

ALFORD

CORGARFF

CRAIGIEVAR

CUSHNIE

DUNECHT

ECHT

GLENKINDIE

KEIG

KILDRUMMY

LUMSDEN

MIDMAR

MILLBANK

MONTGARRIE

MONYMUSK

MOSSAT

MUIR OF FOWLIS

SAUCHEN

STRATHDON

TILLYFOURIE

TOUGH

TOWIE

TULLYNESSLE

WHITEHOUSE

ALFORD & AREA  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Issue 68  
Spring 2010



*Pictured from left to right: Jayden Taylor, Hailey Cairns, Brodie Johnston, Ricky Donald, Kieran Davidson and Hannah Johnston.*

All six young people have completed the momentum course. This course is about teaching young people basic car maintenance, road safety and basic driving skills. The aim is to introduce the group to the skills and responsibilities that go with driving a car. The course was funded through the Garioch & North Marr Community Safety Group and run by Community Learning and Development with input from Grampian Police, Altens College and Alford Transport Museum.

The group all went out for a meal at the Haughton Hotel to celebrate their success and were presented with their award by Dianne Sutherland. They all completed the thirty hour course in their own free time and we would like to congratulate them on their achievement!

[www.alford.org.uk](http://www.alford.org.uk)

Take a look at your community website! It now displays a calendar of events and activities in and around Alford. If you would like to find out whats happening in your area this is a good starting point. If you would like to have your group, activity, meeting or event listed in the calendar please pop your details in past the community centre and we will ensure it is included! The Fits Gan On will also be available through the website.



**NEW Tai Chi Class**

Starting on Sunday 18th April, fortnightly until 27th June, 2.30 - 4.30 Alford Community Huts.  
Please see back page for info.

**CONTACTS**

Education Learning and Leisure  
Aberdeenshire Council  
Alford Community Centre  
Murray Terrace  
Alford AB33 8PY

Tel: 019755 63651  
Fax: 019755 64618  
Email: [alford.cec@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:alford.cec@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

Senior Community Learning Worker  
Community Learning Workers

Senior Community Leisure Officer  
Community Development Group

Nicola Kenyon  
Linda Hamilton  
Alan Karas  
Kelly Rennie  
Donald Fraser  
Lesley Michie



Midmar Village Hall built in 1902 and extensively extended in 2002 is increasingly the social centre of the small, tight knit community of Midmar. Like other rural communities the social mix of Midmar has changed dramatically in recent years and many residents commute to work. Acting on information obtained in a survey conducted last year, the Hall Committee has widened the range of activities at the hall to reflect this new social mix.

Midmar Hall is a multi purpose venue with a wide range of activities. These are pre school groups, an indoor bowling club, ceilidh dance group, a local drama group and in conjunction with Aberdeen College a painting and drawing class is now available. There are plans to form a cinema club. At the same time the Hall hosts public dances and is available for hire for private functions. A major finding in the survey was a requirement for high quality entertainment. The hall has now successfully hosted big names such as The Alexander Brothers and Scottish Opera. In conjunction with North East Arts Touring, Midmar is now a sought after venue by professional theatrical groups.

Details of forthcoming events will be posted on our new website [www.midmarhall.co.uk](http://www.midmarhall.co.uk)

~~~~~  
 New websites recently launched that may be of interest:  
[www.spanglefish.com/alfordheritagecentre](http://www.spanglefish.com/alfordheritagecentre)  
[www.spanglefish.com/alfordfarmersmarket](http://www.spanglefish.com/alfordfarmersmarket)  
 ~~~~~

### Adult Learning Opportunity

Did you know that 1 in 5 people who live in Scotland have difficulty with reading, writing and using numbers? Local one to one tuition sessions can be set up at a time and place that suits you. So if you or anyone you know would like some help with any of these things please contact Nicola or Kelly at the Community Centre for further information. You can also find out more by going to:

[www.thebigplus.com](http://www.thebigplus.com)



## ALFORD MAGIC ROUNDABOUT SALE



Tullynessle & Forbes Hall

Saturday 24th April

9.30am -12 noon

Entrance £1

Sale of unwanted and outgrown children's books, clothes, toys, maternity clothes, nursery equipment etc.

Interested in selling items? Contact Marie by 18th April on 019755 63147 or e-mail [alfordmras@btinternet.com](mailto:alfordmras@btinternet.com)



### Cushnie Hand bell Ringers

We would warmly welcome anyone who is over 10 years to 100 years old, men and women to join our lively group. You don't need to be able to read music as we learn using different techniques. Some of our members are able to perform in public, but this is not a requirement and you can opt out of this.

The group meets in Leochel-Cushnie Church on Monday's 6-7pm for a time of music and merriment.

A great opportunity to meet new friends and learn a new skill that will last a lifetime.

