



## NEN NEWS DESK

### View from the Board

We are very pleased to be able to publish this summer edition of the NEN and we are extremely grateful for all the financial support given us by local organisations, who have agreed to take adverts in the paper. This income is the only reason we have been able to publish at all, so a Big Thank You to all who responded to our call.

With grants from the local Neighbourhood Partnerships, we have commissioned a piece of work to identify potential advertisers/sponsors. This work is proceeding well and we are hopeful that it will result in promises of a significant income stream. It is pretty clear though that advertising income alone may not be enough to ensure the survival of the NEN in its current form.

At the same time however, we have continued looking at other ways of fundraising and we are also talking to the Council with a view to developing a pilot scheme of partnership working. Talks have been going well and we are hopeful of a successful outcome.

**So, let's be optimistic. At the moment the sun is shining and better days may be ahead. Here's to the future!**

Keep up to date with all North Edinburgh's news on the NEN blog, which is regularly updated. You'll find us at <http://northedinburghnews.wordpress.com>

The NEN Board

# Positive start for Police Scotland

by DAVID PICKERING

Lothian and Borders Police became part of Scotland's unitary police service Police Scotland on 1 April

INSPECTOR MARK RENNIE of Drylaw Police Station met with NEN to outline some of the more visible changes:

"Police in North Edinburgh have experienced a positive start to Police Scotland. We're now a far bigger team as we can access a whole load of help and assistance from across the country. Already the Police Scotland helicopter has been hovering over our area and we've had specialist officers from Glasgow helping us to carry out work to tackle antisocial behaviour and violence.

A lot of work is being done on a daily basis to tackle underlying violence, whether that happens in the street or

*"Members of the public have appreciated the extra street presence and efforts being made to keep them safe"*

within the home. We're also seeing a positive impact from the creation of the Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit which has ensured that all domestic incidents are thoroughly investigated and a range of appropriate measures are put in place to ensure the safety of the victim.

Importantly, we have also been provided with local Twitter accounts, so by following: @edinnorthpolice local people can get daily

updates in relation to ongoing police activity in the area and our response to local crimes.

#### Campaign Against Violence

One area of particular note has been the days organised around our Campaign Against Violence (CAV) which have seen office based staff coming to work in areas to help officers tackle some of their ongoing problems. To date, four of these days have been run out of Drylaw Police Station, resulting in an

extra eighty officers patrolling the streets and walkways to deter crime and violence. The CAV days have not only made an impact on crime but also been very well received by members of the public who have appreciated the extra street presence and efforts being made to keep them safe.

All in all it's been a really positive start and over the coming months we will keep everyone up to date through our direct contact with the community and also via our Twitter account and local media".



Follow us on Twitter  
@edinnorthpolice



The NEN is your community newspaper so please put your pen to paper and tell us what you think, what you feel strongly about or what makes you angry. If you would like your letter to appear in the paper it must include your full name and address, although these may be withheld at your request. **Send your letters to:- The Editor, North Edinburgh News, c/o Edinburgh College, 350 West Granton Road, Edinburgh EH5 1QE**

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**The NEN Board issues the following Editorial Policy in each edition and welcomes comments from NEN readers**

- To produce a fair, interesting, positive, informative and independent community newspaper
- To increase community awareness and understanding of regeneration activities
- To promote the North Edinburgh area in a positive way, both locally and nationally
- To cover local campaigns and initiatives in a positive way
- To cover any negative issues brought to our attention by local people/groups, but highlight any positive responses/campaigns being initiated to address any such problems
- To counteract negative publicity from other media sources, by providing a positive/local angle on the story
- To include articles from local contributors, either groups or individuals
- To use the letters page as a forum for topical debate, fair and free speech for local people/group
- To use the letters page as a forum for free speech, allowing criticism of issues, but ensuring individuals are protected from personal attack
- To ensure all articles are balanced and that any person or group in the article is given the opportunity to present their side of the story/argument
- To implement/resolve any suggestions, criticisms etc (where appropriate to local issues) made at editorial forums
- To promote local businesses and organisations
- To ensure NEN remains apolitical
- Any letter or article which the Board or Editor consider libellous will not be published
- The factual content of any letter will be checked and if the facts cannot be verified the letter will not be published

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Please have your copy to us by Wednesday 31 July for inclusion in our next edition

## Reality

Dear Editor

From and including the times of Thatcher there has been a steady campaign to depict the 'working class', 90% of the population, as uneducated, fairly lazy and undeserving. What is behind this campaign - such a sustained attack must have motives?

The other 10% of the population, the wealthy class, have always feared a united people striving for and getting major improvements to their lives and gaining control over decision-making; this, they had to stop. This unity had to be broken,

First they had to break any resistance by people's organisations, launching a vicious attack on the trade unions, following this by wholesale closing of industries, from shipbuilding, ports, coal mines, printing, car & aircraft production, steelworks etc, destroying scores of thousands of people's lives.

What better method could there be to break this unity, by pitting one against another in a scramble for a job while at the same time propagating the possibility of individuals climbing up the 'social ladder' and becoming 'middle class'!!

The 90%, if opportunities are available, have differing levels of skill, giving differing levels in quality of life, but nevertheless are still of the working class in which everyone depends on everyone else to maintain their quality of life. The 90%, have the values of decency and thoughtful caring in wanting society to be organised and run for the benefit of all.

The same cannot be said of the remaining 10%, their campaign of vilification of the working class goes on; the recent past and present times are witnesses of their intentions.

Tony Delahoy (by email)

## EU Turn

Dear Editor

What a game it is when the antics of the Tories' anti-European Union campaign, supported by the UKIP party, is designed to manipulate public opinion. In the absence of any real information on the EU being readily available for the public, they feel confident of succeeding.

If you listen carefully you will find one main aim is to do away with the EU Social Policies; why? Is it because they wish to improve on them? if so that can be done right now. I suspect this is not their intention at all.

Listed below are some of the EU Social Policies for member states:

- Health Protection and Workplace Safety
- Equal Treatment for Men and Women
- Protection for Children, Older People & Disabled People
- Improved Working Conditions
- Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining
- Social Security Protection
- Fair Pay
- Promotion of Employment as High Priority.

Why are they then so keen to opt out? Do they disagree with any or all of these policies?

Be very aware of their call for our support in their campaign which if successful could inflict serious damage on our lives.

Tony Delahoy (by email)

## Wealth and Power

Dear Editor

Have you ever wondered how the wealthy made their money in the past?

Do you think most of today's wealthy got it through inheritance?

Do you agree that wealth gives rights of power, privilege and decision-making?

Interesting questions, worthy of some research – but how deep?

We all know about the appalling exploitation and working conditions of men, women and children who worked in mills, factories, coal mines and on the land, making vast fortunes for the owners. This in itself begs the question: how did these people become owners in the first place? Owners who were also law-makers, magistrates and lords of the manor to whom everyone had to defer.

Today, a great part of land is still in private hands, although landowners derive massive wealth from leasing.

The wealthy industrialists have now moved their money, mostly into speculative financial stocks and bonds both nationally and internationally; they still hold positions of power beyond 'one person one vote' and wield great influence on all aspects of our lives.

Despite these positions of strength, tremendous struggles throughout history by men and women in groups, organisations and as individuals have taken place – and will no doubt continue to change society and make it work for the good of all.

A Scottish miner was carrying home a brace of pheasants when he met the landowner, who told him that he owns the land and the pheasants are his too.

"Your land, eh?" asks the miner.

"Yes, and my pheasants", replies the laird.

"And who did you get the land from?"

"Well, I inherited it from my father"

"And who did he get it from?" the miner insists.

"His father, of course! The land has been in my family for over 400 years!" the laird splutters.

"Okay, so how did your family come to own this land 400 years ago?"

"Well – well – they fought for it!"

"Fine," replies the miner. "Take off your jacket and I'll fight you for it now!"

Tony Delahoy, Silverknowes Gardens

## Lest we Forget

Dear Editor

Unfortunately May 8 passed with not a mention that it was the anniversary of V E Day.

Victory in Europe came after nearly six years of a fearful and vicious war in which fifty million were killed in defeating the greatest threat to civilisation – the evil threat of Fascism, that initially came to power in Germany, Italy and Japan.

It may seem that the non-recognition of 8 May - the 68th anniversary of VE Day – doesn't really matter too much, but the importance of remembering are the lessons to be learned by today's and future generations: being on guard against a fascist revival.

Tony Delahoy, Silverknowes Gardens



## Brian Robertson

**NORTH EDINBURGH ACTIVIST** Brian Robertson passed away on 17 May. Former ice cream man Brian Robertson was a doting father, a big Hearts fan and an Elvis fanatic who cared deeply about the North Edinburgh community and social justice. He was a committed community activist for many years, always willing to get involved in campaigns and battles – Brian didn't believe in too many meetings and 'talking shops', although over the years he must have attended more than most.

