

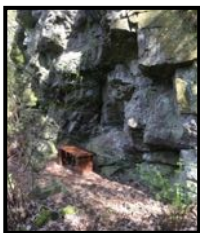
DUNPENDER COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER WINTER 2018



Dunpender Benches



You may have noticed that benches have been bred along the Tyne - from west of Hailes Castle to East Linton, the weir at Preston Mill and the metal bridge, Smeaton Lake and Craigmoor wood on the John Muir Way. There is even a seat at Pencraig Hill. The bench project plan is to have simple benches on much used paths which fit in with the rural environment and some seats (posh benches) in parks and close to roads. The aim is to encourage people to walk, sit, and enjoy our wildlife and countryside.



Barry Craighead made the benches and put them in place with Robert Russel and Anne Pearson (all DCC), helped by others, including East Lothian Countryside Volunteers. Funding for materials came from grants which Dunpender Community Council were awarded. Thanks also to Patricia Stephen from Phantassie, who refurbished and reinstated the seat on the road to Houston Mill.

DCC are looking for other sites locally where people would like benches for walkers within the area. Any ideas please contact Anne at annepearson144@btinternet.com.



East Linton Christmas Lights

This year, we were able to put lights on 10 lampposts due to fundraising, collecting tins and very kind donations from the East Linton Community Choir and the Area Partnership. What we can do is limited as there are no lampposts in the High Street and only the 10 that have lights on are suitable for Christmas lights. We don't have high enough buildings to string lights across the High Street. We hope in the future, with your continuing support, to put lights on a couple more large trees.

Christmas lights are extremely expensive and it has been a huge learning curve for us all. We would love some more people to come and join us, we are a very sociable bunch and meet in the Crown and Kitchen once a month. Every year we will have to find around £400 just to cover the insurance so any fundraising ideas are very welcome. It's lovely to see so much Christmas greenery around the village and thank you to everyone for their help. Special thanks to our electrician Chris and to the East Linton Firefighters for their help to put up the lamppost lights.



If you would like more information on how you can help next year, please contact Hilary White at 3b Bridge Street, East Linton or e-mail hilarymwhite@icloud.com.



A View from the Chair

Back in 1993 when I first joined the Community Council the view from the chair was very different. Our newsletter that winter ran to just four sides and a lot of that was advertisements for long-gone businesses. In those days the District Council (as it was then) had controversial plans to build the 'John Muir Environmental World' at the John Muir Country Park at West Barns! It didn't happen for many reasons but maybe today it would have gone ahead. New powers for Community Councils were announced which gave them the legal right to be consulted on local planning issues; whether this has made any difference is another matter.

We were still trying to persuade the District Council to build us new public toilets after ours had been demolished in 1986 (they were on the High Street around number 40). It took another ten years for a compromise to be reached and the toilets added to the pavilion in the Park.

Finally, a can bank joined the bottle bank behind the Co-op – quite surprising that we've been recycling for so long. 25 years ago chucking stuff in the dustbin seemed like something we could carry on doing but these days we need to think again. We all know by now what can go in our recycling boxes but here are a few suggestions for getting rid of other unwanted possessions rather than putting them in the bin or taking them to the skips.

Freecycle (<https://www.freecycle.org>) You can offer or request things from your local East Lothian group on this website. People will pick stuff up from your door. Somebody somewhere has a use for just about anything - great for large items like furniture or clean mattresses but also surplus fruit or garden plants/bulbs you're splitting.

Recycling First, Macmerry Industrial Estate. Open 10-4. 01875 615797. Will pick up good quality, re-usable furniture and other household items and domestic electrical appliances.

Zero Waste Hub (<https://www.miixer.org>) at Countess Crescent Dunbar EH42 1DX open Mon-Sat 9-5 and Sun 10-4 and also at Recycling Centres. They have a collection bin for free school uniforms and take toys, bikes, household goods, furniture etc.

MADE at 21A Hardgate in Haddington, open Tues to Sat, small items of furniture for upcycling, fabrics and craft materials for reuse in creative projects. Phone Fiona on 07718 320402.

Scrap Store (<http://bordersscrapstore.org.uk>) The Fisherrow Centre, South St, Musselburgh 0131 665 8232 or 01750 725961 Seems to take just about anything for re-use in children's art projects.

Mens' Shed at the Mart 10am to 1pm Tuesdays. Tools, benches and (not too small) wood. Contact Mark Coull 07415 960749

Tools for Self Reliance: Garvald Factory 454/1 Gorgie Road Edinburgh EH11 2RN. 0131 337 4965 This charity sends tools overseas to help local businesses and they accept hand-operated Singer sewing machines and old, good quality tools that can be sharpened or refurbished.

Clothes, textiles, shoes bags etc: Charity shops or clothing banks (in the Co-op carpark, East Linton Primary School or at other supermarkets).

Changeworks website has suggestions where to recycle all kinds of things. Find them at <https://www.changeworks.org.uk/toogoodtowaste>

And of course you can always try selling things on eBay which is fun and keeps our Post Office in business! Hope this has helped with some ideas for your next Spring clear-out.

