

The Auld Toon News



Neighbourhood Questionnaires to be returned by 11 November

All residents in the Old Aberdeen Neighbourhood Services Area (this omits the Community Council area to the south of Hermitage Avenue and University Road) should have received their neighbourhood questionnaires by now. The initial deadline for their return was 28 October but this has now been extended to 11 November. The prize winning name will be drawn at the next Community Council meeting on 15 November.

Conference Centre Cafe re-opens

Under its new name of the James McKay coffee shop, the former conference centre cafe and social hub of the University and local community, re-opened its doors on Monday 24 October. For the time being it will be serving teas, coffees, biscuits and pastries only. Opening times from now until Christmas are 10 am to 2.30 pm Monday to Friday.

How would you spend £3,000?

Each community council in the city is to receive an annual budget of £3,000 to enable them to make small improvements in their area and thus raise their profile within the community. All suggestions to Morag Paterson as soon as possible so the Community Council can make timely application to the City Council.

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Big day as the old Town House re-opens

The University, the City and local community representatives were delighted to welcome Tessa Jowell back to Old Aberdeen on Friday 21 October to officially open the old Town House. And how fitting that was. Ms Jowell grew up in Old Aberdeen and she spoke fondly of her Saturday mornings in the little local library on the first floor with its dusty smell and coal fire in the grate. She had also studied at the University and so it was as a former resident, a former student as well as Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, that she did the honours for the University and Old Aberdeen and cut the symbolic ribbon.

The University plans to use the old Town House for students, parents and school parties to find out more about the studying at the University. The reception and meeting room areas on the first and second floors will offer space for different kinds of events, and all suggestions are welcome. Information on Old Aberdeen and its history will be available for visitors through visual displays and a variety of leaflets. Importantly, the facilities will be available for evening use by community groups and local societies. The next meeting of the Community Council is scheduled to take place there on 15 November at 7.30 pm.



Dr Morley Hutchinson, Chair of Old Aberdeen Heritage Society, and Ms Morag Paterson, Chair of Old Aberdeen Community Council, enjoying the fine view down the High Street.

