

'Beirut' stones barrage blights new church site



AS ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR continues to dominate national headlines, the building of the new Niddrie Mission has been plunged into disarray after a spate of damage from local youths.

Workers at the Hay Drive site testify to being regularly bombarded with bricks and stones by children as young as six, causing damage to equipment as well as the danger of injury.

They also report to frequently arriving onsite to discover the overnight destruction of fencing and fresh brickwork.

Niddrie Mission's 1958-built premises were demolished in January to make way for a new £600,000 purpose-built church and community centre. Time spent by site workers re-doing work and safeguarding materials means that work begun on the project in March is already behind schedule.

Security guards have been deployed in a bid to tackle the problem, but as Site Manager John Grigg explained: "We didn't want to bring security in; you never normally need it at this stage in the game because

there is nothing worth stealing. But we just couldn't do the job without it - things would never get off the ground. Every time we built a wall, it would be down that night."

He continued: "It's just kids looking for something to do and somebody to annoy - from the first day we got onsite they were firing stones. They actually had a tennis racquet hitting stones at us; they were raining in like the middle of Beirut. We're trying to do a job here and it's frustrating. I'm left thinking, what is the mentality of these kids?"

The vandalism and attacks have left builders concerned not just for their own safety, but also for that of the children who have been trespassing on the site. One concerned worker told of coming in to find that the site's securely chained portaloo had been cut free and manhandled into an eight-foot trench - a undertaking that would normally have involved no less than four workmen.

"So, you've got eight-year-olds running around with bolt-cutters," exclaimed a bemused and amazed Mr Grigg, who

added: "We would dread coming round that corner; every morning you'd be thinking, what are we going to be in for today?"

The builders have had to call the police along several times since, but admit this has only partially curtailed the incidence of trouble.

Constable John Steele, a Safer Communities Officer at Craigmillar Police Station told the Chronicle: "I can confirm that there have been a few calls to that area, we are aware of the situation, and do obviously try to respond appropriately."

He added: "We would urge people to phone in, because the only way we get to know about it is if people tell us. If they can identify the individuals, we can invoke the new Anti-Social Behaviour legislation, and anybody seen vandalising property will be charged."

Niddrie Mission's Pastor John Lowrie expressed his dismay over the incidents, saying: "Although the building itself is a church, it's very much a place that will serve the community. It's disappointing that some of the children that will benefit seem

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to be shooting themselves in the foot. It really is up to the parents to try and keep an eye on their kids and know what they are doing."

He continued: "The money for the church was really raised by people who were concerned and anxious that Niddrie benefit, so it's very much a gift to the people of Niddrie. This seems to be a strange way to treat it. We just want the building up for the people of Niddrie and it would be nice if a lot of them appreciated what we were doing, including the young and the old."

John Lowrie went on to tell the Chronicle that he remained hopeful that trouble surrounding the project would die down in due course, and that the church's targeted Christmas opening would not be significantly delayed.

Also optimistic of an end to further disruption was John Grigg, who added: "I wish we could get these kids working for us; we'd have this built in a couple of weeks. If they applied themselves as they do to destruction, it would be a surprise what they could achieve."

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The views expressed in the Chronicle are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Board of Directors.

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Survey shows tenant approval for Edinburgh housing transfer

A RECENT SURVEY HAS SHOWN that over half the majority of Edinburgh tenants are happy for the Edinburgh housing transfer to go ahead.

Tenants will be urged to vote on the subject within the next year though no date has been set out as yet.

Only 20% of the council's 23,000 tenants responded to the postal survey, a mere 4722 replies with a significant number of people assumed not to have a good understanding of what the housing transfer is about, according to T.L. Dempster Strategy and Research, one of Scotland's leading market researchers, who independently assed the survey.

The survey has found that 83% of tenants believe that the housing transfer will lead to more improvements to their homes and 77% believe that it will lead to more homes for rent in the city.

Mark Turley, Director of

Housing said: "We are pleased that so many people have a good understanding of why the council supports this housing transfer, its still relatively early days so there's plenty of time to ensure that everybody feels well informed before they are asked to vote."

The council will soon be making an announcement about the new board members for this organisation which will consist of an unpaid board of six tenants, five councillors and five independent people with the necessary key skills needed.

This board will help set up the new not-for-profit housing association and also develop the business plan and proposals that tenants will vote on.

For more information on the better homes for Edinburgh programme, visit the website: www.edinburgh.gov.uk/housingstrategy

Benefit Night a Great Success!



OVER 150 PEOPLE ENJOYED AN exceptional gathering of comedy genius at the Stand Comedy Club on Tuesday 10th May raising over £1300 for a local family.

Hosted by the brilliant Susan Morrison (left), the evening included performances by Steven Dick, Colin Ramone & Bob Doolally.

Craigmillar and District Business Association (CDBA) would like to thank the generosity of all those who gave donations and attended the evening and would also like to extend a special thank you to Commsworld, McEwan Décor, Margaret's Takeaway and Craigmillar Pet Supplies for their support and overwhelming contributions.

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ALL WELCOME

Revolting Youth fights back



A GROUP FROM THE JACK Kane Community Centre are set to challenge local resident's views of young people.

A group entitled 'Revolting Youth' was set up when workers at the Centre's Cafe K project became aware of issues that have a significant impact on young people's lives.

Young people in the group felt that they needed more access to and control of decisions made about them and the negative stereotyping which affects them.

The Revolting Youth project allowed participants to engage with youth workers and critically explore issues they felt passionate about.

Group member Amy Flynn (18) told the Chronicle: "I work with Save the Children - an organisation that promotes giving young people a voice, so this project was the ideal opportunity to follow on from the work I do there."

"The Revolting Youth project has given us a chance to voice our opinions on issues that affect young people."

The group worked on a cartoon strip exploring negative issues and produced postcards highlighting their concerns.

Amy said: "We now aim to distribute our postcards around the Craigmillar area. We hope to have them in places that affect young people - The Craigmillar

Partnership, The Council and other local decision-making organisations as well as public access areas."

Group member Kev McGee, also 18, added: "I feel that many young people get treated harshly. People make assumptions, often wrongly, about us. This group has helped to redress this problem and give young people a voice. We now hope that everyone in the community will see the work we have done here. We hope that adults can see that not all young people can be put into the same category."

If you would like more information on the Revolting Youth group or Cafe K, contact the Jack Kane Community Centre on 657 1595.

Books for Babies host double celebration



Susan Deacon MSP officially opened Craigmillar Books for Babies' new Story Corner for the under threes at Craigmillar Library recently. The day also saw the project celebrate its 7th birthday. The new Story Corner provides a quiet area for families with young children thanks to a grant from the East Local Development Committee. The area also features a wall hanging made by the Greengables Sewing Group.

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Community Council Update

The Craigmillar Declaration

THE INITIAL STAGES OF THE campaign being undertaken by Craigmillar Community Council's campaign body, Craigmillar 1st, is nearing an end.

Over the past three months, members of Craigmillar 1st have lobbied the City of Edinburgh Council arguing that the Craigmillar Urban Design Framework, which is a 15 year regeneration plan for Craigmillar, should be re-drafted to ensure lasting positive benefits for the community.

Craigmillar 1st marked their achievements by hosting an event at Craigmillar Castle on Friday the 20th May.

