MIDLOTHIAN DOORS OPEN DAY

Saturday 13th September 2014
Midlothian Doors Open Day – Saturday 13th September 2014

Each September, buildings that are not normally open or which normally charge for entry open, free of charge, to visitors.

This year’s Doors Open Days campaign ‘Scotland through the Keyhole’ is a part of Homecoming Scotland 2014’s cultural programme. Further information is available on the Scottish Civic Trust website: www.doorsopendays.org.uk

Midlothian Council would like to express its gratitude to all of the hosts who by opening their buildings to the public, make this day possible.

For further information on Midlothian Doors Open Day please tel: 0131 271 3465.
Email: doorsopendays@midlothian.gov.uk
Web: www.midlothian.gov.uk/doorsopendays
For public transport information refer to Traveline Scotland.
www.travelinescotland.com

Please note
Visitors enter venues at their own risk. Neither Midlothian Council or the participants are responsible for any accidents or damage that occurs.
Building owners retain the right to refuse access.

Doors Open Days is coordinated nationally by the Scottish Civic Trust. It runs throughout Scotland every September as part of European Heritage Days.

For more information visit:
www.doorsopendays.org.uk
www.scottishcivictrust.org.uk

Keeping in Touch
There are lots of ways to stay in touch with the latest national Doors Open Days news. If you are on Facebook or Twitter you can join in all kinds of chat about upcoming events and great buildings.

Like DoD on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/dodscotland
Follow DoD on Twitter at https://twitter.com/doorsopendays

Competition and surveys link

Cover photo,
The Secret Herb Garden

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/MidlothianCouncil
Follow us on Twitter: https://twitter.com/midgov
Lasswade Church
Polton Road
Lasswade
Midlothian

The Church was opened in 1830 for the Lasswade Congregation in the United Presbyterian Church. In 1894 the Church was completely overhauled and several alterations carried out. Amongst the gifts which came to the congregation at that time were the present handsome pulpit, the stained glass windows at each side of the pulpit, the entrance porch and the bell. In 1929 the UP Church united with the Church of Scotland. On Sunday 22nd April 1956 the Congregations of Lasswade Old Parish Church and Lasswade Strathesk united to form the present congregation of Lasswade Parish Church and have continued to use this building for Worship every Sunday morning since.

Photographic and historic items exhibition will be on display
www.lasswadechurch.co.uk

Opening times:
13.00 - 15.00 hrs

parking • refreshments • disabled access (some assistance may be required) • wc assistance for visitors with sight or hearing difficulties

Arniston House
(Southwest of Gorebridge off B6372)
Gorebridge
Midlothian
EH23 4RY


Guided tour by members of the family of the principal ground floor. Entry by guided tour only. Tours strictly limited to 50 visitors, on a first come basis.

This year there will be a luxury coffee van called Steampunk in attendance should visitors wish to purchase light refreshments on Doors Open Day.

Opening times:
House tours, 11.00, 12.00, 13.00, 14.00, 15.00, 16.00 hrs
Grounds open
09.00 - 19.00 hrs

www.arniston-house.co.uk

parking • disabled access (stairclimber unsuitable for electric wheelchairs) • wc • disabled wc • large print guidebooks available
Cousland Village History Trail

Cousland, off A6124, East of Dalkeith
Hadfast Road
Cousland
EH22 2QW

The village of Cousland is rich in archaeological history, stretching from the Iron Age right through to today.

Repeating our very popular tour from 2013 the self-guided trail is based at Cousland Village Hall, a 1930’s miners institute reflecting the long industrial past of the village, from where visitors can embark on a mapped tour of the most interesting sites in the village.

There will be information points and guides at each of the locations.

Take as long or as short a time as you like, enjoy the views, but remember to come back to the hall to see an exhibition by Cousland Local History Project, showing some of the finds from our Big Digs and have a cuppa or some soup!

Sites to view include: Cousland Smiddy, The Cousland Castle/ Nunnery area, Cousland Windmill, The Old School, The Limeworks etc.

Opening times: 10.00 - 16.30 hrs

In association with Lothian Archaeology Fortnight.

www.cousland.net

Please note that the bus service to Cousland village has been discontinued with no alternative in place at present. However, please check the village website for any updates.

Crichton Collegiate Church

Crichton, Pathhead
EH37 5XA
(South west of Pathhead off B6367, sign-posted Crichton Castle and Crichton Collegiate Church)

Crichton was built as a Collegiate Church by Sir William Crichton, Lord Chancellor of Scotland in the time of King James II, and adopted as ‘the parish church for all time’ in 1641. William Crichton also greatly enlarged the nearby Crichton Castle.

