

# Torry's **Vision**

Spring 2025



## In this issue:

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UDECIDE

CONNECTED TORRY

GRAMPIAN PRIDE

RACC

[www.shmu.org.uk/press](http://www.shmu.org.uk/press)

Image - *Soran Xurmale*

# Torry's Vision

Spring Edition 2025

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### Torry Vision Letters to the editor page

The editorial team of the Torry Vision want to hear from you.

The team are introducing a new interactive section to the magazine and want to hear from the community.

In this section, you can write to the editors of Torry Vision, let us know of issues and events taking place in the community, send us your thoughts on topics we have covered. Have your say of what you want to see represented in the magazine and what you'd like to read.

Please email [rose.ross@shmu.org.uk](mailto:rose.ross@shmu.org.uk) with the email subject TV Letters to the Editors to have your letter included in the magazine.



## editorial

### Welcome to the Spring edition of Torry Vision.

In this edition, join us in launching Connected Torry, the brand new community website for Torry and find out what other exciting things are going on!

If you would like to get involved and join the editorial team or if you have ideas for the community publication, you can easily get in touch with us. The staff at shmu are able to support and train anyone living in the area who is interested in developing their ideas and skills in either writing, photography or proof reading. So please don't be shy, this is your magazine written, edited and designed by the good folk of Torry.

If you live in Torry and would like to come along to the editorial meetings or submit an article then get in touch with Rose at shmu on **07752586312/ 01224 515 013** or you can email her on [rose.ross@shmu.org.uk](mailto:rose.ross@shmu.org.uk).

You can also view this magazine alongside previous editions on the shmu website [www.shmu.org.uk](http://www.shmu.org.uk) then click the 'PRESS' option.

Torry's Vision is a community publication and the views expressed are not necessarily those of the editorial team or of shmu.

happy reading.



Supported by





# Funding for Torry Projects from UDecide announced!

**A**berdeen City Council's participatory budgeting fund U Decide recently announced the funding awards, and a few projects in Torry have been lucky to secure funding!

U Decide was a participatory budgeting fund, which means that a fund of £60,000 was available from Aberdeen City Council's Community Planning Team, and a further £20,000 from the Fairer Aberdeen Fund.

This meant a total of £20,000 was allocated to be split across the priority neighbourhood's North, Central and South. Projects from these localities applied for funding and the public were then given the opportunity to vote for which projects in their area, they would like to award funding to, to have a direct involvement in how public funds are spent.

The south locality saw 9 projects splitting the £20,000 pot, 3 of which are located in Torry!

The Torry projects which received funding are:

## **Jog Torry – SAMH and Jog Scotland were awarded £1290**

"Our aim is to kickstart jogging in Torry with 2 blocks of coach-led

sessions. The model is that from the 20 plus local participants, two will then go on to complete the Jog Scotland training so that they can then run the Torry group as volunteers.

"This will mean that Jog Torry will be self-sustaining. By having a community fitness celebration day this will encourage the wider community to get fit. It is envisaged that the fitness day will take place at St Fitticks Park and include a 5km round the park for the first couch to 5km course completers.

"The fitness day will also provide refreshments for the community and will host info stalls on various themes including community walking groups (paths for all), chair based aerobics, Sport Aberdeen's offers and other fitness opportunities in the area."

Keep your eyes peeled for updates on the Celebration Day!

## **Recreation Club - £1850**

"A club helping mental resilience, health and wellbeing, healthy relationships, community spirit

"This project aims to engage people with weekly activities that will help their mental resilience, health and wellbeing, support them in building healthy relationship among members

of the community, build community spirit, social interactions/connections. This club will also improve the self-awareness of beneficiaries and enhance their self-esteem. This club will offer activities like fitness classes, games sessions, outdoor walk sessions, knitting and dance sessions."

## **Souperb - £2920**

"Free soup and roll, giving young people the experience of running a community Café.

"We plan to set up the centre at least one morning a week to offer soup and a roll in a warm and friendly safe space with no cost to entry.

"We will also be looking to collaborate with Lochside Academy and other community partners in the management and delivery of this project to assist young people gain experience in the running a model of a social enterprise community cafe with an offer of friendship and hot soup and a roll, accompanied by a welcome cuppie. We will endeavour to source quality produce from CFINE, supermarkets and other suppliers at no cost wherever possible, and where needed we will seek external funding to support our operational costs."

