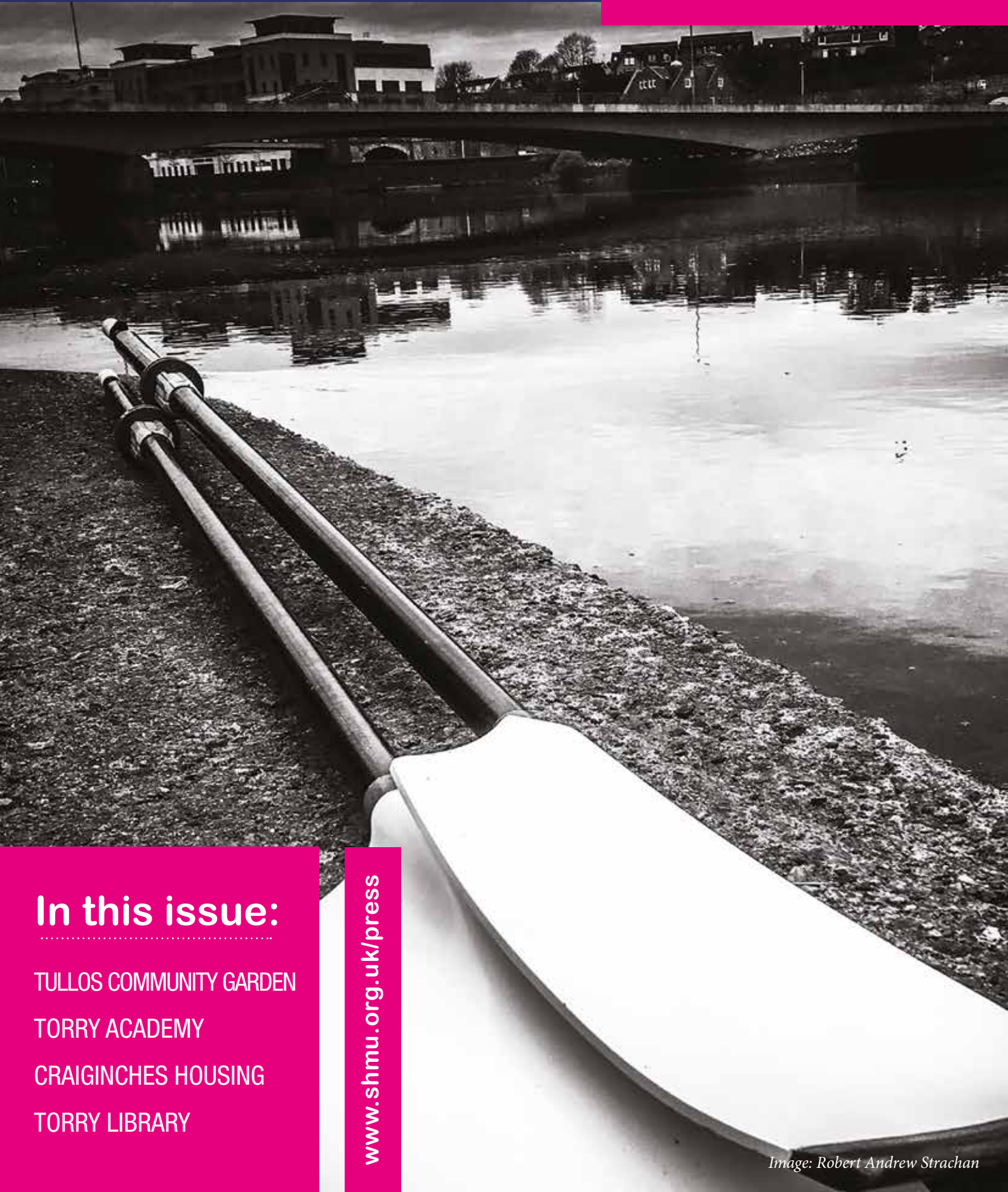


Torry's **Vision**

Summer 2018



In this issue:

TULLOS COMMUNITY GARDEN

TORRY ACADEMY

CRAIGINCHES HOUSING

TORRY LIBRARY

www.shmu.org.uk/press

Image: Robert Andrew Strachan

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Editorial

Welcome to the Summer edition of Torry's Vision community magazine. Read on for news from Tullos Community Wildlife Garden, Boogie in the Bar, Dragados, St Fittick's Rotary Club and Torry Skate Park.

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 Torry 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.



