

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2025

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON DUNBAR HIGH STREET?



BUILDING REPAIRS UPDATE

2025 will start to see activity throughout the town centre, as some of the larger Dunbar CARS funded repair projects proceed on site. One of the schemes priority repair projects at 76 High Street (which houses the 1650 café) has now started on site, delivered by an East Lothian architect Jo Parry Geddes of Mill Architects. Edinburgh based contractor Restorex will be carrying out the conservation project. Works include extensive roof repairs, as well as repairs to stabilise the structure which is becoming unsafe at the rear.

Across the road at 61-65 High Street (Graze Coffee and Chocolate House and Sue Ryder Cancer Care shop) I extensive works will also take place to repair the roof. This project will be delivered by Halvorsen Architects and Restorex.

Elsewhere on the High Street, Dunbar CARS has supported the refurbishment of several timber sash and case windows alongside a series of smaller roof, gutter projects and a stonework repair project.

Further scaffolding will likely be erected throughout 2025 as a number of repair projects proceed on site.

The next deadline for submitting repair grant applications to Dunbar CARS will be Wednesday 30th April 2025. Anyone interested in making an application for funding is encouraged to get in touch with the Dunbar CARS Project Officers. Dunbar CARS has limited funding, therefore future funding rounds will only be considered after a review of the initiative later in 2025.



CLOSES, CLOSES, AND MORE CLOSES

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Closes will be the focus of this year's Dunbar CARS outreach and traditional skills projects.

We will be aiming to look at the ownership, condition, repair and maintenance as well as their materials and construction, local stories, opportunities for interpretation or creative activities.





TOURS AND SITE VISITS

WALK AND TALKS

We will be inviting you to visit some of the high street building projects as the works evolve. This will include some site visits and walk and talks and even some taster activities on site.

All of the above events are FREE to attend however talks and workshops require booking. To secure a place or find out more about any of the above activities, or to get added to our mailing list please email regeneration@eastlothian.gov.uk



SPRING 2025 PROGRAM OF EVENTS

WALKS, TALKS AND SITE VISITS

BUILDINGS AND CLOSES WALK AND TALK WITH ANDY STOCKDALE (The Ridge) THURSDAY FEBRUARY 27th 5pm Meet outside Town House

Join Andy Stockdale local Stonemason from the Ridge for a walk down the High Street looking at some of the buildings and Closes and the repair and conservation issues. We will look at how to repair the different types of closes including information on how to choose the correct renders and paints, as well as reinstating missing gates and other historic fittings. The walk will stop at the Town House and Museum, and look at some of the stone repairs at the Old Well Head, and the Fisherman's Memorial in Cromwell Harbour.

STONEWORK REPAIR VISIT ON THE HIGH STREET WITH DEREK ANDERSON (Anderson Masonry) THURSDAY 13th MARCH 5pm Meet outside 9 High Street

Join us for our first site visit to hear about some of the stonework repairs being undertaken at 9 High Street from local stonemason Derek Anderson with a short introduction to the building repair project from the owner.

LIVE SKILLS TASTER SESSIONS AT THE HIGH STREET CLOSES WITH DARREN BROWN AND BEN GILMOUR, SEAN FROST AND JAMIE GOODWIN (The Ridge)

TUESDAY APRIL 8th - SATURDAY 14th APRIL Various locations on the High Street Workshops will be 10pm - 12pm or 2pm - 4pm More information on spring clean weekend events to follow.

Dunbar CARS will be participating in the Spring Clean town events. Ever fancied learning how to rake out, point and plaster a rubble wall using lime render and paint, or point a wall using hot lime? Darren and Ben will be doing traditional skills demonstrations and running taster sessions throughout the week. Sign up in advance for a traditional skills taster session.

OPPORTUNITIES COMING IN APRIL

TRADITIONAL SKILLS BURSARY SCHEME

Would you like to improve your knowledge of a traditional skill?
We will be launching a Traditional Skills Bursary Scheme in April 2025

Applications will be open for the Traditional Skills Bursary Scheme in April 2024. This small fund is available for people in Dunbar and East Linton to attend recognised traditional skills training. Applications can be made at any time after the launch, with up to £2000 available per person. Funding can cover all training costs, including transport and accommodation. The type of training eligible for funding can include anything from a lime-pointing course to a cast-iron masterclass.

HIGH STREET CLOSES PROJECT AND HERITAGE GRANT

Get involved in our High Street Closes walks and research project starting in February. There will be walk and talks We will be launching a small heritage grant in Summer 2025. More information to follow.

SUSTAINING DUNBAR COMMUNITY HEAT PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

Sustaining Dunbar's Community Heat Team volunteers are now offering free heat surveys for householders in Dunbar. Would you like to have your home surveyed with our thermal camera to highlight where your home is losing heat? Find out more and book a survey here https://sustainingdunbar.org/2025/01/community-heat-team/

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