

Issue 154 Feb - Mar - Apr 2012





'And good luck with 2012...' from the editorial team

It is that time of year again and so far we have been spared the horrors of last year's snow, but living in the North East of Scotland, we can never be entirely certain the winter is over until the end of May. One is reminded of the old joke when snow was reported on the Scottish hills in June. It was uncertain whether these were the last snows of the previous winter or the first snow of the next.

One item we are going to hear a lot about this year will be the Olympics. Despite the government (and the omnipresent Lord Coe) reassuring us all that this was going to be an inclusive 'UK' event, we do feel very distant from it. I sincerely hope that when the Olympic flame makes its way round the country, we will all feel a certain amount of pride regarding what has been achieved. As to spending those weeks in London with the almost inevitable 'logistical' difficulties, I suspect I may watch the highlights on telly. Are David Coleman and Frank Bough still doing, 'Today at the Olympics'? I suspect that some of our readership will have no idea who these redoubtable gents are.

Our current edition has a couple of items to which I would like to draw your attention. Marie Boulton and Alan Milne's article on the new Local Plan is simply jaw dropping. The numbers they mention are staggering and the whole thing has come into play without any ballyhoo to speak of. The effect of all these developments will be to put even more strain on the rapidly diminishing resources of our community. It could profoundly change the MBC area and Aberdeen forever.

The other piece concerns my comments on the new Lower Deeside Community Centre. This article explains the new 'self help' approach to adult learning. This system has been imposed on us with little notice, no budget and litle assistance in dealing with a number of legal obstacles. It seems not to have been thought out at Council level and so it will be down to the ingenuity and hard work of those who are trying to sort this mess out that may result in the continued provision of popular adult education in our area. Finally, travelling from the station by taxi recently I was informed that the word among the 'taxi community' is that

informed that the word among the 'taxi community' is that the big house at the top of Baillieswells Road has been sold to a well known local hotelier and is to become a hotel and that surrounding woods are to provide parking space. If it is true then it is scandalous but we have the dubious satisfaction of knowing that you read it here first! (See MBC News No. 146 'Old dogs and new tricks' p. 26.)

Maureen McLennan



Please don't grumble at us!

Please get writing if you want the newsletter to be a more interesting read. The deadlines for the next editions are:

01 April for May distribution01 July for August distribution01 October for November distribution

Send your copy as an email attachment and keep photos separate to: mbcnews@cbmcommunity.org.uk

OR POST TO:

MBC News, c/o 11 Inchgarth Road, Cults, Aberdeen AB15 9NJ

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Letters

Dear Sirs,

I have thought long and hard before sending the attached letter, as the only time I write is to complain. However having just walked back from the Post Office to the house, I lost count of the number of times I had to walk in the road due to some thoughtless individual blocking the pavement with their van or car.

As for illegally parked cars, one person drove on the right hand side of the road in order to park on the double yellow lines by the new Tesco. He then went and purchased a cup of coffee at Terroire and calmly walked back to the vehicle. And this an area where the local councillor told me people do get prosecuted for illegal parking. "Rubbish". If people knew they would get prosecuted, they would not do it. As it is, they just show their complete disregard for the basic rule of law.

Regards

Cults Resident

A sad farewell to Max Lechner

The communities of Milltimber, Bieldside and Cults have been paying tribute to a cheerful, courageous and charismatic local schoolboy who tragically lost his brave fight for life during the Christmas holidays. Max Lechner, who was 11 and lived with his loving family in Milltimber, died after a short illness which began in early December.

The bubbly Cults Primary school pupil, who was a well known and recognized character throughout the area, was born with DiGeorge Syndrome and had overcome life-threatening problems when he was born. During his first few weeks of life, Max underwent major heart surgery but true to his character, he fought the odds and went on to enjoy a full and very active childhood.

In March 2009, Max once again faced a dangerous heart operation when his body outgrew the valve which was fitted at birth. He underwent several hours of surgery at Glasgow's Yorkhill Hospital but did not take long to recover and was back at his beloved school as soon as possible.

His devoted parents, Clare and Luddi, have described his "beaming personality" which brought great happiness to others, including his elder brothers Danny, 16, and Christian, 14, who both attend Cults Academy.

When Max first complained of leg pains and shivers in early December, his family thought he'd come down with a cold. However, when the symptoms worsened Max was admitted to Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital where doctors confirmed that Max had contracted a staphylococcal aureus bacterium — a dangerous infection which had spread to his heart. Just days before Christmas, he was taken once again to Glasgow's Yorkhill Hospital where medical staff attempted to banish the bug from his body during five hours of complicated heart surgery. But, heartbreakingly, post-operative complications set in and Max developed a brain aneurysm. He passed away in the early hours of December 29th, with his mum, dad and big brothers cuddled around his bed.



Max's funeral was held at St Mary's Chapel in Blairs on Thursday 5th January and was attended by around 400 family, friends, teachers and schoolmates. Cults Primary School Headteacher Iain Smithers and his staff are also holding a special "Celebration of Max's Life" for all pupils and Max's family at the school. Max's great loves will all be mentioned – football, friends, family and FOOD!

Max loved life and laughter. He was much loved and will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Donations can still be made in Max's honour to his charities - the Max Appeal

(www.maxappeal.org.uk) which supports families affected by DiGeorge Syndrome, and Ronald McDonald House (www.rmhc.org.uk) which provides free 'home away from home' accommodation at hospitals in the UK.

Help Needed To Deliver the MBC Newsletter

Thanks to all who helped deliver the latest edition of the MBC Newsletter No.153. A few of our volunteers have decided to take a well earned rest from delivering the Newsletter. We thank them for their past support, and we are seeking some new volunteers to help out. The areas where we have a gap are:

a) Baillieswells Road around 60 copies - could be

shared between two people

- b) Primrosehill Road, Den of Cults, 3 Grasstopsaround 25 copies
- c) Local schools, shops and community offices around 80 copies could be divided between two people.

Delivering the MBC is a great way to get some exercise and fresh air. If you would like to help out please contact Peter Roberts on 868524.

News from the Cults Bieldside and Milltimber Community Council



Scottish Reporters endorse Local Development Plan Scottish Reporters announced their findings on the Local Development Plan just before Christmas. In essence they approved the Local Development Plan with a few, very minor, amendments. The Community Council had expressed concerns about the plan, including:

- the scale of housing development across the city particularly in the current economic climate
- The ability of the local authority to align house building to the delivery of the infrastructure (schools, roads etc.)

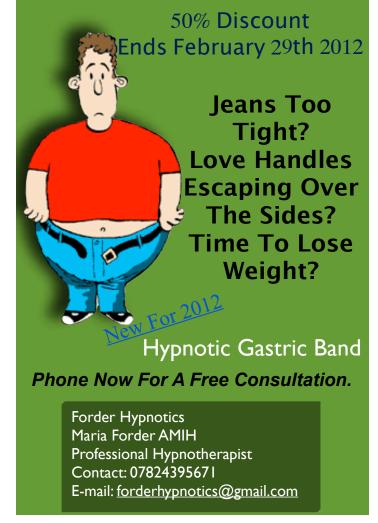
The Reporters' view is that there is sufficient regulatory control through legally enforceable planning conditions and planning agreements. We remain deeply sceptical given that these controls are still to be negotiated with the Developers and the City Council's track record on delivering the infrastructure at the right time, the right place and to the right quality and cost standards does not inspire confidence.

We are pleased that the Reporters have supported the City Council's proposal to return Loirsbank in Cults to Green Belt. However, this is after the Planning Committee decided to approve a planning application for eight houses under the current LDP. This was despite the full council previously voting to retain the whole site as green belt in the latest plan. There is little evidence of consistency of approach in planning matters.

We were disappointed that the North Garthdee Farm development has been approved for housing without provision for a link road between North Deeside Road and Garthdee Road. The link road was supported by the Community Council, Ward Councillors and many local Residents. Given the anticipated increase in traffic congestion at the river Dee, (34% increase in traffic volumes over 2010 levels by 2030), 10 options have been developed by Transport Scotland for a new bridge over the river Dee. One option included the link road which, like the other nine options, requires further engineering and financial feasibility studies. It appears that this option will now no longer be possible unless the link road is addressed when a detailed planning application is presented by the Developers for the site.

It is another example of the leadership of Aberdeen City Council taking a short-term view and not listening to the views of the local community.





Draft Masterplans for Friarsfield (Cults) and Oldfold Farm (Milltimber)

In November 2011 there were further public exhibitions on the housing developments at Friarsfield (280 homes) and Oldfold Farm (550 homes) at the Cults Hotel and the Waterwheel Inn respectively. At the end of December/ beginning of January the Developers submitted draft masterplans for these sites to Aberdeen City Council. Representatives from the Community Council together with members of the Milltimber Community Association and the Murtle Den Group met with the City Planners on 10th January. We were invited by Sandy Beattie, Head of Masterplanning for the City, to comment on the consultation process. This was in advance of him preparing a report for the Infrastructure and Planning Committee of the ACC who will be reviewing the masterplanning process for these sites at the end of January 2012.

We only had a few days to look at the masterplans and indeed the additional community views expressed at the November public meetings were not included in the drafts. However, the Developers did attempt to highlight the matters raised during the previous public consultation meetings but the draft masterplans did not set out how they were going to address the most contentious issues. There appeared to be some reduction in the housing density at Oldfold Farm and both masterplans set out the phasing of the developments. There were no clear timeframes for the delivery of the house building as this will be dependent on the ability of the Developers to sell the new homes.