The event brought together a number of community groups to sign 'The Craigmillar Declaration'. The Craigmillar Declaration is a list of principles and demands, which all those who have signed the document insist must be upheld by the City of Edinburgh Council and its partners when taking forward the regeneration of Craigmillar.

The principles and demands contained in the declaration have been formed through the recent community consultation undertaken by Craigmillar 1st and the City of Edinburgh Council.

This consultation involved over 300 community members, and therefore The Craigmillar Declaration can be viewed as a legitimate expression of the community's desires.

The main content of the declaration is as follows:

Boundary - the boundary be redrawn to reflect the Craigmillar ward boundary and include Newcraighall and the significant proportion of

private housing to the east of Niddrie cross-roads.

Housing - more houses for rent; accelerated timescales for building rented homes; less flats and lower densities; low cost locally affordable homes; houses for older people and the disabled; traditional, locally consistent, housing designs.

Transport - bus lanes or guided bus lanes introduced; road improvements integrated with Fort Kinnaird proposals; a traffic impact study to investigate potential for a southern and northern bypass.

Community Facilities - replace or retain the Jack Kane Centre; include facilities for young people; provide a neighbourhood centre for the Niddrie House and Greendykes areas; retain the White House as a community facility; retain and improve existing under 5s provision; include the cost of all community facilities in the business plan.

Town Centre - refurbish the town centre on its existing site; priority be given to existing homes and businesses in the town centre; full consultation on the site for the new Community High School.

Parks and Environment - no development on existing parks and green space; more attention given to the creation of green space within Craigmillar as opposed to the periphery of the area.



Susan Deacon

Member of The Scottish Parliament for
Edinburgh East and Musselburgh

Interview Sessions

BRUNTON HALL, Musselburgh
First Wednesday of every month
6.30pm - 7.30pm

CRAIGMILLAR COMMUNITY CENTRE
63 Niddrie Mains Terrace
Last Saturday of every month
10.30am - 11.30am

PIERSHILL LIBRARY
30 Piershill Terrace
First Thursday of every month
6.30pm - 7.30pm

PORTOBELLO TOWN HALL
Last Saturday of every
month
12.00pm - 1.00pm

YMCA COMMUNITY CENTRE
198 Restalrig Road South
Last Saturday of every month
12.00pm - 1.00pm

Constituents who have a problem or an issue they would like to raise with Susan Deacon are welcome to attend any of the interview sessions. Alternatively, you can contact:

**Susan Deacon MSP, 54 Portobello High Street
Edinburgh, EH15 1DA
Tel - 0131 669 6446
Email- susan.deacon.msp@scottish.parliament.uk**



Rt. Hon. Dr. Gavin Strang

Member of Parliament for
Edinburgh East

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Edinburgh East would like to thank the readers
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to the best of his ability**

The best way to contact Gavin Strang is to write to:
Gavin Strang MP
Constituency Office
54 Portobello High Street
Edinburgh
EH15 1DA

Or to make an appointment:
Telephone 0131 669 6002
or: email gillana@parliament.uk

Community Lunch

Hosted by

**Craigmillar
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(CAN)**

Giving disabled people in
Craigmillar a voice

**Wednesday
29th June 2005**

in the Craigmillar
Community Centre, 63
Niddrie Mains
Terrace

12.30pm - 1.30pm

For more information or to
book a place, contact the
Capacity Building Project on
0131 661 0200

Positive response expected to UDF consultation

THE OFFICIAL PUBLIC consultation for the Draft Craigmillar Urban Design Framework (UDF) has now come to a close.

The views and opinions given during the consultation are still being examined by the City of Edinburgh Council's Planning Department and their findings are expected in June.

Whilst there might be changes to the UDF, PARC - the company charged with implementing the UDF - have stated they will provide: 3,200 quality new homes for people in Craigmillar and Edinburgh, including rented and affordable homes for all those who have a right to one.

PARC is contributing £8m to the total £26m programme of providing rented and affordable homes. This will ensure that these homes are built seven years more quickly than originally planned.

PARC are also building new community facilities. A new £20m

community high school with sports and leisure facilities and a new community library are all part of the regeneration plans.

Four new primary schools, worth £20m are to be built in the area, encouraging quality learning in a safe and innovative environment.

PARC will be creating a new premier public park and new public spaces worth £7m.

Integral to PARC's regeneration plan is a new vibrant town centre which can offer quality shopping, offices and leisure provision.

PARC will be generating access to over 6,000 new jobs and apprenticeships for local residents and the local business community.

Parc say this is the most exciting project in the city and will transform Craigmillar and make a great contribution to Edinburgh.

A spokesperson for Parc said they are waiting for a positive response from the consultation so they can begin the regeneration programme.

Craigmillar cash helps tsunami victims

A ST PATRICK'S NIGHT fundraiser, organised by the Craigmillar Community Council, raised £1000 for the Tsunami appeal.

The money was donated to Edinburgh Direct Aid (EDA) via local Craigmillar European Programme worker Lisa Anderson.

EDA Secretary Lisa told the Chronicle: "I was going to Sri Lanka as part of an EDA team to help distribute aid to victims of the disaster. The money raised in Craigmillar helped to construct temporary shelters for people who were living in tents after their homes were destroyed by the tsunami."

The money raised also helped to set up a small business - a women's sewing group. Lisa explained: "The sewing group has helped people to get back into employment. Sri Lanka's main industries - fishing, tourism etc. were mostly wiped out and we hope that this small business will go some way to

kick-starting people's incomes."

On arriving in Sri Lanka EDA members were atstounded at the devastation caused by the boxing day tsunami. Lisa said: "The destruction is all along the coast and a couple of miles inland. Hotels, houses, businesses and fishing boats have all been destroyed.

"On arrival we found that not a lot of aid had reached this area and the local population were very appreciative of the goods we brought. The toiletries, bedding and tools we distributed were all useful. Local people are provided with the necessary materials and tools and employed to do their own building.

"The Sri Lankan people made us feel extremely welcome and wanted to thank the people of Scotland for raising this money."

Edinburgh Direct Aid continue to help victims of the tsunami. For more information, or to make a donation contact EDA on 0131 552 1545, or email: www.edinburghdirectaid.org



Top: The aid arrives in Sri Lanka
Below: Sewing group with new machine



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Happy 70th Birthday Children's House Nursery School

CHILDREN'S HOUSE NURSERY School celebrates its 70th birthday this month.

In conjunction with Scran, a recognised educational charity, the Chronicle brings readers a selection of archive photographs of the nursery from bygone days.

Scran's aim is to provide educational access to digital materials representing Scotland's material culture and history.

Scran contains fascinating records on Edinburgh life over the years, with many images relating to the Niddrie and Craigmillar community.

From an 18th Century plan of the area to numerous sketches, paintings and photographs of Craigmillar Castle, it can all be viewed at the touch of a button on Scran.

Closer to the present day, the archive of material from The Scotsman Publications provides snapshots of local life including the Niddrie/Craigmillar Festival and visit by The Queen in 1977.

The photographs in this issue record some moments in the history of the Children's House Nursery.

All the resources on Scran are freely viewable. Licensed subscribers have access to the full screen sized images and

the right to use the material for educational purposes.

