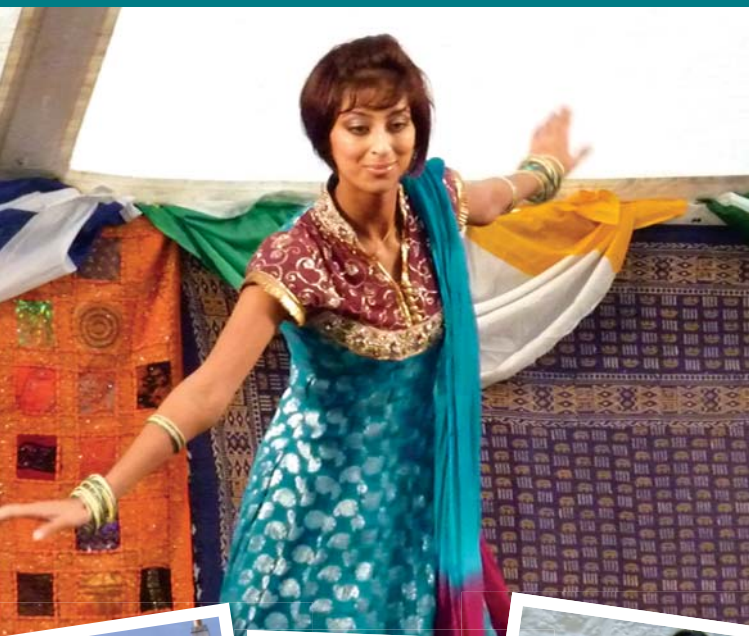


What's On

at East Lothian Museums

John Muir's Birthplace | Musselburgh Museum | Prestongrange Museum





Beam Engine at Prestongrange Museum

Contact us

John Muir's Birthplace

126 High Street, Dunbar EH42 1JJ

Telephone: 01368 865899

Opening times:

10am–5pm Monday–Saturday

1pm–5pm Sunday

Closed Monday and Tuesday from 1st November to 31st March



Musselburgh Museum

65 High Street, Musselburgh EH21 7BZ

Telephone: 0131 665 6642

Opening times:

10.30am–3.30pm Thursday–Saturday (Apr–Oct)

Winter opening times to be confirmed



Musselburgh Museum is operated on behalf of the Council by Musselburgh Museum and Heritage Group, Scottish Registered Charity SC003967.

Prestongrange Museum

Morrison's Haven, Prestonpans EH32 9RX

Telephone: 0131 653 2904

Opening times:

11.30am–4.30pm Monday–Sunday (Apr–Oct)

Closed from 1st November to 31st March



PRESTONGRANGE



FREE
admission
to all our
museums

About us

Welcome to our **What's On for 2011**. East Lothian Council Museums Service has grown over the past year to include a new museum in Musselburgh and three developing museums (see p19). This booklet includes details of upcoming exhibitions and events across the three museums currently open. If you have any questions, then please contact our museums, or call our Headquarters (Monday to Friday) on 01620 828200 or email elms@eastlothian.gov.uk.

Connect with us online

- www.eastlothianmuseums.org
- Blog – www.eastlothianmuseums.org/wp
- Facebook and East Lothian Buzz – 'East Lothian Council Museum Service'
- Flickr and YouTube – 'East Lothian Museum Service'
- Twitter – JM_Birthplace

facebook

flickr

YouTube

twitter

About our Museums

John Muir's Birthplace

John Muir is a world figure who continues to inspire. The Dunbar birthplace of the pioneering conservationist has been transformed into a stunning interpretative centre highlighting the work and achievements of this remarkable man. Explore the Birthplace to:

- discover John's adventures and travels all over the world;
- find extracts from his journals and sketches of wildlife and plants;
- be inspired and follow in his footsteps with our new interactive games.



Musselburgh Museum

The new Musselburgh Museum is a fascinating visit for all ages. Discover the long and remarkable history of the Honest Toun through the changing displays and exhibitions, and have fun with the activities for children and families. From fishwives to Romans via golfers and industrialists, the stories of Musselburgh's people give an intriguing insight into the history of this ancient Burgh.



