

Cockenzie & Port Seton Community Council Newsletter



Issue 38 - Spring/Summer 2008

REPORT FROM THE NEW CHAIRPERSON

My name is Gordon Campbell and I have lived in Port Seton for over 30 years. I am married with two children. I am looking forward to the many challenges that being Chairperson will bring and also to working with the team to help ensure that the Community Council represents and serves our community.

I became Chairperson in February as Isobel Black had to stand down at the end of last year due to health and personal reasons. She has agreed to stay on as a Community Councillor in the meantime as we had two further resignations - Andrew Blair and Rose Noonan.

Andrew had to leave us due to business commitments and Rose because of family commitments. They are both a great loss to the Community Council and we take this opportunity to thank them publicly for their work.

Two vacancies remain which we hope will be filled when the Community Council Elections take place in April (information has been included with the 2008/9 Council Tax letters recently sent out by ELC). If you feel you could spare some time and lend your skills, please consider joining us. It

is an important and worthwhile voluntary organisation where you can help make a difference, engage with the community, gain knowledge and learn new skills.

We are always looking for **volunteers** to help with various events and fundraising or people who could be co-opted members to help with projects.

Please contact us if you are interested in becoming part of the Community Council. Your Community Needs You!

NEWSLETTER FEEDBACK

This is your community and it is very important that we have your feedback on any of the articles in this newsletter and indeed any concerns, ideas, opinions you may have.

Community Councillors

Chair: Gordon Campbell, Vice Chair: Liz Clark, Secretary and Treasurer: Alexandrina Bell, MBE, Isobel Black, Geoff Cummiskey, Bryan Green, Paula McLay, Shelagh Thomson.

Keep your newsletter handy as it is full of useful information that you may need from time to time.

POLICING, ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR TEAM AND COMMUNITY AND POLICE PARTNERSHIP

The past few months have seen a great improvement in manpower and initiatives by the Police, the ASB Team and the CAPP.

We have been allocated two extra Community Police Officers for the Ward; we now have a very effective ASB Team and the CAPP initiative has got off the ground along with the Prestonpans Initiative Team (PIT - which covers the whole Ward). Also, we are soon to have Community Wardens who will have more powers than the Community Support Officers who they are replacing.

Community Councils, Local Councillors, members of Tenants and Residents groups, ELC Housing Officers, Police and a member of the ASB Team meet monthly to discuss crime statistics of the past month and to take forward tasks for the following month. Some of the tasks given to the police so far have been the issues of underage drinking, youth disorder, speeding, noise, and dog fouling. Problem areas have been targeted and the appropriate actions taken. All this should

eventually lead to a safer, more pleasant environment for all of us.

If you have any issues that you would like to see addressed at the CAPP meetings please contact the Community Council via the Port Seton Centre.

PC Grant Gray, Prestonpans Police Station, 810250

Police Call Centre: 0131 311 3131

(You will automatically be put through to the Call Centre if Prestonpans station is closed. This number can be dialled direct if the complaint is something which needs to be dealt with right away. The nearest police patrol car will attend.)

Antisocial Behaviour Team: 01620 829 919

24 hr Helpline: 0845 601 8518,

Email: asb@eastlothian.gov.uk

Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111

ALWAYS DIAL 999 IN AN EMERGENCY!

Contacts

Write: Community Council, Port Seton Centre, South Seton Park, Port Seton, EH32 0BG

Tel: Port Seton Centre 815815 **Website:** www.cockenzieandportseton.org.uk **Email:** cockenzieandportseton@hotmail.com

Speed Reactive Variable Message Sign

The Community Council has been successful in raising funds for one Speed Reactive Variable Message Sign. A very big thank-you to the local business who so generously helped us to match fund with ELC's Community Councils' Capital Development Fund which provided 50% of the cost of the sign. Having identified with ELC the best place for this sign, it has been decided to erect it near the Boat Yard on Edinburgh Road. Traffic coming from the 40mph zone often fails to reduce speed when entering the 30mph zone through the village. We hope that this sign helps drivers to observe the speed limit and help make our roads safer.

