

FOR A BETTER BUCKIE

BUCKIE COMMUNITY NEWS



A WORD FROM US

Welcome to the first edition of our community newsletter. We are the Buckie Monitoring Group, a group of residents from the local area who helped to produce the Buckie Central East Locality Plan.

By working with the local community and statutory and voluntary sector agencies we identified a number of priorities that would help us build a better future for our young people in Buckie.

Four priorities were identified - learning and life skills, young people, connectivity and community voice. The actions in the 10-year plan will be delivered by us all working together; pooling resources and sharing knowledge.

After a year's hard work with the wider community, we launched the Plan in August 2019 with a free afternoon tea at Buckie's North Church Hall attended by around 200 people.

If you haven't read the plan you can read it online at www.buckie.co



WHAT HAPPENED NEXT...

Lots of things have happened since we launched the plan last year..

- AUG 2019**
- Lady Cathcart Nursery opened
- We held a consultation on the **food growing strategy**
- Health & wellbeing** information sessions held
- AB56 early learning & childcare project** started
- Income maximisation** chats
- Pilot of **"school dinners at home"**
- An original short film** "Dooking" was created by local young people, assisted by M:ade
- 2 Introduction To Childcare** courses completed
- 2 Living Life to the Full** courses completed
- 6 young people from Buckie took part in the **Moray Pathways Summer programme**
- Youth & community work** in Buckie **praised** by Education Scotland inspectors
- Funding received** from NHS, Police Scotland and SSE Beatrice Fund to support local projects
- AUG 2020**

VOLUNTEERING IN BUCKIE

One good thing to come out of the Coronavirus pandemic has been the number of new people volunteering their time and energy to help their neighbours.

But volunteering isn't just for a crisis!

If you want to get involved in our community and make new friends, learn something new, pass on your skills, feel useful and help to create a better Buckie - contact us or check out www.tsimoray.org.uk/volunteering



EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

Moray Pathways, which is a central point of contact for people wanting to learn, train and seek employment is reminding people of its service as the region starts to emerge from the Covid-19 crisis.

In July Moray Pathways launched a six-week summer programme offering young people the opportunity to try out bush craft skills, a community project, creative arts and have local employers visit the young people on site.

Moray Pathways works with several partner agencies and can provide a wealth of information to individuals, organisations and businesses in the wake of the Coronavirus pandemic.

www.moraypathways.co.uk

IMPROVED BUS SERVICE

During consultation with residents, local transport for people working shift patterns was raised. Some people felt that this was often a barrier to going for a job.

Stagecoach listened to the community's concerns and adapted their timetable based on our feedback.

Stagecoach also embarked on an improvement plan for Service 35 as part of its investment plan that increased capacity on the buses and made them more accessible to those with mobility issues and prams. It also introduced a number of hybrid electric vehicles which is much better for the environment.

They did such a great job that Service 35 is now up for a Scottish Transport award later in the year. Good luck!



MONTHLY COMMUNITY LUNCHES

We kicked off our first Buckie community lunch, supported by Moray Food Plus, in November 2019 and more than 70 people turned out to enjoy the food!

In December, 105 attended the lunch, and despite a few technical glitches with the ovens a great day was had when the children from Lady Cathcart Nursery provided us with Christmas songs. The monthly events have proved a great success and although Covid-19 halted our indoor monthly gatherings, sheltered housing residents in Buckie enjoyed a 'Community Lunch Cerry Oot' in July.

We plan to continue the 'Community Lunch Cerry Oot' until restrictions are lifted and it's safe for us to come together again.



ACCESS TO DEVICES

The Buckie Area Forum has been successful in securing funding from Highlands and Islands Enterprise for 10 laptops and 10 electronic notebooks.

Through their Buckie Regeneration sub group, they have also purchased SIMS that will allow the user access to the internet too. These are for vulnerable children and socially isolating elderly people who need a device to help them access services, keep in touch with others, and participate in learning opportunities.

The equipment will remain the property of the Buckie Area Forum and it will be lent out to help those in need throughout the COVID crisis.



GROWING OUR COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Buckies Roots community group was set up because of negative comments regarding the state of flowerbeds in Cluny Square.

Community members of all ages got involved with revitalising the Square before making a fabulous poppy feature for Armistice Day. They knitted, crocheted, sewed and painted and the whole town benefited from their efforts.

Their next project, which is almost complete, is new signage which will be situated at the Speyside Way. They've made a huge difference to Buckie in a short space of time and are now a registered charity. Well done Buckies Roots on your fantastic efforts!



BUCKIE AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Buckie and District Community Council (B&DCC) have not been resting on their laurels over this challenging period. The group have had a vital role to play as the anchor organisation for holding and distributing funding from various grant initiatives borne out of the COVID crisis.

Providing crucial and integral funds for various groups and halls in our community. Buckie Area Forum, Buckie Regeneration Group, Buckie Community Kindness Group, Salvation Army, Fishermen's Hall, Portessie Hall, Arradoul Hall and others have benefited from this essential financial support. Working collaboratively can only garner increased community spirit.



NOT
TODAY
#COVID19

ACTIVE TRAVEL ZONE

We're delighted that an Active Travel Zone is being introduced at St Peter's Primary.

An Active Travel Zone is a designated area where people are encouraged to walk, cycle or scoot and vehicles are discouraged to enter.

This means that anyone dropping off or picking up children from the school should try not to bring their cars into the streets closest to the school.

This will help children feel safer at the school gate, be better for the environment, better for our health and it will also show consideration to those living in the area.



NEED HELP GETTING AROUND?

Dial M for Moray is a door-to-door bus service for those unable to use existing forms of transport or who do not have a regular scheduled bus service. This service is for everyone, regardless of age or disability.

The Buckie Area service operates Monday to Friday and starts at 9am and finishes at 2.30pm on school days and 9am to 4.30pm on school holidays. For information on fares or to book the service please call 0300 123 4565 Mon to Friday 8.45am-5pm

OUR PARTNERS

Thank you to the lead partners who are helping us all to put this plan into action:

Moray Pathways Employability Consortium
Locality Management Group
Buckie High School
Skills Development Scotland
Moray Skills Pathway [DYW]
Moray Wellbeing Hub
Buckie Youth Engagement Team
Moray Food Plus

Police Scotland
Community Planning Partnership
Moray College UHI
Moray Council
Care and Learning Alliance
Jobcentre Plus
Action for Children
Working Together Group

Health and Social Care Moray
tsiMORAY
Buckie Area Forum
Buckie & District Community Council
Stagecoach
Moray Transport Forum
Visit Moray Speyside