

# Torry's **Vision**

Winter 2024



## In this issue:

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PHOTOGRAPHY COMP

BIG NOISE

A PLAY FOR TORRY

SHMU FEST

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

Winner - Dave Esson

# Torry's Vision

Winter Edition 2024

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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 Winter edition of Torry Vision.

Find out about the exciting goings on in Torry this winter, from 'A play for Torry' to Jane Akadiri's fantastic award!

If you'd like to tell your story and have your voice heard, please get in touch via the contact info below.

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.

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

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





# Big Noise Torry Autumn Update

**As autumn has come around once again, everyone at Big Noise Torry is hard at work getting another year of delivery in the community underway.**

Over the past few weeks, we've been delighted to welcome our young people back to October Holiday Club during the school break, where they have taken part in a number of fun activities and visits alongside their usual music lessons and group rehearsals.

Big Noise presented the inaugural Big Sing for Adults at the Old Torry Community Centre. This was a chance for community members to come together and sing popular songs with a live band made up of Big Noise staff and volunteers!

The event was a fantastic success and saw 40 enthusiastic singers from the community come together to perform some classic songs including Hey Jude, Lean on Me, Viva la Vida and Gimme Gimme Gimme - which even led to some impromptu dancing as people departed for the night. Tea, coffee and cake were very welcome at half-time! We were also delighted to be joined by Alec Miller from Ace Voices, some members of his Umbrella A Capella group and some members from Sarah Boyle's Fittie Choir.

As part of October's Holiday Club, some of the young people from our Advanced Orchestra paid a visit to the Provost Hogg Court Sheltered

Housing complex to perform for residents. Big Noise staff have also visited Balnagask House Care Home to play a selection of traditional Scottish music and lead a singalong for their residents.

Little Noise continues to go from strength to strength with a bumper group of babies, toddlers and their mums during our holiday club and our 'The Noise' Community Orchestra for adults also saw new members attend this session! All are welcome to attend on Tuesdays. If you are interested in coming along to a session please call **01224 069770** or **07436 224570**, or find us on Facebook for more details!







## *A Touch of Love makes all the difference*

**T**ouch of Love Outreach was founded by Jane Akadiri in 2020, in the midst of the Covid 19 pandemic. The charity has grown and expanded over the past 4 years from offering a hot meal in the church hall to the vast services it offers today, with Jane as the driving force behind it all!

Jane, alongside three members of staff and over 30 volunteers, provide

a variety of fantastic services in the Torry area.

For those unfamiliar with Touch of Love, they are a charity providing compassionate support from their bases on Grampian Road and Tullos Community Centre to families and ethnic minority young people. Services they provide range from a foodbank, youth groups, employability support and a family hub.

Starting out originally serving a hot meal in lockdown, then moving on to distributing food parcels across the city before finally opening a Foodbank on Grampian Road and adding a foodbank available at Tullos once a week.

Jane is determined that anyone who is hungry can walk into the foodbank and access their service. "If you are really hungry and feel that you need help and walk into the Foodbank, we will find something for you" explained

Jane. "We won't ask for a utility bill or any evidence, you don't need to prove yourself." There is a friendly face there to help, so make use of the service if you need, they will also make an effort to signpost to other organisations who can help too!

Touch of Love are thoughtful with each and every one of their endeavours, this is clear from the attention they have given to choosing their bases and what they do with them. After conducting a survey of their service users to find out what areas families must give priority to when it comes to spending, they discovered that parents felt that they couldn't prioritise mental health and wellbeing activities for their children. So, Touch of Love, set about to provide a solution to this. Launching a children's play scheme in 2022, they had over 200 sign-ups. From there, they started free youth groups throughout term time, thinking of everything down to the accessibility



of the group, making sure they'd be on a main bus route. With Young Scot cards, the children can even get there for free too. Now they have over 60 young people every Friday, it is clear to see these services are valued and necessary.

The youth groups are not just about play, while they do get to enjoy dance, music, signing, football and more, there is also a focus on building community and connections for these youngsters. It is a place where they can bond over their shared experiences. "They discuss their challenges and issues, sometimes you see them discussing systemic racism. They may have recognised that they are being treated differently to others at school and they speak to each other about it because they feel it's a safe space for them to discuss these things."

