

DUNPENDER NEWS

The newsletter of Dunpender Community Council

Autumn 2015

Gala Day 2015

Gala Day on 13 June was a great success. It stayed dry and calm and the turnout from the village was excellent. This year's parade was much larger than usual and many thanks are due to the drivers of the old cars that added considerable length to the parade and of course to the superb floats that embraced this year's 'Films' theme with Harry Potter (Beavers, Cubs and Scouts), Paddington (Rainbows and Brownies), 101 Dalmations (Playgroup) all represented in addition to the traditional Queen's Float. Walking groups included the Wizard of Oz (Church), Tigger the Movie (Babies and Toddlers) and various Disney films (Nursery). Lots of other well-dressed movie characters were on show in the village including Fred Flintstone, The Lone Ranger, and the Minions from Despicable Me. The Pretty Mudders also managed a bit more walking after their morning exertions. Queen Lorel, her Consort Oliver and her court performed the traditional ceremony beautifully, with the new Queen being crowned by former Gala Queen Katie Bath, confirming Lorel as East Linton's new Gala Queen for the coming year. On a practical note, the new Gala Committee not only ensured Gala Week went ahead as always but that its events were well attended and supported. The Committee would like to thank the many people who stepped forward to help in all sorts of ways on Gala Day and those who came along and supported the event by enjoying the rides, the fare and the Gala Market. There were far too many volunteers to mention everyone, but to name a few the committee would particularly like to thank those who placed an advert in the programme, donated prizes, supplied beer (Crown & Kitchen), burgers (Linton Butchers), ice cream (Ian's Confectionery), flowers (Ruth from Sweetpeas, Marc's and Stewart Stenhouse) ice to cool the drinks and rolls for the burgers (Co-op) and those who carefully checked the accounts (Dicksons). It was a delight to see East Linton Gala supported by so many residents, making it a truly local event and a genuinely great community day.

If you enjoyed Gala Day and would like to help in any way next year contact:

*eastlintongaladay@gmail.com
or call 01620 861688*

Brownies ...#GirlsCan!

East Linton Brownies is a thriving Unit of twenty girls aged 7 to 10. We meet once a week in East Linton Community Hall – if you're walking past and hear a lot of noisy, busy and excited girls, it's probably a Brownies night!

Brownies follow a loose programme called the Brownie Adventure. Each stage of the Adventure takes about a year to complete and comprises activities that challenge us to try new things, to help our community and to learn about the wider world. We get out and about as much as we can and already this term have been up to the park to practice our agility and to Binning Wood to collect brambles for a delicious pudding that we'll make at Brownies. We work in our Sixes (the Foxes, Rabbits, Hedgehogs and Squirrels) on craft projects, games, puzzles and fun challenges like drawing a map of our village or making up our own exercise routine! We love it when we have visitors, like when a Brownie's Dad brought in a telescope when we were doing our Stargazer badge. We like to join in with other Brownies, Guides and Rainbows too; we really went to town with our marmalade-tastic 'Paddington' float at Gala 2015 (as did many of the Mums!) and some of us recently joined in with the celebrations for the 40th anniversary of Allison Cargill House at Whittingehame.

Those among you who were members of GirlGuiding when you were younger would recognise many components of a Brownies meeting, but much has changed too, making the organisation much more ambitious and relevant to 21st century girls. You'll still find the "home skills" badge, but Brownies is about so much more now – building confidence and raising aspirations, making a positive difference and getting muddy...#GirlsCan!

East Linton Brownies is full at the moment, but we'd love to hear from you if you have a skill or hobby that you'd like to share with the Brownies, if you have a community project that we could help with, or if your daughter would like to join the waiting list. Please email us at eastlintonbrownies@gmail.com.

Dunpender Community Council**East Linton***Judith Priest (Chair)*

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Meetings

First Thursday of every month

(except July and August)

7.30pm

Council Chambers, East Linton

EAST LINTON ANTIQUES AND BRIC-A-BRAC FAIR

East Linton Antiques and Bric-a-Brac Fair has been running successfully for over 30 years, originally as a commercial venture but now by unpaid volunteers from East Linton and District Community Association.

