

torry's vision

Spring 2011



retail rocks project
spring fire safety
health in torry

Features

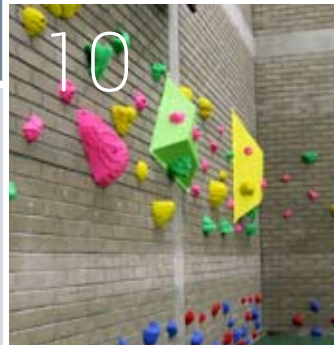
**ROYAL PASSENGER
ONBOARD THE READING BUS**

**OUR STORY
ART PROJECT
UPDATE**

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Editorial

Welcome to Torry's Vision Spring Edition

The content inside Torry's Vision is a fine representation of the activities and events which happen on a daily or weekly basis in our community. We are a vibrant and creative village with a big heart.

Torry's Vision is here to give a voice to the citizens of Torry. We all have something to say about our community – whether it's about bin collections, seagulls, traffic or more positive aspects like our artistic and musical talents. We now have an opportunity to ensure all of our community has an input.

If you want to get involved in your community magazine or find out more, please contact Denise at SHMU on..

Telephone **(01224) 515013**
Email denise@shmu.org.uk

Thanks for reading and enjoy the rest of your magazine.

Supported by





The RETAIL ROCKS project



Retail Rocks is a competition based programme that will engage with the local community by giving the opportunity to open retail businesses in Torry. Critical to the success of the new businesses is the provision of business mentoring and training and the Retail Rocks model already has commitment from key high street retailers and specialists in retail to provide in-kind support.

Training will be facilitated through Business Gateway, Aberdeen College and the National Skills Academy for Retail.

Retail Rocks Limited and Aberdeen City Council were successful in securing funding from the Town Centre Regeneration Fund for the programme in the Torry area of Aberdeen. The Retail Rocks project in Torry seeks to deliver:

- A 64% reduction in empty shops in Torry, encouraging further take-up of currently closed shops.
- 6 new retail businesses set up in Torry
- The initial creation of new jobs
- The use of local businesses to refurbish properties, thereby assisting in sustainability for non-retail businesses
- The creation of specialist retailing to attract folk to shop in Torry
- increased property values, thereby creating investor confidence
- The provision of an enhanced built environment that looks and feels safer and more vibrant
- The development of and

opportunities for local social enterprises

- The reduction in crime and perception of crime and anti-social behaviour, leading to increased turnover for local traders
- Improved choice for convenience retailing thereby offering opportunities to deliver healthy eating initiatives
- The integration of high street retailers in the business mentoring support

This project is about changing perceptions as well as making tangible and physical improvements. It is about empowering the community to take ownership and to give confidence. The approach developed in Torry will be used as a base for those wanting a start in retail business and other opportunities will be created and developed to create jobs.

The project is gathering pace now and a high number of applications for the competition have been received, which are currently being assessed for a decision on the winners by the end of March. Works to the shops are now well advanced and all units will be completed to a point of fit-out.

Our Story Part 2



In Torry an exciting intergenerational project has been established with local residents and adult group 'Torry Arts', who are collaborating with young people from Tullos and Walker Road Primary Schools. The community art volunteers are working closely with professional artists to embrace their new found practical and creative skills, matched with their own experiences to enable quality sharing and mentoring with the young people involved.

Quotes from Community Volunteers

"I felt they listened to me and they understood what I was talking about."

"I think if you give kids respect and don't talk down to them, they will give respect back."

The four lead artists and seven community art volunteers have helped the fifteen pupils involved create collaged and folded sketchbooks. Their final books house their ideas for Intergenerational creations and collaborations; this includes constructed textiles, illustration and digital collage.

A further Torry adult art group has recently been established at Tullos Community Centre due to interest from local residents. Arts Development staff and volunteers

are currently working to support individuals involved to capture their past, present and future creative experiences in cast resin blocks.

"I would really like to speak out for the group and say that we enjoy the Tuesday morning art class, as we do lots of different things, like work with stained and fused glass, oil paintings and now resin casting. I find the class very welcoming and it has helped me to discover my own creative interests. The group is very mixed in ages and it is really good to hear from the older generation, what they used to make and create in the field of art and crafts. The class has awakened my feelings in art and has given me confidence to try new things that I would not do consider doing elsewhere."

The culmination of the project will be an Our Story Exhibition in Aberdeen Art Gallery in May 7th – June 18th 2011. Seven other regeneration areas of the city will also be contributing to the exhibition.