The scale and type of affordable housing remains unclear other than a general reference to the 25% quota for Oldfold Farm. The concerns about the primary schools and the capacity at Cults Academy are unresolved. The provision of a new primary school at Milltimber only comes at stage 4 of the phasing by which time 300 homes should be built. No traffic assessments are included in the masterplans and more detailed work is needed on road junctions. The timing of the new road network supporting Friarsfield and its funding is not clear. Many of the more specific infrastructure issues; drainage, community facilities etc. are alluded to but not defined in terms of cost and delivery.

We understand that the next step is the review of the masterplans by the City Council and we anticipate they will be adopted, despite the absence of detail. This enables the City Council to approve the masterplans across the City prior to the formal adoption of the Local Development Plan probably in March or April 2012. Following the approval of the masterplans, the Developers will submit detailed planning applications for their sites. We believe that they will submit as many planning applications as

possible prior to the May elections to ensure they are approved by the existing administration. They cannot be rescinded once approved.

The Community Council can only encourage local residents to be vigilant about the planning applications. It will require as many people as possible including the Community Council, to express their views particularly on schools, roads, affordable housing and specific issues surrounding the sites to facilitate any changes to the proposals that emerge from the Developers.

Waste Recycling Centre at Hazelhead Park

The City Council has approved the building of a new waste recycling centre at Hazelhead Park. The CBM Community Council along with others CCs across the City objected to this proposal. Apart from the traffic considerations, the construction of a waste recycling centre close to a public park is wholly inappropriate. It is a further example of the leadership of Aberdeen City Council not listening to the views of local residents. Indeed on this occasion it extends to residents across Aberdeen.

Peter Reiss

Chairman of Cults Bieldside Milltimber Community Council

Community Council Members Contact Details

Peter Reiss (Chair) 734592 Guus Glass (Secretary) 864925 Graham Payne (Treasurer) 868827 Christine McKay (Planning Liaison Officer) 867479 Eleanor Brennan 862262 Gillian Buchanan 865125 867235 John Etchells Martin Harris 868580 Harriet North-Lewis 868595 Andy Pyle 868060

Anne Rae 864646
Derek Robb 868797
Nigel Williams 862639

Email: cbmcc@cbmcommunity.org.uk Mail address: Community Council, c/o Secretary, 5 Millden Road, Cults AB15 9LJ

Other useful contact details

- Cllr Marie Boulton 522178 / 734712
- Cllr Aileen Malone 522356 / 862189
- Cllr Alan Milne 523148 / 867816
- Police (non emergencies) 0845 600 5700

Upcoming CBMCC Meetings 4th Thursday of the month (not July or Dec)

All meetings are 7pm – 9pm All are welcome to attend

Update on Lower Deeside Community Centre

This used to be known as 'Cults Community Centre' and was run by the local Council. However, it and other similar centres are victims of the Council's strategy to reduce spending on services aimed at local communities. With this in mind, the Council requires local people to form 'steering groups' to manage their local facilities and to run them for the benefit of the community to maintain such services, including pre and post school child care support, adult learning, provision of mini bus for local club use and adult and child sporting and other leisure activities. (See MBC News 153).

The path has not run at all smoothly to date and not because of any fault on the part of the local individuals who have tried to ensure continuity of service provision. The Council have not really provided any proper support to this new method of delivering these very popular services.

It is disappointing to note that despite the first meetings being held by the Council in May 2011 and the Council having a stated goal of implementation in March 2012, little, if any, real progress has been made. At the time of writing the Council has yet to provide any form of management or lease or child service care form of agreement that they state they require the local community organisations to enter into to have continued access to schools and other facilities, despite the Steering Group having provided agreements in Autumn 2010. On their performance to date it is not at all clear how the Council propose to implement in March this year unless the current temporary arrangements continue.

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Thank you to all our customers for your continued support and look forward to seeing you in the new year



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The Councils lack of a coordinated approach can be seen in relation to that for adult learning. Within the last couple of months the majority of the adult tutors for the Cults classes have been made redundant and this has given the Steering Group a major headache. It cannot legally employ staff at the moment and the Council bureaucracy means that the tutors cannot return to work for a period of time. It is hoped that this anomaly will be sorted by the end of March, but that is not certain.

One practical 'fix' that is being considered at the moment is to create an extended break between the teaching blocks to try and deal with the problem of properly engaging the adult tutors. A letter will be sent to students explaining the situation shortly.

On a positive note, Enrica Conti (Italian language tutor) has already arranged for classes to run from Deeside Community Church (tel. 863964 for info). We all hope that this model will be followed by the more enterprising tutors and that adult tuition will again be an important aspect of life in the 'MBC' area.

At present it is hoped that other classes will restart after Easter, but we may all decide to learn Italian with our fantastic local teacher!

In the meantime, keep using the swimming pool and other facilities at Cults Academy or we may lose them as well!

Maureen McLennan for Steering Group



St Devenick's Church Bieldside

Find us on the main North Deeside Road at the corner of Baillieswells Road, by the traffic lights.

Everyone is welcome.

Our aim: to know God and to make him known.

Re - Imagining Church

A good question for churches to ask themselves about any given activity or practice is... 'if we were not already doing this, would we start now?' Would we choose morning as the time for our main service if we were starting church today in the early 21st century? For most families this is the only time in the week when they can guarantee being together... so perhaps Sunday morning is not an ideal time to expect families to check out church. We have found that Sunday afternoon seems to suit some people and hence our Messy Church runs then (3rd Sundays, 3.30-5.00pm).

This and similar fundamental questions are what we will be looking at on Tuesday evenings as we look at 'Reimagining Church'. The principles of what our church stands for will not change as we take our guidance from the Bible, but the form in which we express these is another matter altogether. It will be a great discussion to have and we hope as we move into spring and a new year that we will discover new, fresh ways of being a church. Perhaps you'll like what you see...??

Talent Auction

Sat, 18th Feb. 7.00pm Church Hall

Easter programme:

Sun,1st April 10.30am Palm Sunday Fri, 6th April 10.30am Good Friday Family Service Sun, 8th April 10.30am Easter Sunday

Weekly worship

On Sundays

8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Main Sunday service
1st Sunday of the month:
Family Service
2nd and 4th Sunday of the month:
Holy Communion
3rd and 5th Sunday of the month:
Morning Worship

Crèche and **Youth Church** for 11+ run at the same time as the main service on Sunday mornings.

On Thursdays

10.30 am Communion in the Lady Chapel

Sunday Club:

This is run by our dedicated team every Sunday except the first of the month from 10.30-11.30am in the church Hall for children of primary school age. Parents can go shopping, have a coffee... or if they want to even join us for the service.

The Mix

For young people from age 10 upwards On Saturday evenings in term times, except the last Saturday each month.

If you would like information about us or any of our activities, please contact
Paul 01224 861552
email paul@stdevenicks.org.uk;

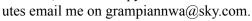
or the Church office 01224 863574, (open Mon, Wed and Thu mornings during school term) email office@stdevenicks.org.uk;

or www.stdevenicks.org.uk



Neighbourhood Watch

The AGM of Lower Deeside NWA will be held on 19th January. That will be in the past by the time you read this, but for a copy of the min-



An update of the 'Update of Local Policing' for Hazlehead was posted outside Cults Library and a copy is filed in the local information section.

Dave 861176

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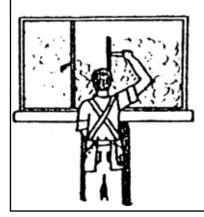
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News from Councillors Boulton and Milne

Happy New Year

Thankfully we were spared the snow conditions of last year which added extra pressures on public services and shoppers trying to get organised for Christmas. We feel sure that we will not have escaped the snow altogether but the Council has the necessary salt/grit stocks in place and gritters standing by, to deal with it when it arrives. There are grit boxes available throughout the city for use by the general public, which will be constantly refilled. Should the box near you become empty however, please call 0845 608 0919 to get it filled.

The Aberdeen Local Development Plan has been approved by the Scottish Government Reporters with only minor alterations. What does this mean for our area and Aberdeen as a whole? The summary of the plan is as follows: (please see opposite page).

The good news for the residents of Loirsbank was that the Reporter upheld the Council's recommendation to return the remaining area at Loirsbank to Greenbelt. However, there was bad news for campaigners for a link road from Inchgarth Road to North Deeside Road who had hoped to see the site at Garthdee Farm used to facilitate the link road. The Reporter ruled that the area should continue to be zoned for residential development. We're sure the campaigners will be considering their options and continuing their fight.

There are large expansion plans for Aberdeen City with a current plan which will see the number of dwellings increase by up to 29,801, an increase of 26.9%, with a further 6,000 to be site allocated by 2030. Swathes of land have also been allocated for major industrial/business parks. The concerns raised by many have been with the infrastructure required to support such vast development, things such as roads, sewers, schools, doctors, to name but a few. Where will they be provided and when; particularly given the current financial climate, which looks set to be with us for some time to come. 'Master Planning' has been introduced, which will allow engagement with communities where the public and community councils can have their say on how they would like any development to look and what would be needed in their view of infrastructure. How much influence the public will have on the final outcome and in particular the timing of the delivery of infrastructure, including community facilities, remains to be seen. The Master Planning that has taken place with regards to the Oldfold Farm Development has seen two rounds of discussions and a reasonable amount of positive negotiation, which has resulted in major changes to the developers' original proposal.

Development Frameworks for Oldfold Farm at Milltimber and Friarsfield at Cults are coming to the Enterprise, Planning & Infrastructure Committee on the 31st January 2012, as the first part of the planning process. We will of course bring you any updates in these developments in the next MBC News. Anyone wanting more information before then, can contact any of the Lower Deeside Councillors, the Council Planning Department or the Community Council who are also very involved.

We are continuing discussions with Council Officers over concerns on the capacity of our schools on Deeside, particularly Cults Academy where there have already been issues over children 'in-zone' not being able to get in; we will keep you updated on the situation.