"We want people to come together, share their experiences, build that peer support. It's very important in today's changing world."

Juggling the running of a charity, alongside her own business, Jane is a force to be reckoned with and whole heartedly deserves to be awarded for it. Jane was recently recognised for her phenomenal work at the Black Scottish awards, where she was nominated and won in the category of Outstanding Contribution to the African Community. While Jane does not do what she does for recognition or reward, this was undoubtedly a great achievement for her.

*"There is also a focus on building community and connections for these youngsters"*

She said "I was so fortunate to be nominated, I don't know who nominated me. You don't do it for recognition, you do it because you

want to fulfil a need and sometimes it might even be a need that you are also going through."

Jane even continued to champion her young people on a night which should have been about her, securing them the opportunity to dance at the celebration.

Congratulations and well done to Jane and everyone at Touch of Love for all their hard work and dedication.

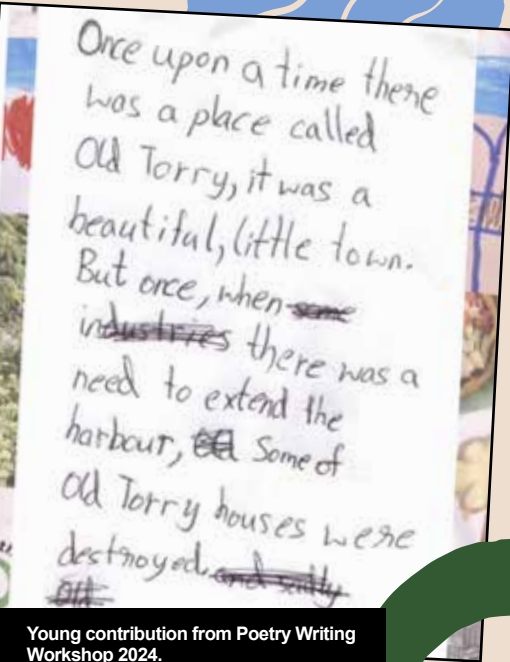
For those who would like to get involved in Touch of Love but are unsure of taking that step, Jane says "It's beautiful to try out new things and make new friends, you can never underestimate the power of being in a community." So why not dive in.

**To find out more about opportunities at Touch of Love and how to get involved, visit their website <https://www.touchoflove.org.uk/index.html> email [support@touchoflove.org.uk](mailto:support@touchoflove.org.uk) or call the helpline on +44 333 220 6029.**





Young writers and Emer Morris: Poetry Writing Workshop 2024



Young contribution from Poetry Writing Workshop 2024.



Collage created collectively by people in Torry, at Grey Hope Hub



Helena Torry, copyright Renee Slater, Torry

# A PLAY FOR TORRY

I'm Emer, playwright, director, and cultural worker, from down south, I've been working up here over the past 4 years, on issues around fishing and energy transition.

My work aims to raise up and celebrate community voices in struggles for justice. About a year ago, I was chatting with co-worker Scott Herrett, Torry resident and Just Transition organiser for Friends of the Earth Scotland. We're both inspired by the 1970s play *The Cheviot, The Stag, The Black Black Oil*, the legendary piece of Scottish theatre tells the story of the exploitation of Scottish lands, waters and people over the centuries. The similarity in what has been happening in Torry is, of course, not lost on anyone.

The list of those making a play for Torry goes on, so, we thought, could we make A Play For Torry?

## A Play for Torry:

So here we are, built from the voices, stories, and experiences of the Torry people, through interviews, music, and poetry, A Play for Torry, is a community-based theatre project that celebrates the land and the resistance of Torry, past and present and future. We'll explore Torry's history and current battles: from fishing and oil to RAAC and the park and it'll be fun.

This is your story - and we invite you to be part of telling it.

