

## TGP AGM and Summer Forum held on 26th May 2014

The Partnership's AGM and Summer Forum was held on 26th May 2014 at the Kemnay Village Hall. As well as workshops on funding and village hall health checks which were run by Kay Diack, Consultant and Barbara Love, CVSO, respectively, funding cheques were also presented to SensationALL and ICAN. A total of £6350 has been invested this year in ten small awards to local organisations. The Partnership has enjoyed a busy year building networks across a range of groups and organisations in the Garioch area and now has an extensive contacts database which has exceeded its initial membership target. A full copy of the Proceedings is available from [info@gariochpartnership.org.uk](mailto:info@gariochpartnership.org.uk). Refreshments of teas, coffees and celebratory drinks were provided along with strawberries and cream. Grateful thanks to Phyllis and Linda from Grampian Opportunities for arranging and serving these.

More details and photos on page 8

### Page 6

Find out all about upcoming Garioch events

Keep up with and comment on Garioch Community issues, news and projects! Follow TGP **NOW** on Facebook!



### See Page 4 for this Edition's

**HOT TOPIC**

Next Edition of **The Garioch Gazette** to be published on 01/10/14. All copy to the editor by 24/09/14.

FEATURED ORGANISATION on Page 5

STOP PRESS—MEMBERS' NEWS pages 2 & 3



Congratulations to The Spectrum Singers who won in their category of the vocal and choral section at this year's Aberdeen Music Festival on Tuesday 3rd June.



**THE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE GRANT SCHEME** is open to any constituted not-for-profit community group/ or community-run organisation in the Garioch area with an annual turnover of less than £25k.

**Consideration** will be given to projects that show wide community support, or improve the quality of life of local people, are of long-term benefit and make a difference to the community you live in. This could include the start-up costs for a new group, equipment, training for group members, encouraging active participation in a community, marketing costs or improvements to Community Facilities

**The maximum award** will be £750. You will be normally be expected to have matched funding in place or be able to demonstrate how the whole project will be funded unless the grant is for start-up costs for a new group or activity. For further information please visit [www.gariochpartnership.org.uk](http://www.gariochpartnership.org.uk) or alternatively you can contact Anne Simpson at [anne@gariochpartnership.org.uk](mailto:anne@gariochpartnership.org.uk). Watch out below for updates on CIGS awards and projects.

**Get yours in now !!! Remember you can re-apply for more funding after 1 year!**

## COMMUNITY INITIATIVE GRANT SCHEME AWARDS UPDATES

### Cornfields Scotland's Project "Start-up"

Following their successful award from the Community Initiative Grant Scheme in December 2013 to help with their start-up project, Fiona Mathers, Volunteer Director and Coach, updated The Garioch Gazette on how the funds have been helping them with their start up project .....



*"The funds have helped us to achieve our aim of recruiting people who have skills and available time to join us and get involved in a variety of roles that can help them regain their confidence and help them to fulfil their purpose. The funds have enabled us to host engagement and anchoring events that fit with Cornfields organic approach to connecting with like-minded people and we have successfully engaged six new members to our team and we have a further three people currently moving through this process. On behalf of Cornfields Scotland, I thank you for your valuable support."*



TGP membership now sits at 58!





# MEMBERS' NEWS



## New Garioch Premises Found for Cornfields Scotland !



Cornfields are pleased to announce that they have successfully secured new premises at Ryehill in Oyne.

Plans in progress include a new gardening project to create a colourful garden including a pond, paths and an area to grow fruit and vegetables.

For further information contact Fiona Mathers on 01464 851539 or email [fiona@cornfields-scotland.co.uk](mailto:fiona@cornfields-scotland.co.uk)



## New Events Venue at Pitcaple Environmental Project !



Have you heard that The Buzzard Café, pictured left, and Environmental Interpretation Centre are now available for private hire in the evening and at weekends? The café looks out over the gardens from the top of the hill and gives a lovely view of Bennachie in the distance.

