

the SPACE



A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER PRODUCED BY NEILSTON DEVELOPMENT TRUST No 14 | Nov/Dec 2012

HERE THEY COME!

After long months of site work and cable-laying, it's finally time for the turbines to arrive on site.

A delivery programme has been in preparation for some time, involving police, roads departments and specialist hauliers. There is no denying it - these things are BIG, but careful consideration has gone into every move they'll make, from the docks to the site. Love them or loathe them, there will certainly be a spectacle! Pupils and teachers from our three schools have been invited to observe the event and we hope they will be involved in some activity in anticipation of the project's formal opening in the spring.

We can now confirm delivery dates for the turbine components and the blades. They are as follows:



Turbine blades in transit to another windfarm.

	T1	T2	T3	T4
NACELLE	31/10/12	01/11/12	02/11/12	03/11/12
BLADES	31/10/12	01/11/12	02/11/12	03/11/12
TOWER	05/11/12	09/11/12	15/11/12	21/11/12
INT TRAF0	31/10/12	01/11/12	02/11/12	03/11/12

NB: Nacelle is the turbine housing, Int Trafo is the internal transformer

Once the turbines are erected, the process of commissioning and energisation begins. Ironically we require a period of low wind speed to lift the turbines into position so it's difficult to say exactly how long this phase of the work will take, however we do expect to be fully energised by Christmas.

TREES AT NEILSTON CROSS

A specialist arborist was brought into carry out pruning of the trees at Neilston Cross and the majority of this work is now complete.

As always, please call or email the Trust if clarification is necessary. Any updates dating from the publication of this edition of the Space will be posted on the NDT website, Facebook and on the notice boards at the Bank and bus stop.

THANK YOU

Thanks to all residents, businesses and local road users for your patience in recent weeks as the cable-laying works passed through the village. Inevitably there has been disruption and inconvenience, but this work is nearly finished.

NB: The turbines that are currently being erected to the southwest of the village are NOT the Neilston turbines. They are part of Scottish Power's Middleton development.

ALSO INSIDE...

- **WAR MEMORIAL**
- **MUSIC IN NEILSTON**
- **RETAIL SURVEY**
- **TOWN CHARTER**
- **CYCLING AND WALKING NEWS**



Look out for the Christmas Market in December



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CHARTER REBOOT MEETING

A group of 40 gathered for a lively meeting in Neilston Primary School on 27th September, with all local councillors present and chaired by Cllr Tony Buchanan. Danny McKendry, ERC Principal Regeneration Officer and the Council's lead on the Charter process, acknowledged that work on the Charter implementation phase had not been taken forward as quickly as everyone would want.



Town Team meeting: Suzie Smith welcomes the commitment to involve young people creatively in the future of their community

In view of this, ERC had commissioned NDT, on behalf of the Town Team, to progress a short piece of work. The brief is to produce a development plan for the Charter, to organize this 'reboot' meeting and bi-monthly Town Team sessions, produce a display for local information, and bring forward some suggestions for quick win projects as evidence of progress being made.

Suzie Smith, ERC Young Peoples Service, spoke of her enthusiasm to have young people fully involved in the Charter process and welcomed the call to see provision for young people embedded in the ongoing development plans. She spoke of a media project beginning that very evening, exploring young people's perceptions of Neilston and their place in it.

Pauline Gallacher presented an update on local developments that have already contributed to Charter outcomes.

The display supporting the presentation (Neilston Town Charter - Where are we now?) is in Neilston Library until 22nd November.

A discussion followed, raising issues such as progress on the school gates, the choice of 'quick win' projects, the status of the Charter within the local planning context, the prospects for Kingston Playing fields and Neilston Juniors' hopes for their future development.

To view the display panels, visit www.neilstontrust.co.uk. Sign up on line to be kept in touch.

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY 22ND NOVEMBER, 7PM AT NEILSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Charter display now in Neilston Library

RETAIL SURVEY

The weekends find many busy families shopping outside the village – for all sorts of reasons. And while there's no point in trying to turn the clock back, there's no doubt that there are challenges here for the local shopping we take for granted.

That's why the retail survey has been produced under the auspices of the East Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce and the emerging Neilston Business Forum.

What changes or improvements would you like to see? Forms available from local outlets, the Bank, and the station, or fill in online at NDT website.

A particular appeal to those who aren't in the village during the week and may miss the forms; it's particularly important that the 'commuter voice' is heard. We are trying to achieve at least 200 responses.

The analysis will be published in forthcoming edition of the Space and will provide invaluable data to retailers in responding to what you want.



MANY WAYS OF REMEMBERING

PUBLIC TALK ON SCOTLAND'S WAR MEMORIALS



Detail of Scottish National war memorial

Neilston's War Memorial Association has been meeting regularly. So far the focus has been on fund raising, but thoughts are now turning to quality, content

and siting. To get an idea of the range of these memorials and open up a discussion, the association has invited Ray McKenzie to give a talk on the War Memorials of Scotland. Ray was Senior Lecturer in Art History at Glasgow School of Art until his retirement in 2010. His book Public Sculpture of Glasgow was joint winner of the Saltire Society Research Book of the Year Award in 2002. A hugely informative and engaging evening is in store. Everyone with an interest in our village is welcome.

THURSDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 7.30PM AT THE BANK.

WHAT'S ON

BIKE SHOP AND TALK

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17TH 2PM

Not sure what kind of bike suits your needs? Would you like to find out more about electric bikes but don't know where to begin? Come to the Bank and see some great bikes, find out what kind of bike is best for you and your budget, and, even better give them a try! A chance to have all your questions on bikes answered by our local bike expert and make sure you ask Santa for the right thing!



