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UTG

Friends of Union Terrace Gardens

Newsletter 6: November-December 2010

www.FriendsOfUTG.org

CAR BOOT SALE

UNION TERRACE GARDENS SUNDAY
27th & 28th Nov. 2010
from 12pm to 4pm

Friends, we have been granted permission to utilise the arches in UTG, for a car boot sale to raise funds for Friends of Union Terrace Gardens. We are hoping that you could help us drive our message forth by coming along with your cars filled with goodies to keep our momentum strong. Or indeed simply donate unwanted items that we could sell.

This event is purely to raise money to support the tireless work of our core group with the sole aim to save Union Terrace Gardens and we insist that anyone who wishes to be involved does so for that purpose only.

All proceeds must go to Friends of Union Terrace Gardens and will of course be strictly supervised and checked.

CONTACT STEVE BOTHWELL TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST: EMAIL restaurant52@hotmail.com or pop in to Cafe 52 on the Green.

Painting the Arches

A gang of volunteers and members of FoUTG gave up their weekend and early mornings to get the arches in Union Terrace Gardens cleaned and repainted. Friends of Union Terrace Gardens member Steven Bothwell organised the event and was given painting supplies and valuable advice from Steve Shaw the Parks and Gardens Manager for Aberdeen City Council. Rowies, cake and coffee for the cold and hungry volunteers were provided by Dorothy Bothwell and greatly appreciated.



The day was a great success and the job was finished by evening. Steven Bothwell also has plans to get the lights back on in UTG and the toilets re-opened. He is also working hard on plans that would allow proper disabled access in and out of the gardens.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN UNION TERRACE GARDENS

18th December 2010

2 p.m.

Carols and Christmas songs for everyone.

With a 10 piece brass band and lots of mince pies!

Come along and join in.

City Centre Development Framework

The Aberdeen Local Plan and more particularly the City Centre Development Framework are both out to consultation until 17th December. FoUTG will be making comments both agreeing with and disagreeing with these very important documents. We will be supporting the provision of green space, especially in the heart of our city, and our granite heritage. We will be pushing for the removal of Union Terrace Gardens as a whole from "Opportunity Site OP98 Denburn Valley/Belmont St/Union Terrace".

More details will be published soon on our website at www.foutg.org.uk and do see the original documents at www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/planning.

Do make your voice heard by writing to the Local Plan team at the Council or emailing ldp@aberdeencity.gov.uk, making it clear that this is a response to both the Local Plan and the City Centre Framework.

Friends of UTG in conjunction with
Interesting Music Promotions
present

Wed 29th Dec 2010

The Tunnels No 1 Underneath
Marks & Spencer

UTG Fundraiser No 2

Doors 7.30pm 'ish

Entry £10

MC Alan Davidson

An evening of quality live music
featuring the great & the good from
Aberdeen

Music scene 1980's 90's & 00's

Live music till 12a.m then classic
dance floor mayhem from 12a.m to
2a.m courtesy of Steven Milne

Friends of UTG stall for all your
updates & purchases



Message from the Chairman of FoUTG

“I sometimes get asked why we bother campaigning against the city square project, aren't we fighting a lost cause?

The answer is most definitely not. Even some of the most ardent supporters of the city square project don't think there is a strong chance that it will happen. It will cost too much and will require the council to borrow from central government at a time when such money is clearly very scarce. Despite this a lot of money is being spent moving the project forward.

The council are under pressure. They know that the city square plan is very unpopular in the city. As we get closer to the Scottish Parliamentary elections in May next year and the council elections the year after, the pressure will increase. UTG will be a major debating issue at these elections.. History is on our side. A plan to build a multi-storey car park in the Gardens in 1984 was defeated by a similar campaign back then. I know, because I was involved with that one too. “

Mike Shepherd, Chairman FoUTG

FoUTG are working at...

- ✓ Pressing for the Design Competition for City Square to be opened up to all options including retaining and enhancing the Gardens rather than destroying them by decking them over.
- ✓ Preventing ownership of the Gardens being transferred away from the city to another body such as a Special Purpose Vehicle
- ✓ Working with a wide variety of organisations and individuals to maximise usage of Union Terrace Gardens throughout the year.
- ✓ Directly enhancing the Gardens e.g. re-introducing giant draughts sets to the Gardens and investigating how toilets and disabled access can be provided in the gardens.
- ✓ Investigating the proposed funding mechanism, Tax Incremental Funding, and the likely impact on City Council and local business finances.

Join us as a member

I support the Aims of Friends of Union Terrace Gardens

Name

Signature

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Email

- £10 Businesses, Groups, Families (+ £ Donation welcome)
- £5 Individual (+ £ Donation welcome) or
- £3 concessions (students, pensioners, etc)

Please make cheques payable to Friends of Union Terrace Gardens.

Only members can vote at Friends AGM but we welcome everyone as a Supporter (see website)

Return to: Friends of Union Terrace Gardens at 35 Eigie Avenue, Balmedie, Aberdeenshire, AB23 8WG

