

ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE SCOTTISH COURT SERVICE

September 3, 2009

OPEN DOORS AT SCOTLAND'S COURTS

From now to the end of September, Scotland's Courts are throwing their doors open to encourage people to come and learn more about the history, business and tradition of Scottish Courts.

**Saturday 5 September 2009**

**Arbroath Sheriff & Justice of the Peace Court**

Doors will be open at Arbroath Sheriff Court on 5 September 2009 between 11.00am and 1.00pm. Members of staff will be giving tours of the building and providing information on the building and the business the court deals with.

Contact: Stuart Munro ([smunro@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:smunro@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 01241 876 600

**Forfar Sheriff & Justice of the Peace Court.**

Forfar Sheriff Court will be taking part in the Doors Open day on Saturday 5 September 2009. The court will be open from 11.00am to 2.00pm.

Visitors will be given a tour of the building with Sheriff Veal giving a short talk on the court and the history associated with it at 1.00pm.

The Social work department and witness service will also be in attendance.

Contact: Mike Herbertson ([mherbertson@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:mherbertson@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 01307 462 186

**Inverness Sheriff & Justice of the Peace Court**

Inverness Sheriff Court will open their doors on 5 September 2009 from 11.30am to 4.00pm. Visitors will be given a tour of the building discovering the court rooms, cell block and the faculty hall. A presentation will also be given about the court and the legal system.

Contact: Iain Dunbar ([idunbar@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:idunbar@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 01463 732 360

**Lerwick Sheriff Court**

There will be a mock trial held at Lerwick Sheriff Court on 5 September 2009 between 2.00pm and 4.00pm. Members of the public will form the jury. Local police, Reliance, PF and solicitors will all be taking part to make the trial as real as possible.

Contact: Donna Jack ([djack@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:djack@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 01595 693 914

## **Saturday 12 September 2009**

### **Aberdeen Sheriff & Justice of the Peace Court**

The Doors Open day at Aberdeen Sheriff Court will be on 12 September 2009 from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Tours of the courts will commence at 10.15am and will be followed up with a brief informal talk to visitors. Reliance will be assisting by giving tours of the court cells and showing the Reliance Custody Van. There will be a mock trial going on with solicitors, fiscals and court staff taking part.

Contact: Mark Pithie ([mpithie@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:mpithie@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 01224 657 207

### **Paisley Sheriff Court**

Paisley Doors Open Day will be 12 September 2009 from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Guided tours will be available to the cell area, Court no. 1 and 8. The visitors will be able to sit in the judge's chair, the jury seats and also stand in the dock. They will also be able to walk as a person in custody would from the cells up the stairs in the dock in court 1.

Reliance will also be in attendance with a prison van. The Tea Bar will also be open.

Contact: Alistair Gillies ([agillies@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:agillies@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 0141 887 5291

## **Sunday 13 September 2009**

### **Hamilton Sheriff Court**

Four members of staff will be on hand to greet the public from 10.00am to 4.00pm. On entering the building the visitors will be handed an open day booklet and a pamphlet giving a brief history of the court, including a brief description and explanation of the stained glass window. Children will be given open day balloons. There will be a mock trial in a summary trial court where the children will be encouraged to participate.

The tour of the building will include a visit to a Sheriff's chambers (Sheriff Bicket's), a visit to the cells and court rooms. Visitors will also be shown how the intercourt link for vulnerable witnesses (Court 2 to Jury Room 1) works.

Witness service staff will also be in attendance.

Contact: John Feeney ([jfeeney@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:jfeeney@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 01698 201 350

### **Kirkcaldy Sheriff & Justice of the Peace Court**

Visitors will be able to visit Kirkcaldy Sheriff Court on 13 September 2009 between 1.00pm and 4.00pm. Tours of the building will be available.

Contact: David Graham ([dgraham@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:dgraham@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 01592 208 941

### **Stirling Sheriff & Justice of the Peace Court**

Stirling Sheriff Court will take part in the Doors Open Event on 13 September 2009 from 12.00pm to 4.00pm.

