at the times it is currently offered.

Improving Transport

Gaps in public transport will be identified and fed back to the relevant providers. The group will also investigate alternative arrangements, for example using a low-cost car-share scheme or volunteer drivers to improve access to essential services, for example the hospital.

Ensure High Quality Housing

More affordable housing will be built in the area and the current housing stock will be maintained to a high standard. The council's

housing team will work closely with tenants to increase their satisfaction in their homes and the service they receive. The housing stock will also have to meet current Scottish quality standards.

Increase Access to Free Wifi and Digital Skills

The Community Planning Partnership will work with communities and private partners to make sure that residents of Tillydrone have strong WiFi connections. This will help reduce social isolation as people will be able to maintain strong links with family and friends and can access information. There will also be an increase in community groups and projects who support local people to develop their skills with computers, tablets and the Internet.

Improve Facilities in the Area

Many playparks in the Tillydrone area have been refurbished over the last 18 months and this will continue as part of the

locality plan. The Tillydrone Hub will provide a central space for services and groups to meet and provide facilities for Tillydrone residents, for example the community café. As well as focusing on playparks and green spaces, the group aim to reduce fly-tipping and littering in the community to keep the area tidy and presentable.

Increase Employment Levels

Barriers to employment will be removed. This will involve making childcare more accessible and affordable, getting organisations in place to support people to get and keep a job, as well as supporting people who have an idea to start up their own business. Working age adults will have access to education opportunities locally. There will be even more support for school leavers to make sure that they have somewhere positive to go after school, whether that be further education, a job or training.

New Councillors in Tillydrone

On May 4th 2017 three councillors were elected to represent the Seaton, Tillydrone and Old Aberdeen areas. Councillor Ross Grant and Councillor Jim Noble were both re-elected to represent the community and Alexander McLellan was elected to represent the areas for the first time.

Remember, even if these individuals were not your first choice, they have been elected to represent you and support you with any issues in the area.

You can get in touch with them in the following ways:

Ross Grant - 01224 346621 or 07738688458 or email rossgrant@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Alexander McLellan - 01224 346633 or email amclellan@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Jim Noble - 01224 522051 or 07748760557 or email jimnoble@aberdeencity.gov.uk

creative writing

These are pieces of writing produced by the Tillydrone Creative Writing Group. They meet on a Thursday afternoon the Tillydrone Community Flat.

breakfast time at coila Lynne Digby

“Come on and get up, go warm yourself by the fire, I’ll get you your breakfast.” Grandma was boiling the kettle on the stove which was nearby my bed and frying bacon. The kettle started whistling and I pulled back my heavy cosy blankets and ran outside.

Granda was already sitting on his wooden tea chest next to the fire. I ran over to him and gave him a big bosie.

“The fairies have accepted your gift, look.”

Sure enough all that was left were stems. During the night the fairies had come along. “The girl fairies,” Granda said, “used bluebell flowers as skirts and the boy fairies used the bluebell flowers as hats.”

These were Scottish bluebells, or harebells picked from an ancient woodland. Rarer now than the pictures that you see of other bluebells and other bluebell wood scenes and if you held lots of them in your hand at one time you could shake them and hear lots of soft bells jingling.

I loved picking bluebells for the fairies.

I was very little and scared of the dark and going to the dark toilet hut but Granda made it so I wasn’t so

scared and I learned to find hope in darkness. I became grateful, thanks to those fairies

I was bursting so ran to the loo. I remember the newspaper that we had as toilet paper, cut into squares with string strung through holding them together, hung onto a nail hammered into the wall. I didn’t like the newspaper so Grandma had tissues for me. It was just a chemical pot, no flush. Once in a while Granda would dig a big hole in the back of the hutty and bury it.

I came out and leaned on Granda.

“Mind and wash your hands,” and he nodded towards the large green metal tank that collected rainwater.

I turned on the tap and shoogled my hands under the cold water and dried them on my nightie

“Mind your nightie by the fire, bairn.”

“Flora, bring out the bairn’s clothes too,” Granda shouted on Grandma.

