

North Edinburgh Community News

Deliberate fire destroys community garden hut

: FREE
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A second fire has destroyed huts in a local community garden.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service attended a fire at the garden at North Edinburgh Arts Centre.

When they arrived the garden hut was well alight and couldn't be saved.

An investigation has now been launched as it's understood the fire was caused deliberately.

This time last year another deliberate fire destroyed the garden hut.

A source at the project said "This is devastating for us. The garden is well used by local people and this area will now be out of bounds until it's cleared.

"It's difficult enough raising money for projects without some parts of the project being set alight."

A Police Scotland spokesman said: "Police in Edinburgh are investigating following a suspicious fire in the North of the city.

"The incident happened sometime around 1.50am on Wednesday 22nd July at the North Edinburgh Arts Centre on Pennywell Road.



A large storage shed was completely destroyed as a result and officers are conducting local inquiries to trace those responsible.

"Anyone with information is asked to contact police immediately."

If you have information on this fire please contact Police Scotland on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

INSIDE: Craig Gowans Football Match / Skatpark building work could start in September / Sports News / The Queen visits North Edinburgh / and much more

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Keep upto date with everything in North Edinburgh by visiting our website at www.thenen.co.uk
You can also email us your news or letters to news@thenen.co.uk

Five day football match raises over £85,000 and is new World Record

Many tears were shed last night as the five-day football match which saw 1,411 goals, a new world record set and raised over £74,000 in honour of Craig Gowans came to an end.

Friends, family and teammates of the late Falkirk defender completed the 5-day football match to break the Guinness World Record for the longest 11-a-side football match.

As the game came to an end the players celebrated their achievement and many were in floods of tears. Craig's tearful parents John and Sheila thanked all the players and army of volunteers for their help setting the event up.

Addressing the large crowd that turned up to watch the closing stages John said "This has been a tremendous event that has been supported by so many people. Craig's friends organised it and in my eyes these young men are my heroes.

"I can't thank them enough for everything they have done and I am so proud of everyone who helped us organise this match. It was a long time being planned but it worked out well in the end.

"The players who turned up and played showed superb character during the past five days.

"Our family are overjoyed by this and we are thankful to everyone."

The match was supported by a number of high-profile football associations and charities such as the Scottish Football Association, Football Aid, The Sick Kids Friends Foundation and the Hibernian Football Community.

Craig, a former Daniel Stewarts and Melville College pupil, died during training aged just 17, when a 20ft long pole used for transportable nets he was instructed to carry came into contact with power lines. He had signed his professional contract with the club just two weeks prior to the accident.



The two 18-man squads have already smashed their £37,000 fundraising target, inspired by Craig's professional number at Falkirk, number 37, and the total continues to rise.

The money raised will be used to fund enhancements to the new Sick Kids Hospital at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh at Little France, specifically a state-of-the-art

Snnozelen room in Craig's name. The space will be a calming room with multi-sensory equipment providing a relaxing and stimulating space for children with sensory impairments.

Rachel McKenzie, Head of Voluntary Fundraising at the Sick Kids Friends Foundation, said: "We're extremely grateful to the Craig Gowans Memorial Fund for pledging such an incredible amount of money to the Foundation over the last ten years."

Falkirk Football Club have also confirmed that gate money from their game against Hamilton will also be donated to the fund.

Chairman Doug Henderson, said "I'd like to congratulate the team, and new World Record Holders, for their great efforts over a monumental 105 hours, and to thank them also for getting together to deliver this wonderful tribute to Craig Gowans.

Craig Gowan's football match in pictures



Granton toilets to close this month

The Public toilets at Granton Square will close at the end of this month as part of the Council's cost cutting exercise.

In 2011, the Council agreed, as part of the Budget process, to reduce the budget of the Public Conveniences service by £300,000, a saving that was delayed until the 2015/2016 financial year. There was an additional budget proposal to reduce the service budget by a further £300,000, which would have resulted in the closure of all public toilets outwith the city centre.

