

MacMillan Hub, is GO

Draft development plans have been given the go-ahead for a creative and community hub for the area

North Edinburgh Arts and the City of Edinburgh Council have over the past year been working together to develop a plan for the last plot of land at MacMillan Square, off Pennywell Road.

As part of the ongoing regeneration programme around MacMillan Square, North Edinburgh Arts (NEA) has been now been granted full community ownership in a community asset transfer from the City of Edinburgh Council, with the additional transfer of a plot of land to the north of the organisation's venue. Following the granting of funding from the Scottish Land fund, NEA has been working in partnership with the Council to create plans for an extended creative and community hub for the area, to be named the MacMillan Hub. We've started calling it The Mac!

"... promoting culture, learning, work and well-being"

The objective is to create a community and neighbourhood hub promoting culture, learning, work and well-being in and around the town centre. Everyone at NEA is excited about the possibilities this will bring our community.



The plans include:

- a refurbished and redesigned North Edinburgh Arts venue promoting the highest quality culture, arts and meeting space
- a new Muirhouse Library
- a new Learning and Skills Hub
- a new Early Years Centre
- housing for rent

The plans ensure the accessible, welcoming and much needed community space for our community, using environmental friendly build and innovative design techniques. The community space will reflect current community aspirations, while being flexible enough to respond to unplanned future demand.

Richard Murphy Architects have been appointed by Robertson and with the Council and NEA to design the MacMillan Hub. Working together with a view to submitting a joint detailed planning permission in November 2020.

» Draft plans are now available for the communities and can be found at: www.northedinburgharts.co.uk

Any comments and suggestions should be submitted to admin@northedinburgharts.co.uk

More details of the suggested services to be provided at the Mac can be found on pages 4 and 5.

foreword

North Edinburgh Collective Vision

Prior to lockdown 20+ community groups and individuals met and established the North Edinburgh Covid 19 Foodshare group.

In the first week this group set up a dedicated phonenumber for local people in need to call if they needed any assistance with food provision and other support services.

A 'core group of 10' met twice weekly to ensure we had a co-ordinated response around meeting the wide-ranging needs of our local community. We had a clear aim of providing food to local people and quickly established policies and procedures for us to do this safely.

Building the infrastructure enable the group to provide much more than food-based support. Items such as clothing, toys, arts and crafts packs where all provided for and delivered to local families.

The group shared grant funding, resources, staff and volunteers to deliver on the ground each day. As a result, the consortium was able to react and respond quickly to ever changing needs and meant that we provided maximum value for money. Between March to July the group provided >150,000 ready meals, packed lunches and food packs for local people and families in need.

Building on the work of this group, local organisations in North Edinburgh have developed a vision for our local community and are collectively committed to realising this vision over the next 10 years.

In short, we want to build a more sustainable and resilient community. We will increase our work with people deemed to be at highest risk to ensure that they are more financially secure, more connected and engaged with services and opportunities in our local community, to increase their life chances.

Collectively, we will work together to strengthen the feeling of a true sense of community through:

- Linking local people with services and support.
- Embedding local people in service design, delivery and evaluation.
- Increase local people's involvement in local democracy / local governance.

We are committed to improving levels of community resilience through:

- Strengthened, sustainable community anchor organisations.
- Working in "real" partnership (in an authentic way) with statutory organisations.
- Exploring and supporting community asset transfer options.

Organisations signed up so far are Fresh Start, Spartans Community Football Academy, North Edinburgh Arts, Community Renewal, Pilton Community Health Project, LIFT, Stepping Stones, Granton Community Gardeners and Granton Information Centre.

➤ We would welcome any other local organisation who are keen to be part of this new group to contact us for more details, e-mail: Biddy@freshstartweb.org.uk



Muirhouse Community Centre

Low Income Families Together (LIFT) and Muirhouse Community Centre are in discussion to become a partnership. At present LIFT are based within the Community Centre. But after discussing the benefits to the community, Muirhouse Community Centre and LIFT will over the next few weeks become one organisation.

