



## **The Mid-week Group of DIY Volunteers**

So called because we have other things to do at weekends.

We meet on Tuesday mornings to provide practical expertise for DIY projects that enhance the ambience and fabric of Dunblane.

**Read on!**



***nce upon time (c 2003 AD) a few local skilled “DIY-wise” residents got together to successfully plug the leaking Ochlochy Pond.***

The Mid-Week group was off to a start and, since then, has focussed on:

- Clearing & cleaning the golf course steps; all 53 of them!
- Continuing painting of railings
- Renovation of public bench seating in town & the Laighills
- Renovation of the signage at 4-ways roundabout
- Improvement at Mill Row play park
- Repainting of the Faery Bridge
- Multiple jobs at the Braeport Community Centre
- Collaborative projects in the Memorial Park with Environment Group
- Annual town centre Christmas lighting



## On being a DDT Volunteer and Group Leader; Bill Maclean

Living in Dunblane for many years and now enjoying retirement, I am proud to be a DDT volunteer.



Getting involved was not just altruistic as my plans for retirement were to be outdoors as much as possible; hence my involvement with the Mid-Week Group. The group's work is mainly the repair and painting of the public seating and railings in the town, the kind of work that would go undone unless taken on by volunteer labour.

In this work we have been well supported by Stirling Council who provide grants and materials to carry out the work. Recent projects well known to residents have included protective treatment of the Faery Bridge, painting the train engine in the Mill Row play area and, of course, our annual installation of town centre Christmas lights.

Seeing a job well done gives me great satisfaction and a deep sense of achievement. Being a volunteer is not all hard work; it is a social event as much as anything with a break for coffee and biscuits as we put the world to right. Since joining the group I have made lasting friendships and I have become healthier and fitter; without having to go to the gym!



*P.S. However, my friend Ken Mitchell does wonder how many people we actually need to change a light bulb.*

*Spot the difference in these two images!*



# Improving local play parks



*All aboard at Millrow*

# Lighting up our town centre at Christmas



Since 2011 we have been upgrading both the lights and our installation techniques They are now brighter, more extensive, cheaper to run and easier & safer to install. We have also found improved out of season storage at Burgh Chambers.

Grateful thanks are due to the following for all their support over the years :

- ***The Windfarm Fund***
- ***Community Pride Fund***
- ***Discover Dunblane***
- ***Business/resident donations***
- ***Tesco***
- ***Stirling Council***



# Public Benches

*Take a seat; you can trust us.....*



*.....after we have done a bit of homework with sandpaper and paint brushes; and repaired some vandalism on the Laighills!*



