

the SPACE



A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER PRODUCED BY NEILSTON DEVELOPMENT TRUST No 13 | Sept/Oct 2012

GO NEILSTON! WALKING AND CYCLING PROJECT

Saturday 21st April 2012 will be remembered as the day Neilston kicked off its very own Olympic celebrations. The Neilston mini-Olympics included a walk and cycle around the village and a chance to parade with locally made (and stunning!) Olympic torches. It marked the launch of the Go Neilston! Walking and Cycling project, designed to create opportunities for walking and cycling in Neilston and to encourage residents to live more active and environmentally friendly lifestyles.

What fun we have had on the way, and what a great response! Go Neilston! included training on cycling for adults as well as bike repair training sessions for young and old and a led cycle to the beautiful Dams to Darnley.

The Saturday morning hikes up the Craigie and the Pad attracted great numbers (all of whom returned to tell the tale!). And the Diamond Jubilee Treasure Trail had families out hunting for Harry, Prince Charles and the Corgi dogs hiding around the Main St; as if we needed reminding that walking is fun and Neilston is a walkable village! GO Neilston! culminated in 360 local residents signing up for the **Neilston Challenge**.

Participants committed to walking and cycling more and using their car less in the village over a fortnight in June. Thanks to all who took part and gave their time as volunteers and participants. Thanks to the staff at the Neilston Leisure Centre and to our funders and project partners, East Renfrewshire Council for their support. And a special thanks

to those of you who saw the Go Neilston! challenge through to the bitter end. We hope you're feeling the better for it!



X marks the spot!

After the euphoria around the 2012 Olympics (that's the London ones), the focus will be on legacy, working for a real uptake in sport and active lifestyles; we're hoping Go Neilston! is the start of a similar change locally. Rio 2016? Fitter and leaner would also be good....

WALKING GROUPS

Walking activities are on-going with the Go Neilston! weekly walking groups meeting at the Bank on:

Tuesdays 6.30pm (60 minutes plus)
Wednesdays 10am (60 minutes plus)
and 10.30 am (15-25mins).

All are welcome.

Walking group members



Carrying the torch for Neilston!



Keep it in the family

ON YOUR BIKE!

We're currently developing a programme of cycle training and support, as well as bike hire, from the Bank. More to come in the next newsletter.

For more information, or if you would like to get involved in NDT's walking and cycling activities, contact 0141 561 1201 or admin@neilstontrust.co.uk.



COMMUNITY WINDFARM

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

Thanks to our superb engineering and construction team, works on site have progressed very smoothly and rapidly since our last newsletter. Overall ground conditions were excellent with good quality rock present beneath most of the site. This meant building the access roads, hardstandings and foundations was easier and faster than expected. As of early August, all of the heavy civil engineering work is complete, leaving only the site control building and cable trenching to finish. By the end of the first week in August, this building will be wind and water tight and the electrical fitout will commence. BT are also hard at work installing the communications infrastructure to the site. We expect activity and personnel at the site to decrease during September and early October as work on the wind farm's main infrastructure reaches an end. Minor alterations to the road around Commore Dam and Neilston Cross will take place in September and October in time for the first turbine deliveries in late October. The wind farm is expected to be operational in December.

Scottish Power Energy Networks have continued to advance the vital grid connection works and having completed the Barrhead section from Aurs Road to St Luke's School on Springfield road, have moved their installation team to the Kingston Road in line with the programme agreed with East Renfrewshire Council. Over August, rolling roadworks will pass through Neilston itself which will unfortunately cause some minor but temporary disruption to the public.

Enclosed with this issue you'll find an information sheet on the windfarm and what it will bring to Neilston. A detailed schedule of the roadworks has been circulated to the households and businesses along the route.