The main aims for running the fair on a regular basis (8 times a year) are.....

* To help raise much needed income to keep East Linton Community Hall open through stall hire and door entry charges.

* To provide an affordable venue for local people and those from further afield to sell their good quality items.

* To offer good quality items to the public.

* To provide a Sunday venue where visitors to East Linton can meet, chat and have a light snack and drink.

* To encourage re-cycling

HOWEVER.....

The future of this popular event is in jeopardy because of new licensing laws introduced by East Lothian Council which now require that stallholders who regularly buy and sell secondhand goods for profit must buy a licence in order to trade.

As a result, some of our stallholders have decided to opt out of coming to the fair giving more 'one off' opportunities for prospective stallholders e.g. anyone wanting to clear a house, garage, shed etc.

If you are selling your own goods.....YOU DO NOT NEED TO BUY A LICENCE, BUT PLEASE NOTE.....this is not a car boot/ jumble sale/ table top type of event.

We encourage stall holders to bring along good quality CHINA..LINENS..VINTAGE CLOTHES..SMALL ITEMS OF FURNITURE...JEWELLERY...OLD TYPE TOOLS..ETC.

Items need to be selected with care and as a result, you can expect to sell them at a higher price than at a car boot sale.

If you are interested in taking a stall and would like further details and/or help with selecting your items, please don't hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to come along to give you advice on the suitability of your items.

WE HAVE A NEW CAFÉ SELLING GREAT FOOD – COME FOR BREAKFAST OR LUNCH DATES FOR THE REST OF 2015 AND INTO 2016 ARE.....

OCTOBER 25th...NOVEMBER 29thFEBRUARY 28thMARCH 27th....APRIL 24th ...

In the first instance, please contact LIZ DORRIAN on 01620-861-991 or e-mail lizdorrian@btinternet.com



Rockrose Equestrian Sports opened early in the year at Sunnyside Farm near East Linton. They offer a state of the art Livery Yard and hold regular competitions, demonstrations and training sessions to improve both riders and horses in all

equestrian disciplines. Please see their website for more details on membership and activities.

www.rockroseequestrian.com or contact enquiries@rockroseequestrian.com

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



Judith Priest

News of Dunpender councillors: Shelagh Richards from Newbyth resigned earlier this year. She funded and organised all our Defibrillators – thanks Shelagh! We have two new members for Whitekirk and Tynninghame, Anne Jolly and Eric Martin, many thanks for volunteering.

This year we have, among other things:

- purchased three Public Access defibrillators
- produced a lengthy response to the Main Issues Report of the Local Development Plan and to the Whitekirk Hotel planning application
- Paid for, installed or repaired noticeboards at Whitekirk, Whittingehame and Tynninghame
- produced a Community Resilience information leaflet for you
- replaced some of the Christmas lights and planned new ones
- continued to support the Friends of John Muir Country

Park work group and volunteer path wardens and obtained further Paths for All funding.

- carried a baton for the Commonwealth games
- agreed a series of traffic management options for East Linton

● started work on plans to improve the footway on Preston Road

- had the pavement rebuilt around the Square and, after many years, seen the pavement we requested built beside Haddington Road

Your Community Council is a link to East Lothian Council and we try, through our website www.eastlinton.uk.com and through the article in your *Advertiser*, to keep you informed of ELC plans and pass on any information they send us.

Recent news was that the

new bin collections are working well with a big increase in recycling and some 800 tonnes less rubbish being sent to landfill each month. Over 300 tonnes of food waste is now collected every month! It's turned into fertiliser, as well as being used to generate heat and electricity so it's well worth that bit of extra effort from us all.

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone who's moved into the new houses at Orchardfield this year. We hope you'll enjoy living here and join in all the many activities on offer – you'll find details of these in The Library or on our website.

Best wishes for 2016, let's hope we have a better summer!

