

the stove network

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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The Future is Bright for Lincluden and Lochside

Over the Easter weekend, Lincluden was treated to two days of family activities and events, when Creative Futures Lincluden and Lochside hosted a variety of creative workshops in Lincluden Abbey and Lincluden Community Centre.

Easter Sunday saw the return of Abbey Antics at Lincluden Abbey. Throughout the day, Medieval Monks led a series of workshops, which gave children and families the chance to learn how to weave, make pens from goose feathers, learn metal work techniques and take part in walking through a labyrinth. Dragon Egg making workshops were also held, as well as Fairy Walks and a Unicorn Quest. The day was part of an initiative led by Creative Futures, which focuses on bringing the Abbey back into community life, as well as giving young people the opportunity to learn about the significant heritage of their local area in an exciting and engaging way.

On Monday, the fun continued with a 'Hooswarming' to celebrate the launch of the Creative Futures project at Lincluden Community Centre. This event was a chance for the community to meet the Creative Futures team and get hands-on experience of creative techniques, as well as discuss projects and opportunities for local people in the future.

Creative Development Worker, Lee McQueen, commented "The events held over the weekend enabled local people to come together to develop their creative talents and encouraged people to have a bigger voice within their local community. A lot of great work has happened within Lincluden and Lochside over the years, and we want to continue this by working with people across the board, pulling together lots of creative aspects, as well as focusing on the heritage and culture within North West Dumfries."

Creative Futures Lincluden and Lochside is The Stove Network's new four-year project in North West Dumfries. It is an exciting and innovative project which uses creativity and local history to provide opportunities for young people within the Lochside and Lincluden areas of North West Dumfries. They aim to help local people develop their skills, develop their local area, increase their opportunities, improve their quality of life, connect with one another, try out new experiences and thrive as a community.

Creative Futures will be hosting another Housewarming event at Lochside Community Centre on Saturday 29th April. This will be another opportunity for local people to meet the team and get involved with an open day of arts activities, information, food and music. For further information and drop-in sessions through the week contact lee@thestove.org.

End

Notes

Creative Futures is funded by the National Lottery through the Big Lottery Fund's Our Place programme – a 4-year programme of community-led artist heritage creative activity based in the heart of Lincluden and Lochside, to which everyone is invited and will be supported to be involved.

The unique community arts project is the first in the area to secure funding from the Big Lottery Fund's Our Place initiative. Over the next 4 years, the project will recruit a team of creative volunteers who will co-design a range of expressive arts activities delivered for and by the whole community, with the support of full time Development Worker, Lee McQueen.

The Stove Network is an artist-led organisation based in Dumfries and creating new activity and opportunities in the town centre based around The Stove, 100 High Street.

Contact: Lee McQueen lee@thestove.org