# CONNECTED TORRY IS LIVE!

**We** are delighted to announce the launch of the brand-new community website for Torry!

The fantastic site is a one-stop-shop for the whole community, where you can read the latest news, find out what's on, enjoy local media and more.

Residents and groups alike can submit their own articles, media, events and ideas.

Connected Torry is YOUR community website, and we encourage every local resident and group to get involved and make it your own!

All you must do is visit the Submit/Contribute page and send us your content and thoughts. Torry has a wealth of activities, news and heritage, we hope that Connected Torry can capture and celebrate this, so don't be afraid to get involved.

Having launched on the 7th of March, the website has already been well received by community members and groups.

Big Noise Torry's Lorna Carruthers said "This looks amazing!! Congratulations to all who pulled it together, what an asset for Torry!"

**Visit [www.connectedtorry.org](http://www.connectedtorry.org) today!**







**25** March 2025

**Engage**  
Grayhope Community Hub  
Grayhope Community Hub, Tullock Circle, A811 9HJ

**25** March 2025

**Zumba Gold**  
Old Torry Community Centre  
2 Abbey Place

**25** March 2025

**THE KNITTERS**  
THURSDAY 9 AM - 2 PM  
Old Torry Community Centre  
2 Abbey Place







## GRAMPIAN PRIDE 2025 CELEBRATING INCLUSIVITY AND UNITY

**G**rampian Pride 2025 promises to be a powerful celebration of visibility, diversity, and solidarity, bringing the heart of Aberdeen to life with both a parade and festival. More than just an event, Grampian Pride is a statement of support for the LGBT+ community — a space where everyone can feel seen, valued, and accepted.

The parade will wind through Aberdeen's central streets, offering a vibrant and unified show of support from residents, businesses, and organisations. This visible display of solidarity reinforces Aberdeen's status as a city that embraces diversity and champions equality. The parade honours the hard-fought progress of the LGBT+ rights movement while reminding us that the fight for acceptance and equality is ongoing.

Following the parade, Duthie Park will transform into a lively cultural hub, offering a rich celebration of

LGBT+ identity and community spirit. The festival will feature live music, spoken word, theatre performances, and artistic displays — all highlighting the creative talents of LGBT+ individuals and allies. The main stage will host a diverse lineup of performers, ensuring a dynamic atmosphere that reflects the community's vibrancy and strength.

The Arts Tent will provide a more intimate space for spoken word, cabaret, and poetry, giving artists a platform to share personal reflections on identity, love, and resilience. Meanwhile, the dedicated Children and Family Area will offer games, activities, and entertainment for younger attendees, helping to foster understanding and acceptance from an early age.

Local art will also take centre stage, with a curated exhibition showcasing the work of LGBT+ artists. This visual celebration of identity and creativity will give attendees the chance

to engage with the personal and collective stories of the community.

Food and drink will reflect Aberdeen's diverse culinary scene, with local suppliers offering a wide range of options. The festival's commitment to supporting local businesses extends to its operations, with sound, security, and event management provided by local partners. This focus on community involvement ensures that Grampian Pride not only celebrates diversity but also strengthens Aberdeen's local economy.

While Pride today is a joyful celebration, its roots are firmly planted in protest and resistance. The first Pride marches in 1970 were held to commemorate the Stonewall Riots.

Grampian Pride 2025 is more than just a festival — it's a statement of resilience, unity, and hope. By standing together, Aberdeen honours those who fought before us and paves the way for a future where everyone can live freely and with pride.



## Honouring the Past, Celebrating the Present, and Fighting for the Future

The following article was about Aberdeen Pride 2024 and my experience with it as my first time. Describing an event where you're happy and immersed in something that feels warm, and welcoming is especially important when you're taking those first steps of being able to say who you really are.

Pride today is a vibrant celebration of diversity, inclusion, and solidarity — but it began as a protest. Its roots, connected to the fight for LGBT+ rights. Understanding this history is essential to appreciating why Pride remains as vital today as it was over 50 years ago.

The Pride movement traces back to the Stonewall Riots in June 1969. The Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in New York City, was frequently targeted by police raids, which were used to harass and intimidate LGBT+ patrons. On June 28, 1969, the community had had enough. Led by transgender women of colour such as Marsha P. Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, and Stormé DeLarverie, the patrons resisted, sparking several days of protests and clashes with police.

