

MARR AREA partnership

NEWSLETTER December 2011

Working with the diverse communities of Marr to encourage and enable the sustainable development of their economic, environmental and social future.



Welcome to our December newsletter.

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December 2011

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COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Engaging the future ...



<http://www.chex.org.uk/>

CHEX is short for Community Health Exchange. It promotes and supports community-led health - where local communities identify the issues that are important to them and organise to take collective action to address these issues and improve their health. If you are a local group or organisation in Scotland working to improve the health of your community, or if you are in the statutory sector supporting this type of work, you can register with them for information, advice, networking and training opportunities.



Vodafone UK is calling for local communities to get involved in public trials of innovative technology that has the potential to provide rural areas with an affordable way of getting 3G mobile internet coverage. The 12 new trials, which will start early in 2012, build on the experience already gained by Vodafone in a continuing pilot programme in the West Berkshire village of East Garston.

http://mediacentre.vodafone.co.uk/news_view_doc.php?type=press&doc_id=237



The Association of Scottish Community Councils is the national representative and campaigning body for all the Community Councils of Scotland. Whether you are a Community Councillor, constituent, parliamentarian, local authority member, or just interested in the work of the Association of Scottish Community Councils, we hope you find this website useful. <http://www.ascc.org.uk/>



The University of Edinburgh with Tegolo wifi network has won an award in NextGen's Rural Leadership and Community Development Category for delivering a wireless network in remote areas of Scotland. More information can be found on the website.

<http://www.nextgenevents.co.uk/ngchallenge>

Any comments?

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COMMUNITY GRANTS & FUNDING ADVICE

Resourcing for the future ...



energy saving trust®

Energy Saving Trust has interest free loans of £500 to £50,000 can help all organisations including government, businesses and the public sector in Scotland. Funded by Transport Scotland, the scheme aims to support organisations that want to reduce the carbon impact and fuel costs of their transport and travel arrangements with new, more efficient alternatives.
<http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scotland/Transport/Business/Low-carbon-transport-loan>

Funding for
Social Entrepreneurs

works to identify, advise, connect, encourage and seed fund new start social entrepreneurs.
<http://firstport.org.uk/>

Free business support through the Just Enterprise contract and awards to new-start social entrepreneurs throughout Scotland. Do you have an enterprising idea that will deliver benefit to people and/or communities? FirstPort



Scottish Natural Heritage
All of nature for all of Scotland

<http://www.snh.gov.uk/funding/our-grants/whats-new/>

Scottish Natural Heritage now has 2 new grant categories: Community Action Grants will support short term lower value projects aimed at action on the ground. Natural Project Grants will support longer term, higher value projects aimed at benefitting Scotland's nature and landscapes. There is a two stage application process: submission of a Natural Project Grant Proposal which, if approved, will lead to a full Application.



through the rural development funding maze. <http://www.ruraldirect.org.uk/>

Rural Direct is on the road this winter, running a series of roadshow events across Scotland aimed at helping rural communities to develop local projects and get the funding they need to make them work. Rural Direct doesn't provide funding, but it does offer information and support from an expert team of advisors who can help community groups to find their way

Any comments?

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COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY

Protecting the future ...



The Green Flag Award® scheme is the benchmark national standard for parks and green spaces in the UK. It was first launched in 1996 to recognise and reward the best green spaces in the country. The first awards were given in 1997 and, many years later, it continues to provide the benchmark against which our parks and green spaces are measured. It is also seen as a way of encouraging others to achieve high environmental standards, setting a benchmark of excellence in recreational green areas. Entries for the Green Flag Award® are open to parks/green spaces located in the UK. <http://www.keepbritaintidy.org/GreenFlag/Awards/GreenFlag/Default.aspx>



Global Action Plan is the UK's leading environmental behaviour change organisation with over 18 years' experience in sustainability communications, staff engagement and training. It works with businesses, communities and schools and its programmes are the only ones in the UK to be supported by the United Nations Environment Programme. <http://www.globalactionplan.org.uk/>