Supported by





Blooming Wonderful Community Spirit

We had a fantastic turnout at the Tullos Community Wildlife Garden and Growing Space Opening Event on Saturday the 19th of May with over 150 attendees! The atmosphere and community spirit were incredible! Our local resident group, alongside Rotaract volunteers, Anne-Marie and staff in the Communities Team in Locality 1 helped in the preparation and organising of the event.

Councillor Yvonne Allan and Arkadijs, one of the Tullos Community garden volunteers' children, cut the ribbon in a

ceremonial opening. There were lots of things for local people to see and do on the day including a face painter, interactive stalls from the RSPB, Recycling Team and stone-painting. Bob from One Seed Forward and The Allotment Market Stall (TAMS) talked to people about growing and helped with planting. The Tuk-Tuk from CFINE served delicious food, healthy snacks and ice lollies which were perfect on such a sunny day. There were badges and prizes on offer to those taking part in the mini-beast quiz. Aberdeen Play Forum also

entertained the children with some creative free play equipment and our vertical growing wall proved a hit too!

We hope the community can use the garden going forward for a variety of activities, with individuals and groups using and enjoying the space. We will have a small programme of fun activities for all ages over the summer.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Anne-Marie Steehouder-Ross ASteehouder@aberdeencity.gov.uk or on 01224 498164.

Feedback collated from the event has been overwhelmingly positive Quotes include:

"This is a miracle what you have done here!"

"Loved the friendly family atmosphere"

"Lovely to have a small area to try and learn about gardening"

"I took away a big smile on my face since I saw one amazing community working on a wonderful project together!"





TORRY LIBRARY

It has never been easier to join the library!

Membership is free and available to people of all ages who live, work or study in Aberdeen City or Shire. You can join in person at any library; just bring proof of identity with you e.g. driving licence, utility bill or bank card.

Library members can borrow up to 15 items for four weeks including books, CDs and audiobooks. Children can also borrow 4 DVDs for one week and, for a small fee, adults can borrow 4 DVDs for one week and 2 box sets for four weeks.

There are lots of other facilities and resources available at Torry Library, including:

- **Free Wi-Fi and PC Access**
- **Photocopying and Scanning**
- **Access to online learning resources covering topics such as family history, learning to drive, homework help and more.**

You can also access e-books or e-magazines and renew or reserve items online via our website or the Aberdeen City Libraries App.

Our normal opening hours are:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm

Wednesday 1pm – 7pm

Saturday 10am – 1pm

Sunday Closed

Children are never too young to join the library. Parents or carers just need to take proof of identity along to any library in Aberdeen when they wish to join their children. We offer regular Bookbug sessions at Torry Library. These are free, fun and friendly events for babies, toddlers, and their families or carers to enjoy together. Each session lasts around 30 minutes and includes songs, stories and rhymes. They take place in a very relaxed environment and are a great opportunity to spend some quality time with your little one.

This year the library is taking part in the Summer Reading Challenge. This year will celebrate 80 years of The Beano with children following clues to explore Beanotown, meeting old favourites including Dennis the Menace and Gnasher and helping them find mysterious buried treasure!