The riots became a catalyst for the LGBT+ rights movement. A year later, in June 1970, the first Pride marches were held in New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco to mark the anniversary of Stonewall. These early marches were not celebrations — they were protests. Marching openly as an LGBT+ person in 1970 was an act of defiance and courage, reminding society that LGBT+ people deserved equality and respect.

It's important to recognise that while transgender women and people of colour were at the forefront of the Stonewall Riots, they were often sidelined in the early years of the movement. This reality underscores the ongoing need to ensure that Pride today is truly inclusive of all identities within the LGBT+ spectrum.

Aberdeen's journey toward Pride reflects the evolution of the movement. The city's first Pride event was held in Duthie Park in 2002, but it would be many years before Aberdeen saw a full Pride parade. That changed in May 2018, when Four Pillars organised the city's first official Pride Parade and Festival, attended by around 3,000. Since then, the event has grown rapidly, attracting over 10,000 attendees in 2024.

Today, Grampian Pride is both a powerful march and a lively festival in Duthie Park. The parade is a bold statement of visibility and acceptance, as people come together to demonstrate that Aberdeen is a welcoming and inclusive city. The festival that follows highlights the talents of LGBT+ performers. It fosters a sense of belonging and community.

Pride is more than a festival — it is a reminder of the hard-fought victories, and the work still left to do. The history of Pride is stained with the blood and bravery of those who paved the way for LGBT+ and trans rights.

Many LGBT+ people still face discrimination, violence, and exclusion. Transgender rights are under threat in many parts of the world. Pride remains a vital

platform to amplify voices, challenge prejudice, and push for change.

Pride is also about the future. By standing together today, we create a path for future generations to live in peace, harmony, and love.

Grampian Pride stands as a symbol of how far we have come and a reminder of the work still ahead. We are not free until we are all free.

Pride started as a protest — and while it has evolved into a celebration, its roots must never be forgotten. By knowing and honouring our past, we empower ourselves to continue the fight for justice, equality, and love.

*Steph Greer*





# Staged demolition of RAAC effected homes confirmed

**I recently attended the RAAC rally that took place on 22nd of February outside the St Nicholas Centre and witnessed the campaigners continue to raise awareness and attention towards their cause which is seeing more than 500 homes in Torry getting demolished by Aberdeen City Council.**

Residents of Torry have been protesting because of the impacts they have had from RAAC being present in their homes. There is a consensus amongst those affected that they have suffered financially, emotionally and physically. They want justice for homeowners as the council are offering to buy their homes at current market value which doesn't match with the amount they initially paid for the properties. Homeowners don't know what is going to happen to their mortgage

and feel that they are losing what many thought would be their forever home.

Out of the 504 properties, 366 are council owned and 138 are private. The initial potential solutions were to remove any RAAC present and refurbish the homes or consider demolishing them. It's been confirmed on 11th March that they will be demolished, and the demolition will take place in phases. There will be four phases: the first one will see only council owned properties being demolished with the remaining stages to include private homes which the council aim to purchase through voluntary agreement. Vice-convenor Councillor Dell Henrickson said: "This has been a hard decision that the Council has undertaken, and I would like to extend my thanks to the local community for continuing to engage

with us throughout this process.

"Councillors agreed to the demolition and landscaping to be done in four phases, with the first phased approach seeing only vacant terraces or individual groups of properties which are fully owned by the Council being demolished."

The end goal is for the council to rebuild over 500 properties on the land but the whole process is estimated to take four years. Those involved in the Torry RAAC campaign aren't satisfied with how the situation is being handled and continue to petition the council for more financial and mental health support.

**More information on support services can be found at: <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/housing/raac-housing/raac-council-tenant-questions>**



# TULLOS COMMUNITY GARDEN- 2024 RECAP

**A**t the Tullos Community Garden AGM on 27th February, Catrina Robb, Chair, shared a recap of the year's achievements. CFINE is proud to have played a part in supporting the project. Here's a summary of Catrina's fantastic update:

"A good year for the garden, we started by taking part in RSPB Bird Watch in January, followed by two successful Easter family events, one in partnership with Family Learning.

Last year saw the formation of the Aberdeen Community Garden Network (ACGN) - a collaboration of community gardens across the city. From April to August, each garden hosted a weekend session, allowing groups to share volunteers and tackle larger projects together. At our session in May, they helped tidy up the garden just in time for our sixth birthday celebration. The celebration had a great turnout of local families, and a visit from the Critter Keeper. Pupils from Lochside Academy played a big role, helping with glitter tattoos and crafts.

