

## Key to Entries

<span><span>♯</span></span> Wheelchair Access (STB accessibility categories)	T Toilets
<span><span>♯</span></span> No Wheelchair Access	R Refreshments Available
M Musical Entertainment	H Historical/Other information
G Guided tours	<span><span>☺</span></span> Children’s leaflet
E Exhibition	<span><span>🕒</span></span> Limited Opening Hours

### 1 Town House

Castle Street. Peddie and Kinnear. 1867-73

The main staircase and the principal rooms will be open as usual. In addition, this year there will be an opportunity for pre-booked visits to see the Charter Room and a small exhibition of archival documents. Numbers will be restricted and places should be booked by phoning 522513 or emailing archives@aberdeencity.gov.uk ♯HT 10am-4pm

### 2 Mercatgate (Sheriff Court Annexe)

Castle Street. James Burn 1801. Conversion by Oberlanders

Architects/David Murray Associates 2005

Built as a bank and in use as such for nearly 200 years. The ground floor banking hall now serves as the public reception area while the new court rooms for the Sheriff Court and High Court have been formed on the floors above. Some of the bank vaults have been converted to cells and these are included in the tours. **On Doors Open Day a mock trial will be held in one of the Court Rooms.**

♯(STB cat2) GTR☺ 10am-4pm

### 3 Advocates Library

Concert Court. (Off Broad Street between the Town House and the Town House extension) James Matthews. 1869

The Society of Advocates in Aberdeen has been in existence for more than four hundred and fifty years. The members early meetings were held in various inns, particularly the New Inn, or the old Record Office in the Castlegate. The present building was sited to take advantage of proximity to the new Peddie and Kinnear Sheriff Court House. Unremarkable from the outside, it is the decoration of the interior that is of interest. Most of the ground floor is now used as an extension to the Sheriff Court. On the first floor there is one of the finest private law libraries in the country with the original decorative scheme by Arthur Clyde. Notice also the stained glass window on the staircase by Cottier & Co. ♯HT☺ 10am-4pm

### 4 The Tolbooth

Castle Street. 17th century

The deceptive Victorian façade conceals a much older building behind. The Tolbooth was built as the Town’s prison, court house and toll collection point.

**As this years historical re-enactment for Doors Open Day Janet Walker, a suspected witch, will be interrogated by the Tolbooth Gaoler. Find out all about the fears of the inhabitants of 17th century Aberdeen and learn about the treatment and fate of those suspected of witchcraft. No booking is necessary but phone 01224 621167 for further information. Re-enactments at 11am,12 noon, 2pm and 3pm.**

♯EH☺ 10am-4pm

### 5 Marischal College, Mitchell Hall, Picture Gallery and Marischal Museum

Broad Street. Archibald Simpson. 1837. A Marshall Mackenzie 1893-7 Enter through the quad and into the door in the tower. Ascend to first floor. Marischal College was founded in 1593. The museum and Picture Gallery are located within the eastern range of the Tudor-style quadrangle that Archibald Simpson designed to replace the dilapidated original college buildings. Later in the 19th century Marischal College and King’s College were amalgamated as the University of Aberdeen. The Mitchell Hall, the magnificent setting for University ceremonial, was added by A Marshall Mackenzie who also extended the quad; the familiar Broad Street frontage being built in 1901. The Picture Gallery contains portraits associated with the University including one of Archibald Simpson.

The North Gallery of the museum is devoted entirely to the heritage of the North East.

The South Gallery houses material collected from around the world.