LIFT compliments the ethos and work delivered within the centre and vice versa. Both organisations want to develop a "One stop Shop" where services can be based and service users can come to the centre rather than the housing, school etc. The support and advice they require will be under one roof as well as their key worker to help support them through the appointments. LIFT believes this could save money, resources and reduce missed appointments for other services. They could arrange to see clients within the centre. The centre is a safe, friendly comfortable place to meet.

We hope to have the partnership in place early next year but due to COVID restrictions it is taking longer than planned.

Award for Drylaw

Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre Community Garden received a Highly Commended Award. This award was received from the Harvest Produce Competition hosted by the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre gardening project is still open to new volunteers every Tuesday and Thursday contact Trudi by Email gardens@drylawnc.org.uk or contact our office 0131 315 4989.



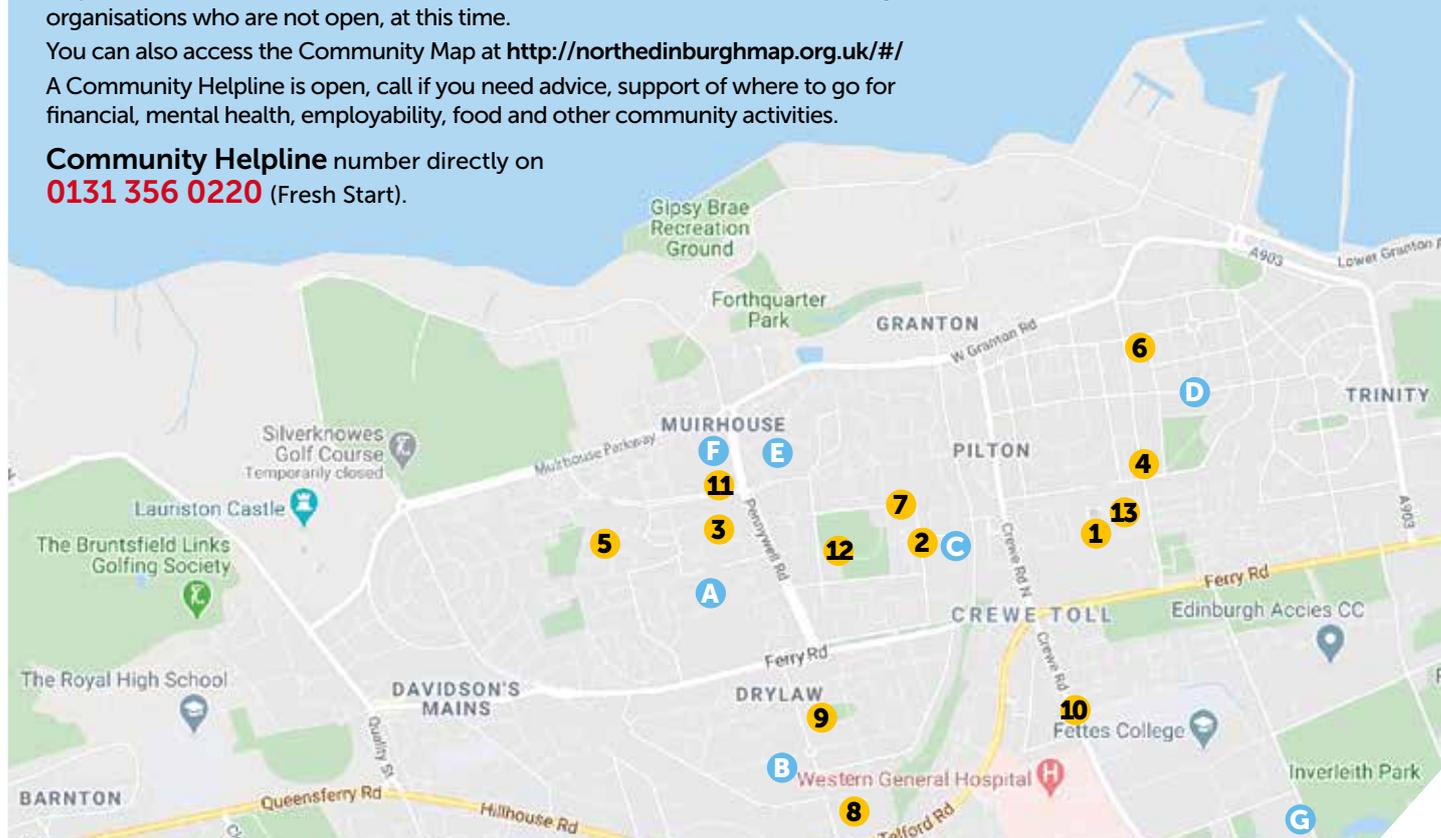
The Community Map below, details the groups and organisations which will be helpful contacts for local residents. This is not an exhaustive list as there are many organisations who are not open, at this time.