Over the summer, we had help from Barnardos, whose young people looking to enter construction installed path edging. In July, a group from Ashtead Technology took on major tasks, including installing a fence around the mud kitchen, cutting back hedges and trees, painting

planters and picnic tables, and building the Den.

The CFINE HOPE team has been a huge support, coming weekly to work on garden improvements. They cleared space behind the planters and installed new compost boxes.

Sadly, we lost one of our founding members, Sylvia, in June. To honour her memory, we transplanted her roses from her garden into Tullos Community Garden and held a memorial event, where the community came together to plant roses and install a plaque.

We held regular volunteering sessions, and were pleased to host Lochside Secondary 1 pupils, who learned how to grow food with Lucy from CFINE, myself, and Lochside's teaching assistant, Taylor.

Throughout the year, I kept up weekly Geronimo sessions, and we ran two 'Plant and Play' family sessions in the garden. The CFINE songwriting course also took place, bringing groups together for songwriting inspired by visits to the garden. An outcome from this is a collaborative intergenerational project between Tullos Community Garden and Alec of ACE Voices.

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported us:

**Donna and Dorothy, our Community Development Officers, for being the biggest champions and helps for the garden.**

**CFINE and the HOPE Team.**

**Aberdeen Community Growing Network, Barnardos, Trojan Crates, Morrison Construction, and Hub North Scotland.**

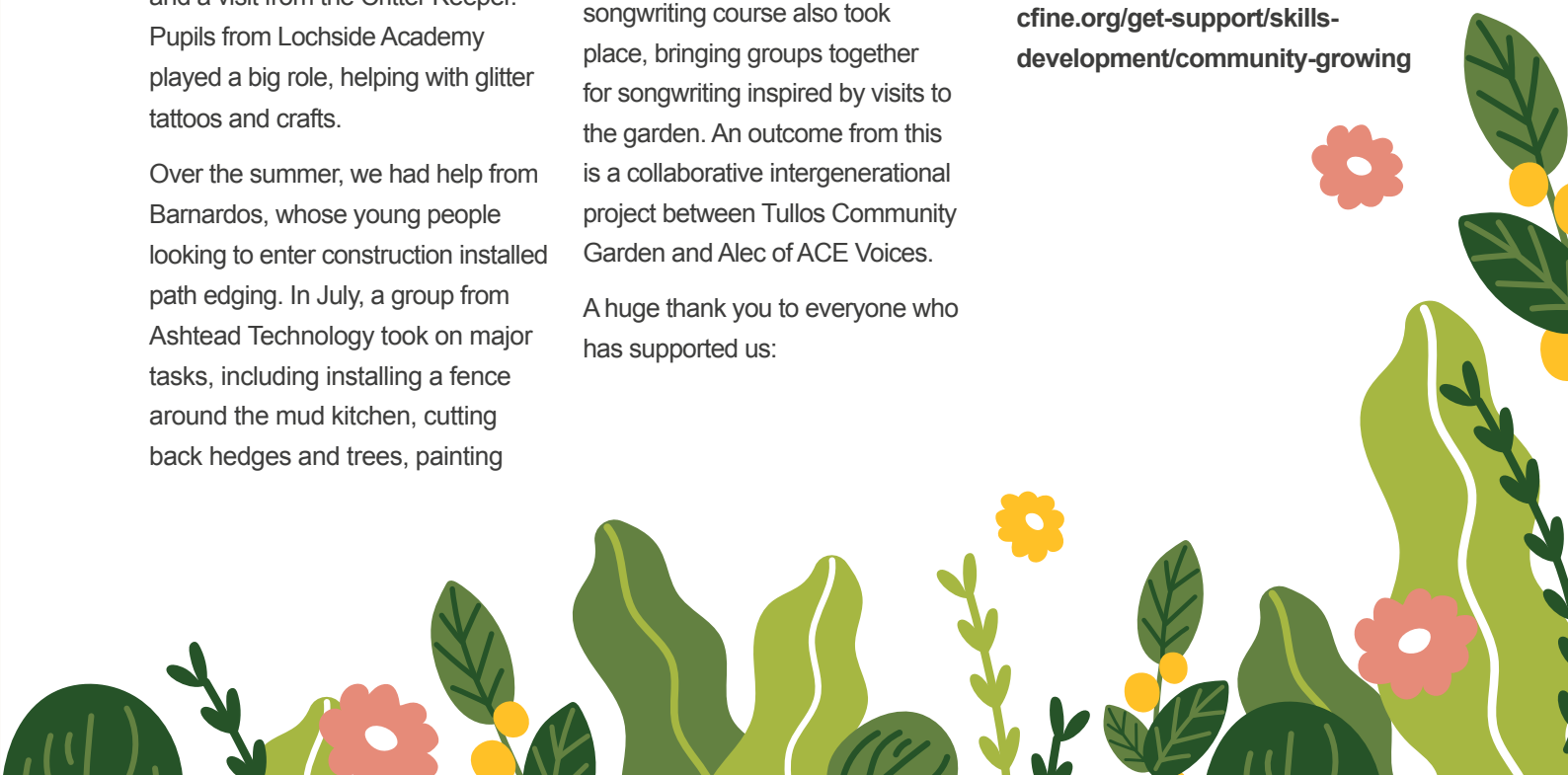
**Lesley-Anne, Friends of St Fitticks Park, for providing seedlings and buying us a pear tree.**

