



**KINTORE  
KONNECT**

CONNECTING OUR  
COMMUNITY

**ISSUE 60**

**CELEBRATING EVERYTHING LOCAL IN AND  
AROUND KINTORE AND DISTRICT**

**IMAGE CREDIT: Sarah Emery**



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*If you have a story to share or wish to add your event/club, we would love to hear from you.*

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- Please send across the full name, location, dates and times
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For information please contact **07748 111165**

or email

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### Save your community activities from disappearing

Anyone can **make a positive difference** to Kintore and District. However, we **need new ideas and new members** to stop your local activities from disappearing.

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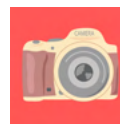


### OUR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

- Brings **new community events and activities** to the town and district
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Find out more, email: [info@kintorecommunitycouncil.co.uk](mailto:info@kintorecommunitycouncil.co.uk)

**JOIN US EVERY 3RD TUESDAY AT KINTORE PRIMARY SCHOOL AT 7-9PM - NO NEED TO BECOME A MEMBER, JUST HAVE YOUR SAY**



### PHOTOGRAPHERS:

We are always looking for pictures to feature in Kintore Konnect - these can be local scenes, events or any subject that might be of interest. Why not send us your favourites?



### DELIVERIES:

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# WELCOME TO YOUR KINTORE KONNECT

**Deadline for next issue:  
10th August 2025**

## Cover Photo

Cherry Blossom, Kintore

Courtesy of

Sarah Emery

We hope this lovely weather  
continues over the next  
few months

Thank you for your  
continued support.

The KDCC Team

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## KINTORE PLAYGROUP

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## CONTACT US ONLINE



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info@kintorecommunitycouncil.co.uk



www.kintore.org.uk



What we have been up to ....

Girlguiding Kintore attended Bennachie Parish Church at Kintore to celebrate our annual Thinking Day. This is a worldwide celebration which takes place on 22nd February and has been marked since 1926. After the service we sold some delicious home bakes in the church hall while serving teas and coffees. Thank you to our Guiding parents and Leaders who donated the bakes. We were also very appreciative of J.G.Ross, Inverurie for supplying our butteries for half the usual price so we managed to raise a whopping £300. This was given back to each of our units and the girls will benefit.



Mothers Day was marked in different ways by all the units. The Brownie Unit made these lovely cards and packages which were finished off with a handmade flower. Guides made some lovely cards with seed paper. Hopefully they have all been planted and will bloom in the summer.

1st Kintore Rangers made numerous cards for Thinking Day and swapped them with a unit in Hull. We often try to keep up with other units, not just in the UK but worldwide.



3rd Kintore Brownies managed to make some pancakes for Shrove Tuesday using a metal can and a tealight. It actually worked





The Rainbows and Brownie Units decorated Easter Bonnets so enjoyed cutting sticking and gluing for the evening.



All the unit Leaders live in the hope of good weather for the term leading towards summer and plan various challenges and badge work which will take them outside a lot.

We also have a few weekend camps and activity days planned too so watch this space in the next Kintore Konnect for our pictures and stories.

We are also very lucky this year to be one of the recipients of the Kintore Street Party Fundraiser on 30th August. If you thought last year was good, this year has even more entertainment and fun planned so we hope to see you there. Girlguiding will also be there with their refreshment and home bakes stand so please come and say hello. Have an amazing summer



Rangers enjoyed making some beeswax wraps, while their Leader Adele had great fun cleaning it off the cooker!





# KINTORE SCOUT GROUP - February 2025

It's been a busy few months for Kintore Scout Group, across all of our sections. The young people have been busy with many different activities, and the volunteers that make it happen have been working in the background to keep things moving! We've had Skyline sleepovers, more jumping than sleeping though, as well as preparing for camp, away camping and visits around the local area. Our Squirrels spent a great evening at Dossetts making burgers and did a brilliant job, they have plans in June to plant summer flowers in the Rotary Train Planter down at the station. Beavers have been busy too, with outdoor hikes and lots of crafts being done. Cubs have had skills nights, cooking and preparing food as well as wood chopping and safely using the tools in preparation for going on camps. The Scouts have also been busy with skills nights, preparing for upcoming camps and working through badges. There was a very well run and informative night at Jim Reid Vehicle Sales, Jim and his team pulled out all the stops to ensure the Scouts had a great experience once again. One of our leaders Sandy spent time going through bike maintenance, in preparation for a Scout bike ride in the near future, and we have been working on our core skills and developing the confidence of the young people. Camping is also all go this year, the Scouts went on Adventure Camp Scotland at Strathallan Castle, attended by 700 Scouts and 270 adult volunteers. It was a brilliant weekend, a lot of activities, the weather was brilliant, and our young people were responsible for their own camp set up, cooking and looking out for each other. It was a great experience, as can be seen by some of the photos. To top it off they had a visit from the Chief

Scout, Dwayne Fields, who spent a few hours at camp and give the Scouts some insightful words of wisdom while finding out what they do. Our very own Gordon Laing was part of the Scouts Scotland Pipe Band for the weekend, he enjoyed a few sessions at campfires and ceremonies, and did Kintore proud while doing it.

We have flag camp coming up soon, this is an opportunity for the patrols to show what they have learned as it's a competition camp, Kintore came 1st and 2nd last year, so hoping for a good result this year. The next big camp is Gordon Gathering in September at BA Stores, this is always a fun camp with over 1000 people in attendance. It takes a lot of work to keep everything going in Kintore Scout Group, we are always happy to get help from parents. One of our focus areas this year is on fundraising, some of our tents are starting to show signs of use and need replacing. If you can help out with donations please get in touch, via our Facebook page, it's very much appreciated.



Many thanks to all the volunteer leaders, parents and helpers who make it possible, we look forward to seeing everyone over the coming months!  
Kintore Scout Group





# KINTORE

## STREET PARTY COMMUNITY FUN DAY

### SATURDAY 31ST AUGUST

A CHARITY EVENT PROVIDING SUPPORT TO  
HALFPENNY FARM ANIMAL SANCTUARY  
& KINTORE UNITED F.C.

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KINTORE  
0-3 group  
JCO 34473



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MONDAY - BABIES & TODDLERS  
09:30 - 11:15

GROUP



FRIDAY - TODDLERS  
09:30 - 11:15



WEDNESDAY - BUMP & BABIES  
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# 'Fit Like'- Kintore? – The CLAN Book Bench Trail

Towards the end of June Kintore will welcome it's first ever Wild in Art Sculpture and become part of the famous CLAN Book Bench Trail. This fantastic initiative raises funds for the CLAN Cancer Support charity in Aberdeen and as the Hare Hop Trail before it has become a brilliant way of getting people out and about and visiting sites and towns they wouldn't normally see so they can 'tick' another one of the 41 full size Book Benches off the Trail.