For those people unable to attend their local library or who want to view the resources from their own computer, an annual Home User Subscription is available and can be purchased by visiting the site or by contacting Neil Fraser on 0131 662 1211. Email: neil.fraser@scran.ac.uk,



An early view of Children's House Nursery School



Children gather indoors for singing and stories



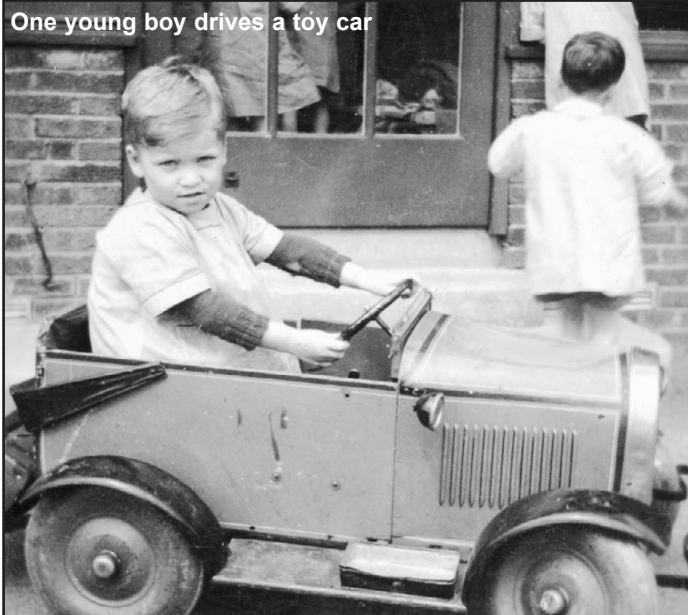
Parents get ready for a Nursery awayday



Al fresco eating in Summertime



One young boy drives a toy car



Children enjoy a Summer day in the playground



This little girl plays with the nursery's toy pram



Regeneration Forum News

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East Edinburgh Housing Area Board



The Craigmillar Neighbourhood Alliance

The Craigmillar Neighbourhood Alliance is an organisation set up to support Tenant & Resident Groups across East Edinburgh. It works with registered tenant organisations (RTO's) and helps set up neighbourhood groups. The C.N.A. works closely with the East Edinburgh Housing Board and is involved in supporting the CRF representatives on various other bodies e.g. The SIP Board, Council Committees and the Craigmillar Joint Venture Company (PARC).

If you have any questions about the work of the C.N.A. or if you are interested in joining your local group or think that your area would benefit from having a neighbourhood association please contact Susan Carr or Marc Headley.

TELEPHONE: 0131 657 0500
FAX: 0131 669 7814
email: cna@ednet.co.uk



FROM APRIL THE COUNCIL has set up Housing Area Boards across the city - six in total across North, South, East, West, Central and Leith.

These Boards have been given a budget to deal with environmental and safety issues in these areas and the good thing is that for the first time the local community will have a say in how these budgets are spent!

The way that the community will do this is through their local neighbourhood group as long as it is a Registered Tenant Organisation (RTO) with the Council.

The local elected councillor also has a seat at the table but they are not eligible to Chair the Board.

The East Edinburgh Housing Area Board (EEHAB) covers four council wards - Craigmillar, Duddingston, Milton and

Portobello where there are currently eight RTO's.

The Chair of EEHAB is John Harvey and Vice Chair is Grace Crosby, both of whom have considerable experience in neighbourhood associations and the CRF.

So far the Board has had several meetings and an 'away day', which was actually a bus tour of neighbourhoods, to look at and prioritise where the money should be spent.

Once they had looked at all of the areas there was a series of meetings to make a final decision on the priorities and ask for the selected projects to be costed by the Council.

Agreement was reached fairly easily and most areas will receive some work to improve the environment or improve safety. Everyone agreed the main priority was

Greendykes and work should start in the near future to improve the estate and some external work to the houses.

Although we know that Greendykes is scheduled for demolition it was agreed that no tenant should have to live in such a run down estate for the next few years before the demolition starts.

Other projects include new fencing in Niddrie Mill, environmental and safety improvements in Magdalene, consideration of improvements to the playpark at Craigmillar & Peffermill Court, environmental improvements in Bingham, improvements to vacant ground in Niddrie House, improving disabled access in the Christians, replacing fencing and environmental improvements in Coillesdene.

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...Regeneration Forum News...Regeneration Forum News...

...Neighbourhood News...

Each neighbourhood group holds a committee meeting on a monthly basis and all meetings are open to the public.

Each group has elected and sent representatives to the Community Regeneration Forum and the East Edinburgh Housing Area Board.

Listed below are only some of the things that your local tenants and residents groups have been involved in;

* Got Harts the builders to repair a fence bordering the railway line at the Hays.

* Campaigned to have traffic calming measures introduced in Niddrie Mill

* Held a public meeting on a particular problem of Antisocial Behaviour affecting part of the Hays neighbourhood.

* Two Committee members have independently set up and run a youth club in Niddrie Marischal.

* Written numerous letters to various departments of the Council, Local Politicians and statutory organisation like ERI, TIE & Lothian Transport

* Considered options for building a play park for primary school aged children on some unused land in Niddrie Marischal.

* Had attendance at monthly meetings by housing officers, local police officers, and community concierges.

* Requested that where possible the CCTV cameras across Craigmillar are programmed to point in different directions rather than fixed in one place.

* Received presentations from - John Quinn of the Craigmillar Joint Venture Company, Jim Henderson of the Community safety Concierges and Craigmillar Police.

* Got the strips of land running along Niddrie Mains Road adjacent to Niddrie Marischal cleaned out.

* Been working with the Council to get some attention to the Hays Park.

* Been involved in setting the terms for the work of the Community Safety Concierges as they moved into Niddrie House/Niddrie Marischal.

THE COMMUNITY REGENERATION Forum is the umbrella group for all the neighbourhoods in Greater Craigmillar and beyond.

The main news is that we have managed to save the Craigmillar Neighbourhood Alliance (CNA) - the project that supports tenants and residents groups in the area.

Last year the Craigmillar Social Inclusion Partnership's funding panel, chaired by Paul Nolan, decided to cut the funding of this valuable project and it looked like the project would have to close.

After strong backing by the neighbourhood groups in the area and after discussions with the Council, the project was awarded a grant from CEC's Housing Department to continue their work.

The council recognised that with the amount of regeneration work scheduled for Craigmillar, the tenants and residents need the support of the C.N.A. to ensure input from the grass roots of the community.

The only change is that the project has extended its work to include the whole of East Edinburgh.

Although the Council funds the project, the management of the C.N.A. remains with the community.

It should be noted that the C.N.A. is the first project in the area to secure funding from the Council under the new Community Planning Partnership arrangements.

The extension of the C.N.A.'s boundary has resulted in the Community Regeneration Forum welcoming new groups as well and we now have groups in the following areas - see below:-

CRAIGMILLAR CASTLE REGENERATION GROUP
Chaired by Norrie Davies

GREENDYKES NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION
Chaired by John Harvey

NIDDRIE MARISCHAL NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION
Chaired by Tony Clapham

NIDDRIE MILL TENANTS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
Chaired by Janet McKay

HAYS NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION
Chaired by Grace Crosby



New groups about to join include:
Coilliedene Residents Association and Portobello High Street Neighbourhood Association.