**And finally, Aiden, our regular garden maintenance volunteer, who attends every session and is now in his second year with us.**

*– Catrina Robb, Chair*

Want to get involved? Tullos Community Garden welcomes new volunteers!

**Find out about community gardens throughout Aberdeen and how to get involved at [www.cfine.org/get-support/skills-development/community-growing](http://www.cfine.org/get-support/skills-development/community-growing)**





## Social Juice and St Fitticks Edible Garden project

**S**t Fitticks Edible Garden was initiated by the community group Cultivate Aberdeen, a Scottish Charity (No SC048720). Alas, the running of the garden was left to one person with a couple of others offering support but there was no financial nor leadership support.

So very much of the running of the garden was left to the community but little has happened due to a lack of resource and direction. That is until we at Social Juice took an interest.

Social Juice is a Community Interest Company (CIC) incorporated 22nd February 2022 and registered with Companies House (SC724028). Profits made are reinvested back into community projects.

The name Social Juice is made up of two distinct parts – Social and Juice. Lets take the Juice part first. The CIC aims to plant fruit trees in community spaces, encourage community groups to maintain the trees within their areas and to harvest the fruit for the benefit of their community.

Juicing is only one product though and will be the main thrust of the work of the CIC.

However, the community has no restriction in that regard and can use the fruit directly or to make, for example, apple pie / toffee apples / apple sauce etc for sharing or it can be exchanged for donations and thus gain a funding stream for other community needs.

Now lets take the Social part of Social Juice. That's very much about social integration and cohesion and focuses on volunteering. Mostly volunteering within your own communities but also outwith our own areas to enable the learning of new skills or to share our skills with others.

Social Juice has already supported St Fitticks Edible Garden by supplying and planting fruit trees in the past and would like to see the area being used and blooming again. We have successfully applied for funding to bring the area back to life and in addition to create a

mobile juicing unit for access by all the community to use where an electricity and water supply can be connected.

We believe the enhancements planned for the Edible Garden will complement and enhance what is already being done in the community of Torry.

So let us share with you what we suggest will be of benefit to the community and to take on board what you, the community want - to get involved in shaping what happens in the garden

With that purpose in mind we have arranged a drop in event on the afternoon of Saturday 26th April 2025 at Old Torry Community Centre. Please mark up your calendar and pop along to see us.

**See more about us on our website**  
<https://www.social-juice-cic.co.uk/>

**Brian Allan**  
**Social Juice**



# St Fitticks Park Outdoor Classroom

**F**riends of St. Fittick's Park would like to invite you all to take part in advocacy through community connection that we believe will Save St. Fittick's Park.

Since the soft launch of The FOSFP Outdoor Classroom we have been able to host free events with families in the Torry community and we've been planning amazing activities to promote biodiversity improvements and educational opportunities within the park.

The classroom was created after receiving support from the community through the Just Transition Participatory Budget Fund. We've gained a host of collaborative partners across the area. We also gained funding from Fauna & Flora International and The National Lottery Community Fund.

St. Fittick's Park is on the edge of the Coast Road in Torry, you can get there on the no.12 bus to Balnagask Circle.

Located on the edge of the beautiful St. Fittick's Park, The Outdoor Classroom is a hub for public events. It's a small red shelter, overlooking the FOSFP community orchard and is within sight of Balnagask Circle.

In August, we had Ruth Quigley from B-lines /Bug Life ICT teaching a few families how to make a Bee Hotel, you can see this installed on the top right corner of the Classroom.