Judith Priest, December 2018

LOCAL PRIORITIES 2018/19

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> East Lothian Council's Local Priorities Scheme is recognised nationally as leading practice and remains one of the most successful aspects of their partnership with local communities. The scheme provides the local communities with the ability to use the funds to make local improvements either overlooked by the Council or outside their remit. 	Dunpender News	£900.00
	eastlinton.uk.com renewal upgrade	£83.98
	East Linton Horticultural Society	£700.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dunpender Community Council's budget for the financial year 2018/2019 amounts to £6,135.76 which includes £2,135.76 carry over from the previous financial year. Committed funding is detailed in the table opposite. 	Whitekirk Hall cooker donation	£500.00
	Whittingehame noticeboard	£492.00
	Robert Noble Centenary leaflet	£300.00
	Park railings paint materials	£137.76
	Playground donation (loose parts play)	£140.00
	Fountain repainting contribution	£1,300.00
	Resilience leaflet printing and delivery	£240.00
	Additional benches installation tool costs	£150.35
	Art Exhibition donation	£250.00
	Whittingehame phone box fit and paint	£100.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A copy of our policy governing LPS awards is available online. You can also find details of sources of funding and its availability on the East Linton website www.eastlinton.uk.com 	Robert Noble Panel contribution	£288.00
	East Linton Gala Committee donation 2018	£84.00
	TOTAL	£5,666.09

East Lothian Countryside Rangers

As East Linton residents you will be all too aware of the importance of Traprain Law. This iconic hill fort is the best example of a laccolith in the UK, designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for its geological and botanical interests as well as having Ancient Monument designation.

It is because of these various designations that the Law has an Advisory Group made up of members from East Lothian Council, Historic Environment Scotland, National Trust for Scotland, National Museums of Scotland and Dunpender Community Council. All of these groups work together to manage the hill as well as resolving any issues.

The most recent issue is the rapid erosion of the main path going through the ramparts. This was in part due to the heavy footfall of the Exmoor ponies through this pinch point, but was worsened by the increasing amount of water that flowed off the hill. Those of you who visited the site over winter couldn't have failed to have noticed how muddy it was and the small river that flowed down the path after rainfall. In September the Advisory Group made the decision that, over winter, we will fence this area off (using temporary stock fencing) and use sandbags to direct the water off the side of the path. This will stop ponies and people from accessing the worst area in wet weather and reduce the erosion by the water. This work was done by Dunbar Conservation Volunteers at the end of October. It is hoped that by next year we can install drainage and a robust path surface in this area, similar to ones already used in Welsh hillforts.



*Laura Douglas
Dunbar East Area Ranger*

As we have moved into Autumn I have spent a little time reflecting on this summer. It has been a glorious one and also a very busy one. Visitor numbers to our coast have been high over the summer period and I'm happy to report that there was less litter this summer – perhaps “the Blue Planet effect” really is making a difference? We have done a lot of work with volunteers this summer, planting trees, clearing out the pond at John Muir Park, cutting back vegetation, removing tree tubes from established trees and many more!

It has also been a very good year for butterflies with all the sunny weather. One of the most abundant species I have seen this year is the speckled wood which is a species up until five years ago rarely seen in East Lothian but, as its range expands in the whole of the UK, it has become quite common within the county.

Moving into the mild Autumn we have had so far it is hard to miss all the berries that are weighing down the hedgerows and trees. Old folklore used say that a good berry crop is a sign of a harsh winter to come. This being that it was nature providing lots of food for over the winter. However, it is now known that a good berry harvest is due to a good summer thankfully!

Geese are also gracing the skies, with their V-shaped formations and familiar call a true sign of autumn. Currently there are Greylag, Pink foot, Canada and Barnacle geese in at the estuary at John Muir Country Park. Many of the geese currently in East Lothian are resting and feeding while en route from Svalbard, Norway.

*Tara Sykes
John Muir Country Park Ranger*

This Spring, the Ranger helped East Linton Primary School Primary 5 class with their John Muir Award Project, learning about local trees and their ages – some are over 200 years old! We then worked at the tree plantation behind the school to clear weeds and lay mulch to help the trees to grow. The Primary 4 class studied a project about litter and helped the Ranger with a great clean-up around the local community.



During the Autumn we have been running Ranger-led evening events in East Linton to discover more about bats, moths and owls and our recent Ranger hike was a 6 mile circuit around the Dunpender area seeing fantastic birdlife including dipper, grey wagtail, goosander, heron, yellowhammer, buzzard and kestrel.

Throughout the year East Lothian Countryside Volunteers (ELCV) and the Ranger Service have been working to remove the invasive riverside plant giant hogweed, repairing steps and installing new benches.

Between April and September the Ranger and local volunteers continued to record butterflies along the River Tyne between East Linton and Hailes for the UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme and we recorded 12 species – orange tip, peacock, small tortoiseshell, large white, small white, speckled wood, red admiral, ringlet, green veined white, wall, meadow brown and comma.

