

torry's vision

Summer 2014

East Tullos Burn
Torry Transformations
A Creative Lift
Torry Community Council Update



Features

VICTORIA ROAD SCHOOL

BATTLE TO SAVE OUR GRANITE HERITAGE

YES OR NO?

YOUR VIEWS ON THE REFERENDUM

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Goodbye Mary Clare,
I wish you well in what you do.
The pleasure's all mine,
I'm sure that's true.
So it's goodbye from all the gang,
Best wishes from Torry's Vision.



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Editorial

Welcome to your Summer Edition of Torry's Vision.

In this issue we have articles covering Victoria Road School, the independence referendum and the East Tullos Burn restoration.

Mary Clare, unfortunately, has moved on from SHMU. We would like to wish her all the best with her new job and welcome Laura, who will be taking over the role.

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 is 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 Torry.

If you live in the Torry area and would like to come along to the editorial meetings or submit an article then get in touch with **Laura** at SHMU on **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.

The meeting dates for the next edition are:

22nd of July, 5th of August, 19th of August, 26th of August, 9th of September.

Delivery will be mid September.

All these meetings will take place at 12:30pm at Old Torry Community Centre

Cover image - Norman Glen



Supported by



What's on at Balnagask Community Centre?

Balnagask Community Centre has a variety of clubs catering for all ages.

Our kid's clubs are for suitable for babies right up to s4 pupils. There are junior clubs for all children up to primary seven pupils which on a Tuesday and Friday from 6pm – 7.15pm. The primary one to seven active club is on a Monday from 6pm – 7.15pm, where we play games and have fun keeping fit.

There is also a primary kids' club on a Thursday from 6pm – 7.15pm. We also have a carer/preschool playgroup on a Thursday morning from 9.30am – 11.30am and a crèche on a Monday morning from 9.30am – 11.30am (this has to be booked). All are welcome, though children under the age of five must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Our senior kids' club is for primary seven to fourth year pupils and runs on a Tuesday from 7.30pm – 9pm. It gives children the chance to play pool, have a bounce on the bouncy castle or hang out with their mates. These clubs are only available during term time. We also hold end of school term discos for primary school aged children.

We run a play scheme during the school holidays at Easter, for four weeks during the summer and in October. These are aimed at children between nought and eleven. We have great fun! We do craft, play games, jump on the bouncy castle, and go on trips and lots more. The play scheme admits the first 50 children who register and we have hot snacks reasonably priced lunches. During the Easter play scheme we were visited by the Aberdeen Football Club mascot Angus the Bull - the children had great fun and so did Angus!



We hold a keep fit session for over 50's on a Tuesday morning from 10am. We have adult bingo on a Wednesday evening from 7.30pm – 9.30pm.

Our charity events are great fun. Over the past year we have held family prize bingo to raise funds for Christmas gifts for the residents of the local nursing homes and the Gene Machine. We also held a ladies night to raise funds for the cancer ward at Aberdeen Children's Hospital, we had a great time. Please look out for our future events, we have fun and they are a fantastic night out!

In September as part of Aberdeen City Council over 50s festival we are holding a whole week of activities and fun for the over 50's including an afternoon of fun and dancing with Country Editions. Look out for more details to come.

Our centre can be booked for children parties on a Saturday or a Sunday, from 10.30am – 12.30pm; 1pm – 3pm or 3.30pm – 5.30pm. This includes our bouncy castle.

These are just a few events and clubs that go on at our centre. We hope to see you there as there is something to do for all the family. For more information please call **871206** or drop in and see us.

New Groups at Old Torry Community Centre coming soon

One is a parent/toddler group and the other is a yoga group. We are looking forward to having these groups. We are keeping the centre open over the summer holidays, still keeping the groups that are using the centre.

The art group meets on a Monday morning (with tutor, Graeme), followed by bingo with Elaine on a Monday evening. On Tuesdays the messy play group are in the centre with Carol and then on Wednesday evenings Penni holds the Yak'n'Mak group.

The line dancing group meets on a Thursday night with Agnes and the Torry Heritage Group are in the centre every second Friday with David, from 1pm. If there is any information you require please contact Old Torry Community Centre on 01224 894925.

