

# MARR AREA partnership

*NEWSLETTER January 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 January newsletter.

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January 2011

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## COMMUNITY SUPPORT

### Engaging the future ...



Welcome to the online introduction to Braemar in Royal Deeside, Scotland from contributions written by members of the local community. This website will introduce you to Braemar - its location, scenery and history - and provide useful accommodation and facilities information and links to make visiting and staying in Braemar easy and enjoyable. <http://www.braemarscotland.co.uk/index.htm>



In Kind Direct redistributes surplus goods from manufacturers and retailers to UK charities working at home

and abroad. In Kind Direct was founded by HRH The Prince of Wales in 1996 since when it has redistributed £100 million in value of goods from over 850 companies. Over 8,000 charities have joined the network to benefit, helping millions of people in need. <http://www.inkinddirect.org/>



Would you benefit from visiting a rural project that is working towards similar goals to your own project, initiative or enterprise? Would you like to share ideas and experiences with a group of like minded people? The Rural Network is delighted to announce a series of five project visits taking place this March and April, and is now seeking applications from people interested in attending. <http://www.ruralgateway.org.uk/en/node/3166>

Shared Care Scotland is a Scottish charity which promotes and supports the development of short break services (also known as respite care) for the benefit of carers and the people they care for. In Scotland there are over 650,000 people who care for a family member, partner or friend, who may be ill, disabled, or dependent on drugs or alcohol. Getting the right break at the right time is a big priority for many carers. Short breaks help keep families together and can contribute to the health and wellbeing of everyone in the caring relationship. They also help people with care needs to maintain or make new relationships, learn new skills and be included in their community. <http://www.sharedcarescotland.org.uk/>

**Any comments?**

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# COMMUNITY GRANTS & FUNDING ADVICE

## Resourcing for the future ...



The aim of Sus it Out™ is to enable community and voluntary organisations to work out for themselves how they already contribute to sustainable development and how they can build on this for the future. The organisations behind Sus it Out™ think it is important that community and voluntary groups should have the opportunity to plan their development so that they can become more sustainable in the ways they think and act, they can contribute to a more sustainable future for their communities and the wider world, and they can engage constructively with other organisations that are also striving to be more sustainable. Sign up for a Sus it Out Plus™ session. All you need to do is complete the request for assistance form in the Library section on the website.  
<http://www.susitout.org.uk/>

### National Lottery Good Causes

The National Lottery Awards are an annual search to find the UK's favourite Lottery-funded projects. This is your chance to tell your story and celebrate the hard work, dedication and achievement of your Lottery-funded project.

There's the chance for your project to feature at a special Awards event broadcast across the UK on BBC One, and there is also a £2000 cash prize to spend on your project if you win. Deadline for entries is 18 February. <http://www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/awards/>



Focusing on children and young people, the Foundation works to improve the quality of education and the provision of health care to relieve suffering and equip individuals. Thanks to the active support of Hilton Worldwide, every net £1 and €1 raised goes directly to excellent projects reaching sick, disabled and underprivileged children. The next deadline for applications is 15 February.  
<http://www.hilton-foundation.org.uk/home.htm>

The Scottish Government's Climate Challenge Fund, administered by Keep Scotland Beautiful, supports communities to tackle climate change by reducing their carbon emissions and increasing their capacity to take action. Find out more about applying on the website.  
<http://ccf.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/>

**Any comments?**

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# COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY

## Protecting the future ...



The Scottish Sustainable Development Forum is funded by the Scottish Government and acts as an advocate for sustainable development and a focus for thinking and action for a sustainable future. The Scottish Sustainable Development Forum (SSDF) is a network of sustainable

development experts and practitioners across Scotland which focuses on learning from experience, sharing best practice and discussing initiatives. Its membership ranges from individuals and organisations interested in sustainable development through businesses to government bodies. It currently have over 1300 members. <http://www.ssdforum.org.uk/>



BioRegional is an entrepreneurial charity which initiates and delivers practical solutions that help us to live within a fair share of the earth's resources – what is called one planet living. It works in partnership with organisations around the world, and it helps others

to achieve sustainability through consultancy, education and informing policy.

