

CCF2658 LOST GARDEN OF PENICUIK *report*

Progress up to and including September 2013

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Lost Garden of Penicuik: the story so far

We await news of the outcome of our Grant application from the Scottish Government's Climate Challenge Fund. Twenty months since we took over the Garden, this big project continues to surprise us with the supporters, media attention and international interest it's bringing to Penicuik. Last month we ran 5 walking tours. Monika Whitfield who grew up in the Garden in the 1950s ([see exhibition](#)) spent a holiday fortnight alongside all our volunteers to do her bit for the dream. Adults and kids alike have enjoyed getting in the harvest, lots of green vegetables and well over 300 kilos of potatoes so far this year in 18 tasty varieties. We're dedicated to great quality at a good price for all our home-grown produce and thank the hundreds of customers who pick it up at the Saturday Town Hall Open House, the Sunday Cinema, the Penycoe Press and the Valleyfield House Saturday Market. Please join us in making this heartbeat community project happen and share the well-being we create by rebuilding our town's assets one piece at a time. We've illustrated a downloadable history of the Garden which we'll print soon see www.lostgarden.co.uk/storybook

Good publicity

Monika Whitfield's was alerted to the Lost Garden as a direct result of hearing the tour of the garden on Gardeners Question Time: 2 different programmes were broadcast from Penicuik introducing our work to millions.. We've also had great publicity from BBC Scotland's Kitchen Garden with Penny Latin, a filmed feature on BBC Scotland's nightly television flagship Reporting Scotland with Environment Correspondent David Miller, and even interviews at the Garden with Danish Radio. In Penicuik through our Town Crier free all-household newspaper and our free illustrated Cinema programme leaflets we've been raising awareness of the forthcoming Climate Change Film and Debate in the Town Hall. Finally, Anna completed a big new permanent window display for the Lost Garden in our grain store premises in the Town Centre

Volunteers

Local volunteers have been supplemented by the hardworking all-weather group from Tiphereth led by Thoren Ferguson, and from Health in Mind led by Joe Pamphilon. We've helped and hosted local food growing groups from Midlothian and beyond. Since the Lost Garden project started we've attracted a lot of international helpers, hosted locally usually for a fortnight at a time, at work in the Lost Garden, including Malte Gente and Rike Adler (both Hamburg) Victor Somville (Nancy), Tim McGurk (Christchurch NZ), Vito Kuok Tsz Ho (Hong Kong)(two visits) , Louis Rus (Brest), Pedro Nunes (Lisbon), Ronja Thurn (Koblenz), Anna Du (Singapore), Cynthia Jonas and Alex Biscarner (Seattle), Daniel Gaur de Lima (Jerusalem), Diego Frey de Miras (Santiago de Compostella), Arda Abbas (Berlin), Ben Wood (Witham, Essex), Eric Sol van der Waal and Laura Sole (Barcelona), Alexander Cummings (Cambridge Mass) Hayley Chandler (Barnet, Herts), Vicky Burns (Sydney), Renee Clothier and Mark Solly (Blenheim NZ), Katharina Hupe (Hamburg) and Anna Sommer (Ulm). The Lost Garden featured in as a walking tour venue on Midlothian Doors Open Day (more publicity), we also had some disabled visitors to the upper Garden. Our volunteers also conducted the Doors Open Day visits to Penicuik Town Hall (the Lost Garden's Saturday Open House and Sunday Cinema venue where the Garden gathers produce sales and publicises the project each weekend)

Pen-y-Coe Press

This 50 year old Town Centre stationery and printing business, which for sixty years before that acted as Penicuik Post Office, has been operated by the Trust in conjunction with The Lost Garden since March 2013. Open weekdays and Saturdays from 10-4 the Press gives a telephone and personal contact point for the Trust and Lost Garden activities, providing a sales point and shop window for the Garden. As our final contribution to Midlothian Doors Open Day, September 14, we opened both the print workshop and the old grain store for a public display of printing and papermaking. We operated the beautifully crafted Original Heidelberg letterpress printing machine and displayed our type trays, linotype and aluminium photolithographic plates, all saved from needless destruction. The store with its Lost Garden window is now equipped with display boards and cleared back to the original brick walls. We had visitors making their own sheet of paper and looking at displays about papermaking through the ages – from Chinese loo paper to esparto mills. Heritage Centre. We advertised a future family drop-in event – The Science of Paper – on October 19th, part of the Midlothian Science Festival. After six months, the Trust has firmly re-established a favourite vintage shop, essentially a living museum, but now restocked and flourishing with reprographics and