If you are interested in volunteering with the Ranger Service please get in touch. No experience is required and training and support are provided. It is a great way to get active, meet new people and give something back to your community. For more details phone 01620 827279, email ranger@eastlothian.gov.uk/dcv@eastlothian.gov.uk or visit www.elcv.org.uk.

Details of our 2019 Ranger events will be available soon - look out for our leaflets and posters.

*Samantha Ranscombe
North Berwick East Area Ranger*

East Linton Annual Art Exhibition

This year's East Linton Annual Art Exhibition was a very special one - our 50th! The Community Hall was fully packed with artworks of varied medium and subject matter. It was great to have the winning painting from the first exhibition in 1968 displayed in a prominent place; the painting "Sunlight and Shadow" by John McIntyre, was kindly loaned by East Lothian Council.

Visitors to the opening were welcomed by David Scott playing the bagpipes outside the hall. Light entertainment was provided by a talented young opera singer - Beatrix Milan and Thijs Keulen - pianist, who were truly delightful!

It was a great pleasure to welcome our special guests from the East Linton Traders Association, who passionately ran the Exhibition for the first 20 years: George Laing, Emily Craik, Donald Bey, Ian Gavin, Hugh Muir and Clara Stewart. Emily Craik officially opened our 50th Exhibition with the most beautiful speech and was happy to see that we are carrying on with the tradition.



The show is run by volunteers and raises funds for the Community Hall in which it is held. It has always been Open Entry, allowing any artist to submit work. With art galleries charging rent for exhibiting and a minimum 35% commission, our exhibition is more affordable for artists to both show and sell their work, with commission set at 20% and a one-off submission fee.

We are extremely lucky to have Carol Duff, Art Committee member, whose exceptional skill in displaying such a variety of artworks was highly commended by all who came to see the exhibition.

This year we exhibited 290 artworks by 114 artists from across the country. We raised around £3,000 from a combination of entry fees, commission from the sale of artworks, and donations. Thanks to our official prize sponsor, Eve's Foundation, we were able to reinstate the monetary prize. First prize of £1,000 went to Komachi Goto for her painting "Octopoo" (photo above right). 2 highly commended prizes of £500 each, went to Angela Woof's "Storm Ophelia", "Suspense" and Tom Ewing's "Dalkeith Country Park". We are grateful to Stuart Bennett for judging the entries.

The People's Choice winner was a painting "Findhorn Sunset" by Robert Black, who seems to have been favourite almost every year since 1968!

We are grateful to Murray Stewart who provided a panel filled with a neat display of old photographs from the first exhibition that belong to his mum Clara. It was especially well welcomed by East Lintonians who could recognise old pals and reminisce about old times.

We, the Art Committee members, have decided that next year we should run the Exhibition for a shorter period, from 5th to 8th September 2019. We find that during the weekdays we don't get many visitors through the door, also we feel that it should be more manageable for us all as it requires so many volunteers to invigilate the exhibition, provide refreshments and baking as well as selling the artworks.

Last but not least, huge thanks to all the volunteers who helped us achieve such great success this year.

For more information about our next exhibition keep an eye on our website - www.eastlintonannualartshow.weebly.com.

Senada Borcilo
Convener of East Linton Art Exhibition/Competition



East Linton Memorial Park Railings

All the park railings were painted during the summer by a Community Service team, led by Owen of ELC and who made an excellent job of it. DCC funded the materials and they provided the labour.

Thanks are due to all who gave the railings a new lease of life, at a very reasonable cost.

East Linton discusses IPCC Climate Change Report

A number of us were hit very hard when the IPCC report came out a few weeks ago giving the world a 12-year deadline to cut CO2 emissions by 45%. We found ourselves worrying about the future of this planet for our children and grandchildren.

A couple of messages were sent out informally to a number of East Linton folk to see if anyone was interested in doing something locally in East Linton (keeping in mind the good work of Sustaining Dunbar) and before we knew it there were 10 of us assembled round a kitchen table brainstorming ideas of what we could do collectively.

This group is open to anyone who might be interested. Watch this space to find out more or contact Jo on 07581 424353 or johuband@hotmail.com.

East Linton Community Choir



This year's concert of James Bond songs proved to be some of the hardest songs the choir has ever tackled but they carried them off brilliantly. The audience were sold in the delivery of the songs and were particularly impressed with the vocal technique displayed.

The individual ladies and men's songs were particularly good and the soloists this year, Dianne Swift, Rob Erskine, Catriona Gill and Brian Munday were exceptional. The concerts on 23rd & 24th March were sold out for the 2 nights and were well supported by the local community and surrounding areas.

As for next years' songs, the programme of Country and Western songs will I hope allow the choir to sing some very well known songs and to have some fun performing them as well as allow the audience to join in.

The choir will be singing at Prestonkirk on 9th December with many local performers in "Sing a song for Christmas".

I am delighted to say that we will have again some new members joining us this year as well as returning members. There are some spaces for new female members and in particular sopranos would be made very welcome.

