

ALFORD

CORGARFF

CRAIGIEVAR

CUSHNIE

DUNECHT

ECHT

GLENKINDIE

KEIG

KILDRUMMY

LUMSDEN

MIDMAR

MILLBANK

MONTGARRIE

MONYMUSK

MOSSAT

MUIR OF FOWLIS

SAUCHEN

STRATHDON

TILLYFOURIE

TOUGH

TOWIE

TULLYNESSLE

WHITEHOUSE



ALFORD & AREA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Issue 70 Winter 2011



New Alford Community Campus

Aberdeenshire Council Update November 2011

The Policy & Resources Committee of Aberdeenshire Council has agreed the preferred option for the replacement Alford campus within a single construction phase development which will commence in 2014/15. The scope of the work has been approved and will include a 640 place academy, 325 place primary school, 4 lane 25m swimming pool, community and sports facilities. The considerable amount of work that has already gone into the development of the project will be taken into account as the design stage progresses.

The site for the new campus has been acquired by the Council from the developer. A new access road will have to be in place before the campus construction work commences and the cost of providing the new access road to the campus site will be met by the Council from the Capital Plan.

Aberdeenshire Council Roads personnel are currently working on the preliminary design of the access road. Essential reports (topology, archaeology, ecology) have been carried out and a ground investigation is underway. Grampian police have been consulted on proposed speed limits and the location of the roundabout at the entrance to the campus site is currently under discussion. The Planning Application for the new access road is scheduled for early in 2012. It is anticipated that construction work on the new access road will start late 2012/early 2013.

Design work on the new community campus will be progressing over the coming months and it is planned to arrange a community engagement event early in the New Year to share progress on the Alford Community Campus with the wider community. Details of this event will be widely circulated.

50+ Stretch and Tone class meets on the first and fourth Monday of the month in the Community Centre Lounge from 2 to 4 pm. Our tutor is Edna Matthew. Come along and join us and have some fun.

Craigievar Film Club will be showing "A Frenchman's Guide to Love" at Tullynessle & Forbes Hall on Thursday 29th December. Film starts at 7.30pm, entrance is £4 for non-members, spiced apple juice and snacks will be provided. For more information about the Film Club and additional film showings email craigievarfilmclub2007@yahoo.co.uk or look up www.tullynessleandforbeshall.co.uk.



Citizens Advice Bureau offers a range of confidential services - benefits, employment, self-employment, debt, legal, consumer issues, travel, housing, homelessness, tenancy, relationships, form filling, representation and benefits tribunal work.

A satellite service operates in Alford Howe Trinity Church Centre on Tuesdays from 10am-1pm. To make an appointment or if you are interested in training to become a volunteer advisers call 01224 747714

CONTACTS

Alford Community Centre
Murray Terrace
Alford AB33 8PY

Tel: 019755 63651

Email: alford.cec@aberdeenshire.gov.uk



Senior Community Learning Worker
Community Learning Workers

Senior Community Leisure Officer
Community Development Group

Nicola Kenyon
Kelly Rennie
Simone Sinclair
Donald Fraser
Lesley Michie

Community Learning and Development is learning and social development work with individuals and groups in their communities using a range of formal and informal methods. Programmes and activities are developed in dialogue with communities and participants. Community Learning and Developments main aim is to help individuals and communities tackle real issues in their lives through community action and community based learning. Currently in Alford we do this through:

Youth Work – details below Adult Learning – see back page for details Work with Community Groups

Youth Opportunities

Youth Workers are here to offer young people confidential advice and information. We can support you with all the issues that affect you, guiding and allowing you to make informed choices.

There are lots of ways you can get involved in something fun that is designed by you to make real change happen in your community.... get involved, have fun, learn new skills, build confidence, and most of all be listened to.

Alford and Area Youth Forum gather views of young people in the area, raise funds, and kick-start new community projects. One of their current ideas is to get a graffiti art project organised at the skate park in Alford. If you become involved in the youth forum, you will have the opportunity to present the views of local young people at local and national level.

Alford Eliminators Street Dance Group

Learn and create new dance moves and routines with Millenium Child (MC).



Alford Eliminators have performed at loads of big events in Aberdeen to raise money for charity and hope to organise their own show soon. Eliminators members are working towards their Youth achievement, Dynamic Youth and MV Awards. Well Done Eliminators!! Fantastic plans for your future, keep it up.