The Church is one of the few remaining Collegiate Churches in Scotland still in use. Subject to 3 major restorations in its nearly 600 year’s history, the building is now in the care of a Trust. The Trust hosts a programme of concerts and ecumenical services reflecting the hospitality of the local community, drawing together the Church of Scotland, the Roman Catholic Church and the Scottish Episcopal Church.

In addition to a fine suite of 19th C stained glass windows by Ballantyne and Gardiner there is a unique pipe organ built by Joseph Brook, which has survived for over 100 years in its original state.

The working and quality of this fine instrument will be demonstrated on Doors Open Day.

Opening times: 10.00 - 16.00 hrs

Organ demonstration at 15.00 hrs

Parking • refreshments • disabled access (some assistance may be required) • wc

In association with Lothian Archaeology Fortnight.

www.cousland.net

Please note that the bus service to Cousland village has been discontinued with no alternative in place at present. However, please check the village website for any updates.
Rosewell Parish Church
Carnethie Street
Rosewell
EH24 9DW

In 1871 the foundation stone was laid for Rosewell Church which was opened officially on 22 July 1874. As you view the Church it is evident that the Hood family played a very important role in the building of our Church as we see it today. The Church Bell was gifted by the late Archibald Hood as a memorial to his daughter Margaret Cochrina Hood who died at the very early age of 6 years.

Up until 1874, Lasswade was the Parish Church for Rosewell. In 1991 we linked with Cockpen and Carrington and Lasswade. In 2008 we formed a union with Lasswade as it is today.

In the vestry you are able to view names of all the Ministers who have served in Rosewell since 1971.

All the items gifted are on display.

Opening times
10.00 - 12.00 hrs

parking • refreshments • disabled access (assistance available if required) wc • disabled wc

St Matthew’s R C Church
36 Carnethie Street
Rosewell
EH24 9AT

St Matthew’s is a highly original church of yellow stock brick by Archibald Macpherson, architect, in 1925. The name derives from the pre-reformation chapel of St Matthew in Roslin though the parish of St Matthew’s, Rosewell dates from 1889.

The village of Rosewell was established in the mid 18th C as a result of the recently developed coal and limestone mining, and during the next century many Irish immigrants settled in the village.

Originally the Catholic population was served from St David’s, Dalkeith, but in 1882 the parish of Penicuik was established from St David’s, and Rosewell became part of the new parish, although a new chapel was already being built in Rosewell. This chapel (the present St Matthew’s Primary School) was opened on 3 February 1889, though the parish continued to be served from Penicuik.

The parish was joined with Our Lady of Consolation in 1990 and with St Margaret’s, Gorebridge, in 2005.

Opening times
10.00 - 16.00 hrs

parking • disabled access (some assistance may be required) • wc
The Wildlife Information Centre

Caretakers Cottage
Vogrie Country Park
Midlothian
EH23 4NU

The Wildlife Information Centre (TWIC) is the biological record centre for the Lothians and the Scottish Borders. Based in Caretaker’s Cottage, attached to Vogrie House, TWIC collects, collates and disseminates information about the wildlife in our area. The centre is a not-for-profit company with charitable status and provides objective, independent wildlife information for people and organisations.

TWIC is opening its door again as part of Doors Open Day in Midlothian to allow people to come in and see some of the work that we do, find out about the different wildlife surveys we are involved in and learn how they can take part if they want to. We are happy to receive wildlife records from everyone.

The centre provides a wide range of data services to Government organisations, Local Authorities, businesses and community organisations, as well as running excursions, training workshops and assisting local communities gather wildlife records.

TWIC is funded by grant aid from Scottish Natural Heritage, service level agreements with City of Edinburgh Council, East Lothian Council, Midlothian Council, Scottish Borders Council and West Lothian Council and income from contract work, projects and voluntary contributions.

Visit our website for more information
www.wildlifeinformation.co.uk

Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/wildlifeinformation

Follow us on Twitter at
wildlife_info
or call 01875 825968

Opening times
11.00 - 16.00 hrs

parking nearby • wc & disabled wc in nearby Vogrie House • colouring activities for children

The Wildlife Information Centre

Vogrie Country Park
Midlothian
EH23 4NU

Vogrie Country Park closes its gates at dusk so arrive by 1945 hrs and come down to Vogrie House for a Bat Walk led by The Wildlife Information Centre Manager, Graeme Wilson. Spend a couple of hours behind the closed gates of the country park to see and hear - using bat detectors - the different bats that can be found there. You will also learn lots of batty facts and if you are lucky, see some other nocturnal wildlife as well!