We were very pleased to make donations to the East Linton Day Centre and to the East Linton Christmas Lights Committee.

I am really looking forward to the year ahead to see the improvements the choir can make and some beautiful and fun country and western music.

*Lorraine Cormack
Choir Musical Director*

Adapting to climate change and the impact on plants

The next coffee and chat session for members of the East Linton Horticultural Society will be looking at the experience this summer of the impact the heat and lack of rain had on our floral displays. According to the Garden Supervisor at the Royal Botanic Garden, in Edinburgh, we were having temperatures the scientists predicted would not arise until 2050. That is one of the examples of the current threats to our environment. We have already been experimenting with plants able to cope with erratic watering and windy spells. This summer was very difficult with the cold spring delaying planting of annual plants and then a dry spell affecting young plants for display.

The Royal Horticultural Society now provide regular advice to gardeners and their affiliated Societies on the present environmental threats to gardening. It is clear that we all have a lot to learn and share together about how to adapt to the threats of new climatic conditions. It is a challenge we are willing to share together in the next year.

*David Affleck
East Linton Horticultural Society*

East Linton Gala day

East Linton Gala Day 2018 was a great success and with a wonderful turnout. We were very lucky to have the weather we did which contributed to the day being so fantastic!

We have managed to save the Gala once again with lots of new committee members to replace the people that left which means we have lots of exciting things coming in the future. Keep your eyes peeled for the Ceilidh we plan to have in February and of course the selection of a new court at Easter time as well as possibly new events!

As always we require helpers at the event so anybody wishing to join should contact us at eastlintongaladay@gmail.com. Thank you to all the people who have left the committee for their years of hard work and thank you to the new members who have joined with such enthusiasm to help keep East Linton Gala alive!





EAST LINTON LIBRARY
60A HIGH STREET
EAST LINTON



MORE THAN JUST BOOKS

MONDAY - CODING CLUB Learn all aspects of coding. Age 7-10, 3.30-4.30pm
 (Temporarily not taking place - VOLUNTEER REQUIRED)

TUESDAY - CRAFT GROUP 2.30-4pm

Meet with like-minded people over a knit and a knatter



WALKING BOOK GROUP First Tuesday of every month. Meet at library at 10am.
 Enjoy a leisurely walk and discuss books, returning to the library for refreshments and a chat



LIBRARY BOOK GROUP Second Tuesday of every month. Meet in the library at 10.30am and discuss books over a coffee. All books provided by Library service. You may be surprised and read a book you never thought of choosing yourself!

THURSDAY - BOOKBUG 10.15am. Songs and rhymes from birth to pre-school

FRIDAY - BEGINNERS SPANISH 2.30pm. Primary 3 and 4
 Learn Spanish in a fun and exciting way, through games and activities

SATURDAY - BOOKBUG 10.15am. Songs and rhymes from birth to pre-school

DVD HIRE, HEARING AID BATTERIES, BLUE RECYCLING BOX COVERS

REGULAR EVENTS ADVERTISED LOCALLY

TELEPHONE 01620 820635

OPENING HOURS

Monday 2-5pm, Tuesday 10am-1pm and 2-5pm, Wednesday CLOSED

Thursday 10am-1pm, Friday 2-5pm, Saturday 10am-1pm



Come to Code Club!



East Linton Community Playgroup

Since Playgroup started 18 months ago we are delighted to report that we have gone from strength to strength as a group with our future looking very secure. It has been a joy to watch every child grow within the group and we feel very grateful to our families for letting us be a part of their lives. We are delighted that the group is doing what we envisioned when we first set it up, an early years group providing an affordable community-based opportunity for 2 year olds to learn through play. The group benefits the children, their families and the community. We are continuing to develop by employing staff, organising our planning and developing the committee roles.

A special thank you to our Playleader Wendy Galloway. Her never-ending enthusiasm for working with the children and her support for the parents is why we are going from strength to strength. On current interest we will be full by the end of the year, with a healthy number of children who will still be attending in August 2019, a time we traditionally lose children due to starting nursery. We are confident that our current model of running will sustain us over the next year and we will be able to hire an Assistant to work with our Play Leader earlier than we had previously thought.

East Linton Bowling Club

East Linton Bowling Club was founded in 1862. Many of the original members had been members of the nearby Traprain Club.

The original green, which was on the south bank of the Tyne at Lauder Place, was opened in June 1863. The expanding club moved to its existing site in June 1881 on land initially leased, then purchased, from the Trustees of Phantassie Estate. Electricity was installed in 1930; the green was radically altered in 1952 and a new clubhouse extension opened in 1974. The clubhouse was further extended to its current footprint in 1990.



In 1883 the Club was a founder member of the East Lothian Bowling Association (ELBA). In 1893 the club joined the Scottish Bowling Association and in the same year reached the last sixteen of the national fours competition. Club honours at county level include 21 successes in the ELBA's Jubilee Cup and 24 in the County Cup. The club was also the first to have two teams in the county's top Gent's League. A Scottish Fours title was won in 1979 followed by the British Isles Fours Championship the following year. The Club has also had representatives at international level, in the Ladies' team (1985 & 1986) and Gent's under-25 team between 2011 and 2014.

