

# DUNTERLIE

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING - WHAT WE'VE LEARNED



## SNAPSHOT

- Volunteers have been supported to plan ahead and grow their groups. The generosity of local people is powerful – giving time, energy and, where appropriate, contributing towards the running costs of groups to ensure Dunterlie Resource Centre has a bright future ahead!
- Dunterlie Resource Centre is a hive of activity, now open Monday – Friday. New people are accessing the centre due to initiatives such as Dunterlie Foodshare, School Holiday Partnership activities and volunteer-led group development.
- Following a pilot in summer 2018, Dunterlie Foodshare volunteers have been supported to access funding to deliver a weekly foodshare. 35 - 40 bags of groceries are distributed each week, saving food from landfill and giving local people access to quality, fresh food.
- Dunterlie Centre User Group have been meeting on a regular basis to contribute to share information, build relationships and take action on the things that are important in the centre and surrounding areas.
- 2019 has been a great year for building positive relationships with community members, volunteers and local services. This year Dunterlie Resource Centre has warmly welcomed support from; East Renfrewshire Council CLD team, Barrhead Housing Association, East Renfrewshire Council's Unpaid Work Team, Parent Network Scotland, Money Advice and Rights, Citizens Advice Bureau, Home Energy Scotland, Health Improvement Practitioners (Smoking Cessation, Breastfeeding Welcome), Scottish Fire and Rescue.

## DUNTERLIE CENTRE USER GROUP

Dunterlie Centre User group is a collective of representatives from groups who use the centre and surrounding areas. The group has been meeting regularly over the last 18 months – sharing information with each other, organising small activities and responding to consultations relevant to Dunterlie community. The group are keen to explore ways in which Dunterlie Resource Centre can be a more accessible and welcoming space.

The last few years has seen an explosion in the number of groups in Dunterlie and each group is trying to plan ahead – of course this means seeking funding for hall let and running costs. Dunterlie Centre user group are working creatively to support groups and individuals to access the centre now and in to the future.

The group has just hosted Dunterlie's first conversation afternoon, inviting community members, key members of staff from Barrhead Housing Association, East Renfrewshire Council and East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust to make connections and work towards creative solutions to the issues facing the Dunterlie community.

### A YEAR IN NUMBERS



5 Ideas into Action

1,632 new people reached



33 people attending activities per week

Average of 60 Engagements on Facebook per week



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY PARTNERSHIP

We have been working alongside Dunterlie Baby and Toddler Group, Carlibar Nursery and local families to host activities over the school holidays.

The school holiday partnership have welcomed new families to Dunterlie Resource Centre and have created spaces where children and the important adults in their lives can spend quality time together. The focus of the partnership is ensuring people have access to nutritious food and fun, free activities during school holiday periods. The partnership was set up in response to Carlibar Family Centre losing it's family centre status, no longer providing childcare during holiday periods – participation levels have been overwhelming and reaches further than families involved at Carlibar.

The most popular events have brought in over 100 people to join in the fun, which has meant some very busy days. Events and activities have been supported by many partners including Barrhead Housing Association, Scottish Fire and Rescue, Barrhead Men's Shed and Parent Network Scotland.

It has been a great way to share skills and connect families with other parts of the community. The popularity of these events has also encouraged some new volunteers to come and lend a hand.



# DUNTERLIE FOODSHARE

Dunterlie Foodshare is a great example of how local people, working alongside services, can create a space where people feel welcome and supported. People from a range of services and organisations join the volunteers each week. Rolling their sleeves up, they help distribute food, share in the conversations which take place and share information which can help people in their daily lives.

The foodshare brings people together to save food from going to waste and to have a cuppa and a chat on a weekly basis but the impact has been far wider. For example, Carlibar Primary school did a collection on the run up to Christmas donating dried and tinned food. Some local organisations also decided to donate food to Dunterlie Foodshare instead of doing office gift exchanges.

