

Embrace Elgin August Bulletin

In this month's bulletin:

[AGM & Awards](#)

[Renewal Ballot Update](#)

[Events Update](#)

[Business to Business](#)

[Police Scotland Business Watch](#)

[Road Closure Information](#)

[Free Defibrillator Training](#)

[Tourism BID](#)

[Social Media Update](#)

[Direct Debit Levy Payments](#)

[Spirit of Speyside Distilled](#)

[Litter Pick](#)

[Go Purple for CLAN](#)

[Supplier Development Programme](#)



AGM & Business Awards

The BID Business Awards have gone from strength to strength, with the public making thousands of nominations for their favourite businesses and staff members.

The awards have been live for over 2 weeks now and we have had over 2400 individual votes in so far! The awards are live until 3pm on Friday 6th September. The link to the online form is below and if you would like a starter pack of forms please contact the office.

Here is the link to the online form- <https://forms.gle/3Bkurotj3tZuRyFV7>

The winners will be announced at the AGM & Awards Ceremony on the 2nd October at the Beechtree Restaurant at Moray College.

We hope you will join us on the night to meet the Board, find out what has been happening, get an update on the renewal ballot and future plans and meet your business neighbours.

RSVP date is the 20th September, please RSVP Tina Mainland - tina.mainland@elginbid.co.uk



Renewal Ballot Update

Over the last 16 months we have been holding consultations, drop ins, surveys and 1-1 meetings with our business members and we would like to thank everyone who got involved. The information gathered has been used to form the basis of the Phase 3 Business Plan.

In the 6 weeks leading up to the voting papers being issued and the 6 weeks of the ballot period, Liam Christie will be out visiting businesses. Liam will be there to make sure you have your papers, answer questions and bring queries to the office. We will make sure he is briefed so that he can carry out his role effectively. We have taken advice on the information that we can share to ensure that everything is done within the data protection and GDPR guidelines.

We have also attached an information update that summarises a snapshot of what has been achieved over the last few years. If you want to meet to discuss the details or send in an E mail with your thoughts, please contact the office.

[Download the information flyer here](#)

Key Dates

2nd October 2019 – Publication notice of the ballot

16th October 2019 – Ballot papers to be issued

27th November 2019 – Final day for voting papers to be received (before 5.00pm)

28th November 2019 – Announcement of ballot results

Events Update

The events held in August were all a great success! Both the Classic Car Show and Cannonbawz Run Launch were new additions and both went really well. The Food & Drink Festival was another success with both venues being constantly busy right from the start to the end of the event, more importantly they encouraged people to move between locations!



We have just two events left this year, Halloween Fun Day on the 26th October and the Christmas Light Switch On will be on the 23rd November.

If you would like to get involved with the events, either by having a specific product or a special offer that we can promote in the run up to the event or through taking a free market stall, just let Tina know as soon as you can. Contact the office if you would like a form. Please have your booking forms in to Tina by the 14th October for Halloween and 11th November for Christmas.

For Halloween you can also be part of the Pumpkin Treasure Hunt- where the hunters have to follow the clues to track down the pumpkins! If you would like to be part of the Pumpkin Hunt please let Tina know by the 18th October. The Pumpkin Hunt was very popular last year!

At the Christmas Light Switch On, Santa's Post Office will be returning! It was a real hit last year with over 200 children coming in to write their letters to Santa and we expect this year to be even busier! After the children write their letters, we then get the families back in town December to collect their replies.

ANY BID Member can hold the reply letters, it's a great way of getting people into your business while spreading some Christmas Cheer. It doesn't matter if you are an;

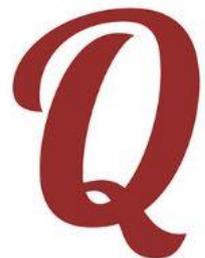
- Estate Agent or Accountant
- Retailer
- Hairdresser or •Beautician
- Café

It's a simple and positive way to meet new customers. If you want to get involved let Tina know by Monday 25th November. We will let the children's parents know the letters are ready to be collected in the week commencing the 9th December.

Business to Business

TQ Creative

Open art studio 'tq-creative' will be open for business as of Monday 9th September. We are still renovating, although the studio itself is ready and accessible and can be found on Academy Street, Elgin, in the corner of Moray Street car park and to the rear of Angharad Bridal. I'll be available to take bespoke commissions for large and small scale creative projects for both private and commercial means. Original artwork, prints, merchandise and stationary will be available from the studio and online at www.tq-creative.com. Otherwise contactable via email for enquiries at tqcreative.tom@gmail.com - Tom Q



TOM QUINLAN - VISUAL COMMUNICATION

Police Scotland Business Watch

Counterfeit Currency

Members should be alert to counterfeit currency which is being circulated, in particular £20 & £50 notes. Commonly, the customer will only purchase low value items costing several pounds to ensure a maximum amount of change is provided in return. Bank of Ireland £50 notes in particular have been presented and should be checked thoroughly if handed over.