The Book Bench Kintore will be at home on site for a period of 8 weeks between the 30th of June and 30th of August. It is titled 'FIT LIKE' and has been beautifully painted by local Torphins based artist Michelle Mann. The theme is agriculture and because the big reveal isn't until the end of June, we are unable to show you picture of the finished artwork instead Michelle has shared a few 'teaser' pics for us.

Make sure you get yourself along and take a selfie or a group photo sat on the Book Bench with our iconic Town House in the background. Michelle recently visited Kintore Square to find out exactly where the Book Bench will be homed and when she was here, we managed to do a quick interview with her.

## **Can you give a brief back story about you please?**

I was born and brought up in Aberdeen and always loved the outdoors and being creative. After struggling to decide what I wanted to do when I left school I started with a construction company as a trainee design technician and had a great 8 years in the industry working my way up to a project and estimating manager role. However, my passion always lay in something more creative, and less desk based so when I met my partner and we started a family I finally gave my artwork more time, this also allowed me to provide more support on the farm my partner manages. I am always busy and rarely sit still for long, but I love being able to be around for my 2 sons as well as juggling farm artwork and the farm.

## **Can you tell me a bit about your journey as an artist?**

I always loved being creative, photography, drawing, painting and making (sometimes just a mess but that's all part of the process!) and it was a big part of me throughout childhood and school years, but when I came to leave school that's where I got a bit stuck, and so my art just became a hobby and helped me unwind outside of work. When I met my partner and became involved in agriculture my passion for art really grew and my desire to be creative started to become really important to me. I set up my small business over 10 years ago as a photographer and artist and I've never looked back! I am self taught and very much inspired by agriculture, rural life and wildlife, with my favourite mediums being pastel and watercolour but I will give most things a go including designing a mosaic and painting sculptures! I have been lucky to work on some great commissions, met lots of amazing people and animals and occasionally see my work in some amazing places.

## **Can you let us know what your motivation was to get involved with the Book Bench and a story behind the design and the use of Doric?**

I have always loved the Clan Art trails, they support such an amazing cause as well as creating joy and being accessible to all. I plucked up the courage to submit a design after a previous success with an agricultural art trail with another organisation a few years ago. The Book Bench design really appealed to me and the story of agriculture seemed fitting, both to my work style and life but also to Aberdeenshire where we have a very rich farming history. I wanted to show the farming calendar and history as well as highlighting the things that never change, the need to sit down, take stock and have a chat. Farming is a busy, demanding industry that is very much a way of life and not just a job, and the importance of mental, as well as physical health, has become more recognised and acknowledged in recent years which would of course become even more crucial if a cancer diagnosis was present. Doric felt the most appropriate language for me given my Aberdeen upbringing and now life with a Doric speaking Aberdeenshire farmer.





Farming is a busy, demanding industry that is very much a way of life and not just a job, and the importance of mental, as well as physical health, has become more recognised and acknowledged in recent years which would of course become even more crucial if a cancer diagnosis was present. Doric felt the most appropriate language for me given my Aberdeen upbringing and now life with a Doric speaking Aberdeenshire farmer.

**Can you give me a wee quote of why you are happy that your design will be on display in Kintore please?**

Kintore feels like the perfect place for my design, a thriving Aberdeenshire community, surrounded by agriculture and a great spot for visitors to see the Book Bench!



**A massive thank you to BenchMark Kintore which is the official name given to 12 Kintore based business sponsors, who have helped come up with the £6000 that was required to have the Clan Book Bench on display**

**Our thanks go to:- OEG Kintore, Genny Hire, Jim Reid Vehicle Sales & Service, eGroup Kintore, First Photographics, Dossett Butcher, NOV, A&L Stronach, CRC Evans, The Square Kintore, Brimmond Group and STATS Group.**

**All have made equal donations to bring a very unique Book Bench to the Kintore Square this summer. At the end of the Book Bench Trail all 41 Book Benches are auctioned off to the highest bidder, so you never know we may even get it back in Kintore permanently. Well done BenchMark Kintore and Kintore and District Community Council for making this happen.**

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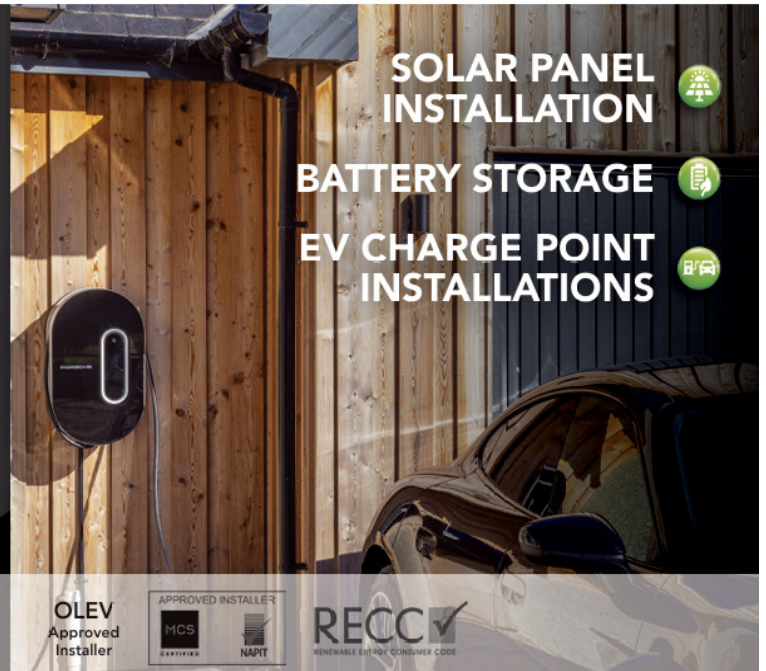


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# KINTORE AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Funding

KDCC applied to the SSEN Community Benefits fund for a grant on behalf of the local First Responders and we are very grateful to have received £4703.02; this award will benefit the wider community.

The grant will be used to

- To purchase essential PPE for the Inverurie First Responders,
- and a manikin for CPR and first aid training to various groups across the area and for providing demonstrations of CPR and defibrillator training at events across the area.

FULL details and the benefits are contained in the First Responders article on Page 23.

On the topic of life saving equipment, we were also grateful to receive a new Defibrillator from Scotia Homes to replace the old one at First Photographics . We are waiting on the connection of a new Defibrillator at Midmill School, the funds for this have come from the money donated to KDCC by the Kids Club and contributions from Kintore United FC, Midmill School, Kintore Fundraising Team, Kintore Summer Festival and The Rotary Club of Kintore, Blackburn & Kemnay.