The Interpretation Centre and the popular Buzzard Café opened in 2013 and are situated at the back of the Pitscurry site.

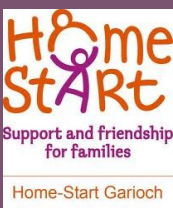
Usual opening times of 10am—3pm Monday to Friday. There is a visitor car park at the top of the site and a limited number of disabled parking spaces right outside the café itself. For further details please contact Kay Diack on Mobile: 07778 872309 or Email: [diackkay@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:diackkay@yahoo.co.uk)



## Big Lottery Funding For Homestart Garioch !



Congratulations to Home-Start Garioch in Inverurie seen with staff pictured left who are celebrating funding of £257,964 from The Big Lottery Investing in Communities Programme for their service, which offers home based support to young families who have at least one child under the age of five. The funding will allow Homestart Garioch to continue their support over the next 5 years and venture into new areas such as Ellon and Tarves, etc.



To help them reach the families who need them, they need **YOU** to volunteer! New volunteer training will be taking place after the summer holidays. For more information call 01467 624801 or email [info@homestartgarioch.org.uk](mailto:info@homestartgarioch.org.uk)

For information on community investment funding visit [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk) to find out more !



# MEMBERS' NEWS

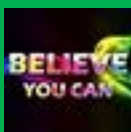


## Grants Success for Grampian Opportunities !

One of our members, Grampian Employment Opportunities are a small, friendly charity based at Inverurie, with an office at Kintore. They support people from Aberdeen city, Aberdeenshire and Moray, known locally as Grampian Opportunities or GO. Their main activity is supporting people with disabilities—physical and mental, long-term health conditions, mental health issues, learning disabilities, autism and a range of impairments to access good quality opportunities to partake in work and pre-work supported programmes and the change to volunteer to develop skills.



With our support, Grampian Opportunities applied to the Crerar Hotels Trust for some funding for our **"Go Best Fit Forward"** project. This project will allow a group of our users to access a range of health and well being services and opportunities, from accessing the gym to life skills cooking courses at the Garioch Community Kitchen and chair-based exercise classes predominantly for wheelchair users but open to anyone who wishes to start with a gentle exercise regime.

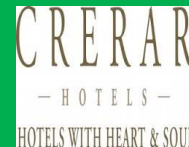


One group who will benefit are the **GO Dynamix Group**. Go Dynamix are a mixed ability life skills group who focus on learning all manner of activities including cooking, budgeting, problem solving, I.T., healthy eating and exercise, practical trade skills and gardening. The group learn independent living skills along with social skills and build confidence through doing practical activities whilst learning the value of personal responsibility. Go Dynamix started in July 2013 and meet every Tuesday between 10.00am and 3.00pm at the Grampian Opportunities office in Kintore.

The GO Dynamix group are very much looking forward to being part of the **"Best Fit Forward"** project and are very excited about being able to access one of the most up-to-date gym and spa facilities in the Aberdeenshire area. Comments from the group so far have been *"I'm looking forward to going. I was trying out all the gym machines today at Thainstone and I really enjoyed it. It was great"* and *"The gym and swimming pool is just brilliant .... The Jacuzzi looks great"*.

They were very lucky that Crerar have awarded us the £4,588 which allows them to fund this project in its entirety. The group are very grateful to Crerar Trust for their belief and support of our project.

In a statement from Crerar, *"Giving back to local communities to improve the quality of everyday lives is at the heart of Crerar Hotel Group, which donates almost half of its annual profits to its charitable trust each year to help deserving charities like Grampian Opportunities. Crerar Hotels Trust Chairman and Chief Executive of Crerar Hotel Group, Paddy Crerar, said it was thanks to the hotel patrons that these donations could be made to help so many charities to do their invaluable and admirable work to bring hope to those in need. "It is our customers that are making the difference to everyday lives. Without their patronage we could give nothing back"*.



