

TillyTattle

Summer 2024



In this issue:

RIVERBANK PRIMARY

CRUYFF COURT

GRAMPIAN PRIDE

ST MACHAR CREDIT UNION

www.shmu.org.uk/press

Summer Edition 2024

contents

- 3 Tillydrone Community Flat
- 4&5 Riverbank Primary
- 6&7 St Machar Credit Union
- 8&9 Cruyff Court
- 10&11 Grampian Pride
- 12&13 News Bites
- 14 shmu
- 15 Wallace Tower Update



Welcome to your Summer edition of the Tilly Tattle.

We've got all the exciting updates for you. Read on to see what Willie Miller remembers about his time living in Tilly and what he has to say about the new Cruyff Court.

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 **Rose** at shmu on **07752586312** or you can email her on **rose.ross@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.

Our dates for the next edition have not been set yet but keep an eye out on the Tilly Tattle Facebook page for more information coming very soon!

Tilly Tattle is a community publication and the views expressed are not necessarily those of the editorial team or of shmu.

You can be reassured that our distribution company is taking every measure to ensure they are delivering your magazine safely and within government guidelines.



Supported by



TILLYDRONE COMMUNITY FLAT UPDATE

Summer is nearly upon us, and it's been quite a year so far at the Tilly Flat. We had a very worrying time in February when due to a huge increase in demand over the last while we were faced with the real possibility of closing our foodbank service. This is a nationwide issue with huge providers such as CFINE and Instant Neighbour all struggling to meet demand and facing drops in funding and donations. We put out an emergency cry for help and the response was nothing short of phenomenal. It was picked up by STV news and the Evening Express and the outpouring of support was humbling. I could fill a whole issue of Tilly Tattle by thanking everyone who supported us by name so I'm just putting out an enormous THANK YOU to everyone who reached out. Thanks to the generosity of so many we are able to continue providing emergency food provision to people living in the area although we have now reduced the service to a fortnightly basis to ensure we do not face this situation again. Sarah and I are continually amazed at the level of love and support shown to our wee charity and our gratitude knows no bounds.

We completed our annual monitoring report to Fairer Aberdeen last month and once more our service access figures have seen a large increase over the past year with the Flat being

accessed around 7200 times up from 6400 last year and 3500 food parcels being issued up from 2000 in the preceding year. We are hugely thankful for the continued support of the Fairer Aberdeen Fund and very relieved to have funding for the coming year.

We are delighted to welcome Claire Frew of Aberdeen City Council's Financial Inclusion Team who will be visiting the Flat once a fortnight to provide financial advice in a local setting. Please contact us if you'd like to make an appointment with Claire.

Fee Fischer of Aberdeen Foyer is still hosting regular sessions at the Flat for those who may be seeking employment or training opportunities. Foyer have a wealth of support services and Fee is happy to help however she can. Again, please contact Sarah or myself for further details.

The Tillydrone Network, comprising people who live, work, or have a related interest in the community meet every two months at Tillydrone Campus to discuss local projects or issues. The Network is actively seeking new members from the community. If you are interested in attending Network Meetings, please contact Sarah Jack at Tillydrone Community Flat on **01224 486641** or **sarah@tillyflat.com**

Fiona Young



Foodies is officially open!

The Tillydrone Community Campus welcomes the new owner of the café to the Campus and it officially opened on Monday the 27th of May. 'FOODIES' will be open from 9am to 3pm, Monday to Friday.

Foodies will be offering breakfast rolls, soup, sandwiches, paninis, toasties, quiche, baked tatties and burgers along with hot and cold drinks, cakes and scones. The owner will get themselves established then start serving hot meals too.

Everyone at the Campus is highly delighted that this much needed opportunity to reopen the café again with a new owner is official as we've all missed it. Having the café open again will bring new and existing groups/people together again in a warm, safe environment.

Pop in past and say hello!

Fits been happening at Riverbank

The Primary 5F class at Riverbank Primary School in Tillydrone, have been busy bairns working together with local publisher Doric Books to create their very own Doric Book "Summer magic Scurry". The book is full of each pupils own funny experiences with seagulls along with their very own illustrations.