SHOWPEOPLE'S TENANT GROUP OF CRAIGMILLAR
Chaired by Billy Day Snr

MAGDALENE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION
Chaired by Liz McMahon

CRAIGMILLAR & PEFFERMILL COURTS TENANTS GROUP
Chaired by James Bennett

NIDDRIE MAINS NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION
Not currently active

BINGHAM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
Not currently active

All of the above groups are open to anyone in the area. The constitution of these groups ensures that anyone in the area can join or just attend meetings, as all meetings are open to the public.

Most groups meet monthly and everyone is welcome. If you want more information about any of these groups or find out when the next meeting is, please contact the

Craigmillar Neighbourhood Alliance on 0131 657 0500 or email cna@ednet.co.uk

...CRF News...

THE CRF HAVE HAD A GROUP made up of people from across Craigmillar working on the latest neighbourhood agreement.

It has taken a year but it is now completed and will be launched in the near future.

This agreement is on 'Community Safety and Antisocial Behaviour' and involves the Council, Kintry Housing Partnership, Manor Estates, the Police and several other Council Departments as well as the Community Regeneration Forum who will monitor this arrangement.

Part of this agreement is a Good Neighbour Charter that will go through every door in the area and will also be handed to new tenants & people moving in

to the area. In the agreement is the approach that landlords will use in dealing with any complaints they receive and some of the measures that they and the police will take to deal with antisocial behaviour.

This includes the use of acceptable behaviour contracts (ABC's), unacceptable behaviour notices (UBN's) and antisocial behaviour orders (ASBO's) as well as support packages to help families suffering with this problem.

Ultimately, if an ASBO is breached the person responsible could be evicted and/or prosecuted. We have tried to make this agreement as effective as it can be and, for it to be successful it needs the community to be prepared to take action.

The Landlords have promised to take every complaint seriously and ensure that people are kept informed of the outcome and what action will be taken in relation to their complaint.

Many of these situations take a long time to deal with and even if you feel that nothing is being done you can rest assured that it will not be ignored.

The CRF will be monitoring the implementation of this agreement very carefully and if you feel that any part of it is not being adhered to then we want to hear about it!

You can contact the Craigmillar Neighbourhood Alliance in confidence if you want to find out more.

Stock Transfer

CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL tenants will soon have to make their minds up about whether they want to transfer their tenancy to the new City of Edinburgh Housing Association.

Tenants will need lot more information before they have to make up their minds and local housing area staff will be visiting people in the near future to give out more information and carry out a questionnaire.

There is also an independent tenants advisor who has been recruited by the Council to look at the proposals for the stock transfer and what information is given out to tenants.

The advisor will then offer support & independent advice to tenants to help them make a decision.

So far the Council are saying that if the stock transfer goes ahead the new housing association will be in a position to accelerate improvements to houses e.g. kitchen & bathrooms, and that the debt on the existing stock will be written off.

It also appears that if the stock transfer does not go ahead the Council anticipate a rent rise for the first time in recent years and restrictions on how they will deliver the modernisation programme.

It will slow up regeneration and will restrict the number of houses they can build and affect the demolition programme.

There will be a series of public meetings planned with the independent tenant advisor so look out for notification in the next few months.



LOCAL STOCK TRANSFERS

Two stock transfers have been carried out locally in Niddrie Marischal and Craigmillar Castle.

This has resulted in houses being refurbished up to a similar standard as the new build in these areas.

Council housing in need of modernisation in Niddrie Marischal has been transferred to Canmore Housing Association and in Craigmillar Castle to Link Housing Association.

It has taken years for this to happen and there were many delays in the process, which caused a certain amount of apathy and frustration amongst the tenants.

Work is ongoing and tenants moving back in to the refurbished properties seem to be pleased with the end result.



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please quote reference R1

City of Edinburgh Housing Association Shadow Board

NOT MANY PEOPLE WILL BE aware that the City of Edinburgh Housing Association (CEHA) Shadow Board exists or even what it is about.

Most City of Edinburgh Council tenants will be aware that the council is considering a stock transfer of all their housing stock to a new housing association (CEHA).

The Shadow Board is made up of six tenant members, five independent members and five councillors nominated by the council.

Earlier this year advertisements were placed in the media asking for applications to sit on the Shadow Board.

People interested in being on the board applied and a selection process was undertaken.

Successful applicants were interviewed by members of the Edinburgh Tenants Federation and representatives from the Council.

The places have been filled and Board members are being currently being trained to take up their responsibilities in preparation for the ballot which is scheduled to take place in May next year.

Whilst the area the applicant came from was not a consideration as part of the selection process, East Edinburgh has

done quite well with two people from the area on the CEHA board.

Liz McMahon is Chair of the newly formed Magdalene Neighbourhood Association and has a particular interest in disability issues.

Honor Flynn is vice Chair of the Greendykes Neighbourhood Association and a board member on the Craigmillar Social Inclusion Partnership.

Honor has extensive experience in the community and is a member of the Community Regeneration Forum and is also a Community Councillor.

City of Edinburgh
Housing
Association
Board member
Honor Flynn
(right)



...Regeneration Forum News...Regeneration Forum News...

Craigmillar Urban Design Framework (UDF)

THE URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK (UDF) is one of the most significant parts of the regeneration of Craigmillar and will influence what Craigmillar looks like in the future as well as the quality of life for the community.

The Community Regeneration Forum (CRF) took part in the stakeholders meetings last year and sat through long and tiring meetings listening to proposals from consultants, council departments and other interested bodies.

CRF representatives always pushed the principle that our existing community should be considered and our needs met first. We attended almost every meeting and were often the only community representatives who bothered to show up. The UDF still fell short of what we wanted to see. We realised that it needed more input from the local community and we pushed to make sure that the Council's Planning Committee made the decision to put forward the CUDF for community consultation.

This consultation earlier this year was led by the Craigmillar Community Council. Unfortunately, this consisted of four public meetings, some of which were not that well attended, and a fifth meeting which was postponed and then cancelled.

At these meetings there was very little opportunity for the public to ask questions. Most people attending did not have the chance of seeing the Urban Design Framework in its entirety at all!

The CRF decided on a different approach. A group of 22 residents from every neighbourhood in Craigmillar volunteered to critique this document on behalf of the Community Regeneration Forum.

This group were divided into three groups, each meeting on three occasions where the document of some 127 pages was evaluated on a page-by-page basis.

A further joint meeting was held of the three groups to agree a report to the CRF. A draft form was then taken to local neighbourhood meetings and CRF meetings for agreement before a response was submitted by the early April deadline.

General

The Community Regeneration Forum welcomes the regeneration of Craigmillar and is generally supportive of many of the strands included in the Craigmillar UDF. We think the mixed tenure approach to housing is essential to create a mixed and sustainable community, although the proposals for 'affordable' housing do not guarantee that this will remain affordable as the programme progresses. We would like to see opportunities for other models to deliver affordable housing.

Previous examples of how successful the mixed approach can be are evident in Craigmillar Castle.

Proposals for new schools are also welcome. This appears to take up a large proportion of the budget and we would like to see more financial input from the Education Department.

The CRF recognises that this is not a detailed planning application and that each phase will be consulted as the framework progresses. The consultation should be carried out in a meaningful way, with discussion with neighbourhood groups and the local community. The proposal

regarding Cairntows Park should have extensive consultation beyond neighbour notification.

Care should be taken to ensure there is a co-ordinated approach to develop and install infrastructure. We want to ensure that the use of existing infrastructure will meet the future demands put upon it.