The sign is solar powered and mobile. We hope to raise money again for the other planned for sign at the east entry of the village at Links Road. ELC have erected one of their loan signs at the east Links Road. This has been effective at reducing speed. We are still hoping to have the loan of this sign for the Fishers Road, Alder Road and Avenue Road areas.

From your Local Library

Following on from a recent visit by children's author Catherine MacPhail, we are delighted to say that local writer **Quentin Jardine** will be giving a talk in the library on **Wednesday 7th May at 7.30pm**. Tickets are free, but spaces are limited, so please contact the library to secure your place.

We are pleased to say that several of the youths have been kept very busy on Friday afternoons. Aply assisted by youth worker Sandra Bell, they have been making notes of groups and events within the community, and hope to eventually create their own website, "Port Seton Peeps", watch this space!

We wish to issue an invitation to all under 3s to our monthly Bounce and Tickle session (stories and rhymes). These are held on the second Monday of each month at 10.30am - 11.30am. Further information can be obtained from library staff. Tel: 01875 811709 or e-mail portseton.library@eastlothian.gov.uk

Library Opening Hours

Mon 2pm - 7.30pm • Tue 10am - 1pm + 2pm - 5pm
Wed CLOSED • Thur 2pm - 7.30pm • Fri 10am - 1pm + 2pm - 5pm
Sat 10am - 1pm

John Bellany Day Centre

We are always looking for donations of Double Knitting wool, our phone number is 815886.

We would like to thank every one who returned to the Day Centre after the Xmas Lights Switch-on in December. We raised approximately £100. **Thank you for your support.**

Keith McCombs, Assistant Co-ordinator

COCKENZIE PTA

Dates for your diary:

Gala week treasure hunt: WED 28th May

Halloween disco: FRI 24th Oct

Christmas Fair: SAT 29th Nov

The PTA always welcomes new members. **For more information please contact: Joanne Dunton (Chair) 815571**

Community News from Councillor Margaret Libberton

Get in the Swim: It seems that not enough of us from Cockenzie & Port Seton use the facilities at the Mercat Gait Centre - and it's really worth a visit.

- Ladies Night on Thursday
- Children's Fun Session on Friday
- Facilities for children's birthday parties
- Hydrotherapy pool
- Fit 'n' Swim - from 1 March - 30 June 2008 which entitles you to participate in any fitness class or swimming session at only £30 per month (£22 reduced rate) - a great value offer.
- Conditioning gym
- and much more

Mercat Gait are about to embark on a marketing exercise so look out for their adverts in the local press.

Many residents would be somewhat disappointed last summer at the poor quality of **ground care** that the Council provided in our area which was unavoidable due to a number of issues. A new Local Area Amenity Officer is to

be appointed shortly and that should help greatly. Thanks to the 'In Bloom' ladies for their tremendous effort, commitment and enthusiasm.

Much effort has gone into making a safe **crossing at Edinburgh Road**, especially for the residents at Osborne Court. Following an assessment, the average speed of traffic on this road is **ONLY 26mph** and the problem seems to be volume rather than speed! It's hard to believe that drivers are doing less than 30mph on this road. However, I would urge drivers to drive with caution especially as many elderly residents and children use our roads.

Concern had been expressed at the condition of the roadside from the **by-pass down to Cockenzie** - it was unsightly and created the wrong impression of our community. We held a site meeting to determine what improvements could be made and it is really good to see that the work has now started and the planting of meadow flowers should soon be evident.

For your information - notice of Local Councillors' surgeries is posted in the Port Seton Centre

COMMUNITY COUNCIL LITTER INITIATIVE

The Community Council has gifted a talking bin to Cockenzie Nursery School. The idea is that we are helping the children to learn about not throwing down litter from the very start of their education. The children chose a beautiful Robin and a rhyme has been written for them which will encourage them to always put their litter in a bin or take it home with them.

