

TillyTattle

Summer 2025

In this issue:

UDECIDE

SCHOOL NEWS

EARTH & WORMS

COMMUNITY CAMPUS

www.shmu.org.uk/press



Summer Edition 2025

contents

3	CFINE
4	Bulky Uplift
5	Operation Armour
6&7	Tillydrone Community Campus
8	Tilly Tattle
9	Connected Tillydrone
10	Stage to Page
11	School News
12&14	UDecide
14	shmu
15	Earth & Worms



Welcome...

This summer find out how you can get involved in developing Tillydrone's new community website and the Tilly Tattle. Find out what exciting offers the Campus have and more!

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.



Supported by





Aberdeen Wins Gold!

Granite City Good Food have done the city proud by securing the prestigious recognition.

Aberdeen has become the first city in Scotland and the sixth in the UK to achieve the Gold Status Sustainable Food Places Award.

Aberdeen became the first City in Scotland to achieve a bronze-level Sustainable Food Places Award in 2018 after the groups establishment in 2017. Moving on to achieve a silver award alongside Edinburgh in 2022. Now they have proved the power of partnership with their latest success.

Sustainable Food Places is a UK wide partnership, aiming to transform food culture through collaborative working, building public awareness, tackling food poverty, transforming local supply chains and more.

Granite City Good Food Chair, Lesley Dunbar of Middlefield Community Project said, "Our SFP Gold Award is a great achievement for Aberdeen – the city and its

communities. It demonstrates the strength of our partnership. Hundreds of people have helped to achieve this award, among them our 60 community growing spaces and 93 Community Food Members."

Granite City Good Food is hosted by CFINE who support the coordination of the project. CFINE Chief Executive, Fiona Rae commented: "Achieving the Sustainable Food Places Gold award is fantastic for Aberdeen and demonstrates the true commitment to achieving sustainable outcomes for our city. CFINE is delighted to play an integral part in coordinating Granite City Good Food, the local Sustainable Food Places Partnership, and I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the range of cross sector partners across Aberdeen who have contributed to achieving Gold. Building a strong, engaged, and active good food movement is crucial to the future sustainability of Aberdeen, and being the first partnership in Scotland to achieve

the gold standard is a key part in driving this work forward into the future. I am delighted this partnership has been recognised both locally and nationally, and I would like to thank Sustainable Food Places for their ongoing support."

CFINE's Sustainable Food Coordinator, Martin Carle, who coordinates Granite City Good Food, celebrated: "Achieving the first Sustainable Food Places Gold Award in Scotland is an amazing piece of recognition for partners, stakeholders, and communities across Aberdeen. It reflects a huge amount of effort which has gone into embedding a whole-systems approach to sustainable food, and shows the city has a lot to be proud of and there is so much to be excited about, looking to the future."

Granite City Good Food Promises to continue their excellent work by developing its plans, expanding its partnership and working with the council in the Locality Improvement Plan.

fear fascination a gothic exhibition

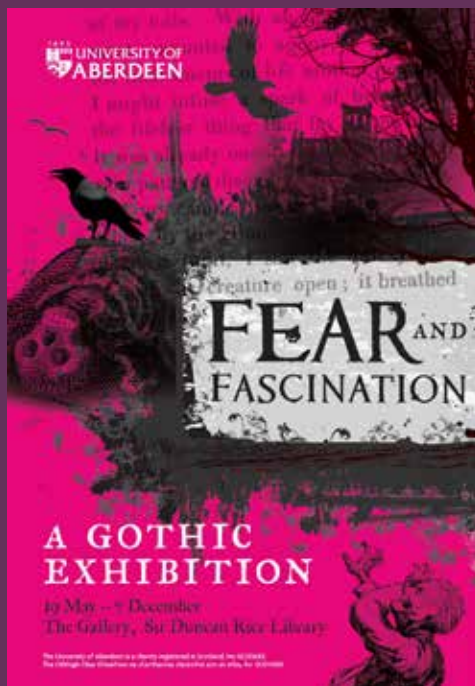
19 May – 7 December 2025

*The Gallery, Sir Duncan
Rice Library*

Step into a world of Gothic terror in the latest exhibition from University of Aberdeen Collections.

