

BRECHIN

What do you want for your community? Come along to this open meeting to HAVE YOUR SAY

When? Friday 18 January 10:30am - 3:00pm

Where? Lesser Hall, City Hall, Brechin

What? A constructive and inclusive conversation about what happens next. Refreshments provided

Who? Hosted by Rural Wisdom, the event is open to everyone - individuals, community groups, local authority representatives, NHS staff



Rural Wisdom is working with communities in Scotland and Wales to create opportunities for older people to shape their community. Our aim is make communities work better for older people and the other people who live there. Rural Wisdom has been working in Angus since 2017, and this newsletter contains information about some of the activities and projects we have been involved with.

For more info, visit www.ruralwisdom.org or contact shona@otbds.org / 07855 210113

Brechin Community Singing Group

The group grows from strength to strength each week with new participants joining for a fortnightly afternoon of fun and friendship through the medium of song. Newington Gardens Sheltered Complex provides their big lounge along with refreshments facilities and easy access for all. The group is very fortunate to have the musical skills of John Grubb, piano and Margaret Jamieson, violin who turn up to every group to help with musical accompaniment.

Promotion of the group continues with members sharing posters and telling their own friends and family and whilst we are keen to attract other sheltered accommodation complexes to come along, the group decided to take the Community Singing Group out to them instead. Our first one was held at Dalhousie Day Care Centre, a well-loved facility based in Brechin. The group discussed and agreed a programme of songs, most of which we already have in our library of favourite songs, ensuring that the Day Care members could participate as much as possible. A jolly afternoon was had by all, with full participation from members, Community Singing Group and care staff where we were treated to homemade scones and jam! The Community Singing Group membership now stands around 16 members and will finish this season with a Christmas Carol and Buffet afternoon on Thursday 6th December at Newington Gardens.



Brechin Information Hub

A small group of people from Brechin have recently been talking about providing a public information hub in Brechin, aware that – as digital technology increasingly takes over – some older people can feel left behind and unsure of how/where to access information. The group hoped to address this inequality by providing information that is easily accessible to all.

Due to a combination of factors, over the seven weeks the Information Hub was manned and ready, we had a poor response to both enquiries and volunteer support. Sadly, the decision was taken on the 23rd Oct that it was difficult to sustain a weekly Information Hub with no volunteers. However, information is still key to many older people living an independent life for as long as possible and the Steering Group are moving ahead with their plans around hosting guest speaker slots on topics that matter to older people such as; *scams, transport options, access to health services* to name but a few.

WRI Tarfside, Glenesk

Shona, our RW Development Worker was invited to attend a regular WRI Tarfside Meeting, as a Guest Speaker held in the Masonic Hall. Glenesk is an area which is approx. 12 miles on single track road from Edzell and whilst beautiful is very remote from towns and services. With the recent school closure, new estate ownership and older people moving out of the area to access health and social care, the area is facing significant changes in its social demographic. The WRI in Tarfside continue to offer regular get togethers not just for themselves, but for others in their community but are faced with declining involvement. Shona provided an outline of the work of Rural Wisdom, shared information, resources and provided ideas on how to increase participation levels such as the 'Chatty Café' scheme. In return, we were asked to be the judge for the 'Limerick Competition' with the theme being on 'Community' and the winning ditty is below for your delectation and delight

COMMUNITY

THERE WAS A WIFIE CA'D BELLA
WHA' BID IN THE GLEN WI' HER FELLA,
JINED IN DANCES, CHEESE N WINE, QUIZ NICHTS AN A,
RURAL, MASONS BALL, HAGGIS, NEEPS N TATTIES, BRAW!
AT RETREAT HID A BITE TAE EAT SWEELD DOON WI' A CANO' STELLA

HELEN, SWRI TARFSIDE (OCT 18)

BRECHIN iNFORMATION HUB

Tuesday 4th December

Scams & Financial Harm

Presentation by Trading Standards on how to prevent nuisance phone calls and protect yourself from financial harm

Open to all. Refreshments available

Newington Sheltered Gardens Complex at 2pm.
Transport available. Call Eric Gray on:
01356 624026 to arrange.



YBYC Event - Edzell

Following the Pop Up Shop held in Edzell during January and with the completion of the Intergenerational Film project coming to an end with the **Public Showing of the Intergenerational Film at 2pm on Sunday 9th December at the Inglis Memorial Hall Edzell** **More info on the Rural Wisdom Facebook page.**

Shona applied for a small amount of funding to the 'Your Choice, Your Budget' participatory budgeting, where the local community votes for a share of £5,000 for local project based activities and groups. There were 13 groups in total with a diverse range on offer. Unfortunately, Rural Wisdom was unsuccessful with their plans on hosting a Happiness Habits Café, based on the good work Outside the Box is carrying out in the Borders, however, it was a super opportunity to meet up with old and new friends and do quite a bit of networking (chatting and cups of tea!), with other community organisers.