We will also be going into the Primary School to talk to the children about litter and to organize a Litter Poster Competition. The winners will receive prizes and their posters will be used for the Community Notice Boards and shop windows. This is just the start of a continuing initiative to help make our environment more pleasant and to help get over the message that we all have a responsibility to be **Good Citizens**.

Cockenzie House

It is with great concern and sadness that we have to report that Cockenzie House Nursing Home has closed. Residents have been moved or are in the process of being moved to other Homes throughout East Lothian.

The Community Council stood alongside the families, staff and the community who fought hard and long against the closure, believing that it would have been in the best interests of the present and future residents and of our community to keep the home open until the planned 70 new units were built in the east area of the grounds.

Our thoughts are very much with the residents and their families. The Action Group hopes to continue look into the reasons for and also the way in which closure was dealt with, so that the crisis this has caused, does not happen elsewhere.

Achievement Awards

Last year's Achievement Awards were received by **Lyn Marshall** and **Ross Hamilton** - Lyn for her years of hard work and dedication on various committees and also her church activities. Ross for his helpfulness, voluntary work, musical entertaining and involvement in sports.

We are asking you once again to vote for an adult or adult group and also for a young person or young persons' group who you think deserve recognition for their **Outstanding Achievement in the Community**. This can be for anything you consider to be a worthwhile effort - e.g. good neighbour, voluntary work, achievements in sport, music or art. Nomination Forms are available at the Port Seton Centre and should be completed and returned to the Community Council mailbox in the Centre by **Saturday 17th May**. The awards will be presented after the **Crowning Ceremony, Gala Day, 31st May**, by the **Gala Queen**.

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARDS

Notice boards are situated at the Co-op Car Park; the Newsagents, West Harbour Road and the Harbour Cafe. There is also a board in the Harbour Medical Centre and in the Port Seton Centre.

Current Minutes of Community Council meetings are displayed on the boards at the Co-op car park, West Harbour Road, Port Seton Centre and are also available in the library and on our website. We try to have the minutes displayed within a few days of our monthly meeting which takes place at Port Seton Centre at 7.30 on the first Tuesday of each month (except January and July). However, updating the boards can be delayed in windy weather conditions.

Anyone wishing to advertise forthcoming events or information can do so by leaving posters (A4 size only) for the Community Council mailbox at the Port Seton Centre in South Seton Park. We need to have the posters at least two weeks in advance but preferably one month before an event. We will do our best to accommodate your posters.

Cockenzie Power Station

From the 1st of January, the Power Station entered a new phase in its life cycle. From that date, the Station is an 'opted-out' plant under the European Large Combustion Plant Directive. In essence, this legislation means that we have 20,000 running hours per chimney, with a back-stop position of 2015 whether the hours have been used or not.

In the meantime, as you may have been aware from recent articles in the national newspapers, Scottish Power is actively considering its options for the site, which may include the installation of 'clean-coal' technology. Without going into too much technical detail, this would include advanced-supercritical boilers and emissions abatement equipment.

Late 2007 also saw the introduction of even more stringent environmental controls, under the Pollution Prevention and Control Regulations. We strive to work hand-in-hand with SEPA (Scottish Environmental Protection Agency) to limit our impact on the environment.

We will continue to hold regular meetings with representatives of Cockenzie & Port Seton Community Council, as well as other local groups, to give people the opportunity to speak to us face-to-face on any issues or initiatives with which we can help.