Only Girls Allowed
Wednesdays
6.30-8.00pm
Alford Community Centre
Open to all girls aged
11-18 years
New members welcome



Our **Detached Youth Work team** (Susan, Dianne and Pam) have been out and about Alford on Friday nights engaging with young people in their own territory. The team offer advice and guidance on any of the issues that young people experience.

Key to detached work (and all youth work actually) is that young people **choose** to engage. So if you see the detached team wondering around and you're not in the mood for a chat just politely let us know and we'll leave you alone. Most of the time though, young people are really pleased to see us and have commented that they really enjoy chatting to us.

We hope a group of young people will come together to plan new and exciting projects that will support young people to tackle real issues in their lives and therefore enable them to progress in the direction they choose for themselves. Interested?.....talk to the Team when you see them out and about.

Transitions Project: helping to support the move from Primary School to Secondary School for all Young People who will attend Alford Academy. The plan is to get a youth group started up with a representative group of P7s who will plan an 8 week programme that all interested P7s can get involved in. By taking part in the project, young people will learn all about youth work in the local area, have fun getting to know their peers from other Primary Schools, get support with personal and social development and gain a Dynamic Youth Award. Kelly, one of our Community Learning and Development Workers here at the Community Centre has worked with young people in 4 of the local Primary schools already and hopes to meet with the others soon.

Lunchtime Information & Advice Sessions



Begin on Wednesday 18th January. This new informal drop-in session is open to all young people that attend Alford Academy. Pop along to our first session and you'll receive some free snacks and juice and a taster of what will be on offer.



Congratulations to Danielle Cheyne and Scott Henderson who recently received their 50 and 100 hour MV Awards. Well Done to Hannah Watson who has banked more than 40 hours already toward her MV Award. Well done to you all for your hard work and commitment.

For further information on any of the above Youth Opportunities contact Kelly at the Community Centre on 019755 63651 or feel free to pop in for a chat.

You Choose: A massive well done to the members of You Choose Group who have been working very hard towards achieving their nationally recognised and Scottish Qualifications Authority levelled Youth Achievement and Dynamic Youth Awards.

The girls have developed their project to suit their interests so that they are experiencing learning which is fun and interesting. Delivering some personal development workshops is next on the cards for the group following the completion of their extremely fantastic and unique filmed performance.



Aberdeenshire Council recently introduced "Active Aberdeenshire" a new Leisure membership scheme aimed at encouraging people to take part in regular exercise and sport and enjoy it and it links to the national Active Scotland campaign (www.ouractivenation.co.uk)

The Active Aberdeenshire scheme makes it easier and cheaper for you to use Council sports and leisure facilities by paying a monthly fee. As a member you'll get access at any participating facility and get unlimited access, whether it be for swimming, use of gym facilities or sports halls.

To apply for an Active Aberdeenshire membership or for further details please ask for details at Alford Pool on 019755 62922 or online at www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/activeaberdeenshire

Alford Community Web Group

Alford Community Web Group are updating the website and have been compiling a new contact list of local groups - available to view in the New Year. If you have an event or news to share log on to www.alford.org and leave a message or contact the Community Centre.



ALFORD & AREA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP (CDG)

The Alford and Area CDG meet 4 to 6 times per year to identify, promote and develop relevant and accessible lifelong learning and leisure opportunities.

Current Alford and Area CDG developments include

- Support and develop Adult Learning opportunities
- Support to Youth Work opportunities
- Support to the Alford Community Web Group
- Support and financial assistance to a wide range of community groups

If you would be interested in being involved or would like to find out how your group can apply for financial assistance please contact Nicola at the Centre.

THE ALFORD AND EARLY YEARS FORUM

The Alford and Early Years Forum consists of a range of representatives from agencies that work with and for our children and families. They meet each term to ensure that the limited resources available are targeted where they are most needed to provide the best support and opportunities to children and families in the area.

If you've got young children, are a playgroup or toddler rep or work with early years groups we'd welcome your input as the Forum is led by **your** priorities.

If you're interested in getting involved or finding out more, contact Simone at the Community Centre.

CHURCH NOTICES

A warm invitation to attend Christmas Services is extended.