## What have we been up to?

In the spring, we ran a writing and poetry workshop at Tullos - collectively producing poetry and

writing. Some quite astounding poetic work came from this- and we made a zine 'artefact' of the poetry from this workshop. (*available to download on the link here <https://issuu.com/torryartefact/docs/>*)

## Who are we anyway?

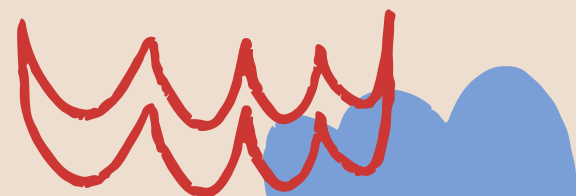
Emer Morris - Writer/ Director and Co Producer. I've been driving the project forward with Scott Herrett, Torry resident project Exec Producer. The brilliant Nathaniel Campbell-Scott-Howells, FoSFP campaigner and Outdoor Classroom co-ordinator is our Community Producer and the extremely talented Aberdeen local writers, Mae Diansagu and Shane Strachan are the script co-writers. We've also got Aberdeen legend Jackill (Jack Hughes) rapper and producer to help create original music.

## What are you up to then?

We won some Creative Scotland funding to develop a draft script of the play. So, starting in January, we'll run a series of workshops - open to both young people and adults - alongside one-on-one interviews. Once we've got a draft, we will do a script reading for feedback from more folks in Torry.

If you'd like to be part of A Play for Torry as a storyteller, a performer, or in another creative role—get in touch [aplayfortorry@gmail.com](mailto:aplayfortorry@gmail.com) or come see us in Greyhope Hub.

*As Helena says, Hauns affa torry.*







# GO TORRY!

**Back in June a great community event was held in Torry in three venues to explore ideas around retrofitting in Torry homes, to celebrate the opening of the new Outdoor Nature Classroom in St Fittick's Park and a packed programme from creative writing to tree planting!**

A packed programme of events including at Tullos Community Centre creative writing and collage breakfast workshops with activities themed around 'What does Torry mean to you?' In St Fittick's Park Tree planting, nature-based crafts including leaf printing, stone painting and the Mammal Detective's table.

The team from shmu were on hand to showcase ideas for a new Connected Torry website and a Social Media Reel workshop. A fantastic performance from 'The Torry Dancers' ended the sessions at Tullos.

The Bridge Centre was the place to be for Information and asking questions about retrofitting homes including working models. There was also opportunity for a discussion about RACC for the community at midday. Craft activities for kids' butteries and a cuppa too!

Great community, great atmosphere 100 free packed lunches were given away. The Big Noise entertained us with the day ending with an emotional highlight of the Lennox's, who ran Doonies farm, officially opening the new outdoor nature classroom. The classroom is dedicated to them as pioneers of outdoor learning.

St Fittick's making an appearance too!

Despite the challenges we face as a community it was inspiring to see such positivity and working together.

Many folks helped to bring this together including The Torry Peoples

Assembly, Friends of St Fittick's Park, Nescan, Nesfit, The Bridge Centre and many others who brought activities including The Northeast Small Mammal Network, Living Rent, Scoop the Dog, Dorothy and Donna from the Communities Team, The Big Noise and of course the Community for coming along.

The conversations continue.

**Contact: [torryassembly@gmail.com](mailto:torryassembly@gmail.com) for further info on retrofit**

**Contact: [friendsofstfittickspark@proton.me](mailto:friendsofstfittickspark@proton.me) for info on the park or outdoor classroom**

**[torryassembly@gmail.com](mailto:torryassembly@gmail.com)**



# CHALLENGE POVERTY WEEK 2024



**This year, the Challenge Poverty Week was October 7-13. While it should be on our minds more often than one week a year, the week itself provides an opportunity to bring into focus both the issues of poverty and the organisations, foundations, charities and non-profit groups that exist to help those in need. One can never have too many friends or allies, especially during the tough times.**

With that in mind, Station House Media Unit (shmu) was able to use some of its resources to highlight organisations that provide help and advice in those difficult times. There was no better time or place than the “Packed Lunch” programme on 99.8 shmuFM to give local organisations a chance to not only promote what they do but be able to introduce themselves to people who may not be aware of the organisations.

Three groups that were able to send representatives to visit shmu and talk about their work and how they can help were Foyer (Marywell Street, Aberdeen), Cyrenians (Summer Street, Aberdeen) and Aberdeen Citizens Advice Bureau (Union Street, Aberdeen). All three organisations do so much more than meets the eye. What better way

to show that than to allow those people to explain a bit in their own words.