A group of volunteers in Thornliebank, East Renfrewshire, have recently piloted a foodshare in their own community. Volunteers from Dunterlie have been an integral part of planning and delivering this, from the outset they were keen to support others and share their experience.

Suzanne currently volunteers with Dunterlie Foodshare and has been involved since May 2019. Suzanne likes volunteering at Dunterlie because she gets satisfaction knowing she is helping people in her community. She reflected that:

“The Foodshare helps working families, not just people on benefits. For some people there are other priorities and I think in some ways it’s better to give them food to help feed their kids rather than money which sometimes goes on other things. There is a lot more variety than a standard foodbank – you can buy stuff cheap like tins and pasta but the foodshare gets things in that cost more, meat and berries and items which can be a bit of a luxury.”



## WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED TOGETHER?

### RELATIONSHIPS

Nothing would happen in Dunterlie without the support of the community and the commitment of volunteers. Volunteers have a key role in brokering support. The positive working connections they have developed with services in Dunterlie and the trusting relationships they have within the local community allow for networks to be built effectively. Recognising and valuing the contributions of all partners and putting the needs of the community first will ensure Dunterlie Resource Centre is a place where people can receive support with dignity and feel part of their community. Investing time in building relationships and supporting open, honest communication continues to be a priority in Dunterlie.

### SPACE

Dunterlie Resource Centre is currently open every day and a broad range of groups meet to use the space. New and existing groups have benefited hugely from East Renfrewshire’s Linking Communities Participatory Budgeting funding, all groups are diversifying their funding sources and are looking towards the future. There is a great deal of positive energy around ensuring the centre continues to thrive. This year there has been some success in creating a range of spaces for sharing information and listening, understanding each other better and hearing some new voices along the way.

### LONELINESS AND SOCIAL ISOLATION

This year, everyday get togethers and special occasions like the festive gathering have highlighted that social isolation is a big issue but sharing a space and a cuppa goes a long way towards connecting people, reducing loneliness and generating ideas to make Dunterlie the best place it can be.



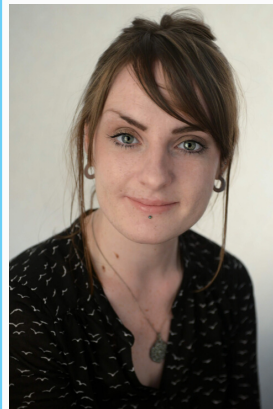
## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

**Comic Relief Community Led Grant Making**  
– A group of community members have already begun work alongside Corra Foundation staff to facilitate a community-led grant making process. The group are in the early stages of development and look to distribute £20,000 to benefit the community in the coming months.



**Supporting development of Dunterlie Centre User Group** – Supporting volunteers and activists from Dunterlie who come together to share information and take action on what is important for Dunterlie Resource Centre and surrounding Areas. Dunterlie Foodshare has been selected to participate in SCDC's Knowledge is Power programme. Supported by SCDC and Corra Foundation, a group of Foodshare Volunteers will undertake a community-led action research project over the next 18 months.

**Connecting Dunterlie and wider People in Place Programme.** This year volunteers are keen to connect more regularly with other communities and projects. There are clear links with Fernhill (Knowledge is Power) and Carbrain (Comic Relief Community Led Grant Making) and further opportunities to visit other places will be sought.



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## PEOPLE IN PLACE - MOVING FORWARDS

People in Place is currently working alongside nine communities in Scotland, supporting local people to connect, collaborate on ideas, and take action to create positive change.

The local activity and learning from Dunterlie helps shape the future plans of the community and the wider programme. So far, some common themes have emerged across the programme including the importance of Participation, Space, Voice, Investment, and Learning & Development.

However, due to the unique conditions in each place, the work is at a different stage in each community. In some places the focus is on listening, building trust, relationships and participation. In others, communities are using increased participation and voice as a platform to engage with local decision making structures.

Looking ahead, Corra hopes to support communities to connect with each other and to use their voice and power to influence wider system change.



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