Library News

Bookbug Story & Rhyme sessions at Torry Library

Thursday 24th July
10.30 – 11.00am

Thursday 7th August
10.30 – 11.00am

Summer Reading Challenge – Mythical Mayhem event at Torry Library

Tuesday 15th July
2.30 – 4.00pm

For more information contact Torry Library on **01224 879037**.



all change

at the East Tullos burn



*THE TULLOS VALE -
ALAN REID*

*IT IS MY OPINION THAT
THE TULLOS VALE WAS
SHAPED BY THE ICE AGE
10, 000 YEARS AGO.*

*THE VALE TODAY LIES
BETWEEN THE TORRY
HILL AND THE LOWER
PART OF THE GRAMPIAN
MOUNTAIN CALLED
THE GRAMPS.*

*TODAY THE AREA IS
BEING RENOVATED WITH
WALKWAYS, BENCHES,
TREES, FLOWERS AND
MOST OF ALL THE BURN IS
BEING CLEANED.*



All change on the East Tullos Burn
The East Tullos Burn in St Fittick's
Park in Torry has had a major
facelift, thanks to a funding package
from several organisations.

In 2012, Aberdeen City Council
asked contractors to see if the burn
could be restored to a more natural
state, improving the way the park
looked, enhancing biodiversity and
potentially reducing pollution in
the burn. After consultation with
the local community, a design was
produced which incorporated a new,
wiggly course for the burn as well
as the creation of wetland and pond
areas, with extensive planting of
wetland plants and trees.

Once all the funding was in place,
work could start on the ground
and the first turf was cut on the
site in March 2014 by Councillor
Cooney. Throughout March and
April, the site was fenced off whilst
heavy machines created the new
meandering course for the burn and
the wetland and pond areas. Once
those areas had been excavated,
work began on rebuilding and
improving the paths through the
site. As the site is a wetland and will
flood regularly, a special causeway
path was installed which will allow
people to walk through the site

without getting wet feet. A new bridge
over the burn was also put in, so that
people can still get to the football
pitch on the far side of the park.

When the construction work was
completed, the site was replanted
with a mix of wetland plants
and seeds, to make the area as
attractive as possible. Over 150,000
plants were added to the site, all
of which were grown from Scottish
seed. A mix of species was used,
including Yellow Iris, Ragged
Robin, Purple Loosestrife and
Meadowsweet. All of these plants
should help to bring more wildlife to
the site, including insects and birds.
All of the excavation work and most
of the re-planting was completed
on the site by the beginning of May
and the site reopened to the public.
It will take a few months for all the
plants and seed to start growing, so
there will be some bare soil visible
for a while. Once the plants are
established and the burn settles into
its new course, the site should look
spectacular and will provide a place
that can be enjoyed by both people
and wildlife.

You can read more about the project
and see photos of the construction
work by visiting www.walking-the-talk.co.uk/etb.

Hello from Your Woodlands Community Ranger!

Stephen Bly brings us an update on the countryside ranger service in Torry.

Hope you are enjoying your summer and winter seems a distant memory. I have still been out and about over the winter working in Tullos and in Torry.

The Tullos Volunteer Ranger Team has been abroad, all over Aberdeen, working on tree maintenance in the Granite City Forest as well as signing off various Early Years Project outstanding since the my time with the Unpaid Work Team. Work has been as far north as Bridge of Don (Westfield Park) to Seaton (Lord Hays Court) to Kincorth (Abbotswells) and Torry (St Fittick's Park).

The biggest project for us on Tullos Hill was taken on by Volunteer Ranger Danai as part of her CV development. In an area of low biodiversity which was also causing significant access issues, Danai designed a pond in line with best practise. She then decided where it would go and drove the project forward managing time, resources and the team (including me!) to deliver a quality product for future generations which has resolved drainage and access issues in that area. This was a complex project delivered

in seriously challenging winter weather on a challenging worksite. A great achievement indeed!

I am pleased to say there have been a few more walking groups from outside of Torry coming onsite to explore the archaeological and natural history of the site, not to mention the astounding views from Tullos. In addition to this, the outdoor learning space has welcomed groups from shmuTRAIN for a few forest based activities. It never ceases to amaze me what the youth of today can do given a little support and freedom to challenge themselves and develop!



I am afraid to say that the issue of illegal, untaxed, uninsured biking is rearing its head again on Tullos Hill. As much as it is seen by some to be an acceptable form of fun, not only is it a criminal offence,

but it is intimidating to others (speaking from experience with a guided walk group). We are working in partnership with SITA and the Police to monitor and report all illegal bike/quad activity over the coming summer months.

On a more positive note, a huge thank you to Aberdeen Greenspace who are working on other projects within Torry but have still found the time to help us with detubing at St Fittick's park. Also, a huge thank you to Peter and the Unpaid Work Team who have installed timber steps and staggered stone steps in addition to the timber edging at Greenwell Place; an amazing piece of work which has been key to developing the outdoor learning space for many groups, and hopefully many more to come. Without your efforts, none of this would have been possible.

