

Kincardine & Mearns

Annual News

2018



*"Helping Our
Communities make K&M a
Great Place to Live &
Work!"*





YOUR LOCAL RURAL PARTNERSHIP

Kincardineshire Development Partnership (KDP) is your local Rural Partnership covering the Kincardine and Mearns area. We are a Scottish registered charity whose objectives are to encourage and develop voluntary activities and skills in the area; and assist in the regeneration of the area through the improvement of the physical, social and economic environment.

Essentially we help our communities make Kincardine and Mearns a great place to live and work!

We're Here to help....

The Team at KDP offer practical help and support in a variety of ways, including:

- Supporting people and communities with projects of all sizes, both existing and new.
- Enabling and encouraging, and harnessing the skills and enthusiasm of local people.
- Providing information, advice and support with:
 - Project planning
 - Funding
 - Community consultation and engagement
 - Community action planning
 - Governance
 - 'Red- tape' so community groups can gain access to services and funding.
 - Business/Project Plans
 - Facilitation
 - Evidence gathering
 - Jargon Busting

We respond to the needs and requests of our communities so feel free to give us a call or drop us an email as we may be able to help or put you in the right direction!

Kincardineshire Development Partnership

42-46 Barclay Street

Stonehaven

AB39 2FX

01569 763 246

officesupport@kdp.scot



Welcome to our first edition of KDP's Kincardine & Mearns Annual News. We hope you will enjoy this celebration of the work of our communities across the area and maybe see opportunities for you to get involved in making Kincardine and Mearns a great place to live and work!

KDP was established in 2014 and over the past few years we have focused on building strong relationships with our community groups providing practical help and support ranging from governance and structure, finding and helping applying for funding to engagement activities, mentoring, repositioning, business/project planning...the list goes on... We also work alongside partners building those same strong relationships to ensure that whatever support our community members are looking for, we are well placed to help secure the best outcome for those communities.

Kincardine and Mearns boasts vibrant communities with many committed and hardworking groups and individuals running an array of groups and organisations which make a real difference to the quality of life we enjoy in this part of Aberdeenshire. Like all areas K&M encounters degrees of inequality and its rurality poses many challenges. Therefore it has been inspiring to work with and learn of those groups and organisations who take on tackling social isolation, mental wellbeing, poverty and environmental issues. Without the work of these volunteers our landscape would look very different. We are delighted that many of these busy groups have contributed to this publication as we think everyone should know about the great work they do!

We've included some features on KDP activities but as ever, whatever help and support you are looking for drop us an email and we will be happy to help however we can!

Best Wishes for 2019

The KDP Team!





What's On Inverbervie

Started more than nine years ago as an online Community information sharing page What's on Inverbervie quickly evolved into a network of selling sites, promotions and events and it has become so much more. It now has a community shop, a committee and a group of volunteers.

As well as it's online networks the Community Shop, run by volunteers, raises much needed funds for community events and promotions within 'Bervie'.

The Community Shop is a social enterprise that is empowering individuals and building a stronger community. Socially, people of all ages (and backgrounds) are brought together, working for a common cause.

Acting as a community base and hub for What's on Inverbervie, 75 King Street is home to workshops, a food bank and many other community initiatives, including the Green Dog walking scheme.

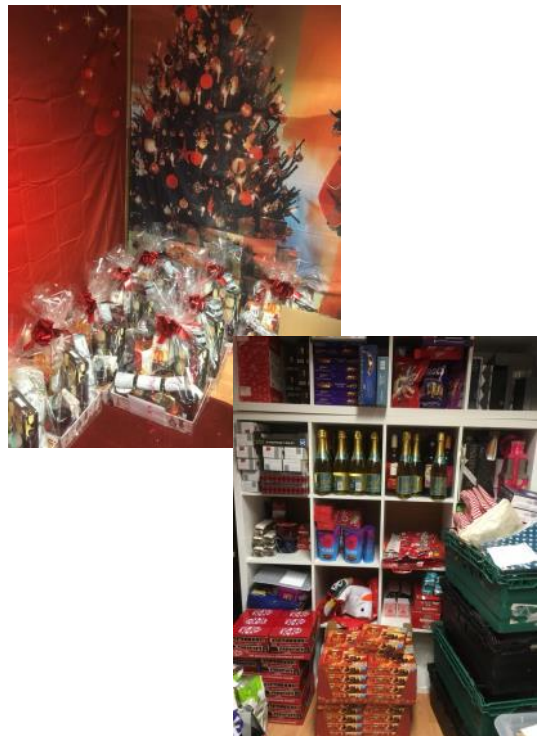
From the What's on Community shop the volunteers are able to help co-ordinate litter picks, run craft workshops, promote local businesses, plan community events, distribute food parcels, host pop-up shops, issue surprise 'gifts' to the community, run competitions and much more.

With help of local businesses getting behind the initiative and the assistant of volunteers the committee aims to establish a community cafe, a free social initiative to bring the community together young and old.

Community Christmas Secret Santa

For the past six years What's On Inverbervie has been collecting and distributing Christmas hampers to the local residents within the Royal Burgh of Bervie. The initiative tries to ensure that everyone has a present to open on Christmas morning; it's a simple idea that makes a big difference to the young and old in the community.