As the gates to the park will be locked from approximately 20.00 hrs, you will need to stay until the end of the event at approximately 21.30 hrs. Numbers are limited so booking is essential.

To book, please call Midlothian Council on 0131 271 3465/3521 or e-mail doorsopendays@midlothian.gov.uk

Please do not contact Midlothian Ranger Service for bookings.

Free parking is available to those with pre-booked tickets. Please drive right down to the Car Park at Vogrie House for this event.

Walk Time
19.45 - 21.30 hrs
National Mining Museum Scotland

(Special tours/activities FREE, normal museum entry charges apply)

A7, Newtongrange EH22 4QN

parking • cafe • picnic area • gift shop • soft play • wc • disabled wc

Davy Lamp Demo
The invention and development of the Davy lamp was vital for miner’s safety. Come and hear how it was developed and how it was used to save countless lives. Lamp demos will take place in the newly created National Mining Memorial Centre and will be presented by an ex-miner guide. Booking recommended as numbers are limited.

Tour times
14.00 hrs. Meet at Gazebo in Courtyard.

Looking at the Lady Vic
Be a Surveyor… why not join our group, learn some simple building surveying techniques, learn to look harder and understand more about the historic A listed colliery building. Suitable for age 10+. Families welcome. Please wear sturdy/comfy footwear. Booking recommended as numbers are limited.

Time

Booking
Please telephone the museum on 0131 663 7519.

Doors Open Day activities are free of charge and the museum will be open as usual with standard admission charges applying.

The museum and tours are fully accessible to the disabled.

Museum open from 10.00 hrs until 17.00 hrs www.nationalminingmuseum.com

Take a tour of the former Newbattle Central Workshops which are now used to store and preserve the museum’s collection of massive mining machinery and transportation. These tours (Big Stuff Tours) usually run on Wednesdays and Sundays as part of the museum’s entry ticket but will run FREE of charge on Doors Open Day. Booking recommended as numbers are limited.

Tour times
10.30 hrs, 12.00 hrs and 14.00 hrs. Meet at Gazebo in Courtyard.

Exploring the Lady Vic
Pop in to the Industrial Archaeology Drop-in at the Lady Vic. Examine the ‘Rusty Bits’ and try to decide what they mean. Look at maps and plans and learn how to interpret what they tell us. Meet ‘Buckie’ the Archaeology Scotland Skeleton and find out how we can identify an industrial worker from their skeleton. Drop in activity – no need to book. Suitable for the whole family.

Times
Drop in between 10.00 hrs and 15.30 hrs (Power House)

Booking
Please telephone the museum on 0131 663 7519.

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The museum and tours are fully accessible to the disabled.

Museum open from 10.00 hrs until 17.00 hrs www.nationalminingmuseum.com
Soutra Aisle
8 Miles South of Dalkeith
off A68/A7 on B6368

Soutra Aisle, dated 1686, is a family burial vault, constructed when the Scottish church banned monuments inside churches. It features ornately carved medieval stone and has been thoroughly investigated and beautifully restored. The unlocked crypt can be explored.

The Aisle marks the largest and best endowed hospital in medieval Scotland which has been the focus of a unique archaeo-medical investigation since 1986. A visit to the site will allow you to hear the very latest on what has been learnt of medieval medical practice and why the site and Aisle are important.

At 1200 ft altitude, this was the highest monastery in the British Isles - with magnificent views... so dress warmly.

Guided tours and explanations by Director of Investigations

Opening times
11.00 - 16.00 hrs

Lodge Rosslyn St
Clair No 606
21 Main Street
Roslin
EH25 9LD

The Lodge is situated in the small town of Roslin some 7.5 miles south from Edinburgh city centre and is so called, along with 6 other Lodges in Scotland, after William St Clair of Roslin, the first Grand Master, Mason of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

The Lodge was granted its charter on 7 May 1877 and held the first meeting in the Original Inn, College Hill, adjacent to the world famous Rosslyn Chapel. The present Lodge rooms were originally the public hall and have been owned by the Lodge since 1920. The previous meeting places enjoyed by the Brethren have included the Inn, Rosslyn Castle and Creelha in Manse Road. Various social evenings are supported by the Brethren guests, but everybody is welcome to join us.

Also available are items of Lodge memorabilia such as Mark tokens, ties, porcelain mugs, Masonic Calendars, visitation booklets and miniature whisky bottles with the Lodge label.