Grandma came out with my clothes

“Here bairn, put your slacks on first, just tuck in your nightie in for now.”

Grandma was saying this as she was helping pull up my slacks and tucking my nightie in

‘Your breakfast is ready, far you wanting it?’

“Can I have mine here, Grandma please?”

I asked as I dragged a wooden box over to the fire, closer to my Grandfather so Grandma went back into the hutty, came back out with a full tray. I had a bowl of Rice Crispies with a big spoonful of sugar sprinkled over it. The box became my table as I knelt down to eat. The bottle of milk was put in the cool larder, a cupboard which was at the same height that an adult could reach nestled in the same tree that provided a branch for my swing that Granda put up for me.

The meat was in the ground, we had a big metal milk container dug into the earth and the packet of bacon was dropped back in there and covered up. There was a big table outside but we didn’t sit at the table. We sat around the fire, silent, except for the noise of snap, crackle, pop.

Hear my Rice Crispies, I giggled. We all giggled. We sat that morning at breakfast time, staring into the fire, breathing into smoke and unbeknown creating happy, joyful memories.

escape from a traffic warden

Elsie Rennie

There I was,
no time to lose.

My library books were overdue

and across the road the library stood.

Double lines and traffic lights right before my eyes

A wide street, my small car,

not a big obstruction.

My friends I’m meeting in a few minutes,
no time to park the car.

Och I’ll risk it.

No signs of yellow top bar and hats.

Quickly I crossed the road,

stealthily I climbed the steps,

breathlessly I laid the books across the desks.

‘Can I leave these books here as I am in a rush?’

As my car is parked in a no parking space!’

I hurried to the library door and looked across the road,

and there it was,

an apparition not to be forgotten...

A traffic warden.

She stood looking at the car with little pad poised,
round the car she went to take the number.

In a flash of lightning, down the steps I flew
and across the road and started up the car.

The baby started to cry right away.

The traffic lights were at green.

It could be called the quickest getaway in town,
I didn’t even get to see the traffic warden frown.

odd sock

Liz Fitzpatrick

Oh no, back here again.

Why can’t you just match me up with my buddy?

I’m so lost without you.

She just keeps throwing me back in this dark, smelly place.

Does he not understand that I am clean?

Please, just take me out of here

Nooooo!

Don’t put those disgusting things on top of me, as he throws the dirty linen on top of me

Just put me somewhere safe,

Like in a drawer.

At least until you find my bud.

We are a team and there is no I in team.

This place stinks, phwoah!

Well I suppose I am the cleanest one and the most nicest, fragrant one of you all in here.

I’m soo happy she left the lid open...

Let the stench out, yeaah!

Maybe I can climb to the top and escape...

Just then she appears with another bundle in her arms,

Noooo!

Tilly Gala



The Tilly Gala was a great success again this year! The sun stayed out for us all day and the community came out en masse to show their support.

We had a great soundtrack to the day including volunteer DJs from shmuFM, drumming workshops from the Guarana Street Drummers and the Aberdeen Concert Band. Loads of services came down to provide information to local people and there were representatives from the council on hand to discuss plans for the new community hub. For more information on the plans for the hub you can visit www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/council_government/shaping_aberdeen/shapingabdn_TillydroneCommunityHub.

A big thank you must go to Hayfield Riding Club for coming along with their ponies and providing free pony rides for the children. Beauty from Beauty and the Beast and Super Girl came along and posed for some pictures courtesy of Love Rara. People of all ages enjoyed meeting the owls from the Owl and the Pussycat Centre who travelled all the way from Peterhead to get involved with the gala.

Aberdeen Lads Club provided some lovely face paints and glitter tattoos which went down a storm and the Critter Keepers proved popular as well. The Lighthouse put on a really popular BBQ and City Church: St Machar gave out free cakes for those with a sweet tooth.

All in all the gala proved to be a fantastic day out for all the family and we'd like to thank those who provided a stall or a service on the day and those who came along to show their support. Roll on next year!