Prestongrange Museum

Prestongrange is a site of major importance in the story of Scotland's Industrial Revolution. It was the location of a harbour, glass works, pottery and a colliery and brick works. Remnants of these former industries can still be seen, including the rare Hoffman Kiln and the Cornish Beam Engine, unique in Scotland. Enjoy a tour of this fascinating site or explore it at your own pace with our audio tour. The visitor centre explores Prestongrange's fascinating history through displays, exhibitions and a short film. Drop in for a coffee or to browse our shop.

Upcoming Exhibitions

All our exhibitions are free, although donations are welcome.

Muir Connections – John Muir's Birthplace

Saturday, 16th April – Sunday, 29th May

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the twinning of Dunbar and Martinez, California our exhibition will include historic and present-day photos. New material will be added throughout the exhibition period.



John Muir the Writer – Gibb Room, Dunbar Library

Monday, 18th April – Saturday, 7th May

Celebrates John Muir's writing through the works that ignited the wilderness protection campaign as well as his poetry, letters and travel journals.

Gone to Pot: The Story of East Lothian's Potteries – Prestongrange

Friday, 1st April – Monday, 31st October

Traces the history of local potteries, including Belfield, Gordon and Hillcoat Potteries. Illustrated by local artist Michelle McCluskie, highlights include industrial pieces made at Prestongrange, Mak'Merry Pottery and the story of its creator, Catherine Blair, a Suffragist and founder of the Scottish WRI.



The Last Miner's House: A 1960s Livingroom – Prestongrange

Sunday, 15th May – Monday, 31st October

A re-created livingroom from 1962 (when Prestongrange Colliery closed) shows off the new designs and technologies of the '60s, alongside more traditional aspects of miners' housing.



Celebrating John Rennie, Engineer – John Muir's Birthplace

Saturday, 4th June – Sunday, 3rd July

Marks the 250th anniversary of the birth of renowned engineer John Rennie, creator of canals, bridges, harbours and more. Produced by East Lothian Antiquarian & Field Naturalist Society, this exhibition takes Rennie from his childhood at Phantassie near East Linton and explores his achievements, including Musselburgh Bridge, Plymouth Breakwater, Leith Docks and London Bridge.



An Ingenious Whittler: John Muir the Inventor – John Muir's Birthplace

Wednesday, 6th July – Sunday, 31st July

Exhibition looking at the ingenious side of John Muir and the talent that opened the door to a new life away from the grind of the family farm. Did Wallace and Gromit get some of their inspiration from John Muir? Come and sit in his 'Loafer's Chair'!

Events



*Going to the Dancing
John Muir's Birthplace, Musselburgh Museum, Prestongrange Museum
Various dates*

Dunbar Conversations – John Muir’s Way of Thinking

Wednesday, 20th April | Gibb Room, Dunbar Library

7.30pm–9pm | Adults – children over 12 years welcome | **Free**

Our guest speakers: Jo Moulin (Manager, John Muir’s Birthplace), Tara Sykes (John Muir Country Park Ranger) and Will Collin (Friends of John Muir’s Birthplace) will lead a conversation about local issues and John Muir’s way of thinking.

Booking essential. Contact Dunbar Library to book a free ticket on 01368 863521 or email dunbar.library@eastlothian.gov.uk

John Muir’s Dunbar Guided Walk

Thursday, 21st April | Start and finish at John Muir’s Birthplace | 2.30pm–4pm

Everyone – children under 8 must be

accompanied by an adult | **£3 per adult**

Celebrate John Muir’s birthday with a guided

walk around the places that were important to the young John growing up in Dunbar during the

1840s. What games did he play? Find out about

the ‘Sookin in goats’ and ‘Dandy Doctors’ that helped keep him out of trouble! Includes refreshments after walk.

Booking essential. Contact John Muir’s Birthplace on 01368 865899



Eggsplore Museums!

Friday 22nd – Monday, 25th April | John Muir’s Birthplace,

Prestongrange Museum

All day – check each museum’s opening times | Families – children

under 8 must be accompanied by an adult | **Free, donations welcome**

Can you follow our trail of eggs to find the bird hidden in each of our museums? Prizes for those who complete the challenge!

Drop-in event

My First Summer in the Sierra

Thursday, 27th April | Gibb Room, Dunbar Library

7.30pm–9pm | Adults and young adults

Free, donations welcome

A Reading Event by the Friends of John Muir’s Birthplace to mark the 100th anniversary of the publication of ‘My First Summer in the Sierra’. Reading the book in advance is not necessary, but you may be inspired to read it afterwards! Refreshments provided.

