

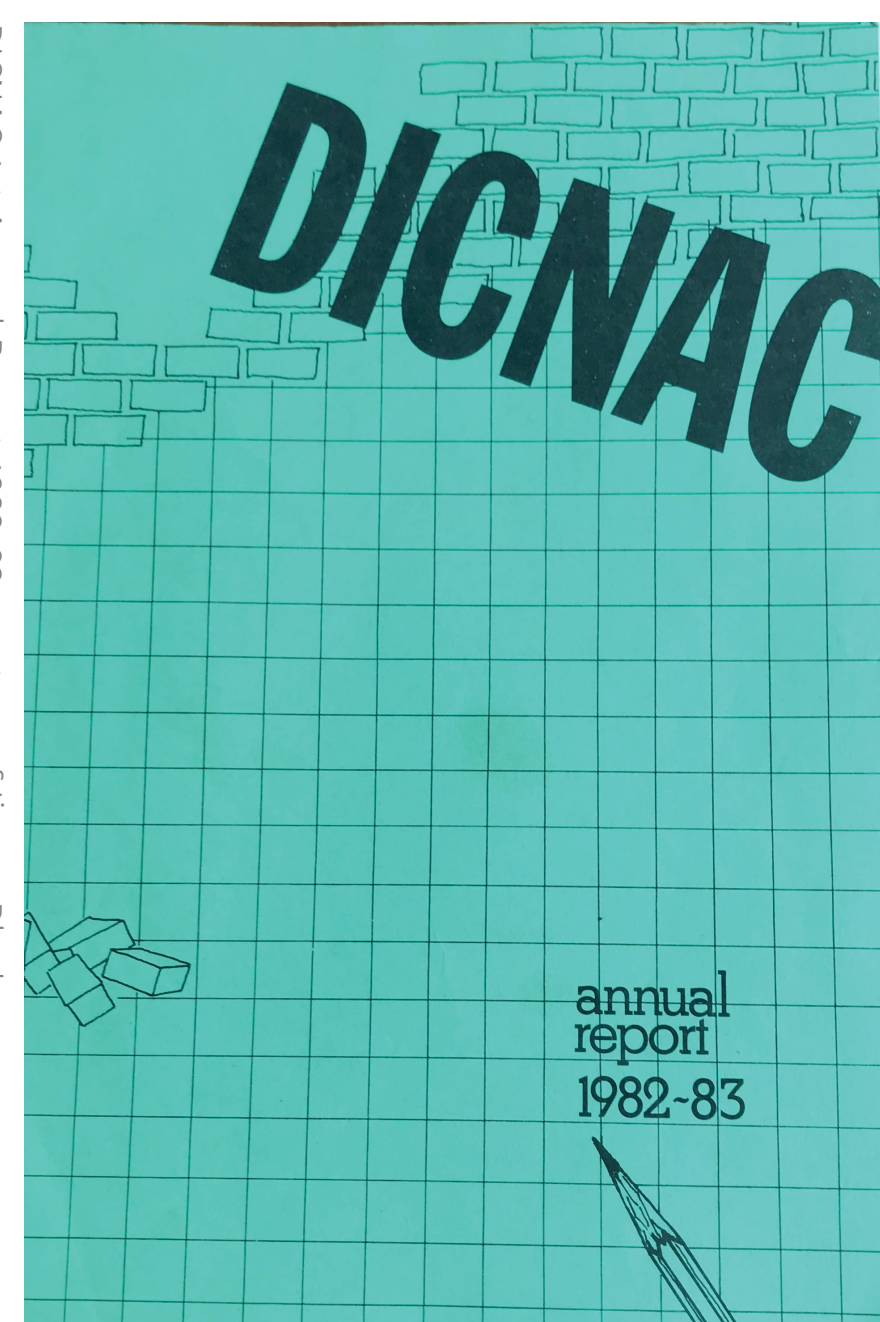
Dundee Inner City Neighbourhood Advice Centre

Dundee Inner City Neighbourhood Advice Centre, or **DICNAC** for short, was set up in an empty

church in one of the most deprived areas of the city, Hilltown, in 1982.

The idea for DICNAC emerged from a group of people involved in Planning Aid

in Dundee. They wanted to offer more direct support to people feeling the effects of deindustrialisation, unemployment and poverty. It was funded by a government grant and supported by the local council.