Applied geoscience for our
changing Earth

iGeology is a new free smartphone App that lets you take a geological map of Britain with you wherever you go to help you learn about the rocks beneath your feet. And with the phone's GPS, you'll know exactly where you are. iGeology was voted best Community Favourite Mobile App in the recent ESRI Inc Storytelling with Maps contest. <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/igeology/home.html>



Scottish Environment LINK is the forum for Scotland's voluntary environment organisations. It has over 30 member bodies representing a range of environmental interests with the common goal of contributing to a more environmentally sustainable society. <http://www.scotlink.org/index.php>

Any comments?

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STRATEGIC PLANS

Planning for the future ...



OSCR is seeking views on its Draft Public Focus Strategy. This strategy is available to read in PDF or Word version. <http://www.oscr.org.uk/publications-and-guidance/draft-public-focus-strategy/>



Education Scotland is leading the consultation on a revised CLD Strategy for Scotland on behalf of the Scottish Government. Publication of the strategy is expected in May 2012. The following 4 dates have been set for consultation meetings and more details of venues will be available next month, as well as information about online consultation options. 30th January 2012 – Edinburgh, 8th February 2012 – Inverness, 9th February 2012 – Glasgow, 20th February 2012 – Perth. Invitations to these events will be going out to each local authority area and more details will be available next month from the CLD Manager in your area.
http://www.cldstandardscouncil.org.uk/News_Events/News/CLD_Strategy_Consultation_announced



Alex Neil, Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure and Capital Investment, has launched Scotland's new regeneration strategy. This strategy responds to the challenges faced by our most disadvantaged communities to help create a Scotland where all places are sustainable, and where people want to live, work and invest. Regeneration of Scotland's most disadvantaged areas and strengthening of local communities are key priorities for the Scottish Government. Its commitment to ensuring equality of opportunity and support for the places and people that need it underpins its approach to regeneration.
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/12/09110320/0>

Any comments?

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COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

People for the future ...



justenterprise

justenterprise

Just Enterprise offers highly flexible start up support services to increase business skills and competencies and produce business ready entrepreneurs to develop growing and sustainable social enterprises. <http://justenterprise.org/startup.php?current=three>



Deloitte Social Innovation Pioneers aims to showcase up to 50 socially innovative businesses from across the UK and provide them with a package of support to help them mainstream, go to scale and become investment-ready. It is looking for innovative businesses that have a clear and sustainable business model, the ambition to scale and can demonstrate sustained social and environmental impact. If this is you please apply now. Applications are open now until the 29th of January. http://www.deloitte.com/view/en_GB/uk/about/community-investment/social-innovation/index.htm



CO-OPERATIVES UK

A guide for anyone involved in the creation of an enterprise that will be owned by, run by, and supported by the community in which it operates. The guide uses community food enterprises as examples of what is possible, but the processes and issues can apply to a wide range of community enterprises: from taking over your local shop, starting a community-owned and run newspaper or cinema, to building a community-owned windfarm. <http://www.uk.coop/simplystartup>

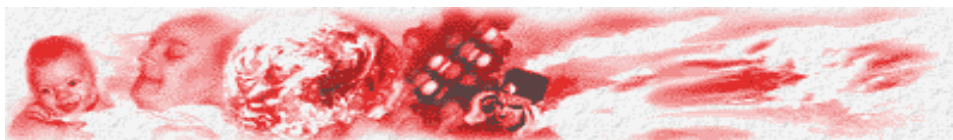
Any comments?

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RESEARCH, INFORMATION & IT

Communications for the future ...