Arrangements can also be made for parties wishing to take a Masonic tour of Rosslyn Chapel but these are outwith the Doors Open Day event and are not available on Doors Open Day.

On Doors Open Day the Lodge will be set out for a Masonic Meeting and members will be present to answer any queries.

Complimentary tea and coffee will be available for visitors.

Opening times
12.00 - 16.00 hrs

parking nearby • disabled access from car park gate

on street parking • refreshments • disabled access • wc • disabled wc (assistance may be required)
Newbattle Abbey
College

Newbattle Road
Dalkeith
EH22 3LL

Newbattle Abbey is Scotland’s hidden historic treasure. Its story spans 8 centuries yet in that time it has seen only 3 owners. The Cistercian Monks who lived here were the first to mine coal in Scotland. The Marquises of Lothian also lived here. From 1937 to the present day, the Abbey has been Scotland’s only adult education residential college, which is also available as a unique venue for conferences, meetings, private celebrations, small weddings, as well as offering campus accommodation for groups.

Situated on the outskirts of Edinburgh, Newbattle Abbey is a 16th C house built on the site of a 12th C Abbey. Set within 125 acres of stunning parkland featuring an Italian Garden on the banks of the River Esk, the house contains many of its original features, including a chapel, drawing room, library and crypt. Discover the link to Mary Queen of Scots, The Declaration of Arbroath and much more by taking a guided tour of the House.

Enjoy the tranquillity of Lord Ancrum’s Wood, a walk along the River Esk and the Italian Garden.

After all that, take a well deserved rest and a cup of something in our dining room.

www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk
www.newbattleabbey.com

Opening times
10.00 – 16.00 hrs
Guided tours of the College at 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 13.00, 14.00 and 15.00 hrs.
Please book in advance as group numbers are limited to 20.
Call 0131 663 1921 or e-mail office@newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk.

Visitors can enjoy the gardens and grounds all day and no pre-booking is required.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Newbattle Road
DALKEITH
EH22 3LQ

The church has a history with Dalkeith which dates back to 1851 when the first branch was organised in May of that year. In 1964 the branch had the beginnings of the church in modern times, when meetings were held in the old Labour Hall at the bottom of the High Street, and later in Woodburn Community Centre.

The current building in Newbattle Road was opened in 1978, having been built with additional help from local members, both in terms of labour and financial contributions. Some 10 years later a large extension was added, and the building now comprises of a chapel, a large multi-purpose hall, a baptismal font, offices and several classrooms. The extensive grounds, with ample car parking facilities, also have a beautiful wood.

On Doors Open Day, visitors can find out how to get started with tracing their own Family history, with access to the Church’s large database of names, participate in “indexing” names from original records, and children can make their very own “Family Trees”.

There will also be demonstrations on Emergency Preparedness, including assembling a 72 Hour Kit. Displays throughout the building will feature many areas of interest in the work of the church, including Employment, Education, Music, Crafts, Welfare, Overseas Aid, etc. and members will be on hand to answer any questions.

Opening times
10.00 - 15.30 hrs

wc • disabled wc • disabled access • refreshments • parking • complementary activities
Midlothian Snowsports Centre, Chairlift

(A702 Biggar Road, Edinburgh – exit A720 Edinburgh bypass at the Lothianburn junction)
Biggar Road
Hillend, near Edinburgh
EH10 7DU

Midlothian Snowsports Centre was opened in 1964. It is one of Europe’s longest and most exciting artificial slopes. Fifty years have seen many improvements; the installation of additional tows, an advanced sprinkler system, a new cafe, jump slope and freestyle features. A number of additional improvements were made in 2012 including over 200 metres of new upper slopes, new nursery slopes and 240 metres of fun new snow tubing runs. The Centre operates year round and particularly in summer, provides a great viewpoint over Edinburgh, the Lothians and beyond.

The Chairlift takes sightseers halfway up to the top of the Pentlands and from here you can access footpaths into the wider Pentlands park area.

On Doors Open Day, free chairlift rides will be on offer and, if you are not up to the rigours of the terrain, the rides are suitable for those who want simply to remain seated for a ‘round trip’.

Information 0131 445 4433

The Chairlift will operate between 10.00 hrs and 16.00 hrs subject to weather conditions and may be closed if winds are strong or gusting.

Opening times
09.30 - 21.00 hrs

Glencorse Kirk

(South of Edinburgh on A701)
Milton Bridge
Penicuik
EH26

Built in 1885 to a design by Sir Rowand Anderson, leading church architect. The four storied saddle roofed tower (unique in the Lothians at the time) was added 10 years later.

