

**An Audit of  
Community Facilities  
in Dunblane  
2010**

**Compiled by Stirling Council  
working with  
the Community Facilities Working Group of Dunblane Development Trust**

## **An Audit of Community Facilities in Dunblane 2010**

### **Introduction**

This report has been compiled by Stirling Council and Dunblane Development Trust for two reasons:-

1. It is valuable for the Council and local community bodies in Dunblane to be aware of the role that existing community facilities fulfil and to be able to identify any gaps in provision or any under utilisation of resources. A Community Facilities Working Group has been set up by DDT to enable those that run local halls to share knowledge & experience and to plan for the future.
2. Dunblane Development Trust is considering taking the Braeport Centre into community ownership and Stirling Council's procedures require a survey of this type to be carried out in order to provide evidence of a continuing need for the Centre



The Audit was undertaken by means of a questionnaire sent out in late 2010 to known community facilities in the Town. It is only a snapshot - things change quickly and we have probably missed some facilities out. Thanks are due to all those who completed the questionnaires and made this audit possible.

### **Main Findings of the Community Facilities Audit**

1. Dunblane is clearly a very active community!
2. There is little spare capacity in large halls on weekday evenings, for example the Dunblane Centre is fully booked and Dunblane High has many football-related sessions.
3. There is spare capacity in the evenings in all the schools particularly Dunblane High
4. There appears to be some spare capacity during the day, particularly in those venues that have smaller halls & meeting rooms.
5. Although Victoria Halls, the Cathedral Halls and some of the churches do have classes and programmes for older people, from the information provided none of the halls or community spaces appear to predominately have this user profile.
6. The QV School appears to be more available for community use than had been thought
7. The loss of the community facilities at Scottish Churches House that will result from its closure in June is regrettable and it will have an impact on other facilities in the town.
8. With the cuts in public expenditure, the future viability of the Council owned-community facilities (the Braeport Centre and the Victoria Hall) will need to be closely monitored.


## An Audit of Community Facilities in Dunblane 2010

### Community Buildings

Name of Building		Ownership	Community Access	Facilities Available/ Capacity/ Usage	User Group Profile
The Dunblane Centre		<p><b>Owned and operated by The Dunblane Youth and Sports Centre Trust</b></p> <p>The Trust is a Company Limited by Guarantee with Charitable status</p> <p>There are 15 staff (full and part time) and a pool of 70 volunteers</p> <p>The centre generates in the region of £215K per annum and operates on a break-even basis.</p>	<p>Purpose built community centre open 7 days /week</p> <p>Mon to Fri 9am - 10pm</p> <p>Sat 10am - 5pm</p> <p>Sun 12 noon - 5pm</p>	<p>Sports Hall - 150 Function Room - 70 Fitness Studio - 16 Art Room - 15 Music Room - 12</p> <p>Based on total hours available, weekly usage is 31%</p> <p>Total evening usage from 6pm - 10pm is 50%</p> <p>The sports hall is 100% booked</p> <p>The fitness suite is 50% booked</p>	<p>Predominately sports and fitness classes with in excess of 25 different classes and groups meeting on weekly basis</p> <p>The youth group meets regularly in the centre with a crèche, child-minders, Ranaich House and LazyTown meeting on a weekly basis</p> <p>There are a number of arts, music and educational classes run on a weekly basis</p>
The Braeport Centre		<p><b>Owned by Stirling Council - leased and operated by Dunblane Development Trust</b></p> <p>The Trust is a Company Limited by Guarantee with Charitable status</p> <p>There is a part time caretaker/cleaner</p> <p>Excluding some repairs &amp; maintenance, the centre is run on a self sustaining basis</p>	<p>Open 7 days per week - is opened on demand</p> <p>The centre is run on a self managed basis with the leaders of the individual groups accessing, setting up and closing the building</p>	<p>Room 1 - 80 Room 2 - 50 Room 3 - 80</p> <p>On average the centre has in the region of 78 hours of activity booked per week across all 3 rooms</p> <p>There is some spare capacity in the afternoons and at the weekend</p>	<p>A wide range of groups meet in the centre including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre School Playgroup</li> <li>• Brainy Bairns</li> <li>• Brownies and Guides</li> <li>• Monument Dance</li> <li>• Cheerleaders</li> <li>• Local Historic Society</li> <li>• Dunblane Civic Society</li> <li>• Allanwater Angling Improvement Society</li> <li>• Dunblane Folk Club</li> </ul>



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**Community Buildings (Continued)**