You can also access the Community Map at <http://northedinburghmap.org.uk/#/>

A Community Helpline is open, call if you need advice, support of where to go for financial, mental health, employability, food and other community activities.

Community Helpline number directly on
0131 356 0220 (Fresh Start).

Community Map



1 Spartans

94 Pilton Drive, EH5 2HF
0131-552-7854 info@spartanscfa.com
www.spartanscfa.com

2 Fresh Start

22-24 Ferry Road Drive, EH4 4BR
0131 356 0220 (Mon-Fri 10am-4pm)
admin@freshstartweb.org.uk
www.freshstartweb.org.uk

3 North Edinburgh Arts

15a Pennywell Court, EH4 4TZ
0131 315 2151 (Mon-Fri 11am-2pm)
admin@northedinburgharts.co.uk
northedinburgharts.co.uk

4 Pilton Community Health Project

73 Boswall Parkway EH5 2PW
admin@pchp.org.uk

5 Muirhouse Millennium Centre: including Lift

7 Muirhouse Medway, EH4 4RW
0131 467 3578
danielle.lift@outlook.com
www.lift-edinburgh.com

6 Granton Community Gardeners

10 Wardieburn Road, EH5 1LY
info@grantoncommunitygardeners.org
www.grantoncommunitygardeners.org

7 Pilton Equalities Project

3 West Pilton Park, EH4 4EL
0131 315 4466
pepequalities@btconnect.com
www.pepequalities.co.uk

8 Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre

67b Groathill Road North, EH4 2SA
0131 315 4989
roy@drylawnc.org.uk
www.drylawnc.org.uk

9 Drylaw Rainbow Club

Drylaw Parish Church
2A Easter Drylaw Gardens, EH4 2RP
0131 343 6643
rainbowdaycare@btconnect.com

10 Fet-Lor: including Scran Academy

Fetlor Youth Club
122 Crewe Road South, EH4 2NY
07496 850591
hello@scranacademy.com
www.scranacademy.com

11 Health Hub:

Pennywell All Care Centre
1D Pennywell Gardens, EH4 4UA
0131 286 5200

12 Edinburgh Council - North Office

8 West Pilton Gardens, EH4 4DP
0131 529 5050

13 Ainslie Park Leisure Centre

92 Pilton Drive, Edinburgh, EH5 2HF
0131 551 2400
www.edinburghleisure.co.uk

A Craigmyle Primary School

7 Muirhouse Place West, EH4 4PX
0131 343 6465
admin@craigmyle-pri.edin.sch.uk
craigmyleprimary.com

B Ferryhill Primary School

Groathill Road North, EH4 2SQ
0131 538 7382 admin@ferryhill.edin.sch.uk
www.ferryhillprimary.com

