LIVE WELL, DO WELL
STOBSWELL

STOBSWELL VOICE

Baxter Park • Clepington • Maryfield • Stobswell • Woodside

Winter 2024

STOBSWELL FESTIVE CELEBRATION 2024

It's beginning to look a lot like CHRISTMAS and there has been lots of work going on deliver this year's Stobswell Festive Celebration and Appeal and it's going to be BIGGER and BETTER.

For Christmas 2024 we will see Stobie's biggest range of events ever with all of our much loved shows coming back including the Light Nights in Baxter Park and Malcolm Street, the Morgan Christmas Concert and the North Pole Post Office all returning with the exciting addition of the Dundee University Swing Band performing Swing Into Christmas at Arthurstone Library for the first time. You can see the timetable on the poster and they will be appearing in all of your favourite shops and stops around Stobswell so watch out for them.



At this time of year our wee community comes together to celebrate who we are and show what we can achieve and as always there are so many different people and organisations coming together from the traders on Albert Street, Dundee City Council Festive Fund with their financial support and the Morgan Academy and the local primary schools. We haven't mentioned nearly everyone who pitches up and helps but we are so grateful, it just couldn't happen without you.

And for the second year in a row we're really excited to announce even more Christmas lights will be installed on and around Albert Street. We've had huge support from the council through the Maryfield Regeneration Forum and the District Shopping Centre Fund to install additional lights which brighten up the area in the darkest of months and proved so popular last year.

Stobswell Festive Appeal

And most importantly The Stobie Festive Appeal which shows our community at its very best and has become a big part of what living and visiting Stobswell is all about during the Festive Season.

This time of year can be great but it also can be really difficult for some of our neighbours and friends. The Festive Appeal is a real reflection of the generosity and spirit of the people living, visiting and working in Stobswell. It shows every year that we can all make a difference to our fantastic community and that we don't have to rely on others to make good things happen. Working together we can make we can all make positive difference to the place where we live.

With the Cost of Living Crisis continuing for many and public services under pressure it's more important than ever that we come together with local residents and businesses, people visiting the area and the many charities and organisations working in the area to make Stobie the best place it can be.

We have more collection points around Stobswell than ever with the promotional posters going up in windows all over the area and the return of the North Pole Post Office so please give what you can, everything is appreciated.

EMBER BUSES ARRIVE IN STOBSWELL

We received this from Ember:

Hi Stobswell, we're Ember, the UK's first all-electric intercity bus operator. We're very excited to have launched a new route serving Stobswell! Launched on 22nd October, we're now connecting Albert Street directly to Edinburgh, Edinburgh Airport, and towns/villages in between.

At Ember, we aim to make public transport a genuine alternative to driving by offering a convenient, reliable, and comfortable service, all whilst being better value for money than using a car. Tickets are a flat price, and freely changeable between services. Onboard, there's comfortable seats with lots of legroom and superfast 5G Wi-Fi.

By shifting passengers from cars to electric buses, we can decarbonise Scotland's road network and reduce congestion and pollution in cities, including on Albert Street.

The Ember stop in Stobswell (located outside the Parish Church) offers a convenient option for residents to travel beyond the city directly from their doorstep. There's two departures each hour - one heading north to Aberdeen, and one heading south to Edinburgh and the airport.



Both routes serve other towns and villages in between as 'pre-boked only' stops, where the service will call only if a passenger has booked a ticket - this speeds up journey times on quieter trips.

The Albert Street stop is also 'pre-booked only', and tickets can be booked online up to 10 minutes before departure time. For more info, and to book tickets, visit www.ember.to

If you have any feedback on the Ember service, you can reach out to the team at ride@ember.to

SECURE ENTRY SYSTEMS - DO YOU NEED SOME HELP?

Where communal properties (e.g. tenement blocks) do not have any means of restricting access to residents, services or visitors, and may suffer from anti-social behaviour, the Council may be able to offer financial support in the form a security grant for the installation of a secure-door-entry system. Such grants are discretionary and subject to the availability of funding.

The owner occupiers and/or owners should firstly discuss their proposals amongst themselves, and are encouraged to nominate a lead person to co-ordinate obtaining quotes for the work and submitting the grant application. The Private Sector Services Unit can be contacted for advice and assistance on 01382 436880 or private.sector@dundeecity.gov.uk.

A security award of up to £250 per property can be applied for and the application form for grant assistance can be accessed via the following link or using the QR code:

www.dundeecity.gov.uk/service-area/neighbourhood-services/communities-safety-and-protection/improvement-and-repair-of-private-sector-properties

BATS IN THE PARK - BAT NIGHT IN BAXTER PARK

In September, Friends of Baxter Park held a Bats in the Park evening with council Countryside Ranger Colin Donald. The event attracted over 150 local people of all ages. Starting with a talk in the park centre, the group then moved outdoors splitting into groups equipped with ultrasound bat detectors.