DICNAC 1st Annual Report 1982-83 courtesy of Jimmy Black



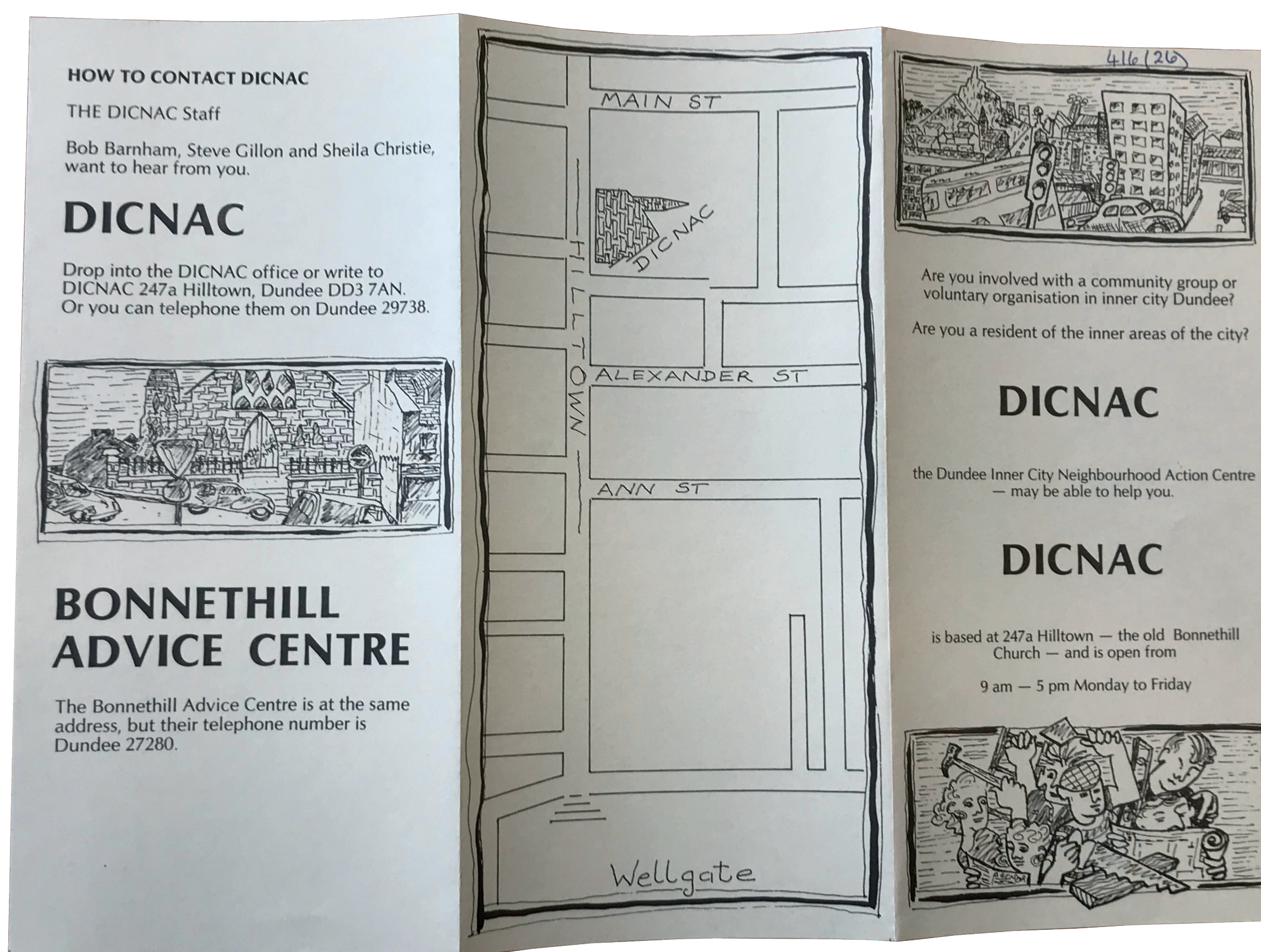
Poster advertising DICNAC.

Courtesy of Robert Barnham



“When the Urban Programme came out, we applied for a five-year project, with up to 75% funding from the Home Office. There was a blossoming of ideas, with lots of projects getting together.”

LAURIE BIDWELL, DICNAC



DICNAC information leaflet courtesy of Dundee Local History Centre

Offering technical aid, support and advice on a range of issues

Like centres set up in other cities at this time, DICNAC offered ‘technical aid’ to enable communities to develop projects and take full advantage of available grants. It also developed a range of other activities, offering support and advice on employment, housing and benefits claims. Among

other things, this led to a highly successful home insulation service that eventually went national.

But DICNAC was also affected by the volatility of local politics. It closed in 1985 after the council withdrew its support amidst growing mistrust.