The Council subsequently decided on 12 February 2015, to reject the proposal of the additional £300,000 budget saving. The original saving of £300,000 is still required in order to contribute towards the Council's budget target for the 2015/2016 financial year, which means that some public toilets will have to be closed.

An initial list of toilets proposed for closure was selected based on the number of people using the facilities, the conditions of the buildings, alternative facilities available in the local area and the potential for a Community Toilet Scheme.



Prior to final closure of these facilities, consultation has been undertaken with the wider community to establish views on the proposed closures; and identify any steps that could be taken to lessen the effects of losing these facilities. The results of this survey are available to view here on the Council's Consultation Hub.

A Council spokesperson said "The decision to close these toilets has been a difficult one and it is appreciated that there will be some impact following these closures. To help mitigate this, there have been over 60 additional toilet facilities identified in Council buildings around the city that are available for the public to use.

If you would like to make an enquiry about public toilet closures, please call 0131 529 3030 or public.toilets@edinburgh.gov.uk.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Civil seek development players

Civil Service Strollers are looking to add to their Youth development squad for the coming season, training is held at the clubs base at Marine Drive in Edinburgh, interested players born on or after the 1st January 1996 are asked to contact Martin Lee on 0752 722 3800 for further information.

Giant Hogweed cleared from Craigie

The Council has cleared away a large area of Giant Hogweed plant near Craigroyston Boys Club pitch. The area has been sprayed to ensure it doesn't grow back.

Local group receives £25k

Muirhouse based MY Adventure (MYA) has received £25,000 to support plans for a training base at Towford to support their employability programme for young people from North Edinburgh.

Join our team

Do you have an interest in your community?

If so we would love to hear from people who would be interested in joining our team.

We have various plans for expansion in the future and would be delighted to hear from you.

If you would like to be part of the NECN team then please email editor@thenen.co.uk

www.pchp.org.uk

Six Evening Walks Discovering North Edinburgh's Hidden Gems

Every Thursday evening at 7pm from 23rd July to 27th August

Come and join our experienced award winning volunteer walking guides who will lead these short walks in Pilton, Drylaw, Granton and Muirhouse.

An opportunity to discover some of the real Edinburgh. Find out about the area's history, community projects and wildlife. Each walk will take place from a different location (see below).

23 rd July	Unearthing Granton Gardens Pilton Community Health Project 73 Boswall Parkway EH52PW	1.4 miles
30 th July	Discovering the Orient in Drylaw Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre 67 Groathill Loan EH4 2SA	2 miles
6 th Aug	Granton Seaviews and Lighthouse Ainsley Park Leisure Centre	3.1 miles
13 th Aug	Birds Beaches and Brass Rubbings (A Family Special) Prentice Centre 1 Granton Mains Avenue EH4 4GA	2.2 miles
20 th Aug	All things Green in Muirhouse & Silverknowes Muirhouse Community Shop 57 Pennywell Road EH4 4TY	3 miles
27 th Aug	Hidden History in West Pilton Prentice Centre 1 Granton Mains Avenue EH4 4GA	1.25 miles

SIX short walks in Pilton, Muirhouse, Granton & Drylaw

For more information call 0131 551 1671 or email admin@pchp.org.uk

Childcare Academy



Think you could be a good childcare worker?

The Childcare Academy could be for you!

RECRUITING NOW! STARTS MONDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2015

THE CHILDCARE ACADEMY IS AN EMPLOYABILITY FUND STAGE 3 PROGRAMME WHICH WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO:

- Undertake free training requiring attendance of up to 30 hours weekly within a safe, friendly environment
- Gain significant experience of working with children by undertaking a quality supported work experience placement within a pre school or out of school care setting
- Gain 2 Accredited SQA Units from the new Social Services (Children and Young People) SVQ Level 2 Award
- Gain employment in the childcare sector
- Access a Young Persons Allowance of £55 per week for eligible 16 to 18 year olds (for a max of 26 weeks)
- Access various Progression Routes upon successful completion

If you are aged 16+, unemployed and would like to find out more, please contact Barbara Webster (our Training Co-ordinator) on 0131 311 6926 or e-mail barbara.webster@northedinburghchildcare.co.uk



North Edinburgh Childcare, 18b Ferry Road Avenue Edinburgh EH4 4BL
0131 332 8001
www.northedinburghchildcare.co.uk



The P&O ship Britannia, launched earlier this year after being constructed at a cost of £473 million, arrived this month as part of a day trip to Newhaven on it's maiden British Isles Cruise.