<p><b>Victoria Hall</b></p>		<p><b>Owned by Stirling Council</b> Operated by a Management Committee and team of unpaid volunteers since 1998</p> <p>Any surpluses generated are used to renovate and upgrade the facilities</p>	<p>Can be open 7 days a week - is opened on demand</p> <p>All areas available to let with the exception of Monday mornings which is used for cleaning purposes</p> <p>There is high demand at the weekends for weddings, concerts and ceilidhs</p>	<p>Main Hall Seated with tables 150 Seated without tables 250</p> <p>Lesser Hall - 40 Supper Room - 35</p> <p>Throughout the week the hall has approximately 41 hours of regular booking; largely in the main hall</p> <p>Spare capacity exists in the smaller rooms during the day Monday to Friday</p>	<p>A high proportion of the user groups are health classes, dances (Tea and Scottish Country) and local political and community meetings</p> <p>There is a limited number of sports classes and baby and toddler rentals</p> <p>In addition to the weddings etc at the weekends there is a range of regular activities including Sunday school, Scottish Country Dancing, Dunblane Orchestra Community Market</p>
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School Buildings

Name of Building		Ownership	Community Access	Facilities Available/ Capacity/Usage %	User Group Profile
Dunblane Primary School		Stirling Council	Community Access available Monday to Friday after 3.30pm	<p>Assembly Hall Games Hall Library Cafeteria</p> <p>The Assembly Hall is booked Monday to Thursday every week with approximately 13 hours of activity</p> <p>Capacity exists within the Library, Cafeteria and to a lesser extent the games hall (8 hours of existing activity booked)</p>	<p>The user groups are predominantly linked to younger children's activities with a daily after school club, Brownies, Rainbows and Guides</p> <p>Other meetings include Parent Council and ad hoc Parents' meetings</p>
St Mary's Episcopal Primary School		Stirling Council since 2003	There is no community access	<p>The School has 5 classrooms.</p> <p>There is no hall</p>	



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School Buildings (Continued)

<p><b>Newton Primary School</b></p>		<p><b>Stirling Council</b></p>	<p>Community Access available from 4pm</p>	<p>Gym/Assembly Hall Library</p> <p>There are 8 hours of after-school activity booked into the gym/assembly hall, Monday to Wednesday</p>	<p>The user profile is closely linked to children' with one football and two gymnastics classes booked on a weekly basis</p> <p>Capacity exists in both the Gym/Assembly Hall and the Library</p>
<p><b>Dunblane High School</b></p>		<p><b>Stirling Council - Public Private Partnership building</b></p>	<p>Community Access available:-</p> <p>Monday -to Friday 6.00pm - 10.00pm</p> <p>Saturday 9.00am - 4.00pm</p>	<p>Games Hall Gym Fitness Studio Dance Studio Classrooms Library Community Room Atrium Dinning Hall Murray Hall Grass Pitches Astro Turf</p> <p>There would appear to be capacity available in the non sports areas</p>	<p>The current user groups appear to be very heavily biased towards football</p> <p>There are other sports based classes including Zumba, basketball, athletics and fencing</p> <p>NYCoS meet in the school as does the Boys Brigade and an adult learning Norwegian class</p>



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Church Halls

Name of Building		Ownership	Community Access	Facilities available/ Capacity/ Usage %	User Group Profile
St Mary's Church Hall		St Mary's Episcopal Church	<p>St Mary's Primary School has exclusive use of the hall throughout most of the school day</p> <p>Thereafter, the hall and meeting rooms are available for let 4 out 5 evenings per week</p>	<p>Main Hall with kitchen facilities - 150 Committee Room - 25-40 Annexe - 25-40</p> <p>There would appear to be limited spare capacity in the usage of the main hall</p>	<p>The user group profile is predominantly school related activities</p> <p>There are however a range of other user groups including Craft Group, Community Toddler Group, Karate, Badminton, Zumba and Latin/Ballroom dance.</p>
St Blanes Church Hall		Church of Scotland	The hall could be available for community use - dependant upon the regularity and nature of the group.	<p>Main Hall - 70 Meeting Room - 15 - 20</p> <p>Each evening is already allocated to existing groups</p> <p>There is potentially some capacity during the day</p>	Groups that meeting in the hall include the Boys and Girls Brigades




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Church Halls (Continued)