In September, FOSFP received funding from Fauna and Flora int. to hire a coordinator from the classroom.

In October, Rebecca and Ellen from CFINE hosted a Plant Propagation Workshop for younger children, at the end they got to take cuttings home, we got very soggy due to the weather, but it was a wonderful time. And the following week Charlotte and Vicky from Northeast Scotland Mammal Network hosted a workshop 'Mammal Detectives' in Old Torry Community Centre, teaching kids how to identify animal bones and dissecting owl pellets.

In December, we received funding from The National Lottery Community Fund to continue supporting the coordinator role and support to host a community meal in the near future on a regular basis, one of our members also recently gained funding to support Mental Health improvements in the community via Walk and Talk Therapy sessions.

Between these important milestones we have been building connections and bolstering our network of amazing environmental and animal experts. We hope to be hosting a series of citizen science-oriented activities in the park alongside groups like Scottish Wildlife Trust, NESBiP and NESMN soon. We really hope you'll want to get involved. If you have an idea for an event in The Outdoor Classroom, please contact us

at [FOSFPoutdoorlearning@protonmail.com](mailto:FOSFPoutdoorlearning@protonmail.com)

St. Fittick's Park, Torry is an important and diverse environment featuring a range of habitat around a functional wetland system. It provides a home for 98 bird species, deer, interesting plants and insects and a whole host of other cool beasties, so much so that we're still working out exactly what's there! We wish to preserve all these good qualities for future generations to enjoy by saving the park in its entirety from threats of industrial development.



### Audrey Nicoll MSP

As your MSP, staying connected with my constituents and listening to your concerns has always been my priority. Over the past few weeks, several local issues have come up that I would like to touch on.

First though, I want to highlight the Scottish Government budget that was recently passed. The enhanced block grant provision from the UK Government is very welcome, however the full impact of the budget will be undermined by the increase in Employer National Insurance Contributions, and the cost of mitigating the Winter Fuel Allowance withdrawal and the two child benefit cap.

In Torry, a new community website called 'Connected Torry' has launched, aiming to bring residents together, share updates, share public articles and make it easier to find information about local events and services - you can visit the website at [www.connectedtorry.org](http://www.connectedtorry.org).

Housing continues to be one of the most common issues people raise with me whether it's long waiting lists for council properties, frustrations with neighbours or even concerns about the maintenance of green spaces near their homes. These are everyday challenges that can impact on people's quality of life, so I will continue to engage with Aberdeen City Council on issues relating to both inadequate housing stock and the upkeep of green spaces across Torry.

Many of you have been following developments relating to Aberdeen City Council's decision to begin demolishing homes affected by Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC). This is an important step in ensuring public safety, but I know it brings uncertainty for those affected, especially home owners who are still living in Balnagask. If you have concerns about this next phase of work, please reach out,

I want to make sure everyone gets the right support and that no one is left behind in the process. I continue to work with MSP colleagues to press for financial support for home owners from the Council and Scottish Government.

Looking ahead, as I'm sure many are already aware, I have made the difficult decision to step back in 2026. Representing Aberdeen South and North Kincardine has been an incredible privilege, and I'm so proud of what we've achieved together. There's still plenty of work to do and I'll keep doing everything I can for this constituency over the next 14 months. In the meantime, please keep getting in touch, raising your concerns, and pushing for the changes we need in our communities.

I am here to help. You can contact me at **Audrey.Nicoll.MSP@Parliament.scot**, call **01224 876743**, or pop into my office at 51 Victoria Road, Torry.

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### Cllr Simon Watson

It's been a busy start to 2025 as a local councillor for Torry. There are big issues of course, and I should start by saluting the RAAC-affected property owners who have put up a remarkable fight for a fair deal. I was impressed to hear their delegation to the recent Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee, and proud to move an amendment

aimed at giving them a fair deal. This would also have made sure any demolition of RAAC affected houses had a full environmental impact assessment - important for everyone who lives close to the area. I'm sorry to say this wasn't passed, but every bit of pressure helps to get a better outcome.

Lots of what I do is helping people with small things which make a big difference to their lives. Getting fly-tipping on Victoria Road sorted out, or encouraging council officers to replace the lights on Victoria Bridge sooner rather than later. Looking at how we can get more salt bins and make sure they are full when needed. The coastal footpath round



the Torry Battery needs restoring, and I've been on to council officers to make sure its in shape for when the Tall Ships come. The council website is helpful if you want to report a problem - <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services>.