We have concentrated on the Local Development Plan in this article as we believe it has a major impact both locally and city

wide and we want to ensure that everyone is fully aware of what the future holds.



Marie Boulton Inde-

pendent Alliance

Alan Milne Independent Alliance

Development at Dyce, Bucksburn and Woodside

18.5 ha employment or higher education and research **Future Growth** 2024 - 2030 740 homes 240 homes 18.5 ha 200 1,200 homes 2017 - 2023250 homes 250 homes 700 homes 34.5 ha employment 1.5 ha employment Local Development Plan period 2007 – 2016 500 homes 3,300 homes 1,000 homes 750 homes 300 homes 750 homes 36 ha OP26 Craibstone North and Walton Farm **OP31 Greenferns Landward Employment Land Total** OP29 Craibstone South OP30 Rowett South OP28 Rowett North OP24 Stoneywood OP135 Woodside Housing Total Sites

Development at Kingswells and Greenferns

Sites	Local Development Plan period		Future Growth	Development at Coun Sites
	2007 – 2016	2017 – 2023	2024 – 2030	
OP40 West Hatton and Home Farm, Kingswells	50 ha employment	-		OP58 Countesswells
OP41 Kingswells C	50 homes	-	-	
OP42 Kingswells D and West Huxter-stone	120 homes	-	-	Housing Total
		-	-	Employment Land Id
OP43 Maidencraig South East	450 homes	-	-	Development at Bridg
OP44 Maidencraig North East	300 homes	-	-	Sites
OP45 Greenferns	600 homes	350 homes	400 homes	
	10 ha employment	-		
OP46 East Amhall	1 ha employment			OP2 Murcar
Housing Total	1,520 homes	350 homes	400 homes	OP10 East Woodcrof
Employment Land Total	61 ha	1		OP12 Grandhome

Development at Loirston and Cove

Sites	Local Development Plan period		Future Growth
	2007 – 2016	2017 - 2023	2024 – 2030
OP69 (part)	2ha employment		
OP77 Loirston	1100 homes	400 homes	ı
	11 ha employment	1	
OP78 Charlestown	-		20.5ha employment
Housing Total	1100 homes	400 homes	-
Employment Land Total	13 ha		20.5ha

Development at Deeside

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Sites	Local Development Plan period		Future Growth
	2007 – 2016	2017 - 2023	2024 – 2030
OP59 Peterculter East	25 homes	-	-
OP60 Culter House Road	5 homes	-	-
OP61 Edgehill Road	5 homes	-	-
OP62 Oldfold	400 homes	150 homes	-
	5 ha employment	-	
OP64 Craigton Road / Airyhall Road	20 homes	ı	-
OP65 North Garthdee Farm	80 homes	1	-
OP134 Peterculter Burn	19 homes	1	-
Housing Total	554 homes	150 homes	0 homes
Employment Land Total	5 ha	-	

untesswells

OP58 Countesswells 2,150 850 Housing Total 2,150 homes 850 Employment I and Total 2,150 homes 850	Fut	Future Growth
swells 2,150 10 ha employment 2,150 homes	2017 – 2023 202	2024 – 2030
10 ha employment 2,150 homes	- 0	
2,150 homes		
	850 homes -	

dge of Don and Grandhome

Sites	Local Development Plan period		Future Growth
	2007 – 2016	2017 – 2023	2024 – 2030
OP2 Murcar			27 ha employment
OP10 East Woodcroft North	60homes		
OP12 Grandhome	2600 homes	2100 homes	2300 homes
	5ha employment		
OP25 Dubford	550 homes		
Housing Total	3210 homes	2100 homes	2300 homes
Employment Land Total	5ha		27ha

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MBC News Issue 154 - February - March - April 2012

St Devenick's Playgroup and Rising Fives



A big hello from all the children and staff. The playgroup continued its theme of health and wellbeing last term. The topic has really captured the children's imagination and they have thoroughly enjoyed exploring lots of different aspects of wellbeing including exercise, healthy eating and other ways to keep fit and well. The subject has been such a success that the playgroup has entered into the running for the new Aberdeen City Early Years Health and Wellbeing award – we all have our fingers crossed that the staff's hard work will be recognised!

The Forestry Commission has very kindly undertaken some work to further improve the Playgroup garden so we would like to say a big thank you to them for their fantastic help. The children and staff are enjoying the benefits of their hard work and get out in the garden as much as possible. With spring just around the corner this years planting will soon begin.

Although it seems a long time ago, last year's Christmas Concert was a triumph with everyone singing their hearts out followed by a special visit from Santa. The Committee is hosting a new fundraising event this term – a Ladies Pamper evening. So if you fancy spoiling yourself after the Christmas rush, please call Suzanne on 741318. It promises to be an excellent evening with lots of different treatments and experiences available.

Every Wednesday 2-4pm, St Devenicks Playgroup also offers a Mother and Toddler Group run by one of the playleaders Karen. It is a warm and friendly group offering physical play, puzzles, craft, songs, a range of baby and toddler toys, shared snacktime and most importantly, the opportunity for you and your child/ren to socialize and meet new people. Please come along and join us; bumps to 4 yrs welcome and your first session is free (£2.50 thereafter). Just pop in, we are situated in the St Devenicks church hall or give me a call on 07956782805 (Karen). We look forward to seeing you :)

St Devenick's Playgroup is based on Baillieswells Road, Bieldside. Playgroup sessions run from 9.20 to 11.50 on Monday to Friday with lunch club on a Wednesday. Rising Fives sessions are from 12.30 to 3.00 on Tuesday and Thursdays. If you would like to find out more about Playgroup or Rising 5's, please call playgroup on 07931 223545 or Julie on 868644.





News from Councillor Aileen Malone

A Happy New Year. I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas.

Safe Walking to School

I am a great supporter of safe walking to school initiatives. Work to drain and resurface around 200 metres of pathway has been carried out next to Cults Primary School. This is Path 55 in the Council's Core Path Network. I had complaints that it was muddy and needed attention. I am grateful to Greenspace Volunteer Group who worked two days a week on this project. The path is well used by school pupils and I hope that the upgrade work will encourage more to use the path.

We have been running our hugely successful Walk once a Week "WoW" scheme since 2005. This rewards children who walk at least once a week with collectable monthly pin badges. You can see this year's badges and the other resources we offer, including wallcharts and certificates, at www.walktoschool. org.uk/order. Orders are now open for next term and you can choose as many as you like. We also have a 'one week walking challenge' available year round. This is particularly popular during Walk to School Week in May.

Friarsfield Road -Jacob's Ladder

I was delighted to have secured funding to have Jacob's Ladder resurfaced in November. I use this route daily on my way to the office and like everyone else was frequently met by cars trying to miss the potholes. We still have the snow and ice to contend with; and of course the occasional careless motorist.

Update on Allan Park and the pond

Allan Park is one of the special features of our area. Local people have been disappointed in its declining condition. There are complaints of fallen trees and a lack of care. I asked the Council's Environmental Team for help and they have agreed to do some improvement work. They advise that pond is in fairly

good condition for wildlife and plants. The willows on the island are healthy and do not need attention. However, some of the reeds and edges need to be removed to allow in more light and air. This will require careful work with an excavator and removal and composting of the debris. The path may then need some cleansing and re-instatement, especially the part leading down from the road which is taking a lot of water. The steps from the entrance down to the pond need a good clean and top up with sub base and dust. The handrail is rusty and rough at the bottom end although it has been painted recently. I would like to see the interpretative panel replaced in the empty cairn. These are all clear priorities for action and I have strongly supported an application to Aberdeen Greenspace for funding and adoption. Greenspace will consider this project in March. The pond project would be for action in autumn. In the meantime, tree and shrub works can be done by spring. Some improvement works can also be done with painting, repairs, sprucing up play areas etc.

Winter Maintenance Plan

As recent winters have been very tough, the Council is trying to be prepared for snow and ice conditions. I am always keen to ensure that gritting is done quickly and where it will make a difference. Please let me know if I can help in any way. Up to date information on the Winter Maintenance Operation is available online at: http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/gritting/

Getting things done

Please contact me if you have any comments, suggestions or questions and I will do my best to protect and improve our local quality of life. My contact details are as follows:

Councillor Aileen Malone Town House , Broad Street, Aberdeen AB10IFY

Direct Dial: 522356, Home: 862189 Email: amalone@aberdeencity.gov.uk



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Hillview Community Church – former IBC, Cults Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday See listing at back of MBC News for class times. Visit www.FSAberdeen.co.uk or phone 01224 861450







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Contact the Secretary Maggie MacLennan on 861485 for membership details
Contact the Coach Gareth Rennie on 07714753607 for coaching details

www.cultstennisaberdeen.co.uk

Grampian Fire and Rescue Service

In the last five years there have been 18 house fires within the Miltimber, Bieldside and Cults area. An interesting fact is that unlike the majority of other Grampian areas, unattended cooking wasn't the most common source of ignition, although there were six incidents. The main cause of fire in exactly 50% of cases was attributed to damaged electrical wiring or a fault with an electrical appliance.

There are various ways in which electrical fires can be prevented. Electrical cables that are attached to household items should be checked to see they are in good condition, showing no visible damage and the correct rated fuse is in the plug.

Electrical repairs should be carried out by a qualified electrician and large appliances such as washing machines, tumble dryers and dishwashers should never be left on a cycle before going to bed or leaving the house.

If a problem does occur with an electrical appliance it usually results in a smell of burning that the occupier might detect or it may set off a smoke alarm. The item may start making an unusual noise. When this happens a fire is normally prevented by switching off the appliance and getting it checked out. If nobody is around to notice these signs, the problem can escalate and result in a serious house fire.