Judith Priest

October 2015

LOCAL PRIORITIES 2015/2016

- 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 Community Council's budget for the financial year 2015/2016 amounts to just over £5700, including some £2000 carry-over from the previous year. Committed funding detailed in table opposite, with remaining funds available to fund a variety of local projects.
- 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

Newsletter	£501
Tynninghame Board	£375
Website	£120
E. Linton in Bloom	£650
Christmas Lights	£1,004
Kingsburgh/Rennie	£196
Path Clearance	
Resilience Leaflet	£270
Robert Noble Centenary Booklet	£600
TOTAL	£3,716

East Linton Curling Club

On the 24th October, two rinks from East Linton will be taking part in the Indoor Grand Match organised by the Royal Caledonian Curling Club. The format of the event involves teams from the south of Scotland playing teams from the north, the traditional bonspiel in a Grand Match when played outdoors. The Indoor event will involve 600 teams at 17 ice rinks. The East Linton rinks (teams) will be playing at Stirling against Linlithgow and at Edinburgh against Lundie and Auchterhouse. This event is usually every five years. Opportunities arise for potential new curlers to try the game at Murrayfield Ice Rink. If you are interested and want to give it a go, contact us on 01620 860694 .

You might even get the chance to play in five years' time!

An Apple a Day.....

East Linton Heritage Orchard.

On Sunday 30th August, two well-known apple experts from Perthshire made an unannounced visit to the Heritage Orchard in East Linton. News of their visit came in an e mail and on Twitter in which they shared they had admired "the wee orchard" and the quality of the apple crop. It is eleven years since the orchard was planted by children from East Linton Primary School in partnership with the East Linton Horticultural Society. It was part of the project to *Bring Colour to East Linton* and was planned to reflect the importance of fruit growing and or-



chards in East Linton. All the apples selected would have been grown in the 19th Century for the market. It was also decided that the varieties would all be cooking apples.

Orchards need to be managed throughout the year and that task has been carried out by the Society. Nine varieties are grown and are harvested over a period of five weeks. Some of the varieties are stored for about six weeks before they are used. The apples are donated to the Day centre who are advised of what each variety is best used for such as sauce or pies. Unfortunately the other original use planned was the primary school kitchen but meals are no longer cooked on the school premises. The children can no longer have the option of baked apple or apple pie.

The names of the children who were involved are listed on the descriptive leaflet they produced. They will now be eleven years older. It would be worth exploring a reunion and a visit to the Day Centre users where they could learn how much this annual harvest is appreciated by the members. Options for a new sign to tell the story of this project are being explored. One thing is clear as our visitors discovered and tweeted; we can grow quality apples in East Linton.

I can See a Rainbow

East Linton Rainbows are planning a fun filled term taking part in lots of different activities working towards their Roundabout badge. Over the next few weeks the Rainbows will be getting close to nature, and amongst other things, will take part in a colour scavenger hunt and learn how to make wheat into flour.

Rainbows is for girls aged 5 to 7 and takes place in East Linton Community Hall every Thursday during school term from 6:30 to 7:30.

Interested? email :eastlintonrainbows@gmail.com. The group is full at the moment and we keep a waiting list, but spaces open up when the girls move up to Brownies.

Oh no it's not...oh yes it is...

East Linton Drama Group

As we approach our AGM in October it is perhaps a good time to reflect on our year 'treading the boards' As usual our year started with our annual 'Panto' except this year it was different. The junior members staged a production of Bugsy Malone which was no mean feat! With a large cast and live orchestra to contend with Catriona Gill as director (assisted by Gill Robertson) carried off a successful show. In May 'Agatha Crispie' came to East Linton, a mystery/comedy about Agatha Christie when she 'disappeared' for a while in real life. Finally our popular murder mystery evening took place this October. 'A Murder made in Heaven' was set in Cornwall in a small pub called the Smugglers Arms. Smuggling, fake deaths, a wedding and of course a MURDER all took place on stage and the audience had fun working out who was the murderer!