The visit has been billed as 'Britannia meets Britannia', with the cruise liner berthed close to the home of the Royal Yacht Britannia.

Don't get marooned on Cramond Island

The Coastguard is urging visitors to Cramond Island to check the safe crossing times before walking over.

Last week the Queensferry Lifeboat and Coastguard teams were called out several times to people who had become marooned on the Island.

A notice board at the entry to the walkway has lists the safe crossing times.

You can check our website at www.thenen.co.uk for the safe crossing timetable.



Fire Service issues BBQ warning

Firefighters are reminding people to safely dispose of barbecues to help prevent needless fires.

One of the main causes of the fires was the careless disposal of BBQ's into bins, some of which already contained combustible materials. This type of incident ties up valuable SFRS resources.

Fire Service Manager Jonathon Miller said "Following the guidance provided will prevent resources being tied up at minor, easily prevented small fires.

"This can also delay our attendance at more serious, possibly life threatening, incidents and divert firefighters away from important community safety and training activities.

"We will be conducting routine joint visits with City of Edinburgh Council Park Rangers during the summer to offer advice on BBQ safety as well as offering free home fire safety visits to park users."

New road marking on Pennywell Road

New road markings have finally been installed on Pennywell Road to advise drivers not to go the wrong way.



This comes after pressure from locals and community groups. TRIM chairman Robert Pearson said "This has been needed for a long time as the number of cars that go the wrong way is unreal.

"Hopefully these marking will stop cars making the wrong turn and avoid any accidents."

Youth Parliament launches manifesto consultation

The Scottish Youth Parliament has launched its youth manifesto consultation to gather the views of thousands of young people across Scotland.

Former Chairs of the organisation, current and former members, and partner organisations gathered at an event in Edinburgh last week to mark SYP's 16th Birthday, and celebrate the achievements of Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament throughout the years.

The manifesto consultation, called Lead the Way, offers Scotland's young people an opportunity to be the driving force and shape the years ahead. Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament will be consulting with young people all over the country, about a wide range of policy issues, to establish the biggest youth manifesto ever produced in Scotland.

In 2011, the Scottish Youth Parliament published its 2011-2016 youth manifesto, Change the Picture, which saw around 43,000 young people share their views on a range of issues of importance to young people.

Jordan Linden MSYP, Chair of the Scottish Youth Parliament, said: "As a youth-led organisation, our consultation work is at the very heart of everything we do and forms an invaluable part of our vision and values.

"Young people must be at the heart of discussions about their future, leading conversations in their communities, schools, colleges, universities, and workplaces. Young people are not only the future of our country, they are the present. The purpose of today is very simple, we are asking the young people of Scotland to lead the way.

"Our previous manifestos have given us the mandate to make significant changes in local and national policy, including ensuring 16 and 17 year olds could vote in the referendum and in the Scottish Parliament elections next year. I think it's fitting that we celebrate these achievements today, but that we also look forward and ask ourselves: what more we can do to empower young people to make significant change?

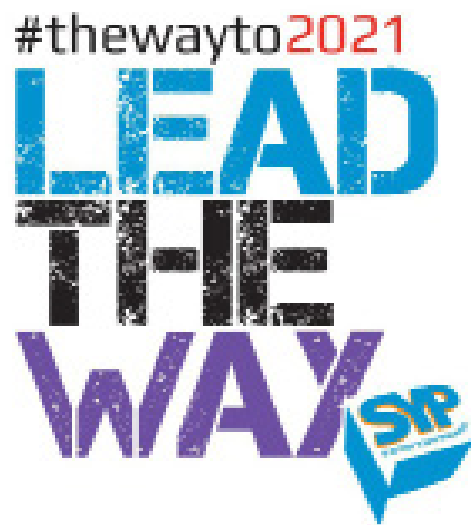
"Through our manifesto consultation, we will ensure young people's voices are heard. The views of Scotland's young people underpin everything we do as an organisation, and our 2016-2021 youth manifesto will allow young people to truly lead the way in championing the issues that young people care about."

