

Locally...

## Mearns FM

**M**earns FM can help you! Your local radio station is working with community groups across the Mearns to promote their events, celebrate their achievements and raise funds.

The station went on air for the first time in June 2009. With three transmitters, it now covers the biggest geographical area of any community radio station in the UK. The "spik o' the Mearns" can now be heard as far north as Aberdeen and as far south as Arbroath. The station even has one enthusiastic listener in West Lothian!

Mearns FM works for the community. Broadcasting between 8am and 8pm, their volunteer presenters aim to give out commu-



nity information for 20 minutes of each hour. If any community group would like to publicise an event or to send out a request to listeners for more volunteers or assistance, then simply get in touch with the Mearns FM team on 01569 668085 or by email on [info@mearnsfm.org.uk](mailto:info@mearnsfm.org.uk).

There are a number of community projects that Mearns FM is supporting in other ways. The team is working with the St Cyrus Newsletter Group to promote, run and record a fundraising quiz night in St Cyrus. They are also working with a group in Fettercairn on a fundraising ceilidh night.

If you would like any more information on these projects or would like to talk about how Mearns FM could help you with your community group then please just get in touch.



Helping rural communities  
to access funding

RuralDirect»

**L**aunched in 2008 by the Scottish Government, Rural Direct is a national service delivered locally which aims to help rural communities to access funding, particularly from the Scotland Rural Development Programme (SRDP). The Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) is responsible for delivery of the service. Rural Direct won't apply for funding on your behalf, but will work with you to make sure you make the best possible funding applications to the appropriate funders - and get the best possible results for your community. Staff can provide support in person, by phone and by email for groups who request help in identifying appropriate funding, developing applications and building local development strategies.

For applicants to the SRDP the Rural Direct service has developed a high level of expertise and information in particular on how to access Rural Priorities funding. This free service is available to community groups which draw their membership from rural areas. The Rural Priorities identified for Kincardine and Mearns, as part of the Rural Aberdeenshire area, include: Public Access, Diversification of Rural Enterprise, Thriving Rural Communities, Landscape and Built and Cultural Heritage.

A range of Briefings on all aspects of the Rural Priorities application process can be found at [www.ruraldirect.org.uk](http://www.ruraldirect.org.uk). Your local Rural Direct Development Officer is Eleanor Morris. Eleanor is based in Aberdeen and is contactable at [eleanor.morris@scvo.org.uk](mailto:eleanor.morris@scvo.org.uk) and on Tel: 07792 858180.

SCVO also liaise with the Council for Voluntary Services (CVS) who have a local branch at 42-46 Barclay Street, Stonehaven. The development worker there is Linda Babbs who is best contacted in the first instance by email at [Linda.Babbs@cvs.co.uk](mailto:Linda.Babbs@cvs.co.uk).

contact us

KINCARDINE & MEARN'S Community Planning Officers:  
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Kincardine  
& Mearns  
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Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership newsletter

**community planning** working together for  
the best quality of life for everyone in aberdeenshire

## Aberdeenshire Youth Council

The Aberdeenshire Youth Council represents young people from all over the Shire on issues important to young people. The membership is made up of the 6 additional Youth Councillors - usually one for each council area - who are elected. The election process is carried out through Aberdeenshire Youth Forum who currently have over 150 members. The job of these 12 young people is to make sure that politicians and decision makers in Aberdeenshire know how young people feel and know what issues need to be addressed.

To do this, they meet every two months to discuss what problems young people in their area are facing and how they could be tackled and solved. They then present this information to the council and community partners in order to see if there can be changes or solutions to make improvements.

If you are a young person who lives, works, or goes to school or college in Aberdeenshire, AYC is here to represent you. If there is something you think should be changed in the Shire, get in touch with one of your local Youth Councillors and be sure we will work hard to get the solution you want.

### Contact Details

[dialogueyouth@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:dialogueyouth@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  
Tel. 01467 624345



### The current Youth Councillors are:

Chair - Alex Gaskin,  
MSYP for Banff & Buchan  
Vice Chair - Emma Maclean,  
Kincardine and Mearns  
Secretary - Yolanda Wilson, Marr  
Treasurer - Grace Croft, Buchan  
Mike Forman, MSYP for Banff & Buchan  
Coral-Ann Birnie, MSYP for Gordon  
Rebecca Cox, MSYP for Gordon  
Andrew Deans, MSYP for West  
Aberdeenshire & Kincardine  
Conor McNeill, MSYP for West  
Aberdeenshire & Kincardine  
Emma Maders, Kincardine & Mearns  
Catriona Robertson, Garioch  
Conor McKay, Garioch

contact us

Woodhill House, Westburn Road, Aberdeen, AB16 5GB tel: 01224 664308  
email: [communityplanning@ouraberdeenshire.org.uk](mailto:communityplanning@ouraberdeenshire.org.uk)  
visit our website at [www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk](http://www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk)