Of course none of this would happen if it wasn't for the Drama Group members who all work hard to make these productions happen. So much goes into every production not just on stage but back stage too. We are always on the lookout for new members and if anyone is interested in getting involved please

get in touch. We are more than happy to welcome new faces to the group.

Contact Jackie Hunter-secretary at hunter_3@btinternet.com Lookout for our 2016 panto 'Beauty and the Beast' Rehearsals are well under way and any help however big or small is always appreciated.



East Linton Community Choir

It has been another good year for the choir with various performances over the year culminating in our end of year concert in March "Sounds of Swing". This was the first time that we had performed for two nights and the feedback we received was really positive. We have been invited to sing at the East Linton Senior Citizens Club Birthday Party in October and have been invited back to Prestonkirk for the "Sing a Song at Christmas" concert in December.

The choir are back together again and busy practising

for these concerts and working towards our "Rock & Pop Classics" concert which will be held on 11th & 12th March 2016. The concert will feature songs from Queen, The Pretenders, The Moody Blues and many more, so put the date in your diaries for what will be a great night.

The choir is looking to recruit new members, especially sopranos and if you are interested in joining please contact Lorraine Cormack on

07855 021742 or email lmormack@btinternet.com. Also being able to read music is NOT a requirement.

Old Time Dancing

The East Linton and District Old Time Dance Club started over 50 years ago, and met in the Masonic Hall until 2007, when it moved to the Community Hall. Membership has varied over the years and at one point the Club was close to winding up. However since 2011 many new members have joined and the club is again in a healthy position with 48 members. Dances are held every second Tuesday evening, and the programme varies with waltzes, two-steps, four-steps etc. while an accordionist provides the music. The Club is a very friendly and social one, and the committee would welcome anyone who would like to come and join us - for more information contact Anne Holywell on 01368 862 957, or Dorothy Kerr on 01620 860 519.

Blooming Marvellous!

East Linton Arts, Crafts & Flower Show Society

The Flower Show is blooming thanks to some fantastic local support. Run by a volunteer committee of twelve led by Chairperson Neil Davidson and vice chair/show manager Ewan Davidson, new members are now being sought. This year Beechgrove Garden presenter George Anderson judged in addition to opening the show and awarding trophies and medals to the prize winners. Categories included vegetables, fruit, baking, handcraft, floral art and photography. The children's section is run by the very capable Heather Bishop and George was ably assisted by the Gala Queen.

The standard was high, despite the inclement weather, making for difficult decisions for the Judges.

News from the nags

Update on the grazing programme at Traprain Law



Since the arrival of the Exmoor ponies (7 arriving in May 2012; bolstered by a further 6 animals in October of the same year), it has been eagerly anticipated that they would have a positive impact upon the ecology of the site. Specifically, that through their pattern of grazing, coarser grasses that had begun to take over the hill would be knocked back, and a wider array of finer grasses and flowers would have an opportunity to establish themselves.

With the caveat that we are still only 2 ½ years into the project, there are definite signs of positive change. These can be seen by both a casual walk-over the site, with some areas now looking much more closely grazed. This has also had a benefit in revealing archaeological trace features which have been hidden from view for many years.

In an attempt to provide some proper data to support this view of beneficial change, for the past two summers there have been botanical and insect recording surveys at Traprain. Undertaken by trained volunteers these surveys are starting to now demonstrate the effects of the ponies' work.

Looking at the plant surveys first, here, specific areas of the hill are surveyed for the presence / absence of 'target' species – both plants that indicate a 'good' habitat, as well as other plants (e.g. ragwort), that suggest a deterioration of quality. Whilst there has not been a significant increase in the number of flowers recorded, we did not expect there to be – given that Traprain is a grassy site. Other measurements were much more encouraging, firstly the amount of dead plant material (that forms impenetrable tussocks) has fallen right down. Related to this, the average height of the vegetation has also dropped significantly. Both these factors demonstrate what grazing can do – munch up and reduce plant material, thereby providing space for finer grasses and flowers to try and come back. We just now hope that they take the hint soon!

