

## South West Digest – July 2015

### What could young people in your area do with £1000?

**Grant A Grand** is open for applications. This Neighbourhood Partnership fund will provide a one off payment of £1000 to the ten most popular projects for young people aged between 10 and 19 in South West Edinburgh.

Applications close at the end of November, with a vote of young people taking place in February and results announced at a community event later that month.



Application forms and the Grant a Grand Criteria can be downloaded from the Grant a Grand page on the Neighbourhood Partnership website. If you know any groups who may be interested and you want to ensure they are included, just let us know.

[www.edinburghnp.org.uk](http://www.edinburghnp.org.uk) [tinyurl.com/grantagrand](http://tinyurl.com/grantagrand)

What we need you to do is talk to the young people and youth groups in your community and ask them how they'd spend £1000. Sports equipment or skills training? Recreational or educational? We want young people pestering local groups and charities to help apply on their behalf.

If it benefits local young people then it probably qualifies,  
but hurry the clock is ticking...



For more information on who and how you can get involved contact:  
Michael Edwards – 0131 527 3884 or Scott Neil – 0131 527 3816

### Area Board - Update

At its recent meeting Area Board members were shown a selection of the 2015/16 projects that have been completed. The Board also noted that there was a £28K under spend from the 2015/16 NEP's budget. With this in mind the Board approved three new projects on the night these were;

- 1323 Dumbryden Gdns – Trees and irrigation plan
- 1324 Murrayburn Park - Trees and irrigation plan
- 1325 Oxfangs Broadway – Planters and plants

At present the three projects under consideration costs would come in at between £8,800 - £10,600. Maud Wylie, Chair of the Board urged members to consider that any project suggested should be identified so it is relatively easy to obtain resources and materials off the shelf.

The Board also discussed re-establishing the NEP's bus tour to allow members to see the completed projects in both partnership areas. There were two dates provisionally booked Saturday 20 or 27 February 2016. Board members will be asked to select the date they prefer and the most popular date will be chosen. Time of tour would be from 9.30am till 2pm and members can propose projects they want highlighted wish will form part of the tour route taken.

If you require more information on any NEP's projects or wish to suggest one please contact Scott Neill, [scott.neill@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:scott.neill@edinburgh.gov.uk).



## Good company never gets old

A fresh new service to tackle loneliness and isolation among the over-60s across Edinburgh is up and running.

Vintage Vibes has been set up in partnership between The Broomhouse Centre and LifeCare Edinburgh, based in Stockbridge. It will use friendly volunteers – Vibes Volunteers – to reach out to people across the city – Vibes VIPs – offering companionship, reliable support and the opportunity to be more socially connected.



The impacts that loneliness and isolation can have on people's health are startling: chronic loneliness can be as harmful to your health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day, for instance.

Vintage Vibes is now looking for volunteers 17 and over, from all walks of life, e.g. mature and retired people, students, pet owners and families – to get involved.

The service is keen to support people with dementia living at home, and from minority backgrounds.

If you're interested in either becoming a volunteer, or how to refer someone as a VIP, you can call Heather on 0131 343 0955 or Emily on 0131 455 7043, or email: [hello@vintagevibes.org.uk](mailto:hello@vintagevibes.org.uk).

Go to [www.vintagevibes.org.uk](http://www.vintagevibes.org.uk) and sign up to receive a newsletter. The full website will be up and running very soon.



Afasic Scotland is a Scottish registered charity which represents the interests of children and young people who have lived experience of communication impairments, working towards their inclusion in society and supporting their parents and carers.

They aim to, provide training and strategies for parents/carers, professionals and agencies, promote the participation of children and young people as well as providing publications, signposting and emotional support through their established peer support group and Family Support Worker. Their services are to support not only parents/carers, children and young people but also professionals and agencies across Scotland where appropriate.

Judith Woodward, Afasic Scotland's Family Support Worker based in Edinburgh supports parents/carers of children who have a speech, language or communication need with the intention that a range of children with diverse needs will receive additional help and benefit from improved support from the increased capacity of their parents/carers in the longer term.