Leona, from Aberdeen Foyer was asked about individuals or families that were employed but may be having a tough time financially and was able to go into more detail about what Foyer does on a broader scale. “Aberdeen Foyer, the kind of driving factor behind what we do is about, preventing youth homelessness, making it rare, brief and non-recurring, and also to tackle the impact of poverty on communities across the North East of Scotland.”

“One of the services that we operate is around financial inclusion. Our development coach can meet with individuals and in fact through all of our services, it’s about meeting people where they’re at, understanding the situation, building that trust that you need because it takes a lot of courage to come forward for support, doesn’t it?”

She went on to say, “it’s about making sure we don’t judge anyone, we’re here to help... you find the pathway to get into something that’s maybe a bit better, gives you a better life.”

Wayne, from Cyrenians talked about the history, growth and change within the organisation and how it has evolved throughout its existence. “We’ve been in the city for more than 50 years now. We started off as a soup kitchen and sort of gradually evolved over the period, doing lots of different services.”

Among the services that Cyrenians provides are “crisis interventions, people just coming in, needing all sorts of help. Primarily, I think people associate us with the housing, but we do more than that. There is help with people, you know, for benefits, for energy bills, for any other support. Emergency food provisions, quite a diverse range of services that we provide.”

In addition, he spoke about what some of the goals groups like the Cyrenians are trying to achieve. Obviously, one of our aims primarily is to try and eradicate the poverty ... there are a lot of people out there struggling with a lot of different challenges and we try to do everything we can to try and lift that up.

Vadims from the Aberdeen Citizens Advice Bureau explained about one





of the roles the ACAB takes on when someone comes to them for advice or assistance. “The first key principle of the Bureau is for us to empower our clients. So, the idea is we can give you the tools you need to know for your particular situation.”

“It might be giving you the advice you need. So, for example, if you have an issue with your employer, we can let you know what your rights are, in a particular case, so that you know what to do at your next employer meeting you may have or going forward with your consumer claim. So, we can give you the tools.”

No two clients or situations are the same and the help is structured to each scenario. “Each client is different, meaning there’s different level of help that is required. If you

are in a position where you’re needing that extra bit of help, for example, completing the form, for any sort of form, we are also able to do that. But the sort of first stage is we try to empower the client to be able to resolve the issue themselves.”

Each of the organisations came in with one goal, helping people. Everyone that reaches out to a community organisation does so out of need, or so the majority believe. That is not always the case, as all three groups have great volunteers that take part in helping to assist the community. That was apparent in all three interviews. It is one of many threads that they share. Volunteers are the life-blood of any group that is involved in assisting a community at any level. No one

can do it alone, and that includes charities or community groups.

For further information on the charities, you can also refer to their websites or through the other contact information provided.

Contact Information:

**Aberdeen Foyer:** <https://www.aberdeenefoyer.com/> email: [info@aberdeenefoyer.com](mailto:info@aberdeenefoyer.com) or Tel: 01224 212924

**Cyrenians:** <https://www.weareac.org/> email: [hello@weareac.org](mailto:hello@weareac.org) or Phone: 0300 303 0903

**Aberdeen Citizens Advice Bureau:** <https://aberdeencab.org.uk/> email: [bureau@aberdeencab.casonline.org.uk](mailto:bureau@aberdeencab.casonline.org.uk) or Phone 01224 569750 (between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday to Friday except on public holidays and Christmas)

*By Steph Greer*

### Audrey Nicoll MSP

With the colder months and the festive season drawing near, it's a good time to look back at some issues continuing to impact constituents and look forward to the challenges we face as winter draws near.

Many of you have been in touch regarding the persistent issue of high energy bills, but also the removal of the Winter Fuel Payment and of course RAAC.

I am acutely aware of the worry felt by constituents following the UK Government's decision to end the Winter Fuel Payment for so many. This is causing significant concern as we approach winter. If you're worried about managing your energy bills or have been affected by these changes, please don't hesitate to reach out to my office for assistance. I encourage readers of pension age to check if you are eligible for pension credit. If you need help determining your eligibility, my office team and I are here to help.

I am aware council tenants impacted by RAAC continue to move to new homes. For some this has been a positive event, for others less so, and they remain deeply upset by what has happened. I would encourage anyone who feels moving home is taking a toll on their mental health to seek help either through the support options offered by Aberdeen City Council, or via their GP.