In 2018 the initiative plans to distribute a 100 hampers, this includes all the residents at Hanover Court, a sheltered housing and retirement housing for older supported people, based in Aberdeenshire The gift hampers are of generous proportions, with festive foods, sweets, gifts, chocolates, toiletries and other treats, as well as Christmas cards from Bervie school, preschool and youth groups..



Community Café

Another initiative which is led by the Whats on Inverbervie Committee is the Community Café developed for community engagement and targeting loneliness and isolation. The cafes are run once a month in a community setting and has relaxed and social focus. The idea was to provide a meal to those who needed it but its focus was soon shifted with growing public attention to loneliness in our communities. Over a simple bowl of soup and pudding the community café offers a healthy environment in which individuals can socialise and develop friendships.

Volunteers support with the running of the café and there is always someone who will sit and play a game of dominos or offer a friendly smile.

Caroll Burness, What's on Inverbervie says, "Volunteers are the heartbeat of our movement, enthusiasm and a good sense of humour is all that's required. If you are interested please get in touch!"

What's On Inverbervie

75 King Street,

Inverbervie,

Aberdeenshire,

DD10 0RB

whatsoninverbervie@gmail.com



Pillar Kincardine

Promoting Positive Mental Health

Pillar Kincardine supports people experiencing difficulties with their mental and emotional health and their families by helping them to make positive, lasting changes. Pillar brings people together and creates opportunities for them to build networks of support and make meaningful community connections.



This collaboratively produced service runs a variety of weekly activities including a health walk, community lunch club, social horticulture, mind & body programme for women and individual personal support planning sessions.

In addition to these ongoing weekly activities, Pillar works with local partners such as the library service, primary & secondary schools and other third sector organisations to host special interest projects such as creative workshops, short film productions, writing for wellbeing, mindful exercise, therapeutic photography, and mental fitness workshops.



Pillar offers local people an opportunity to achieve personal goals and to make a meaningful contribution to their community through volunteering either at weekly groups or by helping with awareness raising events such as Pillar's pop up shops, TEAM 26.2 or Pedal for Pillar.

If you would like to come along or for more information contact pillar on info@pillarkincardine.co.uk



KDP Community Cash

KDP have enjoyed learning about our communities through our Community Cash Events.

We have held a number of these participatory budgeting/funding events offering groups micro grants funded by KDP. In 2019 we will once again offer local community groups the chance of up to £300 micro grant to support their group or project. With a difference... The community will decide which group or project will receive the grant.

KDP invite local community groups to come along to give a five-minute talk about their goals, what they are trying to achieve and why they need to the grant to further their idea or project. One grant will be awarded to the group voted for by the guests of the evening who will be members of the local community.

This exercise in real-time democracy is a great opportunity for groups to raise on the spot funds to support their group and the local community.



The events will also have guest speakers, provide an opportunity for networking and tea, coffee and dessert.

Successful projects have included, Gourdon Lower Park Improvement Group for paint for their wooden train, Bervie Lunch Club for Summer trip and PAMIS to provide Pony AXIS experiences for individuals with severe physical disabilities.

There are always interesting and diverse projects to hear about therefore we encourage all members of the community to come along and join in the voting.

So, if you have a community group, charity or social enterprise that could benefit from an injection of cash and would like to take part in our first Community Cash event, please contact the KDP office at officesupport@kdp.scot for dates of our next events and more information.

The Portlethen Moss Conservation Group

The Portlethen Moss Conservation Group SC040350 formed back in 2005 to protect the remnants of Portlethen Moss. Over the years the fragile peat bog had been developed for housing and most of what was the moss has been lost. However due to our hard work and persistence we now have Local Nature Conservation Site (LNCS) status and are working hard to preserve the bog and the unique flora and fauna it supports.

We've created paths and bridges over ditches, as a result the moss is now accessible for the whole community; including our ever-popular Ranger Events which are held each year. Local schools and children's clubs use the moss as an educational resource.

A second newer project of our group was the creation of a native community woodland in what was a disused agricultural field on a separate site on the opposite side of Portlethen from the moss. This project has been a great success and each year it increases in biodiversity as the woodland matures. Schools and children's groups also use the woodland regularly for science and nature projects.

Going forward our group is planting a mini orchard in the woodland to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1 in November this year. There were 27 men from Portlethen who lost their lives in WW1, we will plant a fruit tree or bush to honour each one.

The 3 local schools will help plant the orchard. A local sculptor is carving a seat for the orchard which will have a WW1 soldier sitting on it holding a single red poppy, we will also have a plaque – all very poignant. At 3pm on Sunday 11 November someone from the Gordon Highlanders Museum, dressed in full WW1 battle dress accompanied by a retired Gordon Highlander will come to uncover the sculpture and plaque.

We've been very fortunate to receive many awards for our conservation work and are asked from time to time to give talks to other groups about the work we do.



The beginning, 2009



Entrance 2018

Inverbervie and District Day Care Centre

The committee of Inverbervie and District Day Centre find it very helpful to be members of KDP

We used to be funded and supported by social work but a few years ago they withdrew their support and we had to find our own funding. Our support worker managed to find the funding for a year for us before he retired, and this is where K D P stepped in. Last year they managed to find funding for us

The committee find this very helpful as we are all volunteers and do not have the experience in the filling in of forms.

The Day Centre is a valuable asset to the community and caters for 12 elderly members with a waiting list. The members attend weekly and we collect members with the local community bus. We have morning tea on arrival then play games until lunch, which is provided by the local primary school.

