

# John Muir's Birthplace 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration

Highlights of the past two decades



# 18 August 2002



A past president of the Sierra Club Joe Fontaine with Dan and Jim to look at the design proposals

# 20 February 2003



Work is well underway

# 20 February 2003



Braced for change!

# 20 February 2003



# 20 February 2003



An archaeological assessment is also undertaken

# 23 August 2003



Open for business



# 23 August 2003



DJMA Council Members were amongst the first visitors!





# 26 August 2003



Dunbar John Muir Association's Preview Night

# 26 August 2003



DJMA Preview Night

# 26 August 2003



DJMA Preview Night

# 26 August 2003



DJMA Preview Night

# 2004



Visit Scotland Quality Assurance Scheme four-star visitor attraction

# 2004



10,000<sup>th</sup> Visitor – Jo McNamara

# July 2004



Cake to celebrate DJMA's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday...

# 21 April 2005



A similar cake in April to celebrate Muir's birthday



# 21 April 2005



Visit by Patricia Ferguson, Minister of Culture, Tourism and Sport

# April 2005

## John Muir and the Californian Quarter



Colby Heronvatil Library, Sierra Club

John Muir (1838 - 1914)

*Carroll Burke*



This is a newly minted coin from the US Mint, Denver, Colorado.

Born in Dunbar, John Muir went with his family to the USA in 1849 and arrived in California in 1868. There he established himself as the 'father of conservation', successfully campaigning to save the giant redwoods.



John Muir was instrumental in the creation of Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks in 1890. He has been voted 'The Most Important Californian of All Time' and 21<sup>st</sup> April is annually declared John Muir Day.



*When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe.*

John Muir, quoted in carved oak at the Gateway Centre, Loch Lomond.

## California Quarter: DJMA Presentation Pack



# June 2006

## ParkLife

East Lothian Council Museums Service

invites you to the Council Chamber  
and John Muir's Birthplace, Dunbar  
at 7.30pm on Thursday 15 June 2006  
for the preview of our new exhibition



Celebrating 30 years of  
John Muir Country Park

Exhibition: Park Life

# 17 August 2006



Workshop

# September 2006



Journey for the Wild

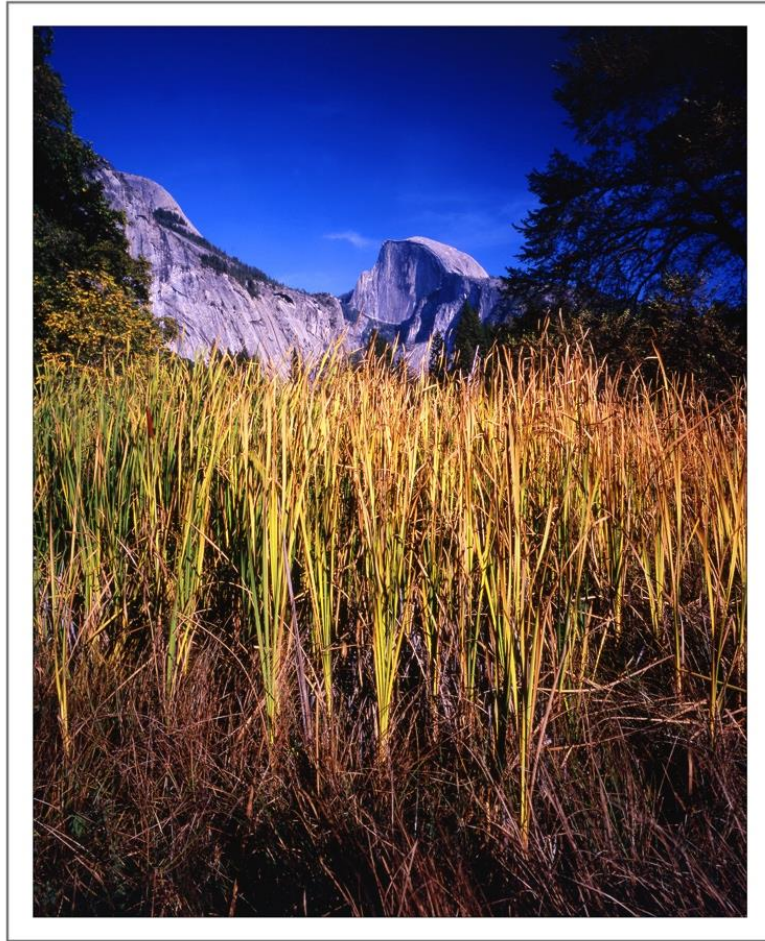


# February 2007



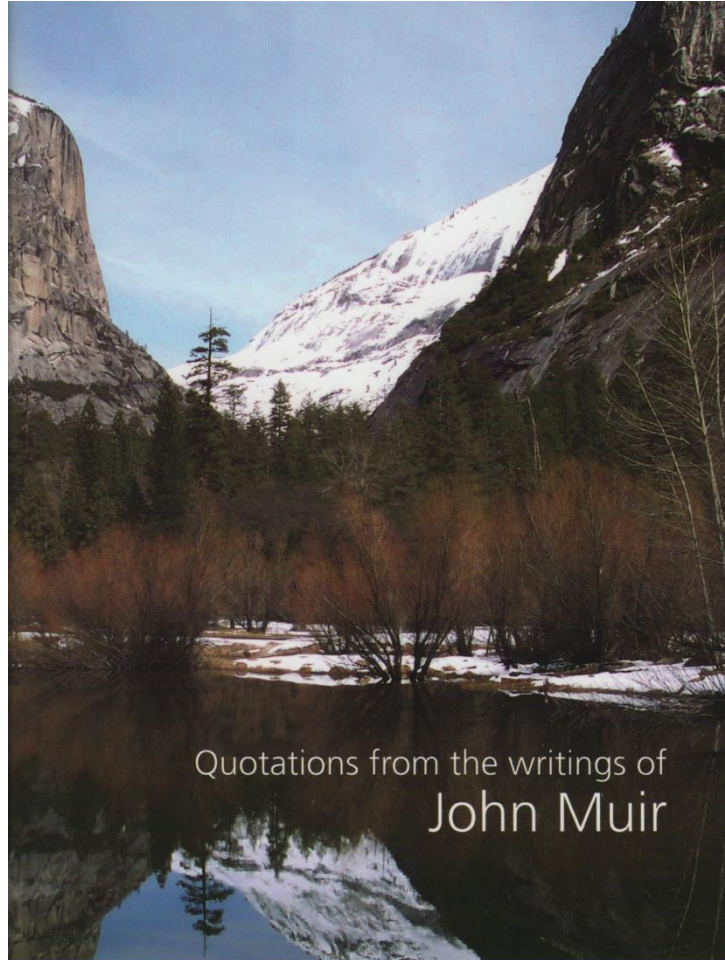
Tynebank John Muir Award

# April 2007



Exhibition: *John Muir, Man and Landscape* by Ken Paterson

# June 2007



Quotations from the writings of  
John Muir

STILL WALKING THE WORLD

Launch of *Still Walking the World*





# May 2007



*Still Walking the World Book Launch*



# May 2007



Presentation of Honorary Life Membership to Winifred and Fred

# June 2007



**An Ingenious Whittler**  
John Muir the Inventor

### The Inventor at Large

A trip to the Fair at Madison was John's first venture from home.

The inventions won their self-effacing inventor an apprenticeship with an unreliable fellow inventor and then a place at university. He kept on inventing!

His reading desk, now a treasured relic of the Wisconsin Historical Society, is the best example of several surviving pieces. It stored books, opened them at set places and swapped them after set study times – an automatic revolving machine!

After university John worked in factories to save for botanizing expeditions. He was thinking of settling down when his life reached a turning point. An accident at work in Indianapolis on 9 March 1867 left him blind! As he lay in a darkened room he resolved that if he recovered then he would give thanks by exploring God's natural bounty.

His sight returned and inscribing his journal *John Muir: Earth-planet, Universe* he strode off on a thousand-mile walk. The rest is history.

### The Inventor at Home

John Muir (1838-1914) was the world's first great practical conservationist. But his life might have gone very differently. The Muir family left Scotland for the Wisconsin wilderness in 1849. It was a wonderful transition.

He spent every spare second reading any book he could find before his strict father stopped even that. One February John convinced permission to rise to read before work began. So he got up at 1 am! But it was too cold to sit!

Imagine no school or friends, not even a house! Dumped in the woods, swamps and prairie on a farm with no fields!

Just think of the work! Up at dawn for chores – clearing, stump-grubbing, fencing, ploughing, sowing, weeding, reaping – all before breakfast. Then more chores, knock, even more chores, a bite and then evening chores, supper and bed. Twelve hours a day, six days a week. A year of this, then two, then three, then more.

That was John Muir's life as a teenager.

John's water-wheels, locks, thermometers, clocks, barometers, lamp and firelighters all made life easier. He was encouraged to exhibit some at a State Fair.

But John found a way out.