C Forthview Primary School

West Pilton Place, EH4 4DF
0131 332 2468 admin@forthview.edin.sch.uk

D Granton Primary School

55 Boswall Parkway, EH5 2DA
0131 5523987 admin@granton.edin.sch.uk
www.grantonprimary.blog

E St David's RC Primary School / Pirniehall Primary

West Pilton Crescent, EH4 4EP
0131 332 3500 admin@st-davids.edin.sch.uk
www.saintdavidsrc.com

F Craigmyle Community High School

67 Pennywell Rd, EH4 4NL 0131 477 7801

G Broughton High School

29 East Fettes Avenue, EH4 1EG
0131 332 7805

Pilton Community Health Project, with the Food for Thought Forum, produced a Food Map.
The Living in Harmony and the Forth Neighbourhood Partnership, produced the Community Map.

One Building: Five Services

1 North Edinburgh Arts

NEA established in 1998, is now in community ownership and working to extend the facilities to make sure this dynamic venue is fit for purpose for the next two decades. New enterprise, workshop, learning and creative studios are planned, alongside new social and meeting spaces, an expanded café, and shared atrium all working to complement the Council's adjoining library and early years' provision.

NEA carried out extensive consultation to gauge support for the project with 96% of respondents in favour. The organisation offers local residents a place to relax, explore, learn, meet, share, volunteer and have fun in. Last year over 40,000 visits were made to the venue, that also incorporates a 96-seat theatre, recording studio, large community garden & play space. NEA is also home to Muirhouse Link Up, the Community Shed, North Edinburgh Drug and Alcohol Centre, and the Tinderbox Orchestra.

Chair of NEA, Lesley Hinds "NEA has won five national awards in the last six years for place making and



New entrance to North Edinburgh Arts

creative projects. This new capital project will allow the organisation to flourish, alongside Council provision, and bring a first class facility to MacMillan Square."

Director Kate Wimpres: "The bright blue NEA building has been a beacon of hope for many throughout the lockdown. We have been working closely with Council colleagues to share and establish our vision of a world class creative hub for the next generation of North Edinburgh residents. NEA proposals for the MacMillan Hub takes us one step closer to this vision becoming a reality."

2 Early Years Centre

The City of Edinburgh Council is committed to introducing 1140 hours of funded early learning and childcare for eligible two-year-olds and all three four-year-olds and as soon as possible to ensure our children have the best start in life and are happy, well cared for and have quality opportunities to have fun, play and learn.



Entrance to the new Early Years Centre

In Muirhouse/Pennywell a fantastic opportunity has come up for ELC to be part of a hub that will include library services and NEA at the head of Macmillan Square close to other partners and local services.

The setting will be a nurturing environment with flexible and inclusive spaces that support child-led learning and play. It will offer places for up to 185 0-5-year-olds split across three clusters and seven playrooms with direct access into a garden. The setting will operate all year round and offer a variety of places (term-time only, full day, half day) to meet the needs and demands of the area. Additional Forest Kindergarten places will also be available as part of a blended ELC offer.



Housing above the new Library

3 Housing for Rent

The Hub will include eight new energy efficient Council flats on the upper floors. These will complement the homes already under construction around Macmillan square.

» Access the draft MacMillan Hub plans at web address: www.northedinburgharts.co.uk and e-mail comments to email address: admin@northedinburgharts.co.uk

4 A new Library

A new Muirhouse Library will not only maintain key services the community of Muirhouse and beyond is familiar with, but will have the potential to improve and expand on what they deliver, alongside partners.

The library will create a welcoming space alongside the NEA as a cultural hub, with more joint working opportunities.

A new library gives an opportunity to create joint activities with the other services - providing summer activities, expanding bookbug and storytime sessions, to creating more adult learning opportunities. In addition the local library will be a trusted and welcoming community space, a place people feel comfortable using as individuals or as a connected group: a place of connection.

Edinburgh has as its public library identity: Your Library. We want your local library to be a community living room, reaching out to everyone.