Visitors will be given a tour of the building conducted by the Sheriff Clerk's staff.

Contact: Dennis McCall ([jmccall@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:jmccall@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 01786 477 575

## **Saturday 19 September**

### **Banff Sheriff & Justice of the Peace Court**

Banff Doors Open day will be on 19 September between 10.00am and 4.00pm with tours every hour from 10.00am and 3.00pm. Following the tour there will be a talk and a Q &A session.

Contact: Melissa Mclean ([mmclean@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:mmclean@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 01261 812 140

### **Dundee Sheriff & Justice of the Peace Court**

Doors will open at Dundee Sheriff Court on 19 September from 10.00am to 1.00pm. Staff will be carrying out guided tours of the building for visitors. Representatives from Social work and Reliance will also be in attendance.

Contact: Roland McMillan ([rmcmillan@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:rmcmillan@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 01382 318 200

### **Glasgow Sheriff Court**

Glasgow Sheriff Court will be open on 19 September 2009 between 10.00am and 4.00pm. Visitors will be given tours of the building and Reliance will be on hand to show the cell block and also the prison van. There will also be representatives from the PF, Social Work, Families Outside, and Interpreting Service. The restaurant will also be available for refreshments.

Contact: Ann McKechnie ([amckechnie@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:amckechnie@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 0141 418 5872

### **Selkirk Sheriff & Justice of the Peace Court**

The Doors Open Day at Selkirk Sheriff Court will take place on 19 September 2009 between 12.00pm and 4.00pm.

Visitors will be given tours of the court building.

Contact: Margaret McCabe ([mmcabe@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:mmcabe@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 01750 721 269

## **Sunday 20 September 2009**

### **Dunfermline Sheriff & Justice of the Peace Court**

Dunfermline Sheriff Court will open on 20 September 2009 between 11.00am and 5.00pm.

Guided tours of the court will be given to parties of 5-6 at a time and demonstrations of the vulnerable witness equipment.

Anthony Nolan have kindly agreed to open the Tea Bar and Reliance staff will be present with a vehicle.

Contact: Anne Reid ([areid@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:areid@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 01383 745 472

**Saturday 26 September 2009**

**Edinburgh Sheriff & Justice of the Peace Court**

Edinburgh Sheriff Court is taking part in the Doors Open Day on 26 September 2009. The Doors will be open from 9.30am to 4.00pm.

There will be guided tours of the court building, mock trials and also a reliance van in the building forecourt.

Contact: Margaret McCrimmon ([Mmccrimmon@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:Mmccrimmon@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 0131 225 2525

**Parliament House, Edinburgh**

This years Doors Open Day will take place on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September from 10.00am until 4.00pm. A re-enactment of the infamous Deacon Brodie trial will be taking place, along with the ever popular "Ghost Tours" around parts of Parliament House the public do not normally get to visit. There will also be a display of judge's robes, gowns and maces supported by a wealth of knowledge from the two presenters. A court display will be conducted and will cover the developments in methods of recording information in court 12 as well as duties of staff in court. The Reliance custody van will be present and children will be able to take part in the novelty quiz with goody bags.

Contact: Denis Lundie ([dlundie@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:dlundie@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 0131 240 6749

**Perth Sheriff & Justice of the Peace Court**

Perth will be taking part in the Doors Open Day on 26 September 2009. The doors will be open from 10.00am to 4.00pm.

Information displays will be located in the reception giving the history of the court building, some historic sentences and information on the justice partners we work with. Sheriff Court staff along with Police, Reliance, Procurator Fiscal staff and the Witness Service Volunteers will be in attendance on the day. Regular tours of the building will be conducted by sheriff court staff, police and reliance officers.

Mock trials will take place at 11.30am and 2.00pm, for the case of PF –v- Goldilocks, who is charged with theft and vandalism.

Contact: Jillian Nelson ([jnelson@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:jnelson@scotcourts.gov.uk)) or 01738 492 846

For further information on any of the events please get in touch with the contact given.