**To find out more about Grampian Employment Opportunities or GO Dynamix, find them online at [www.grampianopportunities.org.uk](http://www.grampianopportunities.org.uk)**

**To find out more about Crerar Hotels Group, go online at [www.crerarhotels.com](http://www.crerarhotels.com)**

## Musical Production in September For Garioch Youth Musical Society !

GYMS is busy rehearsing for its upcoming production of High School Musical which will be staged at The Town Hall on 4-6th September this year. There will be four shows given in all seating over 500 for each performance.

GYMS is the youth group of two musical societies in Inverurie with Buzz being the adult group. In November last year both groups merged together to put on a joint production of A Christmas Carol which was a great experience and enjoyed by all.

For those of us under the age of 18, the following gives a taste of what Disney's High School Musical is all about!



*Between classes, Gabriella and Troy look at the audition sign-up for the school musical, but the drama diva Sharpay discourages them. At basketball practice, Troy tries to show his friends his passion for singing. Taylor, the science club president notices Gabriella correcting a teacher's mistake in science class and encourages her to join the upcoming science decathlon. Whilst the students learn how to "act" at detention, Troy's dad, Coach Bolton, faces off with Ms Darbus—his star players can't miss practice for Friday's championship game!*

*The next day, hopeful thespians strut their stuff for Ms Darbus but they are no match for Sharpay and her twin brother Ryan. Troy and Gabriella arrive too late to audition but Kelsi, the show's composer plays the song her way and encourages them to sing. Ms Darbus overhears and gives them a call back.*

*News spreads fast. Sharpay is furious and some students try to break out of their cliques during lunch. Troy and Gabriella escape to the rooftop garden and share a little bit about their real selves. The jocks and brainiacs compete, Sharpay and Ryan pull off a polished call back performance. When Taylor's laptop shuts down the electricity, Troy and Gabriella rush to the theatre but are too late. However, when the East High students arrive to rally behind them, Ms Darbus gives in and they sing their way into the lead roles. Back at the gym, the Wildcats win the game and the whole school comes together as winners.*

Tickets are on [sale now](#), so check out, follow, like and support GYMS on Facebook today at [www.facebook.com/gariochyouthmusicalsociety](http://www.facebook.com/gariochyouthmusicalsociety).





## This Edition's Hot Topic is ....



### Self-Directed Support – An Overview With Basic Information

**Self-Directed Support (SDS)** came into being on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. It is a new way of managing a social work support budget. The budget comes from social work funding – this is not new money, just a different approach to the money that is already there.

There are four different options on how to use a self-directed support budget, ranging from full control and budget holding, to maintaining the status quo on how it is already used. The options are...

1. A Direct Payment (a cash payment) where the supported person chooses and directs how the budget is used and they manage the money
2. The supported person directs how the budget is used but the money is managed by someone else (sometimes called an Individual Service Fund)
3. The supported person asks the council to choose and arrange services for you
4. The supported person can choose a mix of these options for different types of support.

(The supported person may hold the budget themselves, or have someone in the family nominated to this task)

What does this mean for service providers? Initially, any changes happening are likely to be a slow process. It won't simply change overnight as people will need to be assessed and budgets allocated, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't be making the adjustments and working out how SDS can benefit your service.

SDS will give people with additional support needs more flexibility in how to meet their outcomes and manage their own support. This should translate to supported people being able to source and fund the things that matter to them – which may well be your service! To make the most of this, you need to be talking to your client group, and telling them that you are open to SDS payments, and also knowing the cost of the service you provide. It is also helpful to remind them to actually think about the outcomes your service makes happen for them, as this is the part that dictates how they will be allowed to spend their budget. This is something you can support them to put into their plans. The link below in the resources section on "what is support planning" shows what a support plan might look like, and gives some really useful tips on writing one – which may be useful to have in mind for your service to enable your service users to know what to put in!

SDS will change the way support services are delivered, allowing people to choose what matters to them – make sure you are in there!

Self-directed Support – Aberdeenshire Council Team.

[selfdirectedsupport@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:selfdirectedsupport@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

01467 623258

The team are currently based at the Harlaw Centre in Inverurie.