Ringling the Changes

All business owners and their staff should be alert and aware to this type of scam - in particular watch out for anyone asking for a large sum of money to be exchanged for other denominations. The people who carry out such a scam are employing sleight of hand and then create a distraction in the hope of leaving your premises with more money than they started with, and it is possible they will target a busy period which can provide an ideal opportunity to confuse or distract staff.

To prevent being caught out, politely decline the request on all occasions, no matter what excuse is provided and direct those concerned to a bank.

SPOT THE SIGNS OF FINANCIAL ABUSE - DOORSTEP CRIME IS FINANCIAL ABUSE

Help us prevent vulnerable people from becoming victims. Learn to spot the signs of doorstep crime and financial abuse and help protect your patients, clients, neighbours, customers, friends or family members.

Watch this hard hitting video (7:23 minutes)

<https://youtu.be/qYvsuynSJQs>

LOCAL NEWS - <https://www.scotland.police.uk/whats-happening/news/news-by-division/north-east/>

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCOTLAND - <https://nwscotland.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk/>

REMEMBER

Crime can be managed like any other aspect of business and controlled through business strategies. It is not always just bad luck that one business suffers crime and another enjoys a safe environment. A balanced prevention strategy means that a thief will either give up, move on or be caught thus minimising your business loss.

Road Closure Information

We have been asked by Moray Council Roads Department to pass on these messages about upcoming road closures (both will take place during the evening).

High Street- In order to carry out repairs to Scottish Water Ironwork at the entrance to Elgin High Street, near Northfield Terrace, it will be necessary to close the road from 18:00 on Monday 16th September for a period of 4 hours.

Batchen Street- Due to the application of anti-skid to the road surface, the Batchen Street road will be closed for 1 evening with a 5 day period from Monday 2 September until Friday 6 September 2019. As a result of this closure, drivers are being advised to utilise the adjacent streets.

Free Defibrillator Training

Following the success of the defibrillator training held in June, there will be two more training sessions on 25th September in the Inkwel, Francis Place. There are two one hour sessions at 4pm-5pm and 5pm-6pm (please note times are still to be confirmed by the trainer, if there is a change to these times we will contact those that are attending).

This training is open to any BID member or their staff who would like to know how to use a defibrillator in an emergency.

While most of us understand just how important these lifesaving machines are, very few know how to operate one. The fear of doing the wrong thing and making an already difficult situation worse is a real concern. What would you do if someone has a heart attack in your business and you know that just a short distance away is a defibrillator that could save their lives - would you or your staff feel confident enough to run and get it?

Here are some quotes from businesses that attended the last training:

“Very informative, glad I attended I have learned and confident if I am needed to assist I will be OK”

“Very interesting and left me with confidence, should I ever need to use a defib”

“Excellent training very practical. No excess unnecessary information. Really hands on, just what is needed”.

If you would like to attend the training, please let Tina know how many staff will be coming and what session you would like to attend by 16th September.

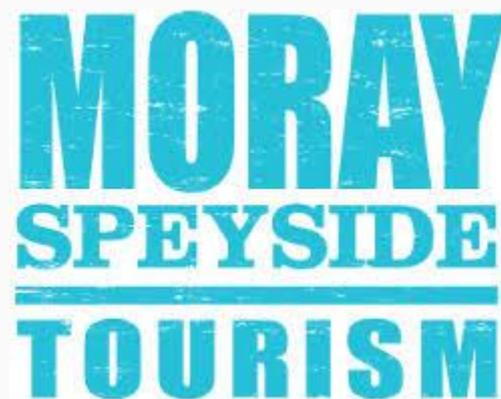
Please remember, if you already have a defibrillator in your work place, please let us know, so that we can mark it up on the Business Map and web site.

Tourism BID

As an existing Elgin BID member, you may have been wondering if the proposed Tourism BID affects you, what it could mean for your business, how it will affect your existing relationship with Elgin BID or indeed what the Tourism BID will do for you in the event of a successful BID ballot.

The Tourism BID will be secure, sustainable and accountable and will open up a whole new world of possibility and opportunity for our region.

Moray Speyside Tourism are currently consulting with tourism businesses throughout Moray Speyside to ensure that the TBID blueprint addresses their priorities for future of tourism in the region.



There are only a small number of businesses who would be eligible to be both Elgin BID and Tourism BID members. For clarity, Elgin BID members will not be required to vote in the Tourism BID ballot and should the Tourism BID ballot be successful (which we hope it will be), existing Elgin BID levy payers WILL NOT be asked to pay two levies. While you would remain an Elgin BID member, through our partnership you will be able to access all the skills, expertise and support on offer through the Tourism BID.

The businesses who would be eligible to be both Elgin BID and Tourism BID members will be contacted soon.