♯ETH☺ 10am-4pm

### 6 Aberdeen Arts Centre

Former North Church. King Street. John Smith 1829-30

The former church was converted to an arts centre by the City Council in 1963. In 1998 the voluntary organisation, Aberdeen Arts Centre Association, formed a limited company, Castlegate Arts Ltd to take over the management of the Centre. Doors Open Day will include tours of the auditorium and lighting desk and a programme of live music. ♯(STB cat 2) MGTER 10am-1pm 🕒

### 7 Grampian Police Headquarters

Queen Street

The present building, first occupied by the Aberdeen City Police in 1972, is partly on the site of the 1895 Lodge Walk Police Headquarters. Since 1975 the building has served as the headquarters of Grampian Police, created from the amalgamation of Aberdeen City Police and the Scottish North East Counties Constabulary. The building houses the Force Control Room, the Command Suite, the Administration Department, the Photographic and Fingerprinting suites, Headquarters CID and Uniformed Officers operating from the Queen Street Division. In addition to its operational role it provides a wide variety of support functions for Officers throughout the force and maintains the long tradition of managing prisoners for the Courts in Aberdeen.

**To reserve a place on a tour please telephone 01224 306446 weekdays between 9am and 4pm from Tuesday 28 August to Friday 7 September.**

♯(STB cat1) GETR 10am-4pm

### 8 St Andrew’s Cathedral

King Street, Archibald Simpson 1816

The church, Archibald Simpson’s first civic commission, was created the cathedral of the United Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney in 1914. The building, considerably altered and enhanced by Sir Ninian Comper during the years 1939-45, contains the national memorial to Samuel Seabury, consecrated first Bishop of America in Long Acre, Aberdeen on 14th November 1784. Interesting roof heraldry depicts the American States and the Jacobite supporters of the Episcopal Church.

**There will be a recital of choral ceremonial music by the Cathedral Voices Group at noon.**

♯(STB cat1) HMR☺ 10am-4pm

### 9 Peacock Visual Arts

21 Castle Street (Pend off the Castlegate)

Peacock has established galleries and workshops in the old St Andrew’s Episcopal Cathedral School. Founded in 1974, Peacock visual arts is a registered educational charity supported by Aberdeen City Council and the Scottish Arts Council. It has the widest range of visual arts production facilities openly available in Scotland. On Doors Open Day visitors can view the current exhibitions and look around the production workshops including printmaking, digital/video and photography.

♯(STB cat1)(ground floor only) ET 10am-4pm

### 10 St Peter’s Church

Justice Street. James Massie 1804

Simple interior. Fine alterpiece. The church is hidden away off the Castlegate: from an elegant arched gateway incorporated into a tenement a pend leads into the delightful little Chapel Court. The façade onto the court dates from Harry Leith’s 1817 extension to the church. Included in Doors Open Day is the even more secluded walled garden at the rear of the priest’s house (no wheelchair access). ♯(STB cat1) HETR 10am-4pm

### 11 Musa Art and Music Café 1st DOORS OPEN DAY

33 Exchange Street. 1880

Originally built for the Catholic Apostolic Church, the building has been used for a variety of purposes over the years, latterly as a banana warehouse. It has recently been totally refurbished as a restaurant / arts venue with grant assistance from the Aberdeen City Heritage Trust. The most distinctive feature of the original interior, the decorative timber roof structure, remains.

No wheelchair access to gallery. HMTR☺ 10am-4pm

### 12 Tivoli Theatre

Guild Street. CJ Phipps & James Mathews. 1872

Though not used as a theatre since 1963 its subsequent use as a bingo hall left Frank Matcham’s 1909 remodelling of the auditorium largely intact and the backstage completely untouched. An all singing and dancing programme of entertainment will again be provided on Doors Open Day. ♯GTRME☺ 10am-4pm

### 13 Kirk of St Nicholas

Union Street. 12th century onwards.

Known as the “Mither Kirk” it was founded around 1150 and was one of the largest medieval Burgh Kirks in Scotland. The late 12th century transept, known as Collison’s Aisle, still survives and since 1990 has contained a chapel, created in thanksgiving for 25 years of the oil industry and as a memorial to those who have lost their lives. West St Nicholas is the work of James Gibbs, an Aberdonian and the architect of such buildings as St Martin in the Fields, London. West St Nicholas was built between 1752-5, after his death, and retains its original interior.

East St Nicholas was built by Archibald Simpson in 1835-7. It was gutted by fire and rebuilt in 1875-7 by William Smith who also built the current central tower and spire. The East Kirk is currently closed following the recent major archaeological excavation within the building. This now complete but can still be viewed from a purpose-made observation window.