## Exhibition: *An Ingenious Whittler – John Muir the Inventor*



July 2007



Civic Parade Banner

# August 2007



Dunbar Area Christian Youth Project for *Go Wild 07*

# August 2007



John Muir the 'Conservator' spoof movie

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=30JScImjkw>

# August 2007



Visit by John Swinney, MSP

# December 2007



Simply Samplers Exhibition



# December 2007



Simply Sampler

# February 2008



# February 2008



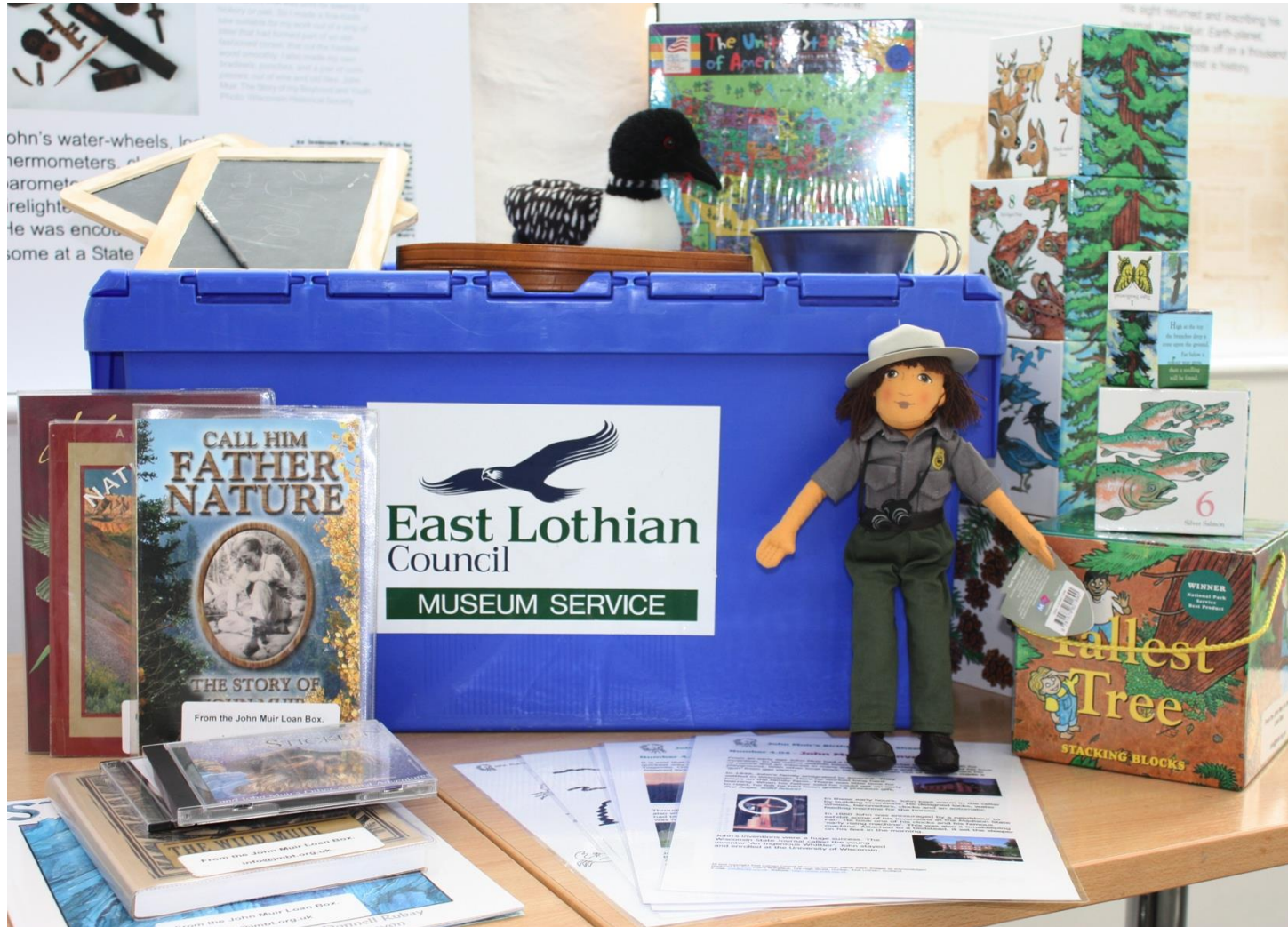
Visit by HRH the Earl of Wessex

# February 2008



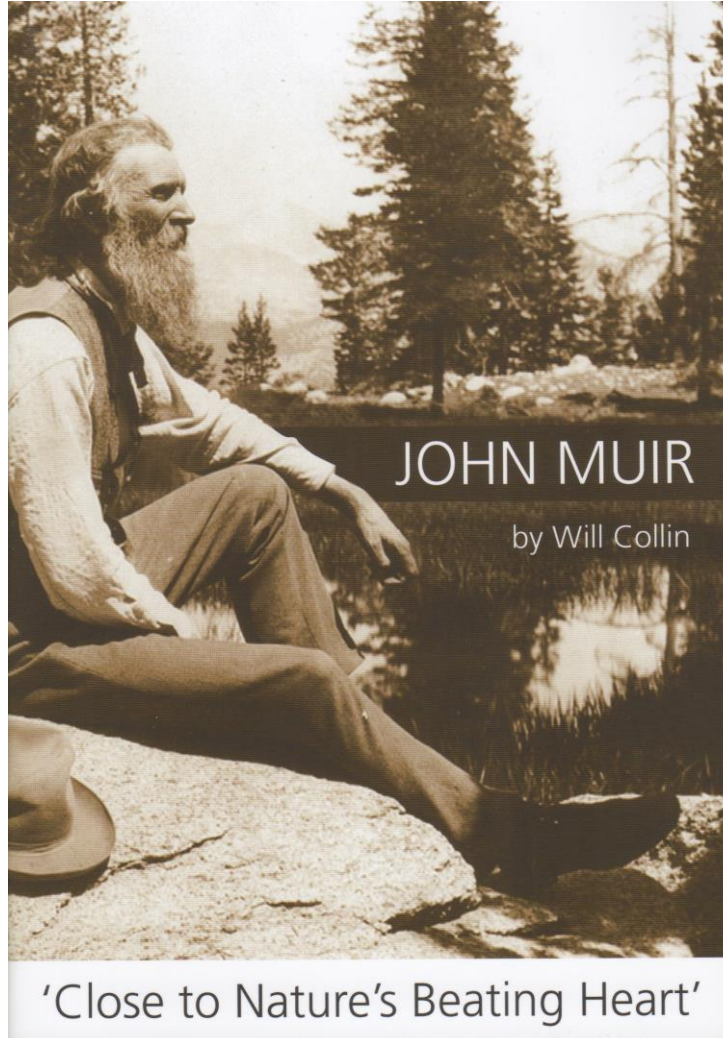
Visit by HRH the Earl of Wessex

# March 2008



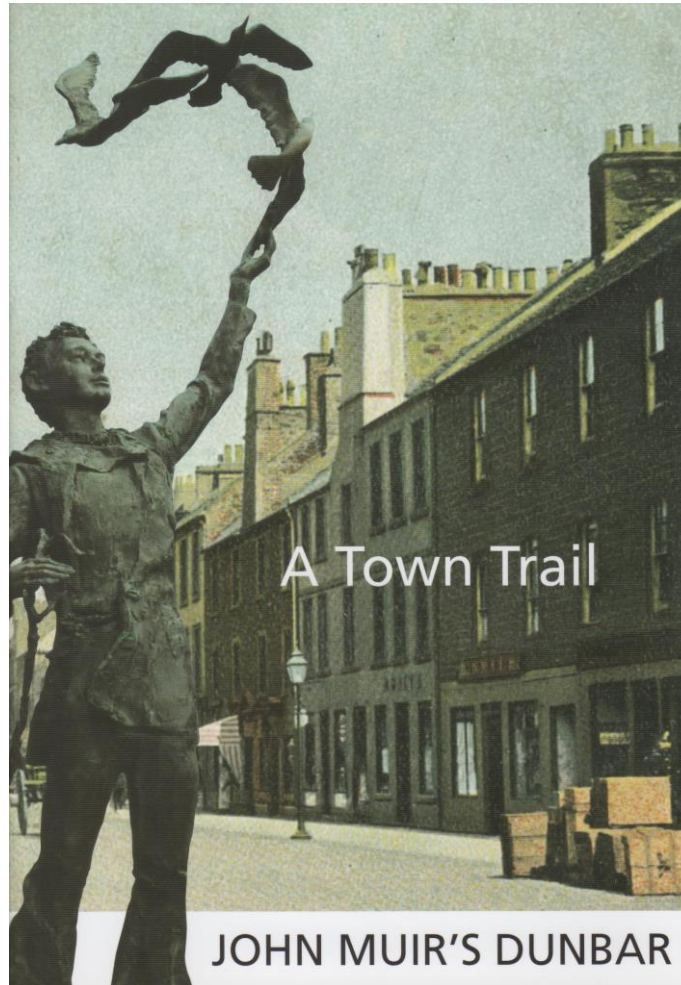
New Loan Box – John Muir in the USA

# March 2008



Launch of *Close to Nature's Beating Heart*

# October 2008



Launch of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of *John Muir's Dunbar: A Town Trail*  
by David Anderson

# November 2008



Winners of an ELC Star Award: Congratulation to the wonderful staff!