The Bell of 1702 and the old font were taken from Glencorse Old Parish Church at Emcraig, a quarter of a mile beyond the present Kirk. The old Kirk remained in use until 6 December 1885, when the last sermon was preached.

Alterations to Glencorse Kirk were completed in 2007 to comply with the European Disabled Access Bill.

Glencorse Kirk has a long association with the army and Glencorse Barracks.

Enjoy a visit to this beautiful listed building in its rural setting, a short walk up the Kirk Brae from Milton Bridge.

Public Transport
• First Bus Service 62 from Peebles - bus stop opposite Glencorse Golf Club
• LRT services 37 and 47 from Edinburgh - bus stop at Glencorse Golf Club

Opening times:
10.00 - 12.00 hrs
In the mid-1960s, Penicuik’s Edwardian Post Office (No 7 Bridge Street) and the future Royal Bank of Scotland (No 3) moved into a redevelopment in John Street. Their former premises were then occupied by a printer and stationer, who also took over the former agricultural store (No 1).

After 60 years of printing, the premises have been acquired by Penicuik Community Development Trust, who are maintaining the shop but will also create a heritage centre related to papermaking, paper products and printing. Aspects of the former Post Office remain, including devices that allowed the policeman on his night-time beat to check for burglars.

Visitors will be able to see the progress towards future heritage centre displays, as well as equipment illustrating the evolution of printing from a Heidelberg letterpress with lead fonts, to a digital drum printer.

Opening times
10.00 hrs - 16.00 hrs

Visitors can also try their hand at making a sheet of paper (small groups at 11.00 and 14.00 hrs) and see how this relates to the industrial processes that evolved over the 300 years of papermaking in Penicuik.

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The original church, which now forms the nave, was by RTN Speir, 1882. The chancel, vestries, crenellated tower and bell were added by HO Tarbolton in 1899. Features include beautiful stained glass, finely carved animal stops to the lancet window hood mouldings and inside, fine oak altar rails and rood screen. In 1978 a new church hall was added by Eric Stevenson. The church organ was purchased from a house in East Lothian in the early 1930s. It has since undergone a number of alterations and remains extremely well used.

On Doors Open Day there will be information on display and church archives will be on view. Visitors can tour the inside of the church.

Phase 1 of extensive repair and renovation works recently completed, aided by funding from Historic Scotland, Heritage Lottery Fund, National Churches Trust and Dunderdale Trust.

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If you are travelling by bus from Edinburgh, Straiton, Loanhead and Bilston you can take Lothian Buses 37 Services and from Peebles, First bus 62A Service.

www.stjamespenicuik.co.uk

Opening times
12.00 - 16.00 hrs

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Parking nearby • wc • disable access
The founder of the papermakers Alexander Cowan & Sons, was a nationally important social reformer and philanthropist. He helped create a public library in Penicuik in 1799, built a school and social housing for his workers, created a scheme for sickness pay and pensions for both male and female workers before 1848, and piped a clean public water supply from the Pentland Hills into the centre of Penicuik. In 1894, part of his bequest was used to build the Cowan Institute. Its architect was the husband of Alexander Cowan’s grand-daughter, Cambell Douglas who, for half a century, led one of the most influential architectural teaching practices in the country and went on to spread the influence of the ‘Scottish Baronial’ style to France and Japan.

For the next 60 years, the Institute was locally managed under the supervision of trustees. Then, in March 1960, Penicuik Burgh Council formally accepted the gift of the Cowan Institute building and the funds of the Cowan Trust as ‘a civic centre for the people of Penicuik’ undertaking to provide for its future as recreational and hall facilities in the spirit of the trust. For 12 years the Cowan Institute became Penicuik Town Hall, with the library and billiard room converted for council administration. A new floor of specially imported Canadian rock-wood maple split the Great Hall in two and created one of the finest sprung dancing floors in the country. The Burgh was absorbed into Midlothian District Council in 1973 and the lower floors became the District Court. In 2006, the part occupied by the court underwent a major refurbishment as council offices.

The halls remain a vital centre of community life with local meetings, occasional civic receptions, weddings, theatre and band performances. Penicuik Community Development Trust run a drop-in community café in the lower hall every Saturday morning and a cinema on Sunday evenings.

**Opening times**
10.00 - 16.00 hrs

On Doors Open Day there will be historical exhibitions on display by Penicuik Historical Society in the Marriage Rooms from 10.00 until 16.00 hrs. Members of the archive team will be on hand to answer questions.
Penicuik House Project

Old Penicuik House
Penicuik
Midlothian
EH26 9LA

Old Penicuik House and its immediate surroundings are now in the ownership of the Penicuik House Preservation Trust and the 6 year project to consolidate this magnificent ruin and improve access to the surrounding estate is now complete. The first phase of the restoration work to the house involved the creation of a purpose built on-site training facility. The second phase has now commenced and will involve the conservation and repair of the many ‘eye-catchers’ in the designed landscape.