But it's also rewarding helping some of the amazing initiatives by local people. I've put local groups looking at renovating the Tullos Pavillion in contact with the right council officers, and will carry on helping. It's great to see local groups benefit from the

Participatory Budgeting "UDecide", with Souperb (giving young people the experience of running a cafe), and Jog Tory (using fitness to help physical and mental health) getting funding.

Making the big changes needed for a secure future is also important. So I was delighted to visit Professor John Underhill at the National Decommissioning Hub, just up the coast in Newburgh to talk about recent innovations and how we can turn them into decent, long term

sustainable jobs for local people. The public sector has a huge role to play in making sure we get long term investment, and it's focussed on benefitting communities not just making a quick buck.

As always, I'm available at my surgery at Greyhope Hub (School / Library) 6-7pm on the third Wednesday of the month, or online at **[simwatson@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:simwatson@aberdeencity.gov.uk)**.

**Simon**

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## Stephen Flynn MP

### Concerns Over Proposed Changes to PIP

Recent reports have stated that the UK Government is set to make significant changes to the welfare system, and I know there will be constituents who are concerned about the news. While detailed plans have yet to be released at the time of writing, we already know that changes to Personal Independence Payments will likely be included in this.

Personal Independence Payments, or PIP for short, are payments made to over-16s with long-term physical or mental health conditions. These payments are intended to help fund the extra living costs associated with having a disability. Although they are not means tested, individuals need to

pass an assessment focused on their ability to live independently.

There are already issues with the system, particularly for young people, with nearly a third of those in receipt of the Disability Living Allowance (DLA) in childhood having their claims for PIP rejected when trying to move onto the adult benefit.

Reports state that tougher eligibility tests are likely to be a cornerstone of PIP reforms, as well as a freeze in payments, which currently rise with inflation. If true, this would see PIP become worth less over time.

The disabled charity, Scope, points out that PIP exists because life

costs more if you're disabled, and that many disabled people use PIP to get to and from work, or to pay for essential equipment like mobility aids. As a result, PIP should be seen as an investment in getting people into work, and I am seriously worried that these changes could push more disabled people out of work and into poverty. If this is what comes to pass, rest assured I will oppose it.

If you would like to get in touch about this, or any other issue, please do not hesitate to contact me. You can do so by emailing **[stephen.flynn.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:stephen.flynn.mp@parliament.uk)** or by calling **01224 213114**.

## Oot and about

Our fantastic Multimedia Team volunteers and placement students have been enjoying getting oot and about recently.

They have been chatting to locals across shmu's communities about the latest goings on, for our social media series 'Oot and About'.

So far, we have enjoyed catching up with Printfielders about the brand new Denis Law Mural, Middlefielders on the launch of the Aberdeen Jazz Festival, Mastrick locals on the closure of Lidl and more.

Make sure to check it out on our social media pages. If you have any ideas on what we should check oot next, leave a comment and let us know!



## Digital media

shmu are delighted to launch a Women's Wellbeing Hub at our media suite in Greyhope Community Hub.

In partnership with Aberdeen FC Community Trust and Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership, we look forward to having you join us!

The hub is a cosy space to relax, enjoy a cuppa, connect with others and take part in engaging activities.

It runs on the first Monday of every month from 9:30am to 11:30am and is totally free.

No sign up is required, but for more information contact Sarah on [sarah.igesund@shmu.org.uk](mailto:sarah.igesund@shmu.org.uk) or call 07592 355 131.



## Where to find us?

We get up to so much exciting things at shmu, it's so hard to choose what to keep you up to date with in Torry's Vision! There is a way you can keep up with it all.

Follow us on our social platforms, Instagram and Facebook. Find out when we have upcoming courses, volunteering opportunities and get all our fabulous content from videos to podcasts and more!

Find us on:

Instagram – @shmumedia Facebook - @StationHouseMediaUnit



# Greetings from Aberdeen South Church of Scotland

Each year, many Christians find themselves asking what they should “give up for Lent.” Though it is not mandatory for a Protestant believer to do so, it has become a tradition in many denominations to fast or abstain from something (food, time, money, vices, or other daily enjoyments,) Some people give things up for Lent not simply to do things that are painful; but to make room for their God. To take a step back from daily attachments

and distractions to focus on what is most important in Christian life. However, Lent is not simply about giving up things. It is a season of the Christian journey with a great sense of anticipation as we draw closer to Easter, the day on which we celebrate the resurrection. Today, I believe the world needs the Easter message more than ever. The message might have been lost in the Easter egg and Easter bunny traditions; but

there’s no harm in enjoying these activities. The kids love painting the eggs and hunting for them. However, though these Easter traditions are fun, let’s not forget the true meaning of Easter.