# November 2008



John Muir Conservation Award

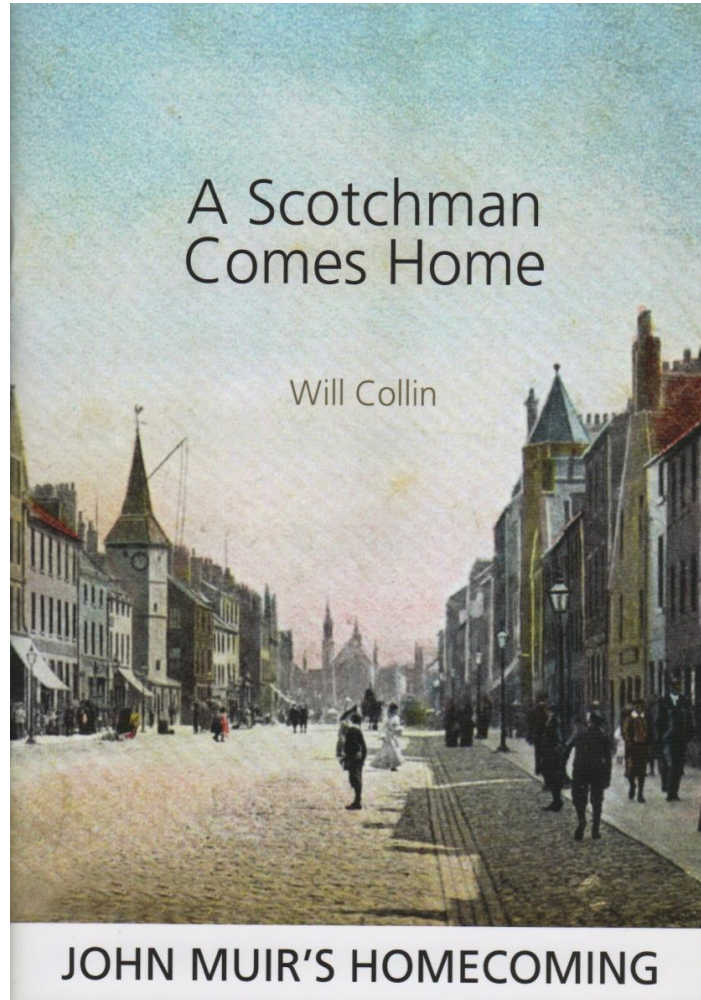


# January 2009



*Wherever a Scotsman Goes... Exhibition*

# June 2009



Exhibition: A Scotchman Comes Home – John Muir's Homecoming Journey, 1893

# June 2009



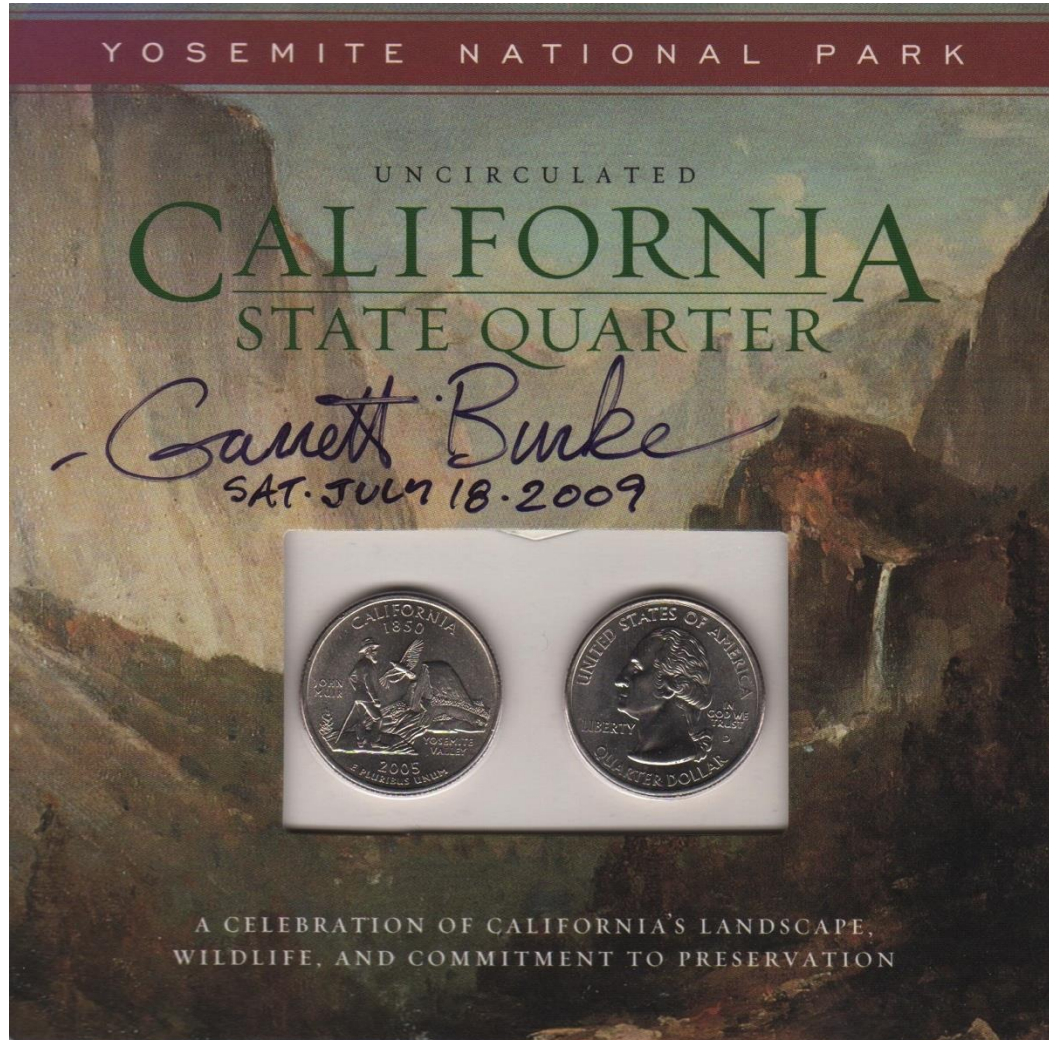
Visit by HRH The Duke of Rothesay

# July 2009



Visit by Muir Quarter designer Garret Burke

# July 2009



# September 2009



The McGregor Family from Wisconsin at the end of their 811 mile walk across and around Scotland

# 21 April 2010



Big Picnic Birthday Celebration



# 21 April 2010



WALKING THE JOHN MUIR WAY

Launch of *Walking the John Muir Way* by Robert Russel

# July 2010



Victorian Games Workshop

# August 2010



Award of VisitScotland 5 stars



# September 2010



Re-enactment of Sir John Cope's landing in Dunbar in 1745

# December 2010

DUNBAR ARTS TRUST

*Taking a Line...*  
*.....away home*



**EXHIBITION**  
THE 3D TEXTILE MODEL OF  
DUNBAR'S VICTORIA HARBOUR  
John Muir's Birthplace  
**11 DEC TO 16 JAN 2011**

126 High St. Dunbar: Wed - Sat 10 - 5pm Sun 1- 5pm

With grateful thanks to Dunbar Harbour Trust & Dunbar Community Council



# March 2011



The Kittiwakes Workshop

# April 2011



Muir Connections: Dunbar & Martinez twinning 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary

# April 2011



Muir Connections: Dunbar & Martinez twinning 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary



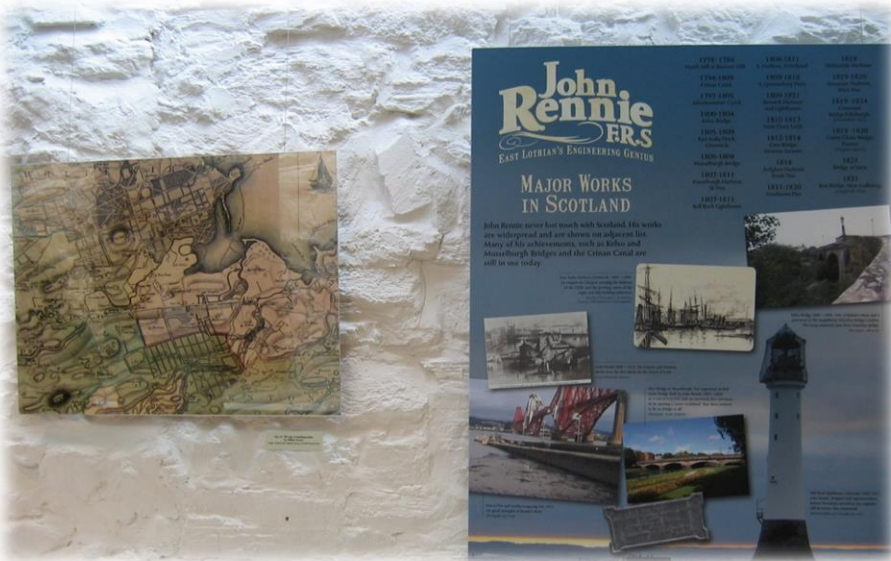
# April 2011



Twinning Mementos



# July 2011



Exhibition: John Rennie FRS

# July 2011



Visit by Frank and Carol Walsh, Goodwill Ambassadors from Martinez

# September 2011



Muir quotation at entrance to new Lochend Primary School campus

# December 2011



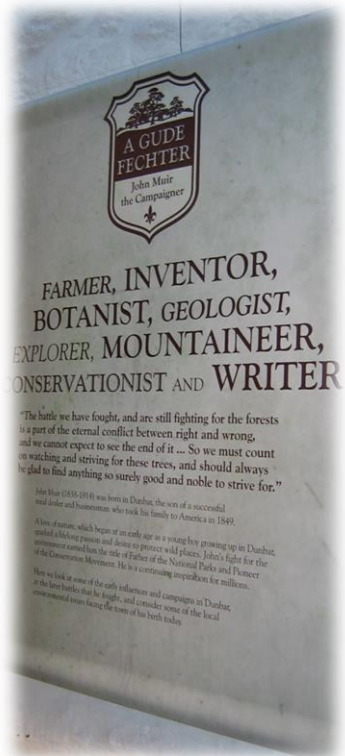
End-of-year selection of children's work from workshops and activities

# February 2012



Amongst P5 of East Linton Primary School was the 100,000<sup>th</sup> visitor!

# April 2012



Exhibition:  
*A Gude Fechter*  
John Muir the Campaigner



# September 2012



Visit by Harold and Janet Wood of the Sierra Club





# January 2013



Exhibition: *Belhaven, A Journey* by Gordon Jenkinson

January 2013



JMB Retains 5 Star VisitScotland Status



# April 2013



Friends celebrate Muir's birthday

# April 2013



Exhibition: *Story of My Boyhood and Youth*

# April 2013

John celebrated his eleventh birthday while emigrating with part of his family to America. John had many new adventures in the Wisconsin countryside and learned lots of new skills on the family farm. Initially there were no schools. In his free time, John read voraciously and his inventions, whittled from wood, helped him secure a place at Wisconsin University in 1860.

## Farm Work & Freedom



John was just a week before his eleventh birthday when he was sent to America. He had many new adventures in the Wisconsin countryside and learned lots of new skills on the family farm. Initially there were no schools. In his free time, John read voraciously and his inventions, whittled from wood, helped him secure a place at Wisconsin University in 1860.

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Thanks to Grandfather Gilroy, John knew his letters and numbers from signs on Dunbar High Street by the time he started school. Formal education was a strict and painful affair but John had a curious mind and thirst for knowledge.

## Education & Emigration



John was just a week before his eleventh birthday when he was sent to America. He had many new adventures in the Wisconsin countryside and learned lots of new skills on the family farm. Initially there were no schools. In his free time, John read voraciously and his inventions, whittled from wood, helped him secure a place at Wisconsin University in 1860.

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John's big heart in 1840's Dunbar was influenced by the love shown by the family around him. His passion for nature and wild places was nurtured during his many outdoor adventures, providing the foundation for his lifelong campaign to protect wilderness for wilderness sake.

## Home Life & Happiness

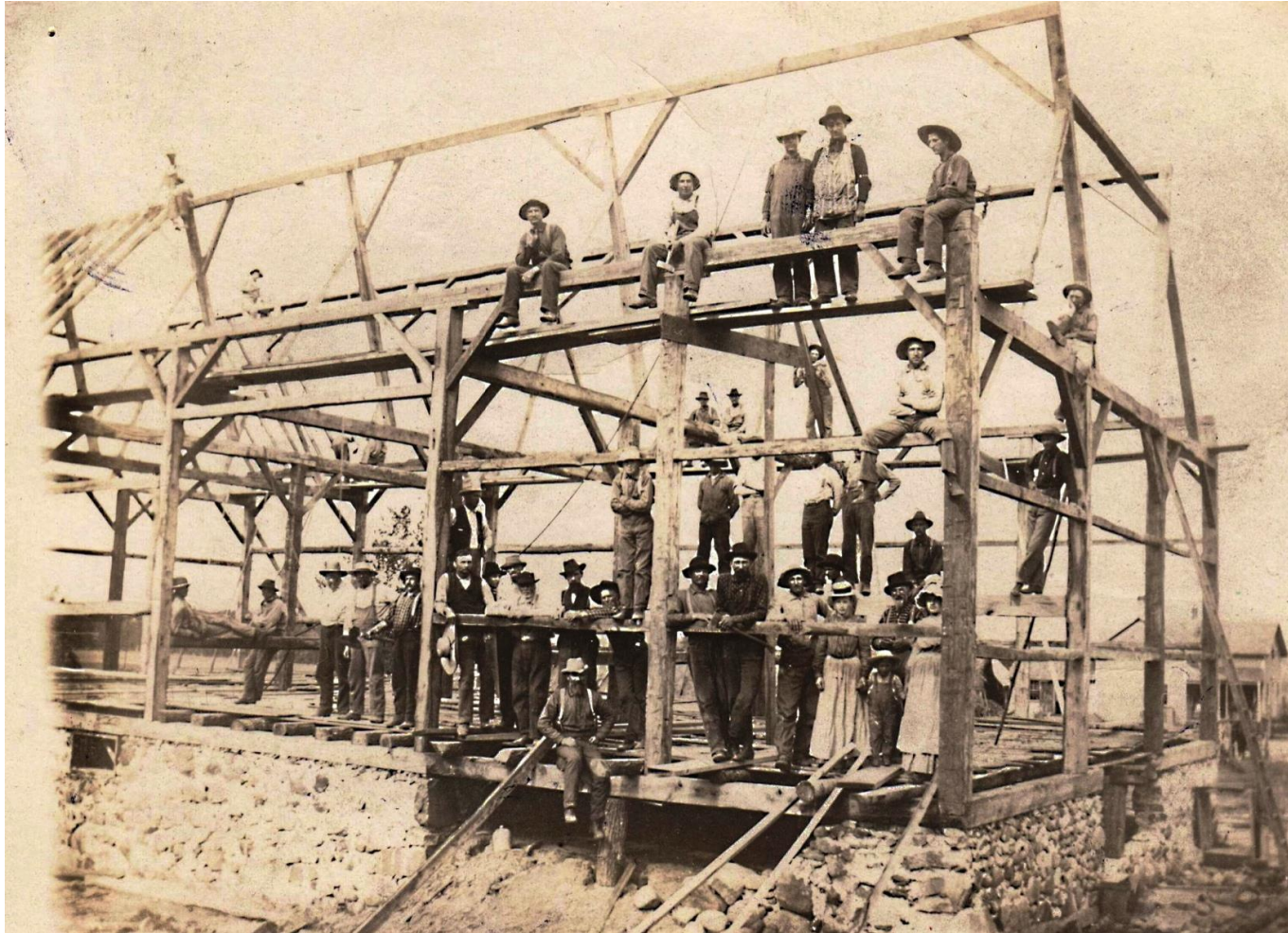


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## Story of My Boyhood and Youth

# April 2013



Celebrating *The Story of my Boyhood and Youth,*  
*From the Old World to the New:* Wisconsin settlers barn-raising