To celebrate their achievement, they put on a wee event at the Tillydrone library, they had a Costco cake made especially, and even brought out the shloer, that's when you know it a proper celebration.

Their teacher Grace Farquharson told us how the idea for the book first came about, "I was approached by my depute head who had been contacted by Jackie from Doric Books, I was a bit unsure at first because it was a lot of work but when I thought about the skills the kids would learn it was a no brainer."

"They were so enthusiastic, I have a class of 28 and I would say half of them don't have English as their first language, I was a bit worried about the doric side of it but they have taken it and gone with it."

After a few discussions about what the kids could write about Aaron Gale, illustrator and co-founder of Doric book's remembered how the kids said seagulls would come to their playground and steal their crisps. Miss Farquharson also mentioned how seagulls would knock on their classroom door, so it would be something all the kids would have experiences off.

The book is now in a physical format and can be purchased from the school, Doric Books and a few local shops like owl at number 2. The profits will help to cover publishing costs and the rest will go to the school.

Miss Farquharson favourite part of the whole process were the kids' faces when they saw their book for the first time. "We had seen the PowerPoint and we had seen different elements, but when they

actually saw their book on Tuesday it was phenomenal."

She even learnt a new favourite doric word.

"The word for rainbow is not what you think it's, a watergaw"

The kids loved the project, we spoke to a few to hear what they enjoyed most. Kendra liked that everyone worked together, "We were not arguing we were just working as a team". Marcus and Julia liked translating the book into Doric and Jp's favourite part was "the illustrations, different drawings

"Some young people have got just exceptional skills and talents and their able to share that, they can be teachers as well as learners, really good new kind of co-operative work."

and different things we made, books that act like picture books and story books are very very interesting."

Jackie Ross, Co-founder of Doric Books was over the moon with the kids and what they managed to produce.

"I'm just fere tricket, really pleased because the bairns have done great job, the illustrations are just great, and they worked hard on their story ideas, the most exciting thing is that they are so involved and that they made decisions along the way about how it would look and fit would be in it, and I loved their questions, Dis Scurries pee? Is that nae the top of everybody's list of questions."

Jackie and Aaron hope to do more projects like this with schools as it so important to keep the language alive.

"We appreciate in some school we have been working in the majority of bairns are nae English speakers necessary so doric is another level, but I think it's that engagement with language and in mother tongue and showing respect for the local language and all the other language's in the areas".

Councilor Martin Greg who is on the education and child services committee was busy showing his appreciation for the project and pulling the odd cheezer, getting photos with the kids.

"The book itself is a marvellous text the illustrations are just superb you can really see the young people's talent coming through that book, really huge congratulations to the young people, they have been led and supported really well by staff and everyone."

"Some young people have got just exceptional skills and talents and their able to share that, they can be teachers as well as learners, really good new kind of co-operative work."

The kids couldn't be prouder of what they have achieved, recognising all the help they revived along the way, giving out flowers to Miss Farquharson, Jackie and Aaron. Putting the business and marketing skills they learnt to good use, one girl took me aside and told me she had something to say, "Buy our book or we will get a seagull to poo on your house."

Olivia Andrews



St Machar Credit Union:

Empowering Communities, Transforming Lives

In the North of Aberdeen lies a financial institution with a difference - St. Machar Credit Union. For over three decades, it has been a beacon of hope and stability for the local community, offering financial services that empower individuals and families to take control of their economic well-being. From humble beginnings to a cornerstone of the community.

Founded in 1990 by individuals from Fersands, Woodside, and Seaton, St. Machar Credit Union emerged as a response to the lack of accessible and affordable financial services in the area.

In those days, options for obtaining loans were limited, often leading residents to resort to high-interest or illegal moneylenders. Recognising the need for change, the founders embarked on a journey to establish a financial institution that would prioritise the needs of the community.

After four years of perseverance, St. Machar Credit Union opened its

doors, offering a range of financial products and services designed to promote financial inclusion and stability. The credit union became a lifeline for many individuals and families, providing them with opportunities to build a secure financial future.