Social Media Update

Social media is a great way to promote the City Centre and all the amazing businesses! Our social media following is always increasing, below is a small update of how our following has grown.

- Since May 2016 our Facebook likes have increased 98% (2102 to 4159)
- Since March 2018 when we started using Instagram more regularly to reach a wider range of the public, our account followers have increased 101% (400 to 807)
- Promo videos of individual businesses reach on average 2000 people each on Facebook



Remember we are happy to promote you on our social media in any way you like! It could be a promo video, a special offer post or sharing a post from your own social media- just get in touch with Tina anytime!

Direct Debit Levy Payments

An easy way to make sure that your BID Levy payments are taken care of is to set up a Direct Debit. This service was set up with the Council 2 years ago and is an easy way for future payments to be taken. You can contact the office for a form, once you have completed the form return it direct to the Council Annexe on the High Street or forward the completed form to us and we will do that on your behalf.

Spirit of Speyside Distilled

The doors open to #distilled19 in two weeks and the Spirit of Speyside team have passed on details on how BID members can get discounted online tickets! See the below message.

A special price of £10 per person will apply to the Opening Event on Friday afternoon and a 10% discount will apply to tickets for all other sessions.

Friday 12.00 – 16.00: <http://www.spiritofspeyside.com/events/594/>

Friday 18.00 – 22.00, Saturday 12.00 – 16.00, Saturday 18.00 – 22.00: <http://www.spiritofspeyside.com/events/937/>

Litter Pick

Can you help? The SPICE Group are looking for help at their next litter pick. Please see the below message.

"As part of our ongoing efforts to keep Elgin clean, we're planning a community litter pick on **Saturday 21st September** from about **10am** till about **12 noon**. We will be gathering at Cedarwood, 20 Edgar Road, so we can target a different part of Elgin from our previous efforts. Our aim is to tidy-up the surrounding area, so our shared spaces are better and brighter places for everyone to enjoy. This is part of global efforts to tackle the blight of litter (see <https://www.nationalcleanupday.org/>)

Bags and pickers will be available from the Council to help lift the litter, but please **bring your own gloves**.

This activity is organised by **SPICE** (Strategic Partnership for Improving the City of Elgin), which aims to bring together various groups for community action project.

Even if you can only help for an hour, you'll be very welcome. If you're not free on 21st September, do remember to look-up the **#2MinuteCleanUp**, which is something anyone can do at any time. Or for further inspiration, check out the amazing **#trashtag challenge!**"

Go Purple for CLAN

In celebration of CLAN's birthday they are calling on individuals, businesses, groups of friends and families, to come together and bake throughout the 22nd – 28th September!

No matter your baking abilities, whether your culinary contribution is bought or baked, know that every effort made will undoubtedly make a huge difference in helping people affected by cancer in your local community! And if you like cake ... what easier way to get involved?

To sign up and get your Go Purple fundraising pack please email fundraising@clanhouse.org.



Supplier Development Programme

Save the date for the official launch of the Supplier Development Programme with Moray Council!



Moray Council is open for business and wishes to support SMEs to tender for public sector work with the Council and surrounding areas. Join Moray Council and Business Gateway at the official launch of the Supplier Development Programme, which provides free tender training to Scottish-based SMEs. Come along and introduce your business to SDP, learn more about the potential contract and framework opportunities that will arise in 2020 from Moray Council, and tell us how best your business can be supported by completing a survey for future training.

If you're attending Meet the Buyer North 2019 in Aviemore on 4 September, this launch is a unique opportunity to follow up on the tender opportunities you'll collect, to meet representatives from Moray Council and learn how to become "tender ready."

During this launch with Moray Council and the Supplier Development Programme, your business can:

- Learn how to tender with Moray Council / other public sector buyers
- Get advance information on Moray contract opportunities in 2020, and what steps your business can take now to prepare
- Find out about major upcoming projects with contract opportunities for your business

Spaces are limited, so be sure to register today!

Note: registration will be from 11:30am for a 12noon start.

[#bestvalueformoray](https://twitter.com/bestvalueformoray)

The Supplier Development Programme is a partnership of local authorities and the Third Sector working together to deliver a business support initiative.

Are you a SME in Moray?

Join **Moray Council** to officially launch the Supplier Development Programme and learn how your business can **find, win and keep** public sector contracts.

- Learn how to tender with Moray Council and other public sector buyers
- Hear about upcoming contract opportunities in 2020
- Plan the steps your business can take now to be "tender ready"



Moray Council SDP Launch Event

3 October 2019 • 12:00 noon - 2:00pm
Horizon Scotland, Forres Enterprise Park, Forres, IV36 2AB
Register: www.sdpScotland.co.uk



#BestValueForMoray

Many Thanks
Gill & Tina

gill.neill@elginbid.co.uk | tina.mainland@elginbid.co.uk | 01343 550652