Afasic Scotland has an established peer support group currently running in Edinburgh which provides the opportunity for families to get to know each other, share experiences and offer peer support along with attending appropriate workshops and sessions designed around the needs of the parents/carers involved.

Another key element of the work of Afasic Scotland is that they work jointly with a number of statutory and voluntary agencies in the area building a more integrated framework of support. Additionally as they are a registered CPD provider they can design and deliver tailor made training sessions to staff who work with children and young people who have speech, language or communication difficulties.

If you would like to find out more about Afasic Scotland check out their website [www.afasicscotland.org.uk](http://www.afasicscotland.org.uk) and they can be found on Facebook and

Twitter. Alternatively contact Judith Woodward Family Support **Worker on 07507535857 or through email on [judith@afasicscotland.org.uk](mailto:judith@afasicscotland.org.uk)**.

## A Snow Warden – A day in the life, Duncan Wallace



Starts with looking out of the window in the morning and checking with email if the school has been closed. Parent mail system can also request any help required to clear the playground so the school can open.

Walk kids to school checking for ice and status of grit bins along the way, email council if additional grit required in bins along the route or particularly bad ice at road crossing points and known black spots where I have witnessed falls before.

Off to work by bike or foot if snow really too deep (learned the hard way that tram tracks are lethal hidden in tyre tracks) using a set of pogu ice spikes that fit over footwear to make mincemeat of any ice or snow along the route. Yaktrax also a good footwear tool for thinner snow that then freezes creating sheet ice. If there's problems along the route to work report them and same on way home.

Once home check the local pavement and haul up slabs of compacted snow and ice [see attachment] as grit often no use when embedded into packed snow and more snow falling. Dig out the slopes access road to the garage behind our home as past experience showed the camber on the road and speed bump caught many vehicles. Help people get their vehicles parked on local roads effectively digging into a space.

Chat with neighbours out clearing path in front of their property and even swap tools when shovel no use against ice slabs and spade no use shifting light snow around cars. Grit the freshly uncovered path. Go inside and put feet up having burned many calories.



### **What is on offer for our young people?**

The Edinburgh Guarantee is a vision that all sectors in the city will work together to ensure that every young person in Edinburgh will leave school with the choice of a job, training or further education opportunity available to them.

Employers are being supported to help prepare young people for work and to recruit young people into their business.

This partnership approach with schools, college, Skills Development Scotland and employers has led to a wider choice of opportunities being on offer for young people leaving school in the City, ranging from training, further education and employment.



This year the Edinburgh Guarantee team have worked with partners to identify over 500 job, training and Modern Apprenticeship opportunities in the City. Young people, parents and carers, employers and service providers can find out more on The Edinburgh Guarantee website [edinburghguarantee.org](http://edinburghguarantee.org) . Young

people looking for opportunities can also register for job alerts on the website.

The Edinburgh Guarantee partnership team also deliver programmes to increase opportunities available to young people throughout the city. One example is the JET Programme, which is delivered to over 200 S4 and S5 pupils across the city. In addition to working towards their qualifications in school, the pupils also work towards an Employability qualification and attend a work placement every Friday for 6 Months. They learn lots of new skills to help prepare them for the world of work, such as working with others, following instructions, how important attendance and timekeeping are and also start to learn how to use their initiative.

There are currently 56 young people who attend South West Neighbourhood high schools –Forrester, Firrhill and Tynecastle High Schools and Wester Hailes Education Centre - taking part in JET this year, with a further 4 pupils being supported on JET+PLUS. JET+PLUS offers a 4 month supported work experience placement for those pupils who must stay in school until the winter break due to their birth date.

For further information on the Edinburgh Guarantee visit our website [www.edinburghguarantee.org](http://www.edinburghguarantee.org), call the Edinburgh Guarantee team on 0131 529 3525 or email us at [edinburghguarantee@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:edinburghguarantee@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## **Save time, do it online Campaign**

You may have seen our new advertising campaign, '[Save time. Do it online](#)', (link at bottom of article) aimed at encouraging residents to use our website to report issues such as problems with street lighting, pot holes and litter.