If you would like to book any activities with myself in Tullos or where you are based please feel free to do so on 01224 897 400. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Stephen



by Soozy Lai

TORRY

TRANSFORMATIONS

Parks in Torry receive some much needed TLC

Shell has generously provided funding to the Aberdeen Play Forum for Community Play Development in Torry. One wet and blustery day in October, a walk about the eight play spaces of Torry was arranged with Hazel & Rosie from Balnagask Community Centre and representatives from Aberdeen City Council's Children's Play Area Team, Aberdeen Greenspace and the Aberdeen Play Forum. It was decided that six parks needed some TLC, with a park on Girdleness Road looking particularly under the weather. The group then set about forming a plan of action.

The team put together a successful funding bid to Aberdeen International Airport and Aberdeen City Council also agreed to inject money into the Torry Play Space Project.

Aberdeen City Council wanted to carry out work on Girdleness

Road Park in time for the summer holidays. Work will include replacement of the tarmac with grass and safety surfacing, incorporation of natural and recycled play features such as logs, sand and tyres, repair/ replacement of existing play equipment, including a new climbing feature.

Aberdeen Greenspace is a key partner in this project and has already carried out path work at the Balnagask Circle play space, in addition to providing funding for two benches to be installed here. Aberdeen Greenspace also funded the installation of two benches and a picnic table at the North Grampian Circle play space.

Volunteers at Balnagask Community Centre and staff at Action for Children and Beech House Nursery attended basic outdoor training. Children at Balnagask Community Centre's

mother and toddler session and Beech House Nursery enjoyed Loose Parts Play.

Assembly talks were delivered in Tullos and Walker Road Primaries on the importance of outdoor play, the hazards of dog's dirt and how to be a responsible dog owner. With the help of six pupils from Walker Road Primary, 'Clean it Up' stencils were spray-painted at entrances to the school.

Thank You for Your Support Support from Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen Greenspace and community volunteers has been and continues to be substantive. We're really excited about the work dues to take place over the summer so watch this space! For more information please contact Soozy on soozy.lai@aberlour.org.uk or 07854958107.

Torry Learning Partnership

What's it all about?

Torry Learning Partnership is improving services for the local community by ensuring partners know the area better and deliver services together more effectively. Aberdeen Community Planning Partnership set up learning partnerships to ensure partnership arrangements for planning; monitoring and evaluation of 'Community Learning and Development' were in place, effective and delivering. We define 'Community Learning and Development' as empowering people, individually and collectively, to make positive changes in their lives and in their communities through learning.

The Learning Partnership includes a wide range of services and representatives of the local community.

Our aim is to profile and identify existing provision which helps to determine any local gaps. Then help shape new initiatives which encourage partnership working and co-ordination of provision in the area. Finally, we monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of these initiatives along with participants and the local community.

Three projects have recently been funded by the Learning Partnership with the theme of promoting health, fitness and wellbeing in the area. These projects will involve a wide range of group, individual and class provision around sport, fitness and coaching for a range of ages.

Other priority areas the partnership is focusing on is

analysis of the needs of young people in the area including better ways of promoting what is currently available. We hope to involve local pupils in the development and implementation of this piece of work.

The group will also help shape an 'early intervention drugs initiative' which is being developed through partnership with drugs agencies in the city.

If you or your organisation would like to find out more about the work of the Partnership, input ideas or take part in the group, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Anne-Marie Steehouder (Capacity Building Officer – South)
 asteehouder@gmail.com
 01224 878927/ 07917305827

Tea Break Reading - 30 Second Tip Bits

Written by Mandy, "The Quine fae Torry"

Do you have a wee bottle of Vodka in your pantry A wee drop of vodka in shampoo can strengthen your hair, prevent dryness and stop dandruff and if you want to reduce acne breakouts and tighten those pores, then rub a wee dab of vodka onto a cotton pad then on to your face.

Phew! Smelly bucket? Put an old newspaper at the bottom of your bin, as this will absorb any food juices and make for a cleaner disposal.

Arriving home late and don't know what to cook from those ingredients that are left in the fridge? Why not go online www.supercook.com

which will take all the ingredients you have at home and tell you what meals you can make with what you have.

New parent? Sleep with their baby blanket for one night and it will have your smell on it, which will comfort them during their nap time. Sore muscles after a wee run or fitba and you don't have an ice pack within your medicine cabinet? Why not place a frozen saturated sponge in a bag - you have a great and cheap icepack but it won't drip all over the place when its melts.

Love pizza but can't afford it at the end of the month? Why not combine a cup of self-raising flour

with ½ cup of yogurt to make the pizza base in 30 seconds then roll it to the size you want.