Booking essential: Contact John Muir’s Birthplace on 01368 865899



Going to the Dancing

Friday, 13th – Sunday, 15th May | John Muir's Birthplace,
Musselburgh Museum, Prestongrange Museum

Everybody – children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult

Free, donations welcome

Going to the dancing was once all about dressing up, meeting people and having fun. This May Bank Holiday Weekend join us across East Lothian as we re-create going to the dancing!

Breakdancing Dunbar!

Friday, 13th May: 2pm–3pm (Primary aged children), 3pm–4pm
(Secondary aged children)

In the '80s Dunbar and Martinez began a twinning link when hip hop culture was all the rage. Our breakdancers will teach children some moves!

Musselburgh's Tea-Dance

Saturday, 14th May: 1.30pm–3.30pm

In Musselburgh the Flyright Dance Company will transport the town back to the '40s, as they lead families in learning dances like the Charleston.

Swinging Sixties at Prestongrange

Sunday, 15th May: 1.30pm–3.30pm

At Prestongrange it's the Swinging '60s once again and families can learn the twist and the jive, as well as getting some make-up tips!

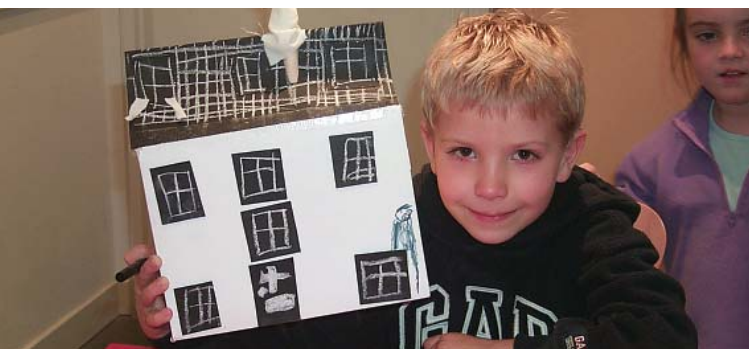
Prizes will be presented at each event to the best-dressed family or group.

This event is part of the Festival of Museums programme and is supported by a Museums Galleries Scotland grant.

**FESTIVAL of
MUSEUMS**
Igniting Scotland's Imagination

Visit www.FestivalofMuseums.com for details.

Tickets must be reserved beforehand by visiting or phoning the museum where the workshop will be taking place. See p2 for contact details.



John Muir's Dunbar Guided Walk

Thursday, 26th May | Start and finish at John Muir's Birthplace
10.30am–12 noon | Everyone – children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult | **£3 per adult**

Explore the places important to the young John growing up in Dunbar during the 1840s. What games did he play? Find out about the 'Sookin in goats' and 'Dandy Doctors' that helped keep him out of trouble! Includes refreshments after walk.

Booking essential. Contact John Muir's Birthplace on 01368 865899.

Biba, Beehives and Badges: A '60s Fashion Afternoon

Sunday, 29th May | Prestongrange Museum | 1pm–4pm
Adults – children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult
£2 per ticket

Do you have an original Biba piece from the 1960s? Or maybe you're fascinated by '60s design? Join us for an afternoon dedicated to the most fashionable decade of the past century. Explore our vintage pieces of clothing, hear from our experts about '60s fashion and design, get tips on how to customise your clothing, share your own stories and make your own slogan badge. Dressing up is encouraged!

Book your tickets at Prestongrange or by phoning 0131 653 2904

K'nex Bridge Building Challenge!

Saturday, 4th June | East Linton Community Hall,
East Linton | 12 noon–4pm
Everybody, Families – children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult | **Free**

Come along and celebrate East Lothian's amazing bridge-building history by building some bridges of your own! Are you up for the challenge?

Let's see what you can do!

Drop-in event





*Walkie Talkie
Prestongrange Museum
Sunday, 26th June*

John Muir's Dunbar Guided Walk

Tuesday, 14th June | Start and finish at John Muir's Birthplace
2.30pm–4pm | Everyone – children under 8 must be accompanied
by an adult | **£3 per adult**

Explore the places that were important to John growing up in Dunbar during the 1840s. What games did he play? Find out about the 'Sookin in goats' and 'Dandy Doctors' that helped keep the young John Muir out of trouble! Includes refreshments after walk.

