

THE COUNCIL'S MAGAZINE FOR THE PEOPLE OF ANGUS

INSIDE:  
FOUR-PAGE  
BUDGET  
PULL-OUT

# Angus *life*

Issue 10 Winter 2010

visit [www.angus.gov.uk](http://www.angus.gov.uk)



## Chain reaction

The introduction of Curriculum for Excellence will lead to a new learning experience for pupils

INSIDE>> LIGHTHOUSE CELEBRATIONS ROAD SAFETY SUPPORTING EMPLOYMENT



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# Angus Life welcome

Welcome to the winter 2010 edition of *Angus Life*. In this edition, we have included a four-page budget supplement to keep you up to date about what the cuts in public sector funding will mean for council services in Angus.

Just like household budgets, when there is less money, we have to focus on where we really need to spend it. We hope you will give us your views about the council's approach to the budget challenges and respond to the questionnaire – your views do count.

Through *Angus Life*, we will keep you informed – giving residents across the county information about the council's plans and performance.

## Get involved in the future of Angus

ANGUS people are being urged to get involved in the future development of the county.

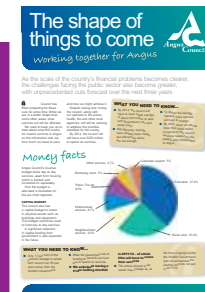
A questionnaire has been issued for residents to give their views on land use in Angus as work begins on a new local plan for the area.

The council's new planning framework will guide development in the county over the next 10 years.

It will aim to guide development to the most appropriate locations while seeking to protect and enhance the areas high-quality built and natural heritage.

**Further information, including a newsletter and the questionnaire, is available at libraries, ACCESS offices and at [www.angus.gov.uk/localdevelopmentplan](http://www.angus.gov.uk/localdevelopmentplan)**

**The closing date for submissions is 23 December 2010.**



**Inside:** In the centre pages of this issue of *Angus Life* you'll find a copy of *The Shape of Things to Come*, a special four-page pull-out on the challenges facing the council following the announcement that cuts are being made to funding for the public sector.

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If you have any comments about *Angus Life* please contact the council's public relations unit, Angus House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar DD8 1AX. Tel: 01307 461460. Email: [anguslife@angus.gov.uk](mailto:anguslife@angus.gov.uk)

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♻️  
paper. When you have finished with this magazine, please recycle it.



# Let's all enjoy a green Christmas this year!

EACH Christmas in the UK, we send more than one billion cards and use enough wrapping paper to stretch to the Moon. As a result, it is important to think about the waste we produce and how to manage it more sustainably.

Reducing the amount of waste we create at Christmas and recycling as much as possible doesn't mean we all have to turn into Ebenezer Scrooge! In fact, there are lots of simple ways to make Christmas that little bit greener.

It's easy to recycle lots of different materials at your local

recycling centre. Centres now accept plastic and metal bottle tops and lids.

Don't forget you can use your green recycling box to recycle glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles and food and drink cans.

You can also recycle large metal sweet and biscuit tins, as well as empty aerosol cans in your green box.

After Christmas, you can cut out and make gift tags from Christmas cards for next year. If arts and crafts aren't your scene, why not take them to the greetings and Christmas cards recycling point at your

local recycling centre?

Finally, don't forget to dispose of your real Christmas tree responsibly. Angus Council will collect your tree from the kerbside on your usual green bin collection day. If your tree is large, please cut it up prior to collection at the kerbside.

Alternatively, you can take your tree to your local recycling centre and deposit it in the garden waste skip.

**For more information on recycling at Christmas – or at any time of year – visit [www.angus.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.angus.gov.uk/recycling) or pick up an A-Z Recycling Guide from your local library or ACCESS office.**

## ANGUSSHORTS

### A lesson in energy efficiency

THE Scottish Government has cited an Angus primary school as an excellent example of energy efficiency in the public sector.

The new Seaview Primary School building in Monifieth is featured in the Scottish Government's recently published Conserve and Save – The Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Scotland as an example of good practice.

Angus Council has already won a national Carbon Trust Award for its energy efficient design and construction of the school.



### Festive recycling changes

Christmas and New Year mean there will be different dates for collection of household waste bins and recycling boxes. Look out for your Christmas handbill which will be distributed on bin collection days from 6 December

## DIARYDATES

### Households on kerbside recycling service:

**Grey bins** – all households will receive an alternate week collection as normal, with the only change being Monday collections done on Tuesdays instead.

**Green bins** – no collection for four weeks from 20 December to 14 January.

**Green boxes** – most households will receive a weekly collection – those that don't will receive two collections over three weeks.

### Areas not on kerbside recycling service:

**Grey bins** – most collections will be unaffected; however, one Monday and one Tuesday collection will be missed.

Recycling centres will be closed on 25 and 26 December 2010 and 1 and 2 January 2011. The centres will be open all other days for recycling and disposal of bulky items.

There will be no special uplift of bulky items between Monday 27 December and Friday 7 January. The service will start again on Monday 10 January.

There will be no Monday commercial waste collections.

## Vacancies



THE recruitment minisite at [angus.myjobscotland.gov.uk](http://angus.myjobscotland.gov.uk) holds information on all current vacancies within the council, and allows applicants to apply online and store details for future applications.

## A real rock hero!

THERE'S still time for fans of Kirriemuir-born former AC/DC vocalist Bon Scott to view rare music memorabilia at the Gateway to the Glens Museum.