Bill Kelly, Station Manager, Cockenzie Power Station

Sponsor	In Memory
Margaret Cunningham	Big Dodd
Marie Brown	Betty Brown, mother-in-law
Marie Brown	George Brown, husband
Ena Taylor	Tom Taylor, husband
Ena Taylor	Ronnie Taylor, son
Betty Hunnam	Alex Hunnam, husband
Loreen Courtney	Alex Hunnam, dad
John, Mary and James Francis	Jim & Phemie Francis, mum and dad
Michael, Sheila, Michael and Craig	Gran & Granddad Francis
A Coull	Ackie Coull, husband
Jackeline, David, Pauline and families	Ackie Coull, dad
Morag Griston-Lee	Richard Lee, husband
Anne Dann and family	Syd Dann, husband
Caitlin Reid	Auntie Maisie & Uncle Jimmy
Caitlin Reid - from Gran & grandkids	Granda Gibby
Arlene Gordon	Pat Gordon, husband
Bunty Bellany	Margaret Glynn, best friend
Bunty Bellany	Mr & Mrs Hall, mum and dad
Nan Marshall	Mrs A Thomson, mum
Lorraine and Kenny	Betty Paton, auntie
Alice Hicke	James Hicke, husband
David Smith, Diane & Geoff	Betty Smith, wife and mum
Geoffrey & Diane Cummiskey	Joyce Cummiskey, mum
Rae and John Brown and family	Dick & Greta Allan, mum and dad
Mary Stewart	George Stewart
Mary McNeish	John Johnston
Mary McNeish	W. McNeish
Anna McPhee	Jan Wilson
Anna McPhee	Marion McPhee
Ann Strachan	Bobby & Mum and Dad
Issy and Amanda, miss you both	Stewart & Allan
Kathleen Chappel	John Bellany
Kathleen Chappel	Vi Bellany
Rose and Gabriel Noonan	Mr & Mrs Shelly, mum and dad
Rose and Gabriel Noonan	Mr & Mrs Noonan, mum and dad
Rose and Gabriel Noonan	Bernard Noonan, brother and uncle
Cath & Ian Graham	John Graham, son
Cath & Ian Graham	Jim & May Graham, mum and dad
Alan & Jackie	William Boyd
Helen, Francis, Margaret, Wilma & Neil	Frank & Margaret McGraw, mum & dad
Etta Libberton	Mary Ann Smith
Etta Libberton	Gary Libberton

SPONSOR A MEMORY

Thanks to everyone who sponsored a light on the Christmas Tree. £235 was raised and this goes to the Christmas Lights Fund. More money was taken than we have names - if your Memory is not on the list, please accept our sincere apologies.



Cocksennie and Port Seton In Bloom celebrates its' **10th Anniversary** this year. From small beginnings back in 1998, we have grown and developed. Now, we are able to operate as a 'stand alone' organisation and our main objective is the improvement of the environment of Cocksennie and Port Seton.

To celebrate the anniversary and to coincide with the 60th Children's' Gala, Cocksennie

CCTV

As reported in our last newsletter by Councillor Currie, we are pleased to say that ELC will be installing CCTV in the village very soon. This is something which in the past the Community Council has endeavored to secure but at that time our village was not deemed as a priority for this valuable tool in the fight against anti-social behaviour and crime. The present Community Council had already decided it was something we badly needed and had looked at trying to raise the money ourselves though this would have been a very difficult task so we are delighted with this news. CCTV will make a huge difference to the safety and well-being of the community and be of great assistance to the police. The Community Council will co-ordinate with the police on choosing the areas to be covered. We already have statistics and information to hand to help make this decision but anyone wishing to add their views and suggestions **do please contact us.**

Fireworks and Winter Wonderland Events

The Fireworks Display was once again a very successful event - well attended, superb display, refreshments, music and the very popular stall selling glow sticks. Many thanks goes to all the volunteers who helped out, with special thanks to the Power Station Team whose expertise we could not do without.

Winter Wonderland - a really wonderful family afternoon was had by all!

The kids visited Santa, were entertained by a magician, enjoyed themselves on the bouncy castle, had their faces painted and danced to popular music. Refreshments were available and adults played free bingo and a free raffle took place for which there was an abundance of prizes donated from individuals and local businesses. Again, our thanks goes to all who helped make this such a delightful event for the community.