The CRF welcome plans for the community parkland and arboretum. Concerns are that these will precede housing development. No plans should be progressed on without proper consideration as to how they will be maintained to a standard that will keep them safe, secure and as free from vandalism as possible.

Although there are some plans to improve traffic and movement for Craigmillar, there are doubts about whether full consideration has been given to the impact that will be made on the extended development of Fort Kinnaird, Queen Margaret College development, the development of 5000 houses in the South East Wedge (Shawfair) and a doubling of the Craigmillar population. This could be further exacerbated if the park and ride facility at Newcraighall is not sufficient for future demand. It is recognised that a by-pass is not currently being considered, but results of any traffic impact assessment should be shown to have considered all of the above before coming to a conclusion.

As part of this regeneration programme a 'community chest/trust' should be established to help pay for community benefit.

Detailed findings are given below:

Niddrie Burn Re-alignment

This is not clear in some of the diagrams and assurances are needed that this action will not result in future flooding. It was noted that this work would probably go ahead anyway, and there were concerns that this project may hold up the progress of other work. If this work is seen as part of a bigger strategy then funding should not be required from the CJVC business plan.

Replacement facilities for Cairntows Park:

The replacement for this facility seems to be in the middle of nowhere. It must be located in an area that people can access informally and should not have to be booked prior to use. The proposed facility is likely to need revenue funding making it unlikely it will be able to be used informally at no cost to the community.

The Town Centre:

The proposed car parking for the town centre is mostly within the car park for the Supermarket. This is also used to meet the needs of the schools and town centre. How many car parking spaces will there be and what is the estimated need for each of these elements?

Existing Planning Applications/Proposals (out-with the CJVC):

These do not seem to be taken into account. There is a proposed Care Home on the ex-Greendykes School site. In addition there is a development of over 240 flats for sale on

Peffermill Road and a substantial development of flats and houses for sale by Castlerock/Lothian Homes on the ex-Peffermill School site. The Thistle Foundation, also undergoing major regeneration, includes a significant number of new build flats. A major change in road layout is intended as part of the Kinnaird Park extension that has not been considered.

Local Centres

There is no clarity on how these will be made up and what purpose they have. The CRF feel that an additional 'local centre' is needed in Niddrie Mains to serve the neighbourhood, enterprise centre and primary schools and a clear indication of local centre proposed for Greendykes.

There is a desire to develop buildings for community use in each local neighbourhood. To build a successful, sustainable community, new community members need somewhere local to meet the existing community.

Office Development

It is not clear whether there is a proposal for one office development or several smaller ones. The CRF generally welcome the concept of a new office development, but would have to be convinced of the need to use the Cairntows Park proposal.

Sustainability

There is more to sustainability than SUDS - we would like to see proposals for the use of sustainable building materials and ensure that good quality soundproofing and insulation is used throughout. Provision of recycling banks in every area. There is a lack of drying spaces, especially for flats.

There is an urgent need for larger family homes to allow for a natural progression for families to grow without moving out of the area, and to sustain the schools; the proposal for at least 2/3 of the homes to be flats does not meet this need.

Movement

What are the long-term plans for Craigmillar Castle Road? Proposals for Niddrie Mains Road do not show what impact the increase in population will have. It does not take in to account the proposals to increase Fort Kinnaird, Queen Margaret College development, the Shawfair development and the Public Service Vehicle (PSV) road. A traffic impact study for east Edinburgh and Craigmillar in particular is needed to show that these plans do not further burden Niddrie Mains Road.

Third tramline:

What contingency plans are in place? When will a decision be made on whether or not land should be reserved for a tramline? What impact does the immediate loss of the tramline have on the UDF? There are concerns that the PSV road/ tramline/SSR could result in some neighbourhoods becoming a big car park.

South Suburban Railway (SSR) opening to passengers:

This should be encouraged and would assist in alleviating some of the expected congestion.

There is not enough priority given to cycle ways.

Communities Neighbourhoods & Housing:

The Council has already identified the need for 10,000 affordable homes over the next ten years and intends to demolish and replace a further 4000. Craigmillar could meet a sizeable proportion of that need. The CRF are concerned that there is a greater need for social/affordable housing within the area than is expressed within the CUDF. There is concern that the number of social houses being built will not allow for a natural extension of the community who live in social housing.

There is concern about the number of 4-storey blocks that are proposed. A larger mix of lower rise housing would give greater confidence. It is acknowledged that the right-to-return (RTR) tenants will be catered for, but there are concerns that this does not accurately replace like with like housing. There is an opportunity for this problem to be addressed by looking at the global need for family housing in Craigmillar.

It would be useful if the UDF showed what the density of an existing area is.

Community Facilities

It would be helpful if community facilities could be grouped according to use/users to aid identifying gaps in provision.

The Niddrie Marischal Neighbourhood Association has identified the existing library site as a potential site for developing a youth facility. Currently facilities for children and youths in the area are confined to a couple of play-parks suitable for children up to 8 years old. Several existing facilities are not listed. It is essential that community facilities should be built in conjunction with the housing developments and consideration given to the need to develop the sense of ownership required to make them successful. A purpose-built community centre is required and it should not be seen as acceptable to 'bolt-on' community use to other facilities.

Other concerns expressed include:

The keys in some of the diagrams are ambiguous. An unambiguous height should be specified for each block. It would be helpful if some scale models were produced; it is not clear how the parking regime would work; also what arrangements are there for visitor parking?; home zones are a good idea and there should be more of them throughout; communal space should be designed in a variety of shapes and sizes; parks should have a clear purpose letting people know what it will/can be used for; consideration should be given to offering alternative 'gardens' i.e. paved areas; the result of the feasibility study for the Greendykes high-rise is not yet known; there is no provision for the relocation of the Show Peoples site despite it being shown as retail/housing as part of the Town Centre.

The full documented response to the UDF is available from:-
Craigmillar Neighbourhood
Alliance Project,
Hays Business Centre, Hay Avenue,
Edinburgh EH16 4AQ
Telephone: 0131 657 0500

ADVERTISEMENTS

Craigmillar Gardening Competition Entry Form

Please tick the category you wish to enter:

NEWBORN GARDEN

For those who started doing anything to their garden from the beginning of the year

NEWLY ESTABLISHED GARDEN

For those who started work within the last three years

ESTABLISHED GARDEN

For those who have been working on their garden for over three years

WILDLIFE GARDEN

Including native plants to Scotland that support creepy-crawlies and non-native plants that provide nectar/pollen as well as hidey-holes for hedgehogs, birdfeeders etc.....

CONTAINER GARDEN

Including hanging baskets, planters and window boxes

NAME:

ADDRESS:.....

TELEPHONE NO:.....

Please send/hand in entry forms to: The Chronicle, The Craigmillar Arts Centre or Craigmillar Library. Judges will visit your garden during the July Craigmillar Festival.

Would you like to be entered for the Keep Edinburgh Growing Competition? YES NO

Summer Wildlife Adventure Club



Discover natural treasures, go on trips, track animals, have fun outdoors, make stuff, take photos and explore!

Saturday & Wednesday mornings
2nd July - 30th July inclusive
10.00am - 12.00/1.00pm
8 - 12 year olds

Only £1 per session, including refreshments
phone Becky on 669 8432 to book a space now!



picturethis

win a £10 gift voucher

This photo competition is brought to you by the Craigmillar Arts & Environment Project and the Craigmillar Chronicle. The photo on the right is a place in Craigmillar, but due to the angle it's taken from, it may not be so easy to recognise!