This celebration includes Bon's award for UK sales of the single Highway to Hell, plus rare singles and LPs. The exhibits have been loaned by Neil McDonald, a leading collector of AC/DC items.

The display is an introduction to a lavish celebration next year of Bon on what would have been his 65th birthday.



# The light of life

➤ For 200 years, the Bell Rock Lighthouse and the Signal Tower have been a welcome sight for sailors

**The Bell Rock** Lighthouse has been a beacon for sailors since 1811, saving countless lives as it warns mariners of the unseen dangers which lurk just under the dark surface of the North Sea.

Now, nearly two centuries after the light first shone, Arbroath's Signal Tower Museum is undergoing an exciting transformation which will pay tribute to the vision and bravery of the men who built and manned this amazing feat of engineering.

The lighthouse was built between 1807 and 1811 by Robert Stevenson, founder of the famous dynasty of lighthouse engineers, to alert mariners to the location of the treacherous Inchcape Reef, or Bell Rock.

The imposing 35m-high structure is the oldest standing rock lighthouse in the world. It is operated by the Northern Lighthouse Board, and has been automated since 1988.

The Signal Tower, by Arbroath Harbour, was built as the shore base for the lighthouse and was home for lighthouse keepers' families and for the keepers themselves while on shore leave.

The building's name derives from its other role as a signalling station, passing messages between the lighthouse and the mainland. Among the many folk tales from this time, legend has it that when a lighthouse keeper's wife gave birth, a blue flag was flown to alert him that he was father to a new baby boy, or pink to announce the new arrival was a daughter.

This picturesque building has been a museum since 1974, and the investment of £450,000 by Angus Council will see the creation of new displays, focusing on Arbroath's fascinating maritime heritage,

and, in particular, the link with the famous Bell Rock Lighthouse.

Access will be improved for disabled visitors and a better link will be established to the harbour visitor centre. The improved display facilities will also provide an opportunity for exhibits to be loaned from national collections.

In the centre of the Signal Tower courtyard there will be replica of the first complete course of the lighthouse in full size – 42 square feet in diameter – which will give visitors an idea of the sheer scale of the building.

The ball mechanism on the top of the tower will be restored and will enable signalling to be reintroduced for special occasions. The installation of a webcam is also in the pipeline which will allow visitors to view the rock.

Norman Atkinson, the council's cultural services manager, said: "This investment is not just for the 2011 international celebrations to mark the bicentenary of the Bell Rock Lighthouse, but also for the long-term future, bringing in new visitors to Arbroath and Angus.

"The promotion of our heritage is more important than ever, as it boosts the local economy by bringing in visitors who are signposted to other visitor attractions, spend in local shops and use local accommodation providers. Raising awareness and interest in our heritage also improves the quality of life for local people and builds community pride."

## Year of the Light celebrations

On 1 February 2011, it will be exactly 200 years since the first beacon of light shone out from the Bell Rock Lighthouse, warning passing vessels of the deadly reef lurking below the waves.

The Bell Rock had always been a notorious spot for mariners, with many ships and lives lost in its vicinity.

However, it wasn't until HMS York



# shines on

ANGUSSHORTS

## Focus on Fairtrade

THE momentum towards making Angus a Fairtrade zone is picking up pace.



Across Angus, schools are actively promoting Fairtrade, while Forfar and Carnoustie are working towards becoming Fairtrade towns.

In October, a very successful event was held in Montrose, the first Fairtrade town in Angus.

The event at Montrose Academy featured live music provided by pupils, presentations and talks on the importance of Fairtrade and Fairtrade refreshments kindly supplied by Scotmid.

There were displays and stalls by local primary schools, Traidcraft, Scotmid, Nyumbani, Rice Challenge and Montrose Fairtrade Forum.

If you would like to support Fairtrade in your town, please contact your local community planning team. See page 14 for contact details.

## Food for thought

A NEW section on the Angus Council website gives the public at-a-glance information about the standards of hygiene in local food businesses.

There are more than 800 food businesses in Angus, ranging from butchers and bakers to restaurants and takeaways.

This new scheme will allow Angus consumers to see how well food businesses in their area have fared in their last food hygiene inspection at [www.angus.gov.uk/fhis](http://www.angus.gov.uk/fhis)

As well as providing local people with a simple way to access information on catering kitchens and retail shops, where food is prepared or handled, businesses which meet hygiene standards also benefit by displaying promotional material available through the scheme.



The Signal Tower which is being revamped for the celebrations

MAIN PHOTO OF THE BELL ROCK LIGHTHOUSE COURTESY OF IAN COWE

founded with the loss of all 491 men and boys on board that a decision was taken to build a lighthouse.

In August 1807, 24 men sailed from Arbroath to the Bell Rock to start work on the structure – a massive undertaking involving blacksmiths, builders and masons both offshore and at Arbroath Harbour.

Despite many obstacles, after only four years, the Bell Rock Lighthouse was completed and operational.

The Arbroath community has been working hard to ensure that a year-long programme of events will make the bicentenary of the lighthouse a memorable occasion for the town.

Throughout 2011, Arbroath and Area Partnership's Year of the Light Steering Committee, which is supported by the Arbroath and Area local community planning team, has a series of special events planned.

The programme includes boat trips to the Bell Rock, a stunning firework display,

a community parade, a yacht regatta, a public lecture, an art exhibition, and a specially commissioned variety show with a nautical theme.