On the bee front we are still compiling the results for 2015. Certainly the cold weather will have inhibited bumblebee activity this year, but if we look back to 2014 there was an encouraging trend, with a 6-fold increase in numbers compared to 2013. This may in part be due to 2014 being a good summer, but it could also reflect that there was an abundance of flowers, too. Longer-term monitoring will help determine if this was a 'one-off' or a trend.

Abbeyfield House in East Linton has been undergoing some exciting changes including increasing the number of rooms. The installation of a platform lift makes reaching the four upstairs rooms much easier.

Our contractors have also been busy converting what had been the housekeeper's apartment into two, new accommodation units.

The downstairs room is spacious, with views of the garden in two directions and with a large en-suite wet-room. The first floor apartment is reached by its own staircase, which is fitted with a stair-lift.

These new units are not yet occupied, so there are opportunities for either single older people or an older couple to join the existing residents in a comfortable, family atmosphere.

Abbeyfield East Linton Society is an independent charity which is managed by a volunteer Executive Committee. Day-to-day activities are undertaken by 3 members of staff.

Abbeyfield House in East Linton is not a care home, but provides very sheltered accommodation for older people who are able to look after themselves in terms of daily activities. These individuals receive support that enables them to retain a high level of independence in the community.

Each resident has their own bed/sitting room with an en-suite or private bathroom. The house has its own overall security system with door entry carefully controlled, each resident has a "front door bell" and can speak to a visitor before allowing them access to the house. In addition, the door to a resident's room is their own individual "front door".

Anyone wishing to find out more should call the Chairman (John Cowan) on 01620 860 704 or the Housekeeper/Manager (Beverley Lister) 01620 860 675. Alternatively you can email abbeyfield-eastlinton@abbeyfield.com with your enquiry.

Traprain Law Race

13 June, 2015

After near tropical weather for a couple of days a cold easterly air-stream brought good conditions for the runners, but not so good for the village Gala revellers. Despite competition from the Durisdeer Race we still had a healthy 72 starters on a rather chilly start line more like late October than mid-June. There was some over-exuberant and unnecessary worry about the Exmoor ponies eating our route marker flags. This led to the rather frantic addition of Cusson's Imperial Leather talcum powder-sprayed arrows, making this the most fragrant Traprain Race ever. The ascent route diversion to avoid the rock slabs was not received with enthusiasm as competitors battled with the gorse bushes on the ascent line. So it's back to the original route next year.

Dunbar's James Addie took advantage of the missing competition over at Durisdeer and had a storming run well away from the nearest pursuer, returning an impressive 40-26 despite the gorse bushes. Keith Hood (Corstorphine) and Colin Doig (HBT) were 2nd and 3rd. Jill Stephen of HBT took the women's trophy in 48-26, with Rhona Anderson (Dunbar) 2nd woman. Men's team prize went to Dunbar and women's to Carnethy. See results for other placings.

This is the last race under present management by Trevor Collins and Keith Burns of Carnethy Hill Runners. They have organised the event for just short of 30 years. It's time for a generation transfer and an injection of new ideas to preserve this unique East Lothian event. Volunteers to make it happen next year please!

East Linton Art Group

Our new session began on the 14th September 2015 when we welcomed five new members. The group meets every Monday afternoon from one o'clock to four o'clock in the East Linton Community Hall.

In 2014 the group celebrated its 25th anniversary with a special lunch. Many founder members attended the lunch. Agnes Wilkinson who founded the art group and Sheila Wilson, also a founder member, are still enthusiastic members of the group.

Our annual exhibition of paintings will take place from Friday 29th April to Monday 2nd May 2016.

More information about the group can be found on our website at eastlintonartgroup.co.uk

The Tennis Club

On Thursday 20th August Judy Murray and Kris Soutar came to East Linton Tennis Club as part of their 'Tennis on the Road' roadshow. For the first hour they taught the 'workforce' (made up of around 20 volunteers, parents, grandparents etc.) a variety of fun and interesting methods to help teach kids tennis. They explained that catching, balancing and agility are all key skills that help develop tennis ability and we had lots of fun being put through our paces in relay races and catching games.