The Club's focus throughout the summer is the bowling green, competing in Ladies' and Gent's leagues and in several county and club competitions. As the nights draw in, attention turns to darts and pool leagues. Quiz nights are held on a monthly basis and attract a small but dedicated following. The clubhouse is also used for a range of other activities, among them funeral teas, line dancing, live music events and, occasionally, evenings hosted by a local psychic.

The Club has a membership of around 55 bowling members and 50 social members who benefit from a friendly atmosphere, a well-stocked bar, a dart board, a high quality pool table and, when spring arrives, one of the best bowling greens in East Lothian. We are always keen to recruit new members.

When the bowling season comes around in April we'd be delighted to welcome you to the Club and to introduce you to the game of bowls. All you need is a pair of flat soled shoes; everything else is provided at the Club.



East Linton Golf Club

East Linton Golf Club have completed another season of competition. Monthly meetings are held at Dunbar Golf Club from April to October. However, our final outing this year was to The Glen Golf Club, North Berwick, where we were hosted by The Crown and Kitchen Golf Society. They were the victors yet again in a fiercely contested match so our congratulations to them.

During our season, we play for a number of trophies donated to the club over the decades since formation in 1897. The oldest of these is the Oswald Lumsden Medal which was first played for in 1903. The medal was donated to the club by John Lumsden, headmaster of East Linton School, in memory of his son, Oswald who died in 1900 at the age of 25. It is still awarded annually, being played for by the winners of the four men's monthly medal competitions.

Membership of East Linton Golf Club is restricted to members of Dunbar Golf Club who have a connection to East Linton and area. New residents to the village who may wish to join a golf club would be made very welcome by both clubs.

East Linton & District Old Time Dance Club

East Linton & District Old Time Dance Club meets in the East Linton Community Hall every 2nd Tuesday from 7.30pm until 10 pm. New members will be made very welcome to our friendly club. For further information please contact Anne Holywell on 01368 862957 or Dorothy Kerr on 01620 860519.

East Linton Girlguiding

It has been another busy, happy, active and fun year at Brownies and we have increased our Unit numbers to 24 to cope with demand. The highlight of the year for many of the girls was a weekend camp at Netherurd in the Borders, with adventures like climbing, canoeing and ziplining, along with the obligatory campfire with marshmallows, and plenty of hi-jinks (but not much sleep). We've done the 'Healthy Heart' and 'First Aid' badges together, as well as getting out into the community, walking along the river to Knowes, foraging for brambles in Binning Wood and helping the Horticultural Society plant up containers of tulip bulbs for the village Spring display.



We've really enjoyed sharing activities with the other Girlguiding Units: our carnival percussion band with Rainbows was a big hit (excuse the pun) at the 'Music' Gala, and we had a brilliant Summer party with Rainbows and Guides up at Allison Cargill House, Whittinghame.

Guides have had a busy year too. We're very proud to have had 2 guides receive their Baden Powell Award this year - a huge effort and time commitment for each girl. We've also completed a number of other badges including 'Crafts', 'Passion for fashion', 'Fire Safety' and 'Future girl' as well as getting out and about for campfire fun and a bit of star gazing. A highlight of this year was our outdoor survival skill sessions and thanks to Dave our girls now know the basics for surviving outdoors including fire lighting, shelter building, edible plants and what to avoid.

We've sadly said goodbye to our long-term leaders Jane and Julia as they move on to new challenges but happily we've been able to welcome 3 new leaders Amanda, Kate and Lucy and wish them luck as they get settled into Guides.

If your daughter would like to join Rainbows, Brownies or Guides you can sign up at: <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/>.



Senior Citizens Club

The Senior Citizens Club have had another good year, we have around 60 members who are all regular attendants. We all enjoy coming out for the evening, meeting with people perhaps not seen for a few weeks and catching up with them. We also have talks, entertainment, slide shows, birthday and Christmas parties as well, where everyone likes to get up and have a dance, some people you cannot keep off the floor!

In our last year we had a talk from the Fire Service, a slide show on Old East Linton, stories from Tim's Tales, and many other things. This coming year we have a talk on Beach Wheelchairs, a slide show on the gardens at Greywalls Hotel, a talk by a County Ranger, and of course our parties and more dancing.

We have a bus outing each year. We went to Pitlochry this year with over 50 members, we also had an extra outing to the Kelpies. Jim Orde, one of our long-time members, had his 90th birthday and no presents at his party but donations to us, which paid for the bus to the Kelpies, which the members did appreciate.

We are open to anyone, you are most welcome to come along. It is the first Friday of the month in the Community Hall at 7pm.

Ella Bell

East Linton Flower Show 2018

Winner of the Dunpender Plate this year was Dorothea Reilly. This year's show was a great success, the Baking and Handcraft sections were again very well supported and there were beautiful displays of fruit, vegetables and flowers. A photography class was proved popular.