♯(STB cat1) but no disabled toilet due to work in progress. HETR☺ 10am-4pm

### 14 Carillon

Enter via St Nicholas Church

The Municipal Carillon of Aberdeen is in the tower of St Nicholas Church and is the largest in the British Isles. There are 48 bells, making up four octaves, and all were cast by Gillet and Johnston of Croydon. The carillon is played every Sunday from 1030-1055am. **There will be recitals at: 10.15am, 11.30am, 12.45am, 2pm & 3.15pm** ♯☺ 10am-4pm

### 15 Robert Gordon’s College

Schoolhill. William Adam 1732

The Auld Hoose,the oldest part of the college founded in 1729 by Robert Gordon (1668-1732) a prosperous merchant of Aberdeen and Danzig. Over the door is a statue of Robert Gordon by John Cheere of London. The building remained an empty shell for many years and in 1746 was occupied by the Duke of Cumberland’s troops who named it “Fort Cumberland”. In 1750 the first boys were enrolled in the school. The original central stone staircase remains as does the first floor Governors’ room with its fine panelled walls. The MacRobert Hall, on the west side of the quad is also included in Doors Open Day. The School Pipe Band will play in the quad at 1 and 2pm. ♯HGEM 10am-4pm. Tours on the hour and half hour.

### 16 St John’s Church

Crown Terrace. Thomas Mackenzie 1849-51

The church has been recently extensively restored. Of particular interest inside are the great east window, the Comper reredos and the 16th century font.

♯(no disabled toilet) THER☺ 10am-4pm

### 17 Masonic Temple

85 Crown Street. Jenkins & Marr, 1910

One of the finest, if not actually **the** finest, purpose-built building devoted entirely to Freemasonry within the Scottish Constitution. A series of magnificent, richly ornamented interior spaces ensures this building remains a Doors Open Day favourite. Conducted tours will be organised as well as opportunities to wander freely in the company of members in attendance. ♯HTRG 10am-4pm

### 18 Quaker Meeting House

98 Crown Street. William Kelly 1903

The only building in Scotland built as a Quaker Meeting House and still used for this purpose today. It features the plain simplicity of a typical Quaker Meeting House with an elders’ bench. It houses full-scale photos of two of the panels of the 1970’s Quaker Tapestry relating to Quaker history in the North East of Scotland.

♯(STB cat1) HTER 10am-4pm

### 19 Albyn House 1st DOORS OPEN DAY

76-78 Dee Street. Designated Place. Raymond Canale Associates. 2004 THE DESIGNATED PLACE IS AT THE REAR OF 76-78 DEE STREET AND ACCESS IS FROM THE SOUTHERN END OF GORDON STREET One of only two Designated Places in Scotland, its very specialised purpose is to provide an alternative to arrest and a night in a police cell for persons deemed to be drunk and incapable. The small purpose-built extension to the hostel on Dee Street is a discreet and sensitive courtyard development.

♯(STB cat1) REG 2pm-4pm 🕒

### 20 St Mary’s Cathedral

Huntly Street. Alexander Ellis 1860

The church (it was not then a cathedral) was opened with a service of dedication in 1860. At the time a shortage of funds prevented the completion of the tower which was left only 60 feet high, rather lower than the ridge of the church roof. The belfry and spire were finally completed in 1877 to the design of Alexander Ellis’s partner RG Wilson, and at 200 feet the spire is the tallest in the City. ♯(STB cat1) HT☺ 11am-4pm

### 21 Trinity Hall

Holburn Street. Mackie Ramsay and Taylor 1964.

This is the third Trinity Hall to be occupied by the Seven Incorporated Trades of Aberdeen. The original was created from the former Trinitarian Friary (hence the name) when this was acquired in 1631. The first purpose-built Trinity Hall dates from 1847 and the building, on Union Street, now incorporates one of the entrances to the Trinity Shopping Centre. The current building re-uses the traceried windows of its predecessor but otherwise the architecture is very much of its period. The interior is very dramatic and contains many furnishings and artefacts that have been used in all three Halls.