We then try to provide entertainment or activities for the afternoon before afternoon tea and we then deliver them home .

Most of our members attend to give them social interaction and the Day Care Centre plays its part in tackling loneliness and isolation. Our members pay for their lunch and morning and afternoon tea; however, we need to pay for the hire of the hall and the hire of the bus.

In addition, we also take them out for a Christmas meal and a Summer outing and if funds allow an afternoon tea now and again these are funded by various fund raising activities that we undertake throughout the year. We are currently waiting to see if we have been successful in getting our funding for the next 3 years but we are very thankful to KDP for all their help.



As is often the case with many of our volunteers, they are involved in more than one group or project. These lovely ladies are also responsible for running the Bervie Lunch Club once a week and KDP were delighted when they won the vote for KDP Community Cash in 2017.

The Community Woods in Maryculter, Aberdeenshire

The community acquisition in 2016 of our local wood in Maryculter has allowed us to start the restoration of the wood back to a diverse mix of native habitats. It is extremely heartening to see the biodiversity returning and we hope that visitors to the wood are equally inspired.

Our progress has been greatly assisted by three awards from the Meikle Carewe Wind Farm Community Fund. We are extremely grateful for this support. Our latest award of £4,050, along with funds raised from within the community, will allow us to create a community orchard and tree nursery in the wood. The orchard will increase the amenity value of the wood for the local community as well as being a great habitat for bees and other insects. The same area will also serve as a tree nursery where we can grow on our own seedlings in a protected environment. The project will therefore give us the self-sufficient means of providing native trees for our woodland restoration.

Our first task for the orchard/nursery project was to clear tree stumps, boulders and gorse from an area of 25m x 35m. Our contractor then trucked in 12 lorry loads of topsoil to spread across the area (left photo). The deer fencing is already installed (right photo) and the orchard will be planted out with fruit trees this autumn. The fruit trees will have a mix of ages so hopefully we will get our first crop in the autumn of 2019. We also have more than 300 seedlings of oak, hazel, rowan and hawthorn waiting to be planted in our new nursery.

For regular updates on the wood please visit our facebook site (Maryculter Woods) and for more information about our charity please visit our website

www.maryculterwoods.com

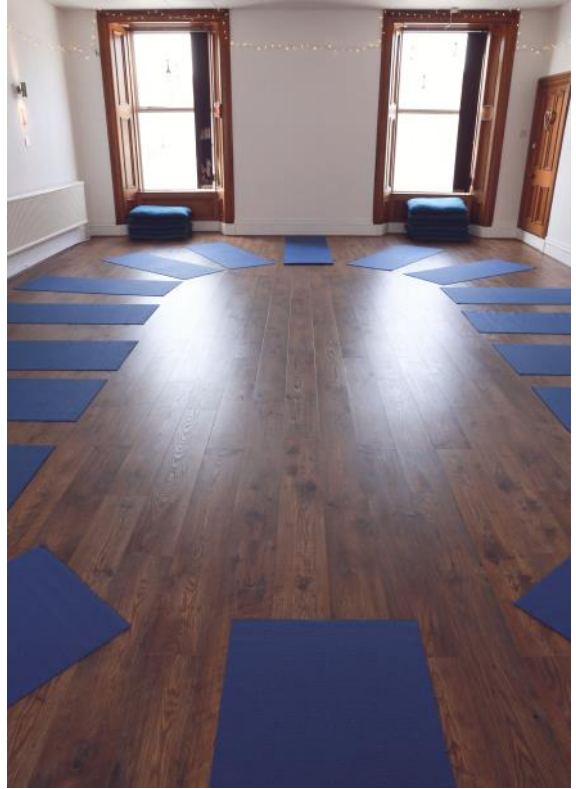
The Maryculter Woodlands Trust

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation: SC044224



The Haven

The Haven is a not-for-profit wellbeing space in Stonehaven to support the wellbeing of our community and surrounds. The Haven has a yoga studio, mindfulness room and healing room all available for affordable hire. We were awarded Firstport Start It funding in December 2017 to secure rental premises and officially opened January 2018. Funding from Aberdeenshire Social Enterprise enabled us to equip the yoga studio with props to help make yoga accessible to everyone. Currently we offer over 40 wellbeing activities weekly. This ranges from pregnancy, baby, kids and teen yoga, a diverse range of adult yoga classes, mindfulness sessions as well as counselling and nutrition. We also host regular workshops, training and events. We have The Haven Wellbeing Festival to raise funds for our Haven Wellbeing Fund so anyone who wants to partake in our wellbeing activities is able too. This year The Haven financially supported a young male yoga teacher having identified the need to have a teacher for our high percentage of boys who attend kids yoga classes.



Yoga Studio

**For more information about
The Haven and its services
contact Julia Morton on**

07473 388 198

or email

julia@thehaven.co.uk

or visit

www.thehaven.co.uk

Johnshaven Heritage Hub

What a fabulous and fun year we have all had at The Heritage Hub Museum!

We began our year in March with a partial exhibition dedicated to Clark Simpson who worked alongside Chris and Walter Adam to produce a very memorable collection called , 'A Traik through Time'. Many people said how much they enjoyed seeing it again and had fond memories of the complete original exhibition.