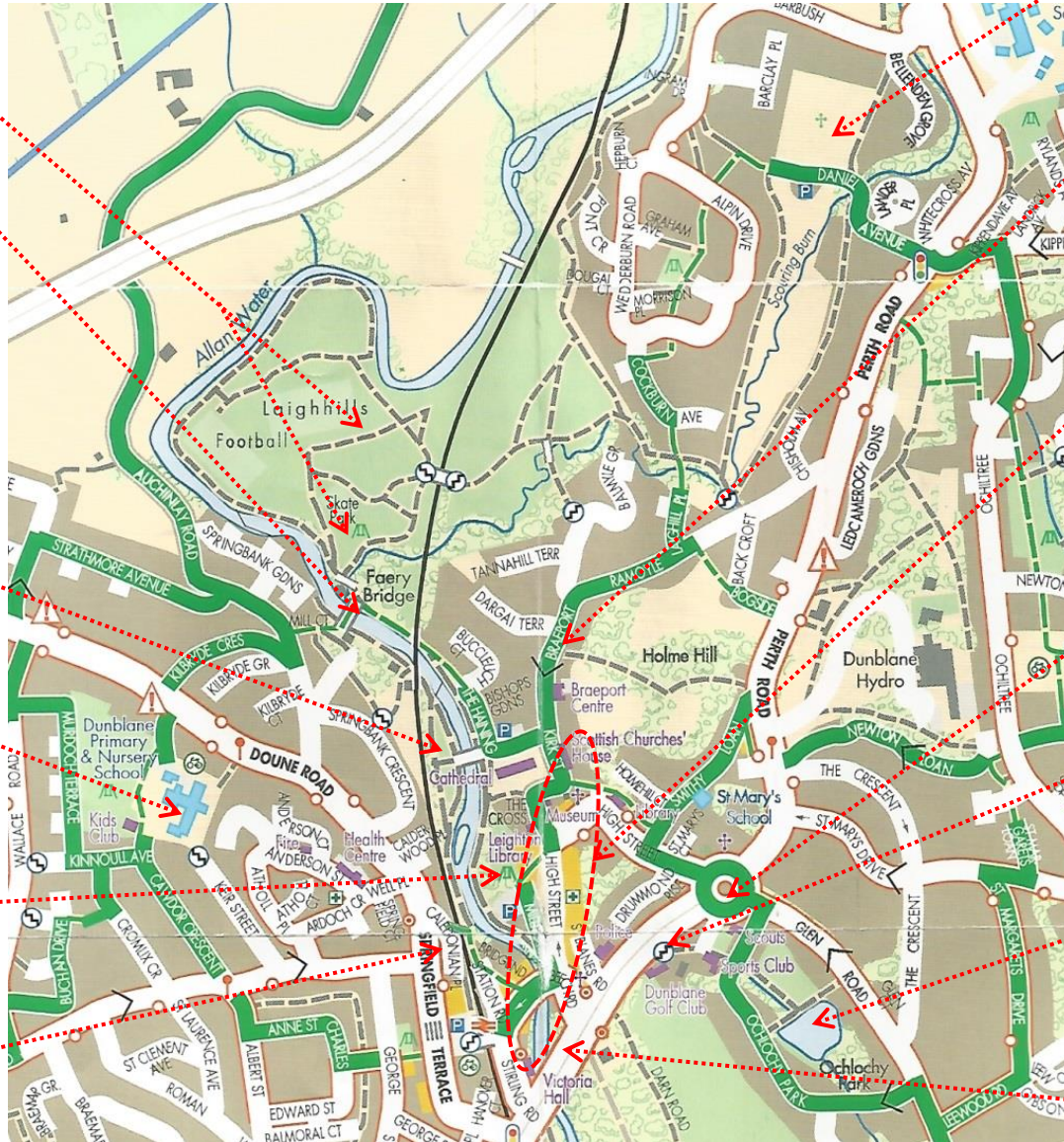
## ***Railings-are-us***

So we were invited to the Bishops Palace to work behind bars\*; and 'rob' generous passers-by to help pay for materials



***\*Nothing to do with serving beer but a glass or two would be good here!***

# Summary of projects 2003–2016 by location



Laighills  
benches &  
play park

Repainting  
Faery Bridge

Seating,  
Stumpery &  
Hosta edging  
with  
Environment  
Group

Dunblane  
P.S. Wall  
Cleaning

Millrow Play  
Park

Railings and  
seating near  
Tesco

Cemetery  
Seating

Braeport  
Maintenance

Christmas  
lighting,  
benches &  
railings

Fourways  
“Masonic”  
signage

The “53” steps

Ochloch  
Pond & Park

Dual  
carriageway  
benches





**Our continuing public seating programme included the renovation of a bench donated after the 1996 tragedy by a USA based Scottish Dancing Society with whom we made email contact**



**Poppy explosion!**

**Joining with other community folk to make knitted poppy memorial displays for the centenary of the end of WW1**

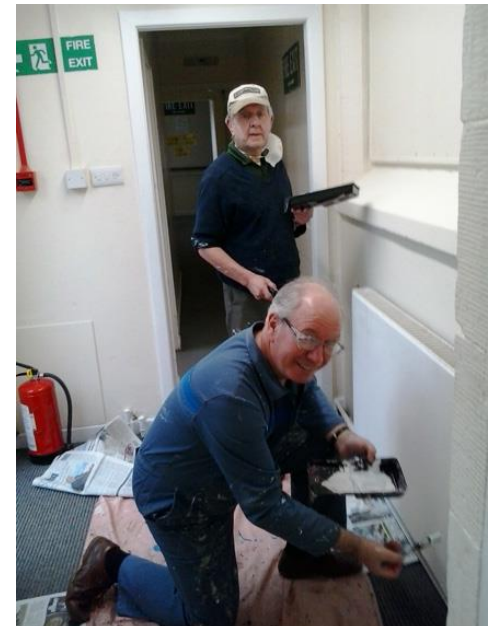
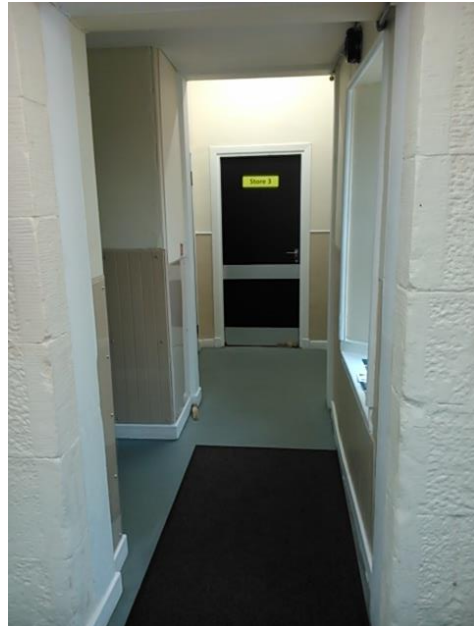




