

# MARR AREA partnership

NEWSLETTER June 2010

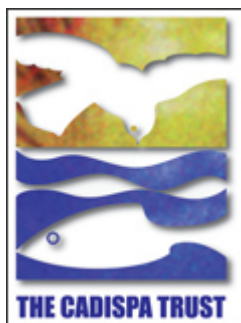
Working with the diverse communities of Marr to encourage and enable the sustainable development of their economic, environmental and social future.



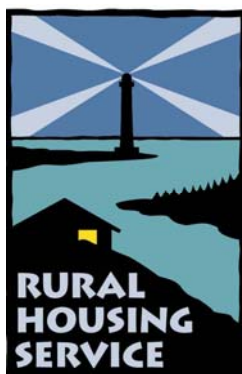
Welcome to our June newsletter.

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT

## Engaging the future ...



CADISPA (Conservation and Development in Sparsely Populated Areas) is an independent charity concerned with helping local people in rural Scotland to build a sustainable community 'for themselves – by themselves'. To achieve this, CADISPA forms a partnership with a local community and offers them support, funding and legal advice, community based research and access to a network of other groups across Scotland that have experienced self-initiated rural development over the recent past. <http://www.cadispa.org/index.html>



The Aberdeenshire Rural Housing Enabler project aims to improve affordable housing opportunities in rural Aberdeenshire by raising awareness of housing options, identifying rural housing needs, and helping to find solutions to increase the range of affordable housing available in the area. The Rural Housing Enabler works with communities, landowners, Aberdeenshire Council, housing associations and others to deliver more affordable housing options in rural Aberdeenshire. <http://www.ruralhousingscotland.org/aberdeenshire.htm>

## Discover Donside

Upper Donside is a destination for those who appreciate wonderful views and peace and quiet. It is well placed as a base to explore Speyside and the Cairngorm Mountains, Royal Deeside as well as the granite city of Aberdeen. The River Don rises in the eastern Cairngorms and winds its way eastward through Corgarff, Strathdon, Glenkindie and Kildrummy; on its way to the rest of Aberdeenshire. <http://www.upperdonside.org.uk/>



On Sunday 18th July you are invited to have lunch with your neighbours – in streets, parks, gardens, car parks... The best part of a million people did it last year and loved it. Join the big lunch for the second annual event and help put a smile back on Britain's face.

<http://www.thebiglunch.com/index.php>

**Any comments?**

[natasha@marrareapartnership.org.uk](mailto:natasha@marrareapartnership.org.uk)

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# COMMUNITY GRANTS & FUNDING ADVICE

## Resourcing for the future ...



The Rural Shop Support Scheme. Grant assistance of up to £7,500 may be available to help the development and diversification of rural retail outlets, which provide small communities with general stores and / or Post Office facilities. The scheme which is operated by Aberdeenshire

Council offers shopkeepers, and similar, a comprehensive package of support including business counselling, specialist consultancy, training advice, grants to a maximum of £7,500 and loans.  
<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/support/finance/shop.asp>



The Kerrygold Community Awards have been set up to recognise and reward community projects in the UK, where groups of individuals have worked together to achieve something in their community. Maybe you are trying to improve your town by creating a clean park area where families can meet and kids can play, or perhaps you are trying to help the environment by setting up a weekly litter pick. Kerrygold wants to hear about all your projects.  
<http://www.kerrygoldcommunityawards.co.uk/home>



The Village CORE Programme is a dedicated support programme for communities looking to set up and run a community-owned rural shop. It provides advisory support along with a £40,000 funding package comprised of a £20,000 grant matched with a £20,000 loan which is also matched by the equivalent community contributions. This programme, which will have supported over 50 new community-owned rural shops by the end of 2009, has recently been renewed for a further three years.

<http://www.plunkett.co.uk/whatwedo/core/Core.cfm>



Community Wildlife will fund projects that bring local people together to discover, enjoy or protect the wildlife in their local area. BIG have teamed up with the BBC Wildlife Fund's Go Wild campaign to bring you the Community Wildlife programme. The programme will fund between £300 and £10,000 for projects.

