

## AGM and Summer Forum



Our **AGM and summer forum** was held recently at the Fly-Cup in Inverurie. The turn out from members was a tiny wee bit disappointing. However there were lots of apologies, so we must have picked a popular evening and

a certain football competition was on the telly! Fly Cup fine pieces, and strawberries and fizz courtesy of Phyllis from GO, added the finishing touches to another successful event. Copies of the AGM papers and the annual report, which we presented to the Garioch Area Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> June, are available on our website.



**TGP's Board** currently has seven members. We recruited a new Board member at the AGM. Heather Fulford will join our voluntary management committee. Heather has lived in Inverurie since 2007. Through her work in the Centre for Entrepreneurship at Aberdeen Business School (Robert Gordon University), she has led a number of projects involving small businesses, social enterprises and charities across Scotland. Our trustees contribute to the leadership of The Garioch Partnership, ensuring our activities are run in a way that will achieve our aims. There is a bio for each of the trustees on the website. There is still one place should anyone wish to be considered for the Board. Interested? Please contact John Chapman, [chairperson@gariochpartnership.org.uk](mailto:chairperson@gariochpartnership.org.uk) Nom Wright who joined the Board at the 2015 AGM gives his views of being a member on page 5 of this bulletin.



Those who attended the event were treated to a fantastic moving presentation by the inspirational Phionna McInnes, serial social entrepreneur and chief executive of **Me Too** magazine. You can get further information about Phionna and Me Too by visiting the website <http://www.metoomagazine.org/> or her FaceBook page for Me Too Magazine SCO45895. Phionna is involved in another charity **Declan's Dogs**, but she didn't have time to tell us about that one – this time! We wish her all success in her efforts to support children and families affected by autism.

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## Crowdfunding

Following up on crowdfunding awareness events, there is now a page on the Aberdeenshire Council website with resources and further information on crowdfunding, which will evolve over time: <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/business/support-and-advice/communities/crowdfunding/>

One thing being promoted on the page is the offer of a free place on the “Crowdfunding to Win” online training course. The course, suitable for all levels, is targeted at anyone considering crowdfunding who wants to know how to run a crowdfund campaign and check they are properly prepared for it through a structured process to build a robust and executable plan to make a crowdfund campaign a success. Comprising fifteen lectures, delivered by video, the course is fully supported by course notes and other downloadable resources.

The Council has 70 free places available for the course, which usually costs £30, and is open to individuals, community groups and businesses in the Aberdeenshire area that are interested and would like to use crowdfunding to help fund their idea. Places are restricted to one person per community group or organisation.

Further information is available from:

Kelly Morrison, Marketing & Events Officer, Economic Development, Aberdeenshire Council  
Mobile: (07826) 535158 Email: [kelly.morrison2@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:kelly.morrison2@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

## Scottish Rural Parliament Manifesto event

In early June, TGP facilitated a meeting on behalf of Scottish Rural Action (SRA) to support an Aberdeenshire manifesto event for the Scottish Rural Parliament. Due to a staffing shortage, sadly no one from SRA was able to attend on the evening, so we led the event to have a discussion on what matters to rural Aberdeenshire. It wasn't a large turnout but the people who came along were enthusiastic and willing to have a good discussion. We kept it informal but had a really lively discussion, with the 2 groups focussing on communication, transport, flooding, lack of local knowledge in decision making processes by councils and government, and also a discussion about who and what the Rural Parliament is.

These conversations have been passed on to SRA who will collate all of the regional events into the manifesto for the Rural Parliament, which has its next meeting in Brechin from 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> October. Scottish Rural Action is keen to see as wide a representation at the event and have money to assist with travel and accommodation costs. For more details see... <http://www.scottishruralparliament.org.uk/event/scottish-rural-parliament-2016/>

## The Big Lottery fund – Let's Celebrate!

A new small grants programme has been launched for communities across Scotland to hold one off events or activities which celebrate their local community. Celebrate will offer community groups grants of up to £5,000 for activities that help bring people together locally. It could be to celebrate something in your local history or a local community hero, to mark something important to your community like the Queen's 90th Birthday, or simply to get to know your neighbours better.