♯(STB cat2) EGHT 10am-4pm

### 22 Clan House (formerly Rosemount Church)

Caroline Place. William Smith 1875-7. Conversion by Allan Cumming Architects. 1996 onwards.

A redundant church converted to a cancer support centre. A wide range of activities are now accommodated here. On the first floor, large glazed screens allow for functional subdivision while retaining some of the spatial character of the church. Some of the original stained glass has been reused in these screens. ♯(STB cat2) GRTE☺ 10am-4pm

### 23 Central Fire Station

Mounthooly Way. Grampian Regional Council Architects. 1997

There will be tours of the building, a display of modern and historic vehicles and other displays and demonstrations (including the spectacular chip pan fire demonstration). Visitors are reminded that the fire station remains operational on Doors Open Day. Children must be accompanied by adults.

♯(STB cat1) TGE 10.30am-4pm

### 24 St Machar’s Cathedral

The Chanonry. From 1370

There has been a church on this site beside the Don since the sixth century, when, as legend has it, St Machar was commanded to find a spot where the river curved in the shape of a shepherd’s crook. Of the present building it is the massively powerful west front that is so memorable: the twin castellated towers flanking the seven tall narrow windows. The cathedral was originally much longer and had a third equally military-looking tower at what is now the east end. This collapsed in 1688 following the demolition of the chancel. Inside there is a notable heraldic oak ceiling with the coats of arms of European monarchs and Scottish nobles and bishops.

**On Doors Open Day this year the bell tower will be open and bell ringers will be giving demonstrations. There will also be the opportunity for members of the public to have a go.**

♯(STB cat1)(except bell tower and charter room) HERGT☺ 10am-4pm

### 25 King’s College Chapel

College Bounds. 1500

The chapel, entered from the Quadrangle, is the oldest part of college and the pre-Reformation choir stalls and screen are the finest surviving examples in Scotland. **On Doors Open Day there will be a recital on the Bernard Aubertin organ that was installed in 2004.**

Chapel HMT♯ 10am-12noon

### 26 Old Town House

High Street, Old Aberdeen. George Jaffrey 1788. Converted Aberdeen City Council Architects 2005.

Remodelled and put to a variety of uses over the years, this historic building has been completely renovated and now acts as a “gateway to the University of Aberdeen” for prospective students as well as providing meeting facilities for local organisations. The old police cells on the ground floor remain!

♯(ground floor only) EHT☺ 10am-4pm

**27 Institute of Medical Sciences**

University of Aberdeen Ashgrove Road West. David Murray Associates 1996  
The University of Aberdeen's Institute of Medical Sciences (IMS) houses some of the world's leading researchers investigating a wide range of key diseases which include Alzheimer's, bone disease, cancer, diabetes, drug metabolism, eye disease, fungal and bacterial diseases and multiple sclerosis. The building was the winning design in a competition. Its success was partly due to the green approach to design which maximised natural ventilation and daylighting. The central atrium, the dramatically located conference room and a selection of laboratories can be viewed during two guided tours.  
&(STB cat1) (except level 7) GEHT. Tours at 11.00am and 1.00pm ⓘ PLEASE NOTE ACCESS IS ONLY POSSIBLE AS PART OF A GUIDED TOUR.

**28 Glover House (Braehead House)**

79 Balgownie Road. Mid 19th century  
Until recently this building is probably better known to the citizens of Nagasaki than to those of Aberdeen. From 1864 for a period of 25 years it was the home of the Glover family whose most famous son, Thomas Blake Glover, set up the modern shipbuilding industry in Japan and whose extraordinary life there is believed to have provided the inspiration for the Madam Butterfly story. The house has been restored to recreate its appearance at the time that the Glover family lived here in the 19th century, the rooms having period decoration and furnishings.  
&(ground floor only) HEGT⊙ 10am-4pm.

