WHAT'S ON IN STOBSWELL

Stobfest 2018 - Family Ceilidh

Come along and dance the night away at Park Hall, Park Avenue on Saturday 5th May. 7.30pm – 10.30pm. Tickets £5 for adults (children under 12 free), includes snack supper,bring your own refreshments (byob).

Contact: Doug Sievwright: 504913 or Val Kane: 438856

Arthurstone Library

Arthurstone Library provides a wide range of valuable services to the Stobswell community, including free newspapers, book borrowing, storytelling and taster sessions on how to use a computer. The taster sessions should be booked in advance and are subject to availability and the library opening times. The library also offers online classes and downloadable magazines and audiobooks for tablet users. Interested? Speak to your local librarian or look online at www.leisureandculturedundee.com/library

Job Shop

Available every Monday in Arthurstone Library,1-3pm. Open to all jobseekers looking for support in their job search.

Advice Café

The Advice Café takes place every Tuesday between 11am – 1pm in Stobswell Church Hall, 172 Albert Street. Advice is available from a range of agencies, including Connect (benefits advice), Community Nurse for health advice and check-ups, and Discovery Credit Union.

Park Community Hall

Are you looking for a venue for a children's party, a keep fit class or a flower arranging class or whatever? If so, come along and have a look at Park Community Hall, 16 Park Avenue, Dundee (next to the Medical Centre)

Thanks to a grant from Maryfield Regeneration Forum, the premises have recently been upgraded to a high standard with a new floor, new entrance area flooring and extensive redecoration. There is a well equipped kitchen, a stage and tables and chairs are available for both large and small groups of people. Whilst the hall is busy every weekday evening, there are plenty of opportunities during the day and also at weekends.

This is a Community Hall – come and make use of it!

Contact: Logie Anderson: 01382 458538 or 07462034034

Arthurstone Drop In

1.30 – 4.30pm on Tuesdays. Ask for Shirley.

Small group or one to one. Free and friendly.

- Use the internet
- Brush up on maths
- Improve spelling and writing
- Understand forms

DEAP

- Unemployed and living in Dundee?
- Are you currently looking to gain employment?
- Would you benefit from free employability training and support?

Please feel free to drop in to our centre at Unit 12 East, Manhattan Works, Dundonald Street, Dundee for a chat or phone Mike, Claire or Murray on 01382 457575 to arrange an appointment.

THE STOBSWELL FORUM ARE...

Colin Clement, Robbie Fotheringham, David MacDougall, Lorraine Clement, Chris Airlie, Sandra Mitchell, Mairi Scott, Alesandro Insalaco, Nichola Fraser

You can contact Stobswell Forum in the following ways:

Telephone: 01382 438858 **Web:** www.stobswell.org.uk **Email:** info@stobswell.org.uk

Find us on **Facebook**

Stobswell Forum is a Registered Charity. Charity No SCO33653

Stobswell's Voice is supported by Maryfield Community Regeneration Forum

LIVE WELL, DO WELL STOBSWELL

STOBSWELL'S VOICE

Baxter Park • Clepington • Maryfield • Stobswell • Woodside

Spring 2018

STOBSWELL - BANKING ON THE FUTURE

Unless something dramatic happens June will see the closure of the RBS Bank on Albert St – Stobswell's last bank. This will be a blow but the people in Stobswell and the Stobswell Forum will continue to be positive and look forward.

Meetings, petitions and demonstrations did not produce the result we would have liked, so now we need to focus on the new.

One plan will be to promote the work of the Discovery Credit Union (more on that later). Another is to welcome Stobfest our Community Festival and The Open Close Project to the area which will see doorways across Stobswell transformed using the work of budding artists, this work is already well underway and will be complete in time for this years Stobfest in early May.

May 4th – 12th will see events and activities across the area - in Park Hall, Arthurstone Library, Baxter Park and at the Boomerang Community Centre in Kemback Street and elsewhere. Stobswell Forum's facebook page has all the events and there will be an Festival program delivered to 5,000 homes across Stobswell during April.

www.facebook.com/stobswellforum

Saturday, May 12th looks like being a big day. We are encouraging everyone locally to line Albert Street from 11.30am to welcome the parade as it makes its way from the Morgan School to Boomerang.