The visual aspect of the exhibition from the Torry based group, will highlight the 'Creative Journey' of the participants. They will create a small environment within the gallery space that visually captures the community spirit and creative side of one of the oldest parts of Aberdeen.

Throughout the exhibition there will be a bookable programme of talks, workshops and events delivered by professionals and community volunteers, for more information please contact Arts Development:

Mandy Clarke (Community Arts Officer) 01224 523642

mclarke@aberdeencity.gov.uk

www.arts.development.co.uk

www.flickr.com/photos/artsdevelopment

'Torry Arts' Forum

Torry Arts Forum are busy planning a team building and training weekend in partnership with Community Learning & Development and Arts Development. We hope that the time we commit as a group away at Douneside House, Tarland will help us to develop our skills and become more united as a group. The Torry Arts Forum are also working on fund raising, and are currently working on funding applications for projects to benefit their local Community.

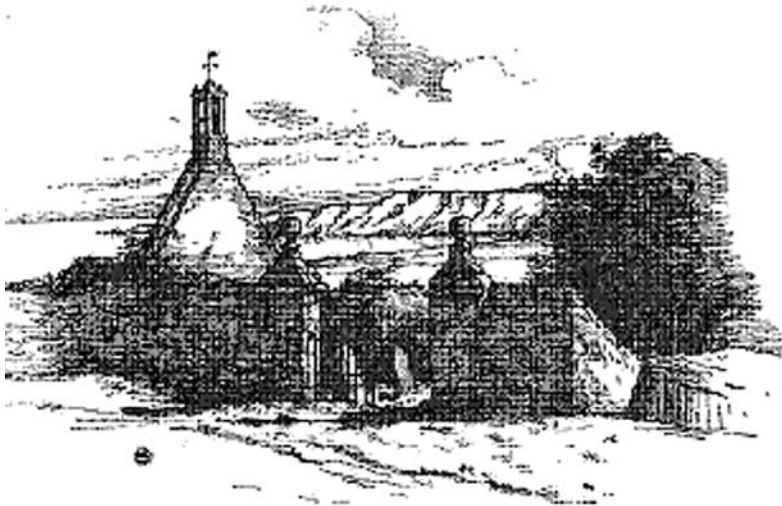
For further information or to get in touch with 'Torry Arts' Forum, please contact:

Lorraine Young, Community Learning and Development

Tel: 01224 291882

lyoung@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Saint Fittick's Day



The Torry Gala this year has been switched from June to August 27th 2011. To fit in with Saint Fittick's Day (Which is August 30th).

There are two reasons for this - A new gala organiser and an attempt to give the festivities a theme.

Saint Fittick is the patron saint of Torry and it is fitting we find a way to celebrate this in some way and the gala gives an opportunity to do this.

The planning is ongoing but here is a taster of what is happening and what could be possible.

- An animation of a part of The Book of Saint Fittick (probably a funny verse poem) involving ourselves, Station House Media Unit, The Reading Bus and Walker Road Primary School. This would also involve a large screen showing and copies of animation for sale.
- A pub quiz on the history of Torry using the book of Saint Fittick. The hope is to have inter-pub quizzes and then a grand final at a central base

The book will be delivered to pubs a couple of months prior to August to start the interest This in conjunction with Adult Learning.

- Working with Limousine Bull Artist Collective and Torry Arts to produce something for the week leading up to the Gala day. (possibly a film on history using the Book of Saint Fittick and Diane Morgan's 'Lost Aberdeen - The Outskirts' which has more information on the Run-Rigs and Torry Farm.
- A shop window competition
- A fruit competition
- Activities as usual at Tullos Primary School.
- Activities by Disabled Veterans.
- There is also hoped to be a dinner/dance at Balnagask Golf Club on either of the Fridays each side of Saint Fittick's Day.

This is just a small selection of activities - A fuller programme will be ready by next Torry's Vision.

Renee Slater
Gala Organiser



Torry Tales

Darkie was a mongrel. I'm not sure now old he was but he was a friendly soul with a heart full of love. I was a Street Sweeper in Balnagask for 25 years to be precise. Darkie was very protective. When I look back all these years ago who would have believed that a dog would follow me for seven years. I think Darkie would have been long gone by now but it's part of my life I'll never forget. Does anyone remember me or Darkie (see photo taken circa 1976).

Alan Reid.