[http://www2.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_community\\_wildlife?fromsearch=-uk](http://www2.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_community_wildlife?fromsearch=-uk)

**Any comments?**

[natasha@marrareapartnership.org.uk](mailto:natasha@marrareapartnership.org.uk)

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# COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY

## Protecting the future ...



Cairngorms Outdoor Access Trust is an innovative environmental charity promoting sustainable access to the Cairngorms area. The company has five main strands of activity: Community Path Networks, Upland Paths, Walking to Health, Strategic Routes, and Promotion and Interpretation.

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

## Waste Online

Rubbish, waste, garbage...Whatever you want to call it, most people don't think about the rubbish they produce. Or how much of it. This site gives you the information. <http://www.wasteonline.org.uk/>



If you are looking for easy ways to stop wasting energy and money then you have come to the right place. The Energy Saving Trust is a non-profit organisation that provides free and impartial advice on how to stop wasting energy. <http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/>



about the environment and how to easily change their lives for the better.  
<http://www.globalactionplan.org.uk/evergreen>

The EverGreen project is designed to enable community groups, such as housing association residents, to make a positive contribution to the future of the environment. EverGreen takes the EcoTeams' concept and applies it to specific community groups. EcoTeams is an effective programme that has been running for a number of years. Easy and fun, it unites people who want to come together to learn

**Any comments?**

[natasha@marrareapartnership.org.uk](mailto:natasha@marrareapartnership.org.uk)

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# STRATEGIC PLANS

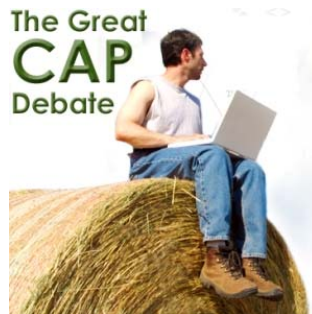
## Planning for the future ...



How do you think houses should be built, allocated, funded and managed in the future? What challenges and opportunities are there for the housing sector? What changes would you like to see? The Scottish Government want your comments on the future of housing policy in Scotland. You can download the *Housing: Fresh Thinking, New Ideas* discussion paper from the documents library. You can find out more by visiting the Housing Policy Discussion website, where you'll find resources and information on the key issues. They're keen for you to add your comments to their Blog. You can also follow @discusshousing on Twitter. Events will be taking place across the summer as part of the debate. Towards the end of the year the Scottish Government will publish a paper setting out its housing policy proposals. <http://housingdiscussion.scotland.gov.uk/home>



Scotland has already embarked on the journey towards a more sustainable approach to waste and resources. Recycling rates continue to rise, volumes of waste being sent to landfill are declining, and as a society we are increasingly aware of the environmental impact of our activities. This Zero Waste Plan builds on those past achievements and ongoing progress. It sets the strategic direction for waste policy for Scotland, informed by improved understanding of the environmental consequences of how we use and dispose of resources, and by the requirements of European legislation. The Zero Waste Plan is underpinned by a determination to achieve the best overall outcomes for Scotland's environment, by making best practical use of the approach in the waste management hierarchy: waste prevention, reuse, recycling and recovery. The plan is available to read in PDF from the website. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/06/08092645/0>



What do you think the Common Agricultural Policy should look like after 2013? That's the question being posed by the European Commission. Europe's Common Agricultural Policy is due to be reformed by 2013, and the European Commission are looking for your ideas about what it should look like. Later this year, the Commission will publish a policy paper setting out different options for the future CAP and undertake a formal consultation. Right now, they are looking for ideas from everyone living in Europe's rural areas, using the national rural networks. You can join in the debate by adding a comment to this article, and longer contributions to this vitally important debate would be welcome. Every comment added to this site will be forwarded to the European Commission. <http://www.ruralgateway.org.uk/en/node/2043>



North East Scotland Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) takes action to conserve important species and habitats for our benefit and for future generations. The LBAP covers North East Scotland (Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire and Moray) and is a partnership of local authorities, environmental, forestry, farming, land and education agencies, businesses and individuals. <http://lbap.macaulay.ac.uk/>

Any comments?