# May 2013



Visit by President of the Sierra Club – Alison Chin

23<sup>rd</sup> August 2013

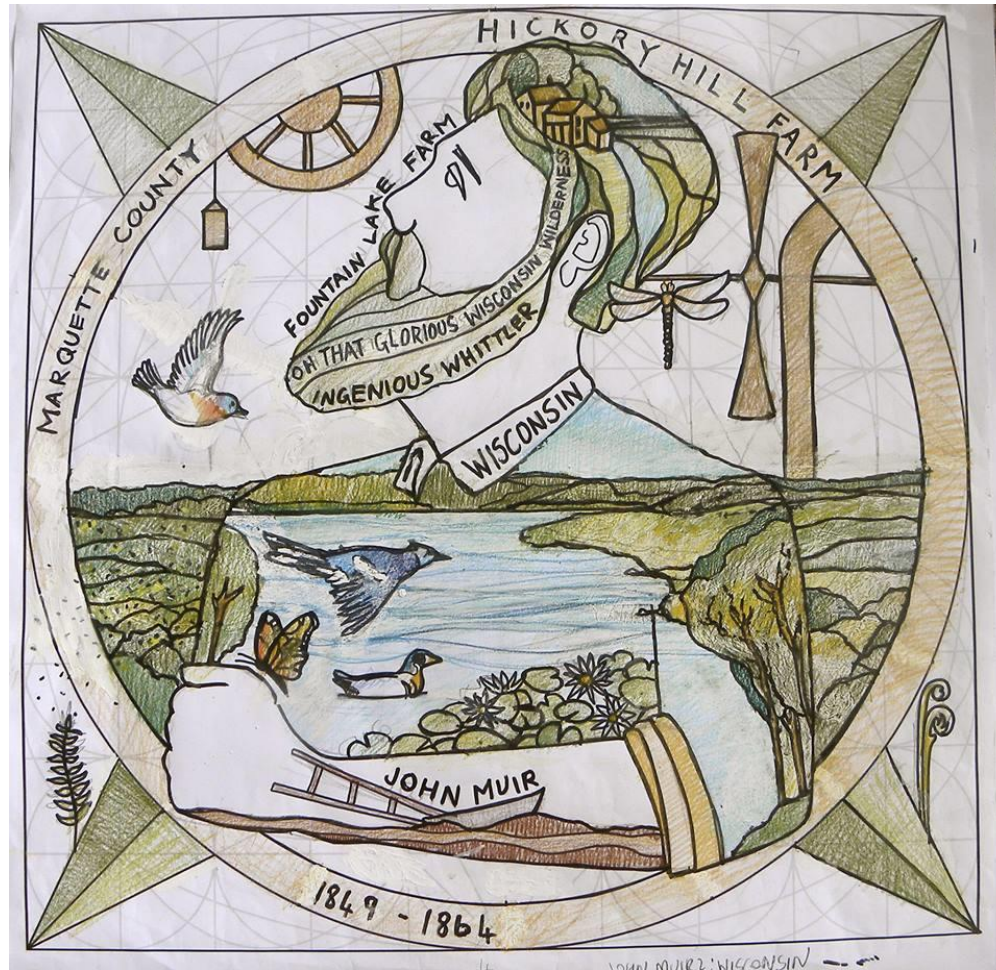
The start of the next 10 years...

With many thanks to all those that  
have contributed to the  
achievements of the past 10 years





# September 2013



Scottish Diaspora Tapestry by Marquette County Wisconsin Friends of John Muir

# October 2013



3D Scanning of JMB

# December 2013



Winter Season Exhibition by  
Dunbar Primary:  
What we love about living in  
Dunbar

# April 2014



John Muir Festival

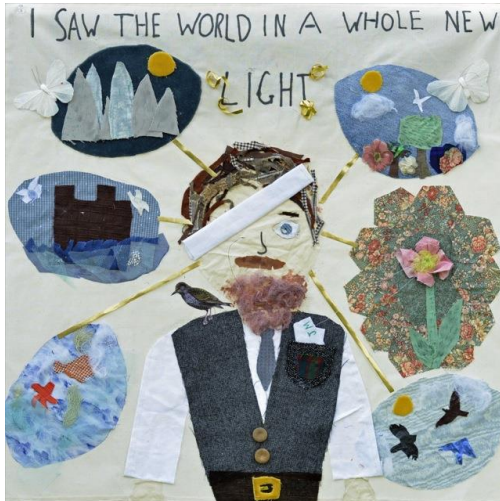


# April 2014



Opening of the (new) John Muir Way

# April 2014



Dunbar Primary School 'Tapestry/Collage'

# April 2014

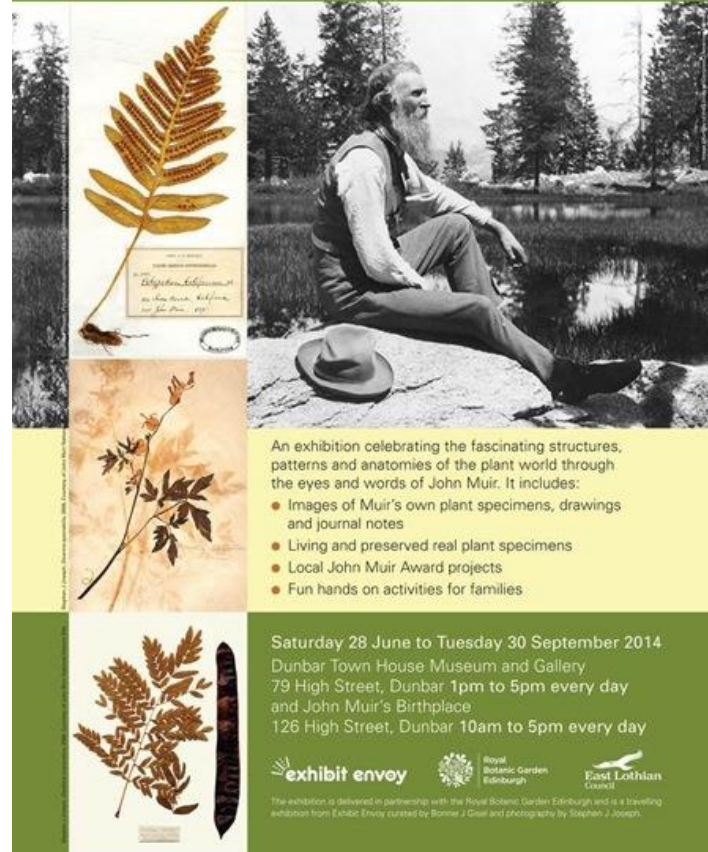


John Muir at Makars' Court

# June 2014

## Nature's Beloved Son

REDISCOVERING JOHN MUIR'S BOTANICAL LEGACY



An exhibition celebrating the fascinating structures, patterns and anatomies of the plant world through the eyes and words of John Muir. It includes:

- Images of Muir's own plant specimens, drawings and journal notes
- Living and preserved real plant specimens
- Local John Muir Award projects
- Fun hands on activities for families

Saturday 28 June to Tuesday 30 September 2014  
Dunbar Town House Museum and Gallery  
79 High Street, Dunbar 1pm to 5pm every day  
and John Muir's Birthplace  
126 High Street, Dunbar 10am to 5pm every day

exhibit envoy    Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh    East Lothian Council

The exhibition is delivered in partnership with the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and is a travelling exhibition from Exhibit Envoy curated by Bonnie J. Grier and photography by Stephen J. Joseph.

*Nature's Beloved Son: Rediscovering John Muir's Botanical Legacy*





# July 2014



## Friends' 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition



# April 2015



## Historic Scotland Commemorative Plaque Unveiling



# May 2015



John Muir Association, Martinez, Dunbar 21-22 May

# May 2015



Play, explore and find out together about John Muir's animal stories and outdoor adventures in this fun exhibition for under-5s and families.

# August 2015



Tim & Eileen Farley, Denise & Eric Miller, Will Collin



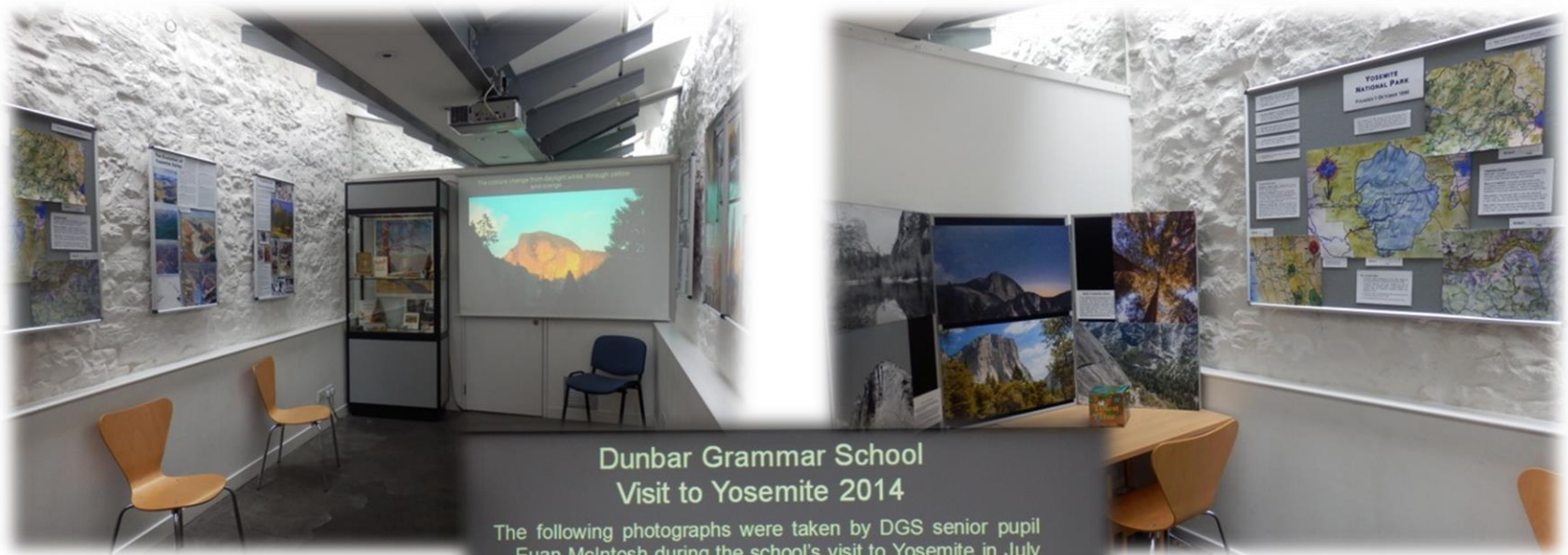
More visitors from Martinez

# October 2015



Exhibition:  
**In the Footsteps of John Muir**  
by Jim Fowler

# January 2016



## Dunbar Grammar School Visit to Yosemite 2014

The following photographs were taken by DGS senior pupil Euan McIntosh during the school's visit to Yosemite in July 2014. They are roughly in chronological order.