**29 Beach Ballroom**

Esplanade. Thomas Roberts and Hume 1926  
Built to a competition-winning design and with a steel-sprung dance floor that is still one of Scotland's finest this is a place of nostalgia for generations of Aberdonians. The venue for functions of all descriptions and for bands from Joe Loss to the Beatles. Tours every half hour.  
&(STB cat1) GETRH⊙ 10am-4pm

**30 T.S. Scylla**

Pocra Quay  
The headquarters of the Aberdeen Sea Cadets since 1954, this group of Nissen huts dates from about 1932 when it was built and used by the Army. During World War II it was used for storing barrage balloons. The inter-connected huts provide a surprisingly spacious interior where ship models and all manner of nautical artefacts may be viewed.  
&(STB cat1) GHETR 10am-4pm

This year is the 250th anniversary of the birth of the celebrated engineer Thomas Telford. Telford was involved in the design of two Aberdeen Bridges, The Bridge of Don and Union Bridge. He was also responsible for a scheme of improvements to the harbour, including an extension of the North Pier. To mark the anniversary there is an exhibition at the Aberdeen Maritime Museum featuring plans and photographs of Telford's work in and around Aberdeen. The exhibition runs until the end of September.

**31 The Roundhouse 1st DOORS OPEN DAY**

Pocra Quay. c1800 with later additions.  
The old Pilot House is a rare survivor of its type, notable for its octagonal shape and relatively early date. It only ceased to operate as the harbour's Navigational Control Centre with the opening of the new Marine Operations Centre at the North Pier in 2006.  
PLEASE NOTE: THE OBSERVATION LEVEL IS REACHED VIA 4 FLIGHTS OF STEEP STAIRS.  
⊗ 10am-4pm

**32 FRS Marine Laboratory**

375 Victoria Road, Torry.  
Fisheries research has a long history in Aberdeen. The Fishery Board for Scotland established a marine laboratory and hatchery at the Bay of Nigg in 1898. The Laboratory moved to its present site in 1923 and now employs more than 300 staff in scientific, technical, professional and support roles. On Doors Open Day there will be a chance to learn more about the work of the laboratory and take a virtual tour round the research vessel Scotia. Please note that in order to comply with Health and Safety regulations children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.  
&(STB cat2) GET⊙ 10am-4pm Tours last approx 50 minutes

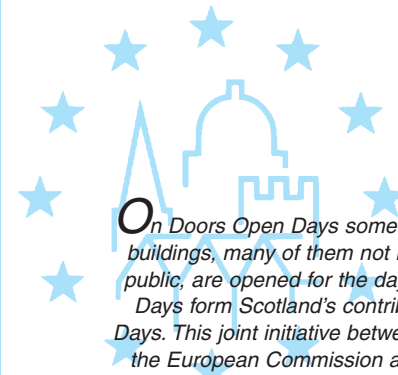
**33 Garthdee House 1st DOORS OPEN DAY**

Garthdee Road. William Smith 1870  
FROM GARTHDEE ROAD USE ACCESS FOR SCOTT SUTHERLAND SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT.  
Built for John Moir Clark an Aberdeen Merchant who also owned most of present day Kaimhill and Garthdee. In 1953 the house was bought by the architect and businessman Tommy Scott Sutherland who, after living in it for a couple of years, decided to donate the house and grounds to the School of Architecture which came to bear his name. The School moved from Schoolhill and the extended building was officially opened in 1957. The Scott Sutherland School of Architecture and Built Environment is therefore celebrating its 50th anniversary of its move to Garthdee.  
&(STB cat2) GTHE⊙ 10am-2pm ⓘ

**34 Beannachar**

South Deeside Road (1 mile west of Bridge of Dee). John Smith 1840  
Originally called Banchory House it is in exactly the same style as Smith's earlier extensions to Balmoral Castle and which earned him the nickname "Tudor Johnny". The house has associations with Prince Albert and in the late 19th century it was the home of Sir David Stewart, a Lord Provost of Aberdeen. Today Beannachar is a Camphill community for young people with special needs based on the principles of the social philosopher Rudolf Steiner.  
&(STB cat2) GETRM⊙ 10am-4pm