## Floral Display Team

As usual Sue Parrott and her willing band of volunteers have been busy sourcing and planning the lovely floral displays around the town. For many years Aberdeenshire Council have supplied most of the plants for the displays but sadly due to monetary constraints we will get no plants this year. However, we have been very fortunate and are extremely grateful for a donation of £1000 from Meg McKay on behalf the Seniors Club. We have also received a donation of £500 from a local person which is much appreciated and together these will go a long way to keep our town looking lovely during the summer months.

## It's Your Neighbourhood

Our It's Your Neighbourhood project has significant plans to improve the look of Kintore over the coming months, see Page 21 for full details.

## Best Garden Competition 2025

Kintore's Best Kept Garden Competition 2024 was won by the lovely Lina Moles whose garden just pipped the other 22 entries competitors to top spot. However, it's 2025 and it even feels like summer so there is no better time to remind you that as part of our It's Your Neighbourhood Project 2025 we are again running the 'Kintore's Best Kept Garden Competition'

We plan to have Winners and Runners up for the following categories:-



Best Small Garden

Best Large Garden

Best Low Maintenance Garden

Best Hanging Basket/ Planter

Best Container

More details will follow soon about how you can enter your own garden or nominate someone else's garden, you don't have to have big garden to have a chance of winning.

All category winners and runners up will be presented with a framed Certificate. However, like any competition there will be only one overall winner who will get their name engraved on the lovely silver cup and in the history books forever more, just like Lina did last year.



## Dinnie Place - Overgrown Vegetation Removal

After receiving complaints about access issues at Dinnie Place, due to overgrown vegetation with sharp thorns, I raised the matter as it was an access issue/hazard for pedestrians.

Although this matter is the responsibility of homeowners, I asked officers to intervene as it was preventing pedestrians from safely accessing the lane and play park.

I had to chase the matter a few times, but I'm glad to report that the works have now been completed.

## Power Cuts/Planned Outages by SSEN at Midmill, Kintore

I have been contacted by constituents and businesses in and around the area of Midmill, Kintore about interruptions to their power supply. Concerns have been raised as to why they have been so frequent lately and what can be done to eliminate/reduce them as the effects of these interruptions can range from an annoying nuisance to a costly experience with equipment being damaged and business service being disrupted.

Although it is a matter outwith the remit of the council, I raised it directly with SSEN and in my discussions with them they firstly wanted to offer their apologies for this recent level of service. They went on to explain that the power interruptions were due to quite a few factors such as; faults on the feeder, cables breaking, box faults and even power poles being knocked over on farms.

Currently, if a fault occurs outwith Kintore, perhaps at Leylodge or Dunecht, the supply at Midmill is interrupted as the fault trips the substation at Torryburn. SSEN are addressing this by upgrading their Pole Mounted Circuit Breaker (PMCB) at Lyne of Skene from class 2 to class 1 and installing a new class 1 PMCB at Womblehill Farm just outside Kintore.

This will protect the power supply in Kintore from faults occurring outwith the town. The plan is to have both class 1 PMCBs installed and operating by the end of June. I hope that this will give some clarity and peace of mind to residents and businesses in and around Midmill.

## Speed Limit Orders For Implementing The National 20mph

At a recent Garioch Area Committee officers brought forward their plans for the long awaited implementation of the Scottish Government's National 20mph strategy.

It is my firm belief that this roll out will lead to safer communities and, although I think some additional roads should have been included, I agreed with other councillors that these plans should move forward asap to the commencement of the four week statutory consultation with interested parties. This will then be followed by a 21 day public consultation, giving anyone who wishes to object to the making of the orders the opportunity to do so. Any valid objections received and not withdrawn or resolved will be reported back to the Area Committee.

I have written to Roads officers separately with the list of roads that I feel should also have been included to ensure that our communities are as safe as possible from speeding. If everything goes according to the officers plans, they should be rolled out this summer.



## Surgeries

The next of my regular constituent surgeries will take place at; Kinellar School, 6.30-7.00pm on the 3rd of June 2025

There is no need to book so please come along if you feel that I can assist you in anyway.

Cllr. Glen Reid  
Community Champion - LGiU Scottish Councillor Awards  
East Garioch (Ward 12)

## COULD YOU CHANGE A CHILDS LIFE?



**WHAT ABOUT FOSTERING?**

**COULD YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?**

**23.06.25 19:00 FOR 19:30**

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COMMUNITY CHURCH

On Monday 23rd June at 19:00 for 19:30, Kintore Community Church will host an inspiring and informative evening all about fostering. The event, titled "What About Fostering?", is open to anyone curious about what fostering involves, why it's so important, and how they might be able to help.

With a growing need for foster carers across the region, the evening aims to raise awareness and offer honest insights into fostering. There will be guest speakers sharing their personal experiences, information from Aberdeenshire Council and Home for good; a charity that promotes fostering as well as a Q&A session where attendees can ask questions in a relaxed and welcoming setting.

Whether you've considered fostering before or are hearing about it for the first time, this is a chance to learn more, hear real stories, and find out what support is available for those thinking of opening their homes—and hearts—to a child in need.

Entry is free, but spaces are limited.

For more information and to reserve your place, visit:  
[www.kintore.cc/fostering](http://www.kintore.cc/fostering)



# HARRIET CROSS MP

I'm delighted to make my first contribution to Kintore Konnect since being elected as your Member of Parliament for Gordon & Buchan in last year's General Election. It has been a tremendous honour to represent you in Westminster this past year, where I've been working hard to champion local priorities, scrutinise the Labour Government, and speak up for our communities.

Since being elected, I've made over 217 written and spoken contributions in Parliament and assisted with over 2800 pieces of casework from constituents on a variety of issues from difficulty in accessing healthcare, to the Winter Fuel Payment and council issues. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you would like assistance with an issue, big or small. Two of the most important employment sectors in our constituency are energy – in particular our existing oil and gas industry, and agriculture. These industries are not just major employers and economic

drivers for our region — they are vital of significant national interest. That's why I've focused much of my parliamentary work on defending them and putting forward positive, practical solutions to the difficulties both sectors are facing.



In an around Kintore, I know there is considerable concern about the various energy infrastructure plans especially the recently approved developments at Leylodge. I have raised concerns about the over-industrialisation of rural areas across Scotland and the very real impact this has on our rural communities, landscapes, tourism and agriculture. There is a severe need for a national energy infrastructure strategy with detailed planning on where infrastructure should be placed, rather than the current 'wild west' approach. Local communities like Kintore and Leylodge must be heard and understood to ensure these occurrences of over industrialised energy infrastructure sites are addressed.