Mrs Gardner then brought the Primary 5s over to take part in a fun tennis session. They showed great skill on the tennis court and learned a lot from Judy and Kris. Well done P5s!

We hope Judy's visit will encourage more children to take part in tennis. For more information on coaching available during term time visit www.eastlintontennisclub.com. We also need more volunteers on our committee so please get in touch via eastlintontennisclub@gmail.com if you can help.

Dunpender Noticeboard



The new season of films has started. The films will be shown at the usual venues of Tynninghame Village Hall and East Linton Community Centre. Check the website www.pixinthestix.org.uk. You can register for free and get details of films, dates, times and venues.



Antiques and Bric-a-Brac Fair
East Linton Community Hall

Fair dates for 2015: 25th October and 29th November and into 2016: February 28th, March 27th, April 24th, May 29th
New cafe selling homemade fare
For information re booking a table telephone 01368 830 875

Wheel Fix It !

NTS work at Preston Mill is ongoing with details available through on-site information boards.

LYNTON DAY CENTRE

Lynton Day Centre is a meeting point for the seniors of East Linton and surrounding areas, Dunpender Council Area, including Tynninghame, Markle, Whitekirk, Whittingehame, and Monks Muir Park. Lynton Day Centre is registered with the Care Inspectorate; we act in accordance with legal requirements for the protection of vulnerable adults.

We are funded by East Lothian Council, and run by a Management Committee of volunteers, professional trained staff, and a very dedicated group of volunteers. We have the support of a craft table, to help boost our funds and we are fund raising throughout the year to provide extra treats for our clients.

We cater for 16 people each opening day; we are open on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, between 10 am and 4 pm. If people find it difficult to get to the centre we offer a taxi service to take them to the centre and home again. We offer a home cooked meal prepared by one of our fabulous cooks. We use local products and throughout the year, we get generous donations during harvest time, such as apples and vegetables.

We offer our clients a variety of musical entertainment, theatre, a range of games such as; carpet bowling, new age curling, shuffle board, word games, domino, etc. Reminiscence groups are on offer every Monday and Wednesday morning, to help improve memories in a fun way, seated exercises to stay fit, quizzes, bingo and movie afternoons, talks by local people, including Police Scotland, with advice on how to stay safe in your own house and how to deal with bogus callers. A few times a year we go on an outing, a very popular is a day on the canal boats in Ratho. We celebrate Christmas with a traditional Christmas lunch and a visit from Santa, Birthdays, Valentine's Day, Halloween, St. Patricks Day, Robert Burns lunch with a piper and addresser to honour the Haggis and many other celebrations. We charge £4 for a home cooked lunch and £2.50 for a taxi return, within East Linton. Taxi is more slightly more expensive for the surrounding areas. We create a warm, homely and welcoming place where older people can be safe and meet with their friends and peers. We have a lovely garden to sit in or get hands on and grow some vegetables or plant flowers. We also offer support and respite time to the families and carers of our clients.

We have some spaces for new clients on offer at this moment, so if you are over 65, and in need of some support and you would like to find out more about Lynton Day Centre services. If you would like to be part of our very friendly, warm, safe and welcoming day centre, please come along one morning for a cup of coffee, tea and some more information. You can also contact us on 01620 861807 or by e-mail: lyntoncentre@btconnect.com



Christmas Market 2015

The 2015 East Linton Christmas market will take place on Sunday 6th December in the village square, from 4-7pm. The square will be a frenzy of activity with sixteen open air stalls selling local Christmas crafts and foods to get you in the festive spirit. A dedicated team of five organisers Carolyn Dunion, Pam Tannahill, Becca Bell, Annie Roberts and Sarah Waite are working hard to ensure the market will be buzzing with festivities. Annie explains that "the East Linton villagers really support the open air market so we are working hard to ensure it goes ahead for 2015. It is a super event for getting into the Christmas swing and a great opportunity to purchase some Christmas gifts." If the weather is bad the event will be held in the East Linton Community Hall, but all going to plan we will have a lovely outdoor experience!