Torry Outreach

Drugs Action has provided a community outreach worker to the Torry community since 2006, since then we have worked with over 160 individuals, community groups and organisations. The overall aim of Drugs Action is to reduce the harms associated with drug use to the individual, the family and the community. We try to achieve this aim by providing a range of services to members of the Torry Community who are affected by their own or someone else's drug use. We offer a drop-in service every Tuesday, anyone is welcome to come along for any information regarding any aspect of drug use. This might be just an informal chat, you may want some advice

or you may be looking for more structured work, examples of this include individual and group work involving motivational change, cognitive-behavioural approaches, problem solving, harm reduction, detox, and relapse prevention & maintenance techniques. We also offer services to any other community members, workers or groups who may be interested in receiving training/information regarding specific issues related to drug use. Examples of these include services such as training members of the public on the issues surrounding drug overdose, drug information sessions aimed at highlighting the different types of drugs and their effects/risks to the individual,

offering harm reduction advice/training. We are also able to tailor any aspect of the work in Torry to fit in with your specific needs.

If you are interested in discussing what we can offer to you, your group or organisation and you would like to speak to us, come along to the drop-in which is every Tuesday between 10am and 2pm in Torry Community Learning (previously Torry Nursery), Oscar Road, Torry. You can also call/text on 07525071517 or email ccrouch@drugsaction.co.uk - you can also contact us through Facebook (search for "Drugs-Action Torry-Outreach") and follow us on Twitter (@DATorryOutreach) as well!

T.A.C.T Talking Across Colours Together

My name is Caroline Butler Chairperson of the group.

TACT Bereavement group was started to support families who have suffered a drug related death it consists of ordinary people looking for support after losing a loved one.

We have helped nine families so far and the united support has been very rewarding for them and the group.

Our phone line is available 9 am-8 pm Mon- Sat.

Anybody Interested will be made most welcome we meet every two weeks at St Fitticks Church Torry 7-9 pm.

If transport is a problem we might be able to help.

If you require any further Info please let me know..



T.A.C.T.
Talking Across Colours Together
Tel 07570874533

For Drug Related Bereavement Support

If you need to speak to someone who will listen

If you feel like you need to talk

We will be Non Judgemental

It will be Confidential

One to One





Police News

Recent events in Finnan Place and the resultant use by Police of a Dispersal Order in that area have highlighted the fact that young people can and do behave in an antisocial manner causing annoyance and distress to those who live nearby.

Incidents of antisocial behaviour across Torry that are reported to the Local Policing Team relate to simple noise through to vandalism, fire-raising and abuse towards adults.

Young people, as part of their growing up process challenge boundaries and authority.

They also look for places where they can hang about in their peer groups without adult interference, however, sometimes the location they choose is inappropriate leading to problems arising.

Alcohol can be a factor in these incidents and parents should be aware of the serious health risks that the underage drinking can cause and advise their children accordingly. It's easy to say, but discipline does start at home and parents should be inquisitive of what their children get up to of an evening and challenge them if they suspect anything untoward. There are various agencies who can offer help to parents to deal with some of these issues. Your Local Policing Team can give advice on who to speak to.

Having said all that, it must be remembered that the greatest majority of young people in Torry are respectful, helpful, well behaved and a credit to themselves, their parents and their schools

Spring Fire Safety Advice

It's the time of year when everything starts to come back to life outside, the nights get lighter and the days get warmer.

You may have read in the papers that throughout Scotland there have been several fires in the homes, some of these have resulted in the tragic loss of 6 lives within the first 4 days of January along a total of 10 deaths in fires since Christmas, unfortunately one of these fires that resulted in a death was within the Grampian area, along with all these deaths there has been an increase in injuries from fires. Don't let this be you!

Here is some advice to help keep you safe when your cooking:-

Never leave cooking unattended to answer the phone or the door.

Don't cook when you have been drinking.

Make sure that you regularly test your smoke alarm to see if it is working.

If it does not work or you do not have any fitted then please contact us for a Free home fire safety visit during the visit, which only takes around 20 minutes of your time, we can supply and fit a 10 year battery smoke alarm Free of charge.

With the continued cold and bad weather, a reminder for those of you who have got and regularly use an open fire don't forget to get your chimney swept each year to prevent the build up inside which can result in fires.

If you are out driving make sure your car is safe for the road and when making a journey allow extra time for the bad weather or delays, if you do get held up then don't try rushing to make up the lost time it is better to be late than not get there at all.