Jackie Weir, the Development Worker at St. Machar Credit Union, has been a driving force behind the organisation's success for many years.

Her dedication and passion for serving the community have been instrumental in shaping the credit union's journey. Jackie recalls the early days of the credit union and its evolution over the years.

"When we started out, there was a lot of scepticism about whether a credit union could thrive in our community," says Jackie. "But we proved them wrong. We showed that when people come together with a common purpose, amazing things can happen."

Jackie highlights the importance of community ownership and engagement in the success of the Credit Union. "We're not just a financial institution; we're a community-led organisation," she explains. "Our members have a say in how we operate, and their input shapes our decisions. That's what sets us apart from traditional banks."

Over the years, St. Machar Credit Union has expanded its reach, serving Seaton, Woodside, Tillydrone, and beyond. Its inclusive membership policy welcomes anyone who lives or works in the area.

"We're proud to be a local institution, deeply rooted in the fabric of our community," says Jackie. "We're here for everyone, offering support and guidance every step of the way."

Jodie Sim, an admin staff member at St. Machar Credit Union, shares her journey of personal and professional growth within the organisation.

“I joined St Machar Credit Union 10 years ago after undertaking the shmu employability programme. When I first started, I had no idea what a credit union was but thanks to the training and support I received here, I’ve grown into my role and gained valuable skills that have shaped my career.”

“As well as working here, I use the services of the credit union so I can see the benefits it brings. For example, using the services here paid for my first ever holiday, my car when I passed my test.”

“My father had an account here and unfortunately, he passed away. If it wasn’t for the free life assurance available with our accounts - because he had COPD and cancer, so not a lot of places would have taken him on - then we would have had no way to pay the £7000 funeral bill.

“It was a terrifying time for my mum who’s got vascular dementia. She’s got an account here, so she’s also covered under the life assurance. It gives us a little bit of peace of mind, because you don’t know when things are going to happen.”

For Jodie, working at St. Machar Credit Union is more than just a job. “I see it first hand, the difference it makes I know that I’m contributing to something meaningful.”

Michelle, an admin staff member at St. Machar Credit Union, reflects on the profound impact the credit union has had on her life and the lives of others.

“As well as working here more recently, I’ve been a member of St. Machar Credit Union for over 30 years, and it’s been a lifeline for me,” says Michelle. “From saving for holidays to helping out my grandchildren, the credit union has been there every step of the way.”

Michelle highlights the role of the credit union in promoting financial resilience and security among its members. “For many people, especially those on low incomes, the credit union is something that gives them hope,” she explains. “It offers them a safe and affordable alternative to high-interest lenders, giving them the tools they need to manage their finances effectively.”

Empowering the local community

Nicola, a loyal customer of St. Machar Credit Union, shares her reasons for choosing the credit union over traditional banks. “I use this place because it’s better for paying back loans,” says Nicola.

For Nicola, St. Machar Credit Union represents more than just a financial institution; it’s a place of trust and reliability. “I feel comfortable here,

knowing that I’ll be treated with respect and understanding,” she explains.

In a world where financial insecurity is all too common, St. Machar Credit Union facilitates empowerment for the North Aberdeen community.

St Machar Credit Union is one of the many organisations in the city which benefits from support from the Fairer Aberdeen Fund. Jackie, emphasised the importance of the Fund in sustaining the institution’s operations, explaining that it plays a crucial role in covering part of the staff wages, ensuring the continued functioning of the credit union.

Acknowledging challenges, Jackie mentioned the uncertainty surrounding the fund’s availability each year. Despite these concerns, she remains committed to navigating the financial landscape to uphold the credit union’s mission of serving the community.

However, as we look to the future, one thing is certain - St. Machar Credit Union stands out as a shining example of what can be achieved when communities come together for the greater good.

Originally published by ACVO –
View the full article at

acvo.org.uk/acvo-news

“We’re proud to be a local institution, deeply rooted in the fabric of our community,”





CRUYFF COURT WILLIE MILLER

He strikes again!

Aberdeen's third Cruyff Court is officially open, making Aberdeen tied with London as the only two cities in the UK to have 3 pitches.

