

## Members' Library Service Request Form

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Additional information:

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<b>Current International Activity</b>	<b>How and why does this activity take place?</b>	<b>What other organisations or sectors are involved?</b>	<b>What does this activity contribute or achieve?</b>
<p>Twinning</p>	<p>East Lothian has 5 very active twinning links.</p> <p>East Lothian as a county has been twinned with the region of Kreis Spree Neisse in Germany since 1999.</p> <p>The town of Haddington has been twinned with Aubigny-Sur-Nere, France since 1965 as both towns share historical links with Mary Queen of Scots and the Scottish-French Auld Alliance.</p> <p>Musselburgh has been twinned with Champigny-sur-Nere, France since 1967 and also with Rosignano Marittimo, Italy since 1983. Champigny was already twinned with Rosignano, so a three-way link was considered advantageous.</p> <p>Dunbar has been twinned with Lignieres, France since 1994 and is also twinned with Martinez, California since 1973 as John Muir who was born in Dunbar, is Father to its National Park system. (continued overleaf)</p>	<p>East Lothian Council supports these twinning links in partnership with each of the towns twinning associations.</p>	<p>The purpose of these activities is to establish and maintain friendly relations with each other and, through that friendship, pursue the promotion of cultural, educational, social, economic, tourist, youth and sporting exchanges, in the interests of the inhabitants of their communities.</p>

	<p>The newly established link is between the Preston Seton Gosford schools cluster who has been twinned with Barga, Italy since 2006 as a result of a mutual interest in the work of artist, John Bellany)</p> <p>Regular communication and visits take place between each twin town and their counterparts including sporting and cultural activities, schools, scholarships and Council-to-Council exchanges.</p>		
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United Nations Habitat Project: Planning and development Support to Palestinians in Israeli Controlled Area C of the West Bank	Study Visit to the UK: Learning on Local Governance in Scotland and on the Planning System in Scotland as it affects populated rural areas.	Palestinian Government – Ministry for Local Government	This was a one off study visit to East Lothian as part of a week long UK study visit by the UN Habitat Project team in March 2015. It contributed a greater understanding of the current Scottish Planning System, and local governance arrangements in Scotland. This was particularly relevant for the UN Palestinian delegation who, in Area C of Palestine, still operate under a version of Jordanian Planning Law from the 1960s and three Regional Outline Plans produced by the British in the 1940s that are still legal documents. The study delegation were particularly interested in planning of villages in East Lothian; in how we prepare a development brief for a site and in how strategic environmental assessment is undertaken.

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Links with Rwanda as part of the Commonwealth Games 2014 Legacy	East Lothian was aligned with Rwanda as part of the “Support a Second Team” initiative for the Commonwealth Games 2014. The county hosted the Rwandan team for a pre-games training camp, and this has led to a more lasting link whereby both sides have committed to further develop their relationship.	SportScotland	It has begun to highlight the range of actions and opportunities for the partners to work together, particularly in relation to sport and sports education. A recent visit to Rwanda by East Lothian representatives and SportScotland involved discussions with the Rwandan Sports Minister and officials, a number of school and community projects, and the delivery of coach education to Rwandan rugby coaches.

[More overleaf]

Schools Activity			
Current International Activity	How and why does this activity take place?	What other organisations or sectors are involved?	What does this activity contribute or achieve?
<b>Athelstaneford Primary school</b> (School link)	Letters between pupils in French school and pupils in ours. Two of our present pupils have come to us from the French school. We sent PowerPoint presentations to French school. Viewing each other's websites.	French school	Develop skills in reading and writing French; partnership; understanding another culture.
<b>Athelstaneford Primary School</b>  St Kitt's Commonwealth Games team met with pupils and parents during the summer holidays.	Event took place in summer 2014 in front of school and provided an opportunity to promote partnership.	Beach Allan Primary School from St Kitt's and Nevis  St Kitt's and Nevis Commonwealth Games team	Opportunities for children to meet competitors from another country.
<b>East Linton Primary School</b>  Link with school in Kenya	Through a marine biologist (parent ) our current P7 class compare information about coastal habitats	School in Kenya	Enhances delivery of science Experiences and Outcomes as well as Global citizenship aspects
<b>Humbie Primary School</b> Has international contact through charity fundraising.			