Fancy a pancake but don't want the mess or the extra washing up? A wee handy hint - clean out a finished ketchup bottle and pour in the pancake batter, thus squeezing out the perfectly round and no mess pancakes!

When transferring plants, place coffee filters around the bottom to stop the soil from falling through the drainage hole.

Yes or no?

On September the 18th 2014 Scottish citizens will be asked to decide whether or not Scotland should be an independent country. We caught up with representatives from Better Together and Yes Aberdeen to find out why they are supporting each campaign. Don't forget to register to vote before the 2nd of September by visiting www.aboutmyvote.co.uk.

Yes?

In your view, what will happen to pensions?

The UK Pensions Service has confirmed "if Scotland does become Independent, there will be no effect on State Pension - you'll continue to receive it just as you do now."

What will happen to our passports?

The Scottish Government confirms you can continue to use existing passports after independence until it expires. Dual nationality will also be offered along with new Scottish passports.

How would independence impact on our EU membership?

Professor Charlie Jeffrey of the University of Edinburgh has said, the prospect of Scotland's uninterrupted membership of the European Union is supported by "almost all independent expert analysis".

Will we keep the pound?

Scotland can't be stopped from using the pound but the Scottish Government will negotiate a formal currency union with agreements on financial regulation and oversight.

What happens to Scotland's share of the national debt?

The UK Treasury accepts responsibility for UK debt. The Scottish Government will

negotiate a fair and reasonable share of that debt, alongside a share of UK assets.

What would happen to the NHS in an independent Scotland?

Because we've been able to make our own decisions about the NHS, we've been able to protect against privatisation down south. This shows that making decisions ourselves works!

How would independence impact on the country's defence?

Scotland pays £3bn into the defence pot and only receives £2bn back. We would invest better and move away from Trident and illegal wars.

What kind of policy would an independent Scotland have on immigration?

After independence, decisions about immigration will be made by the Scottish Government and Parliament in the interests of Scotland's people, creating jobs and growing the economy.

If Scotland vote no would there be more devolved powers to the Scottish Parliament?

A no vote won't deliver significant powers to improve lives. Suggested new powers are minimal and not the powers that we need, like taxation and welfare.

What would independence mean for education?

This sector shows how making our own decisions works - rejecting Tory reforms and reintroducing free access to education. Full powers will ensure that we protect cuts on services.

"Yes is a vote for a government that the people of Scotland have chosen, whilst pursuing policies the people of Scotland support thus bestowing the Scottish people with a greater opportunity for change."

M (Torry)

"I was going to vote No but once I saw how well UKIP did I am voting Yes as I dont want our country run by UKIP!"

Carmen (Tillydrone)



Better together?

In your view, what will happen to pensions?

With a faster ageing population here in Scotland, the best way of ensuring Scotland's pensioners are supported is to pool resources across the entire UK.

What will happen to our passports?

British citizens living outside the UK can pass their nationality on to their children, but not to subsequent generations. Therefore, grandchildren of British citizens living in Scotland would not have British citizenship.

How would independence impact on our EU membership?

Scotland would have to re-apply to the EU. Our membership isn't guaranteed and the terms we get from the EU would not be as favourable.

Will we keep the pound?

Leaving the UK means leaving the UK Pound. Because it isn't in Scotland's interests, the main UK parties have ruled out a Eurozone-style currency union.

What happens to Scotland's share of the national debt?

The debt Scotland takes on is subject to negotiation with the UK

government post-separation. The SNP's threat to renege on this debt is hugely irresponsible.

What would happen to the NHS in an independent Scotland?

The NHS is safer in the UK. Independent experts have shown big cuts in public services or tax rises would be needed if we separate.

How would independence impact on the country's defence?

Every penny of the UK's £34 billion defence budget benefits Scots. This is more than 14 times the SNP's proposed budget if we separate.

What kind of policy would an independent Scotland have on immigration?

That is for the party in power to decide. Impartial experts say that 1 million immigrants would be needed to balance the books if separate.

If Scotland vote no would there be more devolved powers to the Scottish Parliament?

Yes it's guaranteed. More powers are already being delivered through the 2012 Scotland Act and all of the pro-UK parties have

promised additional further powers.

What would independence mean for education?

Education is a devolved matter but Scotland's universities face losing vital research funding which they benefit disproportionately from as part of the UK.

"Remaining in the UK keeps Scotland in one of the strongest world economies, a stable future and best protects the human rights of its citizens."

Ruari (Torry)

"I will be voting no in the referendum as Scotland isn't strong enough to stand on its own feet & our share of the national debt will floor us completely!"

Aberdeen resident

bettertogether 
A stronger Scotland, a United Kingdom

The don't knows...

