

# LET'S TALK HOUSING



To get in touch with Rural Wisdom about any of the issues in this newsletter, contact Jill on 07591 203720 or [jill.d@otbds.org](mailto:jill.d@otbds.org)



## Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

gives free, confidential, impartial and independent information, advice and assistance on a wide range of issues to anyone who lives or works in Perth and Kinross.

### Come and see us for a chat

**Main & Apts:** 01738 450581

**Advice Line:** 01738 450580

**Pension Wise:** 01738 450596

**Debt Team:** 01738 450590

*Citizens Advice Bureau, 7 Atholl Crescent, Perth, PH1 5NG*

## Helping Disabled People, Veterans & Older People to Find the Right House, in the Right Place.

### *We're Scotland's housing advice charity*

Finding the right home in the right place can be a confusing and stressful experience. If you have a disability, mobility problems or other specific needs, it can be even more complicated.

We know every housing situation is unique, so our expert staff and trained volunteers are here to support you every step of the way.

Our service is free, we help everyone who comes to us, we're here for as long as you need us.



Get in touch with [Housing Options Scotland](http://HousingOptionsScotland.org.uk)

Email: [info@HousingOptionsScotland.org.uk](mailto:info@HousingOptionsScotland.org.uk)

Tel: 0131 247 1400

Web: [www.housingoptionsscotland.org.uk](http://www.housingoptionsscotland.org.uk)

Melting Pot, 5 Rose Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2PR

## Let's Talk Housing Event



The Rural Wisdom Project in Highland Perthshire held a free drop in event for people to discuss Housing in October 2018 at in Aberfeldy Parish Church and here is a summary of what we heard:

- *Aberfeldy, as a holiday destination, has a lack of private rental accommodation which affects community spirit*
- *There is a lack of affordable housing in the area for people who need to downsize*
- *Planning permission can be an issue, modern housing which is warm and cheap to run is in demand*
- *People were concerned about the care and support of their relatives rather than the particular issue of housing*
- *People were keen to know how a change of circumstances would affect benefits*

# What are your options?

## Rural Housing Options

### *Farming families*

Donald and Mel are retired from their farming business now. They looked at their options and decided to build a new single level house on the farm with plenty room for grandchildren. The main farmhouse was available for their son and his wife to raise their own family with active grandparents on hand if required. Donald and Mel can drive and they wouldn't want to live anywhere else.

### *Garden Pad*

Gerry and Margo are very active, enjoying golf and tennis, brisk walks and an active social life. They bought their family home in the 1970's complete with a generous sized garden. They have enough garden in fact to build a new house, to their specification, sharing the drive with the original house. Ideally they would like it to have low running costs so are looking at a 'passivhaus' design.

The only thing they have to decide now is do they sell the main house

or keep it as a home for a carer and their family in the future? They would have their own private space and capacity for greater support if needed.

### *I love my family home*

George and Mildred brought up their 2 boys, in the family home in a quiet street not far from the town centre. Mildred is on her own now and is looking at her options and her future lifestyle. She enjoys meeting her friends for coffee, still drives and walks to a lot of the town centre activities she attends. Sometimes, it would be nice to have someone to talk to though.

Mildred is in the ideal location for her lifestyle choices. However, it is a big house (and garden) for one person and she has decided to look at how she can adapt her home. She is speaking to an architect about the possibility of creating an apartment on the first floor and she can live on the ground floor. She's not sure about having a lodger though. Josh lives 7 miles outside town and would like to go to Perth College to study. He doesn't want to move to Perth as many of his pals have been forced to do as they can't get into town for the 7.30am bus each day.

*Home Share* is a scheme where a householder looking for companionship offers accommodation to a person looking for accommodation in exchange for 10 hours help each week around the house and to share the bills. The help could be with cooking, light housework, helping with correspondence, walking the dog, bit of gardening and companionship. Josh is not a carer so can combine his college commitments with helping Mildred.

This option is popular in bigger cities but would be ideal for a rural location where transport into town is a barrier to education and employment for some unable to drive. Mildred can meet Josh and his family and get to know them before they make a formal agreement. Mildred would consider what she needs help with long term and an agreement would be written up for them to sign. Longer term, when Mildred does need more support, she has an apartment for a carer.

For more information about this option, please contact Jill Davies on 07591 203720 or email [jill.d@otbds.org](mailto:jill.d@otbds.org)

### Location, location, location



Lucy has lived in a rented cottage on a country estate for many years. She is active in a number of clubs in town but can no longer drive. She has been able to attend activities when they send a volunteer driver, but longer-term Lucy knows that she will have to move. Lucy contacts the council to apply for a house in the area. The Council hold the Housing register which includes houses owned by housing associations and private land lords. If this is an option you wish to explore, contact the Housing Options and Support Team on 01738 476000 or go online for information at [www.pkc.gov.uk/housing](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/housing) or email to [housinginfo@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:housinginfo@pkc.gov.uk).

