



Dear All,

Funding Fair. Not long now until the Aberdeenshire Council / AVA / KDP Funding Fair! It's being held on Saturday 24th February from 1030 - 1530 in Stonehaven Community Centre. In the morning, as well as a marketplace of stalls to have a look at, there will be workshops on Crowdfunding and Community Shares. In the afternoon, there will be the opportunity for community group representatives to have a one-to-one session with a particular funder or advisor for more in-depth advice. Refreshments will be provided. Booking is required for the workshops, but all are welcome to come and have a look round the stalls on a drop-in basis. Please see the attached poster and booking form for more information, and contact the KDP office if you have any queries.

Community Cash. What could your community group do with a micro-grant of £300? Our next Community Cash event will be held on Tuesday 6th March at 7pm in the Harbour Bar, Gourdon. Each group gives a short presentation on their proposed project or activity, then those present vote for who should receive the award. Please see the attached Ts & Cs and registration form, and contact the KDP office for further information.

St John's Hill Windfarm Community Fund. This new fund is now open to applications for community groups and organisations in the Arbutnott and Catterline, Kinneff & Dunnottar Community Council areas. Applications close at the end of March. KDP staff are very happy to provide support and guidance through the application process, so please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Volunteers Wanted! Carron Stroke Group Based in Stonehaven are currently looking for volunteers to help out at their group from 10am until 12 noon on a Monday morning. They require people who will help stroke members to take off their jackets and hang them up, help members to sit at tables and chairs, talk and take part in games and activities and to help make teas and coffees and wash up dishes. There is a rota so volunteers are not required every week. Please contact email 31ann@msn.com to register your interest.

Mill of Benholm Tourism Event. Mill of Benholm Enterprise is a group that has formed to work towards community management of the Mill of Benholm. Thanks to funding from the Heritage Lottery, a "Local Tourism Networking Event" is being held at the Mill on Saturday 17th February at 11am. You will hear an update on progress so far and outline future plans for the Mill and there will also be a presentation from Nigel Taylor of the "Our Mearns Tourism Association". The presentations will be followed by a light lunch and the chance for networking. It is hoped that we can talk about ways in which we can work together to promote each other and our area. Please email michael.bennet418@btinternet.com to book a place.

Are you a grower, crofter, dairy producer, baker, butcher, juice-maker, retailer, caterer...?
Are you passionate about making tasty, nutritious and sustainably produced food

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available locally through short supply chains? Are you in the process of setting up a local food enterprise (within the next 6 months) or have just started one (<3 years)? Would you like to get support from an experienced mentor and meet and learn from other local food entrepreneurs from across Scotland? There are spaces left on a programme offering mentoring and peer support to aspiring and recently established local food entrepreneurs from across Scotland. The application deadline is 19th February 19 at 5pm. The first whole-group meeting will be on Monday 5th March at Comrie Croft, near Crieff, Perthshire starting at 11am. <http://www.nourishscotland.org/projects/making-a-living-from-local-food/>

Bank of Scotland grant. The Large Grants Programme provides grants between £50,000 and £100,000 to charities registered in Scotland. There are two key themes: Develop and improve local communities, and Financial literacy and financial inclusion. Applications close 16th February. <http://bankofscotlandfoundation.org/large-grants-programme>

Royal Bank of Scotland Skills & Opportunities Fund. RBS are making £140k of funding available to local not-for-profit organisations, for projects focused on financial capability and enterprise. They are inviting community organisations with an eligible project or project idea to apply for grants of up to £35k. So if that sounds like an opportunity you or someone you know might be interested in, please visit skillsandopportunitiesfund.rbs.com/apply/ to find out more. Applications open from Monday 5 February until Friday 23 February 2018.

With very best wishes for the weekend,

Jacky and Lesley

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