A founding member of Greater Pilton's Community Alliance, Brian was at his best when he was doing things, not just talking about doing things: he was never afraid to speak out, whether as a school board Chair opposed to closures and PPP or about the inherent unfairness of fuel poverty or the Fairer Scotland Fund. If there was a community campaign you could be sure that Brian would be there at the front.

Most recently, despite poor health, Brian was proud to be an active and enthusiastic member of the North Edinburgh Social History Group. He absolutely believed that the area's proud story of protest and activism had to be told to a wide audience, particularly to encourage a new generation of younger activists to take up the fight. Among other achievements the group produced the excellent 'Never Give Up' book – and those three words sum up wee Brian's attitude to community activism to a tee.

Deepest condolences to Brian's girls, wider family, friends and colleagues in the community.

## news in brief

### West Pilton and Muirhouse Gala Date

This year's West Pilton and Muirhouse Gala, which takes place on Sunday 30 June, will feature a procession and gala court.

The procession will include local groups, schools, nurseries, a marching band plus much more. The procession will leave Craigmroyston Primary School at 11:45am and parade through the streets of Muirhouse and West Pilton to arrive at West Pilton Park at 12pm.

### Stockbridge Duck Race returns

The popular Stockbridge Duck Race makes a welcome return on 30 June. The race – between the Stockbridge and Falshaw Bridge – was first held 25 years ago and has grown into a great spectacle, with thousands of plastic ducks taking part in the charity fundraising event.

Last year's race had to be postponed due to ongoing Water of Leith flood prevention works, so those ducks will be well rested!

### Extra time agony for Craigmroyston

Commiserations to Craigmroyston who lost 3-2 after extra time to Hillfield Swifts in the final of the Under 19s Division Two League Cup Final at Saughton Park on 5 June.

### All welcome at North Edinburgh Community Circle

My name is Gillian and I help to facilitate a Community Circle in North Edinburgh, which meets in North Edinburgh Arts on the second Tuesday of every month from 5.30 – 8pm.

The aim of the circle is to meet, get to know each other and share our resources in an environment which values everyone's gifts. Basically we eat together (food is provided), we chat and have a forum for sharing our thoughts, gifts and skills (although there is absolutely no pressure to do this if you don't want to).

We come from all kinds of backgrounds and are a very welcoming group! If you're interested or would like to find out more, email [circle@edg-sco.org](mailto:circle@edg-sco.org) or telephone 476 0522.

## Children's Minister praises Circle Scotland

THE WORK being carried out by Circle Scotland was praised by Aileen Campbell, the Minister for Children and Young People, during a recent visit to the Pilton-based project. Ms Campbell also announced details of £10 million Strategic Partnership Funding for voluntary sector organisations working with children and families.

Families across Scotland will benefit from better support services with 45 third sector organisations receiving a funding boost from the Scottish Government. This £10 million of Strategic Partnership Funding will strengthen the work of young people's organisations working across Scotland, in areas such as adoption, vulnerable families, child health, literacy, bereavement counselling and parental support.

Minister for Children and Young People Aileen Campbell said: "We are working to make Scotland the best place in the world to grow up, including increasing the level of free early learning and childcare through the Children and Young People Bill, which will save families equivalent to around £700 per child. Scottish families already benefit from a wide range of support and the organisations receiving a share of this £10 million will help to improve what is on offer. Thanks to our investment, great organisations like Circle, which I am visiting today, will be able to take their work further into the community, helping families in need across Scotland get access to the right information and resources."

Funding of £20 million through the Third Sector Early Intervention Fund and £10 million through Strategic Funding Partnerships was announced last month.



## Church support for Muirhouse Centipede

**MUIRHOUSE CENTIPEDE PROJECT** has received a grant of £60,000 from the Church of Scotland to build on its success of the last year.

The project's founder Linda Dunbar said: "The Centipede project has received the great news that we have been awarded £60,000 over three years from the Church of Scotland's GoForIt Fund. This will enable the Centipede to continue on its journey and explore more activities. We are incredibly grateful for the support of the church in recognising the collaborative work already undertaken, and the value and potential of the people of the area.

"We still have to raise more money and are in the process of fund-raising – we would like to be able to match the £60K grant. The steering group has a planning day coming up where we will be figuring out how best to hear the voices of the community, and what they want to see the Centipede doing. If anyone has suggestions they can email them in to [centipede@project@gmail.com](mailto:centipede@project@gmail.com)".



## Happy 80th birthday, Betty!

**MANY HAPPY RETURNS** to Betty McVay, who celebrated her eightieth birthday on 28 May. Betty enjoyed a family party at the Royal High School's social club but a community get-together planned for West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre had to be postponed due to ill-health. *Get well soon, Betty.*

# The College ploughs ahead

Edinburgh College lends support to ground breaking community farm initiative

EDINBURGH COLLEGE has shown its support for a community-owned farm in the Borders by becoming the first College to become a shareholder. As part of Edinburgh College's commitment to sustainability, the College has invested in Whitmuir Farm's new share scheme, which allows local people and organisations to get actively involved in the running of a modern day farm in Scotland.

Whitmuir Farm, one of Scotland's most innovative organic farms, will use the support from the College and other shareholders to help to establish the farm as a national resource on sustainable food and farming, which will include a "green classroom" for students to learn about local and ethical food.

The farm also hopes to establish discovery trails, exhibitions, educational opportunities and citizen science projects, whilst also looking out for the next generation of farmers to train and nurture.

Harriet Cross, Sustainability Projects Co-ordinator at Edinburgh College, said: "We are delighted to be supporting such a fantastic farming initiative. The College really supports the values of Whitmuir Farm and believe in its vision for local, ethical and sustainable food. We have a strong relationship with Whitmuir Farm through our veggie bag scheme. Each week, a group of our Bridging Course

students visit the farm to sort, weigh and bag organic vegetables which they then deliver to staff and student customers at the College. The students not only gain practical work experience at the farm and improve their enterprise and numeracy skills but they also gain an understanding of where their food comes from."

Harriet added: "We are constantly looking for innovative ways to engage students and staff with sustainability across the College, and we are really pleased to continue to strengthen our relationship with Whitmuir Farm through the farm share initiative."

Heather Anderson, member of the Steering Group for the Community Farm said: "We are so delighted to receive this kind of support. It's good to know we are selling the farm to people who really care about the land and what we do here. This ensures we continue to enjoy a real, long term relationship with the College and the young people who go there into the future."

The farm has also launched a ground breaking bio-char project, which Edinburgh College students will be undertaking as an offshoot project at the Milton Road Community Garden. By carrying out a growing trial, the students will be able to monitor the effects of burnt woody waste on plant life in the garden, which may have a significant bearing on how the organic food is grown.



## Celebrating 'STRONG WOMEN'!

Stramullion Service celebrates ten years at West Pilton Park

by DAVID PICKERING

ROWAN ALBA chief executive Helen Carlin and project manager Sue Evans were joined by staff, supporters and service users past and present at a reception to celebrate the tenth birthday of the organisation's homeless women's unit in North Edinburgh last month. Local MP Mark Lazarowicz was among the guests who gathered to mark the important milestone at West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre.

Rowan Alba's Stramullion Service in West Pilton was established in 2003 in partnership with the City of Edinburgh Council to provide secure short-term supported accommodation for up to ten women and their children in individual flats. Stramullion works with women aged 16+, with and without children, who are homeless – this includes young people who are in transition (for example, leaving care), women whose families have broken down, and those involved in offending, or alcohol or drug misuse.

Stramullion staff provide advice and support to enable each woman to build the personal skills and resources they need – equipping them to move on from homelessness in a positive and healthy way. Each personal support plan depends on individual circumstances and need, and just some of the core services which many Stramullion clients need include:

- Welfare and benefits advice
- Budget and debt management
- Life skills training and home management
- Tenancy maintenance support
- Resettlement and social activities
- Advice, information and support to access local community services

*"Accommodation, support, education and employment provide women with the best route off the streets"*

- Referral to specialist social work, health and counselling services
- Help with applications and grants
- Move on support when the time comes to move in to their own home
- A follow-up service after re-settlement.

The Stramullion (an old Scots word for 'strong woman') service believes that accommodation, support, education and employment provide women with the best route off the streets and out of the misery caused by homelessness.

Speaking at the anniversary event, Rowan Alba CEO Helen Carlin said: "I'm really delighted to be celebrating ten years in partnership with City of Edinburgh Council and all our supporters. I'm especially pleased to see so many current and past service users turning out to celebrate with us."

Stramullion project manager Sue Evans, who has been at West Pilton since day one, added: "This is a very special day for us and it's great to see so many people here. It's really brilliant!"