I have regular contact with the Council on issues raised by constituents regarding their move and can assure constituents I will continue to assist you where I can.

I am aware homeowners are in receipt of correspondence from the Council on next steps for their homes. I recently met with a group of homeowners, noting their ongoing concerns and welcoming positive suggestions on a range of points. I am in no doubt homeowners wish to find a fair solution that works for everyone.

I am aware of safety concerns being raised as council properties become vacant, especially as the dark nights set in. I have raised this with both Police Scotland and the Council and would encourage anyone with concerns to report incidents timeously.

**Police Scotland 101 or 999 if an emergency**

**Aberdeen City Council –  
03000 200 292**

Finally, on funding, I continue to raise this pressing issue with all governments, it is crucial a timely financial solution is found.

As always, my team and I are here to assist everyone here in Torry with any issues you may be experiencing. If you need my support, you can reach me by phone at **01224 876743**, by email at **Audrey.Nicoll.MSP@Parliament.scot**, or feel free to visit my office in Torry on **51 Victoria Road any day between 10am and 4pm**.

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### Cllr Christian Allard and Cllr Lee Fairfull

It is that time of year when leaves are beginning to fall and covering our streets and pavements. Just like with weeds over the summer, the Council team understands the need to clear leaves from our streets. The full street cleaning service focussing on leaf clearing has started and will be on for the next 8 to 10 weeks. This includes bringing in additional large

mechanical brushes to help sweep up the leaves, plus extra skips for disposal and to reduce traveling time for emptying loads across the city. The team doesn't follow the usual sweeping routes and programmes at this time of year but concentrates on leaf fall hot spots and areas prone to flooding.

Reporting issues is important to all Council services, you can always use us for this or report them online where you will get an update sent back to you once the issue is resolved. We use the service ourselves as the best way to monitor the multiple requests we receive. Visit Services | Aberdeen City Council to find report problems.



### Cllr Christian Allard and Cllr Lee Fairfull Cont.

I have reported online to the services and to the Chief Executive the mess left the last 6 months at St Fittick's Park. This has been a long drawn out process this year including many visits to clear waste, you will be pleased to hear that the end is finally in sight. St Fitticks Park is classed as an open space and is maintained in a more natural way. It has regular visits from both the Countryside Rangers and Grounds maintenance teams who manage and care for the open space. The Winter team will be working on restricting vehicle access to the park.

I have raised a request for bins, skip and Portaloo's with the Gypsy

Traveller Liaison Officer.

Let me thank the Torry Vision team for the last magazine all about the challenges posed by the presence of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) on the many properties in Torry. Again, any issues you might have on this, please contact us. For questions and answers for private owners, private tenants and Council tenants, there is a link to follow: [www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/housing/raac-housing](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/housing/raac-housing)

The Torry Community Council has reconvened, and we have welcomed the new Community Councillors.

They are all volunteering, and I cannot thank them enough for putting their name forward. Councillor Lee Fairfull and I will be supporting them supporting the community.

Christian Allard and Lee Fairfull

**Elected Councillors for Torry and Ferryhill**

**Surgeries by appointment, please call 01224 346642 or email [callard@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:callard@aberdeencity.gov.uk)**

**To contact Councillor Fairfull please call 01224 346652 or email [LFairfull@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:LFairfull@aberdeencity.gov.uk)**

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### Stephen Flynn MP

Dear Readers

Since I last wrote, there has obviously been a Westminster election which resulted in a new UK Labour Government. After an amicable contest locally, I was delighted to be returned as the Member of Parliament for Aberdeen South.

As you will have likely noticed, one of the dominant issues since the election has been the significant change in eligibility for the Winter Fuel Payment – previously available to everyone receiving the state pension, but now just to those who meet certain means tested criteria, namely being in receipt of Pension Credit.

With energy bills again set to rise in the coming days, the nights getting darker and the weather ever colder, I would encourage you to ensure that either yourself, a neighbour, or loved one, is claiming Pension Credit should they be entitled to it. Age Scotland estimate that 123,000 eligible pensions in Scotland currently do not do so.