The new building also creates the opportunity to work closely with the new nursery. To have as much interaction with the children, parents and staff as possible - providing tailored events and sessions especially for those using and working in the nursery.

A big focus for the new library will be working to engage with the new members of the community who have or are moving into the new housing.



Muirhouse Library with the Learning and Skills Hub and housing above

5 Learning and Skills Hub

On the first floor of the new library a new Learning and skills Hub will be created. The expected recession is likely to have a proportionately greater impact for people living in North Edinburgh. The Learning and Skills Hub would further develop the library's Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths programmes. The links to organisations including Skills Development Scotland and Jobcentre Plus will be developed to support employability, CV writing and job seeking skills. Links will be forged with City Deal Skills Strategy, Developing the Young Workforce and Google Garage to develop the role of library and information services in furthering skills development, knowledge and access to employment.

Learning and Skills Hub on the balcony, overlooking the new Library



Also with a strong track record of supporting people to use digital and computing services, libraries are in a good position to further digital participation. ICT access is critical and the opportunity will be there to provide a suite of computers on the upper floor. Libraries have an important role to play in digital literacy and encouraging digital participation, whether this is through helping people get online, developing makerspaces/co-working spaces, where users can develop digital skills that will support employability and business. In the next two decades more essential services and activities will go online, e.g. 2021 Census will be digital first, libraries could be key in supporting digital inclusion.

Update on New Homes at Pennywell/Muirhouse

Following the site closures in March, work recommenced on Pennywell Phase 3 and the MacMillan Square. Building around 1000 new homes for Social Rent, Mid-Market Rent, Private Sale, new retail space and a public square.

The project team is always available to answer any questions.

Drop an email: housingregeneration@edinburgh.gov.uk

Whilst Covid19 has created challenges for providing jobs and training, Robertson and Urban Union are still working to deliver them. Working with local organisations including Fresh Start, North Edinburgh Arts and the Ferrywell Youth Project.

Remember building sites can be very dangerous and unauthorised access is strictly prohibited.



Granton Hub

Granton Hub with The Edinburgh Remakery will run a series of creative workshops focused on a reuse and repair ethos, from October through to December. Taking place at Granton Hub some of the creative topics covered are lampshade remaking, machine knitting a scarf, sewing workshops and designing your own reusable wrapping fabric for Christmas. Booking is available through The Edinburgh Remakery website.

Over the weekend of November 14th/15th we are hosting our first physical art exhibition of 2020 with work by Anglea Wilson. However, as physical exhibitions are not possible for the majority of this year we have created new 'lockdown' artworks. All the videos on the granton:hub Youtube channel and works are available for purchase.

If you are interested in a particular artwork or would like more information please email artingranton@grantonhub.org

We continue to run a fortnightly pantry on Wednesdays between 11.00-12.00 in partnership with The Royal Botanic Gardens, Fareshare and Refugee Community Kitchen Edinburgh. Grass Roots Remedies and Herbal Scotland are running a monthly pop-up clinic at Granton Hub on the 2nd Saturday of every month between 14.30-16.30. Drop by to discuss any health issues you have and to take home some of their free herbal remedies.



North Edinburgh Arts

New work created during lockdown

A publication of new work "Writing the Times" by Alice Musumba Purves, David Francis, David Pickering, Dawn Pearce, Ferdinand McKay, Mary Graham, Rhona Cameron, Sandra Newby, Sasha Noel, Tracey Anderson, which was created during lockdown. Local residents took part in a 6-week online creative writing project led by Stephanie Knight. The project invited local residents to explore themes focusing on extraordinary times we're currently living in. They held weekly online meetings.

Available to download from the North Edinburgh Arts website www.northedinburgharts.co.uk/writing-the-times.

This project was kindly supported by a Wellbeing Grant from the COVID-19 Supporting Communities Grant administered by EVOC.

