

# THE ABERFELDY ANNOUNCER

The Newsletter from Aberfeldy Big Local



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## A Busy Few Months

Since our last edition, ABL has funded a summer holiday programme for young people at Leven Road park, hosted an Eid al-Adha event in the new Aberfeldy Village square, ran a regular programme of social activities for adults and workshops for children, supported a women's empowerment group, and restarted its grant-giving programme.

ABL is also planning AberFest, which is a community festival for all ages happening at Millennium Green on September 16th from noon-4pm.

Read on to find out more!

Follow us on social media or visit our website:



Aberfeldy Big Local



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[www.aberfeldybiglocal.com](http://www.aberfeldybiglocal.com)

 **ABERFELDY**  
big local



# More News from ABL

## Hello from Rina!

ABL are pleased to welcome and introduce our new Community Engagement Officer Rina Begum! With a background in community work and childcare, Rina joins us from neighbouring Newham. A native Bengali Sylheti speaker, she will be focusing on expanding our women's empowerment and under-5s strands of work. Do say hello if you see Rina out and about!



## Social Activities

ABL runs a programme of regular social activities to enliven Aberfeldy, build community cohesion, and celebrate our diversity. We ran a series of workshops about affordable and eco-friendly DIY products led by Sunny Jar Eco Hub, and we also hosted an Eid al-Adha event in the new Aberfeldy Village square during which over 250 people enjoyed half-priced food, crafts, henna, and sports.



## Women's Group

ABL runs a women's group that empowers Aberfeldy women to explore their interests and ambitions. Over the last few months, ABL has supported a series of 12 sewing classes led by local resident Rasheda Begum, a series of growing and cooking workshops led by R-Urban, and several outings to women-only swimming sessions.

If you're interested in taking part, please contact Rina on [07436568524](tel:07436568524).



## Children's Activities

We continued our monthly programme of activities for children aged 5-12, which featured arts and crafts workshops led by artists Sara Sultana and Annette Fernando, which celebrated Easter, Ramadan, National Creativity Day, Pancake Day, and National Camera Day. We even added a series of cardboard cut out workshops in preparation for AberFest 2023, so stay tuned!

Over the next two years, ABL will be funding Tiny Tots stay-and-play group for children under five years old and their carers. It runs during school term-time on Wednesday from 10am-12pm at St Nicholas Church Hall and is open to all.



# Investing in Local Leaders

ABL is currently funding a 6-week summer holiday programme at the Leven Road park. The multi-skills programme, led by Future Kidz Development (FKD), is free and open to local kids aged 6-14, plus a leadership programme for youth up to 18 years old that are interested in building their personal and professional skills and career pathways.

FKD is led by Courtney James (Ceejay), who also runs the successful Pappa Young programme in Tower Hamlets. ABL recognised the need for youth programming in Aberfeldy and the value of FKD's youth development, so ABL supported Ceejay to restart FKD and lead our summer programme.

ABL also provided a Community Chest grant to Shazad Majid to lead an afterschool multi-skills programme at the community centre. The grant helped Shaz develop as a coach, and he is now a leading coach for FKD's summer programme.

The summer programme has been an overwhelming success, enjoyed by over 60 participants, 11 youth leaders, and 5 adult volunteers.



## AberFest 2023

# AberFest

**Saturday 16th September 12pm - 4pm**

**ABERFELDY MILLENNIUM GREEN  
E14 ONE**

**FOOD - MUSIC - BOUNCY CASTLE - CRAFTS -  
GAMES - BINGO & MORE!**

# Tea and Coffee Drop In

**ABL will be holding a self service tea and coffee drop in every Monday morning from 10AM-12PM. Residents are welcome to drop into the space and catch up with their neighbours.**



## How You Can Get Involved

### Join the ABL Partnership

**ABL is led by a partnership of people who live or work/volunteer in Aberfeldy. They meet once a month to make major decisions about how ABL delivers its local plan. The local knowledge and leadership they provide are essential to running our project. With two years of funding remaining, there are some very important and exciting decisions to be made to ensure our work makes a lasting impact for Aberfeldy residents.**

**Are you interested in social justice, civic action, and want to make sure there is more opportunity in Aberfeldy and residents voices are heard? Then join the partnership now!**

### Block Ambassadors

**ABL is looking for residents with strong links to their neighbourhood to help us spread the word about ABL's services. If you care about the social justice work we are doing and want to help us promote opportunities for residents, then we'd love to hear from you!**

**Drop in to 39 Aberfeldy Street to speak to one of the team, or email [hello@aberfeldybiglocal.com](mailto:hello@aberfeldybiglocal.com) or call 07442251109 to find out more.**

**For more information on ABL, visit our website by scanning our QR code:**



**To receive regular updates about ABL activities and opportunities, join our mailing list by scanning our QR code:**