On farming, I've strongly opposed Labour's Autumn Budget decision to cut Agricultural Property Relief and Business Property Relief. These changes are especially damaging to our many family farmers in Gordon and Buchan, threatening the future of farms and, by extension, our food and national security. I've taken action by writing to the Chancellor, raising the issue twice at Prime Minister's Questions, speaking in numerous debates, and attending rallies both locally and in London. I continue fighting against this "Family Farm Tax" and the devastating impact it will have on farmers (and the future of farming) up and down the country. Also in the Budget, the Labour Government significantly raised Employer's National Insurance Contributions for most employees — essentially a new tax on jobs. Since coming into effect in April, this tax hike has hit local businesses hard, with some employers already warning of potential job losses. One major employer in the constituency told me they may be forced to cut up to 25 jobs. I've raised this in Parliament on numerous occasions and many local businesses have completed my survey of local businesses to gather views and further details about the impact of these changes. I'll continue opposing this harmful policy and pressing the Government to support our businesses.

From conversations I have had with residents, in addition to correspondences I have received, I am aware of concerns about the provision of healthcare locally. I've created a survey to further understand the issues that are being faced, in particular relating to GP practices, and have been working with stakeholders to understand how services can be improved. Access to quality healthcare remains a priority for me, and I'll continue to work with local groups and my colleagues in Holyrood to see better outcomes for residents and local providers who have been struggling with ever-tighter from the Scottish Government.



I am closely and actively monitoring the situation with sheltered housing in Aberdeenshire, following recent announcements that the Council are reviewing the future of 17 complexes. At the end of April, I wrote to Aberdeenshire Council requesting clarity on the future of these facilities and raising concerns about how any changes might impact residents and seeking assurances that no resident will be left without appropriate accommodation. It's crucial that the needs of elderly and vulnerable individuals are considered at the heart of any decision-making and I encourage anyone impacted by this to contact me so I can raise these concerns with the Council.

Many of you may have seen recent news articles relating to the growing backlog of driving tests in Aberdeenshire. Some learner drivers are facing waits of up to six months to book a test. In rural communities like ours, where public transport options are limited, this is unacceptable. I have been working to help resolve this and I am happy to confirm that, after writing to the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency, two additional driving examiners have been secured for our region which will start to relieve some of the backlog.

As always, I'm here to support you. Whether you have concerns about local matters or national policy, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Harriet

Harriet Cross MP

Email: [harriet.cross.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:harriet.cross.mp@parliament.uk)

Tel: 01467538601

Website: [www.harrietcross.uk](http://www.harrietcross.uk)



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**Action Kintore**  
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Junior Group  
Monday 3.30pm-5pm  
P5 P6 and P7

Mind Yer Heid Youth group  
Tuesdays 5pm-6.45pm

Age 15+

YAFTS Youth Group  
Young and Free To Speak  
Tuesdays 7pm-9pm  
Age 12+



All groups are free and delivered by youth workers and volunteers to create a safe, fun space for young people to have a voice, make positive changes in their community, participate in educational workshops, and to have fun!

Get in touch with Rachel Lewis, our youth development worker for more info about our groups, or if you have some time to volunteer!

[Thebothiekintore@gmail.com](mailto:Thebothiekintore@gmail.com)

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# ABERDEENSHIRE LIEUTENANCY

## THE LORD LIEUTENANT'S UPDATE

### VE Day 80 Commemorations

I had the honour of laying a wreath at the war memorial in Huntly to commemorate VE80 in the presence of veterans of The Gordon Highlanders. The ceremony remembered those who served, sacrificed and secured peace. In Rhynie, Mrs Dilys Jordan, a member of Churchill's secretarial staff and Rhynie's oldest resident, laid a wreath at Rhynie War Memorial on her 98th birthday and on the 80th anniversary of VE Day in memory of The Gordon Highlanders and the 51st (Highland) Division, with which her father served. Also pictured are Gordon Highlander veterans with Aberdeen.Gordon Highlanders Association Chairman Major Grenville Irvine-Fortescue MBE DL in front of the Gordon Highlander Memorial at the Castlegate, Aberdeen.



### Cadet Force Beating Retreat at Edinburgh Castle

I recently had the great pleasure of attending the Cadet Force Beating Retreat at Edinburgh Castle. The wonderful performance involved Cadet pipers, drummers and musicians from all parts of the country. Also enjoying the evening were Judy Whyte, Provost of Aberdeenshire and Ron McKail, Deputy Provost of Aberdeenshire.



### SSAFA Big Brew

I had the pleasure of attending the SSAFA Big Brew at Bridge of Don Barracks, Aberdeen where I heard first hand more about the remarkable work the charity is doing in Grampian to support armed forces veterans.





## Act of Remembrance

Fiona Kennedy OBE DL represented the Aberdeenshire Lieutenancy at a very poignant service in Johnston Gardens, commemorating the men who lost their lives in the North sea on the 1st April 2009 in a helicopter crash. They had been returning from BP's Miller oil platform when their helicopter crashed about 11 miles Northeast of Peterhead. Eight of the victims came from the Northeast of Scotland, seven from Liverpool, Norfolk and Worcestershire and one from Latvia. All 14 passengers and two crew lost their lives in when the Bond Super Puma came down off Peterhead.



## Anniversaries, Birthdays and Honours

The Aberdeenshire Lieutenancy would like to know of any individual or voluntary organisation who has made an exceptional contribution for the wider benefit of others in their community. The Lieutenancy will assist in giving full consideration for appropriate recognition. Myself, or one of my Deputies are always delighted to visit on the day of special milestones, 60th, 70th or 75th wedding anniversaries and 100th and 105th birthdays and present a card and personal congratulations.

Please do look at our web site for further information:

[www.lord-lieutenant-aberdeenshire.co.uk](http://www.lord-lieutenant-aberdeenshire.co.uk)

or contact us on

[info@lordlieutenant-aberdeenshire.co.uk](mailto:info@lordlieutenant-aberdeenshire.co.uk)

You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram – 'Lord-Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire'



Very best wishes to you all

Sandy Manson, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire.





# Kintore Additional Needs Support Group

1st Wednesday of every month (termtime)

Ask for location (10am-12pm)

The Kintore Additional Needs Support Group is run by a parent of children with additional needs for parents / carers of children with additional needs. The group welcomes members regardless of the current diagnosis status. We have been running in Kintore for over 10 years and collectively we have lots of experience to share.

Please contact Janine Cracknell on 07584672271  
janinecracknell@outlook.com for further information.



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## BLACKIE BANTER

Online Community Magazine

Our Neighbours Blackburn have their Online Community Magazine where you can keep up with the latest Updates from them.

Their Website: [www.kinellarcommunity.com](http://www.kinellarcommunity.com)

### Health Walks

Meet at 10am in the Square Kintore

*Every Wednesday*

Wednesday 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th JUNE

Wednesday 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th JULY

Wednesday 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th AUGUST

Wednesday 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th SEPTEMBER

**OPEN TO ALL**



## Of Kintore, Blackburn and Kemnay

Our Club members have been very busy recently, with various projects.