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

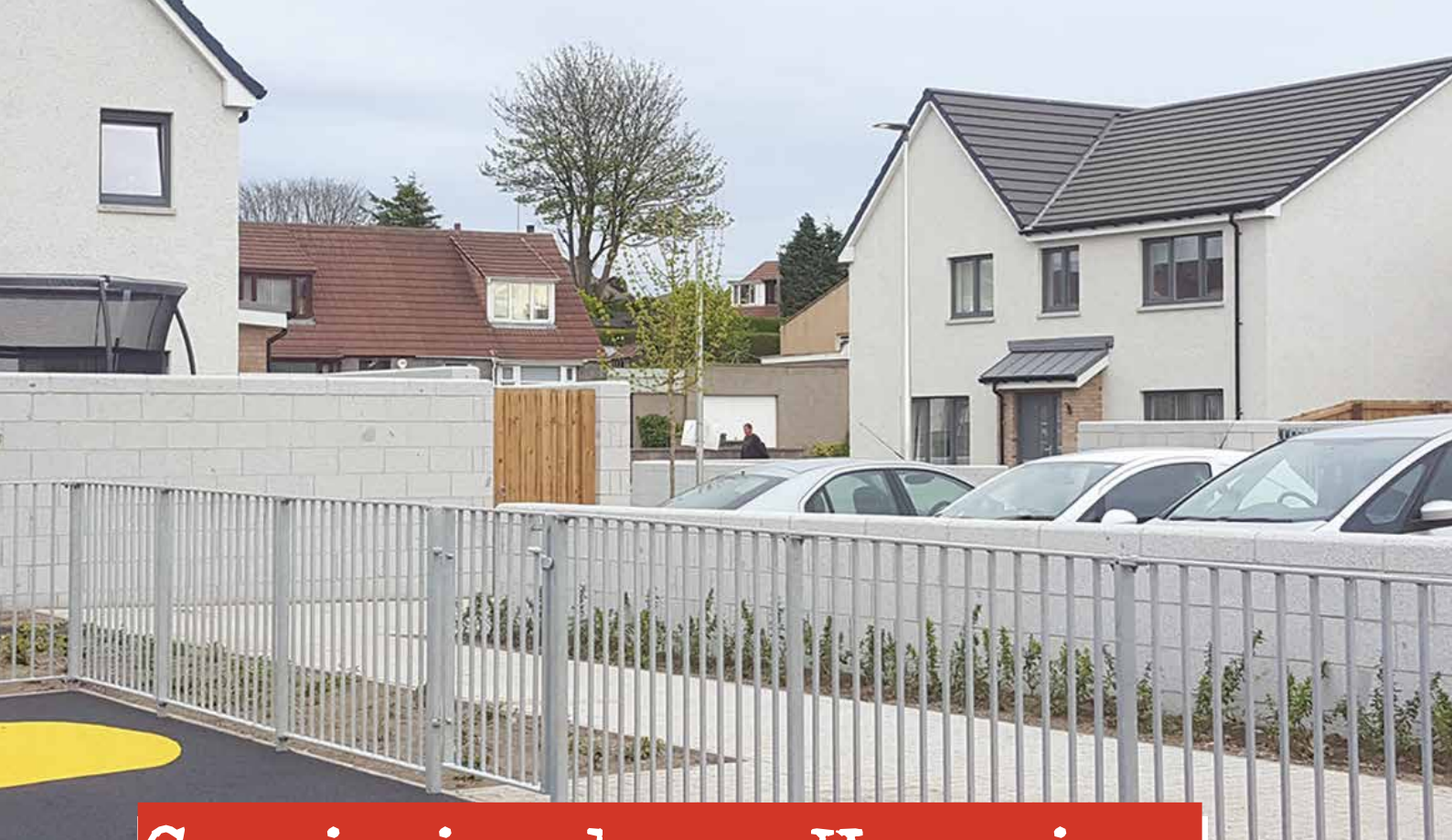
Any library book can be read, from picture books to talking books and children receive stickers and rewards at two, four and six books but can borrow up to fifteen books at each visit. Look out for our special prize draws and competitions.

The regular Bookbug Story and Rhyme sessions continue in libraries across the city throughout the holiday period when children can take part in the Bookbug Library Challenge.

Torry Library Bookbug sessions will take place at 2.15 - 2.45 pm on

Thursday 19th July and 2nd, 16th and 30th August.

For more information contact Torry Library 01224 879037 or visit our website www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/Library



Craiginchess Housing

The site of the former Aberdeen Craiginchess Prison is being redeveloped by Sanctuary Scotland Housing Association in order to provide 124 new properties in the Torry area.

18 houses and 106 flats have been provided, and are available for mid market rent. However, if we are over-subscribed for these properties, we will prioritise those applicants who are 'key workers'. This would normally be classed as someone working in the public sector".

On a different note, yes, there are still properties available for let. Any enquiries should be directed to the local Sanctuary Scotland Housing Association Office by calling 0800 131 3348 or by visiting the website at www.sanctuary-scotland.co.uk

Construction works commenced on site during August 2016, with the first properties being completed and handed over to the association during late November 2017. To

date, 103 properties have now been completed and handed over to Sanctuary Scotland Housing Association, with the remaining 21 plots due for handover to the association by the end of June 2018.

These new homes have become an integral part of Torry and have provided wider benefits to the community, which have included Sanctuary Scotland and Robertson Construction negotiating Community Benefit Projects within the development contract in order to achieve sustainability within the area. This included targeting local recruitment, training and community engagement. Some of the Community Benefit Projects provided to date throughout Torry include work being carried out at the local Torry St. Fitticks Church, Balnagask Community Centre and Torry United Free Church. Further works are to be carried out at the local Phoenix Centre, Jesus House Torry, Walker Road Primary

School, and Torry Battery in the near future.

