

Neighbourhood Bulletin

February – April 2010.

If you live or work in Cove and Altens, we hope you will find something of interest in this Bulletin. Whether you are looking for information on local services, want to know about how local projects are progressing or want to know what's happening elsewhere that might be of interest, this quarterly Bulletin aims to keep everyone informed.

All Bulletin articles include contact information in case you want to obtain more details. More information about Cove is available on the Community Planning website which can be accessed at www.communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk. Copies of Cove Community Plan, and other information are available on the Community Planning website. This information is also available from Aberdeen City Council's Community Planning Team. Your local contact detailed at the end of this Bulletin.

Neighbourhood Walkabout – Thursday 11 March 2010.

The Environmental Walkabouts during 2009 were useful and practical for local residents, elected members and council staff. Depending on the date, some walkabouts were joined by city wardens, local police inspectors, community councillors, tenants associations and interested individuals. The purpose of the Walkabout is to identify ongoing neighbourhood problems with litter, overgrown bushes and trees, graffiti, fly tipping, blocked drains, poor street lighting, crumbling footpaths, potholes, road signs, parks and play equipment – in fact, anything which comes under the heading “environmental”. Steven Shaw, Environmental Manager, has issued the dates for all 37 Neighbourhood Environmental Walkabouts for 2010.

The date for your diary for the Cove and Altens neighbourhood is Thursday 11 March 2010 at 10 am. Because of feedback following last year's Walkabouts, this year there will be two or more starting points so that residents can choose which part of the neighbourhood they walk. In Cove, two starting points have been identified: one at Loirston Avenue shops which will cover Earn's Heugh, Sinclair, Redwood, Langdykes, Marchmont and Strathburn. The other starting point will be at the Loirston Annexe on Cove Road and will cover Colsea, Coves and Creels.

For more information, please contact Lorna Graham, Development Officer at Kittybrewster on 01224 489343 or lograham@aberdeencity.gov.uk.

Cove Bay Health Centre

The local health centre has announced that it now has a practice website which can be viewed at www.covebayandkincorthmedical.co.uk. The website is interactive, providing up to date information about the practice. You can use the website to change your address or contact details, update your height, weight, smoking status, alcohol consumption and ethnicity. You can also order your regular medication, cancel appointments and feedback comments or suggestions to the practice.

For more information, please contact the Cove Bay Health Centre on 0845 337 1170.

RHSA Gardening Workshops

These workshops are open to everyone who wants to widen their knowledge of working with plants and are very much “hands on”. Jim Henderson guides you through the various seasonal tasks and general garden maintenance and will try to answer any queries you have. The workshops will be held 10 March and 7 April from 7 pm – 9 pm at Loirston Annexe, Cove Road.

For more information, contact Monica McKenzie, Adult Learning Coordinator on 01224 878482 or Jim Henderson on 01224 894299

Grampian Police

At Cove and Altens Community Council’s committee meeting on Monday, 22 February 2010, Inspector Willie Findlay advised the group that a restructuring will be implemented in April. The aim is to improve the current neighbourhood police system, allowing a faster, more local response to situations. As part of the restructuring, Inspector Findlay’s ‘beat’ of Kincorth, Leggart, Nigg, Torry, Cove and Altens will be split into two, another Inspector will come on board and Inspector Findlay will focus on Torry. The local police officers, PC Jamie Wade and PC Claire Buchan will remain committed to Cove and will continue to be based at Cove Police Station (part of the Library) in Loirston Avenue.

PC Wade informed the group that the recent mobile surgeries were very well received by local residents who popped in to ask a variety of questions or discuss something that was of concern. Officers will continue to run the mobile facility periodically but urged people to contact them at the Cove Police Station, should they want to discuss something or ask advice. Contact Grampian Police on 0845 600 5 700

Nesta – Introducing Age Unlimited in Scotland

Are you over 50 with a seed of an idea for a social or community enterprise that could help the generation above you? Not all older people enjoy their later years and perhaps your idea could help people in their 70s, 80s and 90s to lead healthier, happier lives. NESTA is the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts and wants to hear from you if you are in your 50s and 60s and have an idea for a community project or social enterprise that could help older people lead more fulfilling lives. Nesta will back the best ideas with funding up to £10,000 to test they can work.

Information is available at www.nesta.org.uk/age-unlimited-scotland or telephone 01382 229521.

100,000 Trees to Plant!

One of the current Aberdeen City Council administration’s manifesto commitments was to plant a tree for every resident of Aberdeen. Council officers are now finalising the plans for the first round of major tree planting work. The aim is to plant around 100,000 trees from February 2010 to April 2011 with another 100,000 to be planted the year after.