Showcasing the extensive collection of Gothic novels, this exhibition explores how these texts used fear to both terrify and excite readers with their tales of monsters and villains, and exploration of transgressive themes.

Discover hidden meanings within these classic tales that question, are the monsters truly monstrous?



Book a bulky Uplift

Fly tipping and the leaving of items on the street are issues that keep on arising in the across Aberdeen. Did you know that **Council Tenants are entitled to have 4 standard household items collected for free each year as part of their Tenancy agreement?**

Booking an uplift is easier than you may think. Go to -www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/bins-waste-and-recycling/book-bulky-uplift - to book an uplift or find out more.

To report fly tipping go to www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/environment/report-flytipping

Items that can be uplifted - Beds, Mattresses, Furniture, Cookers, Fridges, Freezers, Electrical items, Internal doors

Please note any items that need to be connected to any power or water supply must be disconnected before the collection can be done. Any item that requires liquid fuel to power it must have fuel removed prior to collection. Also note that large items should be dismantled where possible.

If you are not a council tenant, you can still book a collection but the following charges apply and you must make payment before a collection can be scheduled.

£45 for four standard household items (certain items have an additional charge)

£22.50 for four standard household items if you receive Housing benefit or Council Tax benefits (you must provide your benefit reference number when booking).

Items with additional charges

£90 per item includes –

American style fridge freezer, Piano, Kitchen Units, Bathroom suite (toilet, bath, sink), Sheds and greenhouses (must be dismantled), Built in Cupboards, Window frames (without the glass), Fencing, Garden toys (e.g. slides, sandpits).

£45 per item –

Industrial BBQ/grills, Sun bed without tubes – tubes must be taken to the recycling centres at Tullos or Hazlehead (addresses below).

Items which can't be collected

Restrictions due to health and safety legislation means we can't collect any of the following items:

Asbestos, Builder's rubble and materials, Car engines, Central heating boiler, Glass and shards of glass, Chemicals, Liquids of any type, e.g. paints, varnishes, oils (fuels required to power any items must be removed before collection), Motorcycles, Tyres, Tree stumps, Gas cylinders

Recycling Centres

Tullos Recycling Centre,
Greenbank Crescent, AB12 3BC

Hazehead Recycling Centre,
Hazlehead Avenue, AB15 8BJ





Operation Armour

Operation Armour is an intelligence led operation relating to the criminal and anti-social use of Electric Bikes and Electric off-road motorcycles across Aberdeen City.

For the past few years Police Scotland have been inundated with calls from the public in relation to the use of Electric pushbikes, scooters and Electric off-road motorcycles that are being used on pavements, roads and in public places illegally. This anti-social behaviour is intimidating communities and posing serious dangers to both pedestrians and road users.

Electric pushbikes or e-bikes in common language, must meet a particular criterion to have the same legal standing as regular non-assisted bicycles. This is required for e-bikes to be permitted on the roads, cycle paths and other places where bicycles are allowed under UK law. Electric assistance can only be provided to a maximum of 25kph (15.5mph). The motor

used must be of no more than 250 Watts (maximum continuous rated power). The e-bike's pedals must be in motion for motor assistance to be provided. The rider must be 14 years of age or over.

Trial areas have been set up for e-scooter rental companies throughout the UK however not in Scotland. Due to this E Scooters here are illegal to use. To ride one you must have the category Q entitlement on your licence. A full or provisional licence for categories AM, A or B includes the entitlement for category Q. Provisional licence holders do not need to show L plates, and you do not need to wear a cycle helmet by law, however it is recommended. You must have insurance for an E scooter however unless it's within a Trial area it is very unlikely the rider will have any in place. The most common charges you will come across in relation to E scooters is no licence or no insurance.

Electric-off-road motorcycles are capable of high speeds and are illegal to use on roads. The

rider must have insurance, a driving licence and must wear a helmet. Most of these electric off-road motorcycles are not registered for road use and therefore cannot be insured. The riders routinely conceal their identity and do not have registration plates on the bikes, making them difficult to trace. The riders will also 'goad' Police to take chase, however Police Scotland tend not to pursue them given the risk of serious injury or worse.