In addition to the above, the association were extremely fortunate to enlist the help of three architecture students of Robert Gordon University, in order to develop their vision of the community garden, which will be located on the corner of site where Grampian Place and Walker Road meet. The only stipulation that was made to the students was that each proposal should include granite from the former prison wall and the former prison clock. All proposals were put forward to the local community during September 2017 with the community casting their votes in favour of the preferred design. Construction works are due to commence on site in order to develop the community garden during early July, with works estimated to take around 5 weeks to complete.



Lochside Academy

The new Lochside Academy will open its doors to pupils from Torry and Kincorth Academies on August 23rd. The building work was completed in June 2018 and there will be an intensive fit out period taking place over the summer to prepare the building for the new school year.

There will be capacity for over 1300 pupils and the three-storey building will incorporate community facilities, including a six-lane swimming pool, fitness suite, dance and drama studios, games hall, 4G sports pitches and library.





Grampian Credit Union

Best wishes for summer to everyone in Torry!

Great news - Grampian Credit Union is available for anyone living or working in Torry. The Credit Union offers adult, Christmas and junior savings accounts, which are safe and easy to access. Loans are fair and affordable from £200 to £5,000 - repaid from 6 months to 36 months.

If you live in the Torry area, you are welcome to join

Grampian Credit Union - details of savings and loans services are on our website: www.grampiancreditunion.co.uk and our office is at 224 Holburn Street, Aberdeen, phone 01224 576990.

We help local people have safe accessible savings and fair affordable loans. Good money management can help you have enough for the good times, and funds available to fall back on when things need sorting out.

Jog Scotland Torry

Residents of Torry have been donning their trainers and sports gear on a Monday evening to take part in a new jogging initiative in the area.

The Jog Torry group meets on a Monday evening at Torry Youth and Leisure Centre at 6:30pm and go for a job around the area. There's no pressure and you can take things at your own pace.

Laura Kirkland is the Jog Scotland Participation Project Co-ordinator and said: "We're

really delighted to see this new group launching in Torry. It's an area where we don't have any jogging groups and there are clearly plenty of people who want to get active.

The group was launched after a 2km family run was arranged earlier in the year and over 80 people took part.

For more information pop along one Monday evening or look up Communities Torry on Facebook.

Pathways in Torry

Pathways have been actively working in Torry helping people to find work for a number of years now and our Employability Keyworker, Stan Smith, meets with people looking for help at Old Torry Community Centre on Wednesday afternoons between 12.30 and 4pm. He is also at the same venue on Thursday afternoons from 1 to 4pm. As Stan is often fully booked it is always better to call for an appointment on 01224 682 939.

Pathways help people from the age of 16 upwards and from all backgrounds and help to identify the job or training that is right for you. We also you to develop a plan to reach your job goal, help with CV's, assist in completing application forms and we also have access to funds to remove barriers to work e.g. clothing or equipment.

Currently Pathways are promoting the Progress Through Positive Partnership Programme on behalf of Aberdeen City Council and the European Social Fund where there are many other advantages and training opportunities available for those who meet the criteria for participation. If this is of interest ask Stan for information.

If We Could Turn Back Time, If We Could Find A Way - Torry Academy's Former Pupils' Reunion Buffet and Disco

For one night only, former pupils gathered under one roof for a night filled with fond memories of their time at Torry Intermediate/Torry Academy. Long overdue catch-ups were had, and it was a time to kick up your heels and party.

On entrance to the Beach Ballroom, you became aware that the atmosphere was charged and some of the former pupils that I met mentioned their apprehension before their arrival as to what may lie in store for them. As we made our way down the staircase and through to the ballroom itself we were welcomed by an array of attractively decorated tables and a well-lit dance floor with music blasting out from neighbouring high speakers. Front and centre of the stage was a screen showing images of Torry Academy from 1927 to its present day.

The evening opened with Mrs Jenny Cranna, current Head Teacher of Torry Academy welcoming all the former pupils, their families and friends to the reunion event calling us all "one big family."

As the evening gathered pace, folk ventured out of their seats to manoeuvre around the ballroom, encountering friends, peers or foes that they had not seen since their school days. Any trepidation that may have been had earlier had been dispersed, as conversations and laughter could be heard amongst the music!

As the event drew to a close, individuals danced their last dance before exchanging their details, hugged and left acknowledging as of July 2018 Torry Academy will be resided to the history books.

David Reid (Ex-Pupil of Torry Academy) said: "It was a fantastic night, people often shy away from reunions etc. but this was literally blast from the past and so well organised. Hats off to the organisers and great to see so many friends and foes from the past!"