The Challenge Network is a loose international partnership of expert individuals, most of whom have occupied senior planning or management roles in commerce and the public sector. It takes on projects that organisations or interests find it hard to structure for themselves. <http://www.chforum.org/about.shtml>



Welcome to the Institute of Fundraising's new look tax-effective giving microsite. Tax-effective fundraising is invaluable to the charity sector, allowing tens of thousands of charities to significantly boost their income. However, charities are currently missing out on over £740 million each year in Gift Aid income alone. This site offers comprehensive information about all forms of tax-effective giving (also known as 'tax-efficient giving'). These resources are aimed at everyone involved in charitable giving: charities, fundraisers and donors alike. <http://www.tax-effective-giving.org.uk/>



2012 has been recognised as the International Year of Co-operatives by the United Nations. This is an acknowledgement by the international community that co-operatives drive the economy, respond to social change, are resilient to the global economic crisis and are serious, successful businesses creating jobs in all sectors. <http://www.2012.coop/>



Its mission is to bring affordable, quality assured research to third sector organisations on a shoe-string budget. No frills, no fuss, no waffle; just good quality research carried out for all the right reasons. Research4Change™ keeps it simple. Organisations tell them their research needs and they organise affordable solutions sourced from a pool of research graduates, early career researchers, and experienced researchers with time on their hands. All assignments are designed, managed, and supported by highly experienced third sector researchers. <http://www.research4change.org/>

Any comments?

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PILOT PROJECTS

Testing for the future ...



Are you interested in an opportunity to promote, and possibly research, an emerging issue concerning rural areas? If so, the Arkleton Trust is inviting expressions of interest from those wishing to develop proposals which will help to determine the future theme(s), on which the Trust will focus its efforts for 2 – 3 years from 2013. <http://www.arkletontrust.co.uk/?q=node/458>



Does your organisation offer volunteering opportunities throughout Scotland? Then manage them online. It's simple and saves you time, money and effort. <http://www.volunteeringzone.org.uk/>



Forest Rangers in Moray & Aberdeenshire District have been facilitating small forestry projects for 'Greenfingers' – an Elgin based horticultural project which works with adults with learning and physical disabilities. The Greenfingers group initially started on conservation and maintenance based tasks in 2010 – working on scrub clearance, removing western hemlock regeneration and on other jobs that aimed to improve forestry access points. They've also been a great help in developing a wildlife pond and insect feeding area at the bird hide at Roseisle. In the new year the group will be helping Commission staff to develop a recreation/picnic site at the Curling Pond in Whiteash. <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/newsrele.nsf/WebPRByCountryLang/CB599E4F424C35D68025796C0032626C>

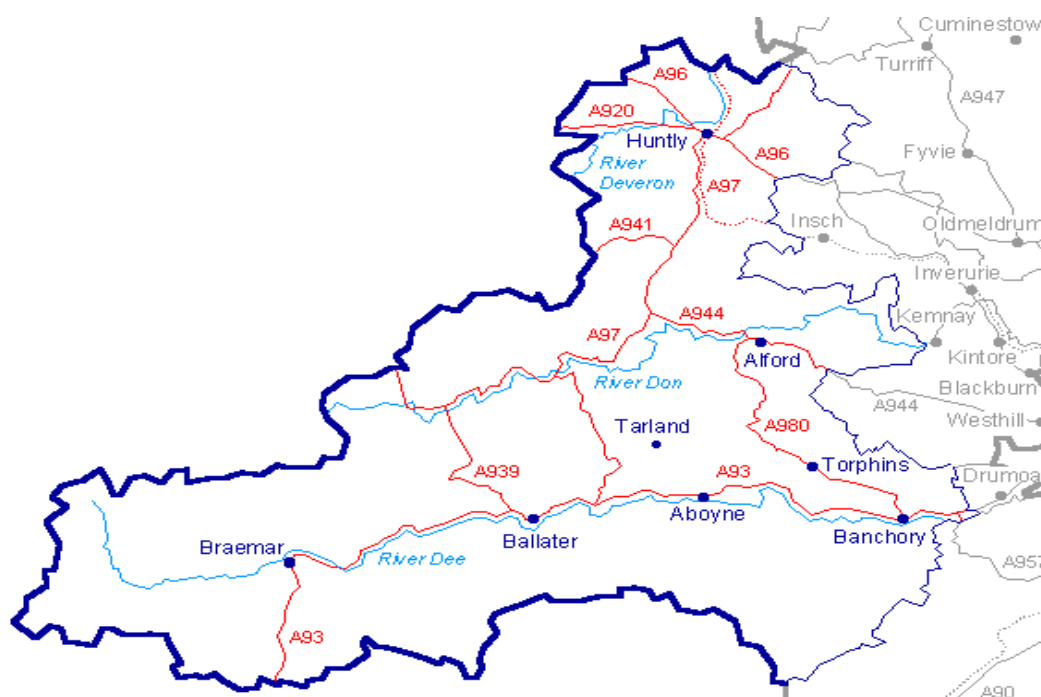
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MARR AREA partnership