Tel: 01224 696666

Text "Fire" to 61611

info@grampianfrs.org.uk

Or visit -

www.grampianfrs.org.uk



ROYAL PASSENGER

Onboard The Reading Bus



Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Rothesay, visited The Reading Bus on 20th January to find out more about the highly successful literacy project. The Duchess enjoyed a session with author Sheena Blackhall onboard the bus and heard extracts from Sheena's latest book, 'Millie'. This was followed by various 'bus stops' in the Linklater

Rooms at King's College, where pupils demonstrated their work with The Reading Bus.

Primary 7 pupils from Tullos were on hand to lead a workshop to show their skills in radio work including making jingles and recording interviews and Walker Road pupils shared their skills at reading poetry from one of the Reading Bus publications called

'Nae Bad Ava'. Other schools led workshops in film animation and in making ceramic clay pots.

The day was a fantastic opportunity to share the work of The Reading Bus with Her Royal Highness as well as allowing eight different schools to work together and share their learning.

The Reading Radio Show

The Reading Radio Show, a partnership between SHMU and the Reading Bus presented an hour long broadcast produced by the Primary 7 class at Tullos School on Thursday 27th January. The pupils put on an excellent show which showcased their diverse class project based on the video game Rock Band. The show also included interviews conducted by the pupils at HRH Duchess of Rothesay visit to the

Reading Bus. You can hear this episode archived on the Reading Bus website at www.readingbus.co.uk. Look for the Reading Radio Section. Reading Radio will also feature two shows from the Primary 7 classes at Walker Road School on the 24th and 31st of March, so get ready for some more great radio work from Torry pupils. The show airs on SHMU 99.8 FM on Thursdays at 11am and repeats on Sundays at 5pm.





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

shmuFM

t 01224 515013 | e info@shmu.org.uk | www.shmu.org.uk

Torry Treasures One Year on....

shmu FM would like to congratulate the Torry Treasure show on their one year anniversary! Nick recalls the first ever show, here is what he had to say.



"I'll certainly never forget mine - but I still remember it like yesterday. On Thurs the 25th Feb 2010, we were sitting in the studio listening to the news, just 2 minutes away from going live on air for the very first time! All too soon the news finished, I put on a jingle and heard my own voice saying "Coming soon to shmu FM it's the Torry Treasures every Thursday in the afternoon - starts at one - we'll stay on as long as they let us!" Then our first song - Madonna - Like a Virgin (what else!)

Then came the most nerve wracking moment (honestly, my nerves have never been so wracked) - end of



song, microphones on, live on air, for the very first time the world heard Mike utter the immortal words "Good efterneen Aiberdeen, this is the Torry Treasures coming at you..."

After a brief namecheck from all 5 presenters (Mike, Renee, Billie, Mariusz, Nick) Billie talked about the forthcoming opening of her pensioners' playpark by the river.

Our first email was from Bryan Duncan, Drugs Action community outreach worker for Torry, saying hi and congrats on the first show. Mics off again we suddenly realise we are already halfway through the show!

All too soon our first show was ending - just time to say thanks to everyone for listening and getting in touch and please come back again next week same time, and thanks to everyone at shmu for helping us to get on air That was it for show #1 of Torry Treasures!"

Renee states that the Torry Treasure show was "A bouncing baby - yet one year old and still gurgling!"

To find out more about the show or SHMU call 01224 515013 and ask for Hayleigh, or email hayleigh@shmu.org.uk

SHMU would also like to welcome new-comer Gary Cheyne to the Torry Treasures Team. Gary has been doing his training at shmu for three months now, and cant wait to be part of the Torry Treasures radio show.



Billie's Recipe

Pot Cake

Ingredients

2 tea cups raisins
1 tea cup water
1 tea cup sugar
4oz (125grams) margarine
1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
2 tea cups self raising flour
2 well beaten eggs

Method

Put raisins, water, sugar, margarine and bicarbonate of soda in a pan and slowly boil for 15 minutes. Leave to cool for 5 minutes. Add the flour and eggs mix together and pour the mixture into a well lined/greased tin. Bake for 1 hour in a moderate oven.



New climbing wall at Torry Academy

Active Schools have supported the PE Dept at Torry Academy to install a brand new indoor traverse climbing wall in the school games hall. The wall is designed so that participants can use handholds to travel along the wall, and no ropes are required!

It is hoped to use the climbing wall as way of engaging some of

the pupils at the school who are put off by the more traditional sports in PE, while also offering classes from the local primary schools the opportunities to try climbing in a safe environment, and give them the chance to meet PE staff from the Academy before starting at the school in S1.