18 December	10.00 am	Howe Trinity Family Service
	11.45 am	Service at Tullynessle & Forbes Kirk
21 December	6.30 pm	Service in Keig Kirk
Christmas Eve	6.30 pm	Cushnie Church Family Service
	11.00 pm	Howe Trinity Carol Singing
Christmas Day	11.30 pm	Howe Trinity Watch Night Service
	10.00 am	Tough Church Family Service
1 January	10.00 am	Howe Trinity Family Service followed by Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Tough Church New Year's Day Service
	10.00 am	Howe Trinity New Year's Day Service



FLOATS & FUN SESSIONS

@ ALFORD POOL

Why not come and join us at Alford Pool at one of the "Floats & Fun" sessions where you can have loads of fun with a selection of Floats, Balls, Sinkers and Woggles - all the fun things we have in our pool store. There are 3 sessions every week to choose from: Wednesday 6.00 - 7.30pm, Friday 6.00 - 8.00pm and Saturdays 1.00 - 3.00pm.

Alternatively if you fancy a swim without all the fuss, why not try our "Lane only" session which takes place on a Saturday afternoon from 3.00 - 4.00pm. With all four lanes of the 20metre pool available, there's plenty space for everyone to come and exercise, whatever you're standard.

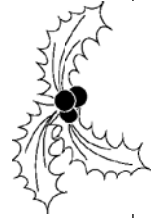
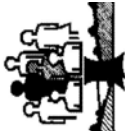
For more details on all the sessions available at Alford pool, call them on 019755 62922



Voluntary and Community Sector Speed Date at Lumsden Sculpture Workshop

On 9th November representatives from the voluntary sector and communities in Huntly, Alford and the surrounding areas gathered for a joint Community Ward 14 and Volunteer Coordinators Forum. The aim of the evening chaired by Cllr Joanna Strathdee was to provide an opportunity for local community representatives, community groups and voluntary sector groups to meet, exchange ideas and discuss local needs. This took the form of a "speed dating" session where participants moved between small discussion groups. The event showcased the huge amount of inspirational work being carried out in the area by volunteers and community/voluntary sector organisations.

The Ward 14 Community Forums, organised by the Marr Community Planning Group cover a range of issues and subjects relevant to community based organisations. If these events are of interest to your group/organisation contact Lizzy on 07786 579426 lizzy@marrareapartnership.org.uk.



ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES Alford: January – March 2012

Subject/Class Title	Venue	Timing	Day	Start	Further Information	Wks	Cost	Conc.
Big Plus - Reading, writing, numbers and ICT skills	Alford CC & other venues around Alford CSN area				Please call us. We arrange a Tutor and venue at a time and place that suits you		Free	Free
ESOL – English Speakers of Other Languages							Free	Free
Gaelic Conversation	Room A1, Alford Academy	7.30 – 9.00pm	Mon	9-January		11	£68.20	£37.40
Yoga	Alford Primary School, GP Room	8.00-9.30pm	Mon	9-January		10	£62.00	£34.00
Dru Yoga	Tullynessle Hall	10.00 – 12.00	Thur	12-January		11	£84.70	£45.65
Yoga	Alford CC – Hut A	10.15 – 11.45	Wed	11-January		10	£62.00	£34.00
Computing for Absolute Beginners	Alford CC	1.30 – 3pm	Mon	16-Jan	Ideal for those who have never or have hardly ever used a computer	8	Free	Free
Computing for Absolute Beginners	Strathdon	tbc	tbc				Free	Free
Next Steps Computing		tbc	tbc	January	Dates and times will be confirmed in consultation with those registering with these classes	8	£49.60	£27.20
Using your Mobile Phone	Alford cc	tbc	tbc					

Would you like to learn how to use a computer? We are running another series of computing courses for absolute beginners. If you sign up you will learn how to perform basic operations using an IT system, perform simple processes using a range of application packages, and you'll be able use the internet to search for information. Interested? contact Kelly at the Community Centre.

We are also running a **Next Steps in Computing** for those who already have basic computing skills. This course could give you the confidence to move on to the ECDL computing course!

Volunteering plays a vital and important part in being able to deliver adult learning programmes.....if you have a particular skill you would be interested in sharing please let us know.

Interested in learning a new skill? The CDG would like to hear what you would like to be involved in – contact the Community Centre with your suggestions

If you or someone you know would like help with reading, writing, numeracy, computing, or learning the English language the Community Centre can support you. We have a Team of experienced Volunteer Tutors who will work with you on a confidential one to one basis. What you would like to learn is discussed and a programme designed to meet your needs. For more information or a chat about these opportunities contact Simone at the Community Centre