Senior Citizens' New Year's Party

In January, the Community Council held the annual Senior Citizens' Party. Drinks, sandwiches and lots of goodies were served while music specially chosen to evoke memories of the 40s, 50s and 60s was played. We then treated our audience to Bingo and a Raffle with lots of prizes donated by local businesses and members of the community.

Everyone - including the volunteers - had a smashing afternoon. The smiles and thanks from our senior citizens were heart-warming.

Thanks to all the volunteers who gave their time, energy and donations of sandwiches and delicious home baking and thanks to our OAPs for coming along and allowing us to entertain them!

and Port Seton has, after a gap of 2 years, been entered into the prestigious Beautiful Scotland competition.

This will involve quite a lot of extra work. In the past 10 years many of you in the local community have given fantastic support, both financially and in a variety of practical ways. Without it, many of the achievements would not have been possible. We are confident that this support will continue.

Our busy time will start in early April, when the plug plants for the tubs, planters and hanging baskets arrive in the Nursery Garden. The annual Spring Clean will take place on week beginning the 13th April. Assistance is very much needed by local groups. Anyone who would like to lend a hand, either on a regular basis, or just now and again will be very welcome. There are jobs for everyone, whatever your ability - and the kettle is always on!! Please come along to the Nursery Garden any weekday morning from 10.30 am or phone one of the 'Bloomers': **Marlene 811788, Helen 810191, Liz 812175, Etta 812065, Sheila 812410**

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to lack of volunteers and also the need for us to focus more on Community Planning, the Environment, Licensing and Policing, the Community Council has decided to offer the organization of these community events to other voluntary groups. A substantial donation would be given towards each event and also advice and help where required. Any group interested in running either the Fireworks Display or the Winter Wonderland should write to: The Secretary, Community Council Mailbox, c/o Port Seton Centre.

This is an excellent opportunity for those groups wishing to fundraise.

Litter and Dog Fouling

We receive many complaints regarding litter and dog-fouling. Please practice good citizenship and consider and respect others and the environment by not dropping your litter and by cleaning up after your dog.

Poop Scoop bags are available free at the Library in the community centre. It is hoped very soon to make them available

SETON FIELDS

The latest news concerning Seton Fields is that **planning consent** for "change of use of agricultural land to form extension to existing caravan site" has been granted.

The footpaths around the fields, disrupted by the ploughing last autumn are slowly being walked again but there is no sign of Bourne Leisure reinstating them. The Community Council has passed this matter on to ELC in the absence of replies to the letters sent to the Caravan Park

Seton Fields Community Company will have its **AGM on Thursday 17th April at 7.30pm in Port Seton Centre** and **volunteers** are being sought to join the board of directors. Please **contact the secretary L. Bryden on 853704** as soon as possible, for more details.

in other outlets and certainly there are plans to make them available through the ELC website.

If you have a complaint about litter and dog-fouling please telephone East Lothian Council on 01620 827430 or use the feedback facility on their website - click on "contact us" and use the form at the bottom of that page. <http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk> ELC act on the volume of complaints received therefore it is best to let them know if you have a problem in your area.

Cockenzie & Port Seton Gala Day - Diamond Jubilee, Saturday 31st May 2008

The first Gala Day was held in 1948 to celebrate the opening of King George V Park. The Minutes from that time describe that flags and bunting were to be encouraged by all, and that foodbags, tea, milk, lemonade and ice-cream all featured on the day, as well as races for the children.

Many people still remember this day, and it was felt that the community had enjoyed the day so much that they wished to continue with this festival.

On 3rd December 1948, a meeting of the Gala Committee took place where it was agreed that they would hold a Gala Day on 25 June 1949, with a queen to be chosen, by ballot of the girls in the qualifying class from Cockenzie Primary School. Catherine Thomson was chosen as 1st Seton Queen and was crowned by the Provost's wife - also called Catherine Thomson!