Readers are invited to guess where the picture was taken and the lucky winner will receive a £10 gift token. All photos have been taken by the Arts & Environment Project with the intention of highlighting the diversity of plant life in Craigmillar and showing the area from a different angle.

Answers to: **picturethis** Competition,
Craigmillar Chronicle, Unit 9a, Castlebrae Business Centre,
Peffer Place, Edinburgh EH16 4BB
by **Friday 17th June 2005.**

May answer: St. Teresas Church
Winner: Mrs A. McCormick of Greendykes



JACK KANE CENTRE 30th Birthday Events

DRAMA PERFORMANCE

Monday 27th June
1.30pm - 4.00pm

DANCER/ GYMNASTIC SHOWCASE

Tuesday 28th June
7.30pm - 9.30pm
(Sports Centre Hall)

LECTURE EVENING

Wednesday
29th June
7.00pm - 9.00pm

YOUTH EVENING

Thursday 30th June
7.00pm - 9.00pm

60s/70s EVENING

Friday 1st July
7.30pm - midnight

Throughout the week photographs featuring the Jack Kane Centre over the past 30 years and artwork from users of the Centre will be on display in the Community Wing

For more information or for FREE tickets to the events, contact Gina or Scott at the Jack Kane Centre, Telephone: 657 1595

Fundraising helps to paint a picture



MEMBERS OF THE JACK Kane Community Centre's Lunchclub raised £250 for a new portrait of ex-Lord Provost Jack Kane.

The painting, which will be done by Craigmillar Community Arts worker Mike Greenlaw, will be part of the Centre's 30th birthday celebrations.

Jack Kane Centre worker, Gina Ahmed, told the Chronicle: "The Lunchclub members thought a new portrait of Jack Kane would be a great way to celebrate our

30th birthday. They put a lot of time and effort into organising fundraising events. A special presentation was made to Lunchclub Convenor Eileen McMillan for all the extra work she carried out."

A presentation was also made to Owen Thomas for his voluntary work. Owen spends many hours driving the pensioners to and from the club and taking them on day trips.

The presentation was made by David Brown, Treasurer of the Centre's Management Committee.

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Edinburgh EH8 9JB**

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**Colin Fox is available at his
constituency office every Friday
from 2.00pm - 4.00pm**

Advice Shop

answering *your* questions

Disability Living Allowance for children...

Disability Living Allowance is a benefit payable to anyone aged under 65 who is physically or mentally disabled and needs help with personal care or needs supervision to remain safe or may have problems walking.

Care can be help with dressing, washing or bathing, help with communication, giving medication or encouraging to eat, for example and can be paid from the thirteenth week after a child's birth.

Mobility can be claimed for a child who has problems walking outdoors or who cannot go out on their own.

If your child has difficulties walking because of a disability, you may be able to claim the highest rate of mobility, but this can only be claimed from a child's third birthday.

If perhaps they need someone with them when they go out as they are not safe on their own, then you might be able to claim the lowest rate of mobility. This can only be claimed from a child's fifth birthday.

If Disability Living Allowance is awarded or is already in payment for your child, you may be entitled to extra money if you

are receiving Income Support, Jobseekers Allowance, Pension or Tax Credits, Housing/Council Tax benefit. You may also be able to claim Carer's Allowance. If in doubt, seek advice!

If Disability Living Allowance is awarded or is in payment for your child, you may be able to apply for some help from the Family Fund.

You can get an application form from Family Fund, PO BOX 50, York YO1 9ZX or telephone 0845 130 4542.

The Family Fund can help with holidays or leisure activities, household items, equipment, bedding, clothing or transport (even driving lessons for the child's main carer).

The Advice Shop can offer help and advice if you want to make a claim for Disability Living Allowance, or you are having difficulties with the claim.

You can contact us on 0131 225 1255 or call into the office at 85-87 South Bridge, Edinburgh. We are open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30am - 4.00pm, Tuesday 10.00am - 4.00pm (11.00am every first Tuesday in the month) and Friday from 9.30am until 3.30pm.

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WIN a £50 meal at



THE CHRONICLE HAS TEAMED UP WITH local restaurant Chiquito to give readers the opportunity to win a meal to the value of £50.00

Recently re-opened and now offering a refurbished and bigger eating area, Chiquito serve a delicious mix of American Tex Mex, Grills and Mexican food in a welcoming atmosphere.

Proud winner of a recent Investors in People Award, Chiquito is a family orientated establishment where kids can eat free Monday to Thursday between 4.00pm and 6.00pm when accompanied by an adult diner.

A children's entertainer appears on Sundays from 1.00pm to 3.00pm.

Chiquito gives a 15% reduction on your bill on production of a valid cinema ticket dated the same day as you are dining. This can be a ticket from any cinema.

Situated at local shopping complex Fort Kinnaird, Chiquito is open from 12 noon until 10.00pm Sunday to Thursday and from 12 noon until 11.00pm Friday and Saturday.

For your chance to win a meal and sample some of the delights of this atmospheric restaurant, why not enter our competition (right).

Q. What is the main ingredient of GUACOMOLE?

A......

Name:.....

Address:.....

Telephone No:.....

Closing date for entry forms, Friday 17th June 2005
All entries to: The Chronicle, Unit 9a,
Castlebrae Business Centre, Pepper Place,
Edinburgh, EH16 4BB

WRITE TO REPLY

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

What will the long-term future be for social housing in Craigmillar?

Presumably the establishment of housing associations in the area came about because the City of Edinburgh Council could no longer afford to maintain its housing stock.

Although the housing associations get around 60% funding from the government, it does not mean that the grant is adequate enough to cover on-going housing maintenance and future development.

So what other options have they got? While local authority housing can borrow from the private sector, housing associations have never been actively encouraged to diversify and embrace the private sector. Government policy assumes increasing the rate of private property funding into the

public housing sector to build more social housing from public funds is the way forward. But, there is a price to pay...

The private sector will expect a return on their loans and investments which will fall on the tenants who pay rent. Will this mean subsequent rent increases?

There is a real risk of social exclusion for those in most need of social housing.

As the demand for more houses for sale increases and land sites become more and more expensive, so the sale of properties and mergers will be used to supplement financial constraints.

The community's infrastructure, will be essential for the welfare of the people living in our community.

There is a lot of room for serious improvement in those areas.

Chas Dennis
Niddrie Marischal Road

Dear Editor,

I have lived in Niddrie for 53 years and still get upset that we haven't thrown off the image of vandals, bad behaviour etc.

I thought it was just bad press from the people who didn't know us. I've always defended Niddrie, but I wouldn't after talking to the men who are building the new Niddrie Mission.

I was ashamed when they told me they had been target practice for stone-throwers and their building work was being destroyed overnight.

Come on Niddrie kids and parents, don't let us down. We are not the worst in Edinburgh and we don't deserve that name.

Let the men work in peace. After all, we will all - from toddlers to oldies - benefit from the new church building.

Local resident
Name & address supplied

Dear Editor,

I read with interest the advert from the Community Council where it states that the Council should not consult with a few tenants groups in secret and call that consultation.

It shows just how out of touch the Community Council is with the community.

Firstly, there have never been secret meetings of any neighbourhood group - they are always open to the public for anyone to attend.