A special well done to all the children that took part, more than last year.

*Elizabeth Johnstone
Secretary*



20mph trial

East Lothian Council began an 18-month trial of a 20mph limit in East Linton in spring 2017, and this period has now finished. A questionnaire was sent out this summer to all households to learn residents' views of the trial, and of 930 delivered, 364 responded. Recently automatic average speed measurements were also made. Points made in replies included comments on enforcement, lack of compliance, speed of agricultural vehicles and taxis, and positive views. The Council will now use the information it has to decide whether to continue with the scheme, which DCC strongly supports.

Andrew Meikle Grove Residents' Association

The Association held their second AGM in May in the Community Hall. Members were informed of the work undertaken by the Committee during the past year and provided with updates on various issues.

These included their continuing efforts to persuade Miller Homes to complete the estate 3 years after they left the site. It was noted that some progress had been made, the most notable being persuading Miller Homes to replace the previously poorly erected wooden fence with metal railings around the SUDS area. Subsequent to the AGM, Miller Homes have also undertaken the necessary remedial construction work within the SUDS area and it is hoped this will enable progress to be made towards its adoption by Scottish Water. Planting of replacement trees and the sowing of grass seeds in the areas surrounding and adjoining the SUDS area has also commenced. When completed it is hoped the remaining communal areas will finally be handed over to residents. However it was concerning that Miller Homes, despite numerous efforts by their contractors, have still to complete the outstanding work relating to the roads and pavements to enable these to be formally adopted by East Lothian Council. The Council and the Association are continuing to press Miller Homes to finally complete this task.

The AGM also gave members the opportunity to raise issues and concerns with the Committee. These included the future of the play area and the impact the proposed railway station would have on the estate.

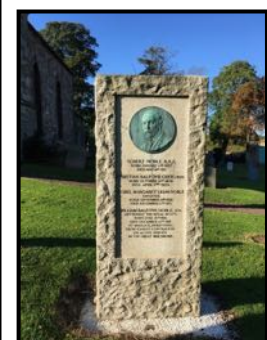
It was noted that the play area was as much used by people from outwith the estate than those on it. This was likely to increase when the new Pencraig development is constructed as this will have no such facilities. Consequently maintenance costs, which are funded entirely by the 37 privately owned houses on the estate, are likely to increase. However, as ELC are not prepared to adopt the play area and the only alternative is its removal, the Association has concluded it would be best to continue with the existing arrangements for the time being. The situation with regard to usage and costs to members will however be kept under review.

In terms of the railway station issues raised included its proposed location (middle of a housing estate), the access road and the size of car park. There was a consensus that the access road should be direct from Haddington Road and not via Orchardfield and Andrew Meikle Grove where pedestrians, including children, are present. Concerns were also expressed that the proposed car park was woefully inadequate with the likely result that these estates will end up as secondary car parks, something members were anxious to avoid. The Association will be keeping a close eye on developments and raising their concerns with the appropriate bodies and elected members as matters progress.

Miller Homes Artwork

As part of East Lothian Council's Public Art Policy, Miller Homes funded an artwork in East Linton. Four local artists (Joel Baker, Kate Henderson, Anita Pate and Robin Wood) were selected by DCC.

Working with different media, they produced a design called "River". It consists of three wooden pillars representing the standing stones of the area, and named River, Settlement, and Inspiration. After many delays it was finally installed last July on a site chosen by ELC, and jointly unveiled by Lesley Smith (ELC Arts Service), and Judith Priest (DCC Chair). It is a robust, colourful, and interesting feature with links to water, landscape, and local heritage.



Robert Noble Centenary - final notes

The photograph on the left shows Robert Noble's gravestone in Prestonkirk; it was in disrepair, but was re-instated last year by ELC, with lettering immaculately re-done by Barry Craighead, before being re-dedicated.

The photograph on the right shows two benches and an outline storyboard about Robert Noble placed on the wall behind the flower beds installed in his memory opposite the Community Hall.

And finally a mixed-age group of East Linton children spent about 15 hours each, carving local sycamore under the direction of Dave Crosbie of Tree-ditions. The skill used in this ancient craft gained them all a 'Heritage

Hero' award for their efforts.

The images used came from the book "The Art of Robert Noble" by Ian & Helen Patterson, sales of which funded an art and education legacy for East Linton. The carvings can be seen in the Community Hall and in the photograph on the right.



East Linton Shed

East Linton – Tuesday 10:30am to 1:30pm at The Mart, EH40 3DN – open to both men and women.

A Shed is a larger version of the typical shed in the garden – a place where people feel at home and pursue practical interests with a high degree of autonomy. A Shed offers this to a group of such people where members share the tools and resources they need to work on projects of their own choosing at their own pace and in a safe, friendly and inclusive venue.

It is a place of leisure where people come together to work and gain a sense of belonging and purpose.

Everyone works together to do the practical projects, with everyone passing on and, or, picking up new skills from other members of the Shed. The lists of individual tasks are almost endless, from sawing wood to painting the projects.