A number of commemorative items to mark the bicentenary of the Bell Rock Lighthouse will also be produced, including commemorative certificates for all children whose birth is registered in Arbroath during 2011, a limited edition whisky and a limited edition first day cover stamp.

The annual Seafront Spectacular, Seafest and Bell Rock Blues Events will have a Bell Rock Lighthouse theme within their 2011 events.

Harry Simpson, chair of the Arbroath and Area Partnership, said: "Since I first became involved in the plans to celebrate the bicentenary of the Bell Rock Lighthouse, I realised it would be something special.

"Everyone involved has worked extremely hard to get to this point and pull together this programme of events which will make it a phenomenal year for Arbroath." ■



For more information, visit [www.angusahead.com/bellrocklighthouse](http://www.angusahead.com/bellrocklighthouse)

# Excellence is at the heart of education

↘ Across schools in Angus, pupils are embarking on a new way of learning that will give them essential skills for life

**Education** is being transformed to ensure that young people are equipped with the knowledge and skills they need in a fast-changing world.

The formal launch of the new national Curriculum for Excellence at the start of this school year marked a major overhaul of the Scottish education system.

This radical new approach to learning and teaching aims to help every child become a successful learner, confident individual, responsible citizen and an effective contributor.

The curriculum is not just the subjects taught. It is the full variety of learning experiences made available to children and young people throughout their education, wherever they are educated.

Extensive work has taken place in Angus to ensure that schools are well prepared to implement Curriculum for Excellence.

Neil Logue, director of Education,

explained: "Schools in Angus are being fully supported to successfully implement the new curriculum. Innovative work undertaken in Angus, such as the development of a new tool to plan and track pupils' learning, has received national recognition.

"Work carried out to prepare for the introduction of the new curriculum is assisting staff to ensure that Angus pupils develop the necessary skills and attributes required for life and work in the 21st century."

Under the new curriculum, young people will learn in a variety of ways and settings, with a strong emphasis on health and wellbeing, literacy and numeracy.

There will be new approaches to monitoring and reporting on children's learning, and wider achievements beyond the classroom will be recognised. Schools and pupils will be encouraged to build strong links and work in partnership with local communities and businesses.

Within the classroom, there will be more cross-subject teaching with different areas of the curriculum linked, as appropriate.

A modernised qualifications and examination system will be introduced from August 2014, with Standard Grade and Intermediate 1 and 2 qualifications being replaced by new qualifications.

## Science in Montrose Academy

Budding scientists at Montrose Academy are enjoying changes to the way they learn. The science curriculum at the academy has been reviewed in light of the new curriculum.

The main focus has been on the S1 course, where staff have changed the way they teach to ensure that classes are active and that pupils take responsibility for their own learning.

During the year, all pupils take part in a project linking science with technology, social subjects, ICT and literacy and numeracy.

All pupils work co-operatively throughout the project. Each pupil



chooses a relevant trip outside school to increase their knowledge and then share their findings with other pupils.

## Skills for work at Arbroath Academy

Arbroath Academy is ensuring that its pupils have skills and knowledge to prepare them for life beyond school.

The school is offering in-house skills for work courses to all s3/4 pupils in practical subjects such as child care, hospitality and sports leadership.

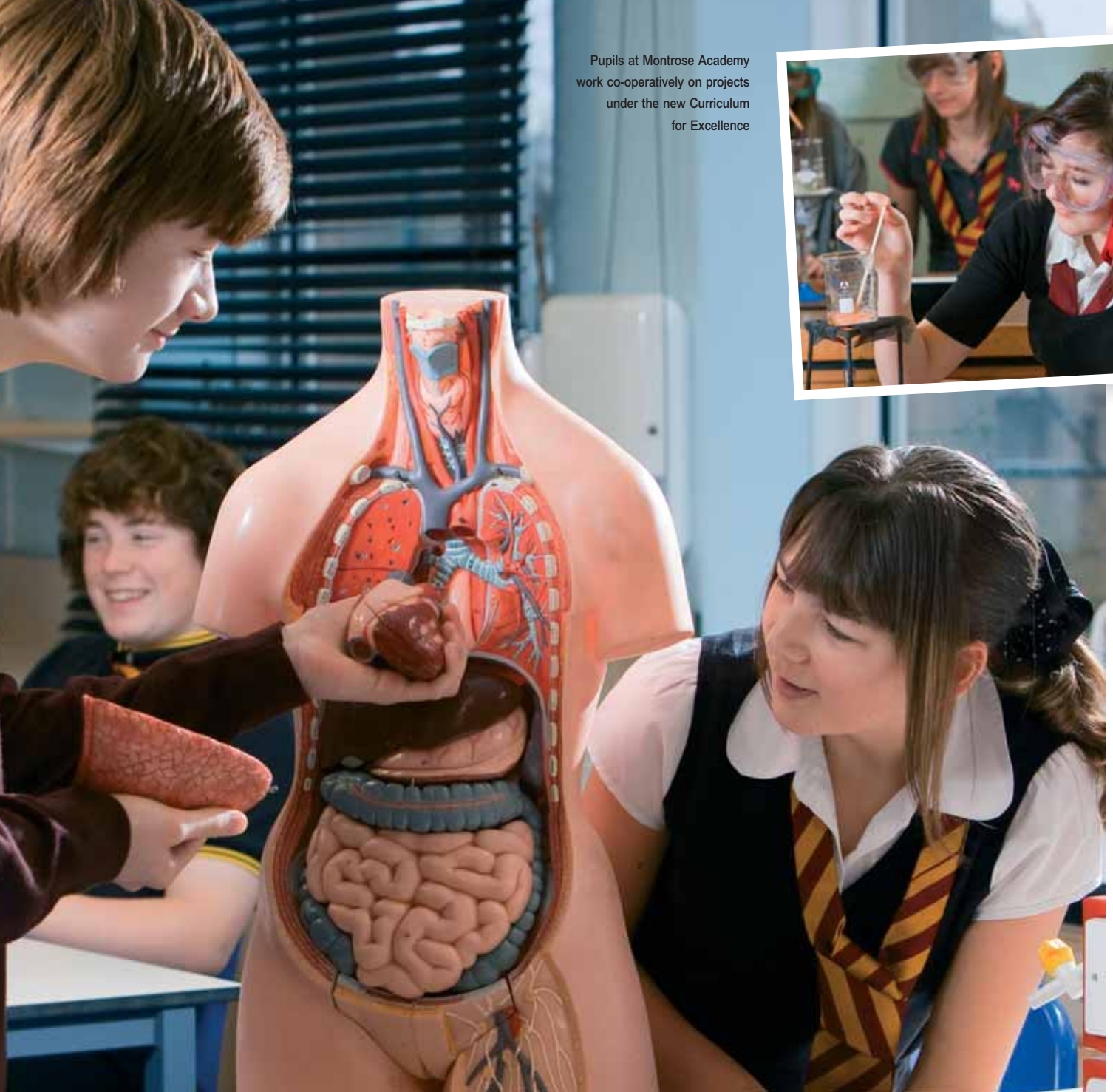
Provision has been made for pupils with additional support needs with the introduction of a horticulture course in school.