Penicuik House is the finest and most influential example of Palladian architecture in Scotland. It sits at the centre of an important 18th Century designed landscape. Together these form an exceptional physical record of the artistic patronage of the Clerk Family.

Penicuik House was gutted by fire in 1899 and has stood as a ruin for over 100 years. The Penicuik House

Project aims to make Penicuik House and the surrounding areas available for the public to enjoy. The project will also deliver considerable training benefits in the use of traditional building materials and techniques.

Why not join us for Doors Open Day this year to visit our new training centre and see the completed consolidation of the ruin. There will be activities throughout the day for all ages, including tours of the house and surroundings, demonstrations of traditional building skills and children’s craft activities. Experts from the Scottish Lime Centre Trust will be on hand to answer any questions you might have about your own building project (bring a photo for some specific advice).

Please meet at Penicuik House for guided walking tours at 11.30 and 13.30 hrs. For further information please visit www.penicuikhouse.co.uk

Opening times
10.30 - 15.30 hrs

Please note that the converted stable block is not included in the Doors Open Day Programme and there will be no access to this building.

Parking is available a short walk from Penicuik House at the car park visible from the A766. Vehicular access to site is available for blue badge holders only.

parking • refreshments • wc • disabled wc • disabled access
Penicuik Community Development Trust

The Lost Garden of Penicuik

Access from Penicuik Estate car park on A766 Carlops Road

Plans for the Upper Walled Garden of Penicuik Estate were drawn up in 1873. There were detailed planting schemes for fruit and vegetables for the 5 acres of growing area and more than 100 yards of glasshouses and conservatories for growing peaches, figs and grapes as well as outdoor cultivation of fruit trees and soft fruit. By the mid 1880s the garden was operational, quite faithfully following the original plans. From the impressively scrolled iron gate, the path led past a central fountain and up the ‘grand staircase’ to the terraces in front of the glasshouses. With the turn of the century banking crisis, the garden changed from the kitchen garden for Penicuik House to become one of the most magnificent commercial horticultural ventures in Scotland. Eighty years later found the garden abandoned and the glasshouses wrecked. In February 2012, Penicuik Community Development Trust took on a 30 year lease to re-establish the site as a community garden to produce organic fruit and vegetables and start a long process of restoring its architecture. Visitors will be able to see the progress in this re-creation.

Access involves a 400 metre walk following directions posted at the Penicuik Estate car park. The car park (OS grid ref NT 219 599) is about 2km south west of Penicuik centre on the A766 Carlops Road and faces the road junction leading through Lawrie’s Den. Stout footwear recommended.

Opening times
12.00 - 17.00 hrs
www.lostgarden.co.uk

Dalkeith Masonic Lodge

East High Street
Dalkeith EH22 1BE

The lodge was completed and consecrated in 1766 by the local order of Freemasons and is reputedly the oldest purpose-built lodge room in the world.

The Freemasons are the only surviving trade guild in Dalkeith and the lodge room continues to be used to this day. The lodge room contains many historical Masonic artefacts and features, including a statue of St Andrew by Sir John Steele. This lodge was one of the founder lodges of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

On Doors Open Day there will be guided tours and the Lodge will be set out as if for a Masonic Meeting. Members will be on hand to assist with any enquiries.

Opening times
10.30 - 15.00 hrs

parking • refreshments • disabled access (some assistance may be required)
wc • disabled wc

This year we will be joined by Ian Inglis and his mobile Military Museum.

Complimentary tea and coffee for visitors.
Dalkeith Fire Station
36 Abbey Road
DALKEITH
EH22 3AD

Dalkeith Fire Station opened on 9 November 1970 providing a high quality fire-fighting and rescue service in response to fires and other emergencies; educating and advising the general public on community safety matters; enforcing fire safety legislation and advising local authorities and other agencies with respect to their own legal obligations.

On Doors Open Day the fire station opens its doors to members of the public and visitors will have the chance to see inside a working fire station. There will be an equipment demonstration, a community safety vehicle and a breathing apparatus training pod with tunnels – so come and have a go!

Community Safety will also be in attendance on the day giving visitors the chance to obtain information and advice relating to Crime Prevention and Community Safety from Police Scotland. The British Transport Police will also be represented.