Throughout the month of May, the Community Action Team have been making efforts to identify those that own these E-motorcycles and identify where they are being stored. Various nominals and addresses have been identified throughout the city with help from the public.

To date several E-motorcycles and E-Scooters have been seized by the Community Action Team, and various nominals have been reported to the Procurator Fiscal and Children's reporter for various Road Traffic and Misuse of Drugs Offences.

TILLYDRONE COMMUNITY CAMPUS

We have been very busy at the Campus over the last few months, delivering on our remit of providing a warm and welcoming community space with loads of activities taking place. Since January, we have added new classes to our timetable, many of which were requested by the community, and many are being run by volunteers.

We were very fortunate to secure some funding to run a 10-week 'Make Do and Mend' class (currently on Tuesdays). This was so popular, and places filled up within hours. It's a fun class where you can come along and learn how to sew and take advantage of the sewing equipment and skills on offer. Take a project that you're working on and socialise with like-minded people and, for the more seasoned pros, take along an item of clothing that you wish to repair, upcycle or even turn into something new! From learning how to sew on a button or take up a hem, to making curtains, it's all going on! Class participants are currently busy making bunting for the Tilly Gala! We have a fantastic tutor named Lucia who is all about the upcycling movement and you could listen to her for hours talking about how great and amazing upcycling of clothing can be.

For our younger people, every Tuesday we are offering a chill out club for Primary's 6/7 and S1. The group come together, play games, hang out or use our ping pong table. This allows them to socialise and get to know others from their community before going up to secondary school. On a Wednesday we have our amazing guitar tutor, Bob, who is a local resident of Tillydrone and who comes along and teaches guitar. We have a few spaces available and even a spare guitar if you need to borrow one, so don't let that be an obstacle! On a Wednesday evening, we offer creative writing classes with Ryan or classic explorers, different characters and pieces of writing. So, whether you've got writer's block or you have a novel in you and you're just not sure how to get it out, come along and Ryan can help! The other classes that are on offer (including Chair Yoga, Mandarin, Arts & Crafts, City Moves 'Strive' dance classes, Blueberry Wellness fitness classes, Shazam drama group etc) are going from strength to strength too. The best way to find out what we have available for you is to come and check out our 'What's on' wall that's in the Campus next to Foodie's Cafe (it's also a great excuse to get a delicious but cheap lunch too, with amazing quality from Jenny). Our monthly book club are currently on

their fourth book since starting and I think the favourite so far that they've read is 'The Midnight Library' by Matt Haig. These books are available at the Tillydrone library if you'd also like to read along with the book group but can't attend the monthly session. We are excited about plans for the coming months - from the 4th of June we are offering lunchtime talks every fortnight. The idea of the talks is that they are all centred around health. Whether it's mental health, physical health, or things that impact your health, these talks are offered every 2nd Wednesday 12:15 until 1:30p.m. and for the first 15 people who sign up, you can then have a free lunch at foodies!

This summer from July 21st until August 15th we will be running free children's workshops for young people, aged 8 to 12 years old, at the campus. There'll be lots of different activities from musical theatre, arts and crafts etc and booking opens June 2nd. To find out what's on, pop into the Tillydrone Community Campus or check out my Facebook page. Marie, Project Coordinator or email me at:

tillydronepc@gmail.com

**Marie Strang,
Project Coordinator,
Tillydrone Community Campus
May 2025**



TILLY GALA RETURNS!

The Tillydrone Gala is set to return this summer!

Tilly has not held a community gala since before the pandemic, so all are excited to see the return of the fantastic event.

Keep an eye out on Facebook for further details of the event being announced, we hope to see you there!



TILLY TATTLE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Tilly Tattle are looking for volunteers to join our editorial team! The Tilly Tattle is your community magazine, and for it to be truly representative of the community, we need residents to get involved and help out with the production of the magazine.