Edinburgh Northern & Leith MSYP Terri Smith added: "This is our fifth manifesto since we were

established in 1999 and back in 2010 we received 42,804 responses to the consultation making it the largest youth consultation in Scotland.

"We have high hopes of doubling the figures from 2010 whilst making sure as many young people aged 12-25 in Edinburgh have their say. "I'm now the Scottish Youth Parliament current longest serving member so have high hopes for what'll be my last term as a MSYP. Over the past six years I've developed a real passion for ensuring Scotland's most vulnerable and disenfranchised young people have their say – particularly the young people of Edinburgh Northern and Leith (the constituency I represent).

"Our manifesto is called 'Lead the Way' and you can view the online version here <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LeadtheWayConsultation> the official hashtag is #thewayto2021





RAZZMATAZZ

Saturday 18th July 12 noon - 5pm

Entry by Donation

Live Music Historic Garden Plant Sales
Children's Activities:
Quiz trail Traditional Games Chickens
Pond Dipping Face Painting Badge making
Food (meat & veg) Cream Teas & more

Redhall Walled Garden
97 Lanark Road Edinburgh EH14 2LZ
0131 443 0946

Disabled parking on site, limited parking on Lanark Road

Redhall Walled Garden is a SAMH service dedicated to mental health and well being for all

www.samh.org.uk SAMH is the Scottish Association for Mental Health
Scottish Charity No: SC008897. Registered office: Brunswich House, 51 Wilson Street, Glasgow G11 1UZ

Beat Doorstep Crime

- Keep front and back doors locked.
- Fit a door chain or bar - and use it.
- Only let callers in if they have an appointment and you have confirmed they are genuine.
- Always ask for ID.
- Don't keep large sums of money at home.
- Ensure your doors and windows are locked.
- Look out for those in your community.
- Report any suspicious activity immediately.
- Call 999 and ask for the police if you feel scared or threatened.



scotland.police.uk @PoliceScotland PoliceScotland



PEP'S SUMMER FAYRE

Tuesday 21st July
1.00pm - 3.30pm

In the Community Garden
at West Pilton Park
(Opposite PEP)

Everyone is Welcome!

Adults £3
Children £1

Entrance fee includes a raffle ticket & food at the BBQ

The will also be table stalls from local charitable organisations on the day - to book a table please call PEP on 0131 315 4466

Tea in the Park!

FOR OLDER ADULTS

- TAI CHI
- LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
- LINE DANCING
- BINGO
- HOME BAKING

Tuesday 4th August
1.00pm-4.00pm
West Pilton Park

Enter the home-baking contest!
Bring your entry on the day. Cakes, biscuits, scones...

For more info contact Lianne or Clare on 0131 551 1671
Email. admin@pchip.org.uk

Event organised by 'West Pilton Park Action Group' (WPPAG)

Leith Walk by-election to elect two Councillors under STV for first time

Leith Walk constituents will now be asked to elect two councillors in the forthcoming by-election – a Scottish first.

An official Notice of Election was published today (Wednesday, 22 July), explaining how to stand as a candidate and who is eligible to vote.

The by-election will choose two new councillors for the City of Edinburgh Council, filling vacancies in the Leith Walk Ward following Green councillor Maggie Chapman’s resignation.

This is in addition to Deidre Brock standing down from her role after being elected as a Member of Parliament for the Edinburgh North and Leith constituency.

The election will use the Single Transferable Vote (STV) system, where voters use numbers to rank candidates in order of preference rather than using a single cross. Voters can express ‘preferences’ for as many or as few of the candidates as they wish.