a wide selection of paper, stationery and art materials. Thinking carefully about our carbon footprint, we're an important outlet for organic food produced only minutes from our shop: vegetables from the Lost Garden, organic bread from the Breadshare community bakery, and organic eggs from Springfield.

Penicuik Sunday Cinema

We're notching up more than 200 film nights, saving hundreds if not thousands of journeys to Edinburgh. Lots of new faces are in our audiences these days thanks to our weekly programme, and we're proud that our last month's Festival of brand new Scots films brought acclaim for "Shell", "Natan", and "Dummy Jim". After a packed birthday request Kind Hearts and Coronets on 6 October we mark the Science Festival on 13 October with Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth" made in 2008 and brought up to date with an after-film debate. On 20 October we can dress up and sing along for the classic "Sound of Music". "The Great Gatsby" (2013) with Leonardo di Caprio follows on 27 October. The acclaimed futuristic "V for Vendetta" comes to us on 3 November and on 10 November we show that unbeatable local favourite, possibly the only feature film that mentions Penicuik, "Restless Natives". More and more good films follow each week, pick up our programme or check us out on Facebook and websites like www.kosmoid.net/penicuik/cinema. Town Hall doors open at 7pm, films start at 7.30 and refreshments are always available. And for every ticket bought in advance at the Cinema, Open House or Penycoc Press you can get £1 off a Clippers Sunday Buffet here in Penicuik before the show. Save petrol, live local!

Looking forward to Penicuik Placemaking Workshop in October

To build on the widespread interest in our Lost Garden and town centre interventions, in conjunction with Greenspace Scotland, Keep Scotland Beautiful and the Climate Challenge Fund, the Trust will host a Community Placemaking Workshop in Penicuik Town Hall EH26 8HS on Wednesday 23 October from 10am – 4.30pm (registration starts 9.30am) It aims to introduce you to techniques you can use to make practical place improvements. Successful places have strong local identity; they are welcoming, safe & pleasant; they're easy to move around; they are adaptable, sustainable and resilient to climate change and they involve local people like us in designing and helping to run them. Any place can be turned into a great place if people work together and share a vision for its future. We'll focus on actions for the centre of Penicuik and draw inspiration from what the community has achieved to date. Join us to find out more on the 23 October. We will be going outside, so come dressed for the weather! This event is free to attend, but booking is essential. Find more information and how to book at www.kosmoid.net/penicuik/placemaking or ring us at the Press 01968 673767

Looking forward to Previously: Scotland's History Festival in November

The Trust was a founding partner of Scotland's History Festival in 2011 and this year we have planned 5 events for their brochure and programme for that month, including features on our own Lost Garden, and a prestigious presentation by Canadian historian Don Macleod on the life of Penicuik's Charles Cowan MP and his role in building hundreds of churches after the Disruption of the Church of Scotland. The chosen venue is the Cowan Institute (Penicuik Town Hall) of course!

Saturday Open House in the Town Hall

Penicuik folk and visitors to the town are invited to drop in to the Open House for soup from lost garden produce, organic fair trade coffee and tea and home made cakes every Saturday. It's a warm indoor market-place where you can find out what the Trust is doing in The Lost Garden and other community groups are up to, from First Responders to Town Twinning to Schools for Africa. We pay the council's letting charge from our income from donations and sales. There are changing exhibitions to see. On 12 October we feature Carlops' CTR Wilson and his Cloud Chamber, as part of Midlothian Science Festival. On 19 Oct we look at Deafness communication, on 26 Oct: Badgers, on 2 Nov: Brisbane and on 9 Nov: Live crafting.



a Trust grower in the 2013 vegetable garden



the 2013 potato plots



clearing trees for future food



starting to dig the 2014 potato plot

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