[natasha@marrareapartnership.org.uk](mailto:natasha@marrareapartnership.org.uk)

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# COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

People for the future ...



Teenagers from Webster's High School in Kirriemuir have become junior rangers in the Cairngorms National Park for a week. The five-day long programme which took place from 31 May-4 June was co-ordinated and funded by the Cairngorms National Park Authority with support from local Ranger services. It took place in the Angus Glens where participants were introduced to the flora, fauna and special qualities of the Cairngorms National Park. All participants are taking part in the John Muir Discovery Award which encourages groups or individuals to discover, explore, conserve and share their experiences of wild places. <http://www.cairngorms.co.uk/news/>



Village SOS is a major initiative from the Big Lottery Fund (BIG) and the BBC. Six UK villages with a great business idea have been teamed up with six enterprising individuals to help them achieve their ambitions. Together they will create a brand new venture that will bring life and energy to the village. Rural villages with fewer than 3,000 people and an idea for a new business to bring energy and life back to the community were encouraged to apply to take part in Village SOS. The idea could be to set up a local shop, an online retail enterprise, a manufacturing, arts or tourism business, a festival, a venture involving the restoration of an ancient building - anything, as long as it has the potential to grow and make a profit for the village. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/villagesos/>



Inspiring Scotland is an exciting new way of using money and skills to improve the lives of Scotland's most vulnerable people. It is a partnership between a range of investors all driven by a desire for social change: individuals, Government, trusts and foundations, businesses and charities. <http://www.inspiringscotland.org.uk/Home>



Step Forward Scotland is a new initiative from the Scottish Government and Skills Development Scotland that is committed to helping Scottish businesses and young people aged between 16 and 19. Its aim is to help businesses support young people who are just out of school or college. <http://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/step-forward.aspx>

**Any comments?**

[natasha@marrareapartnership.org.uk](mailto:natasha@marrareapartnership.org.uk)

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# RESEARCH, INFORMATION & IT

## Communications for the future ...



To get involved in Consumer Focus Scotland's work you can become a member of its Consumer Network. The Network has over 350 volunteers from all parts of Scotland who help to keep it informed about consumer concerns. They identify local consumer issues and investigate services

and facilities in their area for its research programme. It also has some associate groups representing particular sections of the population. There is no such thing as a 'typical' volunteer. The strength of the Network lies in its diversity. It wants to ensure our members are from all walks of life, with different interests and a wide range of consumer experiences. <http://www.consumerfocus.org.uk/scotland/get-involved-in-our-work-consumer-network#>



**scottishdevelopmentcentre**  
for mental health

t: +44 (0)131 555 5959  
[sdcmh@sdcmh.org.uk](mailto:sdcmh@sdcmh.org.uk)

Mental health is a vital resource that individuals, families, communities and societies need, to be able to thrive. SDC will work with others to create the conditions and opportunities for everyone to enjoy mental health and wellbeing, to draw attention to inequalities in mental health and to seek to address these inequalities. Everyone's mental health is important. Improving mental health is everyone's business. SDC will take a lead in promoting awareness of the centrality of mental health and wellbeing to sustainable economic, social and cultural development and in encouraging action to improve the mental health of the population. <http://www.sdcmh.org.uk/index.html>

**ThirdSector**

Charities • Voluntary Organisations • Social Enterprise

Third Sector is the UK's leading publication for everyone who needs to know what's going on in the voluntary and not-for-profit sector. Many of its 80,000 readers are chief executives, trustees and senior managers in charities, voluntary organisations and social enterprises. Others are parliamentarians, lawyers, finance professionals and private sector executives concerned with corporate responsibility. Third Sector offers unrivalled coverage of the whole range of voluntary sector concerns through the printed magazine, the website, and a range of conferences and events.

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



Welcome to the Portrait of our Time website. This website has been developed as part of a wider community project and aims to provide news and information for the people living in Ballogie, Birse, Finzean and

Strachan in Aberdeenshire, Scotland. The information on this site has been provided by local people for local people, using modern technology but with the aim of making it accessible to everyone.