Torry pupils take part in Dance Leadership Course

Three pupils from Torry Academy have given up their holidays to take part in a five day dance leadership course at the Beacon Centre in Bucksburn. The programme, run in partnership with Youth Scotland and Sports Leaders UK uses dance as the medium to help participants develop vital skills such as planning, organisation and motivation, as well as improving communication skills and building confidence.

At the end of the intensive course the three girls from S4 will have obtained a recognised qualification which will enhance

their CV when applying for jobs or higher education.

Active Schools worked in partnership with the Academy to fund the pupils to go on the course, and a result it is hoped that all three girls will volunteer to assist with some of the local dance groups which take place in the Torry area.

If you are aged 14-18 and are interested in volunteering with sport or physical activities, why not get in touch with Active Schools? Contact Mark Pain on 0845 608 0935 or email mapain@sportaberdeen.co.uk



Whose **Money** Is It Anyway?

As we all know money is tight and getting tighter. Does trying to make ends meet make you want to cry? Would you like to get some tips on solving your own personal credit crunch?

If the answer is yes, then our 3 week course will offer you the

practical help and tips on how to manage your financial affairs. There is a free crèche available for this course.

To book onto the nearest course to you or for more information phone the Family Learning team on 487822.

Fabulous **Fun Day!**

Family Learning recently held a fun day for Walker Road and Tullos Primaries P1's and 2's. A dozen families joined us on Saturday 29th January at Tullos Community Centre for a magical time! Starting off the session was the amazing Garry Seagraves the magician, who put on a great show and judging by the giggles and gasps, it was a magical hit!

After the show it was a chance for the families to get into the magic side themselves with some magic crafts. They made their very own Harry Potter glasses, a fabulous magic wand and a magic top hat which had a rabbit popping out the top! All the staff at Family Learning would like to thank Garry Seagraves and Community Learning staff from Tullos and Torry for their help and support.

MUSIC, MAGIC & MAYHEM!!

Fa's in their **Eyes**



Friday April the 22nd 2011 @ the Forum in Aberdeen

Come along and enjoy a night of music, magic and mayhem.... as our stars take to the stage for the second year running as part of Family Learnings/ Peer Projects fundraising event 'Fa's in their Eye's'.

Last years event raised over £1,300, which has helped to support local parents to volunteer with the PEER Project, gain skills and access training in their move towards further

education or employment.

So why not come along, sit back and enjoy an evening of star studded entertainment with some of the best of Aberdeens local talent. From comedy to magic this show has it all.....

For more information and ticket sales please contact Louise at Family Learning on **487822** or email **enquires@familylearning.org.uk**



Money Matters

Cash In Your Pocket held a successful fun day at Tullos Community Centre during the summer last year. Over 200 locals attended to make it a fun day with free bingo, raffle and entertainment for the kids. The community spirit in Torry is one that is hard to beat!

Information was given out on benefits, debt and ways to improve your finances. Our partners continued to provide help to over 30 people who attended the event to ensure they got their full entitlement to benefits and other services.

If you feel you would like some information or advice on how to manage your money or other ways to improve your income get in touch with us. We can help people all year round by you simply giving us information on the help you need. We will take it from there and make sure that the best people to help get in touch with you.

We can put you in touch with organisations that can offer advice on debt, benefits, heating your home, saving options, low cost loans and more!

You can contact us by:

Telephone: 01224 200221

Text: "CASH" followed by your name and issues you would like help with to **07624 802721**

Online: **www.ciypp.co.uk** – visit our website for useful links and to contact us.

Ranger Led Health Walks

Hi, my name is Ruth Bone, I'm a Countryside Ranger with Aberdeen City Council. This spring and summer I will be leading a series of short walks around 9 areas in Aberdeen including Torry using the soon to be published Health Walk Map Packs.

The health benefits of walking are well documented and include disease prevention, weight management and positive mental health promotion.

So why not join me on Friday the 3rd of June at 2pm for an easy-paced circular walk around Torry? We will meet at the library on Victoria Road. The route is 2.8 miles and will take about an hour and a half. We will seek out the nearest café afterwards for an optional cuppa.

Please wear sensible shoes and bring waterproofs and/or sun cream depending on the weather, a bottle of water and any

medication (eg. inhalers) that you may require. If you have any health issues please speak to your GP before signing up for the walk.

For more information about the walks and/or map packs or to book on to the walk please call the Ranger service on:

01224 897400.