# CAMPAIGN IS SUNK

## Council pulls the plug on Leith Waterworld

by DAVID PICKERING

CITY COUNCILLORS voted to accept a £1m bid to convert Leith Waterworld into a soft play area, only months after agreeing to work with local campaigners to reopen the leisure pool as a community enterprise. Campaign group Splashback said they felt 'brutally betrayed' by the council decision.

Leith Waterworld closed in January last year, but the campaign group Splashback has campaigned to have the popular facility reopened as a community asset ever since. The group felt they might be on the verge of success when councillors voted to support a feasibility study earlier this year – and council officers have even been working alongside the Splashback group to firm up proposals.

However campaigners were concerned when news of an alternative bid from Glasgow-based A&G Property Group emerged and Splashback's worst fears were realised at the 30 May council meeting.

Councillors voted to accept A&G Property Group's offer to purchase Leith Waterworld for £1m. A & G say they will spend around £1.3m on refurbishing the building and that over eighty jobs will be created in the local area.

Councillor Richard Lewis, the city's Culture and Sport Convener, said: "This has been a very difficult decision and one that this Council does not take lightly. Firstly I'd like to thank Splashback for the work and commitment they have demonstrated in progressing the community bid. However this coalition feels that the potential purchaser will create a high quality leisure facility that will greatly benefit the community in Leith and the wider Edinburgh area.

"In recognition of Splashback's commitment to creating affordable and accessible swimming opportunities for young people in the community, we're committing £125,000 towards free swimming for primary aged children in Edinburgh.

"Ultimately this option ensures that the community in Leith has an accessible leisure facility for many years to come, that swimming opportunities are available and also that the Council gets best value for the taxpayers of Edinburgh."

In a statement following the council's decision, Splashback campaigners said: "We are infuriated and dismayed that City of Edinburgh Councillors today pulled the plug on Leith Waterworld for good. We have spent 15 months campaigning to save the pool, and four months working intensively with Council officers and elected members to develop the business plan for a revived pool. Yet they have abandoned their commitment to work with us and today put a price on public trust – sold for £1 million.

*"When a developer comes along with a wad of cash, community efforts seem to count for little"*

In the January amendment, Councillors agreed to support a feasibility stage until December 2013 and committed £125,000 towards this, with a further £225,000 over two years if the plan was successful. This decision was against officers' recommendations and seemed to indicate that Councillors had a genuine desire to work cooperatively with the city's residents. This could have been a flagship project for community engagement. In chambers on 31 January, Richard Lewis said: 'We owe it to the people of Edinburgh to do everything to preserve this valuable community asset'. The trust we placed in the council that day has been brutally betrayed.

Significant progress had been made through the working group: we applied for charitable status; tenders for engineering, design and consultancy services had been issued and positive contact made with potential funders, who were excited about the project. Despite this progress, our work has been prematurely cut short. There has been no chance for a fair comparison between the commercial property deal agreed today, and our case for a community-led, revitalised Waterworld.

The bid accepted today is a poor result for Leith, for families, children, the disabled or the local community. Losing this unique and much loved fun pool is an utter tragedy for the city – such infrastructure is unlikely ever to be replaced. Soft play delivers none of the health and wellbeing benefits of swimming. What's more, the bid accepted today will bring none of the additional positive social impacts of the renewed Waterworld we proposed, such as a sense of community cohesion, volunteer and training opportunities, and precious family time together in the water.

The capital sorely lacks adequate provision of affordable, accessible family swimming. In the last 48 hours, we have pressed Councillors to address this problem by ring-fencing the £125,000 they had promised us in January. We believe this funding should be used to secure free swimming for the city's under 11s, as a minimum. Though the programme proposed in today's motion in no way compensates for the loss of Waterworld, it will hopefully help encourage more families to swim.

### Heartbroken

We are heartbroken that we have not been able to save the pool, despite our best efforts. We know this will be deeply felt by many across the city. We would like to thank everyone for your overwhelming support for the campaign."

Commenting on the council's decision to sell Leith Waterworld, Lothian Green MSP Alison Johnstone said: "This decision sends the worst possible message to communities trying to come together to protect services and improve facilities in their area. Despite all the warm words we hear on community empowerment and people power, when a developer comes along with a wad of cash, community efforts seem to count for little."

She went on: "Families in Leith and right across the city made it very clear that they valued Waterworld as a unique leisure pool, and just five months after giving everyone hope that it would reopen, the Council have pulled the plug and campaigners will be feeling totally gutted."



## Living memories of adventures in Leith

A BOOK which recounts the memories of eight auld Leithers was launched earlier this month. 'An Adventure! – Happy Days in Leith' has been produced by the Citadel Arts Group and tells the stories of residents of Port of Leith Housing Association's (PoLHA) St Nicholas Court Sheltered Housing Complex.

A 3 June launch event saw musician Laure Paterson entertaining residents and a class of Trinity Primary School pupils who called in to join the celebrations and bring the generations together.

PoLHA's Maureen Tait, who manages the St Nicholas Court complex, said: "It is nice for the children and staff to hear stories of the past from the tenants and tales of things that we'll never experience. The children are so good, always polite and helpful. It means a lot to the tenants here."

'An Adventure! – Happy Days in Leith' is a collection of memories about childhood, school days, first work experiences and family life collected by Citadel Arts Group living memory workers, Laure C Paterson and Liz Hare.

The book features St Nicholas Court residents Rita Falconer, Bertha Glancy, Margaret McKinlay, Annie Mulvaney, Mary McNicol, May Stevenson, Jean Tait and Frances Veitch - each of whom shared their memories of Leith past and present with the book's authors. Margaret said: "Things have changed a lot over the years and it's been great to share those stories".

The book is the culmination of seven weeks of sharing, recording and transcribing the stories of the eight residents. Citadel Arts Group's Liz Hare said: "The tenants generously shared their memories and we have collected them into this book which will be a resource for the whole community. Each member of the project will receive two copies and copies will go into Trinity Primary and local libraries. It has been one of the most enjoyable projects we have been involved in."

The project is funded by The Robertson Trust.



## Housing Minister welcomes Varcity North tenants

HOUSING MINISTER Margaret Burgess welcomed new tenants to the first completed phase of Miller Homes' Varcity North development in North Edinburgh last month. In total, 89 new apartments, consisting of one, two and three bedrooms, will be available at mid-market rental rates at the development.

In total, 89 new apartments, consisting of one, two and three bedrooms, will be available at mid-market rental rates at the development.

Housing Minister, Margaret Burgess said: "It is fantastic to see house developers like Miller Homes embrace the opportunities offered by the Scottish Government's pioneering National Housing Trust initiative. These new homes at Varcity North will go some way towards providing much needed affordable rented accommodation for Edinburgh residents.

"The initiative has been hugely successful, with deals secured with 13 developers to deliver over 1000 high quality homes for families throughout Scotland at very little cost to the taxpayer. A vibrant, expanding housing sector stimulates growth and protects and creates jobs in the construction sector and wider economy."

David Knight, Managing Director, Miller Homes Scotland said: "We are delighted to bring the mid-market rental homes to market slightly ahead of schedule. Securing affordable housing in Edinburgh remains difficult and the challenging lending environment also means that buying is still out of reach for some households.

"The 89 apartments will go some way to helping those in employment secure an affordable rental tenancy. The apartments are developed to Miller Homes' high standards of the quality of the build, fixtures and fittings and will form part of vibrant, modern development, which is quickly establishing its own sense of community.

"Rent First@Varcity North provides much needed homes at affordable rents for key workers and has also created vital local employment opportunities within the house building industry."

Rents per month are set at £457.20 for a one bedroom, £594.39 for a two bedroom en-suite apartment and a limited number of three bedroom apartments available. Further details are available from Miller Homes.

## Salmond salutes volunteers

**First Minister Alex Salmond worked alongside Royal Voluntary Service volunteers at the Western General Hospital as part of Volunteers' Week this month**

THE FIRST MINISTER spent an hour meeting volunteers and staff of the Royal Voluntary Service (formerly known as the WRVS), serving tea at the hospital café and chatting to staff, patients and visitors. The First Minister said that the nation's volunteers are 'a true credit to Scotland'.

During the visit Mr Salmond met a number of 'senior' volunteers including Margaret Collinson, Eleanor Taylor and Agnes McFarlane - who between them have given more than 100 years of voluntary service!

The First Minister also encouraged people to nominate volunteers for a Diamond Champion award which recognises and highlights the fantastic, selfless volunteering that is being done by older volunteers across the country.

Mr Salmond said: "Scotland has a rich tradition of volunteering and community involvement is part of the core fabric of Scottish social and community life. Volunteering represents a huge investment of time, energy and commitment by individuals who want to improve the lives of those around them, give something back and help make their communities better places to live.