These include our Funds 4 U project, where we invite applications from local groups for funding towards specific projects. This year we received 11 applications, and we were able to assist with almost all of them. The applications are considered on their individual merits, and they have to meet certain criteria.

We are also due to celebrate the achievements of local youngsters that took part in various competitions, where they compete in set age groups and the competitions include Young Artist, Young Photographer, Young Writer, Young Chef, and Young Musician. The entrants compete at Club level, then District (our District being the whole of the North of Scotland), then to the National (GB) Finals.

In addition, we hold the Primary Schools Quiz, which involves teams of four P7 pupils quizzing against each other, initially locally, then on to our Area Final, then the District Final to be held in June at Aberdeen Beach Ballroom. This year, Kintore Primary School won the Club Round, then qualified in second place at the Area Final in Westhill, and are preparing to compete at the District Final. We wish them the best of luck.

Also in June we will be holding our Golf Tournament. This will take place on June 20th and teams are invited to apply now.

For more information on any of the above, please email us at [kbk.rotary@gmail.com](mailto:kbk.rotary@gmail.com)

Steve Wright - President

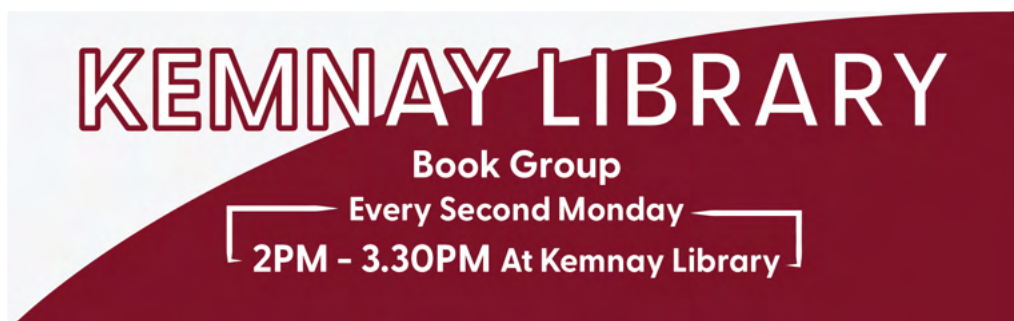
## KINTORE LIBRARY

Kintore Library is currently open 15 hours a week, on a Tuesday morning 9 – 13.30, Wednesday afternoon 14.00 – 18.00, Thursday afternoon 13.00 – 17.00 and Saturday morning 9 – 11.30. These hours are correct until 30th June 2025. After this the hourly pattern may, or may not, change.

- Bookbug sessions are currently suspended until permanent staff are recruited. But parents and carers may attend any bookbug session in city and shire or online. Book at [livelifeaberdeenshire.org.uk/libraries](http://livelifeaberdeenshire.org.uk/libraries).
- Knit and Stitch is currently on a Tuesday 10.00 – 12.00, no booking is required but spaces are limited. For details 01467 532605 or email [kintore.library@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:kintore.library@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)
- Jigsaws there is a wide selection of adult's jigsaws available for borrowing.
- Toys whilst these need to remain in the library there are a selection of toys and games to be played with including lego and duplo.
- Bra Bank bring in your new and gently worn bras and we will arrange for them to go to Africa, via a charity partner.
- Ink Bank bring in your empty ink cartridges, proceeds go to Girl Guiding
- NHS hearing aid batteries, food caddy and battery bags are available on request.

For information on how to access free ebooks, talking books, magazines and newspapers on your device, or to request your next good read, please see [livelifeaberdeenshire.org.uk](http://livelifeaberdeenshire.org.uk) or call into the library – you will need your borrower number and PIN.

It is intended that in addition to public open time library staff once recruited will undertake outreach activities, for instance Bookbug sessions, visits to clubs and groups and so forth. If you would be interested in this, or have suggestions to make please get in touch at [kintore.library@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:kintore.library@aberdeenshire.gov.uk).





# KINTORE - It's Your Neighbourhood Project 2025

## Overview

Following a very successful project delivery last year the Kintore & District Community Council have decided to enter Beautiful Scotland's – It's Your Neighbourhood Initiative again this year. This initiative is designed to help bring local residents, groups and clubs to work together on specific local projects. These projects are designed to have a positive impact and improve the look and feel of the local community at the same time as being inclusive and help residents locally who may well not be in a position to help themselves. The projects chosen this year are varied and once delivered will benefit all ages within the community. Despite being a non-competitive initiative, we will be judged by a representative from Beautiful Scotland in the summer and our goal is again to receive a certificate of recognition like we did last year.



The It's Your Neighbourhood team is made up of a group of volunteers within the community and led by Jim Reid, Treasurer of the KDCC.

## Project Areas

The Kintore It's Your Neighbourhood Project 2025 will have 6 Main Project Areas to support: -

- Provost Lawrence Court
- Kintore Park Pavilion
- Northern Road (Part of Ex Public Toilets site)
- Kintore Square & Surrounding Area
- Kintore Kirk
- Explore Kintore Interactive History Tour

We are well underway with the Provost Lawrence Court sheltered housing project, with work already carried out by volunteer teams from Kintore Community, Jim Reid Vehicle Sales and from SSEN all doing their bit to help.



We have already managed to carry out weeding, weed killing, moving of flower beds, the construction of 3 large raised planters to allow vegetables to be grown by residents with easy access for wheelchair users, and new areas for a couple of fruit trees to be planted. There has also been refurbishment of benches and painting of wooden planters, even a new decorative slabbed feature in the centre of the grass. Of course, the job never ends with loads of maintenance, power washing, grass cutting and weeding to do but between the residents and the IYN team we have a plan.

We are always looking for more volunteers to help in specific areas, so if you feel you can assist in any way as an individual or a group feel free to reach out to Jim Reid on 07787587422.





# BENNACHIE PARISH CHURCH

80 Years- we shall remember them

80 year ago in May there were two enormous events which happened, one obviously was the ending of war in Europe celebrated with VE Day celebrations all over the country. Another reason for celebrating also happened 80 years ago with the foundation of Christian Aid. In our parish church of Bennachie at a service in Echt Church and also in a special service in Inverurie St Andrews church we gave thanks for the inspiration of a Church of Scotland Minister and former minister of Inverurie St Andrews Rev Douglas Lister who was a driving force in the formation of aid to those less well off in the name of Christian service and care offering hope and love to our neighbours. The story of the formation of the organisation is not one that I want to explore with you but what I do want to think about is that that Chaplain in the Army Rev Douglas Lister

stationed in Germany as the war ended and how he reacted when he saw the terrible conditions that existed for the local people and had compassion on them and wanted to make a difference. Though commanded by his superiors not to help he was ruled by a greater commandment to love your neighbour and so set about with others to contact all the congregations in Scotland seeking help for German civilians and help came in huge amounts from the church communities and a new charity would grow which is still offering help to those in need today.