SAVINGS AND LOANS FOR THE PEOPLE OF STOBSWELL

The credit union is a not-for-profit community organisation run by the people who use it. There's no external shareholders, our directors are all volunteers, we work for our communities and our goal is simple: *to help the people of Dundee save and borrow.*

We reinvest all our profit into services for our members and communities so, the more people that save and borrow with us, the more we can do to help.

Some may not have heard of us but we have been running for 15 years and your money is fully protected in the same way as banks. Our main office is in the central library, next to Citizen's Advice however, we run a popular collection point at Stobswell Parish Church on Tuesday's between 11:30am to 12:30pm, during the Advice Café.

In light of the recent news in Stobswell, we're hoping to improve our service in the area and we'll be looking at ways to help the community more this year.

discovery credit union



OUR HISTORY



Room 39 Boutique and Hair Salon and Forte's Cafe

Stobswell Forum talked with Wendy Sturrock, owner of Room 39 Boutique and Hair Salon in Dura Street, daughter of Forte's very own Jim Sturrock. But first a bit of history.

Phillip Forte opened the current cafe just after the second world war but the name Forte goes back much further, with Philip's parents having had a cafe in Union St and his sister Ellia running another cafe of the same name at the back of the Wellgate.



The Sturrock family have been associated with Forte's Cafe for a long time now. Starting with Wendy's mum Wilma, who was already working in the cafe when Phillip Forte decided it was time to retire some 30 years ago. Phillip was determined that the shop should carry on in the traditional manner without any major changes, which no doubt was a big reason behind him selling Forte's to Jim and Wilma Sturrock, It is why, over 75 years after opening, we are lucky enough to have the same Forte's Cafe we have today.

Alongside Forte's Cafe, Wendy now has Room 39. Why Room 39 we can hear you say. Well its next door to Forte's isn't it!!



Room 39 has a growing reputation, attracting customers not just from Maryfield but across Dundee and even further afield. Add to that their online and social media presence and this feels like a business going places, but Wendy is quick to point out that whatever happens in the future, Dura St Stobswell will always be home for Room 39.

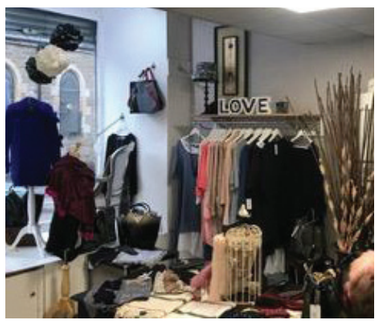
Talking about the wider issues facing Stobswell, Wendy has some pretty firm ideas about how the traders could organise themselves to work with other local organisations and the council to improve Albert St and Stobswell. Hopefully we'll hear more about this in the near future.

When we were talking about some of the problems we face in Stobswell Wendy was keen to emphasise how special Stobswell was, how friendly it and the people who live here can be, and the positive story we have to tell.