"Not sure how I'm voting, there's a lot of doubt on either side. I feel a yes vote may be the way to go if only to rock the boat."

Joe Sutherland (Aberdeen) -



a creative lift

A new arts and wellbeing project comes to Torry

The Creative Learning Team's forthcoming project, funded by the Fairer Aberdeen Fund, will take place in Torry, Woodside, Seaton, Middlefield, Northfield, Tillydrone, Cummings Park and the city centre.

The project will focus on the many benefits of taking part in arts, culture and creativity. We will be delivering weekly workshops from September 2014 – February 2015, which will be creatively influenced by "The Five ways to Wellbeing" which include connecting, being active, taking notice, continued learning and giving.

Over the summer there will be family events, where we will be linking with other cultural and learning providers to explore the opportunities within the city that can encourage families to continue to be creative together. We are currently developing this programme, if you are interested in receiving information on this and would like to be added to our mailing list please get in touch by email - creativelearningteam@aberdeencity.gov.uk or call 01224 814740

The Creative Learning Team is part of Aberdeen City Council, Education, Culture and Sport. The team works to improve outcomes for individuals and communities through the arts, culture and creativity.



Councillors Comments

Councillor Yvonne Allan

Hi Folks,

The year is marching on and here we are in summer already. I really hope it is a good one for you all and the sun does shine. I'm sure the kids will enjoy all the summer activities that will be going on over the summer holidays.

One of the major issues concerning the people in the Torry area is family housing and I am working hard with officers to try and do something about the lack of these types of houses in Torry. We need good social family housing and I am doing my best to progress this. We will see new housing in the old prison site but there is still some time for this to happen and they will in the main be private housing. There is also the Oscar Road site and the

ongoing efforts to secure some social housing on that site.

Our swimming pool is back in action and it has been disappointing that it had to close for a time. Unfortunately teething problems with the tiles had to be fixed but hopefully that is all the teething problems fixed. The kids and adults alike should enjoy a good summer programme at the pool so look out for the time table.

You may have head that the Council's property committee has put the Victoria Road School site back on the market. Unfortunately the submission from the community council did not quite stack up. It was planned for private flats and private work spaces which were all to be done by a private developer.

This however does not stop the new Torry Development Trust learning from the 1st submission and putting in another offer now that the site is back on the market.

The site at the corner of Grey Hope Road and St Fittick's road is soon to be tidied up. The Harbour Board are looking to construct a new building there and also some environmental improvements so hopefully it will be pleasing to the eye. Also the Old Torry Community Centre are doing improvements to the outdoor sports centre. This will be a good facility for the area and hopefully up and running in the summer.

Enjoy the summer
Yvonne Allan

Torry Heritage Group Update *by David and Alan*



We are a group who care passionately about Torry's history and heritage and meet every second Friday afternoon at the Old Torry Community Centre from 1-3pm. We have

developed our own website (www.torryheritage.org.uk) to record and maintain the photos and stories about Torry and we also have a very active Facebook page with over 1330 followers from around the world.

We now have a good working relationship with the historians who work for the City Council and plan to discuss with them how their archives can be accessed to link to Torry's own heritage. We have been interviewed by film makers who are making a

programme for the BBC about Old Torry before the days of North Sea Oil. Their documentary is due to be shown when the Commonwealth Games takes places, so this will be a great addition to the work of the Torry Heritage Group.

You are all welcome to join in. Follow Old Torry Community Centre on Facebook for updates on our activities, and join our Facebook page too to share memories, photos and stories.

An update from Torry Community Council

BY DAVID FRYER

We caught up with Torry Community Council to find out about about the issues affecting Torry.

Torry's Community Council meets at 7pm every month on the third Thursday, usually at Torry Academy.

The prison site

We have sought to maintain an on-going dialogue with the design agents appointed by the Scottish Prison Service to prepare the brief for this site. The Community Council have written to the Director responsible to try to get answers to the many concerns that local folk have raised with us.

East Tullos Burn

We are pleased to see the completion of the new wetlands area at St. Fittick's Community Park, making it a safer and greener place for everyone, and we believe that once the plants have become established, the area will be a great habitat for birds and wildlife.

Local Play Spaces

We are pleased to report that

developments to restore and upgrade local playgrounds in Torry are soon to be underway. These projects have involved local folk and will lead to better and safer facilities for our children

Torry Academy

We maintain close links with the local Parent Councils and share their concerns. The June meeting will be addressing this matter as a priority.

Overcrowding in our primary schools.

The issue of overcrowding in our primary schools has been raised with the Community Council and we will be making our response to a consultation exercise about re-zoning the catchments of the two schools.