Secondly, tenant & residents groups are part of the community and were influential in the regeneration already completed in Craigmillar Castle and The Hays.

Somehow we managed to do that without any help, assistance or interference from the Community Council.

The Community Council is a body of self-appointed people

who claim to represent this community.

I believe there hasn't been an election for years and people sitting on the Community Council are there by default because there weren't enough applicants to generate an election.

Paul Nolan is one of the Community Councillors leading the campaign.

Some would say that he had his opportunity when he was the local councillor - where are the improvements he made?

I do agree with one thing and that is let's not make the same mistakes of the past - to allow him a second chance would be a mistake!

John Harvey
Local Resident

Names and addresses can be withheld from publication if so wished, but must accompany all letters to the Editor.

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Fax: 0131 661 0883

Email: info@cre8te.co.uk

www.cre8te.co.uk



What we can do for you...

A guide for local organisations and budding entrepreneurs!

CRAIGMILLAR BUSINESS Incubator Project, based in the Castlebrae Business Centre, offers an informal walk-in support service for all local residents and businesses.

The project provides opportunities for all residents who wish to realise their entrepreneurial ambitions and encourages self employment as a realistic option.

Support, advice, upskilling and encouragement are all available through CBIP.

Business Start-up Service

In partnership with Business Gateway, we provide a comprehensive range of support and business training for local people who want to start up their own businesses as well as companies who want to locate their business into the area. Our aim is to grow and develop the Craigmillar Business Community

Planning for your new venture

For Craigmillar residents and those wanting to locate their business to Craigmillar we can provide:

- * Free local professional 1 to 1 business advice
- * Support new or existing businesses to expand or diversify
- * Assistance for social enterprises
- * Direct links to mainstream business support services
- * Assistance with property
- * Local Business Development Fund
- * Access to Edinburgh wide business funding sources

Upskilling for Success

There are regular upskilling seminars to help you and your business including:

- * Book-keeping and Credit Control for Business
- * Pricing
- * Selling Skills
- * Effective Marketing
- * Running a Successful Business

Property Services

CRE8TE has over 60 Business Units available for both new start-up companies and existing businesses wishing to locate in the area. A range of units from 50 square metres (540 sq ft) is available. Length of leases can be as little as 1 month and most are as flexible as possible to allow for changes in circumstances.

If you have any questions about starting your own business or growing an existing business contact one of our advisors on 661 8888 or visit us at Cre8te, Units 1-3 Castlebrae Business Centre, Peffer Place, EH16 4BB.



Ever thought about becoming a Childminder?

Interested in becoming a Childminder? Demand for childminders in Edinburgh continues to grow but the overall number of childminders is decreasing. This means childminding could offer an opportunity to make childminding a paid job for you!

The Craigmillar Business Incubator Project (CBIP) offer free advice to anyone who is considering childminding as a career and would like to find out more:

- * How do I get started?
- * How much can I expect to earn?
- * What are the regulations and standards that I must meet?

There is extensive support and training

available for childminders and it is all free. CBIP can help you access the Edinburgh Childcare Partnership Childminders start-up grant of up to £500 to help new childminders meet the relevant health and safety requirements.

The registration process takes between three and six months so it's important for anyone who is interested to start planning as soon as possible. Attending CBIP is the first step.

Why is there a demand for Childminders?

1. Edinburgh's booming economy means more parents are choosing to go back to work
2. Parents say there is a lack of

available childcare where and when they want it

3. Parents' preferred choice is the quality, attention and care in a home setting that childminders provide.
4. A high proportion of childminders cease childminding when their own children grow up.

Last year The Childcare Information Service received over 1500 enquiries from parents looking for a childminder and there are currently less than 400 childminders in the City.

If you are interested in finding out more call Susan Todd at Craigmillar Business Incubator Project (CBIP) on 661 8888.

Healthy Hounds



Are you a busy dog owner? Do you feel guilty knowing your dog doesn't get the exercise it needs? Then worry no more as Healthy Hounds dog walking and sitting services are here to take the pressure of you!

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healthyhounds@doglover.com

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June Stars by Athena



ARIES- People could start taking you for granted this month - or at least that's the way you will feel. Try to look at things from other peoples' point of view. Try not to be so sensitive about things that don't concern you.



LEO- Learn to have a little more faith in yourself and trust your instincts more. Believe you can succeed in everything you set your mind to and don't let self-doubt creep in. You will find your goals easier to achieve.



SAGITTARIUS- Being prepared is one thing but, your preparation shouldn't put pressure on other people. Try to learn to control the forceful side of your nature and lighten up - you'll be a much happier person.



TAURUS- Lighten up and brighten up! Let your hair down and start to enjoy yourself more. You will find that there is little in life that will hold you back. People will be amazed with your new attitude to life.



VIRGO- You may find that life becomes a little chaotic this month, but it should be a lot of fun! The full picture will start to unfold before your eyes and you will see that the chaos has all been worthwhile.



CAPRICORN- Fun, fun and more fun will be your motto this month. Nothing will get in your way and nothing will dampen your mood. Enjoy this period in your life - you deserve it.



GEMINI- This month try to listen to what your heart is telling you. You know you have to make changes in your life and now is the time to start. Make the changes to suit yourself and not just to please others around you.



LIBRA- Do you still have a bee in your bonnet about a past relationship? Try to let some of the bitterness go and learn from your mistakes. Now is the time to move forward with your life. Good times are just around the corner.



AQUARIUS - Problems at work will tend to get you down this month. Try to remember that all problems have solutions, although some may not be easy. Try not to make any snap decisions without consulting others.



CANCER- Put a little more effort into making your surroundings happier for you. Brighten things up and you will find that not only will your mood change, you will achieve a whole new outlook on life.



SCORPIO- You will find that life settles down somewhat this month and there is more time to sit back and relax. Take pride in the fact that you have achieved so much over the past few months. Everything is as planned.



PISCES- Your life is going forward in leaps and bounds just now. Remember to take time out to rest - you are only human and there are only 24 hours in a day! Let others take some of the workload off your shoulders.

Handy Phone Numbers

POLICE

Craigmillar Police Station	661 3362
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HEALTH SERVICES

Craigmillar Medical Group	536 9500
Durham Road Surgery	669 1153
Milton Surgery	669 6101
Be WELL	657 4174
Castle Project	669 0068
Greendykes Clinic	536 9650
Health Opportunities Team	669 3453
Link In	661 1240
Womanzone	652 0182

SCHOOLS & NURSERIES

Brunstane Primary	669 4498
Castlevie Primary	661 6429
Lismore Primary	669 4588
Newcraighall Primary	669 3598
Niddrie Mill Primary	468 7025
St. Francis Primary	621 6600
Castlebrae High	661 1282
Holy Rood High	661 5871
Portobello High	669 2324
Greengables Nursery	669 9083
Children's House Nursery	661 1401

CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

Main Switchboard	200 2000
Local Office	529 3111
Craigmillar Social Work Dept	656 9800

CHURCHES

Bristo Memorial	657 3266
Niddrie Mission	652 0222
Richmond Craigmillar	661 6561
St. Teresa's	661 2185
Thistle (Robin Chapel)	661 3366