A free home safety check service is available to all residents of the Midlothian and Borders area, delivered by local fire-fighters. This includes the free supply and fitting of smoke detectors, if required.

To arrange a home visit please call FREEPHONE 0800 0731 999 or visit www.firescotland.gov.uk

Opening times
11.00 - 15.00 hrs

Please note, Fire Station in operation throughout the day.

Please do not park in front of fire appliance bay doors.

Parking available in Dalkeith town centre a short walk from fire station.

refreshments, wc, disabled wc, disabled access (some assistance may be required to use ramps)

St John’s and King’s Park Church
31 Eskbank Road
Dalkeith
EH22 1HJ

The exact date of opening is not known but the Church building was completed in May 1870. The site was granted by His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, whilst the architect was Mr R Thornton Sheills, of Edinburgh.

In 1939 the late Mr Peter Lyle (for many years an Elder of the congregation) gave a testamentary gift of 4 stained glass windows.

These windows were designed by William Wilson of Edinburgh, a renowned and respected artist whose major works include windows across the United Kingdom. Installed after the war, these precious and beautiful windows greatly enhance the appearance of the Church and can be seen near the front - 2 on either side.

On Doors Open Day there will be a ‘Past and Present’ exhibition on display for visitors.

Opening times
10.00 - 15.00 hrs
www.sjkpchurch.com

refreshments, wc, disabled wc, disabled access (some assistance may be required to use ramps)
St Nicholas Buccleuch Parish Church
119 High Street
Dalkeith
EH22 1AX

The exact date of the original Chapel on these grounds is not certain but it is known that in 1372 Robert II granted a licence to Sir James Douglas to endow a Chaplaincy in the Chapel at St Nicholas.

The present Church was completed in 1420. In 1590, following the Reformation, a curtain wall was built separating the apse from the rest of the Church.

In the 17 C, the main body of the Church was rebuilt. It was altered again between 1847 and 1851 by the Scottish architect David Bryce. Amongst the changes was the removal of the trades lofts which had made the interior dark and crowded. One such trade was the Hammermen; their Banner has been restored and is displayed on the wall of the Church where their loft may have been. A photograph of the emblem which would have been on the front of the Hammermen’s loft can be seen in the coffee shop.

The church continues in use today. A programme of restoration has been carried out on the stonework of the church and the Alms Collection House both funded mainly by Historic Scotland and the Heritage Lottery Fund. The Alms House, which was built in the mid 19C and is thought to have been

refreshments • disabled access to church building and coffee shop, restricted access to apse • wc • disabled wc • assistance for visitors with sight or hearing difficulties provided

where Kirk Elders collected and distributed money to help people in need in the parish, now serves as a small interpretation centre presenting information about the Church and Apse and setting them in their historical context. More recently the pews in the Church have been replaced by chairs, allowing the building greater flexibility in use.

The Apse is now a ruin. It contains the restored effigy of the Earl of Morton and his wife, Princess Joanna.

On Doors Open Day there will be an exhibition of photos by local people and a short performance from the Southside School of Dance at approximately 14.00 hrs.

Opening times
10.00 - 16.00 hrs
www.stnicholasbuccleuch.org.uk
The Dalkeith Townscape Heritage Initiative and Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme

The County Hotel
156 High Street
Dalkeith
EH22 1AY

A final exhibition will be held in the County Hotel to celebrate the work carried out to improve the historic centre of Dalkeith during the 5 year Dalkeith Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) and Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS).

The scheme helped to repair and improve many of the historic buildings in the town centre, improved the public realm and provided training and education to home owners, contractors, school children and visitors to the town.

On Doors Open Day you can see the dramatic before and after images, learn about the Dalkeith Heritage Trail, receive guidance on carrying out repairs to your building, and see art and community projects such as ‘Iwozheredaldalkeith’ and the short film produced by Dalkeith Youth Forum ‘Dalkeith at the Crossroads’.

Opening times
10.00 - 15.00 hrs

Tolbooth, Dalkeith
Tolbooth Hall
176 High Street
EH22 1AY

One of Dalkeith’s oldest buildings, the Tolbooth was recently re-opened by the Duke of Buccleuch following completion of a £220,000, 6 month repair project. The restoration was carried out under the Dalkeith Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) and Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) grant programme.

The Tolbooth has an interesting and varied history. Built mid 17C the Tolbooth served as a jail with a guardhouse and ‘thieves hole’ or prison. The upper rooms contained a women’s prison and a courtroom. It also contained a Weigh House which allowed buyers and sellers at the adjacent market to check measures and pay taxes.