Also online and offline creative activities for all ages to get involved with. For further information, please visit www.northedinburgharts.co.uk, or call 0131 315 2151. email admin@northedinburgharts.co.uk



Pilton Community Health Project



Throughout lockdown, the PCHP team has not stopped working to support our community - although, like many organisations, we have had to switch to doing most of our work remotely. Our priorities have been:

- Helping people stay safe
- Emergency response work such as food distribution
- Continuing support for existing clients
- Online groups and activities

We continue to adapt our services and support throughout the pandemic and are working directly with the people we support to get this right. We will observe all government guidelines and continue to assess the situation to keep our service users, staff and community safe.

We have developed a number of online resources which can help people in North Edinburgh improve their health and wellbeing and find any extra support they need.

We also offer activities and storytelling videos for children, created by our Women Supporting Women team; recipe books created by our food team in collaboration with the local community; and booklets detailing nearby walks and outdoor spaces.

You can find all of these, along with much more about our work, at: www.pchp.org.uk



The Spartans - Roots, Shoots and Scores

During lockdown, The Spartans Community Football Academy completely transformed into a Food Distribution Hub. Whether it was delivering daily packed lunches in the local area, delivering weekly food parcels or supplying ready meals for our local youth work programmes, Spartans were now invested into helping make sure that food poverty was at the forefront of our minds.

Suddenly, an opportunity arose to partner with a new food initiative programme called ReThink Food. They are an organisation born out of the desire to eradicate hunger for young people and communities and who's mission is to improve the health and wellbeing by changing the way we think about food whilst linking in with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. This was a perfect fit!

Since October, Spartans and ReThink food have begun the sustainable food journey with Primary 6 in Granton Primary School and St David's. Through our project, Roots, Shoots and Scores, Primary 6 will go on a voyage of discovery for 9 weeks. From seed planting to looking at actions of change, using state of the art growing tower technology and finally to running their own social enterprise pop-up business. The pupils will learn new skills, build confidence and resilience and most importantly, gain an education into food poverty and empower the children to make a difference in the future.

Lockdown has highlighted that food poverty is a crucial area that needs to be addressed.

Waterfront: future

An insight into the plans to regenerate Granton Waterfront

A number of things are happening in Granton Waterfront where plans are taking shape to transform this area into a vibrant new coastal town where people live, work, visit and have lots of fun.

Last year, the Council were out and about talking to the community and other key stakeholders about what they would like this area to be like in the future. This resulted in a Development Framework which sets the standard for all development while keeping the community and placemaking at the heart of all plans.

Over the next 10 -15 years, the regeneration will bring around 3,500 energy efficient, net zero carbon homes for sale and rent. There will also be an exciting new city park which will stretch from Granton Harbour to Cramond and Lauriston Castle, creating lots of opportunity for recreation and leisure. Creating new space for work and cultural activity is also a key priority alongside delivering key services such as a new school and health centre.

Over the next few months you will see and hear about things happening on the ground, including consultation by the Council on the delivery of over 550 new homes, bringing Granton Station back to life as a new creative/ community enterprise hub and illuminating the gas holder on the city's sky line.

The council continues to work with its partners, National Galleries of Scotland, National Museums Scotland and Edinburgh College who are all working together to bring exciting new things to the area over the coming years.

New Homes

The Council have two new sites, Western Villages and Silverlea in design development. The two sites will deliver over 550 new homes for social rent, mid-market rent, market rent and for sale. Both sites will pilot new technologies delivering zero carbon homes with low heating bills. Its expected construction could start as early as Spring 2022. Pre-Planning consultation for Western Villages will start 26 October 2020 and run until 8 November 2020 and will be hosted on consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk. There will also be a live digital Q&A event on 3 November 2020 from 3pm – 6pm, details can be found on the consultation hub. You'll be able to share your ideas and help shape the future of Granton Waterfront.

