

## Sadly Missed

Mrs Margaret Greig, who has died at the age of 64 was a stalwart of Westford Action Group in Alness, working with her husband Tom to promote tenant participation in the area and to improve life on their estate. As secretary and then vice chair, with Tom as chairman. Margaret worked hard to bring in funding for environmental work, placing 36 half-barrels of plants and shrubs on the main road through Westford estate. These were followed by another dozen half-barrels so that the distributor road round Westford was blooming and bus passengers had the joy of looking down into them from a more normal angle.

Their really big achievement though was Westford's Wonderful Place – the refurbishment and extension of the play park, making it a safe play area for teenagers as well as younger children, with shrubs and trees to help block off an exit to the busy distributor road. The group also held barbecues and discos to bring the local folk together, their efforts brought them a number of awards, including the TPAS Good Practice Award of which they were justifiably proud.

Tom and Margaret were well known in the town of Alness and beyond. They travelled to conferences and courses and seminars to increase their knowledge to help them in their work as well as to enjoy the social side of tenant participation. When declining health forced Margaret to give up the group work, they both decided to retire but Margaret went on to join West Alness Residents Association and continued to attend meetings. She was also a 'shadow' director of Alness Partnership and both were keen members of Alness Community Council for some time. Margaret attended the Partnership of Alness tenant/resident groups and Ross-shire Area Forum. They both went to the first meeting of Inverness Area Forum to share their experiences and strengths.

Margaret's funeral was well attended by local people, keen to give support to Tom and their family of 2 daughters and 2 sons, 4 grandsons and granddaughter. All 9 current and former tenant groups in the town were represented and as well as friends from neighbouring towns. After the service in Alness Parish Church the interment took place in the nearby churchyard, a lovely spot overlooked by Fyrish Hill.

By Jennifer MacLeod  
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