"The Royal Voluntary Service volunteers who have given so much of their lives in voluntary service have been inspirational to meet. Not only are these individuals doing a wonderful job in serving those who come to their café, they also get so much out of it for themselves.

"A service like this is not just crucial for those who visit hospital, for patients and their families, nurses, doctors and hospital staff but also for the older volunteers as it provides an opportunity to work together, to socialise and to remain active.

"I am overwhelmed by the commitment and dedication of the volunteers here at the Western General and touched by the care and compassion with which they deliver their roles. Volunteers are a true credit to Scotland and I sincerely thank them for all that they do."

David McCullough, Royal Voluntary Service chief executive, said: "We are delighted to welcome the First Minister to our café at the Western General Hospital and introduce him to some of our dedicated volunteers. Volunteers' Week is a wonderful opportunity to highlight the fantastic work of our army of 7,000 volunteers across Scotland who, without making a fuss or asking for reward, give their time selflessly to others, which is why this week we are launching Diamond Champions our search for volunteers over the age of 60; the hidden gems in our community.

"So if you know an older volunteer who deserves some recognition then please nominate them for this prestigious award. We know that our volunteers make a huge difference to the lives of older people and they themselves also get great satisfaction from the work they do; so it's win-win!"

Carol Crowther, NHS Lothian's Assistant Nurse Director Person Centred Care, Quality, Patient Experience & Professional Standards, said: "The presence of the Royal Voluntary Service volunteers in our hospitals is very welcome and contributes to the overall positive experience for users of our services through the warm and welcoming atmosphere in their cafes and shops and their cheerful attitude toward staff and patients.

"The Royal Voluntary Service outlets on our sites give back proceeds to the hospital from income generated from these outlets. This means that these volunteers not only give their time but their support enables this financial gifting through which we are able to provide additional patient comforts at the Western General Hospital.

"We are very proud of the contribution all our hospital volunteers make. They bring a range of skills and life experiences and are extremely beneficial in the delivery of all our services."

## Thanks to community partners

**Broughton High School staged a showcase event on 5 June to thank agencies, organisations and businesses that have supported Broughton pupils over the last year**

BROUGHTON'S PARTNERSHIP GROUP was only established last year but the group has already built a considerable support network among voluntary sector organisations, public bodies and private sector companies – many of whom were represented at the showcase event alongside Broughton staff and members of the school's Parent Council.

These included – and this is far from an exhaustive list – Ernst and Young, Pilton Community Health Project's counselling service, Community Learning and Development, Active Schools, Police Scotland, Red Cross, Screen Education Edinburgh, Lyceum Theatre Company, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Out of the Blue, Western General Hospital, Science Festival, Standard Life, Scottish Business in the Community, Co-operation Education Trust Scotland, Catherine Wheels Theatre Company ... you'll get the picture!

The event was staged to show how pupils benefit from the many business and support partnerships that Broughton are already involved with, and also to highlight how this has positive benefits for both the partners themselves, school pupils and the wider community.

In a short film, pupils told how the support of external partners has had a positive impact on their lives – whether through increasing self-esteem and self-confidence or by offering new and different opportunities and learning new skills.

Broughton's Head Teacher John Wilson summed up: "We're now seeing a variety of services centred around the school – far more than used to be the case. School and education is no longer just about the basics, teaching pupils to read and write – there are now so many other elements to be considered.

"Because of that huge diversity, where once we could look at education as a triangle – with the school, the parents and the pupil as the three sides – the triangle has had to develop a fourth side, with partnerships as that fourth side. As the inspiration film has shown, your support and encouragement has made such a huge difference to these young people. Thank you."





# Growing Support

**Minister pledges support to local Grow Your Own Working Group during Drylaw visit**

SCOTLAND'S GROWING GROW Your Own movement was given extra support by Rural Affairs Secretary Richard Lochhead during a visit to Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre last month. The minister was impressed by the Centre's Drylaw and Telford Community Gardens project, and after meeting some enthusiastic volunteers Mr Lochhead endorsed the workings of the Grow Your Own Working Group.

Made possible through Climate Challenge Funding, Drylaw's community gardens project has now been running for three years and – like the healthiest of plants – has continued to thrive. From small beginnings the project has flourished and now encompasses two orchards and vegetable and flower beds at Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre, along with a number of patches of once unused and unwanted across the area which have been transformed. And it's not only flowers and vegetables that have flourished - the number of volunteers involved in the gardening project has grown too, and the group has supported to development of gardening projects at nearby Ferryhill and Rowanfield schools.

Richard Lochhead met Centre staff and volunteers to talk about the project

before going on to plant some tatties with Brendan and Brandon, two green-fingered helpers from Rowanfield School. He also met members of the Centre's enthusiastic gardening group who proudly displayed their recently-created willow tunnel.

The Minister said: "There are so many benefits to projects like this one, and I am really very encouraged and impressed by what I've seen in Drylaw today. It's been great to see the contribution of the staff and the enthusiasm of the volunteers and it would be great to see these ideas replicated all over Scotland. I've also learned some posh new recipe ideas from some of the young volunteers, so well done to everyone involved!"

## Consultation launch

Mr Lochhead's support for community initiatives like Drylaw Community Gardens follows the launch of a consultation on simplifying and overhauling Scotland's allotment rules, and there are three meetings taking place for people to air their views – in Inverness, Glasgow and Edinburgh. Twenty seven recommendations were made in a report from the Grow Your Own Working

Group (GYOWG) that covered six key themes: planning, legal, skills, community land, guidance and funding. The GYOWG has been working collaboratively with the Scottish Government and other partners to deliver these recommendations.

Mr Lochhead said: "More and more people are looking to get their hands dirty by getting back to nature and growing their own food. Growing your own food allows people to eat the fruits of their own labour and understand where their food comes from – a topic which is high on the agenda at the moment.

David Jamieson, Chair of the Grow Your Own Working Group, said: "The wonderful garden in Drylaw is an excellent example of a community making the most of their local space to get active and grow food. We are delighted that Mr Lochhead is able to see for himself the fruits of their labour, and really pleased that the Scottish Government is doing so much to encourage communities across Scotland to do likewise."

Cammy Day is vice-convenor of the city council's Health and Wellbeing Committee as well as being a member of Drylaw's management committee. He said: "The health benefits associated with community growing include providing exercise in the open air – exercise which we can take at our own pace and therefore suitable for all ages; it helps to relieve stress and is of proven benefit to mental health and wellbeing. Locally produced food also contributes to healthy eating and helps to combat the risks of obesity and sedentary lifestyles. It also helps to reduce our carbon footprint, so contributes in a small way to the battle against climate change."

He added: "The Community garden project has been a great success and it's been a real community initiative that's gone from strength to strength. I'd like to thank Roy (Douglas) and the staff and management committee at Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre, particularly Elizabeth (Graham) and her team of volunteers for all the hard work and effort they have put in."

Jason Rust, also a city councillor, is legal adviser to Scottish Land & Estates. He added: "We are keen to see partnership working with public, private and community landowners making further land available for allotment sites and community growing spaces, and for awareness of the range of advantages to be increased. Drylaw is a great example of what can be achieved."

» For more information about growing your community, contact the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens on 0131 623 7058, email [scotland@farmgarden.org.uk](mailto:scotland@farmgarden.org.uk) or visit the website [www.farmgarden.org.uk](http://www.farmgarden.org.uk) You can also visit Drylaw & Telford Community Gardens on Facebook



## Alex Dale receives Drylaw's Tierney Award

DRYLAW TELFORD COMMUNITY Council chairman Alex Dale was presented with the Thomas Tierney Award for Good Citizenship at Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre last month. Alex was joined by friends and family, members of the Tierney family and community councillors at a short reception to celebrate the event.

Drylaw Telford Community Council established the annual award in 2000 to mark the contribution of enthusiastic local activist Tam Tierney Tam and to encourage more residents to become active in their local community.

Alex Dale got involved in community activities shortly after his retirement from the Forestry Commission in 2006. He became involved in a campaign to oppose a proposal to build houses on designated green spaces in Drylaw, and then became an active and enthusiastic member of the community council's new Open Space sub-group in 2006.

The Open Space sub group saw community council members working in partnership with other organisations including the Pilton Partnership, Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust and the city council's local team to map all of Drylaw Telford's green space areas. The group then drew up options before consulting with local people to ascertain what they would like to see happen to these spaces.

The consultation was the biggest initiative the community council had ever undertaken, with every door knocked and a leaflet delivered to every household, but it proved worthwhile. The project's successful conclusion saw open spaces in both Easter and Wester Drylaw upgraded and cleaned up.

Alex Dale's commitment and perseverance helped to make the Open Space project a success, and all that legwork clearly didn't put him off – he joined the community council at the last elections and became Chair last May!

So many thanks and congratulations to Alex for his enthusiasm and hard work on behalf of his community – and with community council elections looming later this year let's hope a few more like him can be encouraged to step forward!