The Big Lottery said “As with our Jubilee event we have reached out to everyone on the island, young and old, to get involved. We believe this celebration will help to bring everyone together and enhance what is already a strong and proud community spirit.

For more information visit:

<https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/global-content/programmes/scotland/celebrate>

## Tough Mudder

Dawn, our slightly mad development worker ran Tough Mudder on 25<sup>th</sup> June and is taking part in Glack Attack later in the year. She is raising funds to top up the Community Initiative Grants Scheme which as you know helps local groups in the Garioch Area. All donations welcome however small. These can be handed into our office or you can text TGPD13 £ (however much you wish to donate) to 70070. Many thanks!



## Staffing Update

It's all change at TGP! **Anne Simpson**, our longest serving development worker is leaving us at the end of July. Anne is as she puts it "retiring again!" Those of you who know Anne will be aware of her years of knowledge and experience that have contributed so much to the success of the partnership since it was established in 2012. We will miss her and wish her all the best for the future.



"I've had a fantastic four years working in Garioch supporting local people and groups as I did some 30-odd years ago! I've made some good friends and had a ball! I'll miss you all but the partnership is in a good place and I look forward to watching it from afar as it grows in the future" says Anne

Recruitment has taken place and we are delighted to announce that an experienced worker **Wilma Smith** has been appointed to join Dawn Brown as our second development worker. Wilma is "weel kent" in Garioch having worked in community development in Westhill, Kintore and Inverurie, and most recently Inch, where she joined Anne on the Inside Inch project. Wilma will start work in mid-September. We have also recruited a part-time admin/researcher. **Louise Thorburn**, who lives in Kemnay, takes up this post with immediate effect and can be contacted on [info@gariochpartnership.org.uk](mailto:info@gariochpartnership.org.uk).

**WELCOME WILMA AND LOUISE!**

## TGP's Community Initiative Grant Scheme

A total of **£11841** was awarded to the organisations listed below in 2015/16.

Organisation	Project	Amount awarded
Fetternear Hall	Kitchen equipment	£750
Computers & Integration	I-pads	£716
Blackburn Rotary	Movable sink	£750
The Philosophy Cafe	World of Words	£275
Inverurie & District Men's Shed	Disabled access	£750
Kemnay Breakfast & After-School Club	Play equipment	£750
Echt Parent Council	Breakfast club set-up	£500
3 <sup>rd</sup> Inverurie Rainbows	Storage	£500
Inverurie Wind Band	Music scores	£750
Insch Parent Council	Waste project	£600
Premnay Hall	Kitchen equipment	£750
Gordon Forum for the Arts	25 <sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition	£750
Garidge Theatre	Youth festival	£750
Exercise After Stroke Inverurie	Exercise class	£500
Cornfields Scotland Ltd	Foody Group	£750
1st Insch Scouts	Equipment	£500
Hatton of Fintray Parents Association	Community garden	£750
Inverurie Events	Equipment	£750



Earlier in the year the Garioch Area Committee agreed to continue to provide funds for the Community Initiative Grant Scheme to the tune of £15k in this financial year (2016/17), an increase of 50% on last year!

**TGP Community Initiative Grant Fund is open to local groups to apply. Will your group be on this list next year? Get those ideas going now!**

## TGP Board news... some thoughts from Nom Wright, one of the current trustees



Well, that's it now been a year since I joined the Board of The Garioch Partnership and it's been interesting. I've gained a greater insight as to the wide remit of community engagement and the diversity of the groups that the Partnership supports. This in addition to being able to attend some of the events that have organised in pursuit of assisting other agencies to engage e.g. The Scottish Rural Parliament and helping to disseminate information as to the changing landscape that is Health and Social Care.

I now have a greater understanding of the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector and how various fractions of it are working in communities, all with a common goal of supporting the vast number of individuals who give their time to better their communities. Having experience of working with the team in the past on the Inch Community Action Plan, I've now been involved in the other communities that they support to find out what it is that folk want. The way things are being done is changing, there is a greater focus on communities being empowered to do things for themselves and these Action Plans are a means to identifying this and the stakeholders who can help make it happen.