Booking essential. Contact John Muir's Birthplace on 01368 865899.

Walkie Talkie

800 Years of Changing Times: A History of
Prestongrange

Sunday, 26th June | Prestongrange Museum
2pm–3.30pm | Adults – children under 8 must
be accompanied by an adult

£3 per adult

In this 'Walkie Talkie' visitors will discover
the history of the Prestongrange site from its
beginnings, up to its closure as a colliery in 1962.

Philip Rayner will deliver an illustrated talk, followed by a guided
tour around the site. Philip has worked at Prestongrange for many
years and has a vast knowledge of the site and its history. He recently
featured on BBC Radio Scotland's 'Out of Doors' programme.

Includes tea/coffee.

*Book your tickets by phoning Prestongrange on 0131 653 2904
or by visiting Prestongrange.*



Prestonpans Battle Family Day

Sunday, 3rd July | Prestongrange Museum
12 noon–4pm | Everybody – children under 8
must be accompanied by an adult

Suggested donation: £1 per person

Join the Alan Breck Regiment for a day of
historical adventure as we bring the 1745
Jacobite battle to life. You can board the Battle
Bus, meet Jacobite and Government soldiers and
play some battles games of your own. Plus learn
how an 18th-century cannon works!

Drop-in event



Summer Holiday Workshop Programme

Friday, 1st July – Sunday, 14th August | John Muir's Birthplace, Prestongrange Museum | Children, Families – suitable for children aged 5–12 | **Costs vary, £2–£3 per child**

Bookable weekly workshops at our museum venues, as publicised in East Lothian Council's Summer Holiday Brochure or online. Please check www.eastlothianmuseums.org for details of the workshops, from 1st June onwards.

Please check the Summer Holiday brochure or our website for booking details from 1st June onwards.

Drop-in Activities for the Summer Holidays

Saturday, 2nd July – Sunday, 21st August | John Muir's Birthplace
Monday–Saturday: 10am–5pm Sunday: 1pm–5pm

Families – children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult
Free, donations welcome

Free family drop-in craft activity. Every day during the summer holidays.

Drop-in event

John Muir's Dunbar Guided Walk

Wednesday, 20th July: 10.30am–12 noon Monday, 8th August:
2.30pm–4pm | Start and finish at John Muir's Birthplace

Everyone – children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult
£3 per adult

Explore the places that were important to John growing up in Dunbar during the 1840s. What games did he play? Find out about the 'Sookin in goats' and 'Dandy Doctors' that helped keep the young John Muir out of trouble! Includes refreshments after walk.

Booking essential. Contact John Muir's Birthplace on 01368 865899.

Family Activity Day

Saturday, 20th August | Prestongrange Museum 12.30pm–3.30pm | Families – some activities may have age restrictions. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult

Free, donations welcome

Bring the whole family along to this free day of activities. Try out different activities – archery, kayaking, printing, orienteering, crafts and much more!

Drop-in event



*Family Activity Day
Preston Grange Museum
Saturday, 20th August*





*John Muir's Dunbar Guided Walk
John Muir's Birthplace
Thursday, 8th September*

Walkie Talkie

Digging into the Past: Prestongrange's Community Archaeology Project

Saturday, 27th August | Prestongrange Museum | 2pm–3.30pm

Adults – children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult

£3 per adult

Join Bidy Simpson, East Lothian Council's Archaeologist, to find out more about the Prestongrange Community Archaeology Project. The project, which took place between 2004 and 2010, made fascinating discoveries about the harbour, glassworks and pottery site. The findings resulted in a publication and new walkway. This Walkie Talkie will bring these findings to life with an illustrated talk, followed by a guided walk around the site. Includes tea/coffee.

Book your tickets at Prestongrange or by phoning 0131 653 2904

John Muir's Dunbar Guided Walk

Thursday, 8th September | Start and finish at John Muir's Birthplace

10.30am–12 noon | Everyone – children under 8 must be

accompanied by an adult | **£3 per adult**

Explore the places that were important to John growing up in Dunbar during the 1840s. What games did he play? Find out about the 'Sookin in goats' and 'Dandy Doctors' that helped keep the young John Muir out of trouble! Includes refreshments after walk.