Bikes come in all shapes and sizes - there's one out there for you!

Open to all ages. Children under 16 should be accompanied by an adult.

& IN THE NEW YEAR...

- THE BANK CYCLE HUB AND REPAIR SERVICE
- THE NEILSTON CYCLE CLUB
- BIKES FOR HIRE
- YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIKE GROUP
- TRAINED CYCLING VOLUNTEERS

WEDNESDAY WALKERS

WON'T BE STOPPED!

The weekly walking groups are still stepping out every Wednesday from the Bank. Come and join in with a stroll around Neilston and enjoy the fresh air, the good views and a chance to meet some new friends. Those taking a longish walk (60 minutes plus) leave at 10am. A shorter walk (20-25 minutes) at a gentler pace leaves at 10.30am. Both walks end with a cuppa and a chat.

SINGING GROUP

The Singing Group at the Bank goes from strength to strength. Led by Lou Hickey, the group is relaxed and informal. No musical abilities or music reading skills required – just enthusiasm and love of song!



*Adele, Les Mis... (White Christmas next week?)
Something for everyone.*

**Meets fortnightly: Saturdays
27th October 2.00-3.30pm,**

3rd & 17th November and 8th December 3.00-4.30pm

Charges per session: £3 under 16s; £5 over 16s

Age 14 - 114 welcome.

UKULELE GROUP

You don't have to know how to read music and we'll have ukes available to get you started. Great fun and good company guaranteed.



No stopping this lot.

Meets fortnightly: Wednesdays 8-9pm

31st October, 14th and 28th November

£3 under 16s; £5 over 16s per session

MORE INFO

Look out for more information on all these activities in December's edition of the Space and at www.neilstontrust.co.uk.

If you want to find out more about the song and ukulele groups, drop into the Bank, call 0141 561 1201 or email admin@neilstontrust.co.uk.



CROFTHHEAD CONCERTS

SUNDAY 9TH DECEMBER AT 8PM

Crofthead Concerts brings you Fred Morrison and Matheu Watson.

A great night for the whole family, featuring Fred Morrison, one of Scotland's leading pipers and innovators in the tradition. An outstanding composer and master of the Highland bagpipes, whistles, Scottish small pipes, and Irish uilleann pipes, Fred will be joined by award winning multi-

instrumentalist Matheu Watson, one of the finest young musicians in Scotland, playing guitar, fiddle, whistle, mandolin, banjo and bouzouki.

Tickets £12 adults; £6 under 16s. Doors open at 7.30pm

Tickets available at the Bank. For more information call NDT on 0141 561 1201, email admin@neilstontrust.co.uk or visit www.neilstontrust.co.uk

LOCAL FOOD MOVES UP THE AGENDA

September 8th saw Neilston coming alive in a new way. For the first time that space in front of the shops was filled with the activity it was designed for, when the producers' market came to town.

And all over the village, families were seen making their way from point to delicious point as retailers and eateries (and drinkeries) - even the library opened their doors for the Neilston Food Trail.

Both events were Neilston's contribution to the FEAST Ren Food Festival. You weren't there? Plenty people were, and had a wonderful time, as our pictures show. Comments such as "haven't met so many people in years" prove that our village centre can be the lively place it once was - if people use it!

All over the country communities are finding that food - growing, selling, cooking and eating it - is helping the process of local regeneration.

People and food - a bit of a no-brainer, really!



Local food...just some of the local producers that took part in the Neilston Food Trail and Producers' Market.

CHRISTMAS AT THE BANK



CHRISTMAS FILM: POLAR EXPRESS!

SUNDAY DECEMBER 16TH, 3-4.30PM

Come along as a family (and bring gran and granddad) and enjoy a lovely event to tide you over till the big day comes. **Tickets cost £5 adults, £3 for under 16s, and under 3s are free.**

SANTA RUN

The Neilston Santa Run will take place on Christmas Eve. Santa and his sleigh will be down at Nether Kirkton at 4pm and around the village thereafter.

Details of the route and timetable in next issue, online and on posters round the village.

Santa's always glad of new helpers (16 years and over). Outfits provided! Good cheer essential! If you want to find out more or get involved, drop into the Bank or contact Laura at 0141 561 1201 or email laura.carswell@neilstontrust.co.uk.



CHRISTMAS MARKET

The Producers' Market was such a success that another has already been organised to catch the Christmas spirit. A chance to pick up food and craft items to unusual gifts. So much more personal and less stressful than battling those shopping malls.

The date is 1st or 8th December (to be confirmed). Look out for posters and flyers.

AND...DON'T MISS THE NEILSTON SINGERS LEADING CHRISTMAS CAROLLING!

NDT WEBSITE

NDT's new website is packed with information about NDT and the village. It also provides the space to list your organisation's events. Simply click on 'what's on' and then 'add an event'. **Don't forget to sign up for email bulletins and become a friend on Facebook!**

WWW.NEILSTONTRUST.CO.UK



Thank you to all volunteers who helped to make the Food Festival such a terrific day.

Best wishes to our volunteers who have moved on to other opportunities. And welcome to our new volunteers: Peter who will be working on our database and Lynn in the Cafe.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST...

NDT and Neilston Community Council are now having regular monthly catchup meetings to encourage collaboration and ensure the flow of accurate information in both directions. This is proving useful for both organisations, with the Town Team providing the context for all residents to participate in Charter-related discussions.



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