Alison Chandler, one of our own local Artists then presented her own collection, 'The Way Through' and launched her fantastic video, 'Painting Myself Brave'. She painted a picture each day as she expressed her journey through a very serious and rare cancer diagnosis. The collection was shown at several venues in Aberdeenshire going from strength to strength, as has Alison's health.

Lathallan School presented its annual Photograph Exhibition which was prepared completely by the pupils this year. The Opening Launch was extremely successful.

If you are interested in putting up an exhibition next year as an individual or a group please contact us.

The opening of the Museum for the season followed and we transformed The Lifeboat House from an exhibition venue. The season was very successful and those members who volunteer as Guides were thanked again and again in the guest book as they welcomed every traveller to experience our heritage stories.

We celebrated our 3* Tourism Award and have been advised how we can improve.

Our work as an Archive resource continues as we collect and store all the old records, photographs and newspaper articles, memories both written and recorded. Our thanks go to the people who have shared with us their memories of growing up in Johnshaven and we welcome anyone who would like to write or speak about recollections of their lives. In fact we are very interested in the second half of the 1900s because we must record those days too. PLEASE bring in anything you have , labelled original photos, digital photos, letters, diaries rather than throw them away.



This year we had a number of Community Events and enjoyed every single one. We have had Quiz Nights, a Musical Night, (with Shenanigans, Bill Wilkie, Eleanor Leith and Bob Dunsire as our very talented artistes),



a summer Art and Craft Fair and A Wine Tasting Event. The usual Remembrance Ceremony was upheld and of course there was a Carol Service at The Kirk of Benholm shared with Lathallan and Johnshaven Primary Schools.



All our members have worked hard together to ensure success. They contribute in several ways, not just as Guides. One lady very kindly makes her delicious tablet, another very beautiful cards, another by inviting children to Seaside Crafts in the summer and Face Painting at The Fish Festival and others help with the building and Information Technology.

We are always very welcoming of new members who wish to help in any way at all to ensure our community heritage thrives into the future. We would love it if anyone who is interested in our history could come along and join us.

We are delighted to say that we have funding now for our nail sick roof. Work will begin in the new year and then the building will be in great shape for many years to come. We have the community of Johnshaven to thank for supporting our application and helping to raise the Match Funding that we need. So onwards and Upwards as they say!



Additionally, we have just launched our first Young at Heart Club and it was a fun afternoon. All who attended said they enjoyed it and there was a lot of chatting and laughter. We are lucky that we have funds for transport so if you are anywhere in The Mearns we can collect you. Don't be shy, phone us on **01561 361658** and enjoy each other's company.

We look forward to seeing you at our next events, A Quiz Night, a Gift Fair in December; dates to be announced. Thursday November 1st at 1 30 pm is our next Young at Heart event so come along. Finally, to commemorate the end of World War One, we teamed up with our Community Council for the 'Battle's Over 'event.. A great day enjoyed by all.

Johnshaven Heritage Hub Museum

**Fore Street,
Johnshaven,
By Inverbervie,
Angus,
DD10 0EU**

01561 361 658

Young at Heart Club

*We have a new and interesting
get together!*

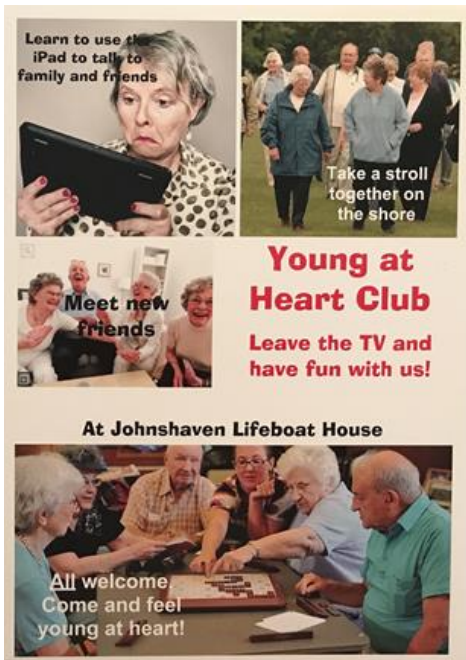
Benholm and Johnshaven Heritage Society are delighted to tell you that after a year long preparation we are starting our Young at Heart Club. Anyone can come and join us.

Do you like chatting with others? Or perhaps a cuppa and some tasty biscuits and cakes? A little stroll along the harbour and sea front, some could take a photo with an iPad whilst outside and share them with the rest of us? Dominoes, musical entertainment and singalong for you maybe? A little craft work or art? Knitting? Sewing? Gardening – in better weather; A trip down Memory Lane or just doing your own thing?

Some of you have requested learning how to use an iPad, searching for facts or speaking and talking to friends and family and seeing them at the same time. You could take a photo and share with others or even print it and take home. Or even playing games on it.

The choice is yours...

All this is because we are fortunate enough to have been awarded funding from The Awards for All Lottery. We are using The Lifeboat Shed at Johnshaven on the 1st Thursday each month and EVERYBODY is welcome. If you enjoy laughing, or feel lonely and want to meet new people or you are just wanting an afternoon out then let's all meet at Johnshaven, (young) and old to enjoy getting to know each other. We welcome everyone and that includes those with Alzheimers as we can all be like one family.



Young at Heart Club

Leave the TV and have fun with us!