## The pupil voice at Tannadice

At Tannadice Primary School, teachers are



Pupils at Montrose Academy work co-operatively on projects under the new Curriculum for Excellence



motivating pupils by actively involving them in planning their learning.

Teachers consider the pupils' learning needs and interests to decide topics. Pupils are then invited to identify what they already know, what they would like to learn, how they would like to find out new knowledge and how they would like to share new learning with others.

This information is then used to make flexible plans for the development of knowledge, understanding and skills.

Head teacher Pam Wallace said: "Teachers and pupils have made favourable comment about how much the voice of pupils is positively impacting on learning and on everyone's motivation to learn together."

### Music research

Research by Angus pupils into the origins of the flute is a prime example of the kind of

*>>Under the new curriculum, teachers and pupils are able to probe deeper into the wider contexts of learning*

Jerry Randalls, music support officer

cross-subject work carried out under the new curriculum.

Through their own investigations, pupils learned that archaeologists found a bone flute in Ethiopia. Carbon dating revealed that the flute was 93,000 years old.

The modern flute, mainly made from silver, nickel, copper and aluminium, dates from 1847, the year Verdi's *Macbeth* was premiered and America issued its first postage stamp, seven years after the first British Penny Black.

Subject areas covered by the research

included maths, history, biology, anthropology, physics, chemistry and literature.

Jerry Randalls, music support officer, explained: "Responses like this involve cross-curricular research for pupils and teachers. Pupils and teachers work in partnership, but pupils are also encouraged to do their own research.

"Under the new curriculum, instrumental teachers and pupils are also able to probe deeper into the wider contexts of learning a music instrument.

"This allows pupils and teachers to expand their knowledge through a curriculum which, in some ways, they create together." ■

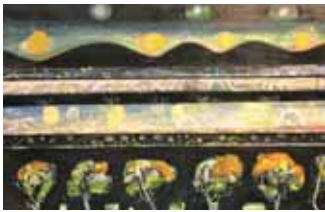
ANGUSSHORTS

## Meffan Winter exhibition

THERE'S still time to snap up a unique Christmas gift at the Winter Exhibition at The Meffan in Forfar. Running until 31 December it features original work including painting, drawing, sculpture and jewellery by artists from all over the country.

The number of participants rises each year, and only the very best of the work makes it onto the gallery walls for display.

The Meffan, 20 West High Street, Forfar, is open Monday to Saturday, from 10am to 5pm, and admission is free.

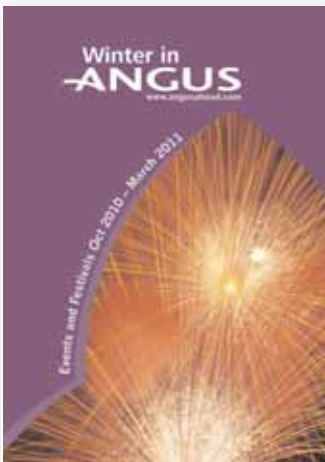


Frozen Loch by Angus artist Peter Flynn

## What's on in Angus?

A NEW winter what's on in Angus guide is now available.

Winter in Angus is the latest tourism brochure from Angus Council and promotes what's on in the county until March to encourage visitors to come and take part in festivals and events.



The new publication is available through museums, libraries, ACCESS offices, tourist venues and accommodation providers. It can also be viewed online at [www.angusahead.com](http://www.angusahead.com)

# Driving am

Organisations across Angus are focusing their efforts on reducing the number of accidents on our roads

Last year, 216 people were killed on Scotland's roads – a stark statistic which barely hints at the lives cut tragically short and the devastated families left behind.

In Angus, the council and its partners believe strongly that road accidents should not be accepted as a normal part of life.