Jim Hickie, known to write plays and sketches, was asked to 'train' the children in a crowning ceremony. It was agreed that Cockenzie Gala Day should be entirely different to all others, and suggested that the Queen sail from one harbour to another, with the local fishing fleet escorting the Queen's ship.

60 years later the village is preparing to celebrate this

ceremony all over again and crown the 60th Seton Queen. Our Gala continues to be a unique event in Scottish history and renowned throughout the country for its traditional ceremony and Sea Battle spectacle. We are very grateful to the many people who have worked tirelessly over the past 60 years to ensure the tradition continues.

The present Gala Committee have invited all the girls who have been Seton Queen over the past 60 years to join the Diamond Jubilee celebrations on 31 May. Many responses have already been received, along with memories from each of these girls!

The 60th Seton Queen will be Caitlin McMillan, and her escort will be Jordan Skelly. Caitlin will be crowned by celebrity chef, author and former resident of Cockenzie & Port Seton, Mary Contini, daughter of Johnny & Gertrude DiCiacca who owned the cafes in the High St and Links Rd. Mrs Contini will be escorted by Scott Fleming. The Seton Queen will sail between the harbours on the Fife drifter, The Reaper, accompanied by the local fishing fleet carrying the Pirates and Sailors who will re-enact the traditional sea battle. It is also hoped that The Reaper, a museum boat, will be open over the weekend for visitors - along with the many other events taking place in the 3 Harbours Arts Festival.

It is also planned that the **annual football derby on Sunday 25th May**, between Cockenzie and Port Seton will form part of a Family Fun Day, when the children's races will be held. **Anyone wishing to assist with any of the events planned are urged to contact the Gala Committee as soon as possible.**

C & PS Gala Committee (Chairperson, Tracey Bellany)

Children's Gala Court 2008

Seton Queen 2008 - Caitlin McMillan

Queen's Escort - Jordan Skelly

Seton Queen 2007 - Shona Bell

Escort to Gracious Lady - Scott Fleming

Maids

Chloe Connachan, Taylor McNamara, Lauren Ford,

Ellie Purvis, Katie Higgins, Emma Ferrier.

Champion - Adam O'Donnell

Page Boys

Gregor Woods, Adam Bathgate, Matthew Armitage,

Sam Penman, Scott Bennion

Miss Scotland - Louissa Robertson

Miss England - Rachael Milne

Miss Ireland - Kayleigh Orr

Wales - Brooke Armstrong

Miss France - Louise Cairns

Miss Italy - Chloe Fraser

Heralds

Alistair Stewart & Cameron Watt

Miss Spring - Abbie Storry • Miss Summer - Holly Harrison

Miss Autumn - Laura Denholm • Miss Winter - Lauren Thomson

Flowergirls - Erin Robb, Jasmine Lyon, Rosie Tipton, Eilidh

Buckley, Chloe Banks, Nicole Campbell

Attendant to Flowergirls - Emma Johnston & Rosie Allan

Naval Officer - Connor McClelland

Sailors - Stephen Hendrie, Michael Espener, Adam Forsyth,

Calum Wilson

Pirate Officer - Cameron Simpson

Pirates - Liam Henderson, Daniel Johnstone, Iain Crawford,

Marc McGovern

Britannia - Zakia Iqbal • Spirit of Goodwill - Chelsea

Thompson

Boatbuilder - Murray Berg • Fisherman - Nicholas Lynch

Miner - Fraser Woods

Precious Jewels

Ruby - Abby Douglas • Sapphire - Jennifer Dickson

Emerald - Lucy Murdoch • Turquoise - Nicole Hamilton

Amethyst - Alana Vance • Topaz - Jodie Hend

Garnet - Tegan Stewart

Standard Bearers - Robbie Baillie & Callum Fraser

Fishergirls - Suzanne Stewart, Carolyn Bell, Eilidh Shearer,

Danielle Edmond, Roseanna Gaffney

Port Seton Centre News

New Community Development Officer - Sandra King

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to everyone and highlight some activities that we are currently involved with. It is great to be working in such a vibrant community, there is so much happening and with the continued commitment from local people to enhance facilities there will be real benefits for the whole community. I am based at Port Seton Centre and can be contacted on 815815 or email skingl@eastlothian.gov.uk.