Our full list of events can be seen at www.aberdencity.gov.uk/rangerservice.

Promoting health in the Torry area

Tullos Primary School recently achieved Excellence level as a Health Promoting School. To build on this good work Community Learning in Torry tries to promote good health in all its groups and activities. Several years ago in the crèches we changed the snack from biscuits to fruit and similarly in the youth groups we stopped running a tuck shop and gave them fruit. More recently cooking

healthy food has become an integral part of the youth work activity.

Coming soon we are having Family cooking sessions Parents and children cooking together after school during March. This activity will initially be targeted at Primary 5 Parents and Children. The community is also going to become involved in tending

the Tullos School garden and hopefully in the future the produce will be used in more cookery classes.

If you are interested in finding out more about Health promoting activities in the area please contact: **Elsbeth Winram - tel. 291882 or Kate Anderson tel. 877562**



A New Year, and a new start for composting in Torry



Aberdeen Forward, an environmental charity, began looking into encouraging people in Torry to compost their food waste back in October of last year. They realised that people living in flats, were often missing out on having a brown bin, and therefore unable to do anything with their food waste. This meant the food waste was going to landfill, where it would contribute to pollution.

Back in October, Chris Hunt, from Aberdeen Forward, arranged to be at Tullos Community Centre to speak to people interested in getting involved with composting. The reaction to the idea was really positive, not only were people interested in composting they showed a huge interest in recycling and the environment as a whole.

The compost bins we decided to use in the project are called Green Johanna's and they can take all food waste and garden waste. This was an important factor in choosing them, as we wanted people to be able to take all their food waste out of the domestic waste bin. Unfortunately for all the keen people who wanted to get involved, these compost bins cost over £100, so it was decided to roll the bins out in phases.

This brings us up to date, and January 2011, with the first compost bin in place. Chris Hunt was able to hand over the first bin to Terri Whyte, in Mansefield Place in Torry. Chris said, "I was pleased to be able to hand over a compost bin and caddy to Terri. I was really impressed with Terri's enthusiasm, and the enthusiasm of her neighbours and look forward to them reducing the waste they put in the domestic waste bin."

Aberdeen Forward is still keen to hear from people living in Torry, in flats, and who don't have a brown bin who might want to get involved. We can offer a free compost bin and kitchen caddy.

Contact us on admin@abzforward.plus.com or call 01224 560360.

Main course to success....

During November 2010, Station House Media Unit (SHMU) launched the pilot of shmuWORKS which aims to support people aged 18-25 years old who are not currently in employment, education or training to move into a positive destination. The pilot was a great success with 4 of the 6 trainees being successful, and the organisation is now rolling out more courses throughout 2011.

One of the trainees from the pilot programme who was particularly successful was James McFerran from Torry. James started the course with fairly low confidence and little belief in his own abilities, having been unemployed for over a year. James found the course

very challenging, especially the film element and some of the CV & job searching sessions. However he battled through his nerves and uncertainties to go on to decide on his career goal and successfully complete the course.

James really wanted to work as a chef having had some previous experience in a kitchen, so when the opportunity to apply to Café Academy (a 10 week employability programme focussing on Hospitality) came up he jumped at the chance. James went to meet staff at Inspire and demonstrated his desire to participate in the 10-week programme and managed to secure a place. The course has seen him attend Aberdeen

College to receive formal training in Food Handling, Customer Service & Food Hygiene and with the help of Inspire he has also secured a work placement with Thistle Hotels to give him a chance to demonstrate the skills he has learnt. Well done James!



Aberdeen Working Together
Aberdeen Works Pipeline Partnership

Aberdeen's Older People's Sign Posting Project



Purpose and Activity: Information and referral service for the 50+ Working with older people in your community in Aberdeen City

The Sign Poster Project works with the 50 plus age group within your community in Aberdeen City to encourage them to take benefits and other services that can improve your health and well being, for example:

- Help with benefits, pensions & pension credit, housing or council tax, help with completing the applications forms.
- Debt management and low costs loans.
- Saving money, low cost foods and saving options with Credit Unions.
- Getting back to work, if you're looking for work there are range of organisations in the community to help.
- In the home, insulation, fuel meters, fuel suppliers, repairs, improvements and central heating.
- Plus a whole range of other services.

Here are some the other organization that we work with: - The Pensions Service, Care and Repair, Smart Money Advice, Community Food Initiatives North East, Pathways and Job Centre Plus, Grampian Fire and Police Service, Citizens Advice Bureau, Aberdeen Welfare Rights S.C.A.F (Save Cash & Reduce Fuel) St Machar & NESCU Credit Unions, Age Concern Advisory Services and many more.