As the sun set, things started to heat up when several detectors burst into life much to the delight of everyone who attended. Colin was able to identify the bats as the Common Pipistrelle.

Friends of Baxter Park would like to thank everyone for attending, check their Facebook page for upcoming events.

STOBSWELL LOCAL PLACE PLAN - FIRST DRAFT COMPLETED!

Work has continued apace with the writing group working on this Plan and the first draft has now been developed. It has over 50 recommendations for improving land use and assets in Stobswell. These were tested at a public consultation event on November 7th in Arthurstone Library. The recommendations are now organized under 4 local themes: Facilities and Services, Better Connections, Community and Culture, and Quality Housing for All, with three crossing-cutting themes: Climate Change, Health and Wellbeing and Thriving Communities - based on the Scottish Government National Planning Framework 4.

The next stage is for the Plan to be revised again, based on the public comments received, and illustrated with the help of three Architecture & Planning Masters students from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design co-ordinated by Stobswell Trustee Helen King. A final draft of the Plan will then be checked over by an independent planning consultant for policy making, before being put out for a final public consultation round early in the New Year. This will be Dundee's first Local Place Plan.



MEET THE STOBSWELL FORUM TRUSTEES

Joy Melville

Joy has been involved in the Stobswell Forum for the last two years and considers herself to be a Stobie girl, having been born in Maryfield Hospital and currently living near Baxter Park.

Joy is passionate about social justice and her key focuses are on tackling poverty and housing issues in the area. Joy has worked for Hillcrest Homes for over 20 years and currently manages the following teams: Financial Wellbeing, Social Wellbeing and Energy Advice.



Thomas Coutts

"Hello, thank you for making me feel so welcome and letting me be part of something so positive in the Stobswell community. I currently work at the Tesco Call Centre where I am a Customer Service Specialist. This sees me picking up contact directed to Tesco's CEO, working with other teams in the business to resolve escalated matters, and a whole bunch of case management. When I'm not working at Tesco, I work at the Dundee United Community Trust where I am a Lead Community Coach.

My motivation for wanting to be a part of the Stobswell Forum is my drive to play my part in making the area I live in as good as it can be for the benefit of my loved ones who live here, my friends and neighbours who I've worked with in the past and who I currently work with, as well as the children I've coached through DUCT."



You can find the Stobswell Forum on Facebook or email us at info@stobswell.org.uk

TRUSTEES & VOLUNTEERS - STOBSWELL FORUM

Have you ever thought about volunteering with the Forum or having a conversation about becoming a Trustee? We are always on the lookout for people to come along to the meetings and find out what we get up to and maybe taking it further and getting more involved.

The Stobswell Forum are very active working with the council, local schools, doctors surgeries and a whole host of organisations like Boomerang, Kanzen Karate and Dundee International Women's Centre to improve services and opportunities for local people, whether its supporting local families and children during school holidays, working with organisations like Be Friends and We Are With You or helping to form local plans that help shape what Stobswell and Maryfield look like in the future. There are many opportunities to get involved.

If you think you would like to find out a bit more please get in touch. You can find the Stobswell Forum on Facebook or info@stobswell.org.uk.

LITTER PICKING CAMPAIGNS

Our newest Trustee Thomas Coutts has been heading up a Litter Picking Campaign in the streets around central Stobswell with a growing band of volunteers. If you would like to join in drop us a wee email and we'll add you to the mailing list for future litter picks, they usually last around an hour and equipment is provided or if you want to suggest an area we could look at just let us know.



STOBSWELL TRINITY PARISH CHURCH CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 15th December at 3:00pm

Quiet Christmas services in the Ferguson St Building for the recently bereaved or anyone who finds Christmas difficult.

Tuesday 24th December at 6:00pm

Christingle service for all the family

Tuesday 24th December at 11:30pm

Watchnight service (tea and coffee served from 11:00pm)

Wednesday 25th December at 10:00am

Christmas Day service

Everyone is welcome to any of these services and to any Sunday service at 11:00am throughout the year.

THE STOBSWELL FORUM ARE...

Colin Clement, Robbie Fotheringham, David MacDougall, Lorraine Clement, Nichola Fraser, Ali Floyd, Helen King, Joy Melville, Mike Seton, Fionn Stevenson, Lisa Croll, Thomas Coutts

You can contact Stobswell Forum in the following ways:

Email: info@stobswell.org.uk **Telephone:** 07801 419941 **Web:** www.stobswell.org.uk

Follow us on social media: stobswellforum @stobswellforum @stobswellforum

Join us at our monthly meetings in Arthurstone library - all welcome.

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