With that in mind, I wanted to use this column to encourage anyone of pension age who is on a low income to check their eligibility for Pension Credit. Unfortunately, the qualifying week for this year's Winter Fuel Payment has now passed, but that makes it even more crucial that anyone who should be receiving Pension Credit

is not missing out on even more financial support at this time, especially as payments can be backdated for up to three months.

If anyone needs help understanding how to apply for Pension Credit, or any other financial support they think they may be entitled to, my office is happy to provide any assistance we can. You can contact my team at [stephen.flynn.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:stephen.flynn.mp@parliament.uk) or phone us on **01224 213 114**.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch about this or any other issue you think we may be able to help with.

**Best Wishes, Stephen**

# Pathways in Torry

Stan Smith is our experienced, professional and friendly Employment Keyworker who covers Torry, and he meets clients at the following premises.

## TORRY SKILLS CENTRE

Tuesday 09.00 – 17.00 /  
Thursday 09.00 – 12.00

## OLD TORRY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Wednesday & Thursday  
13.00 – 16.00

Stan continues to be very busy in Torry actively helping a number of people to look for and find suitable employment. Stan has also recently completed the tutor course for Health Issues in the Community and is awaiting accreditation to be able to deliver courses in the area. If this is of interest please get in touch with Stan.

To contact Stan call Pathways on 01224 682 939 or email [s.smith@pathways-online.org](mailto:s.smith@pathways-online.org) to make an appointment.

Pathways – Helping You  
To Find Work



## Torry Health Matters Network Update

**The network meets once a month and is interested in working alongside residents in Torry to support and improve their health and wellbeing.**

We have been successful in securing funding to run a range of social and wellbeing activities for community members.

One of the first activities will be a free soup & sannies on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Coffee Stop Café. All welcome to have lunch and a chat.

A new group called Bumps & Babies group will start every Thursday at Bridge Centre 10.30 -11.30am starting 21st November onwards.

Don't forget Alice's Knitters every Wednesday in the library in Greyhope 1.00 till 3.00 – if you don't knit - just show up for a natter and a cuppa.

We have cards, board games/ puzzles for community use anytime the centre is open.

Look out in the new year for gentle exercise, Zumba gold, crafts, walking football and much more.

**If you are interested in joining in or have a suggestion, look out for posters in local shops and Greyhope Community Hub notice board. For more information please contact [dcuthill@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:dcuthill@aberdeencity.gov.uk) 07917 305827**







## News from Torry Library

Come visit us in the Greyhope School and Community Hub – we will happily give you a tour of the library!

The library is staffed **10am-1pm & 2pm-5pm (Mondays and Thursdays), 1pm-7pm (Wednesdays) and 10am-1pm (Saturdays)**. However, the building is an open space and is available to the public from Monday to Friday, 8am – 6pm, so you can borrow and return books using our self-service machine even when staff members aren't present. Please visit [www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives/find-your-local-library](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives/find-your-local-library) for updates and information on our other libraries.

Visitors to the library can browse and borrow items. Membership is free and you can use your library card in any of our libraries across the city to borrow books, DVDs, use PCs, access online resources, to download audiobooks and eBooks as well as finding out about topics such as business information, family history and much more.

If you know anyone who would be interested in borrowing

library items but are unable to visit the library due to disability, illness, shielding or caring responsibilities, give us a call and we'll let you know about our Home Library Service where we deliver the items to them every 4 weeks.

Our monthly Bookbug sessions are still going and have been extremely popular over the last few months. Bookbug sessions are free, fun, and friendly sessions for children aged between 0-5 years old and their parents or carers. Each session consists of several songs and rhymes to engage your little one as well as a story for you both to enjoy. These sessions are great opportunities for families to meet other local families, to learn new things and to introduce your little one to the libraries. Currently our sessions are drop-in, so there is no need to book in advance!

For any other information on our services, please visit [www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/libraries](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/libraries) or contact Torry Library by email: [TorryLibrary@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:TorryLibrary@aberdeencity.gov.uk) or telephone: **01224 764747**.



## Boogie at the White Cockade

The White Cockade Boogie in the Bar has been going for 5 months now. Those who attend have a lovely few hours, with a light lunch and tea or coffee provided. Some get up and dance others tap along and others just like a good blether.

If you are free on the 1st Monday of each month from 11:30 to 1pm then please pop along for something a wee bit different.