The Partnership is going from strength to strength and helping more community groups to help themselves be the places they want to be. An interesting 1<sup>st</sup> year and looking forward to the challenges of the next 12 months! *(Anyone that knows Nom will be surprised this isn't written in Doric! – Editor)*

## Community Choices Fund – Applications now open

The Community Choices Fund is a new £2 million fund to support participatory budgeting (PB) in 2016/17 for more people to have a direct say in how, and where, public funds can be used to address local needs. Targeted particularly at work in deprived areas, the fund aims to build on the support provided by the Scottish Government for Participatory Budgeting (PB) since 2014, and is part of a broader agenda around democratic innovation and engaged citizenship. This fund will also help open up opportunities for public authorities, community organisations and Community Councils to engage with and deliver PB. Part of the new fund will be used to continue with a national PB package of support but £1.5 million of it is now open for applications in two categories of £750,000 each. The deadline for applications is **29th July 2016**.

**Category one** is open to Public Authorities which includes Local Authorities and other Public Bodies. **Category two** is open to Community Organisations and Community Councils.

The fund will activity which will significantly expand opportunities for more local people to make decisions on local spending priorities and contribute to local democracy.

More information on <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/People/engage/CommunityChoicesFund>

**“Gab about and Gad about Garioch”** We are still looking for volunteers for our Gad about and Gab about Garioch events! If you have an event after the summer that you think it would be useful for us to attend just give us a shout! We’ve already lined up for a Soup & Sweet session at Premnay.

## Self-Directed Support training available



Grampian Opportunities are currently funded by the Scottish Government to raise awareness of Self-Directed Support. Thanks to this, we are able to offer a number of training opportunities free of charge. These include:

**Self-Directed Support Awareness Raising Presentation** – this offers people an opportunity to find out a little bit about what Self-Directed Support means. It can be provided in an “Easier to Understand” format if required. This presentation usually takes less than an hour.

**Support Planning Familiarisation Training** – this training can be offered to people with additional support needs and their (informal) carers in their community and gives a taste of how a support plan is put together. It can also be provided to Professionals and the training lasts approximately 2.5 hours. It is also a great way of providing a refresher in Support Planning.

**Strike Out Training** – this training was developed to provide support to people who wish to plan their support in a way which meets their individual needs. The course can be undertaken in a group setting or on a one to one basis if required. You do not require a Social Care Budget to complete your own Support Plan as this is a great way of organising your thoughts and looking at what would help you in the future to achieve your goals. This training can take place over a longer period of time (approximately six four hour sessions).



If you, or your organisation, would like to know more about the training please contact us on [info@grampianopportunities.org.uk](mailto:info@grampianopportunities.org.uk) or telephone 01467 629675

**The Garioch Partnership... building a connected community**  
**More members welcome.... Do you want to see your group or organisation here.... if so please contact us**