Some of the projects that the shedders work on are listed below, these are only a small snapshot of what has been done by the groups. And often people can work on their own projects if they want to do so:

Some of the projects completed so far are:

- Benches for working on
- Benches for sitting on
- Building a Chicken coop
- Tables
- Community Centre sign
- Planters

Not everyone has to embark on practical projects, for some just coming along and enjoying a coffee is all they want to do, chatting and socialising with the other people in the Shed.

People can just come along, the other shedders are excellent at welcoming new members. It costs £1 a time (to cover tea and coffee) and this also contributes to the tools costs. People can come once a week or less frequently if they have something else on. You don't have to stay all day. The sheds are about more than just completing DIY tasks, so if you struggle with mobility you can still come. No need to do anything practical, a lot of people just like to be part of the group. An average day at a shed sees around 6-8 people. Anyone interested should come along on Tuesdays. For more information contact Mark Coull at mark@strive.me.uk.

Lynton Day Centre

After a lovely warm summer, sitting in the garden with a drink and ice-cream watching the village life go by, we have now again picked up the activities in Lynton Day Centre. We have been enjoying different musicians with their variety of live music and Maria's Music for Health. On several occasions we had the Library's 'Bookbug' sessions visiting us, our clients joining in with songs and stories of the toddlers and their parents/carers.

We gratefully received donations from various people and businesses in East Linton, staff and volunteers dedicated their free time to make some extra money in cafés and some daring challenges have been undertaken by some!

In September the staff organised a Hawaiian Party in the Community Hall, with food, drinks and musical entertainment for all our clients. Our volunteers who commit so much of their time to us were all invited to the party to say a big 'Thank You' to them for all their help, time, company and positivity they give us. The party was a big success, the food was lovely, the entertainers excellent and there was a lot of dancing going on that afternoon, even with wheelchairs.

We are now preparing for Christmas. We will attend a Christmas Party in Esk Mill Venue in Musselburgh. A Christmas Market Day Centre style with Mulled Wine and minced pies is organised for December 15th and a Christmas Lunch for all our members on Friday the 21st of December when we are hopeful to see Santa with presents for all.

We have some spaces on offer so if you are over 65, live in East Linton or Dunpender Community Council area and would like to catch up with your peers in a friendly, warm environment with trained staff and home cooked meals, please contact us at 01620 861807 or just come and visit us in Lynton Day Centre. We are also interested in hearing from you if you'd like to volunteer with us.



Tynninghame

Tynninghame Village Hall Committee is the closest thing this small hamlet (c. 200 households) has to its own community council. Recently rejuvenated, the Committee has secured a long-term lease of the Village Hall from the Tynninghame Estate, gained charitable status, and is planning major hall refurbishments. It has also organised a full programme of community events. These are open to others beyond Tynninghame and are listed on the website www.tynninghamevillagehall.org.uk. Events include a 'pop-up' pub night every month (BYOB), St Andrew's Day ceilidh (Dec), a Christmas Wreath Making workshop (Dec) and a local history talk (Jan). Prices are kept as low as possible to encourage widespread participation.

East Linton Drama Group

This year has once again seen three successful productions. Back in October 2017 our ever popular Murder Mystery, Who Killed Sister George? was a popular sell out. It was written and directed by James Cuthbert.

Our panto Aladdin was once again a roaring success. Over 40 local children took part and entertained the audiences with their talents!

In October 2018, Duets by Peter Quilter was well received. Four one act plays, each different, but similar with a 'Love' theme running through them all.

Despite our successful year, the drama group has now become a very small group with only a handful of members. For our group to survive we are desperate for adult members to assist in all areas such as lighting and sound, set construction and design as well as acting. Panto 2019 has over 40 children and needs adult helpers for it to be successful. Panto is a huge undertaking with an enormous amount of preparation and hard work involved. The more people who can help the more successful it will be. So PLEASE if you can help in any way please get in touch - <http://www.eastlinton.uk.com/living/clubs/drama.html>.



East Linton Art Group

East Linton Art Group meets every Monday afternoon, from 1 till 4, in the Community Hall. Our friendly artists paint and draw together, sharing tips and ideas to encourage each other. We invite guests along occasionally to demonstrate their skills, which really inspires us creatively. In February we welcomed Ronnie Fulton from Tantallon Studios near North Berwick, to show us how he makes wonderful sculptures of fishing boats, sailors, gulls and mermaids.

Our annual Spring exhibition coincided with glorious sunny weather, and plenty of visitors enjoyed seeing over 180 framed and mounted paintings. Alistair Fiddes Watt kindly judged the artwork, before opening the 2018 show and talking with genuine warmth about the highly rewarding nature of art. This year we introduced a new annual prize, the Agnes Wilkinson Bowl, for the public's favourite painting: Blue Otter, by Jess Gray, earned her a beautifully crafted bowl, made here in the village by local potter Robert Anderson.