The Marr Area



The Marr Area Partnership (MAP) operates in the largest of the six areas of Aberdeenshire.

Occupying 48% of the land mass but inhabited by just 15% of the population of Aberdeenshire, Marr offers many examples of rural and urban communities working to establish their individual ways ahead.

Within Marr, in addition to MAP, there are other partnerships covering specific local areas:

Royal Deeside Partnership (consisting of Mid Deeside Ltd, Ballater Royal Deeside and Braemar Tourism Group);
 Birse Community Trust;
 Banchory and District Initiative.

16 Community Councils operate in the area.

Marr Area Partnership operates throughout the area of Marr.

The partnership is a recognised Local Rural Partnership by the Scottish Executive and consists of representatives from local communities, the voluntary and public sector and exists to promote an integrated approach to sustainable economic, social and environmental development in the area of Marr. Charity Number SC 031462.



The Management Committee of MAP:

Chair: Jean Henretty, Banchory and District Initiative
Les Allan, Representative of Aberdeenshire Council
Cllr Rosemary Bruce, Aberdeenshire Council
Alan Young, Council for Voluntary Service, Aberdeenshire Central & South
Nicola Kenyon, Community Learning and Development
Hilda Lumsden Gill, Huntly Community Council (Ward 14)
Donald Boyd, Huntly Development Trust
George Wordie, Strathbogie Community Council
Patricia Fraser, Crathie Community
Nick Mardall, Deeside Donside Development Project
Nigel Healey, Cromar Community Council

Staff:

Mike Powell, Development Officer
Lizzy Shepherd, Development Officer
Natasha Pawlukiewicz, Development Officer

Note:

For administrative purposes, the Marr area is separated into three geographical wards, Aberdeenshire's Ward numbers 14, 15 & 16.

Community Council representatives from these wards are invited to sit on MAP's Management Committee.

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COMMUNITY GROUP WEBSITES IN MARR



Banchory Website

With a host of links to organisations and events in the area the site also encourages residents who have a good picture of life in Banchory to see it published in the photo gallery.

www.banchory.org



Click here to go to the Aberdeenshire Council website.

www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk



Rural Community Gateway

The Rural Gateway website's funding area is regularly updated. Click picture for latest funding news. www.ruralgateway.org.uk



CVS Aberdeenshire – Central and South

CVS Aberdeenshire - Central & South are one of 56 Council for Voluntary Services in Scotland. We exist to support and represent local voluntary sector groups and organisations by offering a range of services for both new and established groups. Click the picture to enter their website. This site also displays the MAP Newsletter. www.cvsa.co.uk



Supporting Community Guidance.

- promote and seek support for partnership activities
 - share good practice
 - share good news stories at the local and national level
 - access information on other members via our electronic directory.
- www.careerscotland.org.uk



Charity Number SC 031462

Recognised Local Rural Partnership by Scottish Executive

www.marrareapartnership.org.uk

Tel: 013398 87577 E-mail: enquiry@marrareapartnership.org.uk

Working with the diverse communities of Marr to encourage and enable the sustainable development of their economic, environmental and social future



Aberdeenshire
Environmental Forum