## No drama – Rachel is just sew good!

AN EDINBURGH COLLEGE student has beaten off hundreds of other competitors to intern with the world's largest arts and creative centre in Canada. HND Theatre Costume Interpretation student Rachel Johnson has headed off to the Banff Centre for Arts in Alberta to work alongside internationally respected costume designers and directors.

Rachel, who has previously worked as an intern at Scottish Opera, beat off stiff competition internationally to claim one of only three internship spaces at the renowned theatre – the third time an Edinburgh College's Theatre Costume Course student has been awarded the internship.

During the twelve week paid training, Rachel will gain extensive experience working in the production wardrobe with ground-breaking artists, creating costumes for ballet, theatre and opera on an international stage. She will also have the opportunity to work with a diverse group of clients including visiting filmmakers and directors.

Rachel said: "I am honoured to have been given this fantastic opportunity. I will be a part of a team which helps to make the high scale productions at the theatre look visually magnificent for the audience, and I really can't wait to get over there and get started."



# ROYSTON WARDIEBURN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Six Week Summer Holiday  
Programme for Children & Families

**Monday 1 July – Friday 9 August**

**Children Programme for Primary 1-7**  
(Cost 50p per session)

**Starts Monday 1 July until Friday 9 August**

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday**

**Each Session 11am – 1pm**

**Trips, sports including football and basketball,  
arts & crafts, water games, outdoor games,  
bouncy castle.**

*Autumn/Winter Programme Starts  
back on Monday 30 September*

**Family Trips for all ages**

**Wednesdays 17 July – 7 August**

**17 July Lochore Meadows Country Park**

**24 July Vogrie Park, Dalkeith**

**31 July North Berwick**

**7 August Pittencrieff Park, Dunfermline**

- **Mini Buses leave the centre @ 10am return for 3pm**
- **Bring packed lunches and dress for Scottish summer weather!**
- **Places allocated to on a first come first served basis**

11 PILTON DRIVE NORTH EH5 1NF



# Facilities Available for Hire in the Centre

## *Come in and see:*

- **Conference Room with Smart Board**  
20 - 30 people
- **Meeting Rooms**  
various sizes hold between 12 -20 people
- **Sports Hall**  
Football, Basketball, Badminton, Zumba, Dance  
from £7 -£20 per hour
- **Soft Play Area**

### **Birthday Parties for Children** £35 for 2 hours

Cost includes use of Sporthall, Bouncy Castle, Soft Play (for under 5's years only) Courtyard and Café area.

### **Cafe**

Snacks, Meal Deals and Kid's Lunch Boxes  
Fresh, affordable, quality food available  
Tuesday - Friday 9am - 2pm  
Saturday 10am - 2pm

### **Annual General Meeting**

Wednesday 26 June 6.30pm - 8.30pm

**For more information contact:**

**Community Learning & Development Worker**  
**Lydia Markham or Youth Work Organiser**  
**Denise Williamson, telephone 552 5700**





Providing support to young families and pregnant women

Services provided:

- Family Support
- Parenting Support
- Groupwork
- Childcare
- Benefit/Housing Advice
- Career and Training Advice
- Outreach
- Keyworking

Opening hours: 9-4 Monday to Friday

For further information

**Contact:** Stepping Stones (North Edinburgh)  
10 Wardieburn Road  
Edinburgh EH5 1LY  
0131 551 1632  
info@steppingstonesnorthedinburgh.co.uk  
www.steppingstonesnorthedinburgh.co.uk

Registered as a Charity in Scotland No. SC021775. Company Limited by Guarantee No. SC281866



**Summer Holiday Programme**

Activities and trips for p1-p7's and families  
6 weeks Monday - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July - 9<sup>th</sup> August 2013

**Mondays 1200-13.45 (p1-p7)**

Swimming (every week except 5th August when we have Gorge Walking for p5/p7's)

**Tuesdays & Thursday 13.30-1500 (p1-p7)**

Various sports including Spartans Football, gymnastics and old street games sessions  
Thursdays only - Soft Play 9.30am-11.30am for Parents/Carers & pre-school children

**Wednesdays 13.30-3pm (p1-p7)**

Various dance, art & crafts

**Fridays (Children and Family trips)**

Including: Ratho Retreat; Gorgie Far; Coach trip to Polkemmet Park; Chamber Street Museum; Climbing & Sky Ride at Ratho; a BBQ 12-2pm and Table Sale 10.00 - 2.00 on 9<sup>th</sup> August  
All trips must be booked and paid for in advance.

A copy of the Final programme will be available from Monday 17th June.  
Please call into the centre to pick a programme up or phone for details: 551 3194

**Content Group** - a group for the frail and elderly, meeting on a Wednesday morning for shopping and lunch. Contact the Centre for more information.

**The Fabby Food Store** will be open throughout the summer for Orders.  
Order forms can be collected from Reception and returned up to Friday lunchtime.  
They can be collected and paid for on Tuesday after 12.00noon



# North Edinburgh Childcare



## Short Course Programme July - August 2013

We are pleased to announce the launch of our updated SHORT COURSE PROGRAMME. If you are interested in undertaking any of the courses below please contact Kim Weir on 0131 311 6931 or email [Kim.weir@northedinburghchildcare.co.uk](mailto:Kim.weir@northedinburghchildcare.co.uk) or visit our website at [www.northedinburghchildcare.co.uk](http://www.northedinburghchildcare.co.uk)

Training Course	Date	Time
Emergency First Aid at Work (with additional paediatric focus)	Thursday 4th July	8.45am (for registration) - 5.15pm
Emergency First Aid at Work	Monday 19th August	8.45am (for registration) - 4.30pm

These courses will be delivered from the Training Suite within North Edinburgh Childcare at 18b Ferry Road Avenue, Edinburgh, EH4 4BL.

Course costs are set at £65.00 per session. Individuals may be able to get help towards the cost of our courses if they open an Individual Learning Account (ILA) with Skills Development Scotland (ILAs are for people who are 16 or over and living in Scotland). You can apply for an ILA if you are not in education, do not have a degree or above and are not taking part in a National Training Programme (Modern Apprenticeship, Get Ready for Work or Training for Work). You must also have an income of £22,000 a year or less, or be on benefits to be eligible to get up to £200 towards the costs of learning or training. Visit [www.ilascotland.org.uk](http://www.ilascotland.org.uk) or call 0808 100 1090 today to request your application pack.

If you have more than 8 members of staff who you feel would benefit from undertaking one of our 'Training Courses for Childcare Workers / Managers' together as a staff team, we would be happy to deliver the training exclusively to your organisation. Please contact Gill Dudgeon on 0131 311 6934 or email [gill.dudgeon@northedinburghchildcare.co.uk](mailto:gill.dudgeon@northedinburghchildcare.co.uk) with any requests for this type of training. You may also be able to access a contribution towards the cost via Flexible Training Opportunities Funding from Skills Development Scotland (further information can be found on their website at [www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/flexible-training](http://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/flexible-training))

# Total Craigroyston

We are the people – celebrating success!

**A key principle of Total Craigroyston is to celebrate the success and achievement of the local community, highlighting who and what is doing well to the wider community and to the world! So we're really pleased to report the success of local groups over the last six months:**

## Adult Learners

Two adult groups won Adult Learners Awards during the recent Adult Learners Week. The 'Use Your Loaf' bread making group won the Health and Wellbeing award and North Edinburgh Social History Group won the Political and Social Education award. Learners from both groups are taking forward a range of initiatives over the coming months - watch this space! Congratulations to all the learners involved on their achievements!

## Good news from the primary schools

### Safe Schools

While on the subject of success, there is also good news from Pirniehall and Craigroyston Primary Schools. 95% of parents who took part in recent school surveys agreed or strongly agreed that their children were treated fairly in school, and the same high percentage agreed or strongly agreed that their children felt safe in each school. This is good news for our schools and shows that parents are confident that bullying is tackled robustly by staff.

### The Great Art Quest

Children from all four primaries in the area have been involved in the Great Art Quest run by the Queen's Gallery at Holyrood Palace. Some of you may have been lucky enough to see their fantastic artwork at an exhibition in North Edinburgh Arts Centre.

The exhibition is the result of a project involving children from St David's, Forthview, Craigroyston and Pirniehall, whose work was inspired by last year's 'Treasures from The Queen's Palaces' exhibition at The Queen's Gallery.

The quality of the work that the children produced was exceptionally high and created a real sense of pride and achievement for the children. Well done to all those involved

## Good News from the High School

### Formula One

Young people at Craigroyston Community High School have won the Formula 1 in Schools Scottish Championship for the second time. As a result they are going to the World finals in Austin Texas later in the year – well done to all involved!