<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/care/money/selfdirectedsupport.asp>

<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/care/money/SelfDirectedSupportLeaflet.pdf>

National guidance.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health/Support-Social-Care/Support/Self-Directed-Support>

Useful resources

<http://www.otbds.org/topic/self-directed-support/>

<http://www.gettingtheresds.com/>

<http://www.supportplanning.org/WhatIsSP/>



## Hot News .... Don't Miss Out!



Further funding for community projects has now been released to TGP by Aberdeenshire's Garioch Area Committee. The amount awarded for this next financial year is confirmed as **£10,000, an increase of 100%**. This is great news for local groups!

As mentioned on page 1 **THE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE GRANT SCHEME** is open to any constituted not-for-profit community group/ or community-run organisation in the Garioch area with an annual turnover of less than £25k. You will be normally be expected to have matched funding in place or be able to demonstrate how the whole project will be funded unless the grant is for start-up costs for a new group or activity. For further information please visit [www.gariochpartnership.org.uk](http://www.gariochpartnership.org.uk) where you can apply online or alternatively you can contact Anne at [anne@gariochpartnership.org.uk](mailto:anne@gariochpartnership.org.uk) or Dawn at [dawn@gariochpartnership.org.uk](mailto:dawn@gariochpartnership.org.uk).

**These grants are assessed by a panel of local people before the TGP Board takes a decision on them. There are some vacancies on this panel. If you would like to become a member of this panel, Anne would love to hear from you!**

# Featured Organisation

## Footprints Connect

### Footprints Connect Outreach Work

Find us and what we can offer t [www.footprintsconnect.org.uk](http://www.footprintsconnect.org.uk).

We are a new not for profit social enterprise, based in the north east of Scotland, encouraging over 55s to get online and make the most of computer, tablet and other technologies.



Over recent weeks we have been undertaking outreach work to introduce our website and associated services to key people and organisations in Inverurie, Huntly, Rhynie, Inch and Rothienorman. Thanks is due to many individuals who have given time to speak to Tom Ross and /or Dave Valentine.

In Inverurie in particular, we are beginning to see how we could fit in with, and complement existing services for older people. The main purpose of our website is to provide information, support and a portal that enables older people to make the most of new technology to improve their quality of life.

The main ways we can work with local organisations are:

- to** host your info and links, of interest to 55+ age groups, in a communities section of the website to carry links to local newsletters, and to offer content to newsletters related to the subject of older people and new technology
- to** participate in local networks as and when appropriate
- to** support events where Footprints Connect could have a presence
- to** deliver new technology courses and/or home visits for over 55s, where resources
- to** support this can be identified.

This investigative stage of our work should be finished by the summer holiday period and we look forward to following through on developments where mutually agreed actions have been identified after the holidays.

If you wish to make contact directly please email Dave on  
**[david.valentine@footprintsconnect.org.uk](mailto:david.valentine@footprintsconnect.org.uk)**





# EVENT DATES DIARY

Want to advertise an event on our diary page? For more information, email The Editor at info@gariochpartnership.org.uk or call us on 01467 628801.

## July 2014

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4 <small>Inverurie 4U Independent Retailer's Event</small>	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 <small>Inverurie Jazz Festival</small>	26	27
28	29 <small>Inverurie World of Worlds</small>	30	31			

## August 2014

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1 <small>Inverurie World of Worlds</small>	2	3
4	5 <small>Inverurie World of Worlds</small>	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 <small>Lourin Fair at Old Rayne</small>	17
18	19 <small>Inspiring Insch Discussion Group 10-12.30 at Insch Community Centre</small>	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## September 2014

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4 <small>GYMS High School Musical Production</small>	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 <small>Ward 10 Forum at Insch</small>	26	27	28
29	30 <small>Ward 11 Forum at Inverurie</small>					

# Ward Forums

## putting the *community* into community planning

**Sorry to repeat ..... but just a wee reminder for our new readers what community planning and ward forums are all about.**

**Community planning** is a way of working which makes public services responsive to, and organised around, the needs of communities. Implicit in this is the need to involve communities in the decisions made on public services that affect them. The overall aim of community planning is to provide better public services and to support communities in their endeavours to improve the local quality of life.