IMAGINEERS

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



TRANSFORMING THE INTERNET INTO A SAFE SPACE

Local charity Choices Aberdeen go online with their new counselling service

At Choices we are passionate about getting people talking about difficult issues, and helping them find closure and healing by giving them a safe space to open up and be listened to. This is the motivation behind our crisis pregnancy counselling service, which exists for women and couples facing an unexpected pregnancy. We offer, in the words of one of our past clients, 'a place where I could talk, cry and have space to just be.'

In a society where we increasingly live our lives online, we can benefit from the ability this gives us to communicate in new and creative ways. For a lot of people, online spaces are where they find their identity and feel most safe to talk about their problems. At Choices we always want to find new ways to reach out to people, and take full advantage of these changing attitudes. With this in mind, we have recently created an online counselling service. Accessed via a secure server, this allows clients to speak to find that 'space to just be' without ever having to leave the safety of their home. For those with busy parenting or work schedules, or who just don't feel ready for face-to-face counselling, this is an ideal option.

Whilst the internet is a valuable resource, we are also aware that, especially for young people, the internet can be an increasingly risky and frightening place. If you go to St Machar Academy you may have seen our youth team about in school, where you can recognise us by our purple hoodies. We run events to promote positive relationships, and put on workshops to get you all talking about resilience, peer pressure, exploitation and the role of social media in our relationships. The youth team keep up to date with developments in technology, and use our workshops and drop-ins to promote online safety and make young people aware of the risks out there.

To seek help, for more information, or to request a workshop or counselling session, call us on 01224 624900, or check out our website: www.choicesaberdeen.org.uk.



DONSID SPRING FAYRE

Karen Cargill

I awakened on Sunday morning and spring had arrived in Donside Village. Today was the 9th of April, the day of the spring fayre, not even 9am and everyone in the village was buzzing, the smell of home bakes and Sunday roasts filled the crisp spring air.

Some of the older teenagers, friends and fellow villagers gathered to help set up for the spring fayre. Bless, even the youngsters were helping too.

Stalls included face painting by Jade which was very busy along with Jane's home bakes filling the air while children queued for some of Jane's henna art, much loved at all the events. Kerry nervously set up her first Avon stall. Karen H made some of her amazing

home-made broaches, pictures and cards. She also set up a stall assigned as the 'Melting Post' and 'First Aid Point' which had a sponsor a tree fundraising drive - each tree could be sponsored for £5.

Nicola had a 'WOW' factor stall set up with the best candy I've ever seen. There was lots to go around! Kas' art stall had a bit of everything, including lots of upcycled stones, doorstops, pictures, mirrors and canned plants as well as collecting underwear for Tillydrone Vision to take over to Uganda.

There were many activities such as crafting tables, Easter egg hunt for the kids followed by the teenage treasure trail. Easter bonnets and Easter eggs were painted and the winners were

chosen by Rosie, a member of the village. Morven from shmu enjoyed his day, kicking back and fitting in perfectly, picking the winning raffle tickets at the end of the day.

Everyone was enjoying tea, cakes and home bakes whilst guessing the birthday of the bear, how many sweets were in the jar along with hourly doggie-do demonstrations.

Everybody helped out and the day came to a brilliant end with the grand opening of our village barn, built by us villagers. It was wrapped in red ribbon and we celebrated the opening with much happiness. We are excited for our summer fayre on August 12th. One thing's for sure we do have lots of community spirit going around here.



photos by Morven Bush

Donside Hydro Overview



Donside Hydro is a community built hydro scheme, on the river Don, adjacent to Donside Village in Tillydrone. It is Scotland's first urban community hydro scheme (most others are situated in isolated parts of the country).

The scheme has won a number of awards since operations began last September, including the best Community Project at the Scottish Green Energy awards, Best Newcomer at the ACVO awards and several awards at Aberdeen's own Ecocity awards.

Whilst the turbine is fully operational, and we have been producing electricity since 21st Sept 2016 and are meeting all projected targets, the landscaping is ongoing and there is still a bit of work to be done. Everything had to be put on 'pause' for the salmon migration and spawning season – we don't want to do anything to disturb our natural environment!