Lesley-Anne Yeats (Ex-Pupil of Torry Academy) said: "Mrs Cranna set the tone at the beginning of the evening by saying Torry pupils are "one big family" and this event certainly demonstrated just how

big that family was."

Ronay Allan-Thomson (Ex-Pupil of Torry Academy) said: "When the event appeared on Facebook I didn't know whether I was happy or sad to get the chance to meet up with former pupils! A lot of water had passed under the Vicky Bridge since then and a few of us girls decided we would give it a go!

We decided we would stay together and wouldn't stay long! Meeting for a vino for Dutch courage at the Hilton Hotel opposite we found we weren't alone and there were plenty of former inmates with the same idea – and one turned into 2, or more – the reminiscing had started!

Once we got to the Beach Ballroom the trepidation was still with us but soon began to ease as we found familiar faces and spoke to those from decades ago. We watched the photos showing pointing out schools, family members and staff. We actually danced! Time rolled on and we extended our leaving by a half hour, then another, then another until it was over."



A FOND FAREWELL

Written by Mandy "The Quine fae Torry"

Time of Say "Goodbye" – Torry Academy's Year of Celebration Open Days

Torry Academy opened its doors to former pupils, staff and their families in May and June as part of their "Year of Celebration" so that people could once more reminisce about their school days before the building closes its doors for the last time on Wednesday the 4th of July.

The original school building was opened in August 1927 and the school became Torry Academy in 1970. The building has been at the heart of Torry but is closing its doors to make way for the new state-of-the-art Lochside Academy which will open August this year.

For most of those attending the open days, walking through the front door of Torry Academy was filled with trepidation, as this would be the first time since leaving the school. At the bottom of the hall, boards adorned the floor with newspaper articles and pictures from the inception of the school to the present day. A number of tables were littered with further pictures of former prefects together with previous musical production publications as well as back copies of the school pupil magazine productions throughout the 1970's to 1990's.

As groups manoeuvred throughout the school, you could hear the stories of yesteryear echoed throughout every nook and cranny within that building even visiting the old toilets and remembering the smell of disinfectant and scratchy toilet paper we had to use! In other areas of the buildings, individuals remembered the tricks being played on April Fool's Day and pupils sneaking out a window after registration for a fine piece down at Aitkins on Glenbervie Road.

With each flight of stairs, recollections became hazier but then you come across something you may have completely forgotten about. That for me was the wooden gym hall - it still looked the same though it certainly smelled different! There were many former pupils happily taking photos of themselves hanging off on the climbing frames.

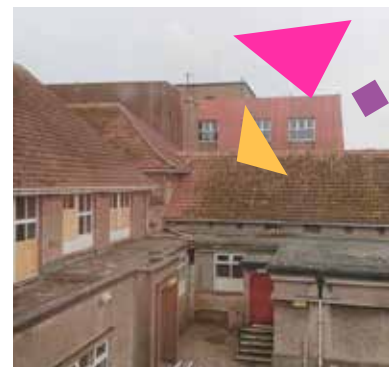
So what now? For some all areas of the school had been explored and set to rights except for one area that you were never be allowed to visit – The Teachers' Lounge. We ventured forth up the stony staircase into the forbidden world we thought we would never have an opportunity to see! We came across one of the earliest rooms of Torry Intermediate that housed the most adorable

fireplace with original features where we could picture Assistant Head Teachers of past working, sitting or participating in a tea break with a roaring fire.

A special memory of my night under the roof of Torry Academy was spending time with my father who attended Torry Intermediate in the 1940's. We even bumped into a former teacher – Mr Barclay. When asked what he thought of his old classroom, he replied, "It's a bloody mess! It wouldn't have happened in my day!"

Vivien Bruce (Former Ex-Pupil of Torry Academy) mentioned, "I'm really glad that I had gone along as wondering round the old corridors trying to remember where our classes were! It was good to see so many people of all ages there. End of an era."

Jack Massie (Former Ex-Pupil of Torry Academy 1970 – 1975) mentioned, "It was strange, walking around as all the rooms seemed different, missed the windows to the corridors that looked out to what we called the Boys Playground. I noticed that the big shed was gone, not very many people knew that was where some of the boys used to practice car mechanics, brick laying, painting and decorating."



YOU COULD BE
DANCING – YEAH.

BOOGIE IN THE BAR IS
COMING TO TORRY!

Having missed out by one vote during UDecide Torry the ladies of the Older People's Torry Network decided they would forge ahead to get a boogie going locally. With that in mind they submitted a bid to Dragdos and received some fantastic news - they were one of the winners!