The future of Victoria Road School

The Community Council proposed

a case for the conversion of the old school buildings. However, the City Council dismissed our case and is now selling the site. The Community Council is doing everything it can to save these buildings and bring them back into use.

Torry Development Trust

To help promote the needs and interests of Torry, the Community Council has supported a proposal for setting up a Development Trust. This will be an organisation made up of local folk that will be accountable to the community of Torry. Six founding members were identified and they have now taken the steps to legally create the Torry Development Trust.

You can email: secretarytorrycommunitycouncil@gmail.com with your views.

Update from the Torry Outdoor Sports Centre by Fay Morrison

The Torry Outdoor Sports Centre is set to reopen this summer. Our aim is to attract as many people as possible to use the Torry Outdoor Centre. There will be activities such as tennis, basketball, football and crazy golf. The activities will be of low cost and equipment will be supplied. There will also be a competition in the near future for local children to design parts of the crazy golf course.

This project is open to everyone and hopefully The Outdoor Sports Centre will be used to its full potential. It has been underused for some time and is, therefore, in need of some TLC. With the funding from the Fairer Aberdeen

Fund we are now in a position to partly repair some of the pavilion. We also had funding from Learning Partnership and Torry Community Council for equipment. This support has been very useful and we are hoping to attract more. In August 2013 we received funding from K P Hydraulics, a local company, to buy equipment. If anyone is interested in giving up some of their time, donations and giving prizes for raffles we would be much obliged.

We are aiming to have a Fun Day on the 10th of August 2014 to officially open the Torry Outdoor Sports Centre. This is only a provisional date as we are still

looking for people to help out with the organising and running of the event so look for more information once it has been finalised.

For more information please contact Old Torry Community Centre on 01224 89-49-25.



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS, WHEN IT COMES TO ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

As summertime arrives and weather gets that wee bit warmer, certain behaviours increase. So what do you do and what are your rights when it comes to antisocial behaviour?

Antisocial behaviour is a manner that causes or is likely to cause alarm or distress e.g. noisy neighbours, alcohol related disorder, drug dealing/misuse, violent crime, road safety and graffiti. Antisocial behaviour is not to be tolerated as residents have a right to live peacefully in a safe and secure environment. Citizens of Aberdeen have the responsibility to treat their neighbours and others in the wider community with respect and have a responsibility to report any associated antisocial behaviour so that it can be stopped.

So with this in mind, who can help?

If you rent your accommodation - you should report any issues with neighbours to your landlord, whom will advise you on the steps that can be taken to stop the problem;

If you are a council tenant - contact your local housing office or; If you own your own property contact Aberdeen City Council's Antisocial Behaviour Investigation Team. They investigate antisocial behaviour complaints giving residents affected by antisocial behaviour help/support ensuring that appropriate action is taken quickly as well as providing support in dealing with antisocial behaviour quickly ensuring that effective solutions are delivered;

In case of antisocial behaviour not related to housing or which you consider to be serious should be

reported to Police Scotland. In an emergency always dial 999 but for non-urgent crime, contact your local police office by telephoning 101.

Each case will be considered individually and in most cases, can be resolved through discussion. SACRO - Aberdeen Community Mediation Service operate an independent mediation service which resolves disputes and helps those involved reach an agreement which everyone can live with. When voluntary solutions are not effective or appropriate then enforcement action can be taken. The type of enforcement action depends on the circumstances. The Scottish Parliament have introduced the Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004 allowing agencies to stand up to the minority whose behaviour causes serious nuisance in communities and further supporting private sector landlords on dealing with antisocial behaviour happening in and around the properties that they rent.

Don't suffer in silence, the only way to tackle antisocial behaviour is to speak to your landlord, your local housing office or Aberdeen City Council's ASBIT about it and how it is affecting your quality of life! But remember think carefully about noise within your own home and make sure that your neighbours aren't being disturbed by your excessive noise!

For more information about Aberdeen City Council's service you can contact:

Phone: 01224 219450 / 0845 606 6548 Email: ASBIT@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Mandy Roy

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Castlehill Housing Association:
01224 625 822

Grampian Housing Association:
01224 202 900

Langstane Housing Association:
01224 42300

*Tenants 1st Housing
Co-operative:* **01224 628 400**

Grampian Police Service Centre:
0845 600 5 700

Victim Support:
01224 622 478

*Aberdeen Community
Mediation Service:*
01224 560 570

Crimestoppers:
0800 555 111

*Aberdeen City Council
Local Housing Offices:*

Marischal College:
01224 523 753
01224 522 031
01224 522 029

*Antisocial Behaviour
Investigation Team:*

*Housing and Environment,
Aberdeen City Council,
Community Safety Hub, 1st Floor,
Frederick Street Centre,
Frederick Street, Aberdeen,
AB24 5HY.*