### Going Places

This year Craigroyston Community High has produced the highest number of youngsters sitting Higher exams, and the highest number for ten years being accepted for a place at university. This is a real achievement and is testament to the hard work of both the young people and school staff. Great stuff!

The number of Craigie leavers going into employment, training or further education rose by 7.6% this year.

## What's the Matter? – involving young people

At Total Craigroyston, we're keen to ensure that young people have influence over what we do. Last October, North Edinburgh Young People's Forum was asked to investigate how their views could be better represented in the Forth Neighbourhood Partnership and as a result produced a newspaper called The Matter to give us ideas about how they would like to be involved in local decision-making.

The group relaunched The Matter on Monday 17 June at West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre, followed by an open evening where they gave details of the great work they are involved in. Congratulations to North Edinburgh Young People's Forum for doing such a good job on this and coming up with ideas that can be used by other organisations to involve young people. Next up is consulting young people about what they need to support their mental health and wellbeing. Good job!



## Muirhouse Link Up

Great news! Muirhouse Link Up project has secured the use of the old Pork Sausage shop in Pennywell Road as a community hub. As well as selling a wide range of affordable fruit and vegetables, we are also using it as an information hub for what is going on in the community. We are encouraging local people to tell us what groups and activities they know about and write it on a tile!

Every week there are a range of organisations in the shop, giving advice and information or speaking with local people. The shop is staffed by volunteers and we are looking for people who can spare an hour or two per week. We are currently open Tuesday 9-1, Thursday 11-4 and Saturday 9-1.

The shop is managed by Tenants and Residents in Muirhouse, come in for more information or check out their Facebook page. Special thanks to TRIM, Crudential Holdings and City of Edinburgh Council Regeneration team.

## MY Adventure

Well done too to all the guys at My Adventure who have developed the Cyclone Bike Track at Gypsy Brae. This will be a great local resource and we hope that young people will have great fun using it.

## Summer's Cool

Summer Programmes will soon be online for the following youth and children's organisations;

**Muirhouse Millennium Centre (MMC)**  
**Muirhouse Youth Development Group (MYDG)**  
**North Edinburgh Arts (NEA)**  
**Pilton Youth & Children's Project (PYCP)**  
**West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre (WPNC)**

These five organisations collectively offer 60 activities, over 200 sessions with 4,000 spaces! For the first time, all the activities are available on one site. For more information go to: [www.joinedinburgh.org](http://www.joinedinburgh.org)

Alternatively contact the organisations at:

**MYDG:** Telephone 332 3356, website [www.mydg.org.uk](http://www.mydg.org.uk)

**PYCP:** Telephone 332 9815, website [www.pycp.co.uk](http://www.pycp.co.uk)

**NEA:** Telephone 315 2151, website [www.northedinburgharts.co.uk](http://www.northedinburgharts.co.uk)

**WPNC:** Telephone 551-3194, website [www.joinedinburgh.org/organisation/29/](http://www.joinedinburgh.org/organisation/29/)

**MMC:** Telephone 467-3578, website [www.muirhousecommunitycentre.org.uk](http://www.muirhousecommunitycentre.org.uk)





**Our action-packed six week Summer Programme starts on 1 July and will run until 9 August.**

Some of our activities will include:

- Residentials**
- Family Day Out**
- Beach BBQ**
- Cycle Picnic**
- Transition Group Get Togethers**
- Fun Clubs for P1-4**
- Drop ins for P5+**
- Trips out**
- Arts and Crafts**
- Movie Clubs**
- Girls Afternoon In**



For more information contact us 332 9815  
email: [summer2013@pycp.co.uk](mailto:summer2013@pycp.co.uk) [www.pycp.co.uk](http://www.pycp.co.uk)  
The Greenhouse, West Pilton Brae, Edinburgh, EH4 4DG

*Children must be members of PYCP to attend and have an up to date consent form completed. This can be picked up at The Greenhouse or downloaded online.*

## LIVING WELL NORTH EDINBURGH

5 West Pilton Park and 6 Rannoch Terrace Edinburgh

Living Well North Edinburgh is a user-led community mental health service open to people aged 18 and over, who have mental health concerns and live in North Edinburgh.



### Art and Wellbeing Groups for summer

Cooking Group	Relaxation/Meditation
Look Good, Feel Good	Paper Mache
Art Therapy	Assertiveness Training
Garden Group	Zumba
Yoga	Pottery
Silk Painting	

Groups will be on at both venues and booking is recommended as places are allocated on a first come, first served basis.

To make an appointment or to find out more about any of our activities, please contact our staff on 0131 343 6375, Monday to Thursday between 9.00am and 4.00pm

North Edinburgh Arts is delighted to see the North Edinburgh News back in print. This is a welcome return for our well loved local newspaper.

North Edinburgh Arts, located beside Muirhouse Library at the back of the shopping centre, offers members of the community, of all ages, a place to relax, explore, learn, meet, share, volunteer and have fun.

We have activities on offer for local families and adults including workshops, performances, exhibitions, recording studio space and more. During term time we offer children from 0 to 12 years a range of exciting activities in art, dance and drama, and during the school holidays we offer a jam packed programme to keep your whole family busy, with creative activities in the morning and films in the afternoon.

This year's summer programme begins on July 2nd with a cartoon and animation project running for six weeks. From July 9th our art/dance workshops begin. The ever popular Muirhouse Housing Association Film Club will be showing feature films for four weeks. North Edinburgh Arts has invested in a new piece of equipment for the summer and we hope to be screening four 3D films during the summer, in association with the Link-Up Project.

Don't forget the café is open Tuesday - Friday 9.30am- 2pm and offers a range of tasty foods and snacks, and the best coffee in town. Residents who live locally are entitled to join our Good Neighbours Scheme that gives up to a further 20% discount on café menu items. We are always looking for volunteers so if you are interested in gaining experience in catering or other skills relating to the arts please get in touch.

North Edinburgh Arts is also home to Licketyspit Theatre Company, Muirhouse Youth Development Group, Tomorrow's People and North Edinburgh Time Bank who all contribute greatly to the range of services and activities on offer.

Our website is regularly updated so please visit [www.northedinburgharts.co.uk](http://www.northedinburgharts.co.uk) for more information, and if you sign up as a facebook friend or twitter follower you can get updates direct to your phone.

See you in NEA soon!

north  
edinburgh  
arts



# Sizzling summer food activities

## Cooking morning at PCHP

Cooking and tasting delicious starters and tapas

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July, 11.00 – 1.00

By Pilton Community Health Project

Call 0131 551 1671 to book

**\*Limited spaces\***

Creche available if booked in advance

## Trip to Craigies' Farm

Fruit picking, tractor ride and picnic

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July, 11.30 – 3.30

By Pilton Community Health Project

Call 0131 551 1671 to book

**\*Limited spaces\***

## Granton Community Gardeners' Barbecue

Just turn up for a tour round the garden and some tasty treats from the barbecue

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 12.00 – 2.00

At their garden on the corner of

Boswall Parkway and Wardieburn Road

## Use your loaf - bake some bread

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August, 1.30 – 3.30

at Pilton Community Health Project

Call 0131 551 1671 to book

**\*Limited spaces\***

Creche available if booked in advance

## Trip to the Botanics' Edible Garden

Planting, harvesting and cooking demonstration

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August, 12.00 – 3.30

By Pilton Community Health Project

Call 0131 551 1671 to book

**\*Limited spaces\***

## Family Barbecue at West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August, 12.00 – 2.00

Just turn up!

## Pilton Community Gardeners' summer celebration

Visit the garden, eat some yummy food and find out more about how you can get involved – everyone welcome!

(Time and date to be confirmed)

At West Pilton Community Garden

See [www.foodforthoughtforum.org.uk](http://www.foodforthoughtforum.org.uk) for further details (click 'other activities')



Supported by  
Pilton Community  
Health Project



Pilton  
Community  
Health  
Project



## FREE FOOTBALL! STREET FOOTBALL IN A SAFE PLACE

RETURNS THIS SUMMER EVERY WEEKDAY  
BETWEEN 1-5PM @ SCFA, 94 Pilton Drive  
Edinburgh EH5 2HF

QUALIFY FOR FREE TRIPS BY  
ATTENDING AND MAKING SURE YOU HAVE A  
SIGNED UP TO DATE PLAYERS CONTRACT.

**Trips include:** wakeboarding, coasteering,  
swimming, Ice skating & white water rafting.

Follow us @Spartans\_cfa



## SUMMER PROGRAMME

at **Craigroyston Community High School**

67 Pennywell Rd, EH4 4NL

JULY 2013



Laugh in the face of the Scottish Summer! Whatever the weather might throw at us, there are lots of ways to have fun during the holidays. Our swim and fitness programme will offer you, either a chance to cool down in the pool, or escape from the wind and rain.