*Christmas*  
one of the  
high-**lights**  
of our year



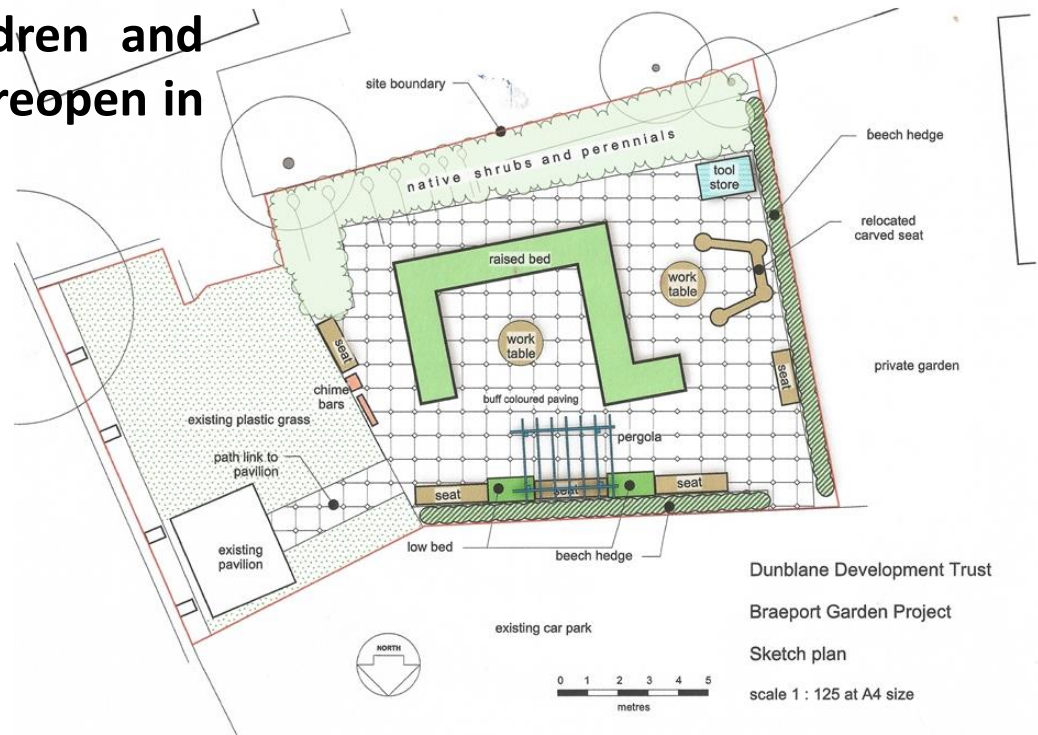
**Working in  
tight, dark  
spaces at the  
Braeport  
Centre**



# Braeport Garden Revamp



To provide more light and facilities suitable for both young children and people with dementia; due to reopen in Summer 2020



Dunblane Development Trust  
Braeport Garden Project  
Sketch plan  
scale 1 : 125 at A4 size



## *Future Perspectives*

- **Recruiting new volunteers**
- Procuring the right **tools and skills**
- **Storage space** for materials and tools
- **Outsourcing** the parts of jobs we can't do
- Ensuring that it is always **fun!**

*For further information OR, even better, joining us:*

*Phone on 01786 822422 and leave a message*

*Email: [info@dunblanedevelopmenttrust.com](mailto:info@dunblanedevelopmenttrust.com)*