The magazine is put together by a local editorial team of volunteers, with the support of shmu's Community Media Development Worker, Rose. This is the community's platform to celebrate their successes, share their news, raise awareness to issues affecting them and anything that is important to them.

How does the editorial team work?

We produce three editions of Tilly Tattle per year. The Editorial

team meet three times during the production of each edition to discuss ideas, plan content and plan the page layouts of the magazine.

We currently meet at the Tillydrone Campus Café for editorial meetings. The next magazine we will be producing will be the Autumn edition and meetings will begin in August.

What can I do as part of the editorial team?

There are a variety of things that editorial team members can get involved in. There is no pressure to do everything, just what you are interested in doing. Rose is also available to support volunteers to help them to contribute.

Here's some of the things you can do:

Join the meetings, share your thoughts and ideas.

Connect with other community members.

Write articles.

Photography – we always need photos for front covers and for content within the magazine.

Proofreading/editing.

Attending community events.

To make Tilly Tattle as representative of the community as possible we need your help! Please get in touch with Rose by emailing rose.ross@shmu.org.uk or calling 01224 515 013 to enquire and/or arrange a time to chat further. Or if you'd like to chat to our current fantastic volunteers, we can organise a meeting of the team



CONNECTED TILLYDRONE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

shmu is working with the Tillydrone Community to produce a community website for the area.

We have begun development of Connected Tillydrone, a one-stop-shop website for the whole community. The site will capture the character of Tillydrone, celebrate its successes, provide an outlet for its news, events, media and all things

Tillydrone. However, we need the community's help to shape it into platform which is beneficial and worthwhile to its residents.

We are forming a Connected Tilly steering group, to collaborate with the community throughout the website's development. This is your community website to mould, we want to hear your thoughts and ideas.

Tell us what you'd like to see on the site, from stories, pictures, films and other media to organisations, groups and events.

If you'd like to take part, please join us for our next steering group meeting at 11am on the 10th of July at ALC. If you'd like to get involved, or would like more information, please contact **Rose on rose.ross@shmu.org.uk or call 01224 515 013.**

CONNECTED TILLYDRONE PHOTO COMPETITION

We are delighted to announce the Connected Tillydrone Photo Competition.

Don't be camera shy! Send us your images that capture the character of Tillydrone, to be in with a chance to be featured on Connected Tillydrone Website.

We are on the lookout for photos which capture Tillydrone's character, it's landscapes and its people.

Winning photos will be displayed on the Connected Tillydrone website when launched.

Landscape photos are preferred for showcasing on the website;

however portrait photos can be used within the site or the pages of Tilly Tattle.

The closing date for entries is the 1st of August. To enter, send your photos to Rose at rose.ross@shmu.org.uk

Winners and prizes will be announced in August.





Bat out of Hell- A Rock Spectacle:

On the 11th of March 2025, the cast and crew of the West End hit musical *Bat Out of Hell* took to the HMT Stage. This show is a high-energy rock and roll experience featuring the iconic music of the late Meat Loaf.

This amazing production delivers a string of Meat Loaf's greatest hits, including "I'd Do Anything For Love (But I Won't Do That)," "Paradise By The Dashboard Light," "Two Out of Three Ain't Bad," and, of course, "Bat Out of Hell."

The cast delivers powerful vocals and lively dance numbers. Giving the audience a breathtakingly stunning experience. The production features a grungy, post-apocalyptic set design with video projections and live camera feeds, creating a dynamic visual experience. The plot is loosely based on J.M. Barrie's "Peter Pan," with a focus on teenage rebellion and romance. "Bat Out of Hell" at HMT Aberdeen is a thrilling rock

musical that will appeal to Meat Loaf fans. The music, energy, and visual spectacle are the highlights of the show.

An Inspector Calls - Thought-Provoking Masterpiece

"An Inspector Calls" at HMT Aberdeen is a compelling and thought-provoking production of J.B. Priestley's classic play. The show explores themes of social responsibility, guilt, and class inequality, and its relevance continues to resonate with modern audiences. The cast delivers strong performances, effectively portraying the characters' complex emotions and moral dilemmas.