The Sign Poster Project started in April 2009 and have 13 volunteers Sign Posters in the following local communities: - Altens, Cove, Central Aberdeen, Torry, Tullos, Tillydrone, Seaton, Northfield, Bucksburn, Rosemount, Rutherford, and the Bridge of Don.

We are very fortunate to have 3 volunteer Sign Posters in the Torry and Tullos community Billie Arthur, June Blanchett and Andy Barrie who are among the first funder members of the project. They are very active in their community, not only in our project but with many other projects, working across the various generations and in their community.

The service is free, confidential and we refer people through the Cash in Pocket Partnership. Working with older people in Your Community.

The Sign Poster Project is a VSA Project, working in partnership with Aberdeen Council, Cash in Pocket Partnership and Age Scotland.

For further information and volunteering opportunities in your community, please contact Dennis Moore, Volunteer Project Co-ordinator on 01224 358636.

Email: dennis.moore@vsa.org.uk.

**Office hours: Tuesday – Thursday 10am-2pm
VSA, 38 Castle Street, Aberdeen AB11 5YU**

June's Thank You

It started off in Balnagask and all was excited, it was conversion time, we were getting new bathrooms and kitchens. All did not go well, a lot of hiccups, but a year down the line I must say "well done" to the Muirfield workers. The work has all been done in time, the men are very helpful to the older people, very respectable, pleasant and when at the end of the day they tidy up before they go home. You are doing a brilliant job, thank you boys.

June Blanchett
A Torry Resident

Coastal Path upgrade works

Aberdeen City Council Countryside Ranger Service is currently managing a project to upgrade several parts of the Aberdeen City Core Path Network across the City. This project includes the improvement of the Coastal Path from Cove to Burnbanks and hopefully a section between Doonies Farm and the Coast Road bridge over the railway line.

The southern section of the path was due to have been upgraded before Christmas but was delayed due to the snow and freezing conditions but is due to be started soon for completion before the end of March. The northern section will also hopefully be completed before the end of the financial year but will be dependant on the contractors' availability to complete the work.

Some new finger posts have been added to the Coastal Path either to replace those which have been vandalised or new ones in areas where it was felt useful or to link to other paths.

This work is being funded as a part of the overall Core Path Improvements project funded by NESTRANS.

Further funding is being sought to continue with the improvements to the Coastal Path and other core paths in the City for 2011-12.

Ian Talboys
Countryside Officer
Aberdeen City Council

www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/rangerservice

DIY @ Tullos Community Centre

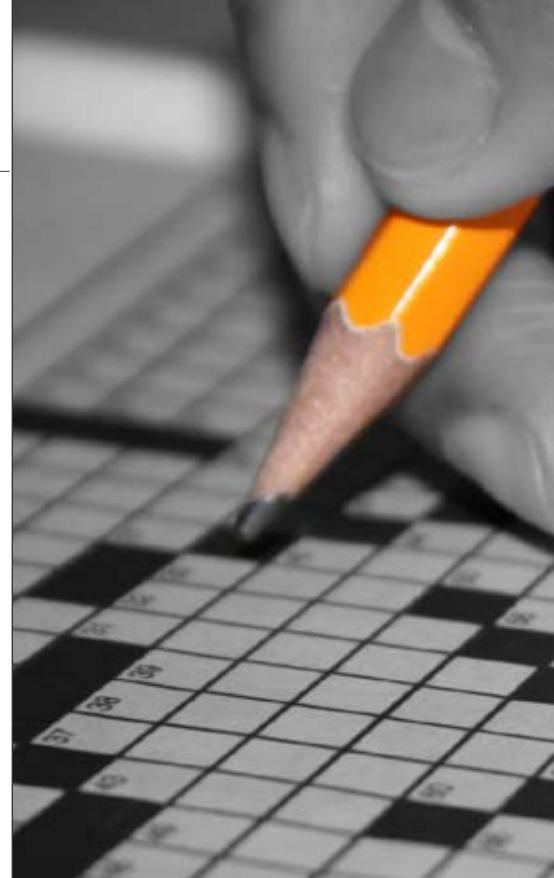
There has been a lot of interest shown in Adult Learning classes in Tullos Community centre, and at the end of last year we ran our first DIY class. Local residents had the opportunity to learn how to lay laminate flooring, use hand saws and electric drills and work with wood. Over a few weeks participants worked on a group project making an impressive rabbit hutch.