We have just finished planting over 500 trees on our newly created island and further landscaping will take place over the next year. This will include the building of a bridge across to the island, and ensuring that as much of the area as possible is wheelchair accessible. We are sorry for the temporary lack of

access, but the site will be open to all once we have completed our essential work.

Volunteers have been a critical part of this project – everyone involved is a volunteer, from the directors to the lovely folk who come along and give their precious time to help us reach our goals!

If you are interested in volunteering, please check out our Facebook site (Aberdeen Community Energy), where regular volunteer events are advertised. Current volunteers have said how much they have enjoyed being able to be a part of something so special and going away from the day feeling a huge sense of achievement and personal satisfaction.

Profits from the scheme will be given to the shareholders and bond holders, who have helped to finance the scheme, but a percentage of the profits will be returned to the community association, and this will be used to further develop the area and create a lovely public amenity for all who come to this part of the Don. However, this will not happen until the first full year of production at the earliest.

The Donside Village Community Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) is working

with the Scottish Government's Scottish Land Fund to purchase the land surrounding the Donside Hydro. The aim is deliver a park for locals and visitors of all ages to play, explore, recreate and educate. We are at stage 2 of our application and it is progressing well. However, the Scottish Land Fund are unable to fully finance any land purchases and can only give us 90% of the value of the land. We are currently fund raising at every opportunity to raise the necessary cash (e.g. all profits from our Spring Fayre has gone toward the land purchase, people from the village ran in the Baker Hughes 10k to raise money etc).

We are also seeking alternative ways of funding and have started to charge for seminars and tours, where it is reasonable to do so, whilst keeping in mind our desire to make the hydro as accessible as possible to all.

We won our bid in the recent Participatory Budgets (thanks so much to everyone who voted for this) and are now planning a lovely shelter and seating in the viewing area for the hydro – it's going to be special, and in keeping with the gorgeous riverside setting and the heritage of the site, with the old walls and mill history – watch this space!

Living streets

Living Streets Scotland are working with the Locality 3 team to look at Traffic Safety in Tillydrone with initial talks focusing in and around the Diamond Bridge and Hayton Road areas.

A public meeting was held on the 9th May at Tillydrone Community Centre where discussions were had with local people to begin addressing traffic congestion, pollution, speeding, tailgating, driver behaviour, cycling and signposting.

The lead community organisation to take the initiative forward has been tentatively agreed as Tillydrone Community Council where the findings from the event will be presented. An initial report will be made up by Living Streets for this purpose with a view to further community engagement and potential audits to take place.

Some immediate actions have already been taken with a request and agreement with the CCTV unit to adjust the camera positioning to observe the Lollipop lady who has been receiving abuse from drivers and individuals. The Locality 3 team will also increase contact with the Lollipop lady and investigate further internal supports.

Police Scotland involvement will also be looking at speed restrictions. For further information contact grdonald@aberdeencity.gov.uk or hcattanach@aberdeencity.gov.uk

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

The Tesco Bank Summer Reading Challenge Scotland takes place in Aberdeen City Libraries again this year with the exciting theme of Animal Agents.

Animal Agents is a detective agency with a difference - animal characters solve a series of cases with a little help from their friends. The Challenge runs from Friday 30 June until Saturday 26 August and encourages children to read or share up to six books from their local library over the summer holidays.

Any library book can be read - from picture books to talking books and when children complete 2, 4 and 6 books they receive stickers and rewards. By reading books and collecting stickers, children will help the Animal Agents find out what's really been going on behind the scenes and who is to blame! Animal Agents is a must for all eagle-eyed youngsters and will test their skills and ingenuity along the way.

For more fun and activities, check out the Summer Reading Challenge website www.animal-agents.org.uk

where children can also create a personal reading profile and add books they've read to the Book Sorter.

Fun, free events take place in libraries throughout the holidays for children taking part in the Challenge.