At Johnshaven Lifeboat House

The BIG BONUS is that if you want to join us in Johnshaven and you live elsewhere then we WANT YOU to come and join us. We can even pick you up if you need transport. For example we have people who want to come from Laurencekirk, Fettercairn and Inverbervie. So, if you or a loved one would like to be part of our exciting new group please come along. To book a place on our mini bus please phone **01561 361658**.



Johnshaven Lifeboat House

Do you live in a coastal or rural village along A 92 or in The Mearns?

Enjoy yourself with new friends at our Young at Heart Club

1:30pm to 3:30pm
STARTING in October 4th
1st Thursday every month.

Call Don at 01561 361658 to find out more.
Carers also very welcome.

 We are trained as Dementia Friends. 

WW1 Memorial Orchard

Portlethen Moss Conservation Group

SC040350

The Portlethen Moss Conservation Group SC040350 wanted to do something to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1. As an environmental group we thought a memorial orchard would be an ideal 'living' memorial, with the fruit produced each year representing how our lives go on because of the sacrifices that were made. The orchard also adds biodiversity to our woodland and will also form part of the edible trail.

We have 27 names on the war memorial at the church so we've planted 27 orchard plants - a combination of fruit trees and bushes.

We created the orchard area within the community woodland (which is also a project of ours). We started clearing the area late in the summer and after lots of hard work had it ready. We've been really supported with this project, when people heard about it they felt it was a really worthwhile project.



We received funding from Aberdeenshire Council, the Community Council, local businesses and even local residents contributed. The 3 local primary schools helped to plant the orchard, we had a wooden plaque made and local resident Dr David Roberts carved an amazing WW1 soldier sitting on a bench holding a single red poppy.

We had a very poignant service at 3pm on 11 November where around 150 children and adults attended, we were led by a piper from the church car park into the orchard area. We had 3 representatives from the Gordon Highlanders Museum to unveil our plaque and sculpture. The local scouts and cubs stood beside a fruit tree or bush each and one at a time read out the names of the 27 soldiers (this was very moving) We had poems read out and our local minister blessed the orchard.



Windfarm Community Funding

KDP currently administer three wind farm community benefit funds



Hillhead of Auquhirie

The Hillhead of Auquhirie Wind Farm Community Fund is open to applications from projects which benefit residents living in the following Community Council areas:

- * Arbuthnott
- * Catterline, Kinneff and Dunnottar
- * Mearns
- * Stonehaven and District

The fund is open for applications from 1 April until 30 June.



Meikle Carewe

The community fund is open to applications from groups and projects which benefit the communities living in the following community council areas:

- * Crathes, Drumoak and Durris
- * Newtonhill, Muchalls & Cammachmore
- * North Kincardine Rural
- * Portlethen and District
- * Stonehaven and District

The fund is open for applications from 1 July to 30 September.



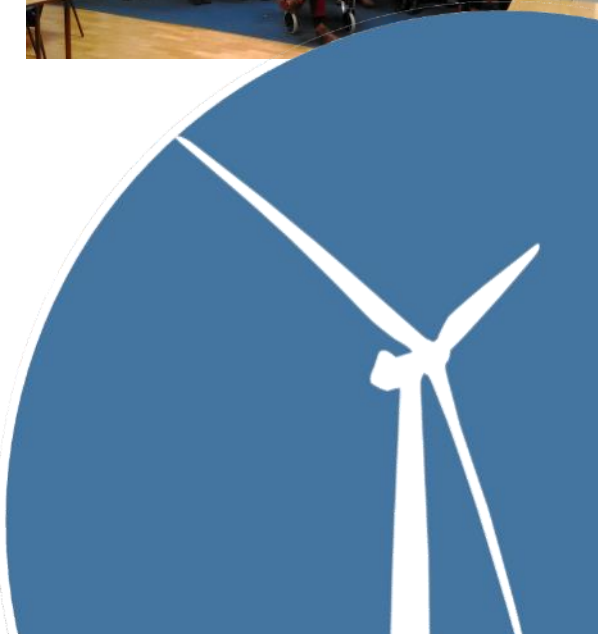
St John's Hill

The St John's Hill Wind Farm Community Fund is open to applications from groups and organisations for projects which benefit residents living in the following Community Council areas of:

- * Arbuthnott
- * Catterline, Kinneff and Dunnottar

The fund is open for applications from 1 January to 31 March

**For more information contact the
KDP office at
officesupport@kdp.scot
or visit our website
www.kdp.scot**



Our Mearns Tourism Association

Our Mearns Tourism Association (OMTA) is a non-profit organisation supporting members, businesses and organisations involved in tourism across the Mearns area, Aberdeenshire. Established with the support of KDP in 2016, OMTA aims to develop a variety of innovative marketing strategies and activities to help build destination awareness and to encourage more visitors to this under promoted and largely undiscovered part of Scotland.

The Mearns area was home to creative figures from the past such as the writers Lewis Grassic Gibbon and the Robert Burns connection and renown artists such as Joan Eardley. Fishing and Agricultural industries lend themselves to educational and heritage exploration. The area also boasts a vibrant and active creative community today with a wealth of festivals and exhibitions supported by a sizable creative community of local artists, crafters and musicians.

OMTA is positioned to explore ways of creating sustainable development to the area considering core values such as community education, recognition of local talent, authenticity of projects and protection of heritage. However, the bigger picture could provide benefit to the wider community.