<http://www.portrait-of-our-time.co.uk/home.asp>

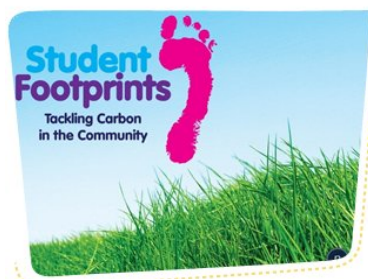
*Any comments?*

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## PILOT PROJECTS

### Testing for the future ...



The NUS Scotland Student Footprints project is an innovative six-month pilot project funded by the Scottish Funding Council. The project aims to empower students to take a leading role in reducing the carbon footprints of the communities in which they live. Carbon management training will enable them to carry out campus and community carbon audits that result in significant carbon savings and positive behaviour change. The pilot project will work with two colleges and two universities in Scotland, training and supporting student Carbon Ambassadors. <http://www.nus.org.uk/footprints>



Social Audit Network Limited promotes the use of Social Accounting and Audit as an accessible tool to prove the value of activities carried out by organisations in the social economy. The process is a valuable planning tool enabling an organisation to improve its future performance. In summary, social accounting and audit helps an organisation to '*prove and improve*'. Co-operative Development Scotland (CDS) and the Social Audit Network (SAN) worked in partnership to implement a pilot initiative which introduced social accounting and audit to six co-operative enterprises in Scotland. Go to the website to see the Summary. <http://www.socialauditnetwork.org.uk/>



Everyone is a engage Scotland's exciting new project working with galleries, visual arts and disability organisations, and engage members across Scotland to discuss and research access and disability equality. The aim of Everyone is to examine how it can make galleries in Scotland more accessible to disabled people, as audiences and artists. Everyone is funded by the National Lottery through the Scottish Arts Council. <http://www.engage.org/scotland/index.aspx>



The Planning Mentoring Scheme is a new programme, funded by the Big Lottery Fund and Supporting Voluntary Action (SVA), linking Planning Aid for Scotland (PAS) with CVS organisations and third sector "Interfaces". This will provide planning advice and guidance to community led development projects across rural Scotland. Key to the Planning Mentoring Scheme is the PAS role in helping empower people in an independent and impartial way. The scheme has been designed to guide and provide technical expertise to community led projects across rural Scotland at different stages of their development. The PAS network of volunteers will provide guidance and advice, demonstrating a positive side of planning that allows communities to shape their own neighbourhoods. <http://www.planningaidscotland.org.uk/page/117/Mentoring.htm>

**Any comments?**

[natasha@marrareapartnership.org.uk](mailto:natasha@marrareapartnership.org.uk)

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## June 2010 NEWSLETTER WEBSITES

### COMMUNITY SUPPORT

<http://www.cadispa.org/index.html>  
<http://www.ruralhousingscotland.org/aberdeenshire.htm>  
<http://www.upperdonside.org.uk/>  
<http://www.thebiglunch.com/index.php>

### COMMUNITY GRANTS & FUNDING ADVICE

<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/support/finance/shop.asp>  
<http://www.kerrygoldcommunityawards.co.uk/home>  
<http://www.plunkett.co.uk/whatwedo/core/Core.cfm>  
[http://www2.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_community\\_wildlife?fromsearch=-uk](http://www2.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_community_wildlife?fromsearch=-uk)

### COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY

<http://www.cairngormsoutdooraccess.org.uk/>  
<http://www.wasteonline.org.uk/>  
<http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/>  
<http://www.globalactionplan.org.uk/evergreen>

### STRATEGIC PLANS

<http://housingdiscussion.scotland.gov.uk/home>  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/06/08092645/0>  
<http://www.ruralgateway.org.uk/e/node/2043>  
<http://lbap.macaulay.ac.uk/>

### COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

<http://www.cairngorms.co.uk/news/>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/villagesos/>  
<http://www.inspiringscotland.org.uk/Home>  
<http://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/step-forward.aspx>