The production features a visually striking set, often with a symbolic representation of the class divide. The design enhances the play's atmosphere and themes.

The intricate design of the set perfectly cultivated the atmosphere within the theatre. The use of

lighting, sound, and special effects creates a tense and dramatic atmosphere, immersing the audience in the story. The play's exploration of social responsibility and its critique of societal issues leave a lasting impact, prompting reflection long after the curtain falls. This play will pull you deep into the world of the characters, hanging on to every suspenseful moment.

When you venture to HMT to see this amazing production, you can expect a gripping and suspenseful narrative with twists and turns. A visually impressive production with creative staging. A play that is both entertaining and intellectually stimulating. A story that explores timeless themes with continued relevance.

"An Inspector Calls" at HMT Aberdeen is a powerful and memorable theatrical experience that is well worth seeing.

Natasha Franklin

Riverbank Ready

By Aleigha Smith

On the 9th of May 2025 Riverbank pupils moved into the new school, all excited. They started building the new school in 2020, but it was struggling to get built again because of Covid. That went on for a while. They had to pay a lot of money, and they were finding it hard to get all the money needed to start building it again. It was a really long process, but it eventually got finished in 2025.

In May 2025 pupils had a visit to the new school. "We have unisex toilets which means boys and girls share toilets" said Aleigha. The pupils were so excited for this amazing new school. The pupils were walking around the new school on the visit saying the classrooms

are gorgeous and amazed at how big the lunch hall is. They were just speechless.

There are three different wings; the yellow wing, which is for the P1 and P2 classes, the green wing is for the P3s and P4s, and finally, the blue wing is for P5, P6 and P7.

There is a nook in each wing and in the library. A nook is designed to be a quiet working space which is soundproof. There are also different coloured lights in it to help you concentrate. There is a running track outside which is 500m long, and soundproof walls in the gym hall/dining hall. The soundproofing makes a big

difference to the noise levels, and pupils can concentrate and hear better in busy areas. There is an astroturf at the new school, where classes can be timetabled at lunchtimes, and RADS can be done there too. The school football team will enjoy using it for training and being able to host games. Finally, there are two smart panels in each classroom, bringing more technology and opportunities for fun learning.

Aleigha also said, "It's so good that the P7's got a chance to be at the new school before we go to Academy in August." The pupils are enjoying settling into their new, long-awaited building.

Pupils are Riverbank Ready

by Yuchen Jiang

Riverbank pupils and staff were finally able to use the new school for the first time on May 9th, 2025.

The pupils and staff of Riverbank school were very excited to go to the new school after a few years of building, after long delays due to Covid.

The school was a giant upgrade from the one they had before. There are two TVs in each classroom which are connected to each other, and there is also a dance room and an astro which can be used for

teaching sessions as well as for the school football team to train and host games.

The size of the school is also bigger than the one they were previously in. There are two floors and three sections, called wings. There is the yellow section where P1-P2 stays, there's green where the P3-P4 classes are and then there is the blue wing where the P5-P7 classes are housed. The nursery has also had an upgrade and have a new garden and learning area on the

ground floor, alongside the PE hall and dining hall. The dining hall and PE hall have been soundproofed meaning that the noise is a lot more bearable for pupils and staff alike.

Max, one of the pupils, said "The school is pretty good." Dominion, another pupil said that his favourite part is the astro. "We get to play at break and lunch."

Hopefully the P7's will make the most of their time at the new school before they leave for secondary schools at the summer.



UDecide Tillydrone

The results for Aberdeen City Council’s participatory budgeting fund, U Decide, was announced on 7th March. There was £60,000 worth of funding available, £40,000 from Community Planning Aberdeen and £20,000 from the Fairer Aberdeen Fund. The total would be split across Aberdeen’s priority neighbourhoods in each of the three localities: North, Central and South. This means £20,000 could be applied to each locality and shared amongst some of the projects in the community.

Community groups applied for funding by explaining what projects will benefit and how the funds will be used. The public have a direct involvement in deciding how the funds are spent as they could vote for what project they want a share of the funds awarded to in their area. The central locality saw 7 projects receive a share of £20,000. Three

of these projects are based in Tillydrone.