Future classes are being organised in DIY, Family History and Digital Photography.

So if you are interested in taking part in classes at Tullos

Community Centre, please get in touch with Elspeth Winram, Adult Learning Worker. PH 291882.

Evening Classes funded through Fairer Scotland Fund.



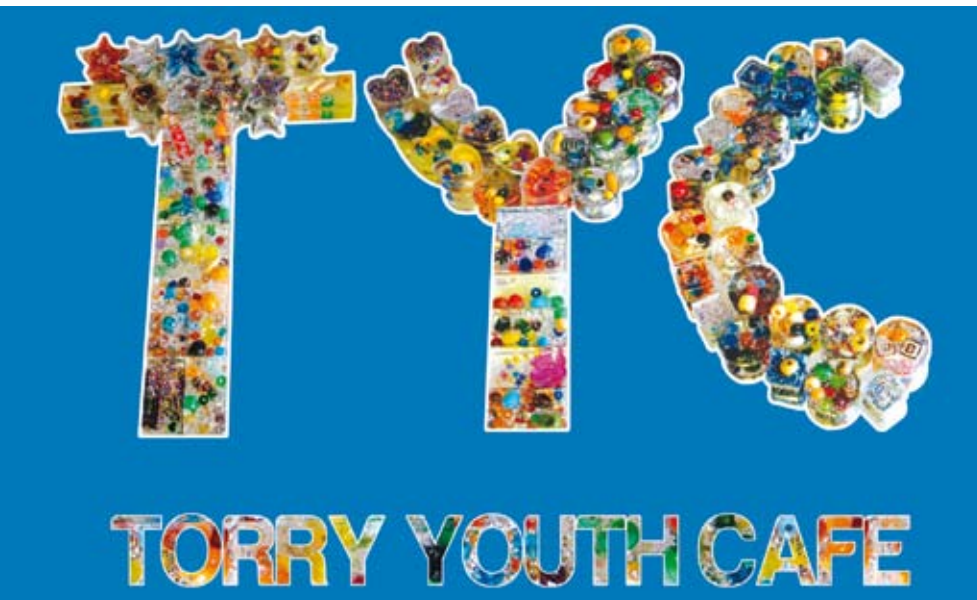
Quick Quiz

Questions

1. How many streets are in Torry?
2. Which road is named after a boat?
3. Name of river between Aberdeen and Torry?
4. Name a park in Torry?
5. Name the biggest torch in Torry?
6. Where to get free bed and breakfast in Torry?
7. How many schools in Torry?
8. What is the Golden Tee?
9. When did Torry get its Charter?
10. What Queen came to Torry?

Some questions for the older people in Torry

11. What was the Torriers?
12. What would you get in Gleggies?
13. Torry Academy sits on it?
14. Ogilveys?
15. The link out of Torry?



The Torry Youth Café (TYC) doors are open on a Wednesday and Friday Night 6.30-8.30pm, for young people living in Torry aged 10-17 years. Torry Youth Café is located at The Phoenix Club on North Balnagask Rd.

The Torry Youth Café is run by local volunteers. At the moment we are struggling for volunteers and need your help to keep the Youth café open!

If you are aged over 18 years and are interested in supporting the Torry Youth Café in any way or could offer a few hours a week or even a month, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Please contact Debbie Grieg:

Tel: 01224 879068

Email: debzgreig@hotmail.com

Web: www.torryyouthcafe.co.uk

TYC are currently working in partnership with the Arts Development team and has done for a number of years. This work has proven to be very successful at engaging young people in a range of arts based

activities, such as graffiti art, dance, photography, painting murals, digital art and jewellery making.

'Create and Commemorate'

Through support from CashBack funding a visual arts project was developed with the support from Arts Development, who supported the youths and volunteers to create a project brief, recruit and support the chosen artists.

The selected artists, Monica Wisniewski and Lynne Strachan, worked with youths that had already expressed an interest in art projects and worked on an interesting art programme to attract new young people to the Youth Café. The project aimed to design new signage, which would encourage new youths to Youth Café, as it would light up the area and advertise the Youth Café locally.

The project also looked to commemorate the life of Sheila Thomson a valued and loved local person who worked hard as a volunteer to establish and create a safe environment for the youths of Torry. She passed away a few years ago now and is missed by the young people and local community, the final neon sign created reads 'Sheila's Café.'