Skate Park

A group of young people who regularly use the Skate Park have been campaigning to get their park improved. Volunteers from the Advisory Committee at Port Seton Centre and the Community Council have joined forces to take this initiative forward. Funding has been secured to complete the initial phase but the young people are still keen to continue to raise funds to make their Skate Park even better. They are working with an artist who is helping them put their creative stamp on the park. Their final artwork will be launched during the week of the 'Three Harbours Festival' with the chosen theme of the sea. Look out for sweeping waves, giant octopus and shark!

Play Park

The Play Park in George V Park is in need of a complete refurbishment and through local campaigning East Lothian Council has now committed funding to improve the play facilities. This is a great start but it is hoped to build on this to ensure children and young people have a park to be proud of with the very best and latest in play equipment. This will be mean applying for more funding from other sources and the Play Park Group will be consulting toddlers to teens to get their views on the layout and type of play equipment they want. Outdoor play is so important to the health and wellbeing of children it extends their learning and provides a place where they can meet with friends and have fun. With more people joining the Play Park Group this will share the workload - contact Sandra at Port Seton Centre to find out more.

Funshine Club

Our popular Funshine Club is aimed at primary school children (primary 1 - 6) and will run in the mornings from 10.05am to midday for one week over the Easter break 31 March - 4 April. The programme of activities includes a healthy day of fun, arts and crafts, outing to the Zoo, outdoor play and much more. (Registration took place on Saturday 15 March at 10am in the Centre).

Port Seton Centre - Youth Club

Youth Clubs are meeting on Monday (primary), Tuesday (secondary) and Friday (Open Café) evenings in the Centre. The Youth Club has benefited from a grant from the Youth Action Fund to employ youth workers and purchase new resources. The young people attending made a list of equipment and ideas to improve the facilities in their clubs. This includes a new pool table, computer, games console, sports equipment, art and crafts, cooking utensils and money for outings. Youth Workers have been developing the programme of activities with those attending. With so many young people using the library on a Friday we have employed a Youth Worker to help support library staff and encourage young people to develop a web page to highlight youth facilities in the area.

Body Conditioning Room

The Advisory Committee is keen to make the most of the space available in the Centre and want to see local people use the facilities more. We have been monitoring the usage of the Body Conditioning Room and have written to all registered members to ask for their views. The general view is that at a time when there are record levels of obesity we should be encouraging healthy lifestyles and using the weights and facilities in the room more. With this in mind we aim to introduce a weekly coaching session in the Body Conditioning room to encourage people to make the most of their community facility. For more information contact Centre staff on 815815.

New Leaflet

ENERGY CONSERVATION - THINK ABOUT IT

We all owe it to the future of our children and our planet to practice energy conservation. By each one of us doing our bit and teaching our children likewise we can help make a difference. There is lots of information available, especially on the web, but here are a few reminders of some of the changes you can easily make **NOW - and save yourself money too!**

Switch Off: Switch electrical equipment off at the socket when not in use to use **25% less electricity**. Switching off at the socket is safer too!!

Light Bulbs: Change to energy saving ones if you can - they use **less electricity and last much longer!**

Plastic Bags: Try not to use them but if you do **reuse them if you can't refuse them!**

Engine Idling: It costs more to leave your car engine running for 20 seconds than it does to turn it off then restart. Help make the environment cleaner and healthier too - **turn it off!**

Walk: Leave the car at home when you possibly can - **take the healthier option!!**

Water: Getting clean water to our taps uses enormous amounts of energy - fix leaks, don't leave taps running unnecessarily - be **water-wise!!**

Dryers: Try not to use the tumble dryer for your washing if you can possibly help it - **hang it out to dry!!**

Recycling: Make use of the recycling facilities at east Links Road and Port Seton Centre

Contact **Waste Aware** for more information.