1 <sup>st</sup> Stop Toddlers, Kemnay	Action Kintore	Bailies of Bennachie	Bennachie Community Council	Bennachie Leisure Centre
Bogbeth Pavilion	Business Matters Aberdeen	Cluny, Midmar & Monymusk Community Council		Computers & Integration Cornfields Scotland Limited
Echt School PTCA		Echt & Skene Community Council		Fetternear Hall Fintray & Kinellar Community Council
Footprints Connect	Foos yer Doos	Fly Cup Catering Ltd	Friends of Garlogie Day Centre	Friends of Insch Hospital and Community
Garidge Theatre	Garioch Art Group	Garioch Community Kitchen		Garioch Community Sports Hub
Garioch Heritage		Garioch Indoor Bowling Club	Garioch Jazz Club	Garioch Under 5s Forum
Garioch Youth Musical Society		GATE	Girl Guiding Gordon Gordon Dementia Services	
Grampian Opportunities	Greener Kemnay	Hatton of Fintray Hall & Community Association		Homestart Garioch
ICAN	Insch PTA	Insch Connections Museum	Insch School Parent Council	Inschy Winchy Spiders
Inspiring Insch		Inverurie Angling Association	Inverurie Community Council	Inverurie & District Men's Shed
Inverurie Events	Inverurie Hockey Club		Kemnay Breakfast & After School Club	Kemnay Community Council
Kemnay Monday Club	Kemnay Village Hall Management Committee		Kiddiwinks	Kingseat Community Association
Kinellar Hall and Community Association		Kintore & District Community Council		Lawsondale Sports Centre Trust
Logie Durno Hall Committee	Milne Hall. Kirkton of Skene		Newmachar Community Council	Newmachar Community Hall Association
Newmachar Playgroup	Old Rayne Community Association		Oyne Community Association	Pitscurry Environmental Project
Port Elphinstone Community House	Port Elphinstone Parent Council		Port Toddlers	Premnay Hall & Community Association
Rotary Club of Blackburn	RSPB Kemnay Wildlife Explorers	Scouthall Playgroup, Westhill		SensationALL Smile Scotland
South West Aberdeenshire CAB		Spectrum Singers	St Andrew's Church	St Lawrence Hall, Old Rayne
The Philosophy Café	Wartle Community Association	WEA Scotland	Westhill & Elrick Community Council	Westhill Community Church
Westhill Community Sports Hub	Westhill Golf Club		Westhill Men's Shed	<b>84</b>



## Feel Good Fayre: 29 June 2016



We had the opportunity to participate in the recent Feel Good Fayre which did feel good! A great buzz! This was held as part of the INverurie project which is exploring *What does feeling good mean to you? What do you do to stay healthy?*

*What great things are happening already? How could we pull together to make a difference to you and the people you love?*

For more information on INverurie get in touch, say hello, share your views and get involved. They would love to hear from you. Check out <http://www.weareinverurie.com>

## Resources to share



The Garioch Partnership has built up a range of resources that groups can borrow for **free**. This includes: **a data projector and a digital camera, a gazebo and a mobile sink, and two pump action thermos flasks. Perfect for any community events!**



We also offer independent examination of charity accounts to members, and non-members if time permits. Charge is £40 for members and £60 plus any travel costs for non-members. Contact Dawn if this is of interest to your group: [dawn@gariochpartnership.org.uk](mailto:dawn@gariochpartnership.org.uk)

## ***A wee reminder for any new readers out there of what we are and what we do!***

### **What is The Garioch Partnership ?**

A community-led independent community development organisation that uses its members' networks to build stronger, more successful, more sustainable communities in the Garioch Area of Aberdeenshire.

### **What does it do?**

It supports people and communities with projects of all sizes, both existing and new, enabling and encouraging, and harnessing the skills and enthusiasm of local people. It can provide information and advice on project planning, funding, community consultation and engagement, governance and dealing with "red-tape".

### **Who is it for?**

Any not-for-profit community organisation, large or small, based in the Garioch area or with links to the area can join free of charge. Individual members who support the aims of the partnership are also welcomed as members.

For further information on what the partnership can do for you or your group contact 01467628801, email [info@gariochpartnership.org.uk](mailto:info@gariochpartnership.org.uk) or visit our website [www.gariochpartnership.org.uk](http://www.gariochpartnership.org.uk). Look forward to hearing from you!

Enjoy your summer!



## Diary dates 2016

### July

Friday July 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Anne's last day
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### August

Saturday August 20 <sup>th</sup>	Lourin Fair Old Rayne
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### September

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Sheltie Stakes, Hatton of Fintray
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Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> /Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	DTAS Conference Cumbernauld
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Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Inverurie Beer Festival
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Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Inverurie Beer Festival
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### October

Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> – Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Scottish Rural Parliament, Brechin
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The next edition of the Garioch Gazette, TGP's quarterly e-bulletin will be published at the end of **September**. Any articles should be sent to [info@gariochpartnership.org.uk](mailto:info@gariochpartnership.org.uk) by **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>** September. This newsletter is circulated to a mailing list of approx. 200 "active citizens" who in turn are invited to circulate it to their personal and community networks - caring and sharing!



#### The Garioch Partnership

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