Bookbug Story, Song and Rhyme Sessions

Tillydrone Library
Tuesday 25 July
10.30 – 11.00am

Summer Reading Challenge Events:

Animal Agents

Tillydrone Library
Tuesday 11 July
2.00 – 3.00pm

Booking essential

Contact details

Tillydrone Library
T: 01224 276975
E: TillydroneLibrary@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Or visit the website www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/Library

What's in a name

The Tilly Tattle's very own historian, Margaret Mead aims to bring our readers a touch of local history. All the streets in Tillydrone have been named after people and Margaret will be bringing you the stories behind these characters.

Ritchie Place

Sir Neil Methuen Ritchie GBE, KCB, DSO, MC, K St J.

Born in British Guiana now Guyana on 29th July 1897. His first regiment was Black Watch then he commanded the 2nd Bat Kings Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster). Then 51st Highland Infantry Division, Eight Army 52nd Infantry Division, XII Corps, Scottish Command; Far East Land Forces and he served in both wars.

Later in the Battle of Normandy he received many medals for his campaigns, even from France, Poland and the USA. Once in Civvy Street he worked as a chairman for an insurance company. Colonel of the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) between 1950 and 1952. He died in Canada in 1983, December the 11th.

Rear-Admiral George Stephen Ritchie CB DSO

He was born 30th of October 1914 and died 8th May 2012. He was a former British Admiral, noted for his cartographic and hydrographic work. His parents were Sir Douglas Ritchie and Lady Margaret Stephen Ritchie. Educated at Royal Naval College Dartmouth from the age of 13 years, he then went to sea at 17 years old.

In 1936, aged 22, he joined the Surveying Service and was appointed to the old cola burning ship, H.M.S Herland, operating in the South China Sea. During the Second World War Lieutenant Ritchie was awarded the DSCO for bravery behind enemy lines, surveying the beaches. He continued in this area of the navy, commanding four ships during that time which were

H.M.S Challenger in the Northern Atlantic area, H.M.S Dalrymte in the Persian Gulf, H.M.S Vidal in the West Indies and H.M.M.Z.S Lachlan in the Pacific Ocean. In 1951, he was involved in recording the deepest part of the Atlantic Ocean by echo sounding with the H.M.S Challenger. The depth was 5, 960 fathoms or 10,900 or 35, 761ft. In 1955, he was made Rear Admiral and appointed to Hydrographer of the navy in the RN Survey Squadron. For 18 months he was Senior Research Fellow at Southampton University.

In 1967 he received the Companion of Bath. Admiral Ritchie received the Founders Medal of the Royal Geographical Society and the gold medal of the Royal Institute of Navigation. He received many accolades.

Aged 16-19? Passionate about film? Want to work in the film industry?

Applications are open for the fourth Aberdeen BFI Film Academy course, which runs from September 2017 until February 2018. Funded by the BFI and working in partnership with North East Scotland College and the Belmont Filmhouse, the prestigious course will include masterclasses from a range of professionals, culminating in the production of two short films. Participants are expected to commit to weekly sessions and occasional training and filming over weekends.

As a student of the Aberdeen BFI Film Academy you will;

Explore your own creativity and passions in a supportive and dynamic environment

Watch a range of cinema from British Independent to specialised films

Gain invaluable experience working alongside industry professionals who are respected practitioners in their field

Get hands-on filmmaking experience which will help you to develop practical knowledge and skills

Work on the production of a short film

Once you have completed the course, you will become part of the growing BFI Film Academy alumni network with access to events such as BAFTA career talks. You can also apply for one of BFI's seven intensive residential programmes taking place throughout the UK.

How to take part
If you are interested in finding out more about the course please contact us directly for more information.

Email - bfi@shmu.org.uk
or phone the office on 01224 515013
if you'd like to apply, then download the application form below and follow the instructions.

The closing date for applications is Friday 1st September 2017.

We really look forward to hearing from you.



CITY CHURCH ST MACHAR

For all sorts of very good reasons, church services don't always appeal to everyone. Café Church St Machar is a new service from City Church St Machar which provides a place where people can come and chat over tea, coffee and pastries and have access to church, community and company in a really relaxed and informal way.

There's access to all the things that you'd have access to in a standard church service, including the talk which is played via television, but guests can choose the level of participation that they are comfortable with; often people come simply to chat with someone who cares.