The Boogie in the Bar phenomenon is growing, with dementia discos springing up all over the North East including Northfield, Elgin and Portlethen – to name but a few. Torry older people are leading the way with this and it's great to see their community spirit and contribution to their neighbourhood.

Get your glitter balls out, Torry!

The Boogie is due to be launched at the end of August.

For further information please see the Communities Torry Facebook page.

Torry Outdoor Sports Centre

We are hoping to encourage the full use of Torry Outdoor Sports Centre on Victoria Road in the near future. However, to do this we must firstly have some help from the public to assist us to run as many activities as possible for all ages and make the community a healthier and more active place.

Do you want to get involved?

Do you want to volunteer?

Do you have spare time?

DO you want to make your community a more socially active place?

If so get in touch with Normund on normiks26@hotmail.com or Fay on fk Morrison@gmail.com.



Torry Memories and Heritage Society

We had a great turn out for our first birthday party. Relatives met relatives, friends met friends, memories were rekindled and there were loads of laughs.

We are also still looking for any Torry school photographs, so keep them coming. How about this one from 1890 of Torry Public School before it became Victoria Road School? If you have any photos you'd like to share then please send them to the group via email torrymemoriesheritagesociety@gmail.com.



DRAGADOS UK SUPPORTS EIGHT COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN TORRY

The Dragados UK Community Investment Fund, which is associated with the Aberdeen Harbour Expansion Project (AHEP), has awarded grants for the second time since construction started, supporting good causes in the local community.

In total, eight non-profit organisations operating in Torry are benefiting from this latest round of funding, with the money being put towards developing projects in the area.

Reviewed and selected by the AHEP Community Benefit Steering Group, consisting of Dragados UK, Aberdeen Harbour Board, Aberdeen City Council, Skills Development Scotland, Construction Industry Training Board, Aberdeen Council for Voluntary Organisations and North East Scotland College, the funding has been awarded to:

- Aberdeen Lifeboat Station (RNLI)
- Brimmond Court Tenants Association
- Balnagask Community Centre
- Older People's Network
- PDSA
- Red Rox Events & Fundraising
- The Friends of Torry Care Home
- Torry St Fittick's Church

**NEW APPLICATIONS TO BE
OPENED IN AUGUST 2018**

The Dragados UK Community Investment Fund will help charities, education establishments and groups operating in Torry during the Aberdeen Harbour Expansion Project.

To date, 15 local groups have been benefited by the Dragados UK Community Investment Fund.

Applications will be reopened on the 1st of August 2018 and close on the 30th of September 2018. Every not-for-profit organisation operating in the areas surrounding the Aberdeen Harbour Expansion Project can apply for economic support for their initiatives in the local community.

DRAGADOS UK TIMEBANK OPEN TO COMMUNITY GROUPS

The TimeBank offers 100 volunteer days each year during the construction works for community organisations, community groups and educational establishments. The TimeBank uses 'deposits' of time/resources from our experienced team and our suppliers, which can be used to give real, practical support and advice to organisations and individuals who need it.

If your group is interested in applying for the Dragados UK TimeBank, please drop an email to contactusAHEP@dragados.com or call 0800 471 4829.

Crocuses at Torry Battery and the New Bridge

Plenty of digging and eventually all that hard work paid off so it was great to see the final results. A purple carpet it may not quite be but in years to come the crocus corms should multiply if rabbits and squirrels haven't got them first! So, we should have a better display next spring.

THE SANDY WILSON QUIZ 22nd March 2018

Thursday 22 March saw eight quiz teams take part in the 2018 Sandy Wilson Quiz, hosted by The Rotary Club of Aberdeen St Fittick for the third year at Old Torry Community Centre. Representatives were there from the 30th Aberdeen Girl Guides, the 27th Girl's Brigade, the 20th Boy's Brigade, Tullos Basketball Team, Tullos Primary School, the Leading Lights, Torry Squad and Lochside Academy. The latter team was a first for the new Lochside Academy, due to open later this year, with a combination of two girls from Torry academy and two from Kincorth Academy making up the team.

A prize pot of £2,000 was up for grabs with every team winning a share of the pot for their organisation based on their correct quiz answers in 5 hotly contested rounds. The subject of the questions covered TV and film, sport, general knowledge, flags of the world and the final round of music which saw all eight teams, their supporters, family and even the Rotarians on their feet dancing to the latest hits.

