

One Great George Street!

27 April 2017

George Street, with its many shops, bars and restaurants has a history dating back to the 1790's. Over the years there have been many changes, and there are many historic references and photos depicting its social and economic history. Now students at North East Scotland College based at the City Campus have created an exhibition which will add to the historic record of the street.



George Street, a photograph by Michelle Kerr

It all began when the College was approached by the Greater George Street Traders Association to see if students could help highlight the project to improve Lower George Street as part of the City Master Plan. The City Campus, which is part of the George Street community, was delighted to help and came up with the idea of a photography exhibition.

The exhibition is two-fold. The first exhibition has been created by photography students who have taken a series of black and white images depicting views of the street that show areas of neglect and are raw in their composition.

The second exhibition has been created by Learning Opportunities students. They have taken colour photos of every shop front from John Lewis at the bottom of George Street all the way up to Hutcheon Street. The photos are exhibited in the same order to allow visitors to 'walk the street'.

The exhibition runs from Thursday 27 April to Friday 5 May.

During that time visitors can have their say on how they would like to see the future of George Street improved. Members of the public, local traders, students and staff can write down their views on what's good or not so good about the area now. People can also describe their vision of what George St could look like in the future, with a little investment.

In addition, as part of North East Business Week and to highlight plans to pedestrianise lower George Street and create a thriving market place for small traders, the students have set up stalls. In addition to launching their 'Loch Street Lollies', there is also a fresh bread stall and plant stall where members of the public can buy sunflowers, lobelia and bedding plants. All of the goods for sale have been made by the Learning Opportunity students.

Susan Betty, Director of Curriculum said, "When we were approached we were only too delighted to help. George Street holds many memories for the people of Aberdeen and as neighbours, we feel strongly about the future of the street. We hope that this exhibition will allow the public to have their say and support plans to create an 'Artisan Area' which will attract new life back into the street."

Photos from the exhibition are for sale and can be framed if required.

Photo Opportunity

Students will be available for photos today until 3pm.

ENDS - 27 APRIL 2017

For further information, please contact:

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