# Pioneers Wanted!

When we move house we look at the location, number of bedrooms, garden and storage space, etc.. The one thing we can't choose is our neighbours.

But what if you could?

Tom and Barbara, Terry, June and 3 more couples have been friends for many years and enjoy each other's company. They would all like to downsize, stay in their community, close to town but with access to the great outdoors to keep fit. They can all drive but also like walking.

On the edge of town Lionel and Jean have a large house with a 2 ½ acre garden. They have been looking at their options, faced with the same issues as their friends, a lack of downsizing opportunities. They would be happy to be part of a small community of friends and decided to explore the options. Rural Housing Scotland could support a group to set up an organisation to look at the different options to buy or lease the garden, explore the viability of a co – housing model in a rural area, secure legal advice and determine what you can write into a legal agreement.

If you would like to explore the option of creating your own community, contact Jill Davies on 07591 203720 or email [jill.d@otbds.org](mailto:jill.d@otbds.org) or Derek Logie at Rural Housing Scotland.



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## Getting Older? Living Alone? Do you want Security?

**Abbeyfield may be the place for you** In Abbeyfield, you'll find the independence and privacy of your own room with en-suite shower-room or bathroom. Abbeyfield houses help elderly people to live independently at modest prices. Abbeyfield houses are run by volunteers and is a "not for profit" organisation. For more information, please contact our Admissions Secretary on 01887 820283.



## Kranôgs are luxurious off grid spaces available in different sizes.

Being off grid and on stilts the units can go anywhere without the need for thinking about hooking up to mains water, power or sewage or even laying foundations. Being classified as "Temporary Structures" and requiring the same planning permission as a caravan, they are flexible in positioning and there is less "red tape" in terms of planning.

Kranôg Ltd uses a collection of Scottish designed and built eco-technologies from waste treatment solutions to renewable energy. The design of a Kranôg unit -the focus on ease of transportation, erection, and the off grid technologies- means it is perfect for rural pieces of land which would conventionally be considered hard, or impossible, to build on. The focus on quality sustainable materials, cutting edge insulation and building methods means the units are luxury lasting products, distinct from a static caravan and yet requiring the same planning permission as one.



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# Who Cares?



The Care and Wellbeing Co-operative provides care and support to people living in rural Perthshire.

Our aim is to help older people and people with disabilities or health conditions to remain in their homes and enjoying the life they want.

This could be help around the home, support to keep up your interests like the garden /writing/volunteering, opportunities to try out community activities or attend community events, advice on setting up your own support and the different ways to fund it.

We work alongside families, neighbours, volunteers and health and social care professionals to help come up with solutions to meeting care needs which are right for rural Perthshire.

We also want to play our part in keeping rural communities healthy and connected helping to reduce loneliness and isolation. If you would like to talk about your care and support needs or you have something to offer to help keep communities well why not contact us.  
w: [www.thecareandwellbeing.coop](http://www.thecareandwellbeing.coop)  
t: 07917773655 e: [hello@thecareandwellbeing.coop](mailto:hello@thecareandwellbeing.coop)

## Support Choices

is a new project that will help people living in Perth and Kinross to get the social care and support that they need.

**Support Champions** will share information in their local areas. These are volunteers who know their community, so it is easy for people to get to hear about what is possible for them.

Community Workers will have more information for individual people, to help you get an assessment of your needs and make choices about how you want your support to be organised.

Once we've got going, we'll be recruiting independent **Support Brokers**, who will be there to help people who want to organise their own care and support.

The project begins in **Highland Perthshire**. After that, we'll be reaching other areas of Perth and Kinross too.

The project is a partnership between **Outside the Box** and **the Care and Wellbeing Co-op**. It is are funded by the Scottish Government through the Support in the Right Direction programme.

### Get in touch if you are interested in getting involved:

Donna Murray-Trail

Anne Connor

Care and Wellbeing Co-op

Outside the Box

w: [careandwellbeing.coop](http://careandwellbeing.coop)

w: [otbds.org](http://otbds.org)



### Peace of mind day and night

**Telecare**, also known as community alarms, provides peace of mind for individuals and their families through a 24-hour response service.

Telecare is one of the most important tools we use to help you live independently in your own home.

To apply, contact the Early Intervention and Prevention service on 0345 30 111 20 or [AccessTeam@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:AccessTeam@pkc.gov.uk).

### It's all in the Planning

Whether you have decided to adapt your home to create an apartment or downsize to a 'friends community', you may need planning permission to make it happen.

For information on the planning process, visit [pkc.gov.uk/planning](http://pkc.gov.uk/planning).

You can request a meeting with a member of the Development Management Team to discuss.  
PKC Development Management,  
Pullar House, 35 Kinnoull St., Perth,  
01738 475300

[developmentmanagement@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:developmentmanagement@pkc.gov.uk)