Sometimes it is very easy to look around the world or nearer to home and think what difference can I make? I know I have felt that way. The story of Rev Douglas Lister is that he did not give up and neither should we. We may not change the world but sometimes through care and love for our neighbour we can change a person's life. And if we can help one person then it is worth it.



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### Community Update

We're thrilled to share some exciting news with you as we continue to grow and support our local community.

Thanks to the incredible support of Kintore and District Community Council, we have been awarded a generous grant of £4,703.02 from the SSEN Community Benefit Fund. We are immensely grateful to SSEN's Community Benefits team and Kintore Community Council for making this possible. This funding will go a long way in helping us deliver life-saving support and essential training throughout the area.

The grant will be used to:

- Purchase vital PPE for our team of volunteers.
- Invest in a Resusci Anne QCPR Airway Head Torso – an advanced manikin that allows us to deliver realistic, high-quality CPR and defibrillator training, both for our team and for members of the public.

As Alan Milne, our Group Coordinator, explains:

"It has already been an incredibly busy year for our team, with our responders attending a growing number of emergencies across the community. This year alone, we have responded to 13 cardiac arrests within our area of remit, highlighting just how vital our role is in providing early intervention and life-saving care. One of the most significant additions made possible by this grant is the Resusci Anne QCPR Airway Head Torso, which is an advanced training dummy that's a game-changer for our team. Unlike standard manikins, it allows for advanced airway management and AED training, capabilities that are not usually possible with conventional CPR training equipment.

To put it into perspective, this is the difference between a basic budget car and a Rolls-Royce—a leap in quality that will make a lasting impact on the skills and confidence of our responders. Beyond benefiting our team, we envision using this training manikin to provide realistic training sessions for members of the public, helping to remove the fear of using an AED. By giving people hands-on experience in a controlled environment, we can build confidence and empower more individuals to step in and act during a cardiac emergency—potentially saving lives."

This grant marks another important milestone in our mission to make Inverurie and the surrounding areas safer and more resilient. We're proud of the work our volunteer responders do and grateful for the continued support from the community. Thank you for standing with us. Together, we can save lives.

We're also very grateful to Delm8, who continue to support us in getting to the correct address quickly and efficiently. In emergency response, every second counts, and having accurate location tools like Delm8 is a real asset to our work.

### Looking Ahead – Can Your Community Council Help?

To take our training capabilities to the next level, we're now looking to raise funds for a ShockLink system—a fantastic tool that allows live defibrillators to be safely connected to training manikins, making BLS and defibrillation training even more realistic.





Using ShockLink, we can connect standard defibrillators to training pads and simulate a real-life shock safely. The shock energy is harmlessly absorbed in the ShockLink cable, eliminating the need for expensive specialist manikins with chest studs or load boxes. This means:

- More versatile training options
- Increased realism
- Reduced equipment costs

We would love to work with other community councils in the area who might be willing to support the purchase of this vital training tool. Your contribution could help us bring the best possible lifesaving education to even more local groups, schools, and community events. If your council or organisation would be interested in supporting us, please don't hesitate to get in touch. [coordinator.cfrinverurie@outlook.com](mailto:coordinator.cfrinverurie@outlook.com).

## Visit to the Scottish Ambulance Service SORT Base

A huge thank you to Liam and Holly from the Scottish Ambulance Service Special Operations Response Team (SORT) for showing us around the SORT base this evening. Our team had a fantastic visit and came away with a much better understanding of the role, capabilities, and specialist equipment used by SORT paramedics.

We frequently work alongside SORT paramedics during immediate life-threatening emergencies, so having this insight into their operations was incredibly valuable. It's clear how vital their role is, and we now feel even better informed and prepared as a team.

We're very fortunate to have this dedicated resource based here in Aberdeen, and we're grateful for the opportunity to strengthen the links between our teams.

Thank you once again, Liam and Holly, for your time, your hospitality—and your dedication to saving lives.



# SEASONAL ITCH - A Vets Guide to Allergies in Pets

By Charlie, Vet at Donview Vets

As we head into spring and summer, here at Donview Vets we start seeing a familiar pattern—an uptick in visits from itchy, uncomfortable pets. While parasites like fleas are always a consideration, one of the most common culprits we see this time of year is seasonal allergies. Yes, pets can suffer from allergies too—and they often experience them quite differently from humans. Where we might get hay fever, with sneezing, watery eyes, and congestion, our pets usually show their discomfort through their skin.

## What Causes Allergies in Pets?

Seasonal allergies in pets are often caused by environmental allergens like pollen, mould spores, grass, and even house dust mites. Dogs are particularly prone, but we also see allergic reactions in cats—albeit slightly less commonly. These allergens trigger an immune response, causing inflammation and discomfort, especially in the skin, ears, and paws. Because pets are constantly in contact with the ground, allergens can easily collect on their fur and paws, leading to irritation.

## Key Signs to Look Out For:

If your pet is struggling with allergies, you might notice:

- Frequent scratching or chewing, particularly at their paws, belly, or base of the tail
- Red, inflamed, or scabby skin
- Hair loss or thinning coat in affected areas
- Recurrent ear infections or head shaking
- Licking at their legs or feet until they're raw or stained
- Restlessness or trouble settling due to discomfort

These symptoms can come and go or persist throughout the allergy season, often worsening year after year if left untreated.

## Why Prompt Treatment Matters

Aside from the obvious discomfort, untreated skin allergies can lead to more serious issues. We regularly see secondary infections—both bacterial and fungal—that develop when the skin's natural barrier is damaged. These infections can be painful, smelly, and frustrating to clear up. That's why we always recommend early intervention. The sooner we identify and manage the cause of the itching, the better the outcome for your pet (and the less stressful it is for you, too). Modern Treatments Are Changing the Game Historically, managing allergies in pets could be a bit hit-or-miss. While many owners reach for antihistamines in the hope of relieving their pet's itch, the reality is that most pets don't respond as reliably to antihistamines as people do. The good news is that veterinary medicine has come a long way. At Donview, we now have access to a range of modern treatments specifically designed to target itch and inflammation in pets. These include daily tablets that work quickly and safely, as well as long-acting injections that provide relief for several weeks at a time. These newer therapies have been life-changing for many of our patients, helping them stay comfortable all season long with minimal fuss. In some cases, we might also recommend a food trial or allergy testing to get to the root of the problem, particularly if symptoms persist beyond the usual allergy seasons.

