

Ardler Village News

DUNDEE
PARTNERSHIP

Issue 56
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Merry Christmas

ARDLER VILLAGE TRUST IS VOLUNTEER FRIENDLY



Brian McCluskey, AVT Vice Chair, receiving the award from the Lord Provost.

Ardler Village Trust is officially a Volunteer Friendly organisation having recently achieved the Volunteer Friendly Award. We received this award for the way we involve and manage volunteers in our work .

The Volunteer Friendly Award is given for excellent volunteer management practice and we had to provide evidence that we manage our volunteers effectively, treat them fairly, train and support them in their role, offer them the opportunity for personal development and celebrate the contribution they make to our organisation. Overall this shows our commitment as an organisation to involving volunteers in satisfying and rewarding roles.

If you are interested in helping out in the Charity Shop for a few hours per week please pop in and see us or e-mail gillian@ardlervillagetrust.org

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREES

Local groups in Ardler and St. Mary's will be decorating a "Tree" to represent their group. These will be displayed in Chalmers Ardler Church during the week beginning 27 November with events involving local children and adults. We hope people from the community will visit the Display of Trees and take time to enjoy a coffee. Residents in sheltered housing and residential homes have been invited to the **Afternoon Tea** on 28 November when local pupils will be helping out and also providing some entertainment. Local talent will also be involved in the **Community Concert** on 29 November at 7pm. Come and enjoy tea & mince pies at the interval.

The **Display of Trees** and **Café** are open on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10-4pm with tea/coffee and home baking, with soup and bread also served from 12.15-2pm. At each event there will be a **Craft Stall** with gifts made by the Painting/Craft club which meets after school with the proceeds going to Ardler Village Trust for further community activities. We hope there will be plenty of support for all of these events as we come together to celebrate our community.

The Organising Group wish to acknowledge the financial support of Ardler Village Trust and Chalmers Ardler Church . In anticipation of their support, we express our thanks for donations from Tesco, Lidl, Morrisons & Spar.

Please come, invite your family and friends and enjoy these different community events

STRATHMARTINE COMMUNITY REGENERATION FORUM



The Strathmartine Regeneration Forum is made up of 15 local residents who are elected on a 3 year term to represent the Strathmartine Community

The main purpose of the Forum is to allocate the Dundee Partnership Fund. The 2017/18 allocation for Strathmartine was £140,250 split among Youth Diversionary, Small Grants and Physical and Environmental Improvements.

The group meets on the first Thursday of every month in the Ardler Complex at 6.30pm There is currently a vacancy on the Forum for a rep from the Ardler area. If you are interested in becoming the Ardler rep or have any ideas of how you would like to see future funding allocated in the area or would like to apply for funding on behalf of a local community group, facility or project then contact Hazel Feilder (Regeneration and Participation Worker), telephone 436364 or via e-mail Hazel.feilder@dundeecity.gov.uk

Groups and activities which have received funding this year;

Small Grants—amount remaining, £11,321

AVT Newsletter, Chuckle Club trip, Ardler Fun Day, Bluebells Group, DHLL, Friday Friendship Group

Youth Diversionary—amount remaining £6,673

Active Schools, West Youth Team, Dundee Table Tennis Association, St Mary's Community Facility, St Pauls Academy, Kirkton Community Centre

**Physical/Environmental amount remaining
£56,100**

The Forum is currently looking for ideas for the allocation of these funds so if you have any suggestions please let us know.

IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD



There is a new Facebook page for the Strathmartine ward run by workers in the area. This will give you information about what is happening across Ardler, as well as Kirkton, St Marys and Downfield. You can also message the page to ask for information or request that information about your group is put on the page.

Just log into Facebook and search "IYN Strathmartine" Please like the page and encourage friends and family to do so too to find out what is going on in your community.

UNIVERSAL CREDIT

Despite political lobbying, the Westminster Government is determined to roll out Universal Credit, which is now underway across Dundee.

I am sure that as people change from Legacy Benefit to the new Universal Credit they could find themselves experiencing some financial hardship given the 6 weeks of waiting days and assessment period before benefits are adjusted.

I am very pleased that the Council's Library Staff here in Ardler will be able to support such as giving guidance on making the initial claim electronically.