<http://www.bioregional.com/>



Founded in 2003, The Travel Foundation is the travel industry's own charity, set up to respond to concerns over the sustainability of travel and tourism. It is an independent UK charity which helps the travel industry understand, manage and take effective action on sustainable tourism. It exists to protect and enhance the environment and improve

the well-being of destination communities, as well as the holiday experience for visitors. <http://www.thetravelfoundation.org.uk/>



It helps businesses and public service providers to understand and manage the risks that change will bring, to find new opportunities in tackling these global challenges, to implement their own commitments to social and environmental responsibility, and to work with others to overcome barriers to action. It then

shares what it learns to help others work towards a more sustainable society.

<http://www.forumforthefuture.org/>

**Any comments?**

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# STRATEGIC PLANS

## Planning for the future ...



The Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

The Scottish Government would like your views on its proposals to ensure Scotland and its local communities benefit from renewable and low carbon energy developments. Please reply by 18 February.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/11/26094907/0>



The aim of the Cairngorms Food for Life Development Plan is to create a sustainable food economy, which has local food production, distribution and consumption at its heart. The Plan identifies seven outcomes, which not only deliver the aspirations and aims of Food for Life, but help deliver strategic priorities for Cairngorms National Park and the Scottish Government.

<http://www.cairngorms.co.uk/>



The Economic and Social Research Council Delivery Plan 2011 - 2015 is an ambitious programme of social science research with clear and powerful benefits for the UK economy and society. Through our Delivery Plan it will: align and shape its strategic research investment on three priority areas; contribute to the RCUK interdisciplinary research programmes; focus our resources on longer, larger grants that deliver ambitious social science; invest in future leaders early in their careers; streamline existing funding opportunities; concentrate its PhD training in the best centres; protect its core investments in the national data infrastructure; continue to prioritise the generation of economic and societal impact; expand its collaborative activities with the private sector; and continue to encourage and promote international collaboration. [http://www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/index\\_voluntary.aspx](http://www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/index_voluntary.aspx)



The Food Standards Agency is consulting on its revised Strategic Plan for 2010-2015. If you want to comment on the proposed strategy, your response must be received by Friday 11 February 2011. The five-year plan, first published in December 2009, sets the Agency's strategic direction and priorities, and describes the outcomes the Agency aims to deliver to safeguard public health at all stages of the food chain. <http://www.scotlandfoodanddrink.org/>

Any comments?

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# COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

People for the future ...



As Scotland's Centre for Excellence in volunteering, Volunteer Development Scotland leads the way in informing and modernising approaches to volunteering policy, enhancing practice and improving the quality of the volunteering experience for the people of Scotland. <http://www.vds.org.uk/>



Do you have some inspiring ideas to develop your organisation and help realise your sustainability? Perhaps you're looking to tender for new contracts or diversify your income base. Help is at hand with the new Realise Mentoring programme. You can access free, confidential mentoring support from experienced mentors with expertise in the areas of greatest interest to you. Whether it's successfully bidding for tenders, managing cultural change or developing your organisation's sustainability, we can match you with the right mentor for your needs.

<http://www.realisementoring.org.uk/mnt/content/>



The calling of the election for five community representatives to serve on the board of the Cairngorms National Park Authority began on Wednesday 19 January with a mail drop to all households within the park boundary. One community member will represent each of the five wards within the expanded park area, which stretches to 4,528 sq km and represents 17,000 people. The five successful candidates will serve for four years on the 19-member CNPA board. <http://www.cairngorms.co.uk/news/index.php>

**Aberdeenshire**  
COUNCIL



Due to the retirement of long-serving representatives, vacancies have arisen for one volunteer outdoor Access User Representative and two Community Representatives on the Aberdeenshire Local Outdoor Access Forum (ALOAF).