## What You Can Do at Home

While medication often forms the foundation of treatment, there are also practical steps you can take at home to help your pet:

- Wipe paws and belly with a damp cloth after walks to remove allergens
- Vacuum and wash bedding frequently to reduce indoor allergen exposure
- Use gentle, hypoallergenic shampoos to soothe itchy skin and wash away allergens
- Keep a diary of flare-ups to help track patterns and triggers



If you think your pet might be suffering from allergies—or if they're scratching more than usual—it's always worth getting them checked. At Donview Vets, we're here to guide you through the options, offer tailored treatments, and help your pet enjoy the warmer months without all the itch.

## New Scottish Rules for Funeral Sector

From 1 March 2025, the funeral sector in Scotland became fully regulated requiring anyone trading as a funeral director to meet minimum standards of professional training, funeral facilities, and quality of care. Ian Thomson of Inverurie's Eric Massie Funeral Directors explains what this means to local families.

### Minimum standards

Funeral directors must abide by minimum standards of care both in terms of facilities and the service being offered. The first steps of gathering information about the person who's died, obtaining appropriate permissions to move them, and transparency about where they will be cared for, have now been clearly set out in the Code. Care is extended to the bereaved family responsible for arranging the funeral too. The Code provides guidance on service standards backed by mandatory record keeping, so options offered and decisions made, can be effectively managed and evidenced.

### Records and Transparency

Acknowledging each funeral is different, there are minimum standards set for staff knowledge to ensure families are supported by experienced funeral teams. Emphasis on recording decisions made, and being transparent about costs, is a key theme of the Code. Estimates for all funeral elements, including updates to these throughout the process, are now a requirement. Every bereaved family deserves to know that they can implicitly trust the funeral director they instruct to care for them and their loved one. These standards begin from the first moment of need to the funeral itself. The Code also sets out a summary of expectations including the storage, record keeping and handling of ashes.

### Complaints

Further reassurance for families who need to raise complaints is achieved through the proposed complaints policy recommendations, offering a pathway to effective and swift resolution. Our Promise to Families in 2025 Eric Massie, and parent company William Purves, works hard to ensure the highest standard of care is consistently delivered to each and every family we serve. We have training pathways for our staff to ensure they continue to grow and develop their personal and professional skills. A programme of investment ensures our facilities are inspection-ready and we're always open to welcoming visitors to see around branches. The launch of our client portals allows families to track their choices and manage costs in real time. Our values of compassion, dedication, integrity and respect underpin our brand and this is our promise to families we continue to help beyond March. We're delighted to support efforts being made by legislators to ensure this can be a truth for every family, no matter who they choose to help them when they need it the most.

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Note, Whilst regulation is legally enforceable only in Scotland, we anticipate similar improvements to the law in England to ensure a consistent standard of protection for families throughout the UK (at the time of writing, there is no fixed plan for this).



## Presents... Upcoming events!



Our 2025 season continues on **Sunday 29 June** when **Ryan Corbett** brings us classical music old and new arranged for accordion. Ryan will be joined by **Neil Birse, piano, and Matthew Kilner, saxophone**, who return to Haddo's programme after their super concert at the Cowdray Hall last year.

On **Sunday 24 August**, Hollywood glam and glitz come to Haddo! **Nova Quartet** and friends from **Orchestra Nova** entertain with an evening of iconic movie music including everybody's favourite singalong, The Sound of Music!



**Enjoy informal music** in the Courtyard at Haddo on the **first Sunday of every month** from now to 5 October, from pipes and fiddles, to guitar, singers and a flute choir. Presented in partnership with the National Trust for Scotland

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# KINTORE'S UNSUNG HERO - Rachel Lewis

## Do you live in Kintore?

Yes, I have lived in Kintore for 7 years and before that in Kemnay. I grew up in a small village called Rosehearty near Fraserburgh. I went to Rosehearty Primary School and then Fraserburgh Academy. When I left the Academy, I didn't know what I wanted to do. I went to college for about a year and studied Photography. I then went back to college as the youth workers had found a course that was around working with communities. I did NC and HNC for two years.

## How did you get to where you are today job wise?

When I moved to Kemnay, I got my first job with the council for 2 ½ hours doing Youth Work in Kemnay Youth Club. I then saw the opportunity with Action Kintore and applied and started in December 2013 to start up The Bothie. 12 years later I am still there, local businesses were very supportive, and the young people created the colour schemes and the layout. I have worked with the Council for 12 years in Community Learning and Development and two years ago I joined the tackling Poverty and Inequalities team, as a Youth Engagement Worker. I have done two big events in Inverurie "Over to Youth" which supports young people to come together to raise awareness of youth issues in their area and any possible solutions. The event was well attended by local councillors, to get them to listen to young people and what they needed. The work I do with the Poverty and Inequalities groups gives young people a platform to make positive changes to themselves and their community. I see myself as a conduit between young people and adults. I now have two paid staff at The Bothie who first attended the groups as 12- and 13-year-olds, they help with the Tuesday group. Another new staff member who now helps with the Junior group also first came when she was just 10 years old.



## Can you explain to our readers which Voluntary Groups you are involved in today and what motivates you to do these as a Volunteer?

My day job and my voluntary work are very intertwined. I get paid for some of the hours that I work at The Bothie but there are other hours that I work in The Bothie that are voluntary. This involves taking groups on trips including residential trips. I volunteer at events in Kintore like the street party and other community events. I also volunteer for Grampian Deaf Children's Society, as my mother is deaf. I am part of the deaf society and am working to get youth groups started within the society. I am a trustee and a co-founder of Scotland Na Kenya – Pamoja for Children (Scotland with Kenya – together with Children) I've been out there 6 times. The first few times, working with schools and taking boxes and suitcases of supplies like pencils, stationery and games across. We fundraise here at home and spend it locally in Kenya, so it benefits the local community by spending money to help their economy. Items we cannot buy there like play bubbles we take with us, and much fun is had with them. The last few times we have been working on community projects, for example a travelling librarian who travels around the area, reading, singing and playing games with children. We work with rescue centres who feed over 100 children and young people who live on the streets and are addicted to substances such as glue.

Youth work in Scotland is completely different to youth work in Kenya, but I thoroughly enjoy it. All funds that we raise are for the charity, we fund our travel and accommodation ourselves.

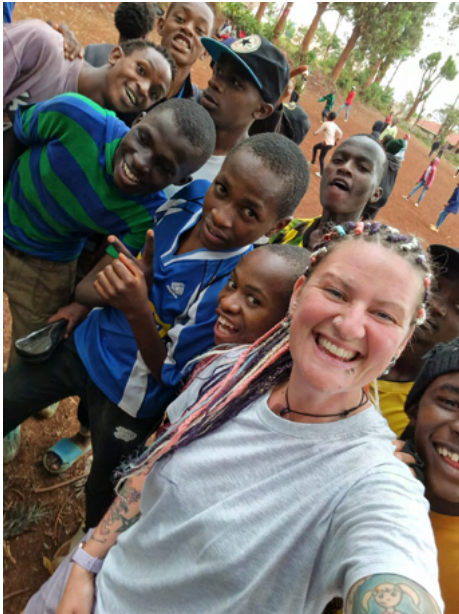
## What has been your highlight this year?