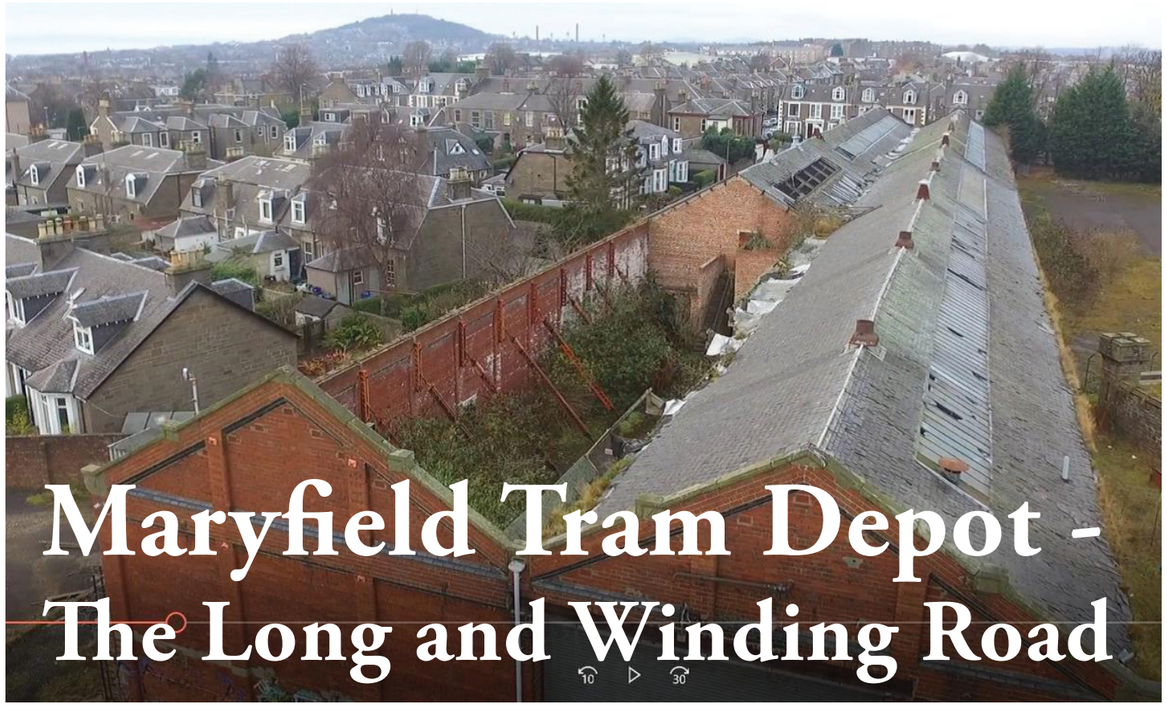
Getting back to the business, Wendy now runs Forte's, which might surprise a few folk, but Jim actually retired about five years ago (don't tell him). He is still in the cafe every day just keeping his hand in, and there are plans in place for Wendy's daughter Amy to carry on the family tradition and take over at Forte's in the very near future.

This really is a story of people, with the cafe Phillip Forte opened way back in the 1940's being looked after and cared for by first Phillip himself, then Jim and Wilma, through to Wendy and her sister Carolanne and now onto Amy.

We don't have to tell anyone how lucky we are in Stobswell to have Forte's. It is a neighbourhood treasure, and it is in good hands - here's to the next 75 years.



OUR FUTURE



Maryfield Tram Depot - The Long and Winding Road

Anyone travelling along the Forfar Road and passing the Maryfield Tram Depot over the past few years must be wondering whether this important Grade B listed building will ever be saved.

After the demise of Dundee's trams in 1956 the building had a second life as a bus depot before falling into the hands of Scottish Water. A period of dilapidation followed, with a fire in the rear quarter of the building leaving this section roofless and supported by temporary props. After a lengthy campaign Dundee Museum of Transport (DMofT) were able to acquire the building and surrounding grounds in 2014 with the intention to completely renovate the building and convert it into a new transport museum for Dundee.

Appraisals from experts in the renovation of historic buildings produced a project figure of around £4 million to save and convert the tram depot and a submission to the Heritage Lottery Fund was prepared and submitted in 2016. Whilst our initial application was rejected, Historic Environment Scotland agreed to commit £500,000 towards the project and we were invited by the Lottery funders to re-appraise the project and re-submit our application.

So what does 2018 bring for this iconic Dundee landmark, and will the project ever get underway? This year is looking positive for Maryfield. Dundee Historic Environment Trust has committed a substantial grant towards renovating the external spaces and front cobbled area, and our fundraisers are currently working hard on the match funding required for this part of the project. You should see work starting on site in April with an aim to complete these works by September 2018.

Our Heritage Lottery Fund re-application will be submitted in June 2018 for a revised £3.2 million project and we are hopeful that this important funding body will realise the necessity of supporting this vital project. DMofT will need to find an additional £1.5 million in match funding to create our new home and our fundraisers are already in action.

After years of deprivation and decay we believe that 2018 will be the turning point for the Maryfield Tram Depot. Meantime our existing premises at Market Street off Dock Street is open 6 days a week. Find out more about us at www.dmoft.co.uk.

Photo above: An aerial view shows the state of dilapidation of the roof