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<p><b>Innerwick Primary School</b></p> <p>Send My Friend campaign</p>	<p>Global campaign highlighting the number of children still not attending school. Different activities each year, when pupils make friends/teachers to send to local MP, then to Prime Minister.</p>	<p>Global groups.</p>	<p>Develops empathy, understanding, teamwork and many other attributes in our pupils.</p>
<p><b>Innerwick Primary School</b></p> <p>Neema School</p>	<p>Raising funds for our chosen charity. Neema is an orphanage in Kenya. We raise funds to continue the building of the school.</p>		<p>The school is now building its 5<sup>th</sup> classroom. Pupils communicate by letter.</p>
<p><b>Innerwick Primary School</b></p> <p>Raising funds for Lifestraw</p>	<p>LifeStraw is a water filter designed to be used by one person to filter water so that they may safely drink it.</p>	<p>Rotary Clubs.</p>	<p>Highlights importance of clean water and illnesses incurred when this is a concern.</p>

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<p><b>Prestonpans Infant School</b>                      Shares an interest with Campie Primary School in Child Development Centre school in Maw Sot, Thailand</p>		<p>This is a school for Burmese migrant children. It is supported locally by the Maitri Trust.</p>	
<p><b>Preston/Seton/Gosford Primary Schools</b>                       Aquabox – providing equipment for safe water</p>	<p>Schools fill boxes with equipment for safe water (plus other useful items such as toothpaste) which are then distributed to people in India and Africa.</p>	<p>Rotary Clubs.</p>	<p>Helps provide safe water for people in other parts of the world; helps pupils develop as “Responsible Citizens” in terms of the Curriculum for Excellence.</p>
<p><b>Sanderson’s Wynd Primary School</b>                       UNICEF - Day for Change</p>	<p>Hosting International Visitors. Curricular Studies Fundraisers for charities that work across the Globe eg Red Nose Day.</p>		
<p><b>Whitecraig Primary School</b>                       Early Learning of Chinese Project</p>	<p>Four Chinese students come to school for an hour a week to teach Mandarin in P1/2 and P2/3.</p>	<p>Edinburgh University; Bilingualism Matters; Education Scotland (evaluation)</p>	<p>Children are exposed to (and learn) another language in a fun and interesting way, delivered by Chinese students. This develops metalinguistic awareness.</p>

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<p><b>Musselburgh Grammar School</b></p> <p>Seeking to form links with a school in Burma.</p>	<p>They have had a strong relationship with Campie Primary School for many years. The Head of Education from Burma visited our school this week.</p>	<p>In addition, the “whole-school” responsibility for our new Principal Teacher of Modern Languages will be <i>Learning for Sustainability</i>.</p>	

**Committee’s question:** “Do you think your sector and/ or organisation is effective in participating in international activities? If not, what would help you to make improvements? What prevents you from making improvements now?”

**Comment:**

In the current financial climate it can be difficult not just to finance programmes of activity but also to commit resources to organising their development in the first place. We are proud of colleagues and pupils for their involvement and we believe we are effective to the extent we can participate.

In the past some of our international work has been funded by EU programmes such as INTERREG, or programmes funded by the government of the visiting country. For example, in 2013 the Council hosted an expert study visit on tourism from Kreis Spree Neisse whose participants were funded by a German federal government programme (LAURIN) to aid communities in the former East Germany; the Council’s participation was not externally funded. A year later we received a request to host a further study visit on a different topic but had to decline due to lack of resource. In addition, there is limited scope to return study visits, despite enthusiastic invitations, which tends to deprive the relationship of reciprocity.

It is noticeable how well many of our visitors (from different countries) speak English, and we do not have the same level of skill in the various different languages of our international partners.

*East Lothian Council April 2015*