Cruyff Court Willie Miller, located in Tillydrone was opened on the 13th of May, by the legendary defender. The footballer took to the pitch, alongside Lord Provost, David Cameron, staff from the Denis Law Legacy Trust, The Cruyff Foundation and pupils from Riverbank Primary.

Aberdeen is able to benefit from the Cruyff Courts due to a successful partnership between the Denis Law Legacy Trust, Aberdeen City Council and the Cruyff Foundation.

It is a free unbookable space, open to the community to use at all times. The space includes an artificial pitch, basketball and dodgeball courts, running track and mini tennis courts. DLLT will run a number of their Streetsport activities at the facility too.

The Gothenburg Great gave an insight into the dedication.

"It's an honour, you know, first and foremost, to be associated with something like this. Um, but it's

fabulous to see the kids coming down and enjoying it" Miller noted.

"You know, I came from East End of Glasgow in the 1960s, which was a rather tough area. And we didn't have this type of facility, but you managed, you still managed to get out and kick the ball about in the streets. When you get a facility like this, it's just wonderful for the community and a facility that I'm sure will help the kids, you know, fill their time.

"I think that's important when you're growing up is you've got something to fill your time. You can fill it good ways and bad ways, I think we all know that. This is a good way for them to fill their time."

The local youngsters are chuffed with the pitch and eager to make the most of what the facility has to offer.

Emil felt it was a great addition to the area. "I think it's really fun that you get to play with all your friends and make new friends. It's a safe space for people to come."

Blake noted the improved quality from the school pitch. "Before this place was open, when we would want to play football, we would, we would

just play in our school field. And our school field has a bunch of holes on the ground because kids are digging."

Of course, it was an interesting break from the normal school day to meet the former Aberdeen Captain.

"It was quite exciting seeing Willie Miller today as well." Said Millie, giggling she added "I didn't expect him to be that old, but yeah". She didn't leave empty handed, getting her t-shirt signed as well as a football for her brother.

Emil was also enamoured with the football legend. "He's a nice person. I think, in my best opinion, he was the best defender for Aberdeen."

Willie Miller also reflected on his time spent living in Tilly, long ago.

"Yeah, I did actually live in Tillydrone. It was a long time ago, um, but I had a house, stayed here for about two years, in Don Gardens, I enjoyed my time here.

"It was a lovely house that we stayed in as well. I think you always remember where your roots were, and that was when I first came up to Aberdeen, so it was, it was an enjoyable time for me."



ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

YES BALL GAME

YES BALL GAME



GRAMPIAN'S BIGGEST PRIDE YET!

Saturday the 25th of May, saw the streets of Aberdeen painted technicolour as the parade lined the streets for Grampian Pride.

The Parade crowd, 10,000 strong, a record-breaking number, gathered at the end of Union Street on the glorious sunny morning.

One of the parade leaders Alan, shared his thoughts on the importance of the day. "It is important to have Pride because there is still a lot of prejudice shown to the LGBT+ community, especially trans people. We reported last week the United Kingdom has dropped down the ILGA listing for how friendly a country it is to LGBT+ people. Dropping down in the 21st century."

ILGA is an independent international organisation connecting and nurturing alliances for LGBTI in society.

Alan continued, "If you ask me how this is important, I couldn't think of anything more important to do on a day like today. And the sun has come out".

"One of the nicest things about doing a Pride march from the inside of it, as opposed to sitting

and watching it, is the number of people who will be lining Union Street today, that will be waving and cheering. What's not to love about that amount of love in the city centre. I think we should have one every weekend!"

Steph was delighted to be celebrating her first parade. "I have spent the last 14 years living somewhere that this would never happen, so this is just a great thing for me. It's a positive atmosphere, I've already walked down Union Street and people stopped, smiled, what more do you want?"

"This is extremely important. Everybody forgets that Pride is also a protest, that's what it started as. People have embraced it for the positives which is great, but we can't forget that there is still a lot that has to be done and the protest needs to continue. Everybody's voice needs to be heard and this is a great way to do it."