Through effective planning, partnerships and promotion the area can take advantage of greater economic activity such as job creation, business growth, new business and agricultural diversity. This in turn can boost local infrastructure and amenities. For example, exploring the use of Augmented Reality and Geo technologies to promote the area may attract investment in the digital infrastructure badly needed in this area.

As part of their marketing strategy they have developed the “Visit Mearns” brand to start to package the Mearns Area to make it easier to reach potential visitors and explorers.

These organisations need the support of members to help them grow. If you are interested in finding out more or joining OMTA please contact chair@visitmearns.com



The Bettridge Centre

The Bettridge Centre is a large independent leisure centre providing sports, arts and community facilities for everyone in the village of Newtonhill and surrounding area. The village raised the funding to build the centre in 2003 and it's run by the volunteer-led charity Newtonhill Community Hall Association. Because we are independent, we receive no core funding support from Aberdeenshire Council.

The centre is right at the heart of the local community, providing a welcoming, accessible, affordable space for a huge range of regular activities - from baby and toddler groups to Newtonhill Out of School Club, keep fit and martial arts to football, netball, archery and badminton. Our aim is to help everyone become fitter, healthier and more active, and to combat loneliness and social isolation.

We support our community provision with commercial lets for business meetings and training courses, plus our own activities such as Coastal Play (children's soft play sessions and parties). We also host parties, functions, festivals, shows and events of all kinds.

The centre is very busy, but covering our ever-increasing running costs is a huge challenge, as is maintaining the building and replacing worn out equipment. We carry out fundraising events in order to help with those costs, but our main source of additional funds is via grants, such as the Meikle Carewe Wind Farm Fund, Tesco's Bags of Help or the Co-op Local Community Fund.



The support we've had from KDP has been invaluable in helping us with this. They've helped us source grants, they've provided training in how to write applications, how to evidence need, how to measure our impact etc. The events they've organised have given us fantastic networking opportunities and really helped us raise the profile of the centre. They've also given us one-to-one guidance, advice and support. And as a result we're delighted to be able to say we've raised over £130,000 in grants and donations in just over two years.

'This fantastic service is available to all KDP members.'

***If you'd like to find out more about us, please visit our website
www.bettridgecentre.org.uk
find us on Facebook
or call us on
01569 731 320
– we'd be delighted to hear from you!***



Bettridge Centre Newtonhill



A centre of excellence for community, sports and the arts at the heart of village life in Newtonhill.

Join us at our soft play session, Coastal Play - try our yoga classes, keep fit, KidzAct or dance classes - attend a theatre show, film or pantomime - hire a hall for football or badminton - there's a lot going on: find out more via our website or Facebook page.

The Bettridge Centre is also a fantastic venue for functions, parties, meetings and events of all sizes: ranging from a Coastal Play party for a 3-year-old, to a conference for 100, or a dance show for 250 - we can offer you the venue you need at a price you can afford. Please visit our website for more information, or call us now to find out how we can help you make your event one to remember.

01569-731320

www.bettridgecentre.org.uk

info@bettridgecentre.org.uk

Coastal Park
Newtonhill
AB39 3UL



Portlethen and District Men's Shed

On the 28th of May this year, the Portlethen & District Men's Shed finally opened its doors, which was the culmination of four years of hard work. When the project began, it all looked so simple, however as we had little experience in such matters, it has been a learning experience involving negotiating a lease of a former Public Toilet, organising the renovations and fundraising the tens of thousands of pounds required to pay for the refurbishments and equipment.

The aim of our 'Shed' is to combat social isolation and loneliness amongst the male population by improving self-esteem, providing opportunities to learn new skills and practice old ones and improve social interaction by being with friends. This, we believe will encourage men who participate to pursue an active healthy lifestyle and/or retirement.

We have a workshop, where members can work on projects for themselves, the community or to raise funds for the Shed. Recently we have been making a range of planters which we are selling to meet our running costs and we hope to produce other crafts to sell in the near future. There is no pressure for members who do not want to or are unable to work in the workshop, they can simply pop in and have a cup of tea and a chat. Our membership is mainly elderly/retired men who are looking for a new, positive pastime, although we are open to all and have several female members.



We want our Shed to become the hub of the local community and we work on projects with community organisations and schools in the area. **Membership is free and we are open three days per week, Monday from 10am to 1pm, Wednesday from 10am to 3pm and Friday from 10am to 1pm.**

Everybody is made welcome.



Community Action Plans

These booklets are part of a series produced by the Local Rural Partnerships with communities in Aberdeenshire as an initiative is sponsored by Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership.

The aim is to provide community action plans in an attractive, easy to read, professionally printed format.

The development of a Community Action Plan (CAP) is through a process of engagement which is used to establish the needs and aspirations of local people to improve services and facilities within their own community. It has great potential to empower communities to take ownership of issues and take them forward. It also enables them to complement and inform the planning that statutory agencies undertake.

KDP work with communities of all sizes on these plans, adapting the process and timescale according to the needs of the community.

Please contact KDP if you would like to discuss developing a Community Action Plan for your community.