The projects which received funding in Tillydrone were:

ALC Breakfast Club

“ALC recently held a workshop at St Machar Academy which listened to students’ thoughts on the issues and challenges facing their communities and to hear their suggestions for services ALC could provide which could help. Students highlighted many issues, however, there was two notable recurring themes, which was access to a safe warm environment and the of issues related to food poverty. ALC is in a great position to address these concerns. We will offer a breakfast club primarily for academy student though open to younger age groups if required. The service will be available five days a week during term time and open from 07:30-09:00.”

Tillydrone Community Flat Foodbank

“For several years, the community flat has supported residents with emergency food provision. Due to the steep rise in food and energy costs, job losses as a result of the pandemic and the downturn in oil and gas services and the introduction of Universal Credit, more and more vulnerable residents are seeking support to feed themselves and their families. We provide food to everyone who needs it – babies, children, single people, pensioners, refugees, asylum seekers and those who have No Recourse to Public Funds. We provide a food parcel (approx. two days of emergency food) once a fortnight and this is topped up through weekly deliveries from Fareshare and donations from Cairncry Community Centre who have links with the Co-op. Demand has increased exponentially over the past few years and despite reducing our

service from once a week to once every two weeks, we still struggle to meet demand. The foodbank service plays a vital role in maintaining health and equalities within the community and is a lifeline for many.”

Fun in the sun!

“This year Tillydrone Community Campus SCIO will provide FREE fun activities for young people 8-12 years, over four weeks in the Summer. Each week there will be different activities running at The Campus.

“The SCIO wants to engage more with the community and what better way to engage with young people than in the school holidays! There will be lots to choose from so they can attend for a half day or for a full week!

“The format of “Fun in the Sun” will be two weeks of skills based classes taught by local tutors. Examples: Drama, Singing, Art, Yoga. The other two weeks will be run by our Project Coordinator and sessional workers providing workshops like “a play in a day”, Table top games, Picnic in the park, Scavenger hunt, Crafts etc. This is just some of the ideas we have been given.

“We really want to give young people of Tillydrone the chance to have fun in The Campus and help show them it can be a welcoming space for all. The main result The SCIO would like to see is young people coming and using the building respectively, realising The Campus is a space for them, and they are an important part of the community. They are the future after all!”

Tillydrone Lunchtime Talks

Tillydrone Community Campus are launching fortnightly lunchtime talks from June 2025 until March/April 2026.

With funding from NHS Grampian the talks will have a theme of health, mental and physical.

There will be different speakers from a variety of organisations delivering talks at the campus. The talks are completely free, will be around 45 minutes long and a free lunch will be provided by Foodies café.

There are 15 spaces per talk so make sure to book your space. Keep an eye on the Campus’ Facebook page for the announcement of talks and how to book. Upcoming talks include, Absafe, shmu and Forget Me Not, a dementia charity who will discuss the signs of dementia and coping with diagnosis.

Importantly there will be plenty of signposting to relevant organisations which can help. Make sure to check these out!

Where are the defibrillators on the local area?

There are several defibrillators across the area that are accessible to the public, in case of emergency.

A defibrillator is a device used when a person is in cardiac arrest and their heart has stopped. It is used to give a jolt of energy to the heart to get it beating.

There are a few different names for it such as public access defibrillator (pad) and AED which means automated external defibrillator.

While we hope that you never have to use one of these devices, it is handy to know where they are should an emergency ever take place.

There are 3 defibs located across the Tilly area.

The local defibrillators are located:

***Tillydrone Community Campus
Lighthouse/Donside
Community Church
Cathedral Church of St Machar***

What to do if you need a defibrillator

Call 999, ask for an ambulance and start CPR if someone is in cardiac arrest. The 999 operator will talk you through CPR and locating a defib.

If you’re alone don’t stop CPR to track down a defib – try and get someone else to go and find one.

The British Heart Foundation’s defib finder can help you find your nearest defibrillator. It uses data from the national defibrillator network. **www.defibfinder.uk/**

When looking for your nearest defib – look for signs that say AED or have a green heart image.