## Celebrating 125 Years of Yosemite National Park A Friends Temporary Exhibition

# February 2016



Dunbar Grammar School's Next California Visit






# February 2016



John Muir Birthplace Welcomes 150,000<sup>th</sup> Visitor



# March 2016






**AN INGENIOUS WHITTLE**  
John Muir the Inventor

Find out about the amazing machines that John Muir invented.  
Watch out for a noisy surprise when you sit on the loafers chair!  
Take away your own blue print for an ingenious invention.

Free! Saturday 5th March to Sunday 31st July

John Muir's Birthplace, 126 High Street, Dunbar, East Lothian EH42 1JJ  
Tel: 01368 865899 | [www.jmbt.org.uk](http://www.jmbt.org.uk) | [JM\\_Birthplace](#) | [East Lothian Museums](#)

Photo ©Wicoma Historical Society

## An Ingenious Whittler John Muir the Inventor



# April 2016

## **Muir Is Back and Walking His Way!**

Lee Stetson (see [www.johnmuirlive.com](http://www.johnmuirlive.com)) is Walking the John Muir Way from April 27<sup>th</sup> until May 15<sup>th</sup>, with his finale appearances in Dunbar for Festival of Museums weekend.

## **Adventures with John Muir - an exciting weekend of Minecraft, Lego and Living History!**

**Friday 13th May. John Muir Minecraft**  
SE Scotland ComputerXplorers will lead a workshop using MinecraftEdu.

**Saturday 14th May. John Muir's Dunbar in Lego!**  
Join us on a walk around John Muir's Dunbar as we record John's scootchers and daring adventures with the help of Lego!

**Festival of Museums 2016**



# May 2016



Lee Stetson walks the John Muir Way

# May 2016



*The Spirit of Muir* by Lee Stetson

# June 2016



Following in John Muir's footsteps  
DGS pupils and staff ahead of a 7<sup>th</sup> group visit to California

# July 2016



**Jay Goldsmith**

(Chief of Natural Resources, Pacific West Region, US National Park Service),



# July 2016



The Negraeff Family finish the John Muir Way



# August 2016



## *John Muir and America's Best Idea* A Friends Exhibition



# April 2017



## 125 YEARS OF THE SIERRA CLUB

**NEW EXHIBITION**  
by the



**FRIENDS OF JOHN MUIR'S BIRTHPLACE**

Discover how John Muir provided the inspiration for the Sierra Club and its fundamental message to **Explore, enjoy and protect the planet**, and how the Club is rising to the environmental challenges that face us all.

**21 APRIL - 30 JUNE**

John Muir's Birthplace  
126 High St,  
Dunbar EH42 1JJ  
10am - 5pm  
(Sunday 1pm - 5pm)

For more information:  
[www.jmbt.org.uk](http://www.jmbt.org.uk)



## Celebrating 125 Years of the Sierra Club A Friends Exhibition



# April 2017



“ When I was a boy in Scotland I was fond of everything that was wild, and all my life I've been growing fonder and fonder of wild places and wild creatures.

John Muir, The Story of my Boyhood and Youth

## New John Muir's Birthplace Website



# April 2017

« All Events

This event has passed.

## Exhibition: 125 Years of the Sierra Club

Friday, April 21, 2017 - Wednesday, July 26, 2017



**125**  
YEARS OF THE  
SIERRA CLUB

NEW EXHIBITION  
by the  
FRIENDS OF  
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Logos: Sierra Club, Friends of John Muir's Birthplace, East Lothian Council

  
[Add to calendar](#)  
▼

### DETAILS

Start:  
Friday, April 21, 2017

End:  
Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Event Category:  
[Exhibition](#)

Event Tags:  
[exhibition](#), [john muir](#), [sierra club](#)

### ORGANISER

Friends of John Muir's Birthplace  
Phone  
01368 865899

### VENUE

John Muir's Birthplace  
126 High Street  
Dunbar , East Lothian EH42 1JJ United Kingdom +  
[Google Map](#)

Discover how John Muir provided the inspiration for the Sierra Club and its message to explore, enjoy and protect the planet, and how the Club is rising to the environmental challenges of the 21st century. Now extended until 26 July.

Weekend Family Fun – Make a Suncatcher!

## New JMB Event Calendar

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/exhibition-125-years-sierra-club/>



# May 2017

## Mike Wurtz

Saturday, May 13, 2017 / 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm **FREE**



'John Muir the Artist'?

'The Artistic Expressions of John Muir'

Michael Wurtz, Head of Special Collections, University of the Pacific, CA

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/mike-wurtz/>

# May 2017

## Deep Time and Scotland's Time Lords

Saturday, May 20, 2017 / 10:00 am - 4:00 pm **FREE**



The earth is 4600 million years old! Come along and make your very own earth clock. What does it have to do with meteorites, moon rocks and radioactive bananas? Can you fit the extinction of the dinosaurs (65 million years ago) and the evolution of humans (2 million years ago)?

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/deep-time-and-scotlands-time-lords/>



# June 2017

## Summer Family Fun – Make your Own National Park

Friday, June 30, 2017 - Thursday, July 13, 2017 £1



Drop in anytime to have a go at designing your own National Park – will you go dramatic scenery or peaceful tranquillity? Suitable for everyone. £1 Donation.

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/summer-family-fun-make-national-park/>

# July 2017

**FRIENDS OF JOHN MUIR'S BIRTHPLACE**

## John & Muir Geology

Explore John Muir's passion for geology and the role this played in his own adventures and discoveries.

**30th July to 5th October 2017**  
John Muir's Birthplace, 126 High St, Dunbar, EH42 1JJ

**NORMAL OPENING HOURS**  
April to September  
Monday to Saturday 10am to 5pm  
and Sunday 1pm to 5pm  
October to March  
Wednesday to Saturday 10am to 5pm and Sunday 1pm to 5pm



## John Muir & Geology A Friends Exhibition





# July 2017



Dunbar Coastal Rowing Club first to row the John Muir Way



# August 2017

## Summer Family Fun – Rock Creatures

Friday, August 11, 2017 - Sunday, August 27, 2017 £1



To celebrate our John Muir & Geology Exhibition, come along to make your own rock creature – what will you call yours? Suitable for all – donation £1.

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/summer-family-fun-rock-creatures/>

# August 2017

## Photography Sharing Evening – John Muir & Geology

Wednesday, August 30, 2017 / 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm



<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/photography-sharing-evening-john-muir-geology/>

# September 2017

## Weekend Family Fun – Leafy Art

Friday, September 15, 2017 / 1:00 pm - Monday, September 18, 2017 / 5:00 pm £1



As the leaves start to turn and fall off the trees, why not see what beautiful works of art you can turn them into? Make a collage, turn them into animals, or use them to build a lovely leafy picture! The only limit is your imagination.

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/weekend-family-fun-leafy-art/>

# December 2017

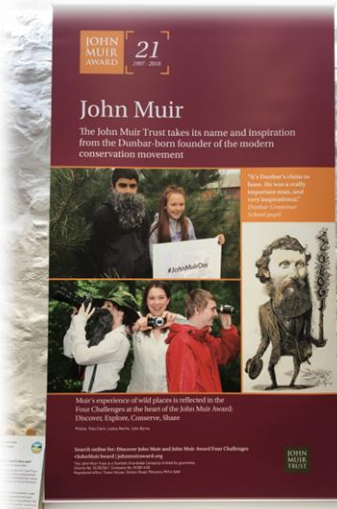
## Scottish Landscape Photographer of the Year

Wednesday, November 29, 2017 - Sunday, January 7, 2018



<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/scottish-landscape-photographer-year/>

# February 2018



## John Muir Award – Turning 21 Exhibition



# February 2018



John Muir Trust Celebrates John Muir Award 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday



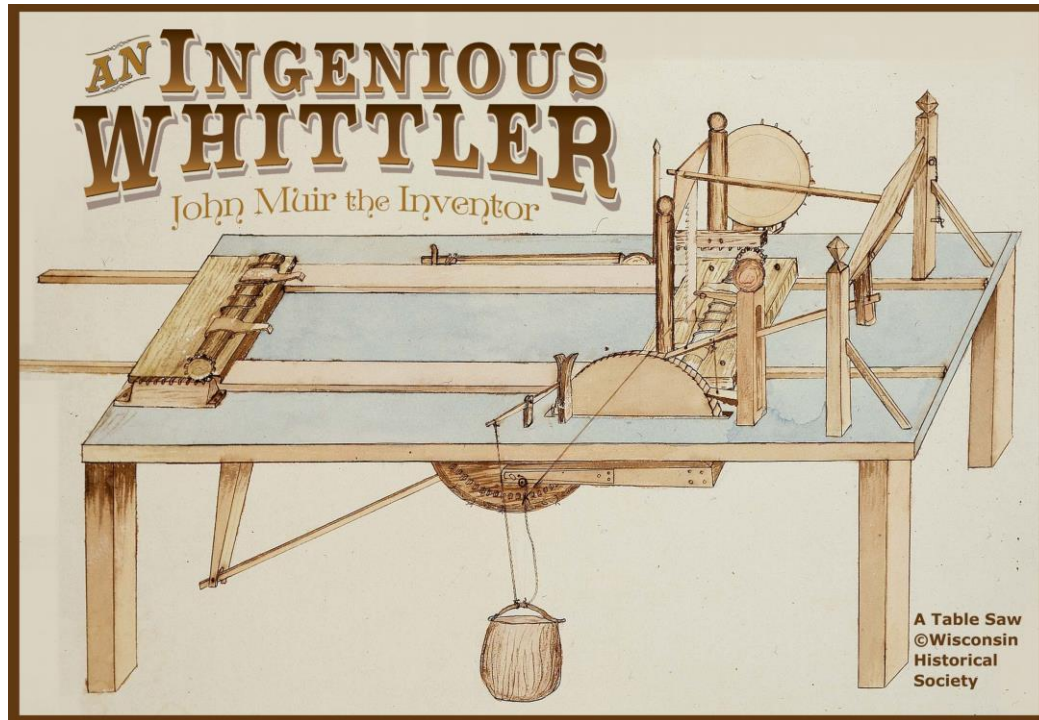
# April 2018



*William Keith and John Muir:  
Kindred Souls*  
A Friends Exhibition



# September 2018



## An Ingenious Whittler: John Muir the Inventor

# November 2018

## Inspired by John Muir

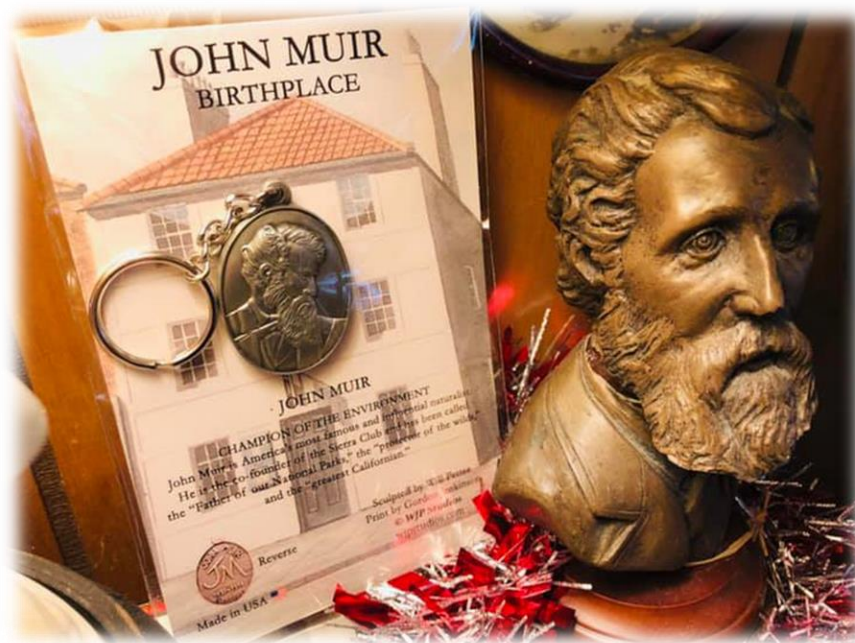
Saturday, November 24, 2018 - Friday, December 21, 2018



This wonderful selection of photos are the winning entries of a joint competition run by John Muir's Birthplace and the Facebook group Dunbar in Pictures. The photography competition was open to all photographers, professional and amateur alike.

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/inspired-by-john-muir/>

# December 2018



72 John Muir Keyrings donated by  
Timmy Womick  
Bust of John Muir by artist/sculptor  
Will Petee

Keyrings now on sale in JMB!

# February 2019



*silva*: a meditation on trees and woodland in eleven photographs

By photographer Chris W. Thomas

# March 2019

## RSPB Activity Day

Saturday, March 9, 2019 / 10:30 am - 4:00 pm



On Saturday 9th March John Muir's Birthplace is welcoming the RSPB — the largest wildlife conservation charity in Europe. They have over a million members and together they help to give nature a home. Although they're the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, they help lots of other wildlife too — making ideal habitats for birds also benefits other creatures. Come along from 10.30am until 4pm to do some wildlife activities and find out how you can give nature a home too!

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/rspb-activity-day/>

# March 2019

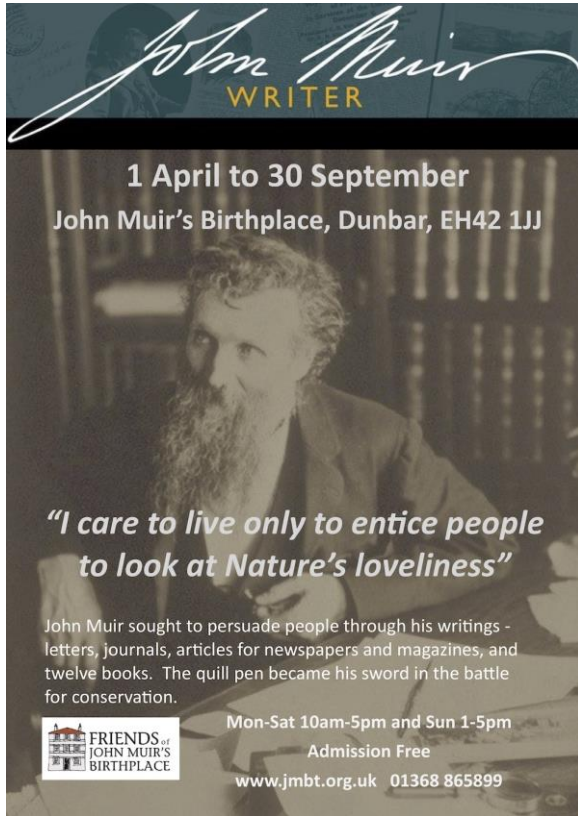
## John Muir in the French Pyrenees

Saturday, March 16, 2019 - Sunday, March 31, 2019



<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/john-muir-in-the-french-pyrenees/>

# April 2019




*John Muir*  
WRITER

1 April to 30 September  
John Muir's Birthplace, Dunbar, EH42 1JJ

*"I care to live only to entice people to look at Nature's loveliness"*

John Muir sought to persuade people through his writings - letters, journals, articles for newspapers and magazines, and twelve books. The quill pen became his sword in the battle for conservation.

Mon-Sat 10am-5pm and Sun 1-5pm  
Admission Free  
www.jmbt.org.uk 01368 865899



## John Muir, Writer A Friends Exhibition



# April 2019

## Easter Holiday Fun! – Make Your Own Graphic Novel

Monday, April 1, 2019 - Monday, April 22, 2019

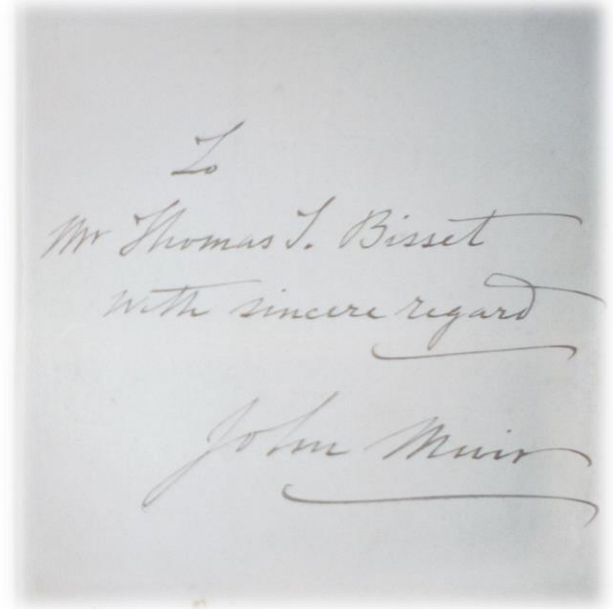
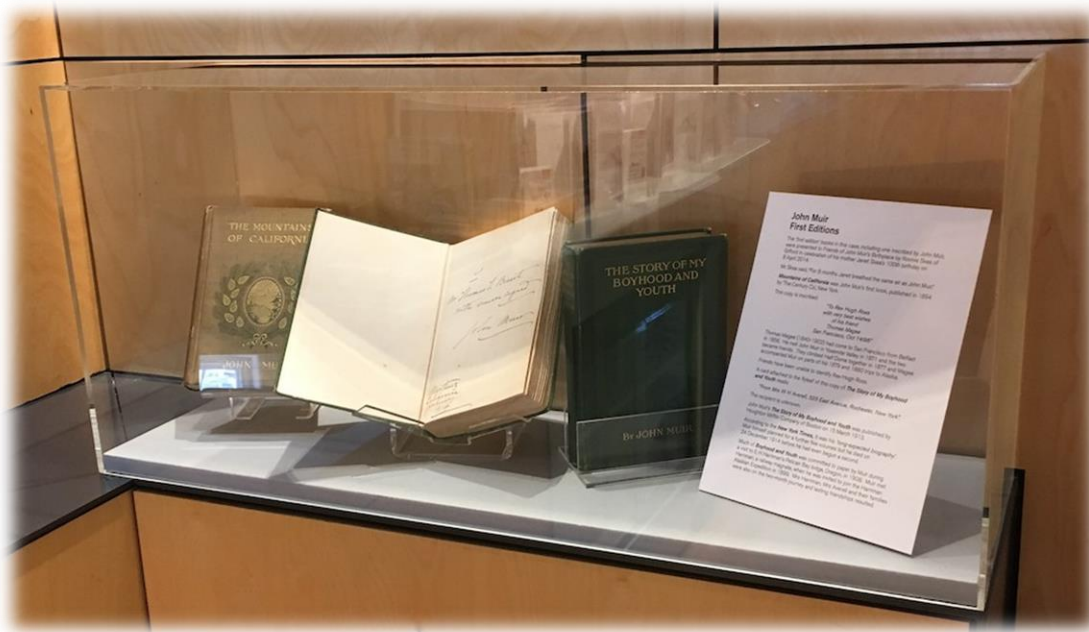