I am fortunate with my job that I got to share my experience this year by speaking at conferences in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Dundee. In April I was invited to Birmingham to be part of the UK Youth Residential meeting for 3 days. I was asked to speak there as they'd given The Bothie a 3-year funding grant, so it was good to feedback everything we'd been doing with the money. It's paid for 3



part-time youth workers who also contribute to running the groups. I was recognised this year in a Case Study by the Improvement Service, which is the organisation for Local Government Improvement in Scotland for the work I have been doing. There was a "Getting it Right for Every Child" event, Voice of the Child event and youths from The Bothie delivered workshops to professionals during the day. It was opened by Lawrence Findlay, Director of Education who praised the work I have been doing with youth groups. I was also invited by the Lord Lieutenant along with two of the youth group to a Carol Service in St Machar's

Cathedral in late December.



### **Why would you recommend others to follow your lead and become a community volunteer?**

It is very rewarding, and I think if people feel compelled to help others they should. We have forgotten how to be a community, although the community spirit in Kintore is amazing and Kemnay is good too, I know that there are others who don't have that same sense of community. People often find it difficult to find enough time, as I did as part of the Community Council. I didn't feel I could guarantee the time to do it properly, but I do like to help on weekends and evenings.

I would recommend volunteering in the community as you make many social connections who are always there to help if ever needed. I can use my experience to encourage people, particularly young people. I like to be proactive and like to tackle issues and just get things done and make it a happier environment for everybody.

I enjoy seeing young people flourish into young adults and be respected. Often if I have been working all day and meet some of the teenagers in the streets, they greet me like a friend and even offer to buy me a bag of chips if they know I've not had time to eat much during the day. It's rewarding to have such a good rapport with them and to be a trusted adult for them.

I have an extra bonus to bring to the groups and the young people that I work with and that's my beloved companion, my dog Jaz. She is a huge benefit in making people feel relaxed and breaking the ice. In other walks of life, she could be described as a "Therapist".

Growing up in Rosehearty and Fraserburgh it's quite isolated, I had a lot of caring responsibilities with limited support. I didn't do well in school and became a bit of a rebellious teenager. It was my best friend who took me to a youth club, and there, my youth workers listened to me without judgement, believed in my capabilities and empowered me to do better. To this day if I see the youth workers who listened and supported me when I was a teenager, I like to thank them.

Two months later I was at the Community Centre four days a week and after one year was there Monday to Saturday and running my own dance group. It gave me a purpose and a place to be a teenager and for someone to listen to me without judgement which led me into my current job. I am passionate about it, and I strive to be the trusted adult that I needed when I was a young person. This led me away from my rebellious ways and I want to do that for young people and gain a rapport to help them with risky behaviour or anxiety and to give them a safe space to find out the reasons behind certain behaviours. Schools can be a great place, but it is not the place for everybody as it's often a one size fits all and it does not work.

What are your interests out with the Community Council?

I like going walking in the woods, hiking and hillwalking and I plan to do two Munros this weekend with my dog Jaz. We live in a fast-paced world, but on the hills, it gives you a different and slower perspective on life. I also like to go and see live bands and socialise with my friends.

I like spending time in my garden reading a book from the Library and looking after my plants and flowers.

### **Footnote from the Trustees of Action Kintore**

"From taking on the Youth Worker job at the Bothie 12 years ago, Rachel has shown total commitment to managing the many challenges presented by youth work. Her positive, bubbly personality has had such a positive effect on the lives of dozens of young people who have attended the Bothie over the years. Her work in Community Learning & Development in the schools, assisting young people and now her work tackling poverty in young people. This has been recognised in Council circles who appear to see Rachel as its 'go to' person, to consult on youth issues. Kintore is very fortunate to have Rachel as part of its community life".



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# WHAT'S ON - WEEKLY CLUBS

| EVENT   | WHEN                     | WHERE                        | TIME                       |
|---|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Junior Group - P5, P6 & P7                    | Every Monday             | The Bothie                   | 15:30-17:00                |
| 3rd Kintore Brownies                          | Every Monday             | Kintore Public Hall          | 16:00-17:15                |
| 3rd Kintore Rainbows                          | Every Monday             | Kintore Public Hall          | 16:15-17:15                |
| 1st Kintore Rainbows                          | Every Wednesday          | Kintore Public Hall          | 18:15-19:15                |
| 1st Kintore Guides & Rangers                  | Every Thursday           | Kintore Public Hall          | 19:00-20:30                |
| Kintore Scouts - Cubs (8-10 years)            | Every Monday & Wednesday | Kintore Scout Hut            | 18:30-20:15                |
| Kintore Scouts - Beavers (6-8 years)          | Every Tuesday & Thursday | Kintore Scout Hut            | 18:00-19:00                |
| Kintore Scouts - Scouts (10-15 years)         | Every Tuesday & Thursday | Kintore Scout Hut            | 19:30-21:00                |
| Young & Free to speak (YAFTS) (All kids S1)   | Every Tuesday            | The Bothie                   | 19:00-21:00                |
| Toddlers' Group - Kintore 0-3 Group           | Every Monday & Friday    | Kintore Public Hall          | 09:30-11:15                |
| Kintore Community Church                      | Every Sunday             | Community Church, Forst Road | 10:30                      |
| Bumps & Baby - Kintore 0-3 Group              | Every Wednesday          | Kintore Public Hall          | 10:00-12:00                |
| Kintore Taekwon-Do School                     | Every Monday & Wednesday | Kintore Parish Church        | 19:00-20:30<br>19:30-21:00 |
| Kintore Golf Club Non-profit Community Sports | All week                 | Kintore Golf Club            | 10:00-20:00                |
| NKI Kintore Karate                            | Every Friday             | Kintore Primary School       | 16:30-17:30                |

# WHAT'S ON

## Get involved with your community

| EVENT                                  | WHEN                                  | WHERE                  | TIME          |
|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Kintore SWI                            | First Tuesday of every month          | Kintore Public Hall    | 19:30         |
| Kintore Community Council Meeting      | Third Tuesday of every month          | Kintore Primary School | 19:00 - 21:00 |
| Kintore, Kemnay & District Rotary Club | First & Third Thursday of every month | Ask for location       | 18:45         |
| Kintore Additional Needs Support Group | 1st Wednesday Of Every Month          | Ask For Location       | 10:00-12:00   |

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