Staff will also be able to signpost people to other Agencies working with the Council in particular those who administer crisis loans.

Councillor Kevin Keenan



Are you finding paying for gas and electricity is becoming more and more difficult?

Do you need help to keep warm?

Sanctuary and Dundee Energy Efficiency Advice Project (DEEAP) are once again, working together to help you to make your home more affordable to keep warm. We can provide help and practical advice to keep you warm and well.

Free advice from an energy advisor can help you to save money on your fuel bills and make your home easier to keep warm

Free Benefits Advice

Are you receiving all the benefits you are entitled to? We will provide free and confidential information in the comfort of your home.

Schemes to help you.

Warm Home Discount

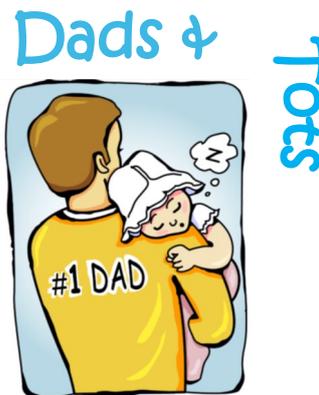
The government and energy suppliers are running a scheme to help households in Scotland who need it most to get a rebate from their electricity bill. The Warm Home Discount offers eligible customers an annual benefit of £140 on their electricity bill in 2016/17. Contact DEEAP for more information.

Priority Assistance Schemes

We are currently working in partnership with Scottish Hydro Electric to assist families with fuel arrears. If you would like an energy advisor to discuss how we can help you please contact us to arrange a home visit.

HOW DO I CONTACT DEEAP?

If you need any help on how to keep warm or any of the issues above, call an energy advisor on 434840 from 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday.



Come along to Home-Start's Dads & Tots Group. This is a small friendly group for Dads/Male Carers and their Babies and Toddlers.

We have snacks for the children and bacon rolls for the dads.

The group runs Monday 10 a.m. to 12 noon and Wednesday 1 to 3 p.m. (Term Time Only) at Home-Start Offices, 3rd Floor, 30 Whitehall Street, Dundee.

The Dads and Tots group is a great place where Dads/Male Carers can bring their Babies and Toddlers and meet with other Dads in similar situations.

Come along and gain information on a Variety of family matters i.e. Budgeting, Children's Development, Healthy Eating etc. or join us on a visit to libraries, parks or local places of interest or just have a break and a cuppa while the children play in our crèche looked after by playworkers.

If you are interest in joining this group contact Estelle on Dundee 202040 or email estelle@homestart-dundee.org.uk

Ardler Village Trust

Christmas Lights



Wednesday

6th December

Outside the
Ardler Complex
at 6.00–6.30pm



Come and join your neighbours and school children at this festive event.

We will be singing carols and enjoying festive refreshments as part of the Ardler Village's Christmas celebrations

All Welcome

**Merry
Christmas**



Ardler Village Trust Update

During the school holidays Ardler Village Trust organised and funded activities for local children. These included a Dundee Science Centre Session, a Dundee Rep Drama Workshop and a design and produce your own comic with the Dundee Comic School. All were much enjoyed by those who attended.

On 19th October the Trust held its AGM in the Ardler Complex. A new Director, Alan Cowan, was elected to join the Board and we all extend a warm welcome to Alan.

The Charity Shop will be holding a Christmas Shopping evening on 29th November from 6-8pm. As well as a variety of Christmas goods we'll also have a tombola and will be serving Christmas refreshments.

The funds raised by the Charity Shop help fund a variety of activities in Ardler including the Fun Day, the Big Day Out and school holiday activities.

As ever we continue to be grateful to all of you who make donations and to the volunteers who help in the shop.

The shop will be closing for the Christmas break on 21 December and will re-open on 4th January.

On behalf of all at the Village Trust I wish you a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

Chalmers Ardler Family Project

The Family Project will be holding Christmas Parties on 12th, 13th and 14th December from 10-12 noon.

On 30th November there will be Christmas art and crafts.

The Project will be closed from 22 December until 8th January.

If you interested in joining in any of the sessions then please reserve a place as soon as possible.

Contact Christine Black - black166@btinternet.com