BP were one of the events sponsors this year and the team marched

in spectacular full colour. "I am here with BP, we are marching in Grampian Pride to show our support to the LGBTQ+ community." Ross anticipated a fun filled, colourful day but emphasised the importance of Pride's history.

"Pride has its roots in protest, it was about gaining rights for the LGBTQ+ community. Thankfully, today at least in the UK, we have a lot more freedoms to come out and celebrate but it's good to have the visibility to show people who don't feel so comfortable or don't think they can be themselves to give them a voice and support them."

The community and support are clear to see. Partners Violet and Jayden were also enjoying the atmosphere. Violet felt, "It's one of the best things that Aberdeen has done for the queer community and it's nice to have this overwhelming sense of community." Jayden, in agreement, added, "I think it's absolutely amazing, I feel so accepted, it's like my safe space here".

Aberdeen queen, Cici Rider was blown away by the support this year. "I'm surprised how many people are here, they have really come out to support. I love it.

"It shows the support that people have that they might not feel like they do have. I think Aberdeen is growing to be more open minded, each year it gets better. Each year Pride gets bigger and bigger."

The fun didn't stop with the march down Union Street, the Party continued at the Pride Village at Duthie Park, where over 6,000 showed their support. There was plenty to enjoy, from live performances, food, drink, a silent disco and charity stalls too!

shmu who had their first ever stall at the village said "It was fantastic to be part of Pride and the atmosphere in the village was amazing. We had a fabulous day engaging with the community".

You can visit shmu's YouTube channel, shmuTV, to see the short film our Multimedia Team volunteers made on the day.

Happy Pride month from the Tilly Tattle!

"Pride has its roots in protest, it was about gaining rights for the LGBTQ+ community."





Are you interested in improving your community?

The Tillydrone, Woodside and Seaton Priority Neighbourhood Partnership could be for you! We aim to work together to jointly deliver action to address community priorities.

Join the Partnership to:

Provide a voice on behalf of people and your community

Share your knowledge, skills and experience

Get involved in work to improve your community

Support the delivery of Locality Plans – Read the refreshed Locality Plan for Central Locality at Refreshed Central Locality Plan

Find out more about how to join the Priority Neighbourhood Partnership, or the Central Locality Empowerment Group at Get Involved - Community Planning Aberdeen.

Ways to Get Involved

There are different ways for you to get involved in working with us towards a brighter future for our city and your neighbourhood, please visit our NEW website at <https://communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk/> to explore the different ways, or email us directly at communityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Webinar – hear more about Community Planning Aberdeen and our Refreshed Plans

Community Planning Aberdeen are committed to continuing our work to improve the lives of people, communities and businesses in Aberdeen. We would love you to Sign up to our webinar on **4 September at noon** to hear more about our refreshed City Wide and Locality Plans and our collective vision that Aberdeen is “a place where all people can prosper”. You can sign up at <https://tiny.cc/#>

Voting, and Methods of.

My mum once said to me, “remember, you vote with your purse”, which in the 1970s and 80s mean’t that we didn’t buy goods from South Africa because of the cruel Apartheid regime that was in place there. I was 24 years old when we watched Nelson Mandela being finally released from prison in 1990 and South African Apartheid legislation was finally repealed on the 17th June 1991.

Fast forward to today, and it is South Africa which is standing shoulder to shoulder with the people of Gaza in the International Court of Justice and in the Peace Palace in The Hague.

The way that you spend your money matters, but so does the way that you save it. A recent report from Share Action shows that the majority of insurance companies are underwriting and investing in projects that are increasing global warming.

Yes, your money can be a ballot, but your actual ballot matters too, especially in this year as more voters than ever in history will head to the polls in at least 64 countries. In the UK however, the coming election is set to be the most unequal with regards to age, income, class, home ownership and ethnicity according to the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR).

Home-owners vote more than renters, pensioners more than their grandchildren, graduates more than non-graduates and the wealthy more than the poor. Could this be contributing to the rise in inequality, the IPPR thinks so. They also envisage the creation of a ‘doom loop’ as policies become less reflective of the population at large and in turn stoking populism.

