



FACT



Monthly Newsletter - May 2023

**Making the Forres Area a better place
to live, work and visit.**

TOWN HALL TALES HOOLIE



The **Town Hall Tales** Project ran throughout March and April 2023. It was funded by the **Moray Local Action Group** and ended with a magnificent **Hoolie** on 28th April.

This project collected memories from the Forres **Town Hall Users Groups** (the **THUGs**) and from local residents. The Hoolie was a wonderful showcase which highlighted the importance of this iconic building within the lives of everyone involved in the Project.

Project Leader – Margot Henderson:

"Well over a hundred people came to join in the Celebration of Town Hall Tales.

There were stalls showcasing the work of some of the groups including the Camera Club, the Craft and Chatter Group, the FACT Art Class. It was a wonderful community collaboration. One elderly couple who hadn't been out of the house for four years told me,

"This was the loveliest day out ever."



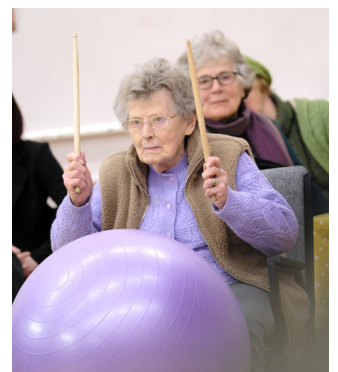
A HUGE THANK YOU TO:

Margot Henderson, Helen Avenell, Debbie Herron & Lindsey Standing for coordinating the Event.



Thanks to the Forres & District Pipe Band, the Gentle Seated Exercise Group, Highland Youth Theatre, RSCDS Forres and Film Forres for their support.

Thanks also to the many people who donated raffle prizes & biscuits including:
Ashers, Babalu, The Bike Bothy,
Home Comforts by Sandra and
Mandy Anderson Art



Introducing Our New Management Team

As highlighted in the April 2023 FACT Newsletter, Debbie Herron has left the organisation to start a new role supporting communities across Scotland.

Michelle Gillibrand has been appointed as the **new Development Manager** for FACT and will lead with **Audrey Boyd** and **Nick Clark** as the **Management Team**.



MICHELLE GILLIBRAND
DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Michelle has been part of the FACT Team since August last year working on our highly successful Employability Project. She brings a wealth of experience from the third sector, as well as public and private enterprises, focusing mainly on community, health and leisure development. She has also been involved in managing European Funded Programmes and was one of the team members that brought the first Healthy Living Centre to Scotland.

"I'm thrilled to be given the opportunity to lead and support the amazing team at FACT along with Nick and Audrey. It's not going to be easy to fill Debbie's shoes, but I know by taking a holistic approach we will continue to achieve great things in the future."



AUDREY BOYD
FINANCE MANAGER

Audrey is an experienced **Finance Manager** who has worked in the Accountancy and Finance Sector for over 30 years as a Business Consultant as well as a Finance & HR Director. She brings a huge range of skills to the role and works closely with our FACT Treasurer and the Finance Officer to manage the complex multiple finance streams and payroll. Since starting in February 2023, Audrey has supported the whole team diligently and we are pleased to have already had the benefit of her financial and accounting expertise as well as her hardworking approach.

"I am looking forward to working together to develop the team further to support the work that FACT continues to undertake."



NICK CLARK
OPERATIONS MANAGER

Nick has lived in the Forres Area for over 30 years and has worked both for the RAF, Grampian Police and Border Force. His calm, determined attitude has been a huge benefit in the role as **Operations Manager** since he started in February 2023. Nick is managing the Bookings for Forres Town Hall as well as liaising with the Town Hall User Groups. His significant local community knowledge and his supportive nature has proved to be an asset to FACT and the whole team. Nick has already made several improvements to the organisation of the Town Hall.

"I am enjoying working with the great team at FACT and I am looking forward to continuing to support everyone."

JOIN OUR TEAM



Finance & Data Officer

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join our Team as the **Finance and Data Officer**. **Part Time: 16 hours per week. £22,000 - £23,660 pro-rata** depending on experience / qualifications. This post will help us manage the multiple streams of funding and performance data for our growing number of projects and services.

Further details of the role and how to apply are on our website: www.forresarea.org



We look forward to hearing from you.



Clottie Dumpling Went Like Hot Cakes at the Pop Up Pantry!