### RESEARCH, INFORMATION & IT

<http://www.consumerfocus.org.uk/scotland/get-involved-in-our-work-consumer-network#>  
<http://www.sdcmh.org.uk/index.html>  
<http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/>  
<http://www.portrait-of-our-time.co.uk/home.asp>

### PILOT PROJECTS

<http://www.nus.org.uk/footprints>  
<http://www.socialauditnetwork.org.uk/>  
<http://www.engage.org/scotland/index.aspx>  
<http://www.planningaidscotland.org.uk/page/117/Mentoring.htm>

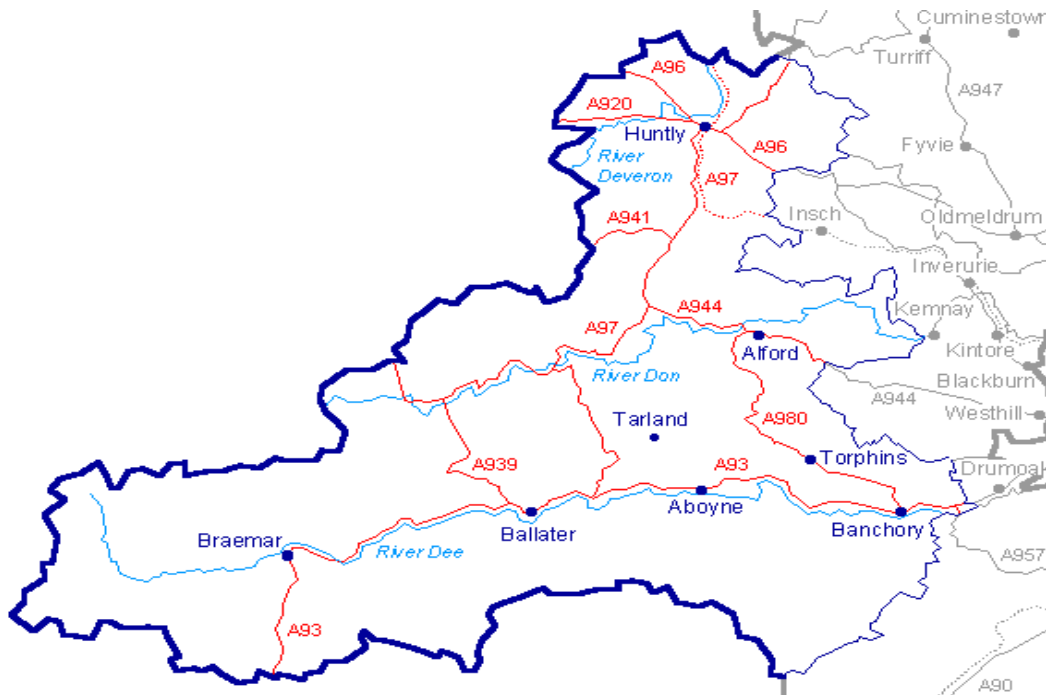
### COMMUNITY PLANNING

Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership  
<http://www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk>

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# MARR AREA partnership

## The Murr Area



The Murr 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, Murr offers many examples of rural and urban communities working to establish their individual ways ahead.

Within Murr, 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.

### **Murr Area Partnership operates throughout the area of Murr.**

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 Murr. Charity Number SC 031462.



The Management Committee of MAP:

Chair: John Lewis, Donside Community Council  
Vice-Chair: Dr Anderson, Strathbogie Community Council  
William Anderson, Huntly Community Development Group  
Les Allan, Representative of Aberdeenshire Council  
Cllr Rosemary Bruce, Aberdeenshire Council  
Alan Young, Council for Voluntary Service, Aberdeenshire Central & South  
David Polfreman, Volunteer Centre Aberdeenshire  
Nicola Kenyon, Community Learning and Development  
Hilda Lumsden Gill, Huntly Community Council (Ward 14)  
Keith White, Banchory Community Council (Ward 16)  
Bell Macaulay, Ballater and Crathie Community Council (Ward 15)  
Donald Boyd, Huntly Development Trust

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.

## 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.uk/](http://www.banchory.org.uk/)



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

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