Winter 2019 issue

Bridge of Don Community Council Newsletter

Welcome to the Winter issue of the Bridge of Don Community Council Newsletter. This is our Christmas-themed issue, where as well as having a look at what's happened since the last issue in the summer, we'll let you know about some of the festive events planned in the Bridge of Don.

Firstly, many thanks to those who have donated towards the flower baskets on the Bridge of Don since our last issue. Ardene House Vets Practice, Flowers with Flair, Carlton Rock Ltd, Howdens Joinery Co, Francis Clark Nor Sea Foods Ltd, and Thistle Windows all contributed, and we also received an anonymous donation from sisters whose late mother loved her garden. Didn't the baskets look lovely!

The **Friends of Westfield Park** have been busy over the summer and autumn maintaining and improving the park. More derelict fencing has been removed, litter picks have been organised, and a new noticeboard put up so that information about the park and the community can be shared. Thousands of bulbs are being planted for spring colour, and plans are afoot for a wildflower area and sensory garden. These are longer-term projects, so keep an eye on the Friends Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/WestfieldParkBOD/) for updates and more information about activities in the park.

With summer past, and Christmas fast approaching, we shall be organising Christmas lights on the bridge this year, now that the electrical fault that stopped us having any last year has been rectified (hopefully the issue with them staying on all the time will be fixed by the time you read this!). The community council is also hoping to have our first ever public Christmas tree put up, although we are still in negotiations with the council about a location, so keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages for more details on that! Like last year, we shall also be paying for and distributing Christmas crackers (we've chosen ones with fun stickers inside, instead of plastic toys) to the primary schools, as this is something that Aberdeen City Council is no longer able to fund, and we don't want the children missing out.

Amidst the celebrations, even though it's wintertime, there are still plenty of opportunities for fresh air and exercise. Murcar Golf Club is offering a "Winter Golf Pass" for November – February (see http://murcarlinks.com/ for details) and keep an eye out for January specials at the local sports centres to help those New Year resolutions. A new Buggy Walk for Bridge of Don and Danestone has been set up for Mums, Dads and carers who want some fresh air and conversation – details are at https://www.facebook.com/groups/2307633812890721/
There's also a handy new leaflet out showing off-road cycle routes in the Bridge of Don – pick one up at the library or at www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/cyclingmaps - and if you're new to cycling, the Cycle Touring Club (www.ctcgrampian.org.uk) offers free guided cycle rides.

Christmas Fayres

If you're looking for some inspiration for Christmas presents, or just fancy some home baking and a blether, there are lots of Christmas Fayres planned over the next few weeks. Support your local school or drama group and pop along – here are some of the events planned:

Bridge of Don Academy Christmas Fayre: *Wednesday 27th November*
7 – 9pm

Danestone Primary School Christmas Fayre: *Saturday 30th November*
10am – 1pm

Danestone Church Fayre: *Saturday 30th November*
10am – 12noon

Glashieburn Primary Christmas Fayre: *Saturday 30th November*
10am – 12noon

Scotstown Primary Xmas Fayre: *Saturday 30th November*
1 – 3pm

Scott School of Dancing Christmas Fayre: *Sunday 1st December*
11.30am – 3.30pm at Jesmond Community Centre

Class*Act Drama's Christmas Fayre: *Sunday 8th December*
2 – 5pm at Oldmachar Church

St Columba's Church Christmas Sheep Trail

The shepherds rushed to Bethlehem and left their sheep behind. Some of those sheep have been spotted in Bridge of Don. Can you help us find them? Created by local schools and children's clubs the sheep will be found in various shops around Bridge of Don and Danestone during December. Find the sheep and discover their names to enter our prize draw.

Join us for the launch of the CHRISTMAS SHEEP TRAIL for an afternoon of CRAFT AND CAROLS.
Sunday 1st December 2.30pm at St Columba's Church (Braehead Way).
There will be fun for all ages and mince pies for everyone.

Then join us as we celebrate the return of all our sheep to the Shepherds.
Sunday 22nd December 2.30pm at St Columba's Church.
We'll hear what happened to the shepherds and the sheep and celebrate Christmas together. There will be an opportunity to take part in a nativity play. Children (and adults who wish to!) are welcome to come dressed up as an angel, a shepherd or a wise man. Don't worry if your children don't have a costume, we'll have some available.