At this coming election it is now necessary to hold voter ID, so make sure you have the required ID or apply via this link - <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voting-and-elections/voter-id>

Kairin van Sweeden
Councillor for Ward 6

Take Flight with the Aberdeen RAF Air Cadets!

Are you aged 12-19 and looking for an adventure? Do you dream of soaring through the skies or want to develop valuable skills for life? Then look no further than the Aberdeen RAF Air Cadets!

The Air Cadets offer a unique opportunity to participate in exciting activities and learn new things in a supportive environment. You'll:

Develop leadership skills

Learn about aviation: From aircraft recognition to basic flight principles, discover the fascinating world of flight.

Enjoy outdoor adventures: Camping trips, hikes, and other activities will get you outdoors and having fun.

Gain qualifications: Earn recognized certificates like the BTEC in Aviation Studies, setting yourself apart.

Make lifelong friends: Meet new people who share your interests and create lasting memories.

The Sky's the Limit:

As an Air Cadet, you could even:

Fly in a plane: The Air Cadets offer opportunities for Air Experience Flights, giving you a taste of what it's like to be a pilot.

Travel and compete: Take part in national competitions and events, showcasing your skills and making new friends from across the UK.

No matter your background or interests, the Aberdeen RAF Air Cadets have something for you!

Ready to Join the Crew?

Visit our website at <https://www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets/> or come down to our squadron night (details on the website) to meet the team and see what it's all about.

Natasha Franklin



Aberdeen's Childline office celebrates 20th Birthday

Aberdeen volunteers continue to be there for young people in distress

Staff and volunteers in Aberdeen got together in May to celebrate 20 years of Childline in Aberdeen. During this time the Aberdeen office has experienced an alarming increase in the number of calls and online contacts, just last year delivering nearly 14,000 counselling sessions. And more than 6 million children nationwide have benefitted from the service since it began in 1986.

Thousands of children speak to a Childline counsellor in Scotland every year because they feel they have no one else to turn to about their worries or concerns. Volunteers listen, assess and explore feelings and options with callers, who contact Childline by phone and online about a range of issues including bullying, abuse, neglect, sexuality and pregnancy.

Formal training or qualifications in counselling are not required, as full training is provided to all successful applicants. All that's needed is a commitment to children, an open mind and an ability to listen and support young people who need to talk.

Registering interest can be done online via the NSPCC website: www.nspcc.org.uk/volunteer. Here you can sign up to an online information meeting which is the first step to volunteering.

You can also call the Aberdeen office to talk with the Volunteer Co-ordinator on **01224 973030**. Kerri Stewart says 'Increasing our volunteer team will enable us to reach even more children and will ensure that we continue to provide a lifeline for young people in distress'.



Multi-media team

We have recently began training for our brand new multi-media team!

The team are learning how to create content across shmu's media strands from video, audio and print.

The group got stuck in right away, learning how to use the camera's and have even started making a short film about shmu as their first project.

We cannot wait to see what they create!

Volunteer Poetry

One of our Wellbeing Café participants recently shared a poem they had written and we felt it only right to share it with you!