While ultimately the most effective road safety measures lie with drivers who must take personal responsibility for themselves, their passengers and other road users, investment in road safety across the county is making a difference.

Work carried out has seen a huge reduction in road accidents in the county, with the total number of road casualties in Angus falling to a

30-year low in 2009. Among the projects that have contributed to this welcome drop is the identification of accident cluster spots in the county, where low-cost, but effective, engineering solutions are found to reduce accidents.

One of the most successful of these is at the Greenlaw Bends on the A933 Arbroath to Brechin road, which had the highest incidence of rural accidents in Angus. Bend realignment was undertaken in early 2009 and in the next 15 months, there was only one injury accident, compared to five during 2008 alone.

A further notable example is the upgrading to dual carriageway of the A92 between Dundee and Arbroath. In the five years before the upgrade, there was an annual average of 14 injury accidents per year on this route, which has since dropped to five.

Other programmes undertaken by the council and its partners continue to reduce accidents, including safety camera enforcement and road

## How Angus is on route to safer driving



WHILE not universally popular, statistics show that safety cameras are contributing to a drop in the number of accidents on our roads.

Angus Council is a partner in Tayside Safety Camera Partnership (TSCP), which aims to reduce the number of people killed or injured in road accidents in Tayside, and encourage drivers to drive safely and appropriately within the speed limit.

Cameras are located at sites where there has been a history of collisions, casualties and speeds in excess of the set limit. There are currently 10 safety camera sites on Angus Council roads.

Latest statistics for the period 2007-2009, compared with the "baseline" period from 2000-2002 at these locations, show that the

number of collisions resulting in injury dropped from 57 to 29, while the number of people killed or seriously injured was down by 58 per cent.

For further information, visit [www.safetayside.co.uk](http://www.safetayside.co.uk)



# bition

safety education programmes.

The council is now working on its third Road Safety Action Plan, covering up to 2015, which will outline the authority's plans to continue the downward trend in accident statistics.

It is being developed in partnership with various council departments and organisations such as Tayside Police, Tayside Fire Service, Tayside Safety Camera Partnership and NHS Tayside.

It will highlight the success in Angus of achieving the 2010 national road casualty reduction targets, and detail the new local targets consistent with the Scottish national targets to be achieved by 2020.

Jeff Green, head of roads, said: "The everyday action of using the roads, whether by walking, cycling, riding or driving, should be safe. We have worked hard to reduce the number of accidents and casualties on our roads. Our priority will continue to be to reduce fatalities and injuries for all age groups, and specifically for children." ■



Above: pupils across Angus are being taught the importance of road safety

## Pupils learn the message early

THE Education service in Angus works closely with the police to promote road safety among young people.

Among the projects carried out in Angus in partnership with schools and the police road safety team are cycle testing to promote road safety among P7 pupils and road safety awareness for S1 and S2 pupils.

The Walk Wise project for younger children organises escorted walks around schools with pupils and parents to promote road safety.

Within schools, road safety

is integrated into the curriculum. Safety on the journey to and from school is very important and the provision of school crossing patrols, as well as initiatives such as Safe Routes to School and walking buses, have a significant role in improving the safety of children on the roads.

Wanda Gove, a road safety officer with Tayside Police, works with schools throughout Angus to spread the road safety message.

Wanda said: "Young people are among the most vulnerable road users and it is important to start getting the road safety message over to children as early as possible. We work in partnership with schools to implement a number of projects from pre-school right through to secondary school to keep children safe as pedestrians, cyclists and as young drivers.

"Parents also play an important role in educating their children about road safety and there are a number of campaigns and useful websites which can support parents with this."





# Inspirational entrepreneur

**Angus** entrepreneur  
Mike Forbes is the 2010 Angus Ambassador of the Year.

Along with his wife Gail, Mike founded the stunning £1.5 million luxury Forbes of Kingennie Country Resort near Monifieth in 2004 and it has since become one of the county's premier tourist attractions.

Alongside the resort's fishing ponds, luxury lodges, restaurant, nine-hole golf course and conference centre now sits the Kingennie Fields sustainable housing development.

Mike was awarded the 2010 title for being an inspirational entrepreneur and a key figure in both the business and community life of the county.

The other winners showcase the very best of Angus talent, from local businesses and organisations to seasoned performers on the international stage and youth ambassadors.

This is the 12th year of the awards, which are staged by the Angus Ahead campaign, a local partnership of representatives from industry, tourism, further education and the arts, as well as Angus Council. Angus Ahead is working to encourage civic

Our Ambassadors are examples of the great talent in Angus

pride, increase investment, maximise the tourism and heritage potential and promote the distinct culture and natural beauty of the county.

The 2009 Business Ambassador John Forster, of Forster Roofing, this year joined the judging panel for what turned out to be a more arduous task than he was expecting.

"Although incredibly difficult, it was an honour to be part of the judging panel – it made me proud to see the contribution Angus people are making to Scotland's development."

The awards were judged by business, tourism, youth and community leaders. The winners were revealed at a ceremony on 26 November, supported by award and event sponsors.

Provost of Angus Ruth Leslie Melville said: "The awards shine a spotlight on the often unsung stars of the county – the people and organisations whose ambition, generosity and success makes Angus a special place to live, work and visit.

"The sponsors are themselves

wonderful examples of Angus success. Their support makes the celebration of this astonishing breadth of talent in the county possible and together, through these awards, we can promote Angus talent and innovation and encourage continued economic and community prosperity."