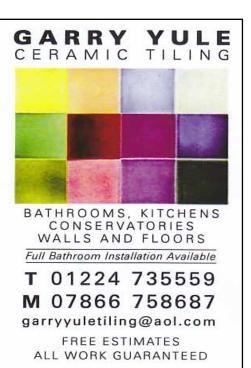
Another indication that an appliance may be faulty is when an RCD switch keeps tripping off on the electrical consumer unit. This should be checked out by an electrician if this is happening.

In order to achieve a better understanding about domestic electricity this link provides excellent advice:

www.dontgivefireahome.com/fire_safety/1351.html

Lastly, the loading placed on a socket can cause a fire if the demand is overdrawing the supply. Look for this image at the above link and use it to calculate what is safe to be plugged in together and find out the appliances that need a socket solely for

themselves.



We hope this information is useful to you but please remember that it is essential to have working smoke detectors, which should alert you in the very early stages of a fire, enabling you to escape to a place of safety.



CULTS MEDICAL GROUP

Firstly may I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Healthy 2012? We would like to thank all our patients who handed in presents to both staff and doctors over the Festive Period. This is very much appreciated.

Our seasonal flu campaign has once again been a great success, with over 78% of patients over 65 receiving a flu vaccination. I would like to thank all the nursing and admin staff involved as it is and continues to be a huge task.

We are once again heading to the end of the contract year and are working hard to fulfil our requirements. We are reviewing patients with diabetes, asthma, hypertension etc so please do attend the clinics when invited in.

Cults Medical Group are now offering non urgent, routine appointments outwith normal surgery hours three evenings per week. We hope that this will be helpful for those of you who are unable to attend the surgery during the day.

Finally we would like to congratulate Dr Booth on the birth of his daughter Osla. Mum and baby are doing well.

Tracey Wilson
Practice Manager



Cults Hillwalking Club

Perhaps it was the alternative of going Christmas shopping or those so organised that their presents were all bought that made just over 40 club members, including a few guests, sign up for the December walk. The **Hill of Fare** had been on the programme for the previous two years but inclement weather and conditions had forced postponing even this relatively easy walk to this year.

Weather for the day was fair, (pun intended)! Thoughts though look ahead to the new year programme and this is already fixed, weather and conditions permitting up until August and can be viewed on our website at http://www. cultshillwalkingclub.org.uk where details of the club walks and other activities can be seen.

New members are always welcome. Why not come along and see for yourself what a varied programme we offer. For more information contact Chairman, Andy Roberts on 01224 733710,

andylacyroberts@hotmail.co.uk

or Membership Secretary John Adams on 01224 868402 john@adamsnet.co.uk



Evening m	neeting munity Centre 7.30 pm	Sunday Walk Various pick up points		
25 February	Ceilidh at Kippie Lodge 7.30 Why not come with friends. N	•		
1 March	Bees Talk by Alan Bowman	11 March	Glen Prosen to Glen Isla 14 or 17 km	
5 April	Stories about Glen Muick Talk by Joan Anderson	15 April	Lochnagar 19 or 22 km	
4 - 7 May	Weekend Away in Skye			
10 May	AGM Followed by Wine & Cheese Party	13 May	Buck of Cabrach 13 or 18 km	

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Rotary Club of Aberdeen Deeside

Rotarians were active in the Milltimber community in the run up to Christmas when 12 of our members attended the Carol Singing outside the Cults hotel and assisted with the marshalling of the event and passed round mince pies. Many generous people contributed to a collection in aid of Voluntary Service Aberdeen. Local school children also filled Christmas shoeboxes for distribution to those with little chance to receive presents in other countries.

The Club is very proud to have completed its water project to provide clean, running water to a maternity hospital and health centre in Uganda. This is something we have been working on in co-operation with a Ugandan Rotary Club for a number of years and the successful conclusion of the project should help to save the lives of many mothers and babies in the years to come.

The start of 2012 sees us looking forward to many activities. Our Charity shop in February, our annual Art Event in May, our involvement with local schools in for example our annual Primary School Quiz, our funding of a young leadership programme for two local youngsters, our sponsoring of the awards for Cults Academy's Young Musician of the Year competition and much, much more both here and abroad.

If any of this sounds of interest we are always ready to welcome new members. If there is anyone out there, who would like to find out more or come along to one of our meetings, please contact our secretary Quentin Tweedie on 01224 868218 and have a look at our website on www.aberdeendeesiderotary.org

Mary Lennox President 2011 - 2012

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Cults Playgroup

Cults Playgroup had another busy term in the lead up to Christmas. The children have been settling into their new location in the Upper Hall behind Cults Church on Quarry Road and getting to know our newly appointed Playgroup Manager Jenny Willox. Jenny is a qualified Primary School teacher, who has worked in early years and pre-school training and assessment, so will be able to assist us in raising the standards of our childcare provision and development of "Curriculum for Excellence".

As part of playgroups' continuing support for different charities we recently had our annual external fundraiser. It was decided that we would support Scottish Cot Death Trust. The children, staff and parents took part in a welly walk at the end of October which was great fun for all and raised a total of £115.

The week before the holidays the children visited the Christmas Tree Festival at Cults Parish Church. They marvelled at all the different trees on display with regards to sizes, colours and themes. Half an hour was well spent in the tranquil sanctuary reflecting on the thought and hard work that had gone into creating the trees. We are looking forward to next year's festival.

From the start of the new term with the outdoor area beginning to take shape, the children will be involved with planning activities that will be connected with the outdoors, so we are looking forward to all the ideas that they come up with!

If you would like to support a local charity please support us as Cults Playgroup is a registered Charity SC001160. It is easy to donate as we now have in place a text donation service, simply text CPLA11£1 to 70070 if you wish to donate a £1 or CPLA11£10 to 70070 if you wish to donate £10. Many thanks for your support.

Our main fundraiser of the year is fast approaching. Our Burns Supper is being held at the Cults Hotel on 28th of January 2012. This will be in aid of raising funds for our new shed, fence and further development of garden area. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved and for any donations made to our raffle.

If you have missed our Open Week, don't worry, as we welcome visitors at any time. Please call Jenny on 07842 470828 to arrange a date for your visit. The sessions run Monday – Friday from 9.15 to 11.45 for children aged 21/2 to 5 funded spaces available. Jenny will also be organising a 2's Group in the Church hall for children aged 1½ to 2½ on a Monday from 9.30 - 11.30.

To find out more please contact us on Tel: 07842 470828 or email cultsplaygroup@gmail.com

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A lovely selection of gifts to suit every occasion Handmade cards also available

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For more information telephone: 868262

Cults Library & Learning Centre

Tel: 868346

Email: cultslibrary@aberdeencity.gov.uk

A Happy New year to all Have you visited your local Library yet or gone online and checked out our website? You can use our computers for free Some Libraries also have Wi-Fi connectivity Did you get an E-Reader for Christmas? In the near future, our Digital Library will be available

This will allow users to borrow e-books and **Audio books directly from the website** Check the website and our Facebook profile or give us a call

We have our monthly Bookbug Sessions on a Tuesday morning when we sing songs and nursery rhymes

For info on any of the above, visit www.aberdeencitv.gov.uk/libraries







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Playgroup: Mon to Fri 9.15 - 11.45

Lunch Club: Tues 11.45 - 1.00 Out to



Two's Group: Mon 9.30 - 11.30

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For more details, please contact

Jo Gibson on 01224 868 124 LTS@cultsotters.org.uk

www.cultsotters.org.uk



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Red squirrels in Deeside need your help!

Householders and landowners along the north Deeside corridor out of Aberdeen are urged to lend a hand in continued efforts to successfully boost red squirrel numbers across the area – by opening their gardens and borrowing a squirrel trap!

It seems like an odd thing to do to help red squirrels, but the traps are intended to be used in areas where grey squirrels, the main threat to the reds, are still thriving and at risk of encroaching further in to red territory.

The red squirrel is native to Britain and was once widespread, but has declined markedly in recent years. Scotland now holds 75% of the UK's red squirrel population. Their decline is mostly due to the spread of the grey squirrel, which was only introduced into the UK in the 19th century.

Grey squirrels arrived in Aberdeen City in the 1970s and due to the continuous, high quality habitat that can be found along the Don and Dee corridors, soon spread out as far as Banchory and Inverurie. As the greys have advanced, red squirrel numbers have decreased, becoming completely absent in some areas.

These expanding grey squirrel populations are the main threat to the red squirrel's existence across Grampian and the Scottish Highlands. Unless action is taken to halt the expansion, the outlook for red squirrels is bleak.

The call for help comes from the people behind the Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels (SSRS) project. Led by the Scottish Wildlife Trust in partnership with Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Land and Estates and Forestry Commission Scotland, the three-year old project has successfully focused its red squirrel conservation efforts along Deeside.

The SSRS North East Project Officer, Annabel Harrison, said, "Recent volunteer-led surveys suggest that the red squirrel conservation work we've been involved with so far is reducing grey squirrel numbers and improving conditions for red squirrels to thrive. For example, woodland surrounding Banchory, which formerly had an abundance of grey squirrels, now appears to have none and we are receiving more and more red squirrel sightings here. We would like to continue this success further down the Dee towards Aberdeen."

Annabel reports, "We're already receiving more and more sightings of red squirrels in Peterculter, Milltimber and as far East as Garthdee, and would like to create the same 'red-friendly' conditions across Cults, Bieldside and Milltimber. But to achieve this, we need access to even more private gardens along Deeside that contain prime grey squirrel habitat."

SSRS provides information and advice to land owners about how to manage woodlands to benefit red squirrels and works to raise public awareness of the red squirrels' plight by engaging individuals and communities in red squirrel conservation. A crucial part of the work involves preventing further grey squirrel range expansion.

Until non-lethal methods of grey squirrel control are available, the only way to prevent grey squirrels from dispersing further



into Aberdeenshire is by careful cage-trapping followed by humane dispatch. Across Grampian, co-ordinated grey squirrel control carried out by trained Grey Squirrel Control Officers, is targeted at the most prolific grey squirrel populations which drive the grey's range expansion.