FUNNY HOW TIME WORKS
 EVERY DAY FEELS LIKE A CURSE
 NIGHT AND DAY WE STAY AWAKE
 EVERYONE AROUND US SEEMS TO BE FAKE
 WHERE TO GO WHEN WE HAVE NOWHERE TO RUN TO
 LOVE ESCAPES US IN EVERYTHING WE DO
 BLAMING OTHERS FOR THINGS THAT ARE OUR FAULT
 JUDGING EVERYONE ELSE FOR NO GOOD REASON AT ALL
 WHAT CAN WE DO AGAINST THIS OBLIVION
 TRYING TO STAY ALIVE DESPITE NOTHING TO LIVE ON
 WE FORGOT WHAT WE WERE FIGHTING FOR
 WHEN LUCK AND FORTUNE IS STANDING IN FRONT OF OUR DOOR
 DON'T REMEMBER WHAT WE CARED ABOUT
 ONLY CARE ABOUT OURSELVES ON OUR DAILY ROUTE
 WE NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY THAT WE LIVE
 STOP TAKING AND START LEARNING TO GIVE
 STARTING TO CARE ABOUT EVERYONE'S WELLBEING
 TAKE CARE OF OTHERS AND OURSELVES CAN BE FREEING
 SHARE THE WELFARE AND GIVE LOVE TO THE NEXT
 STOP SPREADING LIES, JUST TELL US THE FACTS
 SAVE OUR HOME THAT GAVE US SO MUCH
 DON'T BE AFRAID OF EMOTIONS OR SENTIMENTAL TOUCH
 WE NEED TO CHANGE OURSELVES FIRST BEFORE WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD
 THOUGH WITH EVERY STEP WE CAN MAKE THINGS BETTER THAN WE'VE LAST HEARD
 COMPASSION LACKING IN THE STREETS OF EACH CITY
 MAJORITY IGNORES WHILE THE REST DOES NOTHING BUT FEEL PITY
 WHEN WE NEED SOMEONE TO HOLD AND SOMEONE TO LISTEN
 BUT NONE IS THERE TO GIVE US ALL THAT WE'VE BEEN MISSING
 IGNORANCE AND BIAS IS SOCIETY'S BIGGEST POISON
 CAUSING DISTRESS WHEN HATE IS RISING
 OUR WALLS ARE NOT SAFE ANYMORE
 WHY CAN'T WE FEEL FREE WITHIN OUR SHORES
 UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION OF EXISTENCE
 NEED TO CREATE AN EFFECTIVE AND PEACEFUL RESISTANCE
 CREATE THE CHANGE AND START A NEW ERA OF ACCEPTANCE
 RAISE EVERYONE EQUAL, GIVE EVERYONE A CHANCE
 WHY CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET ALONG
 THERE IS NOTHING TRULY RIGHT OR WRONG
 NO LABELS, JUST HUMANS, LIVING TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY
 FIGHTING FOR THAT UTOPIA THAT COULD LAST AN ETERNITY
 A SAFE AND HEALTHY PLANET TO THOROUGHLY PROSPER
 KINDNESS AND COMMON SENSE FOR SOCIETY TO MUSTER
 ENLIGHTEN PEOPLE ABOUT THE TRUTH OF EXISTENCE AS WELL AS PURPOSE
 DISMISS THE ILLUSIONS OF DIFFERENCE TO BRING TOLERANCE TO THE SURFACE
 HELP ONE ANOTHER, PROSPER TOGETHER FOR EACH LIVING DAY
 BE TRUE TO YOURSELF AND SAY WANT YOU WANT TO SAY
 WE ARE ONE PEOPLE, WE ARE ONE PLANET, UNITED AS ONE
 I SHALL WAIT HERE UNTIL THE NEW ERA HAS FINALLY COME
 FELIX FERLICCHIA



Wallace Tower Update

Following our last update in the Spring edition of the Tilly Tattle, the Tillydrone Community Development Trust has been moving forward with plans to redevelop the Wallace Tower. Despite some delays, we anticipate our principal contractor, Chap Construction, to start work in early summer.

The ground floor of the building, with an extension at the back, will house a café. Wherever possible original features, such as the stone walls and flagstone floors will be retained. Restored additions, like windows, will be sympathetic to the age and heritage of the building, while the new extension will bring a more modern look to the building, with glazing and comfortable seating to create a welcoming environment for visitors to the café. Upper floors will house community and office spaces.

In May, Tillydrone Community Development Trust were delighted to meet with our architects and designers from Tinto Architecture to look at samples for the new and invigorated spaces. The colours and textures for the interiors will be in keeping with the original features, with inspiration from the natural environment and history of the surrounding area.

It's exciting to start seeing our vision for the Wallace Tower starting to take shape, and to bring the building back to life for the community and visitors. Look out for work starting soon, and another update in the next Tilly Tattle!

Aberdeen's Low Emission Zone: Cleaning Up the City Centre

Aberdeen joined the ranks of Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Dundee in 2022 with the introduction of a Low Emission Zone (LEZ) in the city centre. Designed to tackle air pollution, particularly nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) caused by traffic, the LEZ restricts entry to vehicles that don't meet certain emission standards. While the LEZ was announced in 2022, enforcement will begin in June 2024.