GlaxoSmithKline has been a sponsor for the past three years and has become an ambassador awards champion.

As a successful business leader, the company's Montrose site director Dave Tudor said GlaxoSmithKline was proud to be part of the awards, adding: "These exceptional awards celebrate the county's success stories so I am delighted GlaxoSmithKline has the opportunity to support their achievements and be part of such an important event for Angus."

Sponsors were Piperdam Golf and Leisure Resort, Merpro Ltd, Forbes of Kingennie Country Resort, Enterprise North East Trust, Tayroots.com, Angus College and, GlaxoSmithKline. ■

## AWARDWINNERS

Congratulations go to the following Angus stars

Business Ambassador  
**Winner**

• **Mackays Ltd**

One of the few remaining jam manufacturers in Europe, employing 120 people.

**Highly commended**

• **Intervention Rentals Ltd**

• **Good Natured**



Community Ambassador

**Winner**

• **Showcase the Street**

The biggest provider of affordable dance across Angus for three to 18 year olds.

**Highly commended**

• **Ian Pert, Hedzup Racing**

• **Martin Fair, St Andrews Church**

Cultural Ambassador

**Winner**

• **Karen Cargill**

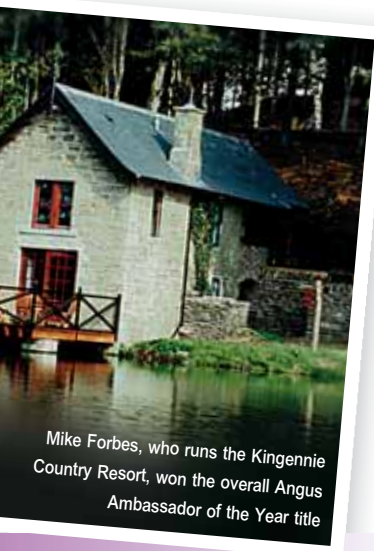
Arbroath-born mezzo soprano is now one of opera's biggest international stars.

**Highly commended**

• **Jazz at Hospitalfield**

• **Angus Archives**





Mike Forbes, who runs the Kingennie Country Resort, won the overall Angus Ambassador of the Year title

## International Ambassador



### Winner

- **Angus College**

Demonstrates innovation and international focus in product development.

### Highly commended

- **Royal Montrose Golf Club**
- **Tayside Special Olympics**

## Tourism Ambassador

### Winner

- **Piperdam Golf and Leisure Resort**

Offers a world-class resort that includes accommodation, conferencing, functions and site activities.

### Highly commended

- **Brucefield Boutique Bed & Breakfast**
- **Arbroath Sea Fest**

## Youth Ambassador

### Winner

- **Carnoustie and District Youth Brass Band**

National success by winning the advanced section of the Youth Brass Band Championship.

### Highly commended

- **Gordon School of Dancing**
- **Ross Knight**

## USEFUL INFORMATION

# We're ready for the winter weather...

EVERY winter, Angus Council spends about £2 million to treat the county's 1000 miles of roads and pavements during severe weather.

To ensure that this huge investment is spent effectively, and to benefit residents and support the local economy, the council sets out which routes will take priority during the big freeze and be treated first and most frequently.

Routes are divided into three priority categories:

**Category 1 routes:** These routes carry the most traffic so are treated before all other routes – included are bus and commuter routes and the roads that serve hospitals, ambulance and fire centres, schools and main industrial centres.

**Category 2 routes:** Routes which may have lighter traffic than category 1, but have been identified as being particularly prone to icing – they are generally glen or high-level routes. On these routes, salting is done on weekdays before school buses are out, and between 5am and 8am on weekends and public holidays on routes north of the A926/B957/A90 + C53 (B961 to B9128) + U338 The Brae, Auchterhouse.

**Category 3 routes:** These routes are only treated after category 1 routes and are treated later than category 1 and 2 routes. During prolonged snow conditions, these routes will be dealt with only after the first two categories have been cleared.

**Hours of cover:** During a cold snap, the council endeavours to keep roads and footpaths across the county snow and ice free; however, it is not possible to provide continuous and complete cover at all times.

The table below sets out the earliest start times and latest finish times – treatment at specific locations will be later depending on vehicle journey times. The frequency or continuation of treatment during these times will be determined by weather conditions.

	Cat 1 roads	Cat 2 roads	Cat 1 pavements & footpaths	Category 3 roads
Monday-Friday	5am-11pm	6am-4pm	6am-6pm	7.30am-4pm
Saturday	5am-11pm	5am-8am	6am-6pm	Nil
Sunday	5am-11pm	5am-8am	8am-6pm	Nil
Public Holidays	5am-11pm	5am-8am	Nil	Nil

**Self-help:** There are about 500 grit bins provided across Angus and residents are asked to make use of these to treat public streets and pavements where possible. To top up a grit bin, please call ACCESSLine on 08452 777 778.

**To find out which category routes in Angus fall into, and news and information during spells of severe winter weather, visit**

[www.angus.gov.uk/wintermaintenance](http://www.angus.gov.uk/wintermaintenance)

A leaflet is also available with route maps via libraries, ACCESS offices, and garages.