Illuminating the Granton Gasholder

The Council is moving forward with plans to illuminate the gasholder in Granton. This exciting project will be carried out in partnership with Edinburgh College. Local residents may have seen a taster of this at our recent test night carried out in mid-September. With the dark nights drawing in, we aim to have this iconic structure lit up in early 2021. Students at Edinburgh College will have the chance to put their learning into practice by directing the light up for a small number of special themed nights throughout the year.

Granton Station

The Granton Station project will restore the former railway station building and transform it into an exciting creative/enterprise hub which will offer flexible, modern work/ studio space, all of which will be fully accessible while supporting over 70 jobs. The first phase of work to this building will start next month and further phases will see the creation of a new plaza for community events such as street markets and pop-up to the front of the building.

Grant funding has been secured to deliver the first phase of works to the building and the Council are working hard to secure the remaining funding which could see the hub open late next year.

We will keep you updated on progress with these refurbishments over the coming months.



community noticeboard

ADVICE, FOOD
BENEFIT CHECK
0131 356 0220



North Edinburgh Arts and the Link Up team have joined Your Local Pantry network, and are opening up the new Pennywell Pantry on 22 October!

The pantry will be based in what was once the Co-op building at 55 Pennywell Road, EH4 4DR Spaces available for membership.

For a weekly membership of £3.50, members will be able to choose a selection of food with a value of £15 - £20 each week. The pantry is here to help you top up your weekly shop, and the variety of food available includes fresh fruit and veg, store cupboard favourites, bread and dairy products.

Call in to find out more about the Pantry and how to become a member, or look at www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk/find-a-pantry/pennywell-pantry/

Our opening days and times will be:
Wed: 12 – 4pm Thurs: 9am – 1pm Sat: 10am – 1pm

"I personally think this is well needed in the community, not only for working people on low incomes in North Edinburgh, but also it takes away the stigma from 'getting handouts' instead you are contributing towards the cost."



Christmas Goodie Bags

Drylaw Rainbow Day Centre are starting to prepare Christmas Goodie bags for older people in North West Edinburgh. They would appreciate any/all donations of gents/ladies toiletries, socks, boxes of biscuits/ chocolates, puzzle books etc.

All donations can be dropped off at Drylaw Parish Church or call 01313436643 and they will collect.



Drylaw Parish Church

Thursday November 12th 3 - 5pm
Sunday November 15th 1 - 3pm

Space to Remember those we have loved.
Take time to acknowledge our loss of those special to us

Come on the hour, for half an hour of reflection, music, lighting candles and remembering.

An open event,
social distancing and masks are required.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL:

To book or more information - 07935 723 968
Groathill Road North, EH4 2RG

Stop your area from becoming a fireworks hot-spot.

Speak up 100% anonymously to independent charity Crimestoppers if you know or suspect who is involved in fireworks misuse.

Speak up. Stay safe.
Tell our charity what you know.

crimestoppers.uk.org



Scotland
CrimeStoppers.
0800 555 111
100% anonymously. Every day.

Firework misuse can have a massive impact on communities in North Edinburgh with some experiencing serious anti-social behaviour and risk to life linked to fireworks.

The national campaign will compliment two Scottish Government campaigns and provide extra support for areas in North Edinburgh, who have been involved in the preparations of the campaign.

The Friends of Granton Castle Walled Garden have been awarded a grant from the National Lottery. The award matches funds from the Robertson Trust. A new member of staff will be appointed to strengthen links with the local community.

At this extraordinary time people need more than ever The Walled Garden, which is a beautiful and tranquil place for the local community. Gardening and maintenance volunteers, an artist, a beekeeper and flower farmers are currently working in the garden. Future plans are to set up a green gym, a mini-forest working group, restoration of the Victorian greenhouse, a weatherproof events space and increasing locally grown fruit and vegetable supply.

Open for visitors on Saturday & Sunday from 2 – 4pm.

Open during the week for volunteer sessions and new volunteers are always welcome, please get in touch.
23 West Shore Rd, Edinburgh EH5 1QB

FIND OUT MORE: www.facebook.com/GrantonCastleGarden