Two candidates will be elected following the vote, which is the first time an STV by-election has been needed to fill two vacancies in the same ward.

Sue Bruce, Returning Officer for Edinburgh, said: “This is the first time a Scottish council by-election has been held to fill more than one vacancy in a ward using the STV system.

“Voters need to remember that they can vote for as many candidates as they like – this time though, voters must show their choices by numbering the candidates on the paper, with one being their first choice.

We look forward to working with the public in this important democratic process for Edinburgh.”

Polling stations will be open from 7am to 10pm on 10th September. Details of where these are will be announced shortly.

To register to vote or apply for a postal vote contact the Electoral Registration Office or phone 0131 344 2500 by 25 August.



Could community shares buy walled garden?

A local group is considering raising funds to buy the Granton Castle Walled Garden.

The group is hoping that a community buyout of the Garden can be agreed and selling shares for £10.00 will help raise the money.

At the end of this month the Friends Group campaign to safeguard and restore the walled garden will reach a crucial point.

On 29 July the council planners will make a final decision on the 2004 Waterfront Edinburgh Limited application; ‘minded to grant’ for demolition of parts of the walled garden to make way for 17 townhouses.

Friends of Granton Castle Walled Garden hope they decide to refuse the 2004 application, instead allowing a chance of the listed garden’s restoration for community use.

To find out more email the group at grantoncastlegardengroup@gmail.com

Edinburgh MELA opportunities for youngsters

EDINBURGH
MELA★

MELA-D

3rd August - 14th August



Are you aged 11-21?
Would you like to perform at
The Edinburgh Mela 2015?



The Mela-D workshops offer an opportunity for young people interested in music and dance to perform at the prestigious Edinburgh Mela Festival on 29th of August.

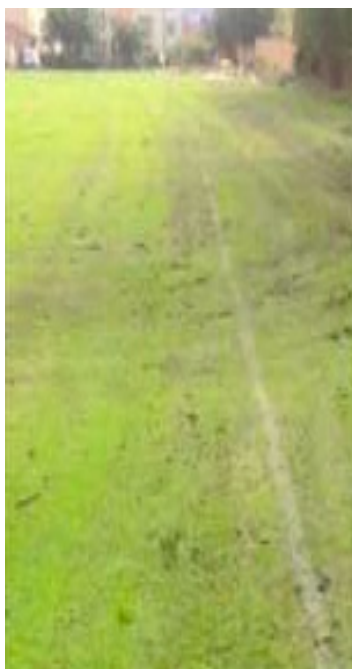
Whether you are a beginner or an expert musician or dancer they want to hear from you. The workshop programme will run from the 3rd – 14th August from 10.am-4. pm and these are FREE and bus passes and refreshments are provided for all participants.

Working alongside the professional team of musicians and dancers you will have the opportunity to create an original performance piece fusing music and dance from across the world into a show stopping live performance.

For more information contact Jay McAllister on 07802 867 534 or email jay@edinburgh_mela.co.uk

Local football club angry after Council tractor damages pitch

A local football club has been left angry after Council grass cutters ripped up their pitch whilst cutting it.



Players from St Bernards had earlier this month collected all the grass that was left behind after it was cut and had spent time getting the park ready for the new season.

This week coach Ryan Dinse was horrified when he seen the mess left buy a tractor used to cut the grass.



Ryan said “The council decide to take a tractor over it when it’s wet and leave it with tractor marks all over it.

“I am raging with what has happened after all the time and effort that has gone in.”

Skatepark construction could start in September

Builders could finally start building a skatepark in Drylaw as early as September if planners accept the final plan.

The skatepark has been three years in its creation and at last months Drylaw and Telford Community Council chairperson Alex Dale said he was hoping for work to start in September.

He told the meeting “The builders have submitted their final proposals to the planner to ensure they are happy.

“If they are happy with the minor changes then work could start in September.

“The builders have said it will take ten weeks to build.”