Major Service Providers	Community/Voluntary Sector
Aberdeenshire Council	Community Councils
Scottish Fire & Rescue Service	The Garioch Partnership
NHS Grampian	Council for Voluntary Service (CVS)
Police Scotland	Aberdeenshire Central and South

The **Garioch Local Community Planning Group** delivers community planning at the local level. It is made up of representatives from the major service providers as well as community and voluntary sector representatives.

### Community Planning Partners:

The partners work together to ensure that services are delivered to residents effectively and at best value. They also work with the communities of Garioch to ensure that local people and communities are genuinely engaged in the decisions made on public services that affect them. **Community Ward Forums** will comprise part of that engagement process. The forums will be organised on behalf of the **Garioch Local Community Planning Group** by **The Garioch Partnership** as part of its Service Level Agreement with Aberdeenshire Council.

### What are they for?

In the context of Community Planning, the main aims of the forums in Garioch are:

- To ensure that the views of communities and community organisations are fed into the formal community planning process
- To provide an opportunity for ongoing, two way communication between the service providers and the community; forums can be used to raise issues formally or informally
- To ensure that community representatives are kept up to date with new developments that may be of use and relevance to their communities
- To support the development of Community Councils and other community organisations - for example through training sessions on media skills, running meetings and police engagement.

### Forum update

The last round of ward forums were the most successful yet. Average attendance was 20, and a great deal of networking and sharing information took place between community members and the community planning partners. Many exciting local projects were highlighted in each of the wards, and connections made which will be mutually beneficial.

### When is the next ward forum?

The next round of ward forums will take place in September/October this year, so please see our events page for any confirmed dates and keep an eye on your mailbox for your invite. **We rely on our contacts to pass on the word.**

We are always keen to know what local issues are on **your** minds, so any agenda items for these forums should be forwarded to Anne Simpson, The Garioch Partnership or Douglas Milne, Aberdeenshire Council, as soon as possible to make sure that the issues important to **you** are included for discussion.

# TGP AGM & Summer Forum

**The Garioch Partnership  
AGM & Summer Forum**

RSVP Now!  
info@gariochpartnership.org.uk

**Kemnay Village Hall**  
Monday 26 May, 7 for 7.30pm

FREE  
Strawberries with cream and shortbread, and celebratory drink!

Funding Workshop

Workshop The Keystone Award for village halls

AGM The Garioch Partnership Past, Present and Future

The Garioch Partnership  
SUPPORTING PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES

The Garioch Partnership's second combined AGM and public forum was held on 26th May 2014 at the Kemnay Village Hall, seen pictured below right. As well as the usual committee business and annual report, workshops on funding and village hall health-checks were run.



Find on Facebook Today!

Online at [www.kemnayhall.co.uk](http://www.kemnayhall.co.uk)



The Partnership was also pleased to pass on funding left over from the "Inside Insch" project to Nom Wright of ICAN.

Seen pictured with funding The Garioch Partnership funding cheque are Nom Wright (centre), Anne Simpson Development Officer (on the left) and Marion Chapman, Secretary to the Board (seen right).

Find, Like and Support ICAN on Facebook today!



[www.sensationall.co.uk](http://www.sensationall.co.uk)

Pictured left and receiving a Community Initiative Grants Scheme cheque for £750.00 are the team from SensationALL, with Anne Simpson and Graham Geddes from The Garioch Partnership.



Refreshments were served by volunteers Linda Singer and Phyllis Gordon from Grampian Opportunities seen pictured right.



"The Garioch Partnership"



"Garioch\_tweets"



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and

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Questions or comments? Email us at [info@gariochpartnership.org.uk](mailto:info@gariochpartnership.org.uk)

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