**Phone: 01224 219450 /
0845 606 6548**

**Email: ASBIT@aberdeencity.
gov.uk**

GOODBYE MARY CLARE

Over the past four years I have worked with the Torry's Vision team, and it has been an utter privilege working with such a passionate group of people. Everyone who is involved in the editorial process is extremely dedicated to producing a magazine that their community can be proud of, and I feel very privileged to have been involved in it. I wish the editorial team every success with future issues, as I have no doubt that their magazines will continue to thrive. (I will, however, be checking the magazines online during my lunch break!)

All the best for the future guys,
Mary Clare



TEAM BUILDING DAYS AT SHMU

Newbies took over the shmu studio in March as shmu launched its first teambuilding day experience. A group of employees from Aberdeen Asset Management were set the challenge of researching, programming content and presenting a live show in only one day.

The day began at the Tillydrone Youth Project (TYP) where the team were introduced to the shmu team who guided them through the teambuilding day and gave the team a crash course in community radio, show topic discussion, show style, research, legal requirements and role distribution.

After a spot of lunch, the radio rookies were transported back to shmuHQ and split into two groups. Group one were the editorial team, consisting of anchor presenter, two news/support presenters and a show producer.

Group two head up the features team, two members who devised a short feature piece on the topic for broadcast during the show. On top of all that, Team one received technical training, draft running orders, scripts and intros and outros as well as choosing the music for the show. The second team recorded and edited a telephone interview for their feature piece.

Station House Media Unit (shmu) is situated just off Great Northern Road in the old Station House Community Centre, Woodside. We offer free access to, and training in video and radio production, and magazine and online publications to residents of all ages living in Seaton, Woodside, Middlefield, Tillydrone, Torry, Northfield and Cummings Park.

After a quick run-through, the team then presented a one hour live broadcast on shmuFM followed by an evaluation, debrief and a well-deserved cuppa.

Well done to the team from Aberdeen Asset Management on a brilliant show!

If you would like to book a team building day for your company, please get in touch with us. Call Lesley on 01224 515013 or email lesley@shmu.org.uk

SHMU INTRO SESSION

We also deliver 30 minute 'intro sessions' to any groups who want to know more about shmu. Our team will present an interactive information session on everything that we can offer here at station house media unit. This is a brilliant opportunity for groups who would otherwise struggle to be heard or gain any coverage locally. We will help you record a jingle, which will then be aired on shmuFM. We are happy to deliver our takeover session to staff teams, active groups of all ages, service users and anyone else who wants to find out more about your local media organisation. Call Denise on 01224 515013 or email denise@shmu.org.uk to book your session.

The Battle for Victoria Road School

An interview with Dame Anne Begg MP by Renée Slater



The Victoria Road School building has been empty for four years now and plans have been submitted for development. A group of Torry residents worked with Torry Community Council to come up with a plan to reuse the building. Renée Slater interviewed Dame Anne Begg MP about the issue.

Renée: People in Torry are concerned about the decision over the school site. Do you have any opinions on what the Torry Development Trust is proposing?

Anne: There is very high demand for affordable housing in Torry and not enough houses to go round, so I think some of the site should certainly include affordable housing. Whether that can be achieved within the granite building remains to be seen but the key should be affordable social housing. There also needs to be a consideration for small workplaces to help with the regeneration of the area.

Renée: The Torry Development Trust are proposing social housing and some businesses too. They

also have the possibility of large funding to develop the site. This will also help create a heritage centre and local jobs.

Anne: It is important that the Torry Heritage Trust and the community have a say in it. This seems to be happening more and more. It is a complex balancing act between preserving something with not much use in the modern world and using the heritage to build for the future. I think that's how we should look at Victoria Road School. We need something that is fit for purpose in the 21st century.