The Tolbooth ceased to be used as a jail in 1841 when the police station and courtroom moved elsewhere. The building was used as a meeting place by the Dalkeith Scientific Association. The Tolbooth was given to St Mary’s Episcopal Church. In 1966 it was endowed to the church by the owner, Miss Kemp. In 1966 the building was refurbished and used as a church hall and office accommodation.

Today the Tolbooth houses the Midlothian Young People’s Advice Service (MYPAS) which is an award winning, community based organisation that works with young people across Midlothian to improve their health and well-being. MYPAS focuses on the areas of mental health, sexual health and substance use and has been based at the Tolbooth for the last 11 years, offering an accessible venue for young people.

MYPAS extend a warm welcome to visitors of all ages on Doors Open Day when there will be guided tours of the building.

Opening times
10.00 - 16.00 hrs

parking, refreshments, wc, disabled wc, disabled access
Dalkeith Country Park
East High Street
EH22 2NA

Dalkeith Country Park, once home to the Duke of Buccleuch and still owned by the family, is 800 acres of farmland and woodland set just 7 miles from the city centre. Home also to a host of wildlife, it is a great day out for all the family.

We are currently in the process of renovating our visitor experience which means that although our famous adventure play area and cafe are not open this season, we hope to have Dalkeith Country Park firmly back on the tourist trail next year!

Opening times
10.00 - 17.00 hrs

www.dalkeithcountryestate.com

parking, disabled access, wc, disabled wc

Please note that some trails are unsuitable for buggies, wheelchairs and the infirm

St Mary’s Episcopal Church
Dalkeith Country Park
Dalkeith
EH22 2NA

Built as a chapel for Dalkeith Palace in 1843 by William Burn and David Bryce. Early English style with splendid features: double hammerbeam roof, heraldic floor tiles by Minton and the only working, water-powered Hamilton organ in Scotland. The East and West windows are original and were designed and executed in France.

On Doors Open Day there will be an exhibition and guides available if required.
www.stmarysdalkeith.co.uk

Opening times
10.00 - 16.30 hrs

parking • disabled access • wc • accessible wc
On Doors Open Day, open the door to the magic of herbs.
The Secret Herb Garden is a wonderful herb garden situated near Old Pentland with a shop, cafe and grounds to wonder and relax in. The Secret Herb Garden is open every day, including Doors Open Day, from 10am-4pm for visitors to enjoy.

On Doors Open Day, two special tours will take place. Enjoy a fascinating Herbal Safari, led by Hamish between 14.00 - 15.00 hrs (aimed at 8-12 year olds but parents and those young at heart are also welcome). Booking essential.

Find out about the marvellous world of moths during an evening visit to the Secret Herb Garden. You can learn more about these amazing creatures from Rosie. The visit will start at 19.45 hrs. Booking essential.

Opening times
10.00 - 16.00 hrs

Secret Herb Garden
32A Old Pentland Road
Lothianburn
EH10 7EA

Tours
Herbal Safari
(for 8-12 year olds) Led by Hamish, 14.00 - 15.00 hrs.

To book call Midlothian Council on 0131 271 3521 or email doorsopendays@midlothian.gov.uk

Marvelling at Moths
Led by Rosie, 19.45 hrs onwards.

To book call Midlothian Council on 0131 271 3521 or email doorsopendays@midlothian.gov.uk
Midlothian, just south of Edinburgh, has much to offer visitors at any time of year. Experience the places, artefacts and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past and present. Discover the Templar connections and seek the history contained in the ruined castles, historic churches and mining villages.

Midlothian is lucky to have a great variety of different species and habitats (biodiversity) making it a very special place to visit. The hills, woods, parks and fields are home to lots of wildlife including badgers, bats, owls, skylark, woodpeckers and much more. The reservoirs are populated by otters, water vole, wild geese, dippers, newts, frogs and toads.

Visit Midlothian

For more information on Midlothian including activities and accommodation visit www.visitmidlothian.org.uk

Scottish Archaeology Month (SAM)

Each September Archaeology Scotland, with support from Historic Scotland, coordinates Scottish Archaeology Month. This also celebrates Scotland’s contribution to European Heritage Days. There are a wide variety of events held throughout Scotland from excavation open days and guided tours of sites to family activity days and exhibitions.

For more information on SAM events please contact:

Lesley McEwan
Suite 1a
Stuart House
Eskmills
Station Road
Musselburgh EH21 7PB

Telephone: 0845 872 3333
Email info@archaeologyscotland.org.uk
www.archaeologyscotland.org.uk
We would like to thank our partners for their support