Please contact Mrs M Penny for further details and directions to Cushnie on: 01339 883271



*New Age Curling* is a form of the original curling game but adapted so that it can be played indoors on any smooth flat surface such as a sports hall rather than on ice. This is a wonderful resource and is designed for all abilities and ages. If you would like to borrow a set for your group please contact the Community Centre to book.

### ALFORD FIDDLERS

Wednesday 7.30-9.00pm - Alford Heritage Centre .

New members and visiting musicians welcome.

For more info log on [www.alfordfiddlers.org](http://www.alfordfiddlers.org)

## ALFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE CRÈCHE - March - June 2010

|            |                   |          |
|------------|-------------------|----------|
| Wednesdays | 9.30am - 11.30    | Drop-in  |
|            | 1.00pm - 3.00pm   | Drop-in  |
| Fridays    | 9.00am - 10.00am  | Swimming |
|            | 10.00am - 11.00am | Drop-in  |



The creche is run by the Alford and Area Community Development Group to support learning and leisure activities in the area. New faces are always welcome. To book a place in the crèche contact Alford Community Centre on 019755 63651.

## Princes Trust XL Group Alford 'Making Changes'

Alford Academy and Community Learning and Development have this academic year jointly delivered a pilot project through the Princes Trust. The Group known as the xl Group meet twice weekly and have 7 young people involved. The project has so far been a great success!

The xl curriculum is shaped to suit the needs of young people, while still meeting the requirements and competences required for external moderation. An example of one of the portfolios produced by the group "Citizenship and community awareness" focused on an in-depth study on anti social behaviour in particular the causes, effects and consequences. A second portfolio "Personal and Interpersonal Team Skills" focused on personal awareness, personal safety and the safety of others in the community. The xl group all achieved their Red Cross certificate in First Aid.

Both Portfolios will be presented for moderation at bronze level.

This is truly a remarkable achievement for the group and highlights each individual's commitment to the concept and proven track record of Princes Trust xl. The current xl group are also willing to return to school and speak to future groups about their experiences and assist in topics wherever they can.



## ALFORD YOUTH WORK PROGRAMME April - July 2010

| Day  | Group                   | Dates              | Venue                                       | Age Group | Time        |
|------|-------------------------|--------------------|---|-----------|-------------|
| Mon  | Mc Dance                | 19 April - 28 June | Alford Academy Dining Hall                  | P7 +      | 4-6pm       |
| Tue  | Rural Drop In           | 20 April - 29 June | Alford Community Centre Community Computers | P7 +      | 7-9pm       |
| Wed  | P 6 / 7 Club            | 21 April - 30 June | Alford Community Centre Community Lounge    | P6 & P7   | 7.15-8.45pm |
| Thur | Abc Group (Girls Group) | 22 April - 1 July  | Alford Academy Community Huts               | P7 +      | 6.30-8pm    |
| Fri  | Yard Drop In            | 23 April - 2 July  | Alford Ski Pavilion                         | S1 +      | 7.30-10pm   |

For further info please contact Alan Karas at Alford Community Centre on 019755 63651 or email: alan.karas@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

### Over 50's Development Morning

A meeting was held on Saturday 6th February to begin the process of developing over 50's work in Alford and the surrounding areas. During the morning, representatives from existing local over 50's groups and Community Learning and Development Workers Kelly Rennie and Alan Karas discussed the wide range of groups that are currently running successfully.

It was agreed that Alan and Kelly will visit each of these groups over the coming months to meet everyone involved. If you would like a visit to your over 50's group and it was not represented at the development morning please contact Alan or Kelly at Alford Community Centre 019755 63651.

It is hoped that this group will continue to meet to discuss issues affecting this age group and to look at addressing need. Anyone who is interested in joining such a group can attend our next meeting on Saturday 17th April at 9:45am (coffee) for 10am start. Please contact Kelly or Alan on the phone number above for details.



Australian Physiotherapy Pilates at Tullynessle and Forbes Hall. For more info contact Kate Robertson on 019755 62436

*Alford, Aberdeenshire  
Image Library*

Alford Image Library now has over 1000 images of Alford old and new but more are always welcome. For more info log on to [www.alfordimages.com](http://www.alfordimages.com)

### Alford and Area Community Development Group (CDG)

The Alford and area CDG along with Donside Community Council have been involved in the Oor Alford Events that took place last year. These consultations have resulted in a Local Community Action Plan and a Community Profile for Alford. These documents can be downloaded from the Aberdeenshire Community Planning website: [www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk](http://www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk)

Printed copies will be available in the near future ...look out for a copy!!

The Alford CDG continues to meet to look at the learning and leisure needs of Alford and surrounding areas. Any group or individual is welcome to attend our meetings. Here are the dates of our meetings scheduled for this year, meetings start at 7pm. ~ 15th April, 27th May, 26th August, 28th October, 10th December

For further info please contact the Community Centre.