A major factor in the success of this approach is the participation of landowners and householders in the SSRS trap loan scheme.

The SSRS Project Manager, Mel Tonkin, added, "We are able to loan traps and provide a dispatch service, carried out by our trained Grey Squirrel Control Officers, free of charge. This scheme fulfils a vital element to the national red squirrel protection strategy and if anyone would like to help, either by allowing us access to their grounds, borrowing a trap or even reporting red or grey squirrel sightings in the area, they can visit our website (www.swt.org.uk/wildlife/squirrelsightings) and find out how to get involved."

If you would like any more information, please contact the SSRS North East Project Officer, Annabel Harrison, on 01224 266526 or at redsquirrelgrampian@swt.org.uk.

Photo courtesy of Tony Jenkinson





Something for everyone at your local community church!

www.dcfchurch.org
Binghill Drive, Milltimber, AB13 OJE
Church Office: 01224 733979

WORSHIP SERVICES

9:30am & 11:30am Family Service with crèche, Junior Church, S1-2 Bible Class and Celebration Group (11:30 Service only) 6:00pm Evening Service

with Communion 2nd & 4th Sunday monthly and Mission Service 1st Sunday monthly

Join us for our Easter Services Good Friday, 6th April Evening Communion, 7pm

Easter Sunday, 8th April Family Service, 9:30 & 11:30am Easter Praise Evening, 6pm



Robert Hamilton, our Care Pastor, is happy to meet for a chat, perhaps to be a listening ear, offer help, share a pastoral prayer, or just get a chance to meet and say 'hello'. 07595072090 / 733979 (church)





You're most welcome to join us for

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starting 17th Jan 2012 - Tuesday evenings, 7:30pm. We start with a meal. 3 courses on offer this time.

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Getting married? We offer a Marriage Preparation Course.

Please phone the church office on 733979 if you would like to find out more.



PARENTS, BABIES & TODDLERS

We would love to have you join us with your little ones Tues mornings, 9:45-11:30am. Phone Morven on 744829 or please just come along.

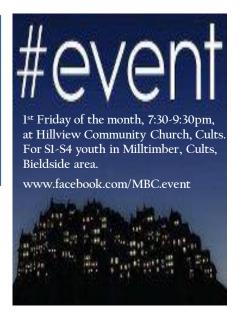
café one

We look forward to welcoming you on Thursday mornings 9:15am-12pm Coffee/Tea & Tray-bake (donation £2)

MISSIONARY CRAFT WORKSHOP



We meet in Café One every 2nd & 4th Wednesday monthly, 10am-12pm to make useful gifts to send to children and missionaries working abroad. We would be pleased to have you join us.



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News from the Milltimber Community **Association**

It seems a long time ago now, last November, when we held a Murder Mystery Evening "To Mock a Killing Bird". Milltimber hall was transported back in time to the 1920s and a stormy night when the vicar died. Who killed him? Well that was what we had to find out. The actors of Blitz Entertainment gamely played their parts with shocked faces as we tried to find out their secrets. Was x secretly having an affair with y, could z be their illegitimate child and who had the motive and the means? Each team submitted their answers to 'who, why and how' and the lead actor made us laugh by tearing them all apart before revealing the truth. If you've never been to one of these evenings before, they are huge fun and well worth looking out for.

Last year we also introduced membership procedures to the MCA. Membership is free and open to everyone who lives in and around Milltimber. Although you do not need to become a member to use the hall, we very much hope that you will. The hall is completely run by volunteers with no staff. By joining you not only show your support but you strengthen our voice. For example, we are working with the MBC community council to suggest community facilities that should be provided if the Cala homes development goes ahead in Milltimber. The more members we have, the greater force our requests will carry.

If you would like to join the MCA please call Sue Smedley on 732172. We would also be keen to hear from you if you have ideas for future events you would like us to hold or if you are interested in helping the committee in any way.



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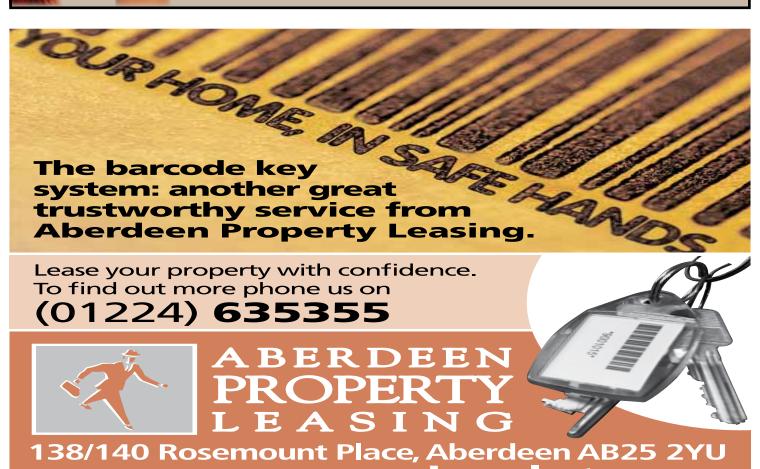
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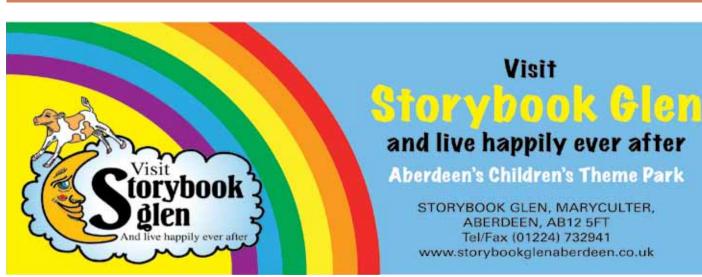
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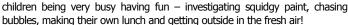
Email: info@dentalinspirations.co.uk

www.dentalinspirations.co.uk



From 0 to 5 – making learning come alive!

Just two minutes down the road from Milltimber lies Maryculter Community Hall where, on weekdays, you will find young



The South Deeside Under Fives is a community-led charity that provides childcare for children from birth to five years. Meeting at Maryculter Community Hall (next to the Old Mill Inn on the South Deeside Road), it runs three programmes during school terms - a Babies and Toddlers group, sessions for two year olds and lunchtime activity classes for three to five year olds.

Baby & Toddler Group - Mondays 9.30am to 11.30am

For children from birth to four. Adults relax over a coffee whilst children make their first friends. Playleaders are there for a chat and to ensure children are happy playing.

Twos Group - Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9.30am to 11.30am

For children aged two until they go to nursery. Tots are left in the capable hands of experienced playleaders who support them in learning through play in a small, friendly group. Activities include crafts, stories, bugs and bubbles in the garden and walks around the local countryside.

Rising Fives Group - Tuesday lunchtimes, 12 noon to 2pm

For ante-pre and pre-school children. A gentle introduction to spending more time away from their adults prior to school. Activities include cooking, painting or sports – lunch is provided!

The South Deeside Under Fives is a great way for your children to meet some of their first friends and for you to get to know other local families. Give us a call or drop by for a look around! More information at M: 07966163953 or W: www.south-deeside-under-fives.co.uk.

Mandy Tulloch, Treasurer, South Deeside Under Fives



Cults Otters Amateur Swimming Club

"Swim Fit"

Fun activities for general fitness & to develop swimming skills for children aged 8 -14

Saturdays and Sundays from 3.15 pm - 4 pm
During school term-time only at Cults Academy Pool

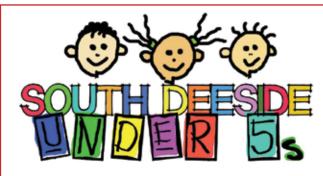
- Life saving skills
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Need to have completed minimum of Aqua 3 and be able to swim 50m front crawl and 50m breaststroke

For more details, please contact:

Sonia Richardson on 01224 316 854 LTS@cultsotters.org.uk

www.cultsotters.org.uk



Fun and friendly childcare for children from birth to five years

Maryculter Community Hall

(next to the Old Mill Inn), South Deeside Road

Baby & Toddler Group

Mondays: 9.30am -11.30am

Twos Group

Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays: 9.30am-11.30am

Rising Fives

Tuesday lunchtimes: Noon - 2pm

M: 07966 163953

E: info@south-deeside-under-fives.co.uk
W: www.south-deeside-under-fives.co.uk



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GRAMPIAN DECORATIVE AND FINE ARTS SOCIETY

AN INVITATION The first half of our exciting season of lectures has been very successful but there is still plenty of time to enjoy the remaining part of the programme. Please join us for one of our monthly meetings and if you enjoy it, we would be delighted to welcome you as a member. We have an exciting and varied programme of lectures, study days, visits to art galleries and museums, plus visits to gardens and private houses often not open to members of the public. By joining us you will be sharing with others who enjoy the decorative and fine arts and who wish to learn more about them. No previous knowledge is needed – only enthusiasm! The current programme is detailed below. Do come along – you'll be made most welcome. Visitors are invited to make a donation of £5.00

9 February Discoveries of Scotland: Painters and Other

Visitors 1700 - 1900

9 March The End of a Tradition: The Art of Auguste

Rodin (1840 - 1917)

13 April Laos: Historic Buddhist Temples to Modern Silk

Weaving

11 May "Pilgrims of Babylon". The Artists of

Montmartre

8 June Transports of Delight: The Art of the Travel

Poster of the 1930's

The venue is Robert Gordon's University, The Faculty of Health & Social Care, Scott Cassie Circle, Inchgarth Road. Please join us for a glass of wine or soft drink at 7.00 prior to the lecture which starts at 7.30. For more information please ring Alison on 01224 869639 or Thyra on 01224 481278





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Reiki Therapy

Reiki (pronounced Ray – Key) is a Japanese word meaning Universal Life Energy.It is an ancient method of healing, originally developed in Japan during the 20th century by the Buddist, Dr Mikao Usui.