Work in progress



SUMMARY OF SCHEDULE ROADWORKS

DUCT INSTALLATION

Springfield Road (5 Ways - Kirktonfield Cres):	July/Aug
Kirktonfield Rd (Kirktonfield Cres – corner Neilston Rd):	Aug/Sept
Corner Kirktonfield Rd - Main St - corner Double Hedges Rd:	July/Aug
Double Hedges Road- corner Kingston Road:	Aug/Sept
Kingston Road :	July - Sept

CABLE INSTALLATION AND JOINTING

This requires small excavations every 500 – 750m: Sept/Oct

CHARTER "REBOOT"

NEILSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL THURSDAY 27TH SEPT, 7PM

You'd be forgiven for thinking the Charter, that brave and famous document, is a thing of the past. Not so! NDT has been asked to do a piece of work on behalf of the Town Team, looking at what has been achieved and how best to move forward on delivering the 44 Charter projects identified by the community back in 2009. Original Town Team members and residents new to the process are invited to Neilston Primary School on Thursday 27 September at 7pm, for a presentation and news of some small projects to kick-start the village improvement process.

Perhaps you don't 'do' public meetings. Why not arrange to have a presentation and discussion at the group you attend - bowling club, Rural, Women's Group, young people's group. Call Pauline Gallacher at the Trust (0141 561 1201) to arrange.

Or perhaps you've just moved to Neilston and haven't the foggiest idea of what this is all about. Come along and help us build on the vision!

DOG FOULING

If there's one campaign that everyone will applaud, it's the campaign for streets clear of dog mess. Neilston Community Council and Hillside Tenants and Residents have been 'turning up the volume' and have produced an informative leaflet with contact numbers and encouragement to report incidents of littering and dog-fouling.

NB: Wardens don't have to be present during an incident to be able to issue a ticket.

WARDENS: 0800 013 0076

POLICE: 0141 532 6200

ERC :0141 577 3001

If you would like to get involved,
email: neilstoncc@hotmail.co.uk



NEILSTON FOOD TRAIL

SATURDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 11-1PM

Do you like a stroll? Do you enjoy good food? We've put the two together and cooked up the first Neilston Food Trail. Enjoy a leisurely walk around Neilston, its eateries, pubs, food shops and other venues and discover a host of culinary delights on the way, as local residents, community groups and businesses offer you a taste of Neilston. Be the first to sample the Neilston Burger made by Dunbar's in collaboration with the Bank Café volunteers! Enjoy a cocktail (or two!) at local bars. Visit the Producers Market at the Main Street shops from 10am - 2pm. Good weather of course is guaranteed!

Information on the route, schedule and tasting points will be available at www.neilstontrust.co.uk or at local shops and venues, call 0141 561 1201 or email laura.carswell@neilstontrust.co.uk. The Neilston events are part of **feastRen**,

the East Renfrewshire Food Festival, 1-16th September organised by East Renfrewshire Council (www.bit.ly/feastRen2012) coinciding with Scottish Food Fortnight and the Blasda Food Feast (www.blasda.org.uk).



Flashback to last year's bank barbecue



Beautiful garden produce



Elderflower cordial production line!

THE FOOD FESTIVAL offers a great opportunity for village businesses to work together to present themselves as a great local alternative to that slog to the supermarket or the journey to an eatery in town.

But this is a taster in more ways than one. That trusty document, the Neilston Charter, sets out an ambition for a village wide business strategy. A key feature of this will be how the Main Street survives and prospers. The Chamber of Commerce, local traders, and the Council and NDT are beginning a process of working together to explore what businesses and their customers want. Other high streets have reinvented themselves to offer a lively and convenient local shopping option. Watch this space!



Vote for our local traders!

GET INVOLVED

Come along and help to create some delicious concoctions for the Neilston Food Trail event as part of **feastRen**.

The Bank

Chutney making Mon 27th Aug 11am-1pm FREE!

Macaroon baking Mon 3rd Sept 11am-1pm FREE!

Call The Bank on 0141 561 1201 to book.

Neilston Library

Chinese Cookery Wed 5th Sep 7.30pm FREE!

Call Neilston Library on 0141 577 4981 to book a place.