The winners by only a small margin on the night were the Torry Squad with Lochside Academy as runners up. We are ready to lend a helping hand whenever we can. Please contact us via our website

Councillors Allard and Mackenzie

It has been a very busy time for us over the past few months with Torry being at the heart of many major issues being discussed in the City Council Town House, including the transport plans for Lochside Academy and the future of Victoria Road Primary School. Locally too we've speaking to a lot of people across Torry and trying to resolve a lot of ongoing community issues which needed to be sorted out.

Catriona has been continuing to regularly meet with council residents across Torry about housing issues, focusing a lot of the many repairs needed to homes in Torry, and improvements needed to communal areas and front door locks in flat buildings. She will be having more drop-in surgeries throughout the year on this.

Christian has been working hard on behalf of Torry residents on issues around the Finnan Shops, including trying to get CCTV reinstated to help deal with ongoing antisocial issues in the area. We will both be meeting with Police Scotland to discuss concerns we're hearing from folk in Torry about antisocial

behaviour, and we'll be working with police and council officers to try find a solution and alternative positive activities for young people in Torry.

We have been dealing with some very frustrating problems with rubbish and waste across the area. Christian has been working to fix the issues with food waste bins not closing properly, and after making enquiries has discovered that the salty air and strong winds in Torry are actually affecting the closing function of the bins. To fix this problem the council will be taking away the 'self-close' mechanism in the food waste bins so now they will open and close like a regular waste bin and stay closed! Elsewhere Catriona has been working to try and make big improvements to communal bins, particularly near Farquhar Road where over flowing bins are attracting seagulls and creating a big mess.

We have had a very challenging few months as the ongoing issue of the future of Victoria Road School is still uncertain. The Torry Development Trust has done

an amazing amount of work to come up with a passionate and practical plan for the future of the site, and best use of the building but the City Council administration decided to put the site out of the market to give other developers opportunities to come in and bid for it. It is so important that the community are listened to on the future of Victoria Road school, and we will continue to make sure the Torry Development Trust and folk across the community are listened to on the future of this incredibly important and historic site. And finally, our hard work supporting parents and pupils at the academy has paid off. After the public meetings that we called for, free bus transport has been agreed for all young people attending the new Lochside Academy.

Get in touch

Email: callard@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Phone: 01224 346642

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Phone: 01224 346643

Maureen Watt MSP For Aberdeen South And North Kincardine

In May I joined colleagues in the Scottish Parliament to recognise Sistema Scotland's ten-year anniversary of work in Scotland. Sistema Scotland brought the Big Noise project to Torry in 2015, and have spent a decade transforming communities across Scotland.

During a debate recognising the success of the project I spoke to congratulate the work my retired Councillor colleague, Jim Kiddie, did with Rev. Richard Holloway, Chair of Sistema Scotland, in bringing the project to Torry.

Giving children confidence from a young age means they flourish as they get older. As of 2017, The Big Noise had been delivered to 522 children aged between three and nine in Torry which is an incredible achievement. I agree with the Big Noise Evaluation report that the project is well embedded within community life and is giving great uplift to families as they see what a positive impact it is having on their children, as well as with other partners in the community. This is not just about making music, but about transforming the lives of

young people in less advantaged communities.

I wish to pass my congratulations on again to all those involved in the Big Noise in Torry, especially for their success in working with the community to create an innovative and well-loved programme which I hope will continue for years to come.

Get in touch...

Email: Maureen.Watt.msp@parliament.scot

Phone: 01224 876743

Councillor Yvonne Allan

There are quite a few things happening over the summer for the kids so I hope they are all getting involved. One of the new things this summer is the skate board/bike facility at St. Fitticks Park. I have seen kids down there using the facility and having fun. There will also be classes run by Transition Extreme so the kids can learn safety and new tricks.

I was very pleased to open the community garden just off Tullos Crescent where I was assisted by Arkadijs, one of the young lads who volunteers. It was good to see so many local people turn up on a glorious sunny day. Lovely birdfeeders were made, flowers and vegetables were planted and even a flowering wall was made. This was all done by local adults and kids. There is still a volunteer group who meet and help to look

after the garden and I'm sure if you were interested in helping you would be made most welcome.

On a not so happy note we have seen the closure of our much loved Torry Academy. I hope that some of you managed to be involved with the many activities that went on in the Year of Celebration. However, the new Lochside Academy will be an excellent provision for our children with the very latest of facilities where I am sure that the standard will be maintained and there will be familiar faces for the pupils as some of the teachers will transfer. I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved and contributed to the transition process. We now look forward to the building of the new community hub which is to be

built on the site along with the new primary school.