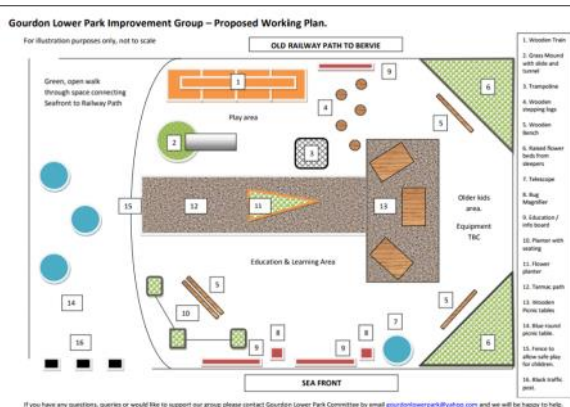


Gourdon Lower Park Improvement Group

Earlier this year we completed a Community Action Plan for the coastal village of Gourdon. There had been great support to develop the Lower Park into a Community Garden and work is well underway. Gourdon Lower Park Improvement Group have been working in partnership with other local groups and businesses and Aberdeenshire Council Landscape Services. Through consultation with residents the group have been able to demonstrate support for the project and a range of creative and innovative suggestions on what might be included in the site and other considerations have been identified

The aim is to rejuvenate key public space which is accessible and offers something for everyone. It is hoped that this will promote a sense of ownership and civic pride among residents of all ages.

Through grant funding, local authority support, local fundraising and the group's commitment and hard work, it is exciting to see the group's plans become reality. Well done Lynn Stephen and Team!



Gourdon Lower Park Progress Update...

Telescope - End of July
Small Planters - End of July
Seated Planters - End of August
Kids magnifying posts - End of Aug
Raised Beds - End of Sept
Double sided bench - Sept/Oct
(Made by Milltown Community)

Play equipment is still being negotiated through Aberdeenshire Council.

Central Pathway, picnic tables and fence will be our project next year.

Gourdon Goodies Scottish Tablet

A huge thank you to The Gourdon Shop for Selling GG's tablet to raise funds for our park £200 and still going....

PIC•COLLAGE



Let's Explore the Power of Community!

In 2015 Parliament passed the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to give new rights to community bodies and new duties to public sector authorities. Three years on KDP wished to look at Community Empowerment in Kincardine and Mearns, understand what truly empowered communities look like and further engage with the Act to help ensure that our communities maximise the opportunities it should present.

KDP with partners from Aberdeenshire Council and Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action, held a day event for community groups to consider the wider subject of Community Empowerment and how it could align with the Act.

This full day event was held on Monday 25th June 2018 at Portlethen's Jubilee Hall. In attendance were 30 members of the community, Local Authority and Third Sector partners.

It was an interesting day with some interesting and thought provoking conversations. KDP have produced a report following the event recording feedback from discussions on the day.



It is clear from the report that there is still much work to be done around community empowerment and the understanding of what this truly looks like. It is KDP's intention to continue this exploration during 2019.

Print and e copies of the full report are available from the KDP Office. Please contact officesupport@kdp.scot.



Grow Your Group Funding Workshops

This programme of workshops emerged through the K and M Ways of Working group, a group which brings together people from third and public-sector organisations working at grassroots level to support communities. The programme was in response to an ongoing need to support groups with information on sources of funding and how to make strong applications. It was also designed to build the capacity of organisations more generally to plan and deliver financial sustainability in the longer term. The programme consisted of five workshops held in Autumn 2017, culminating in a funding fair held in February 2018. The workshops broke down the application process and looked at all the facets from planning to evaluation.

We are delighted to announce that we will be relaunching the programme in Spring 2019! Keep a watchful eye on our weekly bulletins for dates of the upcoming workshops and details of how to book. Feel free to contact the KDP office should you to be sent details as soon as they are available.

Email officesupport@kdp.scot



Providing Practical Support to nurture Community Groups

Grow Your Group

Funding workshops for community groups and voluntary organisations in K and M

Do you want to be able to plan your projects more effectively?

Would you like to understand better what funders are looking for in applications?

Do you want to know more about where to find funding?

...

We are running a series of workshops starting on the 20th of March. We aim to address the following issues:

For more information, please contact the KDP office on 01463 424242 or email kdp@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.

Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Returning in 2019

Grow Your Group

Providing Practical Support to nurture Community Groups



GDPR

From 25th May 2018, every organisation that processes personal data must be compliant with the new GDPR rules and this includes charities and voluntary organisations.

Getting to grips with GDPR can be daunting and it can be difficult to know where to start. The 25th May deadline has past but ensuring your organisation is compliant with GDPR and the Data Protection is an ongoing process.

KDP run GDPR clinics with local groups to help explain what GDPR means for them and perhaps take some of the fear out of the changes.

Please contact our office if this something your group or organisation are interested in finding out more.