BUMPER AUTUMN HARVEST EXPECTED FROM THE BANK GARDEN

Our gardening volunteers, led by the fabulous George, have been beavering away all spring and summer in the garden at the Bank. When we moved back in in December the garden was little more than a flattened pile of mud and building debris. First of all, we went to work sprucing up the front garden – which is a glorious riot of summer colour just now. Then the team started planting up the back garden and we have already started to reap what we sowed (literally!). We have been using lettuce and rocket from the gardens in the café since early June, and last week, we cropped the first of our potatoes. We took this early crop along to a food swap event in Glasgow

in August and managed to swap it all for produce that other community gardens across the city had grown.

We still have crops of potatoes, peas, beans, beetroot and carrots to harvest and our café team are already excited about what they are going to be able to make with them. All this on a small patch of land in just six months. Just imagine what we will do next year!

Our garden group meets **every Tuesday from 11am – 1pm** and we are always looking for an extra pair of helping hands. So if you are free, come along and get involved – no prior experience required!



George and the gardening team

VOLUNTEERS

Our Café volunteers have been very busy, learning new skills, working as a team, supporting each other and contributing to volunteer meetings.

Six volunteers have achieved their Elementary Food Hygiene Certificate. Others have taken part in GO Neilston!, music workshops, Jubilee Treasure Trail and much more.

A most welcome development is the recruitment of a great band of younger volunteers in the café and garden – thanks to Marley, Brendan, Paul, Anne-Marie, Sarah-Jane, Shama, Alexandra, Jennifer, Robbie and Alanna!

Visit the Bank café – home baking, family friendly atmosphere, freshly prepared food, free wifi, bikers and walkers welcome. Open daily, 10am – 2.30pm (closed Sunday and Monday)

SATISFIED CUSTOMERS...

"Popped into your Bank café today to be pleasantly surprised. Food was lovely and really well presented. Good luck to you and all your volunteers."

B Urquhart

"The space was bright, clean and practical and the NDT representatives were welcoming and very helpful. Everything was fresh, handmade and looked and tasted great. The attention to detail was impressive - on a hot day the mint infused water was very refreshing..."

L Moir

NEILSTON COMMUNITY REPAIR

Still working hard throughout the village. Good news is that they have now been registered as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). Congratulations to Matt and his team. www.facebook.com/NeilstonComRep

HIRE THE BANK

If you are looking for a space for a small celebration, or a group activity, or if you are a home worker and require meeting or desk space, the Bank may be able to accommodate you.

To discuss your requirements call 0141 561 1201.

KEEP IN TOUCH

We are always keen to get your input and feedback on our work. If not already, make sure you sign up for our mailing list at www.neilstontrust.co.uk or at the Bank to receive regular updates in between newsletters.

Better still, join the trust and take part in shaping NDT's future or get involved as a volunteer.



VOLUNTEER FRIENDLY AWARD

Thanks to the efforts of past and current volunteers, NDT has been awarded the Volunteer Friendly Award, acknowledging the contribution of our volunteers to the community and the Trust's standards of support and good practice in its volunteering programme.



We currently have volunteering opportunities for the Bank Café and garden/allotment.

Contact Anne Macdonald on 0141 561 1201 or email anne.macdonald@neilstontrust.co.uk

COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

Our new website has a community events calendar. If you are running an event in the village why not add it to our calendar. Go to the What's On page at www.neilstontrust.co.uk

Full listings of all NDT events and activities are available online or from the Bank.

WHAT'S ON

MUSIC WORKSHOPS AT THE BANK

Following on from the amazing success of our traditional music programme earlier in the year, workshops in singing and the ukulele for beginners will be commencing from early September at the Bank. **Further details are available on the events section of our website.**

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The next two meetings of the community council will take place on Tue 25th Sept and Tue 30th Oct, 7pm – 9pm at Glen Halls. All welcome.



NEILSTON DEVELOPMENT TRUST
www.neilstontrust.co.uk



EAST RENFREWSHIRE
COMMUNITY HEALTH AND CARE
PARTNERSHIP



The Old Bank, 84 Main Street, Neilston G78 3EA T: 0141 561 1201 E: admin@neilstontrust.co.uk

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