LEZ specifics:

Enforcement start date: June 1, 2024

Vehicle compliance check: The Scottish Government's LEZ checker tool allows you to enter your vehicle registration number to see if it meets the standards [low emission zones Scotland]

Why is Aberdeen implementing a LEZ?

Air pollution is a significant health concern, and Aberdeen's LEZ is a step towards cleaner air. By restricting high-polluting vehicles, the council aims to:

Reduce nitrogen dioxide levels.

Improve public health.

Contribute to Scotland's goal of achieving net zero emissions by 2045.

What does this mean for drivers?

Any vehicle entering the Aberdeen LEZ zone after June 1, 2024, needs to meet the minimum emission standards:

Petrol cars: Euro 6 (generally registered after 2000)

Diesel cars: Euro 6 (generally registered after 2015)

Non-compliant vehicles will face a penalty charge.

Looking for more information?

The Aberdeen City Council website offers a dedicated LEZ webpage with comprehensive information, including a map of the zone and frequently asked questions low emission zone Aberdeen

Natasha Franklin

Community Contacts

Aberdeen City Council Helpline - 0800 0304 713

ALCOHOL

Alcoholics Anonymous - 0800 9177 650

Drinkline - 0300 123 1110

CRIME

Crimestoppers - 0800 555 111

DRUGS

Alcohol and Drugs Action Helpline

01224 594700 or 07927192706

Narcotics Anonymous

0300 999 1212

DENTIST

Emergency - G-Dens - 111

DOCTORS

NHS 24 Emergency - 111

POLICE

Non-Emergency - 101

ELECTRICITY

If you have a power-cut - 105

GAS

Gas Emergency - 0800 111 999

WATER

Scottish Water Emergency - 0800 0778 778

HOUSING

Emergency Repairs - 03000 200 292

Family Planning - 0345 337 9900

Mental Health Aberdeen - 01224 573892

Breathing Space - 0800 838 587

Samaritans - Need to talk

01224 574 488 or 116 123

SOCIAL WORK

Adult Protection - 0800 731 5520

Joint Child Protection Team

01224 306877 or 0800 731 5520

Aberdeen Carers Support Service - 01224 914036

Age Scotland - 0800 1244 222

CFINE 01224 596156

Financial Advice at CFINE 01224 531386

Pathways 01224 682 939

Citizens Advice 01224 586255

St Machar Credit Union 01224 276994

Penumbra First Response 0800 234 3695

Oldmachar Medical Practice

0345-337-0510

Old Aberdeen Medical Practice

01224 486702

Tillydrone Clinic

01224 276723

Tillydrone Library

01224 489539

Woodside Medical Group

01224 492828

LOCAL COUNCILLORS:

Councillor Alex McLellan

07500 999522

amclellan@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Councillor Kairin Van Sweeden

07977399586

KVSweeden@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Councillor Ross Grant

07738688458

rossgrant@aberdeencity.gov.uk

DOMESTIC ABUSE SUPPORT

Domestic Abuse is not acceptable. It is not your fault and you are not alone. Domestic Abuse is when you are hurt, bullied or frightened by:
Your husband or wife. Your boyfriend or girlfriend
Your current or ex-partner

Their behaviour can be; controlling, physical, sexual, financial or emotional.

Help and support

There are services available to support you, and they are still open. You do not have to wait for an emergency to get help. Tell someone you trust or contact:

National Domestic Abuse Helpline Free and confidential advice. Open to all. 24 hours a day. Telephone: 0800 027 1234. Website: sdfmh.org.uk

Grampian Women's Aid

Telephone: 01224 593381. Website: grampian-womens-aid.com

Rape Crisis Grampian Telephone: 01224 590932. Website: rapecrisisgrampian.co.uk

LGBT Domestic Abuse Helpline

Telephone: 0300 999 5428 or email info@galop.org.uk

Men's Advice Line

Telephone: 0808 801 0327