Once you find a defib, it may be in a locked box – the emergency services operator will be able to provide the code for you.

Defibs are designed to be used by anyone, without training and clear instructions will be given by the device. It will talk you through the whole process.

A Course for All Ages (even mine)

They say, 'use it or lose it.' Like all cliches this one has a lot of truth to it. Anyone who works out at the gym will tell you how quickly a spell of laziness will undo all your hard work. Surely, it's the same with the mind. Keep the little grey cells working out by learning a language or a musical instrument. As the poet says, 'make it new.'

So, when the present writer, no longer in the first flush of youth, saw that shmu was running a course Introduction to Community Film, I quickly volunteered. I bought a good camera and mic with the thought of making YouTube videos. But I'd never really used it, using the equipment for little more than snapshots. This course was just the thing to get me started.

Trouble was that I feared that this old guy would be taking up a place from a young person, and we all know that opportunities for young people are getting harder to find. But the folk at shmu assured me that this was no problem, and that all were welcome.

And so, my Thursday mornings for the next ten weeks were occupied with the workings of cameras, microphones and editing software. There was talk of shots and interview techniques. I personally struggled a bit with the editing side of things, with my failing eyesight. It seemed to me that all this new tech is made with young eyes in mind. But I took to camera like a duck to proverbial water. Although you are exposed to all aspects of film making, there is scope for specialising.

The staff up at shmu are enthusiastic and help you to go with your strengths.

Then, finally, let's make a film.

At the time they were doing the yearly Winter Wonderland at the Woodside Community Centre. I thought that filming local folk transforming the Centre into something magical would make an interesting short film. All agreed, and the cameras started rolling.

I was amazed at just how much work is involved. But finally, we got the film finished and I had that satisfied feeling from having actually made something.

Then the ten weeks were over, but my involvement in film making is still open, for there is a film making group at shmu that I'm thinking of joining. I enjoyed this course with shmu and feel confident and enthusiastic about getting some filming done over the summer.

So, if you are at a loose end, want to re-train or just improve your skills, why not check out what shmu has to offer? It's on your doorstep after all. Use it. What have you got to lose?

See Santa Claus Comes to Woodside on YouTube. It already has a mighty 39 views!

Douglas Thomson



BLOOMIN' LOVELY!

WHAT'S ON AT EARTH & WORMS COMMUNITY GARDEN?

If you haven't been to see us yet, we're a community gardening group based on Hayton Road. Our main garden area is based behind the Chemist – you'll see our hedges and polytunnel from the pavement. We're open to the public every day, so feel free to come by anytime, even if it's just to enjoy the quiet. We're always trying new stuff, from film screenings to craft sessions, from herbal medicines to panel discussions, from meditations to community consultations...

Follow our Facebook page for more information or ping us an email to say hi.

Facebook.com/earth.n.worms

Earth.n.worms@gmail.com

Big Dig Days

We have a big session every two or three weeks, where we pick

one main activity and bash on at it together for a day. We post these dates in batches, and normally we release a poster listing dates every couple of months. The sessions run from 11AM until 4PM, with a light communal lunch in the middle, and sometimes a relaxed social in the evenings after. So far this year, we've tended to living willow structures and fruiting bushes, we've built garden beds and laid paths, we've restored gates and woven fences... And a whole bunch more.

Veg Club

In the evenings, we meet up in the garden to grow veg, talk about veg, delight in the subject of veg, and many other things about veg. This one's great for all ages, and all levels of ability and mobility. The vegetables raised go towards feeding our volunteers or are shared in the local community.

Foraging with Ru

We're going on monthly foraging walks from now until Autumn. Sometimes it's just a relaxed walk to see what's growing, and others it's a deep dive on a particular subject. Expect wild greens and flowers, weaving with foraged fibers, and going out to raid the hedgerows for berries.

We'd love to see you at the garden soon. For session times and other information, catch us on Facebook, or look out for our posters in the Tillydrone Community Campus and other community settings.



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

ABZWorks

abzworks.co.uk

01224 070200

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