DOORS  
**OPEN**  
DAY  
8 September 2007

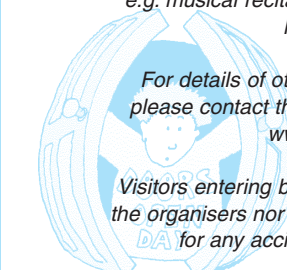


On Doors Open Days some of Scotland's most interesting buildings, many of them not normally open to the general public, are opened for the day free of charge. Doors Open Days form Scotland's contribution to European Heritage Days. This joint initiative between the Council of Europe and the European Commission aims to give people a greater understanding of each other through sharing and exploring cultural heritage. This year 49 countries across Europe hold similar celebrations – with over 20 million people expected to take part. The Scottish Civic Trust is the national co-ordinator for Doors Open Days across Scotland.

In Aberdeen the event is organised by the Aberdeen Doors Open Day Committee comprising representatives from Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen Civic Society and the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland. This year, thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, Aberdeen City Heritage Trust, 34 venues will be taking part 4 of them for the first time. Where there are special events taking place at venues e.g. musical recitals or historical re-enactments, these are highlighted in the leaflet.

For details of other Doors Open Days across Scotland please contact the Scottish Civic Trust 0141 221 1466 or [www.doorsopendays.org.uk](http://www.doorsopendays.org.uk)

Visitors entering buildings do so at their own risk as neither the organisers nor the owners of the building are responsible for any accidents or damage which may occur.



SCOTTISH CIVIC TRUST  
  
  
[www.aberdeencity.gov.uk](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk)  
[www.aberdeenheritage.org.uk](http://www.aberdeenheritage.org.uk)



DOORS  
**OPEN**  
DAY  
8 September 2007



Cover: **31** The Roundhouse

# Aberdeen



- CHILDRENS LEAFLETS**  
 In 18 locations this year, there will be special Doors Open Day Leaflets that provide an opportunity for children ages 6-14 to record and sketch the building they are visiting.  
 Completed sheets handed in at all the venues will be collected and certificates awarded at a later date. Children could even find their picture as part of an exhibition!
- 24 St Machar's Cathedral
  - 25 King's College Chapel
  - 26 Old Town House
  - 27 Institute of Medical Sciences
  - 28 Glover House
  - 29 Beach Ballroom
  - 30 T.S. Scylla
  - 31 The Roundhouse
  - 32 FRS Marine Laboratory
  - 33 Garthdee House
  - 34 Beannachar
  - 12 Tivoli Theatre
  - 13 Kirk of St Nicholas
  - 14 Carrion Chapel
  - 15 Robert Gordon's College
  - 16 St John's Church
  - 17 Masonic Temple
  - 18 Quaker Meeting House
  - 19 Albyn House
  - 20 St Mary's Cathedral
  - 21 Trinity Hall
  - 22 Clan House
  - 23 Central Fire Station

Designed by Corporate Communications, Aberdeen City Council G0257 7/07 AG

- 1 Town House
- 2 Mercatgate
- 3 Advocates Library
- 4 The Tolbooth
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- 6 Aberdeen Arts Centre
- 7 Grampian Police HQ
- 8 St Andrew's Cathedral
- 9 Peacock Church
- 10 St Peter's Church
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- 33 Garthdee House
- 34 Beannachar

**FREE DOORS OPEN DAY BUS**  
 This year the free open topped bus will travel on a circular route leaving from Broad Street, outside St Nicholas House every hour, on the hour from 10am to 3pm. The bus will travel to Glover House via Old Aberdeen and then return to the city centre via the Esplanade and Footdee. It will stop at or near the following venues:  
 King's College Chapel > Old Aberdeen Town House > St Machar's Cathedral > Glover House > the Beach Ballroom > the Roundhouse > TS Scylla > Tivoli.  
 There is a programme of exhibitions and events in Aberdeen throughout September. Phone 0131 668 4189 for a national events guide.