Examples of the topics addressed by the Forum include integration of access with other land management interests and with residential privacy, the operation of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, input into the Aberdeenshire Core Paths Plan, promotion of responsible non-motorised access, and shared-use of paths by different modes of non-motorised travel. The Forum has a balanced representation from the following four Sectors: Access Users, public agencies, community, and land managers. The closing date for applications is Monday 31st January 2011. <http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/news/release.asp?newsID=1918>

**Any comments?**

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## RESEARCH, INFORMATION & IT

### Communications for the future ...



natural  
world

If you love birds and want to help them, then the Big Garden Birdwatch is your chance to do something that really counts. All you need is a pen, some scrap paper, and an hour to spend watching the birds in your garden on either Saturday 29, or Sunday 30 January 2011. Then simply record the highest number of each bird species seen in your garden, or local park (not flying over) at any one time, and come back to this page to tell the RSPB what you saw. <http://www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch/>



The Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society has been working to safeguard rights of way for 160 years. It is probably the oldest organisation in the world dedicated to improving countryside access. Our objects are the preservation, defence, restoration and acquisition of public rights of access for the public benefit over land in Scotland, including public rights of way. <http://www.scotways.com/>



Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics is the Scottish Government's on-going programme to improve the availability, consistency and accessibility of small area statistics in Scotland. This internet site is the main way in which the Scottish Government will disseminate the range of small area statistics including information on health, education, poverty, unemployment, housing, population, crime and social / community issues at the data zone level and above which support a number of the Government's targets and commitments aimed at closing the gap between disadvantaged areas and the rest of Scotland. <http://www.sns.gov.uk/default.aspx>



Evaluation Support Scotland works with voluntary organisations and funders so they can measure the impact of their work. It provides practical support and access to resources and tools. It takes action to build evaluation and learning into funding and policy-making processes. With its support you can find out what you do well and what you can improve, to deliver better services. <http://www.evaluationsupportscotland.org.uk/>

Any comments?

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## PILOT PROJECTS

### Testing for the future ...

**NESTA** Making  
Innovation  
Flourish

NESTA wants to work with people in their 50s and 60s in Scotland who have great ideas that can improve their community over a two year pilot programme. It is focused on the opportunity that people in their 50s and 60s have to develop and deliver their good ideas to improve communities in Scotland.  
[http://www.nesta.org.uk/areas\\_of\\_work/public\\_services\\_lab/ageing/age\\_unlimited\\_scotland](http://www.nesta.org.uk/areas_of_work/public_services_lab/ageing/age_unlimited_scotland)

A million reasons to read a book



World Book Night represents the most ambitious and far-reaching celebration of adult books and reading ever attempted in the UK and Ireland. On Saturday, 5 March

2011, two days after World Book Day, one million books will be given away by an army of passionate readers to members of the public across the UK and Ireland. The book give-away will comprise 40,000 copies of each of the 25 carefully selected titles, to be given away by 20,000 'givers', who will each distribute 48 copies of their chosen title to whomever they choose on World Book Night.  
<http://www.worldbooknight.org/>

**Shelter**  
Scotland

Shelter's digital inclusion pilot 'Housing advice for everyone' was run during 2008 and the early part of 2009. Among other things, it offered hands-on support enabling people to use the award-winning housing advice website. Shelter did this because it is concerned that too many people are being left out of the digital revolution. So it worked with a small but diverse group of organisations to build capacity through community engagement.  
[http://scotland.shelter.org.uk/about\\_us/how\\_we\\_make\\_a\\_difference/housing\\_aid\\_and\\_advice/specialist\\_services\\_in\\_scotland/assisted\\_access\\_pilot\\_project#1](http://scotland.shelter.org.uk/about_us/how_we_make_a_difference/housing_aid_and_advice/specialist_services_in_scotland/assisted_access_pilot_project#1)

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The Management Committee of MAP:

Chair: John Lewis, Donside Community Council  
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)  
Bell Macaulay, Ballater and Crathie Community Council (Ward 15)  
Donald Boyd, Huntly Development Trust  
Jean Henretty, Banchory and District Initiative  
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](http://www.banchory.org)



Click here to go to the Aberdeenshire Council website.

[www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.careerscotland.org.uk)



Charity Number SC 031462

Recognised Local Rural Partnership by Scottish Executive

[www.marrareapartnership.org.uk](http://www.marrareapartnership.org.uk)

Tel: 013398 87577 E-mail: [enquiry@marrareapartnership.org.uk](mailto: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