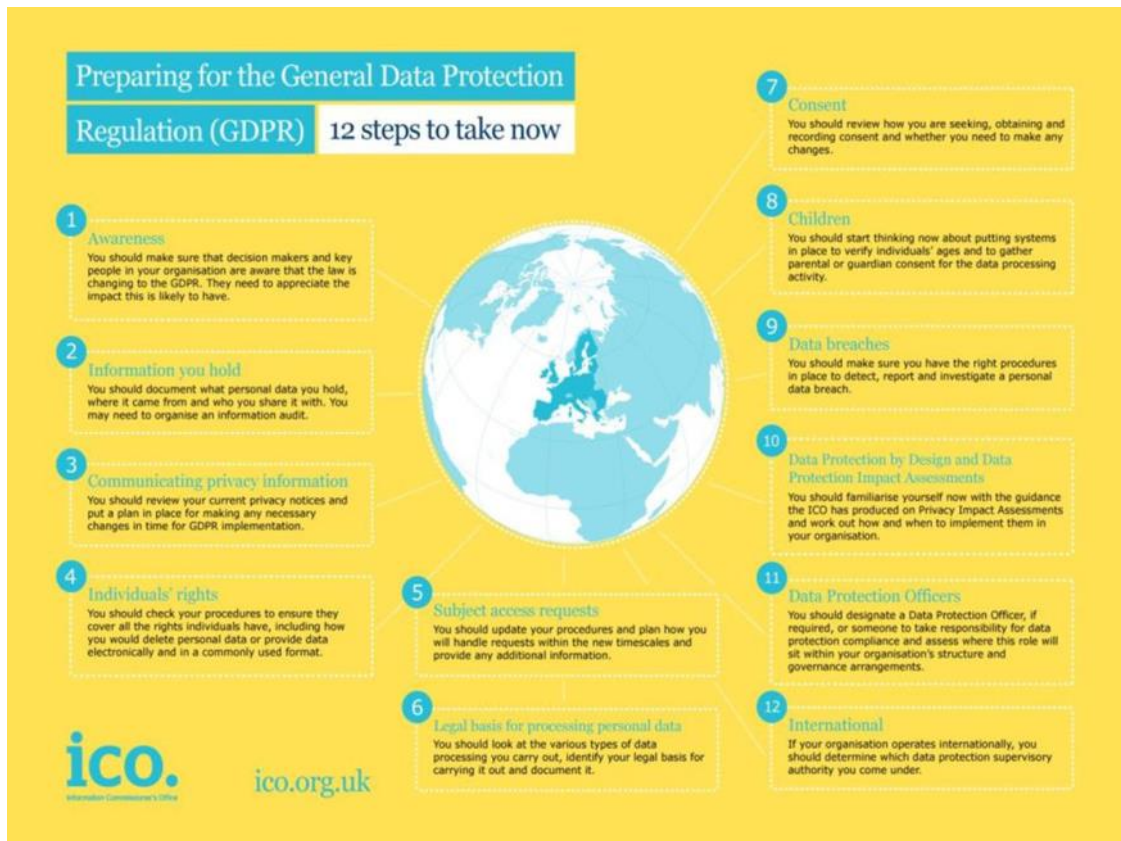
Useful Links

The Information Commission Office (ICO) website contains information, checklists and guidance on how your organisation can take the necessary steps to ensure compliance.

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr>

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/resources-and-support/getting-ready-for-the-gdpr-resources/>

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/charity/>



Become a Volunteer

Why Volunteer?

Volunteering is all about giving some of your time whilst using your energy, ideas and enthusiasm to make a positive change.



Would you like to:

- share your skills and learn new ones?
- get out of the house and meet new people?
- use your spare time in a positive way?
- gain work experience, decide on a career or build your CV?
- increase your confidence and self esteem?
- help make a difference to your community?
- have fun?

Things to consider

- Why do you want to volunteer?
- What skills do you have or would you like to learn?
- How much time can you realistically offer?
- Is training provided?
- Is there any accreditation available through the volunteering role?



As a route to employment

If you're going to make volunteering work as a route to building your skills and confidence for paid work, you have to go about it the right way.

Think carefully about what kind of paid work you're looking for, the area you want to work in and the sort of work you want to do.

It's helpful to look at job adverts and specifications for similar jobs to find out what employers are asking for.

Plan how volunteering can help you to develop the qualities and skills that will enable you to fill the gaps and become a more interesting candidate for a paid job.

Think creatively, but be realistic! If you'd like to work in retail but don't have any experience, volunteering in your local charity shop would be a useful step forward.

Be selective, decide what you want and look for a volunteering opportunity that will match your expectations. If you would like to get something specific from volunteering, you might want to look for an organisation that can provide that.

To get everything you wish for, you may need to volunteer with different organisations and do more than one type of volunteering.



Photographs courtesy of the volunteer teams of What's On Bervie, Stonehaven Horizon Project and Maryculter Driving for the Disabled.

There are lots of ways to find the right volunteering opportunity for you:

You can contact your local volunteer officer at Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action (see opposite) who will be happy to discuss with you what volunteering opportunities are available.

You can search for opportunities online either by going to

www.avashire.org.uk

and following the links or by going to the national database of volunteering opportunities at

www.volunteerscotland.net

You can specify the kind of volunteer work you want to do and where you want to do it.

You can contact the organisation directly if you know who you want to volunteer with. Lots of organisations will have a website with a section on how to get involved as a volunteer.

If you want to volunteer to develop your skills, qualities and career - make a commitment to your volunteering and enjoy it!

This information has been taken from a leaflet developed and supported by Stonehaven Learning Community Partnership



Supported by



Useful Contacts

Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action

www.avashire.org.uk

email: enquiries@avashire.org.uk

03718 110 008

Volunteer Scotland

www.volunteerscotland.net

Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations

volunteer@acvo.org.uk

01224 686 076

www.acvo.org.uk

Aberdeenshire Council

Volunteering opportunities

<http://jobs.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/volunteer-with-us/>



**Helping
Our
Communities
make
Kincardine
and
Mearns
a Great Place
to
Live and Work!**



Kincardineshire Development Partnership

42-46 Barclay Street

Stonehaven

AB39 2FX

01569 763 246

officesupport@kdp.scot

www.kdp.scot

A Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation - SC046327