During the Christmas and New Year period, the coverage will be:

**Christmas Day** – category 1 & 2 roads treated as normal Saturday. No treatment to pavements and footpaths.

**Boxing Day** – normal Sunday service.

**Monday 27 December & Tuesday 28 December** – public holiday service.

**New Year's Day** – category 1 & 2 roads treated as normal Saturday. No treatment to pavements and footpaths.

**2 January** – normal Sunday service.

**Monday 3 & Tuesday 4 January** – public holiday service.

*The A90 and A92 are treated 24 hours by Bear Scotland.*

ANGUSSHORTS

## Decision due on Montrose Pool

THE six tenders for the Montrose swimming pool and sports centre development will be considered by Angus Council on 16 December.

The six contractors who have submitted tenders are:

- ▶ Galliford Try Construction Ltd trading as Morrison Construction, Newmachar
- ▶ John Graham (Dromore) Ltd trading as Graham Construction, Edinburgh
- ▶ Mansell Construction Services Ltd, Perth
- ▶ Morgan Ashurst plc, Edinburgh
- ▶ Muirfield (Contracts) Ltd, Dundee
- ▶ Ogilvie Construction Ltd, Stirling.

The contract is to construct a new six-lane, 25-metre swimming pool, as an extension to the existing Montrose Sports Centre, with health and fitness suites, cafe and ancillary accommodation.

## Do you know a sporting star?

ANGUS Council's sports development team is looking for the county's sporting stars to step into the spotlight at their annual sports awards ceremony on 8 March 2011.

Nomination forms will be available in January with athletes, players, coaches, friends and family encouraged to nominate.

The awards are designed to honour the dedication of sports performers, teams, volunteers and coaches in Angus during 2010.

For more information, please contact Laura Baxter on 01307 474243 or [baxterlc@angus.gov.uk](mailto:baxterlc@angus.gov.uk)

## Arrears decline in Angus

RECENTLY released statistics have revealed that Angus Council is successfully driving down rent arrears. Figures show that arrears declined to a level of 7 per cent in August, a drop from the June level of 7.25 per cent.

This reflects the council's commitment to implement measures to reduce arrears, while making every effort to help those who have genuine difficulties in paying their rent.

▶ Helping people back into work has many benefits for individuals and the community and here in Angus, there is a range of support available for would-be employees

# Work in progress

## Increased employment

in the economy brings many benefits by generating new wealth and increasing demand for local services. And in a tough jobs market, it's vital that local people have the right support to get in – and stay in – the workplace.

Recognising this, Angus Council has spearheaded a number of initiatives to get people into employment, keep them in employment and improve their skills.

The authority has been at the forefront of establishing an AngusWorks partnership, bringing organisations across the public, private and voluntary sector together to help people find work and reduce the number of people claiming benefits.

One of the members of the

partnership is the Federation of Small Businesses, whose vice chairman Charles Goodall commented: "The federation is pleased to work in partnership with other agencies in Angus through the AngusWorks partnership.

"Together we can promote

Association of Voluntary Organisations, Volunteer Centre Angus, Skills Development Scotland, Angus College, Scottish Enterprise, Job Centre Plus, NHS Tayside and Dundee and Angus Chamber of Commerce.

The partnership has



working within a small business which can offer a varied working lifestyle and great job satisfaction, while ensuring that those seeking work have the right skills and training to offer to businesses."

Other agencies bringing their expertise to the partnership are Angus

developed new web pages at [www.angusahead.com/angusworks](http://www.angusahead.com/angusworks) which include advice and assistance for jobseekers on topics such as training programmes, further and higher education, volunteering and setting up a business.

An Employer Pack for



## CASE ONE

Lesley Rowan of Montrose, is enjoying her new career as a vital part of the crew of a North Sea oil rig.



Since leaving school, Lesley had a number of jobs but was keen to undertake training to go offshore as a steward – part of a team responsible for the smooth running of the rigs with duties including cleaning and laundry services.

To achieve her ambition, Lesley saved up to pay her way through the tough RGIT survival course – which is mandatory for anyone wanting to work on a rig.

However, Lesley thought her dream was over when the introduction of a new offshore training course coincided with her losing her existing job.

Lesley approached the Towards Employment Team for support and was delighted when they agreed to fund the £400 cost of the course.

From there, she hasn't looked back. "The funding and support I have received from the Towards Employment Team has helped me achieve my ambition of working offshore and has really turned my life around," she said.

employers looking to recruit or develop staff is now in circulation and available as a hard copy or on the web. The pack will connect employers with public sector agencies in Angus who are working with local individuals to assist them into employment and those who can offer assistance to develop existing employees.

### Towards Employment

The council's Towards Employment Team gives advice and support to local people, removing barriers to work and broadening opportunities.

In the six months between April and September this year alone, 92 local people were assisted in finding employment, and a further 126 into education, training or volunteering.

Workers help local people

with employment and training advice, information on opportunities in training, education and volunteering, sourcing childcare options and short-term financial support. The team can be contacted on 01241 432970.

### Life Skills Centre

Angus Council is working with the Volunteer Centre Angus to equip people with practical skills to help them back into work.

From a new Life Skills Centre in Arbroath, volunteers take part in a range of activities including a community project where elderly or disabled people can get help in their homes and gardens. The focus is firmly on getting people back to work through training and support, and the development of skills. ■

## CASE TWO

Graham Lawrence was a volunteer with the Volunteer Centre Angus and was a core part of the team involved in the refurbishment and opening of the Life Skills Centre.



He is now employed at the centre as a training officer and is fulfilling his goal of sharing his skills and knowledge with others who come through the doors.

Graham said: "I feel over the moon at working here. I get a lot of satisfaction from seeing people going around with smiles on their faces when they have achieved something."