Helpline: 01620827215 • **Email:** letsnotwaste@eastlothian.gov.uk • **Website:** www.eastlothian.gov.uk/recycling

CHALMERS CHURCH YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

Chalmers Church Youth club has changed. There are two sessions and activities include badminton, snooker, indoor football, table tennis, air hockey, computer games, DVD, music, tuck shop and occasional cooking.

8 -11 yrs : 6.30pm - 7.45pm

12 -16 yrs: 8.00pm - 9.15pm

Next date is **Saturday 5th April** then fortnightly thereafter.

"Rock Solid" youth group meets **on a Sunday in the hall from 7.30 - 8.30pm.** It is open to all **11 -15 yrs.** Fast-moving hilariously funny team challenges and games based on a theme. The next session takes on **Sunday 6th April and fortnightly thereafter.**

More Dates for your Diary ...

Car Boot Sales - 1st Saturday of each month May to Sept.
Ship Inn Car Park, Links Road, Port Seton ... 10.30 am - 1.30 pm

3 HARBOURS ARTS FESTIVAL

The Festival will run from 30th May to the 8th June in Prestonpans, Cockenzie and Port Seton.

The Festival looks to be bigger than last year, with more at Prestongrange Museum, the John Muir Art Trail, Open Houses in Cockenzie/Port Seton, a book and film launch of the "tradition of boatbuilding", 2nd Prestonpans Mural Fest at Cuthill Park, Paperboats gone Global!, A new Totem Pole, Prestonpandemonium Comic Book Festival, and a few more surprises!

In 2007 we had 138 venues, in houses, community centres, museum, church halls, shop windows, parks in fact anywhere that was not a gallery! 300 artists, 2000 participants showed off their work in unusual settings. In 2006 had over 90 venues.

For more information go to: www.3harbours.com

If you would like to advertise in this space see front page for contact details.

Thanks to Lothian and Borders Co-op, Links Road for their contribution to our funds in respect of this newsletter.

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Trees for Cockenzie Primary School

The Community Council have won funding from ELC's Environmental Fund for the planting of five oak and five pine trees on the perimeters of the school. The trees will eventually serve as screening and, most importantly, trees are an asset to the environment and human health as they soak up carbon dioxide from the air and expel it as fresh, clean oxygen!

An oak will also be planted in the grounds in recognition of the hard work and commitment of In Bloom and to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of their humble beginnings. The tree is also an acknowledgement of them becoming an independent group in January - from small acorns, mighty oaks grow!

We wish them continuing success in the future and best wishes with their entry into this year's Beautiful Scotland competition.

FOR THE ATTENTION OF CLUBS AND GROUPS

A **Community Diary** is kept in the library in which you can enter the details of your planned event. If you are planning an event please check the diary first - there may already be another event taking place on the day you have chosen.

Cairn Update

Last year we secured funding, again from ELC's Environmental Fund, for enhancement of the cairn area at East Lorimer Place. The plan was for cobbles and solar lighting to be installed around the cairn.

Unfortunately, the work has been held up but we aim to have it completed in plenty of time for the Beautiful Scotland competition.

Residents who live nearby the Cairn will be notified when the work is to commence.

Editorial Team: I. Black, L. Clark, A. Currie

YOUR NEWSLETTER IS FULL OF USEFUL INFORMATION - KEEP IT HANDY AND RECYCLE IT WHEN YOU ARE FINISHED WITH IT.

THE BIKE SHED

Do you have a bike lying in your shed or garage? It's time to get it ready for the better weather! Call the Bike Shed to have it repaired or serviced
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