Reiki is a gentle, non-Invasive treatment working with the energy that exists around each of us helping the bodies natural ability to heal itself. This healing energy is channelled through the practitioners hands and into the client where it is used on whichever level is most appropriate for that person at that time.

Reiki is effective on all levels Physical, Mental, Emotional and Spiritual. It can help bring a deep relaxation, a sense of nurturing and peace, soothing emotions and reducing negative feelings, anxiety and stress. It helps heal many physical conditions and releases toxins held within the body. This healing energy goes right to the source of the bodies imbalance and not just to the manifesturing symptoms.

Reiki is a completely safe, natural and holistic way of treating mind and body dis-ease.

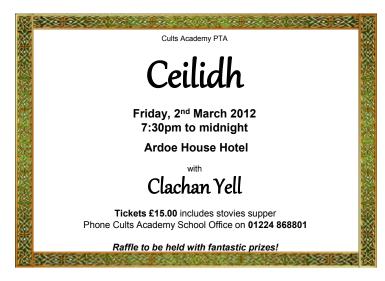
A Reiki treatment usually lasts 1 hour per session. The recipient is normally lying down but can be treated sitting and remains fully clothed throughout the session.

How does it feel? Everyone experiences Reiki energy differently. Some feel a slight tingling, see colours or sensations of warmth. Others just a deep relaxation, feeling of well being and tranquillity. Others feel rejuvenated and energised. Some even fall into a deep and refreshing sleep.

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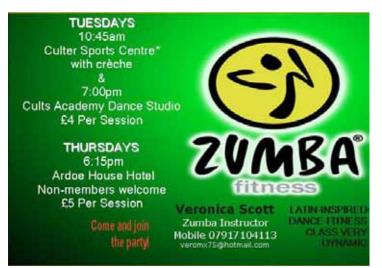
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WE ARE NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR ENTRY IN AUGUST 2012



Nursery and Junior Department

Applications are welcome for entry to our Daffodil Nursery (boys and girls from age 3) and Primary 1. Entry examinations for girls wishing to enter Primary 6 and 7 will take place on Saturday 21 January 2012.

Senior Department

Entry examinations for girls wishing to join 1 Senior will take place on Thursday 19 January 2012. A few places may be available in other senior year groups. Entry is by assessment.

www.st-margaret.aberdeen.sch.uk

Please contact the Admissions Officer on 01224 595188 for details.

Bursaries are available for selected year groups (including P6, P7, S1, S5 and S6).

Transport is available from Banchory, Ellon and Inverurie.



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June Hodge Tel no 07715 454 165 junehodge@btinternet.com

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Culter Youth Football Club News

CYFC was established in 1983 and presently has 18 teams and over 300 players in age groups from 5 to 19 years old.

Culter 2002 United

Another great season this year for Culter 2002 United both on and off the park, ending with 5 wins out of 5, including 3 by a single goal against excellent opposition teams of Dyce, WestDyke and Cove. More importantly, the players are all showing continued improvement in only their second season in the A/B league.

The team is very much a 'community team' with 8 of the 10 players also playing in the same Cults Primary School P5 team, assisted by 2 players from Kincorth and Mile End. Coaches David Strang and Mark McEwan also upped their game by completing SFA coaching badges at level 2 and 3 respectively.

Fundraising also went well this year with a Disco night in Cults hotel raising £1500 to support the team. New strips, sponsored by Robin Porter of Westerton, mean the players are looking good on field. The next fundraiser will be a Karaoke held jointly with Culter U13-s (coached by Mark Greig, Davis Larssen and Graeme Martin) on the 17 March, again at the Cults Hotel. Tickets from event organiser Kim Larssen - Kimbo-7326@ hotmail.com. Kim will also happily accept raffle or auction prizes !



Culter Boys Deeside U13'S

The boys have been entered into the Blackpool Cup in April 2012 which will involve a fund raising campaign over the next few months. Fund raising events include a Horse Race Night (3rd Feb 2012) at the Ashvale, bag packing and various other fund raising activities.

Following the successful trip by the Culter U15's United in the Hanze Trophy in Holland this year, our long term plan is for the team to enter a similar competition in Holland in 2013 so the fund raising activities will continue.

If anyone would like to help support the fund raising activities or wishes to donate towards the trip then please contact either Paul Stein on 07714 292311 or David Galashan on 07831 572852.

Most Culter teams are looking to strengthen their squads so if anyone is interested in joining us they should contact Club Secretary Phil Bellis in the first instance (07714 159419 or phil.bellis@virgin.net).

Also see Club website at: www.culteryouthfc.co.uk

New ZUMBA class

starting January at Woodbank

(in Sports Centre, North Deeside Road, Pitfodels, AB15 9PNentrance opposite Pitfodels Station Road).

Tuesdays 9:30-10:15.

For more information contact Carina on 07760-337523.'

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PILATES CLASSES

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We'd love you to join us at the mums and <u>babies/toddlers</u> <u>group</u> <u>on a Tuesday</u> <u>at 9.45 to</u> 11.30 during term time in the main hall of Deeside Christian Fellowship Church, Milltimber. We play with great toys, have a snack and sing some songs (and the mums have a coffee too!).

For more information call: Morven on 01224 744829

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WHAT'S ON LOCALLY

There are a couple of new items in this edition - - Dramatic Diversity and the South Deeside Under Fives groups.

Thanks to everyone who has sent me information about changes to contact details. Please remember also to let me know if you want to add or delete an activity - this listing is only as good as the information you give me.

Isn't it wonderful to think that spring is coming soon? Get out there and enjoy it!

Eleanor Brennan, Tel 862262, email: brennaneleanor@yahoo.co.uk

ABBREVIATIONS FOR THE VENUES

Cults Academy

CAP - Cults Academy Pool

CCC - Cults Community Centre, Earlswells Road

CPC - Cults Parish Church

CSC - Culter Sports Centre

DCFC - Deeside Christian Fellowship Church, Milltimber

HCC - Hillview Community Church

KCC - Kingswells Community Centre

KMCC - Kaimhill Community Centre

MCAH - Milltimber Community Association Hall

MPS - Milltimber Primary School

PCH - Peterculter Church Hall

PVH - Peterculter Village Hall

SCC - Scout Centre, South Ave, Cults

SCPT - Scout Centre, Pitstruan Terrace, Aberdeen

SDCH - St. Devenick's Church Hall, Bieldside

SHE - Simeon Home for the Elderly, Cairnlee Road

SMH - St. Martin's Hall, Cairnlee

SPHH - St. Peter's Heritage Hall, Peterculter

SWP - Shell Woodbank, Pitfodels

WRIH - WRI Hall, Kirk Crescent, Cults

WSC - Waldorf School, Craigton Road, Cults





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Fitness, Sport and Dance

BADMINTON - JUNIOR, CA

Saturdays, 1.30 - 5.30pm September to April Contact Dorothy Daldry, Tel: 865984

BADMINTON - ADULT, CA

Tuesdays, 7.30 - 10.00pm Contact Rob Wheadon, Tel: 323711

BADMINTON - SOCIAL, MCAH Mondays, 1.30 - 3.00pm Wednesdays, 10.00am - 1200noon Contact Marion Anderson, Tel: 732505

CULTS BOWLING CLUB

All ages very welcome Summer Bowling, Winter Activities Contact David Steele, Tel: 868485

CANOE CLUB, CAP

Fridays, 7.50 – 10.00 p.m. Saturdays 4.00-6.00 p.m. Contact Jim Kinnear 313149 or Kenny Brown, Tel. 07788-507275

CULTS CRICKET CLUB

Contact Ian Sutherland, Tel: 742833

CULTS FIT FOLK, HCC

For men and women over 55. Wednesdays 10.00-11.00 am Contact Ellie Whyte, Tel: 861204

CULTS HILLWALKING CLUB, CCC

Indoor session 1st Thurs of month, 7.30 – 9.30 p.m. Walks on Sundays, 10 days after the meeting! Contact Andy Roberts, Tel. 733710 or Jim Howie, Tel.

FLEX'n STRETCH, CSC

Thursdays 7.30-8.30pm Varied fitness levels Contact Anne Low, Tel: 868553

BOYS' FOOTBALL CLUB, CCC

Under 14s football. Wednesdays, 7.30-9.00pm Contact Gillies MacDonald, Tel 861097

FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY, CSC

Wednesdays, CSC, 4.00-5.00pm 5-8 year olds Contact Dons in the Community -Tel: 650472 or 650432

PRE-SCHOOL FOOTBALL (KCC)

Mon, 1.00-1.30 p.m., 1.30-2.00 p.m., 2.00-2.30 p.m. Fri, 9.30-10.00 a.m. 10.00-10.30 a.m. 1.30-2.00 p.m. (Classes also available at Airyhall Community Centre) Contact Alison McLeod Tel 314669

CULTER YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB

Boys' and Girls' Teams, aged 6 to 19 years Training most days Contact: Contact: Mick Thornton 734228 or Gavin Fisher, 734332

GRAMPIAN CARDIAC REHABILITATION AS-

Exercise classes at Kippie Lodge, Milltimber, RGU Sports Garthdee and other venues in Aberdeen Contact Douglas Pacitti, Tel: 01569 763372 e: d.pacitti@gcra.org.uk or speak to the Cardiac Nurse at Cults Surgery w: www.gcra.org.uk

KARATE, CCC

Thursdays 7.30 - 8.30pm Fridays 4.30 - 5.30pm Contact Ronnie Watt, Tel: 734607

KEEP FIT CLASS, CWC

Tuesdays, 10 - 11am Gentle Exercise for the over 60s Contact Pam Henderson, Tel 868862