It was great to be invited to the re-opening of the Dolphin Watch down beside the Torry Battery. We heard that they have been awarded increased funding and now have a member of staff to do outreach work. They will be working with the schools and the elderly encouraging more participation of these groups and for them to visit the viewing point.

Finally, a great time was held by all at the third birthday concert celebration for Big Noise. Well done all were involved.

Have a great summer

Yvonne Allan (Cllr)

Get in touch...

Email: yallan@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Phone: 01224 523013

Aberdeen South MP Ross Thomson

One thing that Torry's residents are known for is their sense of community spirit, which has been driven home to me since I was elected as the MP for Aberdeen South.

There have been so many great projects which have seen groups taking over spaces and disused buildings or planning events to help people in the area.

One of those I have visited and am pleased to support is the Go Green zero waste café, run out of the Old Torry Community Centre with help from Robert Gordon University and North Community Food Initiative.

Instead of perfectly good food going to waste, volunteers cook for people in the area.

Torry needs places to let people relax together and provide entertainment, reinforcing the links we all need in life.

There's been a lot of energy in the campaign to take over the former Victoria Road School, and I've asked the council to give Torry Development Trust enough time to prepare a bid.

Disappointingly, the building has now gone up for sale with bids invited up to August 14.

But there are still meetings taking place with the council.

It would be a shame to demolish the former school, which closed in 2008.

This is an exciting project and just a bit more time will give it a chance.

Get in touch...

Email: ross.thomson.mp@parliament.uk

Phone: 01224 592229

And I would walk 500 miles..

Members of the shmuCREW took part in the Aberdeen Kiltwalk at the start of June to help raise funds for shmu.

Natalie, Frieda and Laura tackled the Big Stroll from Milton of Crathes to Duthie Park and Michelle took part in the Wee Wander from Cults back to the park.

The team have managed to raise over £800 to support shmu's work in the target communities as well as to help us kit out our new extension in Woodside.

Natalie chose to walk for shmu because: "As a volunteer I was proud to support shmu with the Kiltwalk and it was always going to be my first choice! As a local charity they have massively impacted my life and that of all the fantastic people I have met through Sshmu. I can see the positive transitions that shmu make in our local community and Aberdeen through their inspirational and innovative tools. I very much look forward to fundraising for such a fantastic charity in the future! What's next?"

shmu works to transform lives through creative media - giving regeneration areas in Aberdeen opportunities in training, employment, increased confidence and most importantly a voice.

We're planning lots more fundraising events over the next few months before we move back to our new building in Woodside so if you would like to get involved we would love to see you there!

Check out our Facebook – Station House Media Unit, Twitter – shmuORG and Instagram – shmuorg for more information on upcoming events.



SEAL OF APPROVAL FOR REFURBISHED ST FITTICK'S SKATE PARK

Local youngsters gave their seal of approval as a £55,500 refurbishment of a popular city facility was marked with a special session.

Aberdeen City Council has completed a revamp at St Fittick's Skate Park in Torry, with Co-Leader Cllr Jenny Laing lending her support to local school pupils at a

skateboard and BMX coaching and taster session led by Transition Extreme to mark the launch of the new look site.

Cllr Laing said: "It's fantastic to see the facility already being well used and I've no doubt it will be a big draw for people from across the city.

"The Council values the role of play and physical activity and is clear about the importance of facilities that encourage that active lifestyle in all of our communities.

"We are in the midst of a significant investment in playparks throughout Aberdeen and the skate park refurbishment fits with the aims of that programme, providing a safe and welcoming environment that has transformed the area."

The project was boosted by a £50,000 award from the SUEZ Community Trust, which enabled the expansion of the existing skate park to include 10 features for users of all abilities.

The Council's communities team in Torry consulted with local young people prior to the work being undertaken to ensure the plans met with their needs. Sean-Paul Gordon, a talented young skater who was instrumental in shaping the design of the features, was one of those to join this week's session.

St Fittick's Skate Park will be put to good use over the school summer break as a venue for Extreme Summer, featuring sessions from 6-8pm each Monday hosted by Transition Extreme.



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

Balnagask Community Centre

01224 871206

Old Torry Community Centre

01224 894925

Tullos Learning Centre

01224 291882

Walker Road Primary School

01224 879720

Tullos Primary School

01224 876621

Torry Academy

01224 876733

Torry Medical Practice

01224 01224 894600

Torry Community Council **contactus@**

torrycommunitycouncil.org.uk