### FOR FOUR WEEKS IN JULY (1<sup>st</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> July)

**Fitness Gym Sessions** with a qualified personal trainer.

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 6.00 – 8.00 pm £2 per session

Tuesdays 2, 9, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> July

**Family Swim Sessions** 5.30 – 6.30 pm & **Adult Swim Sessions** 6.30 – 7.30 pm  
Family Swims £1 per adult, £0.50 per child. Adult Swim Sessions £1.50 per adult.

Thursdays 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> July **Aquafit with Scott** 3.00 – 4.00 pm. £1.50

Wednesdays 3, 10, 17, 24<sup>th</sup> July

**Painting & Drawing with Steven Hood** at 10.30 – 12.30 pm. £10 for course of 4.

### FOR THREE WEEKS IN JULY (8<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> JULY)

Mondays 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> July, Wednesdays 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> July

**Family Swims** 2 – 3 pm & 3 – 4 pm.

Tuesdays 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> - **Family Swim** 2 – 3 pm, **Adult Swims** 3 – 4 pm

Thursdays 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> July - **Family Swims** 2 – 3pm (followed by Aquafit session).

Tuesdays 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> July **History Walks with Derek.**

9<sup>th</sup> Tickling Jock exhibition at the Portrait Gallery. Meet at door 1.45 pm

16<sup>th</sup> Writers Quest. Meet at Deacon Brodies on the High St at 1.45 pm

23<sup>rd</sup> Dead Interesting Scots. Meet at entrance to Greyfriars Kirk Yard at 1.45 pm

Dress for all seasons! Cost £2 per walk.

### FOR TWO WEEKS IN JULY

Thursdays 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> July **Art Gallery Visits with Steven**

11<sup>th</sup> July Meet at the National Gallery at the Mound at 10.30 £2 per visit

18<sup>th</sup> July Meet at the Gallery of Modern Art at 10.30 am at 10.30 £2 per visit

For more information or to book a place in Art or on the visits  
please call us on 477 -7801/ 538 – 7285 after 13th June.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
Refugee Survival Trust and Maryhill Integration Network

## Women Supporting Women

PRESENT

# Making It Home



*You are invited*  
to a special screening of four  
short films created by local  
women from North Edinburgh  
and asylum seeking women from  
Maryhill (Glasgow) in response  
to poems about 'home'  
With speakers from the  
project and an opportunity for  
discussion afterwards.

**Friday 28th June at 6pm**  
**North Edinburgh Arts Centre**  
**Tel: 0131 315 2151**

This event is FREE but ticketed.  
Call North Edinburgh Arts box-office to book your tickets.

*Making It Home is brought to you by Pilton Community Health Project*



## North Edinburgh Credit Union Ltd

10-12 Wardieburn Drive  
Edinburgh EH5 1BU  
Tel: 0131 466 5006

Email: [committee@necu.co.uk](mailto:committee@necu.co.uk)



NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME  
VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED/TRAINING AVAILABLE

## LOOKING FOR OFFICE /MEETING SPACE

Are you a small business or communication looking to rent affordable office/meeting space locally?

Pilton Central Association have space available in West Pilton area and would be open to discuss possible full or shared use of the space on a temporary basis.

Conditions of let and rent are negotiable.

If you are interested, or would like further information,  
please contact Willie Black on 0751 568 6421



### Malcolm Chisholm MSP

Surgeries every Saturday 10a.m. at Leith  
Library and 12 noon Royston Wardieburn  
Community Centre

#### Constituency Office:

5 Croall Place, Edinburgh EH7 4LT  
Tel: 0131 558 8358 Fax: 0131 557 6781.  
Email: [Malcolm.Chisholm.msp@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:Malcolm.Chisholm.msp@scottish.parliament.uk)  
Website: [www.Malcolm.Chisholm.org.uk](http://www.Malcolm.Chisholm.org.uk)

## LABOUR COUNCILLORS TEAM



### Forth Ward Councillors Cammy Day and Vicki Redpath

[cammy.day@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:cammy.day@edinburgh.gov.uk)  
Telephone 529 3262



[vicki.redpath@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:vicki.redpath@edinburgh.gov.uk)  
Telephone 529 3281

#### Surgeries:

Muirhouse Library: Every Mon (except July), 6pm  
The Prentice Centre: Every Wed (except July), 6pm  
Royston/Wardieburn Community Centre:  
Every Wed (except July) 7pm



### Inverleith Ward Councillor Lesley Hinds

[lesley.hinds@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:lesley.hinds@edinburgh.gov.uk)  
Telephone 529 3235

Ferryhill Primary School:  
Every Wed (during school term) 6pm  
Stockbridge Library: Every Wed 7 - 7:30pm

## New Clubs at PYCP

**WHO?** For 12+ age group boys and girls

**WHAT?** Weekend Hub Youth Club

**WHERE?** Pilton Youth and Children's Project

**WHEN?** Friday and Saturday evenings;  
starts on Friday 21st June at 5.30pm

**WHY?** Come along for pool, games, cooking, arts,  
sports, outdoor activities and much more!

## WEST GRANTON COMMUNITY TRUST

The Prentice Centre is a resource for individuals and community groups within West Granton, Muirhouse, Pilton, Drylaw, Granton and Royston Wardieburn areas. If there is anything you would like to see happening in your community, please contact Janet Campbell the Centre Co-ordinator. We will consider all of your suggestions

1 Granton Mains Avenue, West Granton, Edinburgh EH4 4GA  
Tel. 0131 552 0485 E-mail: [prenticecentre@hotmail.com](mailto:prenticecentre@hotmail.com)



## Granton Information Centre (GIC)

134 - 138 West Granton Road, Edinburgh, EH5 1PE

GIC Provides free, impartial and confidential advice and assistance on a range of issues including welfare benefits, tax credits, debt and housing advice.



Appointment's and Drop in sessions for ALL HOUSING issues  
Telephone/ Fax: 0131 552 0458 for further information

Drop in Tuesday & Thursday 9.30 -12.30: BENEFITS & MONEY ADVICE issues

Tuesday: 10.00 - 1.00 CREWE MEDICAL CENTRE  
(Only for patients of Crewe Medical Centre)

Tuesday: 2.00 - 4.00 MUIRHOUSE MEDICAL GROUP  
(Only for patients of Muirhouse Medical Group)

Home visits may be available on request

# community directory

## ADVICE

CORE (formerly Black Community Development Project)	467 7990
Community Renewal	332 8773
Drylaw Police Station	343 3171
Granton Information Centre	551 2459
Lothian & Borders Police HQ, Fettes	311 3131
North Edinburgh Credit Union	466 5006
North West Carers Centre	315 3130
North Edinburgh Volunteer Centre	629 4202
Mark Lazarowicz MP Constituency Office	557 0577
Pilton Citizens Advice Bureau	332 9434

## CHURCHES/PLACES OF WORSHIP

Bellevue Baptist Church, c/o Salvation Army, Wardieburn Drive	551 5191
Blackhall Mosque, Queensferry Road	343 3802
Blackhall St. Columba's, Queensferry Road	332 4431
Bristo Baptist Church, Queensferry Road	332 9488
Church of the First Born, West Granton Green	551 5361
Drylaw Parish Church, Groathill Road North	343 1441
Granton Baptist Church, Crewe Road North	552 0915
Granton Parish Church, Boswall Parkway	551 2159
Granton United, 125 Boswall Parkway	552 3316
Muirhouse St. Andrew's, Pennywell Medway	476 9525
North Edinburgh Reformed Presbyterian Church, Craigroyston Community High School	07791 369 626
Old Kirk, Pennywell Road	332 4354
St David's Episcopal, Royston Mains Place	01890 819063
St Margaret Mary's, Boswall Parkway	552 3957
St Paul's, Muirhouse Avenue	539 0085
St Serf's, Ferry Road	249 4899
Seventh Day Adventist, Boswall Parkway	0777 239 1405
West Pilton Christian Centre, West Pilton Park	343 6391

## COMMUNITY CENTRES

Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre	315 4989
Muirhouse Millennium Centre	467 3578
Royston Wardieburn Community Centre	552 5700
The Prentice Centre	552 0485
West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre	551 3194

## OLDER PEOPLE

Drylaw Rainbow Daycare Centre	343 6643
LifeCare, Stockbridge House	343 0940
Pilton Equalities Project (PEP)	315 4466
St David's Wednesday Wanderers & Smarties Club	538 6262

## FAMILIES

Circle Scotland (formerly Family Service Unit)	552 0305
Granton Child and Family Centre	552 4808
Haven Project, Craigroyston Primary School	332 9269
North Edinburgh Childcare	332 8001
Pilton Retreat, Ratho	333 1659
Stepping Stones North Edinburgh	551 1632
St David's Krazy Kids Club	538 6262
The Yard, Eyre Place Lane	475 4506
Women Supporting Women	551 1671