# shmu Turns 21 in Style!



Around 700 people gathered in Deer Road Park and shmuHQ to celebrate shmu's 21st birthday on the 22nd of September.

The community media charity couldn't have asked for a better birthday party than shmuFEST!

Guests showed up from across shmu's communities to enjoy the fun filled day. There was truly something for everyone, from live performances of poetry, music and dance throughout the day, to a silent disco, a BBQ, street art, craft, circus tents and more!

The day was an absolute hit with those who came along, across the day volunteers new and old attended, community members and partner organisations paid a visit. Here's what some of them had to say about the event, and shmu itself!



"The good thing about shmu is, it's open to everybody, you can see that looking round here, there's people from all walks of life and they're all enjoying themselves, there's not a frown in sight. Radio has been a closed shop for years; I started in the 70s and if you didn't know someone you didn't get in. But shmu opens the doors for so many different people for media, magazines, editing, they can do everything here."

PAUL HAZEL

"I thought it was a fantastic, fun day with lots of activities and really nice people! It was just great fun, I really enjoyed it, I liked the music, creating the artwork and listening to the stories."

MARK

"A big thank you to everyone who organised shmuFEST. It's been a good time spreading joy here in Woodside and a fantastic day getting everybody together!"

MIKE MELVIN





"I loved doing the dancing for Afristyle, representing and performing in front of everyone."

PERFORMER



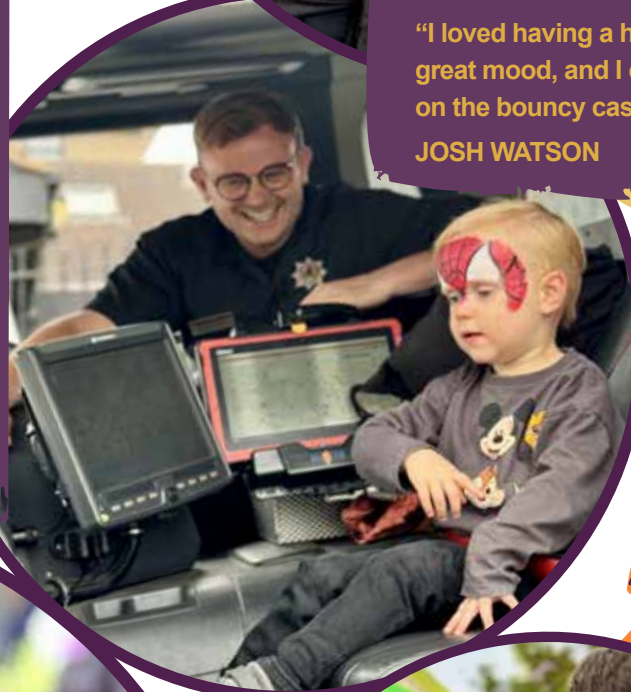
"It was amazing, there were lots of familiar faces around, the weather behaved nicely, you've got a birthday every year, so I hope to see something next year too! It was a great experience."

COMMUNITY MEMBER



"It is such a cool day today; I really love it. I hope it happens on a regular basis, wandering about I have seen so many people that I know from all different places. Earlier on I was trying to explain to my family what shmu does and I was like 'well it does this, and it does tv and it does radio and it does youth employment and all sorts of stuff. But I couldn't explain it, I couldn't put it in a box, but coming along to shmuFEST, that explains it, that gives you an idea of how all-encompassing shmu is and how many different people come and what an amazing opportunity it is for so many folk."

KIRSTY BLACKMAN MSP



"I loved having a hotdog! I am in a great mood, and I can't wait to go on the bouncy castle next!"

JOSH WATSON



"To have a shmuFEST and have us as guests is just brilliant! I have never been involved in anything like this before!"

MURDOCH





*Hayley Leys - Runner Up*



*Leona Mathers*



*Murali P- Runner Up*



*Soran Xurmale*



*Soran Xurmale*

The **Connected Torry Photo Competition** received a fantastic response.

Photos from across Torry, showcasing the surrounding landscapes were submitted, thank you to everyone who took part!

If you have photos depicting Torry's character and it's people, that you'd like to see showcased on the site and in the Torry Vision magazine, don't hesitate to share them with us!