<p>Dunblane Cathedral Halls</p>		<p>Church of Scotland</p>	<p>All halls available for community use</p> <p>Monday to Friday 9.00am - 10.30pm</p> <p>Saturday to Sunday available for rental</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Main Hall</td> <td>120</td> </tr> <tr> <td>St Andrews Hall -</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Leighton Room</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lamb Room</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cockburn Lounge</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wallace Room</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ritchie Room</td> <td>12</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Main Hall and Cockburn Lounge are served by a kitchen and have wireless internet access. Three other rooms have small pantries.</p>	Main Hall	120	St Andrews Hall -	60	Leighton Room	40	Lamb Room	30	Cockburn Lounge	20	Wallace Room	16	Ritchie Room	12	<p>Cockburn Coffee Lounge Cathedral Guild Cathedral Sunday Schools Indoor Bowling Club Lunch Club Cathedral Choir Ladies Badminton Group Boys Brigade/Anchor Boys Girl Guides &amp; Brownies Liltin Lassie Rosene the Singers Scrabble Club Flytying Club Dunblane Gardening Club Allanwater Patchers Dunblane Art Group Enjoy-a-Ball Tinytalk French Class for children Children's parties</p>
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<p>Scottish Churches House</p>		<p>Action of Churches Together in Scotland (ACTS)</p> <p><b>NOW CLOSED</b></p>	<p>Offers overnight accommodation for 42 and has a range of bookable conference facilities available</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Dinning Room</td> <td>65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fraser Room</td> <td>70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Common Room</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Robert Mackie</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Ballie</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Archie Craig</td> <td>12</td> </tr> </table>	Dinning Room	65	Fraser Room	70	Common Room	20	Robert Mackie	6	John Ballie	12	Archie Craig	12	<p><b>NOW CLOSED</b></p>		
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Other Accommodation

Name of Building		Ownership	Community Access	Facilities available/ Capacity/Usage %	User Group Profile
Dunblane Scout Hall		Scouts	No access  At full capacity with Scout sections  Insurance costs too high to open up to external groups		
Dunblane Library		Stirling Council	The whole library is for community use  Mon & Friday 9.00 to 5.00 Tuesday & Thurs 9.00 to 7.00 <i>Lunch 1.00 to 2.00</i>  Wednesday 9.00 to 12.00 Saturday 9.30 to 12.30	There is no public space apart from the main library.  The capacity for events is 50	Existing events include:-  Councillor's surgery  Courses on:- Getting to Grips with PCs Bookbug Classes
Burgh Chambers		Stirling Council	The building is not usually let to the public	Marriage Room used for marriages and for meetings of the Community Council  2 rooms on the ground floor and 2 rooms on the first floor are not used	Local Council Office The Registrar Councillor Surgeries The Community Council

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Other Accommodation (Continued)

<p>Holy Family Church</p>		<p><b>Roman Catholic Church</b></p>	<p>The hall is for parish use and is not let out to the general public</p>		
<p>Queen Victoria School</p>		<p><b>Ministry of Defence</b> Boarding School for the sons and daughters of serving UK Armed Forces personnel</p>	<p>Community access is available on an ad hoc basis.  ‘The MOD requires that the QV seeks income from lets’  The small swimming pool is not available</p>	<p>Sports hall  All weather hockey pitch  Playing fields  Central Hall - ‘on an ad hoc basis’</p>	<p>In addition to one off events, regular user groups include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football</li> <li>• Rotary</li> <li>• Air Cadet Forces</li> <li>• Newton Primary</li> <li>• Dunblane High</li> </ul>
<p>Dunblane Kids Club</p>		<p><b>Dunblane Kids Club</b> is an independent charity which was set up in 1997</p>	<p>The building is used by up to 100 school children:- Before school (8.00am - 9.00am) After school (2.45pm - 6.00pm) Staff are in the building during day During holidays &amp; in-service days, the building is used throughout the day</p>	<p>The building is not available for community use. This is due to planning restrictions and the fact that it would be difficult to share this kind of space which is informally laid out and well equipped.</p>	<p>School age children</p>

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<p>Dunblane Sports Club, Ochloch Park, FK15 0DU</p>		<p>Dunblane Sports Club Ltd.</p> <p>Contact for bookings : Neil Welsh 821779</p>	<p>Private hire available for functions, parties or regular group meetings.</p> <p>Costs : £30 daytime let £50 evening let</p> <p>Discounted rates available for regular lets.</p>	<p>Function room with dance floor, bar area, kitchen, tables and chairs.</p> <p>Suitable for up to 80 people.</p>	

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### The Costs of hiring Community Facilities in Dunblane

(in £ per hour for weekday lets between 9.00am and 10.00pm)

	Capacity of room	Stirling Council Schools			Dunblane Centre	Victoria Hall	Braeport Centre		St Mary's Church	St Blanes Church	Dunblane Cathedral		Dunblane Sports Club
		Concession	Standard	Commercial			Community	Commercial			Community	Commercial	
A	<b>100+ people</b> eg Assembly Hall	10.25	20.45	46.88	31.00 to 75.00	9.00			9.00	7.00	13.00	26.00	
B	<b>20 to 100 people *</b> eg Hall, Meeting Room	6.40	12.60	34.40	21.00 to 38.00	6.50 to 7.00	7.25	12.00	4.00		7.50	12.50	£30 daytime £50 evening
C	<b>Up to 20 people</b> eg Community Room	4.00	8.05	23.55	10.00 to 14.00						5.25	7.50	
D	<b>Classroom</b>	2.90	5.70	17.25									

\* Fitness rooms have been excluded as they tend to be more expensive