Lesley Simpson of the Volunteer Centre said: "Working with the Towards Employment Team enabled us to support Graham in the transition between coming off benefits and earning a wage."

ANGUSSHORTS

## Community planning

LOCAL community planning teams have been working with communities helping them to establish their priorities and assisting them to deliver on those priorities for their area.

Over the last year, planning events have been held in all eight Angus wards to help establish local priorities. As well as forming a work plan for local people to action, the outcomes of these events will also be fed into local community plans.

The teams are in the process of pulling together these local community plans, which will give Angus residents a snapshot of what is to be delivered in their area over the next couple of years by Angus Council and its community planning partners.

The draft local community plans will be distributed among partners and local communities and comments are welcome.

**Contact your local team:**

**Arbroath East & Lunan and Arbroath West & Letham 01241 433250;**

**Carnoustie & District and Monifieth & Sidlaw 01241 803111; Montrose & District and Brechin & Edzell**

**01356 666119; Forfar & District and Kirriemuir & Dean 01575 576941.**

**Or email [communityplanning@angus.gov.uk](mailto:communityplanning@angus.gov.uk)**



Angus Council registration offices can now accept credit/debit card payments for their services either by personal visit or by telephone. Registration offices are also a great source of information for those doing family research.

Historical records for the whole of Scotland, in most cases up to and including last year, are available.

In addition to the statutory birth, death and marriage records, Old Parish Registers and Census Records can also be accessed.

**The offices can be contacted on Arbroath 01241 873752, Forfar 01307 464973 and Montrose 01674 672351.**

Drug and alcohol misuse have a huge impact on all those affected – but help is at hand



# The road to recovery

The abuse of drugs affects most societies across the world, but it is clear that Scotland's problem is disproportionately serious – affecting all communities whether urban and rural, prosperous or deprived.

A new approach is now being taken to tackle the country's drug problem – moving people affected by drug problems towards a drug-free life and to being an active and contributing member of society.

In Angus, the council and its partners are working together to reduce the harmful effects of substance misuse – both

drugs and alcohol – on the people of Angus, its economy and environment.

The Angus Alcohol & Drugs Partnership (ADP), brings together specialists from across the public sector, including police, health, the voluntary sector, and council services, to work together enabling those who misuse drugs, or alcohol, realise their full potential, gain control over their lives and become productive citizens.

Under the Angus ADP's own three-year Drug and Alcohol Strategy, the approach to tackling substance misuse in the county has four main themes:

- Recovery – enabling people to move on from their drug use and realise their ambitions.
  - Children Affected by Parental Substance Misuse – to provide support services for children and families affected by parental substance misuse.
  - Enforcement and Availability – to reduce supply and ensure criminal justice interventions that are focused on recovery.
  - Prevention – providing educational information on drug misuse.
- The Angus ADP is chaired by Robert Peat, the council's



## CASE ONE ↘

Barbara's husband spends his weekends drinking at the pub. This has prevented the family spending any time together.

The school nurse noticed that the children were very quiet and sad and contacted Link-Up. A family support worker carried out a short piece of work with the family. Mum was introduced to pastimes such as flower arranging to help improve her self-esteem; the younger children took part in crafts and cooking, and the eldest brother was assisted in finding a job. The younger children wanted to tell dad how they felt about his drinking and decided to write a rap song to get their message across. By finding creative ways to help families, Link-up is able to help them face difficulties and resolve issues around parental substance misuse.

## CASE TWO ↘

10-year-old Jack's mum is a drug user. Jack's teachers find him challenging and he finds it difficult to establish relationships with his classmates.

The family were offered support by the Link-Up family support worker and Social Work. This involved helping mum and dad to establish daily routines, to organise their home which had been chaotic and messy which meant Jack didn't want friends to visit him. Fun activities were arranged for Jack such as crafts, cooking, a family picnic and gardening, allowing him to explore his feelings about his situation and build his confidence. Work was done around relationships and anger management and there was regular liaison with school. By offering support to existing agencies working with families and joint working, Link-up helps children like Jack deal with the impact of parental substance misuse.

### Montrose Link-Up

Link-Up aims to identify, support and protect children affected by parental substance misuse.

Partners work with parents to establish risk, help improve their parenting skills and assist in establishing routines and activities for their children.

Ultimately, the aim is to make the home a safe and stable environment for young people.

Montrose Link-up initiative was launched in May 2009, and has since been extended to Brechin.

national emphasis on recovery is welcome. We must work towards convincing those affected by drug problems that change is possible and desirable. We must work with communities in changing the stigma

around substance misuse and supporting those who have fallen victim to drugs.

"We do not underestimate the challenges that face us, however we will work together to meet, and possibly exceed, the targets set out in our own strategy by delivering innovative services which focus on the needs of individuals and their families." ■

director of Social Work & Health, who said: "The partnership's vision is to deliver a healthier, happier and safer Angus, where people experiencing problems with drugs, or alcohol, can get access to the relevant services to enable them to be supported and eventually move away from a life of substance misuse.

"In regard to drug misuse, the

### Focus on Alcohol Angus

Focus on Alcohol Angus is a partnership approach that encourages the cultural change around the use of alcohol in the county. There is a specific focus on supporting young people to take informed choices around the use of alcohol. Across the last four years there have been numerous educational activities and projects established to support young people to do this. It is hoped that this approach will pay dividends in the years to come as alcohol consumption reduces in this age group.



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- 7 Arbroath East & Lunan
- 8 Montrose & District



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