The campaign involves a series of posters and bus shelter ads being displayed at sites across the city, refuse lorries, as well as targeted online and radio adverts highlighting the service. It forms part of our 'channel shift strategy' which aims to make savings of £5.9 million by 2017/18 and transform the way residents interact with the Council.

There are currently 35 services available, ranging from requesting a new recycling bin to reporting a problem with a streetlight. From April 2016, the number of different issues residents can report online will double to include new areas such as benefit claims, parking and new licensing transactions. [http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/news/article/1931/residents\\_urged\\_to\\_save\\_time\\_do\\_it\\_online](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/news/article/1931/residents_urged_to_save_time_do_it_online)

## **Community Safety** – Appeal to the community

The South West Community Safety Team has been running a Social Media Campaign on Facebook & Twitter over the past couple of months. The main aim of our campaign is to promote our Community Safety and Environmental Warden service, providing regular updates on where we are and what our current priorities are such as dog fouling hot spots.

### **WE NEED YOUR HELP!!**

Along with updates on the South West Community Safety Team we have been trying to encourage local residents to provide us with information relating to offenders who are causing antisocial behaviour, littering, allowing their dogs to foul and fly-tipping in their area.



Working together to tackle these issues will ensure CST are in the right place at the right time and provide assurance to local residents that we are doing all we can to take action on their priority issues.

*'Let us know where you want our Environmental Wardens to be, is your street bad for dog fouling, does someone who lives by dump their rubbish on the street or do you have an Office with lots of cigarette ends being left in the gutter?? We need YOUR help to help you! '*

Since our campaign started in July our tweets/posts have reached over 800 people. Local Community groups have been sharing our posts with their members. Confidence is growing in regular updates and local residents are beginning to provide specific information allowing us to take enforcement action against persons who have failed to act responsibly within their neighbourhood.

Further information and updates are available from the following sources;

- **Twitter** - [@Southwest\\_team](#) #envwardens
- **Facebook** - [Your neighbourhood – South West](#)

## Project 5G- Bringing Generations Together

(Gorgie Dalry Forum)

The Gorgie Dalry Forum includes the following statutory & voluntary sector members: Health All Round; Gorgie Dalry Community Association; St Martin's Community Resource Centre; Dunedin Canmore Housing Association; CEC Community Learning & Development; Dalry Primary School; Tynecastle High School; BMC Club;

Forum members were concerned about the lack of services for older people in the area and the low numbers of older people engaging in community activities. We decided to apply to the South West Neighbourhood Partnership for a grant to run a series of events bringing older and younger people together.

They were particularly keen to enlist the support of younger people in helping us understand what services older members of the community might find helpful. We thought this might also help younger people to get a better understanding of older people's needs and break down some of the negative stereotypes that tend to arise between generational groups.

In January 2015, both applications were successful with Health All Round receiving £3320 and St. Martins Community Resource Centre was awarded £2320 to deliver a series of events which so far have included...



Pictured on the left is the **Dalry Primary School Tea Party**. The Primary 7 children invited friends and neighbours to join them for tea and cakes and a tour of the school.

Comments received were *"I'm having the time of my life. This is much better than school when I was a kid. I want to come back to school here!"*

*"This is an amazing effort of which I 'm very proud of in my community!! I'm very grateful and honoured to have been invited."*

While on the right **Lisa Martin - Sentimental Journey** held in October, Comments from the gathering:

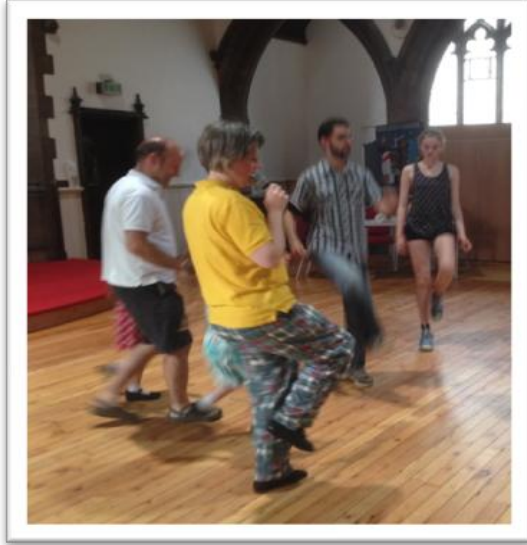
*"Great Community Gathering of all ages – Well done!"*

*"It was lovely that the children joined in"*

*"Tynecastle School children were excellent"*

*"Great Day, great event. When is the next one?"*





**St Martin's CRC Summer Ceilidh**, held in June. Comments from those who attended:

*"Thanks so much for putting this on. I don't usually dance these days but since I was asked so kindly how could I say no.. God knows how my legs will be tomorrow!"*

*" The two wee boys were so funny, thanks for inviting me – a lovely event."*

**Still to come...**

**Christmas Ceilidh** with Carol singing by Dalry Primary School, BMC Club (by Gorgie Memorial Hall), Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 12.30 – 3.30pm

Contact [catriona@healthallround.org.uk](mailto:catriona@healthallround.org.uk) or ring 0131 337 1376 to book a place

## **South West Funding Panel**

The South West Funding Panel schedule of meetings for the 2015/ 16 session will be;

1. **20 January 2016**
2. **2 March 2016**

If you have projects in mind why not contact the offers below and take 5 minutes to chat it through. Ideally the panel are looking for projects that will compliment the South West Local Community Plan see link on;

[http://www.edinburghnp.org.uk/media/327158/swnp\\_exec\\_summary.pdf](http://www.edinburghnp.org.uk/media/327158/swnp_exec_summary.pdf)

**Application Form –**

<http://www.edinburghnp.org.uk/neighbourhood-partnerships/south-west/about/community-grants-info/>

**Funding Criteria -**

<http://www.edinburghnp.org.uk/media/15420/Community%20Grants%20Fund%20Criteria.pdf>

For further information contact either Michael Edwards (michael.edwards@edinburgh.gov.uk) or Scott Neill (scott.neill@edinburgh.gov.uk) Partnership Development Officers, to discuss potential projects.



## Equalities and the Partnership

Partnership meetings are open to all members of the public who wish to attend and we are keen to make these as accessible as possible. Please let us know if you require any assistance to attend these meetings, or to take part in any other Neighbourhood Partnership events, meetings or other activities e.g. large print, disabled access requirements, travel arrangements, hearing loop etc.

Contact Scott Neill, [scott.neill@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:scott.neill@edinburgh.gov.uk) to discuss any of the above information.

## And Finally...

### CONVERSATION CAFE

Is English your second language, would you like to meet new people? Would you like to know more about life in Edinburgh, your local services and Scottish culture? If the answer is yes, then come along and chat to new friends from all round the world. Meet interesting speakers and tell each other about your culture. We promise to make you feel at home in Edinburgh.



The CONVERSATION CAFE is on at **The Broomhouse Centre** (79-89 Broomhouse Crescent, Edinburgh EH11 3RH) on Tuesdays from 10am till 11.30am.

Or **Tynecastle Community Wing** (17-19 McLeod Street, Edinburgh, EH11 2NJ) on Wednesdays from 12.30 – 2pm

For further information about each of the CONVERSATION CAFES please contact;

- **The Broomhouse Centre** on 0131 455 7731 or email: [admin@broomhousecentre.org.uk](mailto:admin@broomhousecentre.org.uk)
- **Tynecastle Community Wing**, Marzena or Maysoon on 0131 337 1376 or email: [marzena@healthallround.org.uk](mailto:marzena@healthallround.org.uk)

**@southwest\_team**



For more information about the activities of the South West  
Neighbourhood Partnership, go to

**[www.edinburghnp.org.uk](http://www.edinburghnp.org.uk)**

or contact the Partnership & Information team on 527 3816.