May we be filled this Easter with the gift of faith so we may be called again, today, to new life.

**Rev Dr Edmond  
Gatima, Minister**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Coffee Mornings** – 10 am-12  
Last Saturday of the month

**Easter Afternoon Tea**  
Saturday 12th April, 2-4 pm

**Messy Church**  
Saturday 19th April, 4-6 pm

**EASTER SERVICES**  
Thursday 17th April – 7 pm  
Friday 18th April – 7 pm  
Sunday 20th April – 9.30 and 11 am

**OTHER WORSHIP GATHERINGS**  
Wednesdays – 2 – 3 pm  
Deeview Court, Kincorth

**ZOOM Bible Study**  
Thursdays – 10.30 – 11.30 am

**ZOOM Prayer Meeting**  
Wednesdays – 7.30 – 8.30 pm

**SUNDAY SERVICES**  
Aberdeen South Church  
Walker Road, Torry @ 11 am  
Kincorth Community Centre @ 10 am

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES

**Parents and Toddlers** – Mondays – 9 – 11 am

**The Guild** – every second Tuesday –  
7.30 – 9 pm

**Indoor Bowling** – Tuesdays –  
1.45 to 3.45 pm

**Men’s Group** – every second  
Thursday – 2 pm

**Music and Drama Groups** – Friday evenings  
Kincorth Community Centre

**46th Boys’ Brigade** – Mondays  
(Anchors) 6-7 pm

**Fridays (Juniors/Section)** – 6.30 – 9 pm

**23rd Girls’ Brigade** – Thursdays – 6 – 8.45 pm

**Rainbows** – Tuesdays – 6 – 7 pm

**Craft Group** – Tuesdays – 10.30 am



# Torry Health Matters Network Update

## SOUP AND SANNIES

Have you been along to our soup and sandwich lunch at Greyhope Community Hub yet? It's the second Tuesday of the month. Max in the café makes delicious lentil soup which has become a firm favourite.

**Everyone is welcome and we have always room for more.**

**BUMPS TO BAIRNS** (baby in toddler group) 9.15-1.00am every Friday at Greyhope is growing. We have a mix of babies and toddlers. We meet to chat, play and sing. We have had Sian from Book Bug and Laura from Speech and Language Therapy pop in for a chat and cuppa. All welcome just turn up.

## TORRY'S BUMPS AND BABIES

(Bridge Centre café)

This is group is for mums to be and mums with babies every Thursday at 10.30 -12.30- it's an opportunity to make new friends in a warm and welcoming space. Come and enjoy free refreshments or a light lunch

**Email Ann on [ann.buchan2@nhs.scot](mailto:ann.buchan2@nhs.scot) for more details**

## TORRY MEN'S HEALTH

Look out for a new men's community survey - an opportunity for Torry men to tell us what matters to you about your health. What do you need to keep healthy? What type of activities/ information do you want to see in Torry?

If you have a man in your life, please encourage them to complete the form or fill it in with them.

What are you interested in?

Walking football, circuits, running, boccia, lawn bowls, gardening, golf, fishing, games or a establishing a Torry men's shed? Do you want to learn new computer skills or photography, try song writing or learn to create a podcast!

Do you need a space to talk, be heard or find other people who are like minded in Torry. We want to hear from you. Can you help us create a programme that is designed around your needs? Fill it out by visiting [bit.ly/torrymenhealth](http://bit.ly/torrymenhealth)

## Men's Breakfast at Greyhope

– they say there's no such thing as a free lunch! Although every Wednesday morning in May we are hosting a free men's breakfast at Coffee Stop Café at Greyhope Community Hub. Please come along and tell us what else you would like to see in Torry for men.

## Save the Date Torry Mannie's Health MOT week in June 25.

This year's Men's Health Week runs 9-15 June – Torry Health Matters network are working in partnership with NHS People First to run a series of sessions for men to have a health MOT. Fit is that? A simple check in on your physical and mental health in relaxed community setting. If you want more information, please contact Donna [dcuthill@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:dcuthill@aberdeencity.gov.uk) or text 07917 305827