As part of the service, we provide food-parcels to anyone who needs them through our food-bank 'Storehouse' and the team are equipped to signpost people onto to extra help when it's needed.

The Café Church St Machar service has been running for a few months now and the feedback from those that come along has been really positive. Guests have told us that they value the space and time to chat and to be involved in community as well as the free tea, coffee and pastries of course!

If you've never been before, we'd love to have you come along. Everyone is welcome, our team are some of the most friendly, welcoming and non-judgemental

people you're likely to meet of course, it's all free!

Café Church St Machar is open from 11.00am to 12.30pm on Sundays at St Machar Academy on St Machar Drive.

City Church St Machar Holiday Club

Twice a year in the Easter and October Holidays City Church St Machar run M.A.D. (Making a Difference) holiday clubs – this Easter was no different as we filled a school hall with props, people, bucket loads of gunge and ran a Spy S'Cool Holiday Club. On the 3rd April, the kids arrived at Holiday Club for Day 1 and came charging into the room ready and raring to go for their week ahead. I don't know what you were doing on Monday 3rd April at 10am, but let me tell you – St Machar Academy (where the holiday club was taking place) was the place to be! The room where P1-7 kids were was absolutely bursting with energy, hilarity and life. Down the corridor to that was the Holiday Club Café where parents, carers and toddlers were eating large amounts of yummy homemade cakes, chatting, crafting and even (for the little ones) playing in the ball pit or on the bouncy castle!

Every day in the holiday club we ran a panto which involved a school kitchen, and undercover spy and an evil mastermind who was trying to destroy the world

with lava! The kids took part in spy games and challenges in attempt to stop the baddie and save the world... You will be glad to hear that by the end of the week the kids and the undercover Dinner Manny Danny did in fact save the day, the world, and even be-friend-ed the 'evil' Dr Freeze who as it turns out, was just a little lonely and taking his sadness out on everyone else! As well as all this each day, the kids were hearing stories from the bible about other little kids who made a big difference in their world. The kids got a chance to hear about the God who knows them, loves them and can use them to make the world better. It was a really special week, not only did the kids 'save the world' in the panto but we believe that the kids will go onto change the world! It was a remarkable group of children who were hilarious, fun, kind and compassionate –an absolute credit to their parents. The parents who we met in the café were also wonderful. If you didn't manage to get along to the café this year we'd love to see you there and meet you next time! ... That's right folks, there will be a next time. We will be running another M.A.D. Holiday Club in the October Holidays, with a jam-packed programme for kids in P1-7 and a Café for parents, carers and toddlers to hang out in. We'd love to see you there!!

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 0345 337 9900

and Care Village

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

Tillydrone Community Flat 01224 486641

Riverbank Primary School 01224 483217

St Machar Academy 01224 492855

St Machar Parent Support Project 01224 487813

Aberdeen Lads Club 01224 492672

St Machar Credit Union 01224 276994

Community Information for Tillydrone

Tillydrone Community Council

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month at Tillydrone Community Centre at 6:30pm

Contact: lynniecee@msn.com

Aberdeen Lads Club

9:45am – 8pm

Contact: 01224 492672

Tillydrone Community Centre

Contact: 01224 493388

Tillydrone Community Flat

9:30am – 3:30pm

Contact: 01224 486641

Tillydrone Library

10am – 5pm

Contact: 01224 276975

New Councillors in Tillydrone

On May 4th 2017 three councillors were elected to represent the Seaton, Tillydrone and Old Aberdeen areas. Councillor Ross Grant and Councillor Jim Noble were both re-elected to represent the community and Alexander McLellan was elected to represent the areas for the first time.

Remember, even if these individuals were not your first choice, they have been elected to represent you and support you with any issues in the area.

You can get in touch with them in the following ways:

Ross Grant - 01224 346621 or 07738688458 or email rossgrant@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Alexander McLellan - 01224 346633 or email amclellan@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Jim Noble - 01224 522051 or 07748760557 or email jimnoble@aberdeencity.gov.uk