FRISKIS & SVETTIS-SWEDISH STYLE KEEP FIT

Mondays 7.30 p.m., HCC, medium (Rosey) Wednesdays 7.30 p.m., HCC, medium (Christine) Thursdays 9.30 a.m., HCC, basic (Gavin) Saturday 11.00 a.m., HCC, medium (Rota) For more information contact Christine, 861450, Gavin, 824722 or Rosey, 310380 Just turn up - no need to sign up for a block everybody welcome

PILATES (CALL SOLVEIG FOR EXACT TIMES)

Peterculter Sports Centre Mon. afternoon, Tues afternoon/evening, Thurs. evening Camphill School, Murtle Wed. evenings Cults West Church Hall Fri. mornings All classes must be booked in advance. Contact Solveig Dahle Smith, Tel. 861421 solveig@pilatesaberdeen.com www.pilatesaberdeen.com

SOCCER FOR 5-12 YEAR OLDS, CCC

Wednesday afternoons, term time only 3.30-4.15 Boys and Girls aged 5-7 4.15-5.00 Boys and Girls aged 8-10 5.00-6.00 Boys and Girls aged 5 and over Contact Ian Wilson - Tel: 07770-996767

SOCCER FOR OVER 30'S, CCC

Thursdays, 8.30-10.00pm Contact Alistair Brown - Tel: 861314

PETERCULTER SPORTS CENTRE

Coronation Road, Peterculter Tel: 732069 Fitness studio, aerobics classes, creche Monthly membership or ad hoc prices

CULTS OTTERS SWIMMING CLUB, CAP

Open to children aged 4 to 13 Learn to Swim Section & Junior Coaching Sections Contact Sonia, Tel: 316854 or email: lts@cultsotters.co.uk website: www.cultsotters.org.uk

SWIMMING-LIFESAVING CLUB (ADULTS 14+/ROOKIES/JUNRS 10+)

Mondays 6.30-9.30pm Contact Anne Gwynne - Tel: 868846

WEEKEND SWIMMING AT CULTS ACADEMY POOL

9.00-12noon, Sat and Sun Adults £3.45, Children Half Price, Free entry with an Accord card. Swimming will continue during school holidays. Contact Ron Wright, Tel: 867398

TAI CHI, CPC

Wednesdays, 7.45-9.45pm Contact Don Wells - Tel: 310904

TAI CHI, SMH

Mondays, 1.00-2.30pm Contact Neil or Nicolette - Tel: 01330-850675

CULTS LAWN TENNIS CLUB

32 Abbotshall Place, Cults See separate item in MBC News for full details Contact Maggie MacLennan (Sec), Tel. 861485 or Gareth Rennie, Mob. 07714-753607.

WOODBURN WALKERS - RAMBLING FOR 50+

Meet alternate Tuesdays at Hazlehead Bus Terminus, Travel by hire bus Average walk +/- 7 miles Contact Eleanor - 317197 or Margaret - 319741

YOGA, WSC

Beginners welcome Wednesdays, 7.00 - 8.30 p,m, Contact Fiona Britee, Tel. 487712

YOGA, WSC

For intermediate students Mondays, 7.40 - 9.30 p,m, Contact Marian van Oorschot, Tel. 863985 E-mail marianoorschot@mac.com

Dancing

ABERDEEN KILT KICKERS AMERICAN **SQUARE DANCE CLUB**

Beginners - Mondays 7.30 - 9.30 pm (WRIH) Contact Sandra Allén, Tel. 715181

RAGGIE MORRISON'S LADIES CLOG DANCING, SDCH

Ladies of all ages and beginners especially welcome. Meet Wednesdays 7.45 - 10.00 pm Contact Rosemary Crabbe-Wyke - Tel: 07950-086739 or Moira Skingley - Tel: 867801

ST DEVENICK'S DANCERS, SDCH

Scottish Country Dancing and Highland Dancing for primary school children. Tuesdays, 3:45pm - 5:15pm Contact Judith Riddoch, Tel 865909 Email judithriddoch@aol.com

TAYLOR SCHOOL OF DANCE, MCAH

Recreational, Vocational & Adult classes available Classical Ballet, Modern Theatre, Tap, Jazz, Street Jazz, Musical Theatre Dance, Boys Only Street Moves, Zumba Contact Gael Thomson, Mob. 07531-811506 E-Mail - admin@taylordance.com w: www.taylordance.com

KAREN BERRY SCHOOL OF DANCE
Classes for children and adults available in Cults and Peterculter For details see website www.danscentre.com or contact Karen Berry, Tel. 647341

GENTLE EXERCISE, INCL DANCE, CPC

Thursdays, 2.30 – 3.30 p.m. Sept. to Dec., Jan. to Mar. Contact Fiona Murray, Tel. 702305

LINE DANCING, WRIH

Tuesdays, 10.00-11.00am Sept - June All levels welcome Contact Ethel McHardy - Tel: 868538

MAINLY MUSIC, HCC

Caregivers and Toddlers (0-4). Dance, rhyme and rhythm, Refreshments and toys. Thursdays, 9.30 – 10.30 a.m. Contact Laura Hayes, Tel. 744295

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING, MCAH

Wednesdays - 8.00-9.30pm All ages and beginners welcome Margaret Athawes, Tel. 733622

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING, WRIH

Tuesdays, 7.30 – 9.30 p.m. (mid Sept. to end March) Contact Sheila Fyfe, Tel. 868164

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING, SDCH

Tuesdays, 4.00 – 5.00 p.m. for primary school children Contact Judith Riddoch, Tel. 865909 Email judithriddoch@aol.com

Children & Youth Groups

AIR TRAINING CORPS

107(Aberdeen) Squadron, Prince Charles Cadet Centre, Albury Road, Ferryhill, AB11 6TL Parade Mon & Wed 19.00-21.30hrs. Open to Boys and Girls aged 13-17 w: www.107aircadets.org e:107@aircadets.org Tel. 590679

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30 minute sessions, Tues. 12.30 - 15.00 Thurs. 12.30 - 14.00, Fri. 12.30-16.00 Adult and Baby (3-12 months), Adult and Toddler (1-2 years), Adult and Child (2+ years), Pre school (4 years + without their parent in the pool). Contact Julie McQuillan, Tel. 318651, Mob. 07906 863246 or email: buoyancy@btinternet.com

CASPER AFTER SCHOOL CLUB, CCC

Contact Marion Skea - Tel: 07762-250550

MILLTIMBER AFTER SCHOOL CLUB, MPS

Mon. - Fri., 2.45 to 6.00 p.m. Contact Samantha Birch, Mob. 07890-862774

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP, CWC

Wednesdays, 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. Contact Lindsey Newton: 868727 Thursdays, 9.30 – 11.30 a.m. Contact Andrea Vlaar, Tel: 865470 or e-mail a.vlaar@abcol.ac.uk

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP, DCFC

Tuesdays 9:45 a.m. – 11.30 a.m. Contact Pauline Cordiner, Tel. 730171

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP, MCAH

Fridays 9.30-11.30 a.m. (term times) Contact Susan Ronald, Tel. 735204 Email paulronald@talktalk.net

CULTS PLAYGROUP, CPC

Mon, Tues, Thurs, 9.15-11.45am (From 21/2 years) Rising 5's - Afternoon Sessions Contact Amanda - Tel: 861982

DRAMATIC DIVERSITY, MCAH.

Drama class for children and young people, Contact Lizzy Hawkey, Mob. 07718882382.

BILINGUAL PARENT AND CHILD GROUP

Wed. and Frid.9.15am to 11.10am. Gilcomstoun Primary School Babies and toddlers introduced to Gaelic through arts, crafts, play and song. You don't have to speak Gaelic to attend. Tel 0777 939 8289, croileagan@gmail.com. Facebook: Croileagan Obar Dheathain.

MILLTIMBER PLAYGROUP & RISING 5'S, MCAH

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri., 9.30 a.m.- 12.00 p.m. Lunch dub Tues, Fri. 12 - 1300 pm (Term times only) Rising 5's Fri 1.00 -3.00 (Tues Rising 5's coming soon) Nursery transport options available. Contact Lyndsay Hay, 07519-902470, e: milltimberplaygroup@hotmail.com

Fri 1.00-3.00 (Tues Rising 5's coming soon) Nursery transport options available. Contact Lyndsay Hay, 07519 902 470 Email milltimberplaygroup@hotmail.com

PLAYGROUP AND RISING 5'S, DCFC

Mon., Wed., Thurs. 9.15-11.45 a.m. Mon. 1.00-3.30 pm Contact Rhona Magowan Tel: 733350

ST DEVENICK'S PLAYGROUP AND RISING 5S, SDCH

Playgroup: Monday - Friday, 9.20am - 11.50 a.m. Lunch club, Wednesday 11.50am - 1.00 p.m. Rising 5s, Tuesday and Thursdays, 12.30 – 3.00 p.m. Contact Julie, Tel. 868644 or Playgroup, Tel. 07931 223545 e: stdevenicksplaygroup@googlemail.com

SOUTH DEESIDE UNDER FIVES

Fun and friendly childcare for children from birth to five years Maryculter Community Hall (next to the Old Mill Inn), South Deeside Road Baby & Toddler Group – Mondays 9.30am to 11.30am Twos Group – Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9.30am to 11.30am, Rising Fives - Tuesday lunchtimes 12 noon to 2pm Mob.: 07966 163953 E: info@south-deeside-under-fives.co.uk W: www.south-deeside-under-fives.co.uk

TOTS AND TODDLERS, SDCH

Wednesdays, 2.00 - 4.00 p.m. Contact Michelle, 861755

EXPLORERS P1-P3 GROUP, DCFC

Wed. 6.30 -7:30 p.m. Contact Luke Dale, Tel. 733979

CHALLENGERS P4-P7 GROUP, DCFC

Wednesdays 7:30 - 8.30p.m. Contact Luke Dale, Tel. 733979

ASCEND, HCC

Youth Group for S1-6, Grades 7-12 Sundays: 7.00 -9.00 p.m. Email-info@hillview.cc

GUIDES, BROWNIES AND RAINBOWS 1st Cults Rainbows, CPC

Mondays, 4.00 - 5.00 p.m.