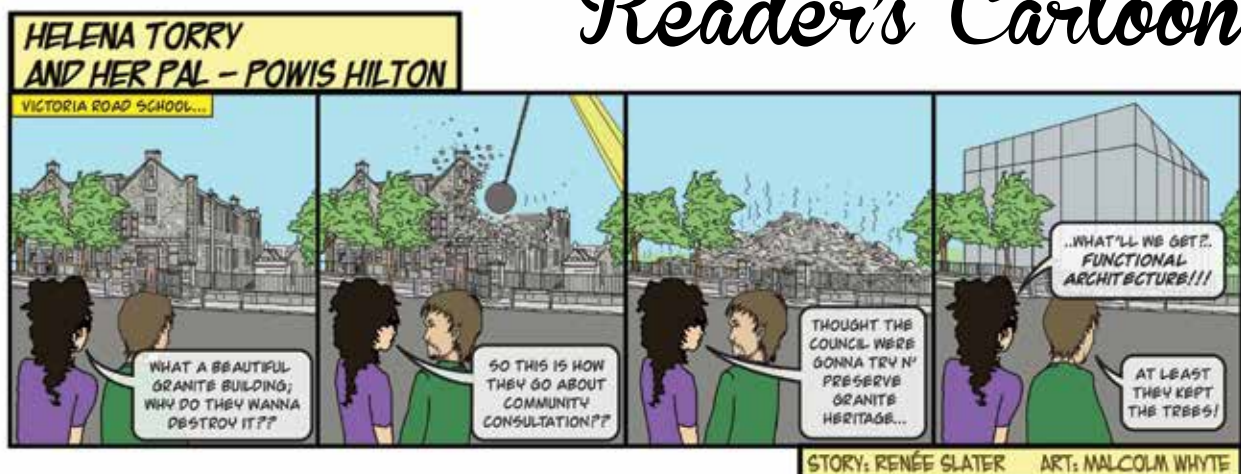
Renée: People are concerned with the building of functional architecture while demolishing our granite heritage. What are your thoughts on that?

Anne: I would like the integrity of the building to be maintained. Keep the bit of the heritage that is worth keeping. The vast bulk of the building could be knocked down but the viewpoint should be preserved.

Renée: There is a concern that local people weren't listened to by the local authority. I think you will be asked to lobby on behalf of the Torry Heritage Trust to the local council and, if necessary, to the Scottish Government?

Anne: I've been an MP for 17 years and I've always been careful of with regard to development because I have no locus in terms of the planning. My approach has always been and always will be to ensure people's voices are heard. The planning authorities have to be free to make their decisions based on the evidence they have in front of them. I don't think it would be right for a Westminster MP to get involved in that process. If people come to me with a grievance I will pass it onto the council but I can't take sides because if one side comes to me with their views the other side will as well. When that happens I will put all of it to council and say "here are the views of my constituents have come to me with."

Reader's Cartoon



COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Alcohol

Alcoholics Anonymous 0845 769 7555
Drinkline 0800 917 8282

Benefits

Benefits Agency Advice Line 0800 587 9135

Crime

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

Drugs

FRANK – National Helpline 0800 776 600

Dentist

Emergency - G-Dens 01224 558 140

Doctors

NHS 24 Emergency 08454 242 424

Electricity

If you have a Power-Cut 0800 300 999

Family Planning

Square 13, Support & Advice 01224 642 711

Gas

Gas Emergency 0800 111 999
Gas Emergency with a Meter 0845 606 6766

Housing

Emergency Repairs 01224 480 281
Call Centre Emergency 0845 608 0929

Police

Non-Emergency 101

Samaritans

Need to talk 01224 574 488

Social Work

Social Work Duty Team 01224 765 220
Emergency Out-Of-Hours 01224 693 936

Young Carers

Support & Information Service 01224 625 009

Water

Scottish Water Emergency 0845 600 8855

Balnagask Community Centre

Balnagask Road, Aberdeen, Aberdeen City
AB11 8HX, 01224 871206
www.facebook.com/Hazel.Balnagaskcommunitycentre

Old Torry Community Centre

2 Abbey Pl, Aberdeen, Aberdeen City, 894925
www.oldtorry.org.uk, oldtorry@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/oldtorrycommunitycentre

Tullos Learning Centre

Girdleness Rd, Aberdeen 01224 291882
www.facebook.com/tullos.community

David Fryer (secretary of the Torry Community Council)

Secretarytorrycommunitycouncil@gmail.com
07759276769
www.torrycommunitycouncil.webs.com
Twitter: @torrycc www.twitter.com/torrycc
(Meetings are every third Thursday of every month at
Torry Academy at 7pm. Except July.)

1. What castle sits on a dormant volcano?
2. Where is Fingal's Cave?
3. What is the highest mountain in Britain?
4. Where is the Ship Discovery berthed?
5. Where is Wallace's Tower?
6. What's the Loch Ness Monster's name?
7. What city lies between the River Dee and Don?
8. What is the pouch in front of the kilt called?
9. What is the longest river in Scotland?
10. Who was the last king to reign in Scotland?

Alan's Quiz

*Edinburgh Castle, The Islands of Staffa, Ben Nevis
Dundee, Stirling, Nessie, Aberdeen, A sporan
The Tay, James VI, He became James I of England
after Elizabeth I died without a successor.*