

Dollar Community Development Trust Newsletter: February 2020

Dollar Open Gardens 2020

The Trust has taken over the running of Dollar Open Gardens and this year we will be holding the event over the weekend of 23rd & 24th May. We will provide afternoon teas at the Hive, and the Community Marquee will be the event hub offering other garden-related activities, with the support from the very experienced Dollar Horticultural Society, including activities for children and young people.



Following the successful drop-in event at the Hive on Saturday 1st February we are delighted to report that we have a good number of hosts prepared to open their gardens for the weekend. The Trust is very grateful to the new hosts and welcomes back previous hosts. We have space for a few more hosts, so please get in touch if you have any questions about what being a host involves.

In addition to afternoon teas we plan several interesting stands in the Marquee, including:

- Horticultural Society plant sale.
- More information about our tree planting programme for 2020.
- Information about ending the use of horticultural peat by promoting the use of peat-free alternatives. Scotland's carbon-rich soils contain over 3,000 megatons of carbon, with peat and peaty soils containing over 1600 Mt of this. The commercial extraction of peat releases this carbon and prevents the peat bog from absorbing more carbon.
- A consultation on the Community Garden provided as part of Harviestoun Estates development project.
- For children there will be a stand about bees and what plants to grow to encourage them, with plants for sale.



Our Environmental Work in 2020

In 2020 we are starting to implement our ambitious Environmental Strategy, developed as a direct result of feedback from the 'Dollar Futures' work. As well as activity in the Hive (see overleaf) we are also running a series of **FREE workshops** to raise awareness about topics relating to the Environment. The workshops aim to allow people to see examples of ongoing change and how they could take ideas into their own home. The four upcoming **workshops** in the Hive are:

Saturday 22nd February, 2-4pm:	Bees and Seeds, with Karen MacBean
Saturday 7th March, 2-4pm:	Zero Waste and Sustainability, with Miriam Adcock
Sunday 22nd March, 2-4pm:	Trees and Carbon Footprint Reduction, with Eamonn Wall (see flyer)
Sunday 26th April, 2-4pm:	Alternative Energy Sources, hosted by Nick Poett and others

The FREE workshops are open to **all the community**, and for each session we have invited experts, already carrying out exciting activities, to share their experience and learning. We aim to show what is already happening, and what could happen, within the Dollar area, and where possible develop ways for the community to be involved in change. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and our website for further information. The events are running at weekends to allow as many people as possible to attend – we hope to see you there!

Dollar Community Library (open Mon and Weds 2pm to 5pm and Saturday 10am to 12pm)

Thanks to funding from the Scottish Book Trust the Library are pleased to invite you to another 'Meet the Author'



Event at the Hive on Wednesday 11th March at 7pm. We will be joined by multi award-winning crime author **Christopher Brookmyre** whose blend of devious plots, wicked humour and familiar Scottish locations has firmly established him as one of the leading proponents of Tartan Noir. Tickets are £5 (free for under 18s) and are available during library opening times and through Eventbrite. We are hoping that Chris will also present the prizes to our 'young crime writers' competition – more information can be found on the library pages of the DCDT website (www.dollarcdt.com/dollar-library).

In other news, **NHS Hearing Aid batteries** are now available at the Hive during library opening times – don't forget, you must have your yellow book with you when collecting batteries.

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Volunteer Driver Service

The volunteer driver service is going from strength to strength, our volunteers offer lifts to local residents (aged 18 years and over) to help with everyday trips, such as to the shops, the health centre, the library, or further afield if necessary. If you struggle with access to transport, or know someone who does, then please get in touch to see how we can help.

It's easy to use, and it's FREE! All you need to do is phone us on **07565 712131** at any time and leave a message with your name and number. We will aim to call you back that day to discuss your request. All we ask is that you give us at least a day's notice of when you wish to travel. We are always looking for volunteer drivers, so please get in touch with the Trust if you can help out.



Dollar Hive Improvements Update



We have listened to feedback ("*clean the floor!*") and are pleased to report that we have arranged for the main hall floor to be re-treated to improve how it looks. This is being done during the February break.

In addition, as part of the Trust's ambitious Environmental Strategy, a target of which is to work towards making the Hive carbon-neutral, we are working to improve how we manage resources within the Hive – making it easier to recycle, collect food waste and reduce the use of single-use plastic where possible. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for further updates and please be mindful when in the Hive about what you do with any waste/rubbish you may have. We have also provided some coat rails to hang up your coats when at an event or session. If you have any further feedback, or ideas on new sessions we could run at the Hive, please get in touch, or better still please complete our short community feedback survey by following this link: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DollarHiveSurvey

Up-coming Fundraisers at the Hive

***Stray Dogz Blues Band:** After a very successful gig at last year's Beer Festival, the excellent Blues Band Stray Dogz are returning to the Hive to perform on Saturday 21st March. This fundraising event for the Trust begins at 7.30pm, there will be a licensed bar and nibbles available. Tickets are £10 and can be bought from Dollar's Deli, Ellie's Cellar, The Sorting Office & Brian Devlin Butchers. Come out and enjoy the evening and help us to raise funds which will benefit the community.



***Vintage Event:** We are planning our first 'Vintage Event' at the Hive for later in the year – 'vintage' is considered to be items of furniture, curious, clothes and much more from the 1930s through to the 1980s. We will have stalls where you can sell your own vintage/retro items and/or buy pre-loved bits. We are keen to include a mini antiques roadshow, where you can have your vintage items looked at, valued and who knows, we may have some amazing finds! There will be afternoon teas, some light entertainment (maybe a little swing music might tickle your fancy) all part of a general day to enjoy all things vintage!



Can you help us in our quest to find a vintage expert? Maybe someone in the vintage/antiques trade who may be willing to spend an afternoon valuing items of interest? If you know of someone, or if you would like to be involved in the planning of this event, please do not hesitate to contact Angharad Wollensack-Kotlowski (Harry) on blusheeps@hotmail.com. Dates will be announced soon and we look forward to seeing you all there!

**All help is greatly appreciated, no matter how small, in helping us to host these events for our community
The Trust would like to thank you for your on-going support**

Contact the Trust:

If you have any questions or feedback, or would like to get involved in any of our projects, please get in touch with our Development Officer Rebecca McFarlane on either rebecca.dcdt@gmail.com or 07563 405939.

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