We didn't manage any Summer art trips, but we continued to visit galleries and to paint. In August a few artists met for coffee at Smeaton Tearoom - also our permanent exhibition space - and we viewed some interesting art in Haddington in early Autumn.

Please see our website for more information - www.eastlintonartgroup.co.uk.

East Linton Curling Club

East Linton Curling Club had a special reception at the end of September to mark the 50th anniversary of the club being reconstituted. The invited guests were also able to see the Silver Claret jug the club had presented to Sir Thomas Buchan Hepburn in 1861 as a thank you for his hospitality and the use of Smeaton Lake when suitable for curling. Six of the current members are in the photo. Unfortunately three of the early members of the club from fifty years ago were unable to attend.

The club is very keen to attract new members. A Try Curling experience is offered by Edinburgh Curling at Murrayfield. Please phone David Affleck 01620860694 for more information and we have a leaflet available.



RAGES

RAGES held a difficult AGM when the information about when work on our stations would begin was still not forthcoming from Transport Scotland. Members expressed dissatisfaction at the delays that have happened over the years with continual "passing the parcel" from one Transport Minister to the other. Tom Thorburn, Chair, noted that the group were now working with the sixth Transport Minister since its inception! We have been advised that the works need to be aligned with the improvement work at Portobello Junction, but no starting date for this has been announced.

Since the group's aims have cross party support, RAGES members have been contacting MSPs in all political parties, asking them to do what they can to push matters forward.

Dunpender Community Council**East Linton**

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Allison Cosgrove (Vice Chair)
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EH40 3BN
Tel 01620 860812

John Robson (Treasurer)
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Robert Russel
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Barry Craighead
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Markle

Jon Swift (Secretary)
Markle Fisheries,
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Tynninghame and Whitekirk

Danny Wight
St Baldreds
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Gordon Gray
1 Lawhead Cottages
East Linton, EH40 3DT
Tel 01620 860019

Eric Martin
2 West Road,
Whitekirk, EH42 1XA
Tel 01620 870370

Whittingehame

Linda Shaw-Stewart
Eastfield Steading, Whittingehame,
EH42 4QA
Tel 01368 850358

Meetings are on the first Thursday of every month (except July and August) at 7.30pm, in East Linton Council Chambers



East Linton Community Hall - owned and run by the community

In the 1960s East Linton and District Community Association was formed to take over the former Drill Hall in East Linton High Street. It is entirely run by volunteers with four trustees and a management committee. Every week an impressive range of events, clubs and classes make use of the wonderful facilities. These include:- Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Brownies, Playgroup, Babies & Toddlers, Old Time Dancing, Yoga, Zumba, Pilates, Art Clubs, Pix in the Stix, Community Choir and Drama Group.

Each year we are delighted to host eight Antiques Fairs, an Art Exhibition and Competition (open to all-comers), a local Art Exhibition, the Flower Show, theatre

productions, Choir Concert and many weddings and birthday parties.

The Hall is totally self-sufficient but wouldn't survive without the tremendous effort the volunteers put in to run the events that help sustain this facility for everyone. The Antiques and Bric-a-Brac events contribute around £400 each event and the annual Art Exhibition raised a fantastic £3,000 in 2018. Letting fees for the various clubs and organisations helps to cover a lot of the costs and the 200 Club (see below) raises a further £4,000 or so each year.

As with any building more than 100 years old maintenance is ever-ongoing and this year we are looking to improve the signage on the front façade, repair the stonework around the front door, paint all the windows and the door. A revamped website is also underway at <http://www.eastlintonhall.com> with a more efficient booking system. You can book any event directly at eastlintonhall@gmail.com.

One of the best ways you can support the hall is by volunteering a little time to come along to committee meetings which are held roughly every six weeks and let us know what you could do to help – anything from changing light bulbs to painting or checking equipment is always welcome. Contact lizdorrian@btinternet.com for more information.

We look forward to seeing you at the Hall.

East Linton Community Hall Committee

ELDCA are celebrating 20 years of fundraising!

East Linton & District Community Association launched the 200 Club in July 1998 as part of fundraising efforts for a major upgrading of the Community Hall. The impressively spacious and redesigned building opened in September 2000 and is now a key venue within the village community.

The continued success of the 200 Club is still a vital part of the Hall's overall funding requirement, even more so as the years go by and new families come to live in the village. Running the Hall effectively means dealing frequently with repairs and refurbishment, a necessary but time-consuming and at times, very costly task! However, in that respect the 200 Club provides significant financial support, ensuring the building and facilities are properly maintained for all Hall users. The Hall Committee work really hard behind the scenes to keep everything on track and are most grateful to the many East Linton residents who have been long standing members since the 200 Club began. So now here we are, twenty years down the line, and how nice it would be to see some new members swelling the coffers.

The monthly prize pot is currently £350 split into three prizes, £200, £100 and £50 respectively and it costs £5 per month to subscribe. If you are interested in signing up, please visit www.eastlintonhall.com/200-club or contact Vanessa Rolph by email vanessarolph@gmail.com or phone 01620 860781.