Booking essential. Contact John Muir's Birthplace on 01368 865899.

East Lothian's Family Multi-Cultural Day

Sunday, 18th September

Prestongrange Museum | 12 noon–6pm

Everyone – children under 8 must be

accompanied by an adult

Free, donations welcome.

Can you imagine a day filled with musicians, dancers, acrobats and singers inspired by different cultures from around the world? It's right here on your doorstep! Join us for the third year of this hugely popular event. Including food and crafts from around the world, as well as a new evening session for those who want to make the event last a little bit longer.

Drop-in event



Lights Out, Doors Open

Friday, 30th September – John Muir's Birthplace and Musselburgh Museum | Saturday, 1st October – Prestongrange Museum |

7pm–8.30pm | Families – children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult

Suggested donation: £1 per person

What happens in our museums after dark?

This weekend you can find out as we plunge our visitors into darkness! Different activities will be on offer at each museum to celebrate the start of autumn. Remember to bring your torch!

Please note that a session for those children and young people with additional support needs and their families will take place at John Muir's Birthplace and Prestongrange Museum between 6pm and 7pm each evening. Please phone 01620 828200 for further details.

Drop-in event



Autumnal Activities for the October Holidays

Saturday, 15th October–Sunday, 23rd October
John Muir's Birthplace, Musselburgh Museum,
Prestongrange Museum

Families – children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult | **Free, donations welcome.**

Drop in to any of our museums to take part in activities about autumn. Musselburgh Museum will also be holding a Roman Extravaganza throughout October! Look out for details of all activities on our website.

Drop-in event



Halloween Party

Friday, 28th October | Prestongrange Museum | 1.30pm–3.30pm
Families – children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult

£2 per child (age 4 upwards), free entry for adults and those aged 3 and under.

Perfect for younger children, Prestongrange's Halloween Party has become a firm favourite with families. Games, dancing, Halloween crafts, dooking for apples and outdoor trails are all included in this special afternoon of spooky fun. Don't forget the fancy dress competition!

Drop-in event



*Autumnal Activities
John Muir's Birthplace, Musselburgh Museum, Prestongrange Museum
Saturday, 15th October–Sunday, 23rd October*

Archaeology in East Lothian

Come and find out more about the archaeology in East Lothian on our guided tours, talks and hands-on activity sessions.

Go to www.eastlothian.gov.uk/archaeology and the What's On? Section to find information on our:

- Annual event programme
- Archaeology and Local History Fortnight in September
- Archaeology Conference in November

Events are being added throughout the year so check the website for up to date information.

Interested in the East Lothian Young Archaeologists Club?

Go to www.eastlothianyac.co.uk. For more details about YAC visit www.yac-uk.org.

Find out more about the archaeology on your doorstep!



What's On Every Week

Every Sunday afternoon at Prestongrange Museum, families can take part in our new, exciting trails around the museum. Your family could become detectives, go on a ghost hunt or have an art attack! Take part in our Sunday Family Challenges by coming along between 11.30am and 4pm.



John Muir's Birthplace provides free family drop-in activities every weekend and every day during school holidays. What will it be next time?! Regularly changing crafts or games complement the season or current exhibitions and workshops.

Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult to take part in these activities. These events are free, although donations are welcome.

Coming Soon

The John Gray Centre

The John Gray Centre is a new and exciting development for East Lothian. Based in Haddington, the Centre will have the branch library, local history centre, East Lothian archive, museum and a learning space for everyone in East Lothian to enjoy. Opening 2012.

www.johngraycentre.org

www.facebook.com/JohnGrayCentre



Dunbar Town House

Housed in the historic Dunbar Town House building, the museum will tell the story of the local area. There will also be a community space and a chance to meet Dunbar and District History Society within the local history room. Opening 2012.

The Coastal Museum at North Berwick

This museum will be a fascinating exploration of East Lothian's coastal communities and the surrounding area, encompassing Aberlady, Dirleton, Gullane and North Berwick. This is a community museum being developed in partnership with representatives from each area.

John Muir's Birthplace | Musselburgh Museum | Prestongrange Museum