Ten sites have been selected for the first 100,000 trees. These are in a variety of locations where there are no plans for the sites to be developed in the near future, where additional planting can extend an existing woodland or help to join up isolated blocks of woodland and so create better wildlife habitats. All the trees planted will be Scottish native species and the new planted areas will be designed to allow public access and so enhance the area for people too. Some of the larger sites include St Fitticks Park, Westfield Park, Abbotswells Park and an area near Donmouth at Seaton. Many of the sites are areas where grass cutting has been reduced and the creation of a woodland will create a better and more sustainable habitat in the long term. You can see the draft proposals at www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/consultations

The overall project will be largely funded through the Scottish Rural Development Programme with additional funding from other sources such as Aberdeen Greenspace or sponsorship from local businesses. The intention is to have the funding package in place early in the New Year. Many of the sites will be planted by contractors but there will be plenty of opportunities for local communities to get involved and help with the planting! The Countryside Ranger Service will be organizing volunteer days for this.

There will also be opportunities for businesses to help with the planting by offering their staff time during the working day to come out and help plant trees as well as offering financial assistance with the project. In return, this work can be recognized on site with a plaque with the company name or logo and coverage in the local media. There will be opportunities to see the proposed plans for the tree planting during a series of public consultation sessions and through consultation with the relevant community councils. Look out for details in the local press. If you would like to know more about this exciting project, please contact Countryside Officer Ian Talboys on 01224 897400 or italboys@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Aberdeen City Youth Council Election 2010.

A registered charity, the Youth Council is committed to giving young people a voice in the decision making process. Membership consists of young people, aged 14-25 years, from different areas and interest groups in Aberdeen. The organisation promotes an accurate image of young people in the media, running young orientated events in the city and liaising with local decision makers and community figures to have the views of young people considered. Nationally, the Youth Council has a close relationship with the Scottish Youth Parliament and coordinates the SYP elections in Aberdeen. Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYPs) for the three constituencies, Aberdeen North, Aberdeen Central and Aberdeen South are elected from the Youth Council.

About the Election.

Each year in April, the Youth Council elects its team of five office bearers and this year, the Youth Council has decided to open nominations to all young people across the city. The Campaign Period is 1 March – 1 April and voting will take place online from 5 – 19 April 2010 and at one physical ballot event towards the end of April.

For more information, contact Hamish Cattanach on 01224 523410 or hcattanach@aberdeencity.gov.uk. You can also contact Paul Robertson, Chair of the Election Board, on paulcrobertson@yahoo.co.uk

Some Useful Contacts

Aberdeen City Council

Main Switchboard	08456 080910
Minicom number for hearing impaired callers	01224 522381
Anti-Social Behaviour Team (between 9 am and 4 am)	08456 066548
Housing Repairs (during office hours)	08456 080929
Housing Repairs (out with office hours)	01224 480281
Environmental Services (roads, lighting, litter etc)	08456 080919

Partner Agencies

Scottish Water (faults relating to sewerage or sewage)	08456 018855
Grampian Police (non emergency call centre)	08456 005700
Bear Scotland (maintenance of trunk roads)	08005 871107

Local Contacts

Patricia Frazer Neighbourhood Community Planning Officer	01224 523250
Lorraine Morrow, Community Learning Worker	01224 872851
Councillor Kate Dean	01224 894866
Councillor Neil Cooney	01224 486920
Councillor Callum McCaig	07748 320635
Andy Finlayson, Chair, Cove and Altens Community Council	01224 897627

Useful Web Pages

Community Planning in Aberdeen	www.communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk
Aberdeen City Council	www.aberdeencity.gov.uk
Grampian Police	www.grampian.police.uk
NHS Grampian	www.nhsgrampian.org
Grampian Fire & Rescue Service	www.grampianfrs.org.uk
Cove and Altens Community Council	www.cove-bay.com

Making the Most of Neighbourhood Bulletins

Neighbourhood Bulletins will be issued quarterly. If you have any views on how the Bulletin could be improved, or if you would like to submit an article for a future edition, please refer to the contact below. The Bulletin will be available from community points such as libraries and community centres. If you would like to receive future Bulletins directly (by email or post) please get in touch.

This Neighbourhood Bulletin has been issued by

Patricia Frazer, Neighbourhood Community Planning Officer, Education, Culture and Sport,
St Nicholas House, Broad Street, Aberdeen AB10 1BY

Tel: 01224 523250 Email: PFrazer@aberdeencity.gov.uk

إذا كنت تود الحصول على هذه الوثيقة بالخط العريض أو البريل أو الأشرطة الصوتية المدمجة أو كنت تود ترجمتها إلى لغة أخرى فالرجاء الاتصال بنا على الهاتف أدناه.

আপনি যদি এই দলিলটি ব্রেইলে, বড় ছাপার অক্ষরে বা শোনার জন্য সিডি, অথবা দলিলটি অন্য কোন ভাষায় অনুদিত চান তবে অনুগ্রহ করে নীচের টেলিফোন নম্বরে ফোন করে আমাদের সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।

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Proszę się skontaktować z nami pod poniższym numerem telefonu jeśli ten dokument jest wymagany w alfabecie Braille, w dużym druku, na płycie kompaktowej CD lub przetłumaczony na inny język.