Graham and the Clottie Dumplings

We received a donation from **Baxters** of 15 boxes of Traditional Clottie Dumpling Kits via our **Moray Pathways, DWP & DYW Partners**. They proved very popular with the customers at our **Forres Pop Up Pantry**. Different surplus food items are donated by large companies each week via **CFine - Community Food Initiatives North East** - and the donations are delivered weekly to FACT by Moray Food Plus. The Pantry is on every week - see the **Dates for your Diary** on the last page of this Newsletter for details.

Membership is free for anyone who lives in the Forres Academy Catchment Area and you get about £10 worth of food for £2.50.

Pop in when the Pantry 'Pops Up' next and find out more!

The **Cameron Project** has recently started liaising with **Wild Things in Findhorn**.



Wild Things run a group for the over 65's called the **Silver Saplings**. The group goes out once a month, on a Friday, and enjoy outings to various places all over Moray. In good weather they have gentle walks in lovely gardens like Brodie Castle and the Forres Wildflower Meadow. They go bird watching, visit local places of interest like the Clava Cairns and in the winter months they go to local Museums and Art Centres.

Anyone is welcome to join. Participants are preferably mobile and able to walk a short distance, however people with walking frames and wheelchairs are also welcome. **The program is fully funded and the trips are free**, although donations can be made. Halfway through the morning tea and cake is provided and participants take a packed lunch with them. The project is funded for 2 years and has proved very popular. Please call **Wild Things** on **01309 690450** or **FACT** on **01309 674388** to book your space.



FINDHORN BAY ARTS



Forres Town Hall was one of the many venues that benefited from the revenue that was generated by the Findhorn Bay Arts Festival in Autumn 2022 which delivered an estimated £987,948 in local economic benefit, through an estimated visitor spend of £752,120 and £235,828 in project spend. Find out more on the FBA website:

<https://findhornbayarts.com/news/findhorn-bay-festival-outcomes-and-impact-report-released/>

or see the FACT Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/forresarea> for the link to the Report.

Dates for your Diary in May 2023

Forres FREE Online Drop-in Sessions: Every Tuesday: 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Forres FREE Online Drop-in Sessions: Every Friday: 1.00pm - 3.00pm

FREE Employability Sessions: Every Thursday: 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Forres Online Outreach: Findhorn Village Centre
on **Wednesday 10th May: 10.00am - 12 noon**



Dungeons & Dragons Table Top Games | Minimum Age: 18 years

Saturday: 13th and 27th May in the North Room at 2.30pm

Laptops, dice, paper & refreshments provided.

FREE Gentle Seated Exercise & Drumming Class with Esther

Every Tuesday: 10.30am - 12 noon including a cuppa & a chat.

FREE Fitness MOTs: Every Tuesday at 12.30pm, 1.00pm or 1.30pm

Transform Tuesday - FREE Intermediate Exercise Class: Every Tuesday: 2.00pm - 3.00pm



**Cameron Project Classes - supported by the
Moray Local Action Group and tsiMORAY**



FREE Ink & Bleach Art Class with Leonora - starts 4th May | 3 week course

Thursdays: 2.00pm - 4.00pm | Minimum age: 18 years

FREE Weave Your Own Scarf with Jessica - starts 30th May | 3 week Course

Tuesdays: 9.30am - 12.30pm | Minimum age: 18 years

FREE Yoga Classes with Valentina - starts 24th May | 6 week Course

Slow Yoga: Wednesdays: 10.45 - 11.45am | Minimum age: 18 years

FREE Painting with Pastels with Leonora - starts 1st June | 4 week Course

Thursdays: 2.00pm - 4.00pm | Minimum age: 18 years

Booking is essential for all activities More details at: www.forresarea.org

To book, please email: info@forresarea.org or phone 01309 674388



Coronation Event on Saturday 6th May: 11am - 4pm

FREE Event in Forres Town Hall organised by **Forres Community Council**



Coffee Mornings - Saturdays: 10.00am - 12 noon

May 13th - in aid of Forres in Bloom

May 20th - in aid of the Friends of Guiding

May 27th - in aid of the Town Hall User Groups (THUGs)



Pop Up Pantry in the Lesser Hall

Friday 5th & 19th May: 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Saturday 13th & 27th May: 10.00am - 12 noon