## HOUSING

Castle Rock Edinvar Housing Association	657 0600
Central Muirhouse Low-Rise Tenants Association	467 3570
City of Edinburgh Council North Local Office	529 5050
Edinburgh Tenants Federation	475 2509
Fresh Start	476 7741
Housing Support Inclusion Service	529 5093
Manor Estates Housing Association	337 3222
Muirhouse Housing Association	336 5282
Pennywell Tenants and Residents Association	476 2359
Port of Leith Housing Association	554 0403
West Granton Housing Co-operative	551 5035

## HEALTH/WELFARE

Bangholm Medical Centre	552 6363
Barri Grubb	551 1671
Craigroyston Clinic	315 2121
Craigroyston Dental Clinic	332 7930
Crewe Medical Centre	552 5544
Davidsons Mains Medical Centre	336 2291
Inverleith Medical Practice	552 3369
Living Well North Edinburgh (formerly Stress Centre)	343 6375
Minor Injuries Unit, Western General Hospital	537 1330
Muirhouse Community Slimmers Club, Birnies Court	552 6477
Muirhouse Surgery	537 4343
NHS 24	08454 24 24 24
North Edinburgh Drug Advice Centre (NEDAC)	332 2314
North West Carers Centre	315 3130
Pilton Community Health Project	551 1671
Stockbridge Health Centre	225 9191
Western General Hospital	537 1000

## RECREATION/ARTS

Ainslie Park Leisure Centre	551 2400
Blackhall Library	529 5595
Granton Library	529 5630
Leith Library	529 5517
Muirhouse Library	529 5528
North Edinburgh Arts Centre	315 2151
Screen Education Edinburgh (formerly Pilton Video)	343 1151
Stockbridge Library	529 5665
The Spartans Community Football Academy	552 7854

## SCHOOLS/EDUCATION

Blackhall Primary School	336 1023
Broughton High School	332 7805
Community Learning & Development Forth	552 5700
Community Learning & Development Inverleith	332 6316
Craigroyston High School	477 7801
Craigroyston Primary School	343 6465
Edinburgh's Telford College	559 4000
Davidsons Mains Primary School	336 1184
Ferryhill Primary School	538 7382
Flora Stevenson's Primary School	332 1604
Forthview Primary School	332 2468
Granton Primary School	552 3987
Pirniehall Primary School	332 5256
St David's Primary School	332 3500
Stockbridge Primary School	332 6109
The Royal High School	336 2261
Trinity Academy	478 5050
Wardie Primary School	552 3896

## YOUTH & CHILDREN

CHILDREN 1st bfriends Service, The Prentice Centre	552 8265
Fet-Lor Youth Centre	332 4506
Granton Youth Centre	467 5854
Muirhouse Youth Development Group	332 3356
Pilton Youth and Children's Project	332 9815
The Yard, Eyre Place Lane	476 4506

If your group or organisation  
would like to be included in  
the Community Directory  
please email us at  
northedinnews@gmail.com

# Dream big, Dream Fierce

## Spartans volunteers head out to Tanzania

A TEAM of Spartans Community Football Academy volunteers head out to Africa on the journey of a lifetime this month. Three staff and a senior volunteer will join nine young people to spend two weeks working with a support project in Tanzania.

“Our patron Gordon Strachan hosted a very successful charity dinner last year, which raised an incredible amount of money. That has enabled us to do a lot of things here at the Academy, including our extension, but it has also given us the opportunity to send a small group from Spartans to help in a project in Tanzania”, explained Kenny Cameron, who is Community Programme Manager at Spartans Community Football Academy.

“We have links with a very successful Edinburgh-based charity called YES (Youth Empowerment through Sport) Tanzania. Their aims and objectives are very similar to our own, and in the past we have sent footballs, strips and boots over there. But now, thanks to the support of some very generous supporters – and the brilliant fundraising efforts of the Spartan Army volunteers themselves – we can take a small group over there to help out.

“The guys will have a very full programme over the two weeks – delivering Young Leader training and a coaching education programme, visiting schools and an orphanage. They will also spend some time in a shanty town and will see first hand the grinding poverty of daily life in what is one of the poorest nations on earth. As you can imagine the facilities are not great in Arusha, where the pilot project is based, so in time we also hope to build a football pitch and fund their development worker post for a year – we can make a real difference.”

Although the Spartans team have a very busy schedule they won't be working non-stop and they have a real treat to look forward to.

“We have built in an overnight safari as part of the trip. It's our way of saying thanks to these young people – who all live locally - who have given up a lot of hours of their own time over two and three years to volunteer here with us. It will be an amazing experience, the adventure of a lifetime”, Kenny went on.

“Our motto this year is ‘Dream Big, Dream Fierce’ and the Tanzanian experience kind of sums that up – who would have thought that a wee group of young folk from



North Edinburgh could travel halfway across the world and make a difference to peoples' lives there? The message we are trying to convey to everyone who comes into contact with the Community Football Academy is: Believe – anything can be achieved.

“Tanzania will be an experience our volunteers will never forget, and the hope is that they will pass on what they learned there and share their experiences when they get back to North Edinburgh, inspiring the next generation of Spartan Army volunteers”.

➤ If you'd like to support the Spartans Tanzania initiative visit <https://www.justgiving.com/SpartansTanzania-Appeal>

# JOIN the NEN WALKATHON!

Discover what's  
on your doorstep!

JOIN OUR WALKATHON to support the NEN and learn about the services and activities in your neighbourhood.

North Edinburgh News has teamed up with Pilton Community Health Project's 'Move It' initiative to stage a Walkathon around the Granton, Royston, Drylaw, Pilton, West Pilton and Muirhouse neighbourhoods.

Clare Symonds of Move It said: “We are really happy to be able to support the NEN through this event. Walking has always been a social activity and the more familiar we are with an area the safer we feel. There are so many facilities located within the residential areas and the neighbourhoods are closely interlinked making walking the best option for getting around. The NEN Walkathon is a great way for residents to meet people, get to know their local area and support the community newspaper so that they can continue to find out what is going on”.

Join us to discover what your neighbourhood has to offer and support the NEN - your community newspaper - by asking your friends and neighbours to sponsor your efforts.

The routes have been chosen to help you discover what is happening on your doorstep and in the surrounding areas: **BLUE route** explores open spaces, cycle paths, leisure centres and activities in the NEN distribution area.

**RED route** explores the youth, community and health centres. Come and meet the teams, discover the range of services available and find out how you can access them.

**GREEN route** offers the best of both worlds Pushed for time or not feeling that energetic? The route is staged between the many community facilities with refreshments available at most centres. Try to join us for one or two stages to discover what's on offer for you and show

your support for the NEN by buying a raffle ticket to win one of the many prizes donated by businesses and residents keen to ensure that your community newspaper can survive.

Martin Hinds, Chair of NEN Board of Directors is urging people to get involved: “The North Edinburgh News (NEN) is your community newspaper. For over 30 years the NEN has brought you positive news, encouraged lively debate around community issues, informed you of political decisions and promoted the vast range of support services and voluntary activities in the area.

“North Edinburgh has changed a lot over those 30 years but we know that it is still very much a vibrant community with a wealth of activities, services and support for everyone. All of these services are located within walking distance of each other and at the heart of your neighbourhood. Join our Walkathon on Saturday 20 July and discover what's on your doorstep.”

The NEN is a FREE and independent source of quality information and opinion. Community groups and service providers depend on it to reach YOU and residents depend on it to find support, information and details of local events and activities. The newspaper no longer receives an annual grant and is managed and produced by volunteers. The board members look for funding from local and national organisations to maintain this quality service that you have come to expect. We know how much you love the NEN but need you to show us how much you want to keep it.

**Come on! Get your sponsor form and dust off those walking shoes!**



**SUPPORT THE NORTH EDINBURGH NEWS AND DISCOVER WHAT'S ON IN YOUR COMMUNITY**

**NORTH EDINBURGH SPONSORED WALK-ATHON**

Join us at 10.00am - 1.00pm on Saturday 20th July at The Hub, Edinburgh College - Granton Campus and choose your route

**IT'S A WALK-ATHON NOT A MARATHON!**

Take a stroll, meet new people and raise money for the NEN while you discover the wealth of opportunities around and about your community

**COME ON.. DISCOVER WHAT'S IN WALKING DISTANCE OF YOUR DOOR**

**YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER IS UNDER THREAT AND WE NEED YOU TO TAKE ACTION TO ENSURE ITS SURVIVAL**

YOU, YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, NEIGHBOURS, WORK AND CLASSMATES **CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Show YOUR Support. Register and get your fundraising pack on our Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/North-Edinburgh-News/400530786732187>

THE NEN WALK-ATHON IS SUPPORTED BY


