

# Our Aberdeenshire

Marr  
Edition

Aug-Sept  
2008

Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership newsletter

## Community Planning - Working together for the best quality of life for everyone in Aberdeenshire

Through our partnership's five main areas of work (themes) we work towards:



Healthy, safe and sustainable communities  
(Community Wellbeing theme)

A vibrant local economy and improved job prospects  
(Jobs and the Economy theme)



A sustainable environment  
(Sustainable Environment theme)

The best opportunities for lifelong learning  
(Lifelong Learning theme)



Building a lasting partnership  
(Developing our Partnership theme)

Our aim is to achieve all of the above through our five theme forums, which allow us to group similar issues together and to work as efficiently as possible to improve the quality of life in Aberdeenshire.

Each theme forum is led by a nominated partner organisation. For example, NHS Grampian lead the Community Wellbeing theme forum and work closely with a range of partners from housing, social work and community safety. The council's Community Learning and Development team lead the Lifelong Learning theme forum and work closely with partners including the two universities, colleges, Careers Scotland and a Council for Voluntary Service.

## Shell Community Planning Grant

For a number of years now, community projects around Aberdeenshire have received a £20,000 boost from Shell U.K. Ltd, to be allocated through the Community Planning Partnership. This is to fund community projects to help and support their local communities to become involved in Community Planning. Our local Community Planning groups play a key role in prioritising the applications for the funding and we try to fund a good spread of projects throughout Aberdeenshire. Examples of projects who received funding in early 2008 were: Aberchirder & District Community Association, Banff Area Youth Forum, One to One Deeside Counselling Service and Garioch & North Marr Community Safety Group.

The application process for the funding available in early 2009 will begin very soon. Projects eligible for funding need to meet certain criteria. For more information on how to apply please visit our website at [www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk](http://www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk), and look for the About Us, Funding sections.

## Ageing Well!

Aberdeenshire Council, NHS Grampian and other partners are undertaking an engagement and consultation event with Older People, as part of its commitment to provide quality services to the community. The purpose of this event is to involve older people in the planning and design of services which are relevant to them.

The event is planned to link with National Older People's Day and will take place on 3rd October 2008 in the Westhill Hotel starting at 10.30am. If you would like further information or if you would like to apply for a place at the event please contact :

Housing & Social Work Information team on 01467 627256 or e-mail [sw@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:sw@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

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Locally...



## Getting Together

The August round of Community Ward Forums in Marr was well-attended in spite of the coincidence with the last few days of the school holidays. Discussions included the importance of working with young people and the work being done by Marr's Youth Forums to prepare for a interactive session at the November ward forums.

Attendees considered their

levels of engagement with the Local Community Planning Group and their communities, including the effectiveness of the forums themselves.

The evenings were completed by interesting local community presentations including news of the Finzean Graveyard project and the Tin Hut Music sessions which have helped regenerate the level of activities at Gartly Hall.

## Moving on...

The Marr area must bid farewell to Jill Sowden, our part-time Community Planning Officer, who is moving on to a full-time role in Garioch. Jill has worked hard to raise the profile of Community Planning in the Marr Area and will be sorely missed.



Communities in Marr have begun their planning for next year's Homecoming activities. Central to many of the activities already in place is the North East Clan Fortnight, commencing 18 July 2009 and providing a Homecoming focus to a range of local events including the Aboyne Highland Games, Ancestral Archive Events and the Gordon Highlanders Mini Tattoo in Huntly.

Among the discussions at the ward forums was the question of available funding support for Homecoming Linked Events. Funding options include the Marr Area Committee's

Top-Up Budget and the Initiative Grant Scheme administered by the Marr Area Partnership.

In order to qualify for funding, events or projects should aim to generate increased visitor numbers from home or abroad and need to be linked to one of Homecoming 2009's main themes:

- ◆ Burns
- ◆ Whisky
- ◆ Golf
- ◆ The Enlightenment and Innovation
- ◆ Ancestry



Aboyne Highland Games, 2008

contact us

MARR LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

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