The skatepark group made of community councillors, councillors, tenants reps and council staff have been developing plans for three years and are hoping the skatepark will be built this year.

The group worked hard to secure the necessary funding and planning consent to build the park.

The skatepark will be built on the site of the existing BMX track and will enhance the use of the area which also has a kids playpark.

The Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust will manage the work having been appointed by the steering group.



The Queen pays a visit to North Edinburgh



THE Queen has met disabled veterans and their families during a visit to a charity housing project in North Edinburgh

She spoke to representatives of the Scottish Veterans’ Garden City Association (SVGCA), and some of those helped by the organisation, during a tour of its development at Salvesen Gardens. The tour took place midway through her annual week of engagements north of the Border.

The SVGCA houses disabled veterans in Scotland and has 614 houses in more than 70 locations across the country. The largest number, about 130, are in Edinburgh.

A national appeal by the charity, also known as Houses for Heroes, launched in 2008 aims to build 60 new houses and has so far resulted in the construction of 22 homes. The Salvesen Gardens area, which already houses a number of veterans, is currently the focus of a new housing development.

The Queen met people linked to the project when she visited the site and was handed flowers by six-year-old Robbie Skeldon.

North Edinburgh Community Sport

Send us sports news from you're club by emailing sport@thenen.co.uk

Rugby event in memory of Richard Logg

Following the tragic death of Richard Logg in a car crash on Christmas-Eve 2014, his team mates at Edinburgh Northern Rugby Football Club have come together to raise funds in his honour and to keep the memory of a 'gentle giant' alive, writes JACOB COURT.

The Club has already run several successful fund raising events for local charities, all chosen by his young family.

Spartans travel to Blyth in final pre-season match

Local football side Spartans will make the trip to Blyth this weekend for a 'Battle of the Spartans' challenge this weekend as The Spartans take on their Evo-Stik Premier League namesakes Blyth in their final pre-season friendly.

The fixture will be the ideal test for Dougie Samuel's side ahead of their Lowland League opener against Stirling University on Sunday August 2nd.

Both clubs will be remembered last season for their Cup heroics, Saturday's hosts finally succumbing to Birmingham City after taking a 2-0 lead in their Round 3 clash whilst of course the Ainslie Park men took Berwick Rangers to replay before losing out by a single goal in front of a noisy 1,000 strong Spartan Army travelling contingent.

The sides last met back in 2009 as part of a pre-season tournament to mark the opening of Ainslie Park, that game finished all square at 2-2 after 90 minutes.

Widowed & Young (WAY) and Richmond's Hope, as well as national charity Home Start, have been at the heart of fundraising efforts thus far.

The next event to be hosted looks to celebrate the things that will always remind us of Loggy; a crunching rugby style, a love of spending time with family and friends – and a spirited enthusiasm for mischief and laughs.

Centred round a rugby tournament to celebrate 'Loggy' through the sport he loved, the Club are putting on a day of events, for all ages. Rugby, raffles, auctions as well as a BBQ, refreshments, live music and activities for children will all be laid on in order to foster as much as is possible of the spirit that draws people to small, community rugby clubs like Northern.

Donations are welcome but a good attendance would be much preferred with the setting of his home pitch in Inverleith Park being the venue for a three way tournament between his Club, Edinburgh Northern, a 'Northern Legends' team and a guest appearance from charity favourites, The Pigbarians.

Edinburgh Northern RFC would like to take this opportunity to welcome anyone with a passion for fun and a love of laughs to join us in Inverleith Park, East Fettes Avenue from 1pm on Saturday 25 July for a day of rugby, family games, barbecued meats and an evening of music.

RICHARD LOGG
MEMORIAL MATCH
SATURDAY 25 JULY | 1PM

EDINBURGH NORTHERN XV
PIGBARIANS XV
NORTHERN LEGENDS XV
KO | 1.30PM

AT
INVERLEITH PARK
EAST FETTES AVENUE
EDINBURGH

Logos for Pigbarians RFC, WAY Widowed & Young, and Home Start are visible at the bottom of the poster.