Contact Claire Moore, Tel 869039

3rd Cults Rainbows, CPC

Fridays, 4.30 - 5.30 p.m. Contact Morag Williamson Tel: 867967

1st Cults Brownies, CA

Mondays, 6.15 - 7.30 p.m. Contact Dorothy Forbes, Tel 486357

2nd Cults Brownies, HCC

Tuesdays, 6.15 - 7.30 p.m. Contact Jill Sutherland, Tel 734540

3rd Cults Brownies, CCC

Tuesdays, 6.15 - 7.30 p.m. Contact Jan Mackintosh Tel: 865916

1st Cults Guides, CA

Mondays, 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. Contact: Karen Pether, Tel 734527

2nd Cults Guides, HCC

Thursdays, 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. Contact Anne O'Neill, Tel 861467

Milltimber Rainbows, MCAH

Thurs 4.15 - 6.15 p.m. Contact Alison Garden, Tel. 868821

Milltimber Brownies, MCAH

Wednesdays. 6.00 - 7.30 p.m. Contact Elaine McGuffie, Tel. 733636

District Commissioner for Cults

- Jan Mackintosh, Tel. 865916

District Commissioner for Milltimber and Culter

- Elaine McGuffie, Tel. 733636

Divisional Commissioner for Cults, Milltimber and Culter - - Dorothy Forbes, Tel. 486357

BEAVERS, CUBS AND SCOUTS

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, MCAH

Beavers - Mondays 4.15 - 5.15pm Contact Fiona Douglas, Tel: 735523

Cubs-Tuesdays 6.30 - 8.00pm Contact Barbara Stroud, Tel: 732591

Scouts - Fridays 7.30 - 9.30pm Contact Geoff Weighill, Tel: 869115 21ST ABERDEEN (CULTS) SCOUT GROUP, SCC

Beavers - Wednesdays, 4.30 - 5.30 p.m.

Open to boys and girls aged 6 to 8 Contact Karen Southworth, Tel 869557

Cubs – Thursdays, 7.00 - 8.30 p.m. Open to boys and girls aged 8 to 10 Contact John Evans, Tel 07834-521519

Scouts - Fridays, 7.30 - 9.30 p.m.

Deeside Explorer Scouts

Deeside Explorer Scouts Every second Monday 8.00 -10.00 p.m. Open to boys and girls, aged 14 to 17 Contact Isobel Cameron Tel 869393

65TH ABERDEEN (MILLTIMBER) SCOUT GROUP, MCAH

Beavers - Mondays 4.15 - 5.15pm Contact Fiona Douglas, Tel: 735523

Cubs - Tuesdays 6.30 - 8.00pm Contact Barbara Stroud, Tel: 732591

Scouts - Fridays 7.30 - 9.30pm Contact Geoff Weighill, Tel: 869115

Youth Hockey Coaching

on Tuesday evenings for P4 to S4 by Gordonians Hockey Club at Robert Gordon's College astroturf pitches on Countesswells Road from 5.15pm to 6.30pm. Children from all schools are welcome and sticks can be provided. Coaching resumes on 30th August 2011 for the season

Has your local group done anything spectacular this last few month's?

An unusual way of fundraising...a good turn for the neighbourhood...just had a really good couple of months.

Let us know at MBC News as we'd love to publish it for you. Even better if you have some photographs to highlight it.

Send to Maureen the Editor

see page 2 for details ... Get thinking... Get writing... and send it.

Hobbies and Social

CULTS O50 CLUB, CPC

Wednesdays, Lunch from 12.00 Announcements/speaker 12.45

Other activities include bridge and scrabble, walks, theatre, cinema, local history outings, garden visits, art appreciation, a book group - the list is endless! Open to anyone over 50, not only Cults residents Details of activities on the website

http://www.cultsparishchurch.co.uk/O50/Index.htm or contact Lizzie Thomas, Tel. 869413 or Anne Wilcox, 869276

MILLTIMBER 050 CLUB, MCAH

Meet monthly in the winter on Wed. 2.00 -4.00 p.m. for talks.

Other social events include walks, cycle rides, theatre visits.

outings, garden visits, lunch outings and city breaks.

Annual favourites are BBQ, Games night and a Christmas Party.

Open to anyone in the Milltimber vicinity. Contact John Park, Tel. 733057 or Robin Dyer, Tel 733850 or website

http://www.genbase.co.uk/MilltimberO50/

ADULT ART CLASSES, HCC

Wednesdays, 1.30 - 3.30 p.m. Contact Jenny Hunter, Tel. 07751715343

ABERDEEN BRIDGE CLUB

14 Rubislaw Terrace, Tel: 644773 Monday to Thursday - 7.00-10.00pm Adult Lessons Wed - 7.00pm Sept - April

BRIDGE GROUP, CCC

Tuesdays, 7.00-9.30pm Contact Irene Main - Tel: 318167

CULTER BRIDGE CLUB, PVH

Fridays, 1.15 – 4.00 pm Sept.- April Contact Peter Garioch Tel: 324691

CALLIGRAPHY GROUP, CPC

Thursdays 10.00- 12.00 p.m. (2 x 10 week sessions from Sept & Jan) Contact Isobel Archibald, Tel. 867303

THE HUB COFFEE SHOP, COC

Tuesdays and Wednesdays - 10.00-3.00pm

MILLTIMBER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, MCAH

Wide range of activities for all ages. General enquiries - Sue Smedley 732172. To hire the hall - 07502 040 619.

CRAFT AND NEEDLEWORK CLASS. NORTH HALL, CWC

Fridays, 1.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m. 10 weeks £50.00 Beginners and more experienced catered for Contact Yvonne Weir, Tel. 732098 /

Yvonne.weir@virgin.net

DEESIDE CHORISTERS, CCC

Wednesdays, 6.30-8.00pm New members most welcome Contact Nancy Paul - Tel: 741378

DRESSMAKING GROUP, KMCC

Thursdays, 09.30-11.30 a.m. Couture trained tutor Beginners welcome Phone Kaimhill Community Centre, Tel.

FOLK EVENING, CPC

Monthly on the 2nd Friday, 7.30pm Sept - June, Both musicians and listeners most welcome! Bring your own beverage! Contact Jan Johnson, Tel: 867951

ABERDEEN GAELIC CLUB

Brings together Gaelic speakers and individuals interested in Gaelic language and culture. The Club organises Gaelic language evening classes and weekend courses in Harlaw Academy, plus social activities. Tel 07779-398289, e-mail clubgaidhlig@ googlemail.com or www.aberdeengaelic.wordpress.com.

CULTS LIBRARY

See separate item in MBC News for opening times and details of thewide range of courses and activities on offer.

CULTS LUNCH CLUB, CPC

Mondays 12.00-2.00pm (except for July) New members most welcome. Contact Jackie Hatchwell, Tel: 861736

MODEL CLUB - ADULT CCC

1st Tuesday of the month, 7.30 – 10.00 p.m. Contact Martin Smith, Tel. 01467 642919

PETROLEUM WOMEN'S CLUB

International friendship club for women connected to the oil industry. Meetings with speaker, 1st Thursday of the month Coffee mornings, 3rd Thursday of the month. Many sub-groups such as ten pin bowling, walks, bridge, golf, dinner club, French conversation and a book group. Contact Elaine Anderson, Tel. 867736 or Rosalind Barker, Tel. 747802 or email pwcscotland@yahoo.co.uk

ROTARY CLUB OF ABERDEEN DEESIDE

Wednesday's 6.15 for 6.45 pm in the Cults Hotel. For further information contact the secretary Quentin Tweedie on 01224 868218 email gtweedie@btconnect.com

SALTIRE SOCIETY

Promotes all things Scottish. Meets monthly on Tuesdays, normally in Rubislaw Parish Church. (See article in magazine for details) Contact D J Robertson, Tel. 484061

SCRABBLE CLUB, MCAH

Fridays, 2.00-4.00pm Players at any level are very welcome Contact Joan Thomas - Tel: 733218

CULTS STRATHSPEY & REEL SOCIETY, CPC

Meet every 2nd Wednesday, 7.30 -9.00 p.m. Accordionists and violinists welcome Contact Fred Robertson, Tel. 310970

ABERDEEN TOASTMASTERS (PUBLIC **SPEAKING CLUB)**

Meets at Northern Arts Club (NAC), 1st, 3rd, 5th Thursdays of every month - 7.00-9.00pm Visitors are welcome - no cover charge. Website: www.aberdeentoastmasters.org.uk Contact Matthew Mtumbuka - Tel: 861028 Email: matthews@mtumbuka.com

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S RURAL INSTITUTE, WRIH

1st Thursday of every month, 7.30-9.30pm (Not July or August) Contact Helen Johnston, Tel: 867726 or Lyn Pithie, Tel: 867614

GRAMPIAN WOODTURNERS, SDCH

Meet last Sunday in the month, 2.00 p.m. New members are most welcome. Meetings consist of member participation, demonstrations etc.. Contact Bill Diack, Tel. 01467-622772

STOP PRESS

Italian classes will now be taking place at Hillview Community Church, Earlswells Road Cults instead of Cults Academy or Cults Community Centre. The contact no. is 863964 (Enrica Conti).





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