MISCELLANEOUS

Adult Learning Link	652 6324
Adult Student Link	661 1282
Bingham Community Centre	669 8778
Bingham & District Older People's Project	669 0606
Brenda House	669 6676
Business Community Connections	652 0367
Business Incubator Project	661 8888
Capacity Building Project	661 0200
Caring in Craigmillar/Phonelink	661 5852
Castlerock Housing Association	657 0600
Castlevie Community Centre	661 4064
Craigmillar Ability Network	661 6677
Community Education	661 7463
Craigmillar Adventure Project (CAPRO)	652 1557
Craigmillar Arts Centre	669 8432
Craigmillar Chronicle	661 0791
Craigmillar Childcare Services	657 9555
Craigmillar Credit Union	661 9942
Craigmillar Library	529 5597
Craigmillar Neighbourhood Alliance	657 0500
Craigmillar Partnership Support Team	661 5117
Cre8te	661 8888
Edinburgh Childcare Information Service	0800 032 0323
Hays Business Centre	657 9475
Hunters Hall Housing Co-op	657 3379
Instep	659 5959
Jack Kane Centre (Community Wing)	657 1595
Jack Kane Centre (Sports Wing)	669 0404
Kintry	659 4500
Lloyds TSB Bank	661 2070
Magdalene Community Centre	669 8760
Thistle Foundation	661 3366
The Venchie	621 7620
Work Track	620 6220

VOICE FROM THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

I WAS PLEASED TO TAKE part in a recent debate in the Scottish Parliament on the future of the Scottish Financial Services industry.

This is one of the real success stories of the last few years, with the impact on Edinburgh and the surrounding areas being particularly significant.

In Edinburgh alone, around 35,000 people are employed in banking, insurance, fund management, and so on.

The income to the economy is enormous, generating thousands more jobs across a range of areas.

The connection with local communities such as Craigmillar might not always be immediately obvious. But look at the num-

ber of local folk who depend upon work in banks or insurance companies, or in some of the other employment the sector generates - from hotel and bar staff, to taxi drivers, plumbers and security guards.

You can see how many just wouldn't have a job but for a healthy financial services industry.

I hesitate to bore you with statistics, but they are really quite impressive. Edinburgh has 39 per cent of total Scottish financial services employment. More than 85 per cent of the jobs are full time.

While Edinburgh dominates the sector in Scotland, on a global scale the city is on the map as the UK's biggest financial centre and is in the top five in Europe.

It is also Europe's second largest banking centre. We should not underestimate the importance of Edinburgh having such a positive international profile.

But, as I said in the debate, Edinburgh is not all a land of milk and honey. In spite of huge advances in living standards, poverty still exists.

We need to continue to work to close the gap between rich and poor.

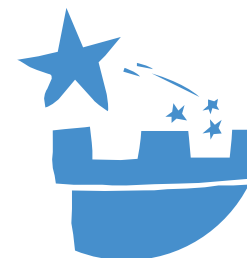
So, by all means let us celebrate success, but let's also hope everyone in Scotland is given the chance to share in the prosperity generated by our financial services industry.

**Susan Deacon MSP
Edinburgh East & Musselburgh**

ADVERTISEMENT



Craigmillar European Programme



CAPACITY BUILDING
PROJECT

Euro job links strengthened



CRAIGMILLAR EUROPEAN Programme recently continued its tradition of links with Europe, as the hosts of Russian student Elvira Barsoukova's work experience placement.

Elvira, from Chelyabinsk near the Ural Mountains in Central Russia undertook the accountancy placement for CEP as part of an English course taken at Stephenson College, called English For Working and Learning in Scotland.

Elvira, whose husband works in Scotland as a software developer, saw the placement as an ideal way to improve her employment opportunities in her own right:

"My main aim was to improve my English, just speaking with everybody whilst working; my next aim was to improve my accounting skills. I feel both aims were finished successfully."

After the placement, which lasted a month, Elvira certainly feels her command of English has improved: "It's better than it was. When somebody speaks very fast, with a lot of slang, sometimes I don't understand."

"Now, I don't understand when somebody speaks very good English, but I get the Scottish accent!", she laughed.

Elvira already works part-time, and hopes to find full time work soon, having enjoyed her time working in Craigmillar.

"The people were nice, and it has been a success," she concluded.



Delegates travelled to Brussels (above & below) for the conference

A GROUP OF DELEGATES from Capacity Building Project, Craigmillar Childcare Services and Craigmillar European Programme recently attended the annual 'Employment Week' in Brussels.

Invited by the Scottish Objective 3 Partnership, the delegates were able to showcase their work at a European level at the event, which provided a fantastic platform for finding out about employment, economic development, regeneration and training.

Taking advantage of excellent networking opportunities, the delegates were able to share information about employment and regeneration projects with over 1500 employment professionals.

Contact with European Commission representatives and MEP's meant that the delegates were able to investigate sources of funding for new projects, showcase local employment initiatives and hopefully help influence policy change.

The presence of fellow employment professionals meant that the latest research and information on employment policy and trends throughout Europe could be fruitfully shared.

Important partnerships were also forged to share ideas and best practice with European employment bodies, as well as with economic, employment,

training and community development agencies in the public, private and third sectors.

Connect with the European policy and funding process.

Delegates were delighted to be able to present projects and programmes to peers and partners from across Europe and beyond. This enabled them to exchange experience with all those involved in job creation and regeneration of the EU.

The delegates felt that it was a thoroughly productive and successful visit, and hope to be able to continue to promote Craigmillar and build strong links in Europe in future.



Capacity Building Project Events Diary June-August 2005



For further details or to book a place on any of the courses listed below, contact the Capacity Building Project at 68 Niddrie Mains Terrace, Tel: 0131 661 0200.
www.craigmillarcapacitybuilding.org

EUROPEAN COMPUTER DRIVING LICENCE (ECDL)

6 weeks from Tue 7th June (finishes 12th July) 1 - 4pm

This course will benefit anyone who wants to upgrade their computer skills and get a qualification which is recognised throughout Europe. Modules are available in Word, Powerpoint, the Internet, Access, Excel and also in more general housekeeping such as managing files and basic concepts. Spaces are limited so give us a call to book your place.

CHALLENGING BEHAVIOUR WORKSHOP

Wednesday 15th June 10am - 4pm

This workshop will help you deal with behaviour you find challenging. It will cover positive behaviour, changing behaviour, common problems that we encounter, and also different environmental and situational influences. Call us to register your place.

CHILD PROTECTION GUIDELINES

Wednesday 22nd June

6.30 - 8.30pm

Thursday 23rd June

6.00 - 8.30pm

The session on Wednesday 22nd is a follow-up for those students who completed an introductory course in February of this year, and for participants of previous 'Introduction to Child Protection Guidelines'.

The session on Thursday 23rd June is a new introductory course. It will look at the most up to date information for everyone involved in working with children and young people.

COMMITTEE SKILLS TRAINING

Tuesday 26th July

10am - 12noon

This is an opportunity to understand the functions of committees and the dynamics of meetings. Participants will gain an insight into the roles of different office bearers and how good meetings are constructed.

ACT YOUTH WORK (LEVEL 1)

6 weeks from Tues 9th Aug (finishes 13th Sept) 6-9pm

This 6 week course is ideal for people who already work with, or want to work with young people. The course will cover educational activities for young people, society and young people, discrimination and prejudice, the roles and responsibilities of a youth worker, and also the different styles of youth work. **There will also be a weekend residential.** Phone us here at CBP for more information and to register your place.