Both are free events but to help us plan, please register at stcbod.eventbrite.com. Follow us on facebook.com/STCBOD to find out more. #thechristmassheep

Church Services

Bridge of Don Baptist Church
Advent Services every Sunday in December, 10.45am (refreshments from 10.15)
Tea Time Together Advent Special, Saturday 7th December, 4-6pm
All-age Community Carol Service, Sunday 15th December, 10.45am
Watchnight Service, Tuesday 24th December, 11pm

Oldmachar Church
Crafty Church on Saturday 30th November 10am-12noon (please book with church)
Advent services every Sunday in December, 1030am
Church lunch, Sunday 1st December after the morning service
Ladies breakfast, Saturday 7th December, 9am
Service for the bereaved, Tuesday 10th December, 7pm
Christmas Eve service, 24th December, 6.30pm
Christmas morning service, 25th December, 10am

St Columba's Church
Nativity Service, 15th December, 10am
Sunday Christmas Worship, 22nd December ,10am
Service of Carols, Christmas Eve 24th December, 7pm
Service Leading into Christmas Day, Christmas Eve 24th December, 11.30pm
Christmas Day Service, 25th December, 11am

Catalyst Vineyard Church – Bridge of Don is also hosting a Beer & Carols night on 20th December at the Mains of Scotstown at 7.30pm in aid of Mission Christmas the Cash for Kids appeal. Make a donation to the appeal or bring an unopened toy for their collection and you'll get a drink on the house. Everyone is welcome – see https://www.facebook.com/catalystbridgeofdon/for details.

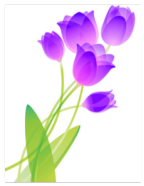
Wreath Making & Table Decoration Classes

If you'd like a change from shop-bought Christmas wreaths for your door, or would like some pretty table centrepieces, but don't know where to start, Flowers with Flair is holding friendly local classes in December. All materials will be supplied, along with a glass of mulled wine and mince pies and will cost £45 per session. Full payment is kindly requested at the time of booking, which is fully refundable if cancelled 30 days prior to event date (any cancellations made after this date will be fully charged).

Saturday 14th December:
10am – 12.30pm: Class 1 Wreath Making
2.30 – 5pm: Class 2 Christmas Table Centre

Monday 16th December evening, 7 – 9pm
Tuesday 17th December evening, 7 – 9pm

Other dates may be available by request.
Call Shelagh for further details: 07871 821294 or 01224 820603



Flowers with Flair
Weddings - our speciality
Celebration Bouquets Gift Baskets and Aqua-Pacs
Christmas Table Decorations and Wreaths
Corporate and Event Work
Funeral Work
Call Shelagh 01224 820603 or 07871 821294
Bridge of Don based
www.flowerswithflair.co.uk
email: shelagh@flowerswithflair.co.uk

Rotary in Bridge of Don

The Rotary Club of Aberdeen Balgownie, based in Bridge of Don, continues to be active in the community. Working with staff at Forehill Primary School we sponsored a ROTAKIDS Club. Then President Tom Spencer handed out the charter and badges of office to their President and his fellow office-bearers.

PURPLE FOR POLIO - A purple crocus is the adopted emblem of Rotary Club International's campaign to eradicate polio worldwide. In this respect, our club has obtained four thousand crocus corms which will be shared between the ROTAKIDS, the Friends of Westfield Park and other primary schools to be planted in the community.

In July we took part in the Danestone Gala, providing a stand with a "Guess the Teddy's Birthday" competition as a fund-raiser together with a Lucky Dip for the children.

Rotarians on the stand at Danestone Gala

Rotary Club of Aberdeen Balgownie President Gordon and Vice-President Mary

RTN John Milne, from District

In December we will again be assisting at the Forestry Commision's Christmas tree sales at Tyrebagger Forest. As in previous years, Rotarians and other volunteers will help to marshal the customer car parking, an essential service to prevent major traffic delays on the public road between Kirkton of Skene and Dyce. At the same time, we will set up a Santa's Grotto where children can talk to Santa and receive a sweet. Donations will be accepted from the public and hopefully a considerable sum will be raised for our local charities.

About us

The Bridge of Don Community Council is a statutory elected body which exists to listen to your views and ideas and to work with our local councillors, MPs, officials, the police and others to tackle the local issues that concern you. It is not involved in national or local politics: first and foremost, it's made up of people who care about the community, who want local residents and businesses to have a voice, and to encourage the feeling of belonging. As well as representing the community to the local authority, the Bridge of Don Community Council aims to facilitate activities which promote the well-being of the community. We need as many people as possible to get involved: new ideas and new members are always welcome. Everyone is encouraged to attend the monthly meetings if you have any concerns, information you want to share, or just to listen in to what's going on. You don't have to do, or even say anything (unless you want to) – please come along and find out what's happening in the Bridge of Don! Details of meetings are on our website.

This newsletter is distributed round local churches, surgeries, dentists, shops, social clubs and the library. It's also available online on our website. If you have something you'd like to contribute or let us know about for future newsletters, or would just like to comment on anything, please email us at bodccsec@btinternet.com If any local businesses are interested in advertising, just drop us a line. Our next newsletter will be the Spring issue, due out just before the Easter holidays – let us know if there's anything you'd like included. Many thanks to Fowler McKenzie for sponsoring this issue and covering all printing costs.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR

Contact us:
Email: bodccsec@btinternet.com
Web: https://bridgeofdoncommunitycouncil.org.uk/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BridgeOfDonCommunityCouncil/