To celebrate our new exhibition, John Muir, Writer, we invite children and families of all ages to drop in and draw your own graphic novel telling the story of John Muir and Stickeen's adventures in Alaska! This free activity is available throughout our opening times from 1 – 22 April, and we would love for you to share your work with us on our facebook and twitter feeds, John Muir's Birthplace and @JM\_Birthplace

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/easter-holiday-fun-make-youre-own-graphic-novel/>



# April 2019



Three 'first edition' books, including one inscribed by John Muir, were presented to Friends of John Muir's Birthplace by Ronnie Skea of Gifford in celebration of his mother Janet Skea's 100th birthday on 8 April 2014.

## John Muir First Editions On Permanent Display



# April 2019



Keith Geddes, Chair of the Central Scotland Green Network Trust (CSGNT) and Duncan Smeed, Chair of the John Muir Birthplace Charitable Trust signed the agreement on John Muir Day, Sunday 21 April, which would have been Muir's 181st birthday and also marks the fifth anniversary of the opening of the John Muir Way.

## John Muir Way Concordat Signing in Dunbar

# May 2019



Duncan, Alison, Will, Susan & Jim at JMB



Susan signs the JMB Visitors' Book



Alison & Susan at a *John Muir, Writer* exhibit

Susan Flynn and her daughter Allison Latus made their first visit to the Birthplace on Friday May 17. Sue is the daughter of Wanda and Thomas Hanna's eldest son Strentzel Hanna. He was John's eldest grandson. So Sue is Muir's great granddaughter, Alison his great great granddaughter.

## Muir Family Members visit the Birthplace



# June 2019



JMB in the TripAdvisor Hall of Fame



# October 2019

## Exhibition: Faces of Dunbar

Wednesday, October 16, 2019 - Sunday, November 10, 2019



An exhibition by local photographer, Fraser Stewart.

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/exhibition-faces-of-dunbar/>

# November 2019

## Exhibition: Scottish Landscape Photographer of the Year

Wednesday, November 13, 2019 - Sunday, December 15, 2019



Once again we are delighted to be presenting John Muir Trust category winners from the Scottish Landscape Photographer of the Year competition. This will be the 3rd year we have exhibited winners from this category, and the images are always breath-taking. this year the John Muir Trust prize was given the theme of 'Living Landscape', one of the prizewinners being Ian Biggs with 'Autumn Frost'.

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/exhibition-scottish-landscape-photographer-of-the-year/>

# December 2019

## Winners: Dunbar 2020 Calendar Competition

Wednesday, December 18, 2019 - Sunday, January 26, 2020



<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/winners-dunbar-2020-calendar-competition/>



# January 2020

## Exhibition: My Boyhood and Youth

Wednesday, January 29, 2020 - Sunday, February 23, 2020



We are offering another chance to see our exhibition My Boyhood and Youth, opening Wed 29 January and kicking off our [#YCW2020](#) activities. Find out what life was like for John growing up in Dunbar in the mid 1800s. How did exploring the surrounding area, including the seashore, influence his later life? Open until 23 February 2020.



<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/exhibition-my-boyhood-and-youth/>



# February 2020

## Weekend Family Fun – To a Mouse (or bear!)

Friday, January 31, 2020 - Sunday, February 2, 2020 £1



John Muir was a huge fan of Robert Burns carried a copy of his poems everywhere he went. Make your own mouse finger puppet to take home. We also have a copy of 'To a Mouse' for you to read (or have read to you!)

Alternatively, make a fridge magnet of the new 'Dunbar Bear' Sculpture by [Andy Scott](#) to take home.



<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/weekend-family-fun-to-a-mouse-2/>

# March 2020



© 04 Mar 2020 News

## John Muir's Birthplace reaches 200,000 Visitors!

Cherry Trees Nursery helped John Muir's Birthplace celebrate our 200,000th visitor

Kerry Lugton, Manager for Cherrytrees Nursey said "children from the nursery love the chance to walk along the High Street to visit John Muir's Birthplace. The friendly staff always have something new to show them and they really enjoy the drop in craft activities".

To mark the occasion children displayed the 200,000 banner they have made for the occasion. They were also presented with an individual memento and a John Muir book for the nursery.

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/2020/03/04/john-muir-s-birthplace-reaches-200000-visitors/>



# March 2020

## Exhibition – Gardens of East Lothian

Sunday, March 1, 2020 - Friday, March 27, 2020



*Archerfield Walled Garden*

Photographic exhibition by Sheila Sim.

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/exhibition-gardens-of-east-lothian/>

# April 2020

## Weekly Q&A Session

Thursday, April 9, 2020 / 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm



Something we are really missing at the moment are our lovely visitors. Our museum assistants love the varied and sometimes challenging questions we often get. So we are going to start a weekly question and answer session on Facebook (@JMBirthplace) and Twitter (@JM\_Birthplace), where you can ask us anything about how the museum is run or about our collections. Have you a burning question you always wanted to know about John Muir, or about the history of Dunbar? Now is your chance. If we don't know the answer there and then, we'll find out and get back to you.

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/weekly-qa-session/>

# April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020

## Mindfulness in Nature

Tuesday, April 21, 2020



Due to these strange times we find ourselves in, our mindfulness in nature walk to celebrate John Muir's birthday 21st April (working in conjunction with East Lothian Council Countryside Rangers) has been cancelled. However, we can all practice mindfulness on our once a day exercise or in our gardens/open spaces.

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/mindfulness-in-nature/>

# October 2020

## JOHN MUIR EARTH, PLANET, UNIVERSE



Outdoor Exhibition at The Battery, Dunbar Harbour



This exhibition was intended to be displayed inside John Muir's Birthplace on the High Street but Covid-19 arrangements there have curtailed this. So please now visit The Battery to discover:

- How John Muir changed the world
- How he and others have made a difference
- What local groups are doing to build a stronger community and a better world
- How you can get involved too

The *What If?* project already inspired by this exhibition is just the beginning of a long-term goal for the Dunbar and East Linton ward to be *"a home to thriving people, in a thriving place, while respecting the wellbeing of all people, and the health of the whole planet"*.



[sustainingdunbar.org/projects](https://sustainingdunbar.org/projects)



[muirbirthplacefriends.org.uk/exhibitions/john-muir-earth-planet-universe/](https://muirbirthplacefriends.org.uk/exhibitions/john-muir-earth-planet-universe/)



## First visitors view the new outdoor exhibition

Posted on [October 25, 2020](#) by [fojmb](#)



Three generations of the Moorhouse family from Edinburgh were the very first visitors to the JMEPU exhibition in the Dunbar Battery at Dunbar Harbour.

Moments after the installation of the weatherproof version of the [John Muir, Earth-Planet, Universe](#) panels in the Dunbar Battery, members of the Moorhouse family paid a visit. They very kindly agreed to have their photograph taken to mark the occasion. Many thanks to them for helping to publicise the exhibition in this way.

# May 2021...

## Indoor Exhibition: John Muir, Earth-Planet, Universe

Posted on [May 5, 2021](#) by fojmb

John Muir's Birthplace opened its doors today – May 5th – to welcome back visitors now that some COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted. Since people can now visit the Birthplace in person, new panels of our [John Muir, Earth-Planet, Universe exhibition](#) have been installed in the temporary display space on the ground floor.



[muirbirthplacefriends.org.uk/2021/05/indoor-exhibition-john-muir-earth-planet-universe/](http://muirbirthplacefriends.org.uk/2021/05/indoor-exhibition-john-muir-earth-planet-universe/)

# ...May 2021



The [final panel](#) of the exhibition is entitled “What If...?” and, in summary, asks:

**What if ...** we imagined ... a future full of possibility ... where we focus on a positive vision ... where we tell a new story of a future where humans and the environment flourish together.

*“The Power of Imagination makes us Infinite” – John Muir*

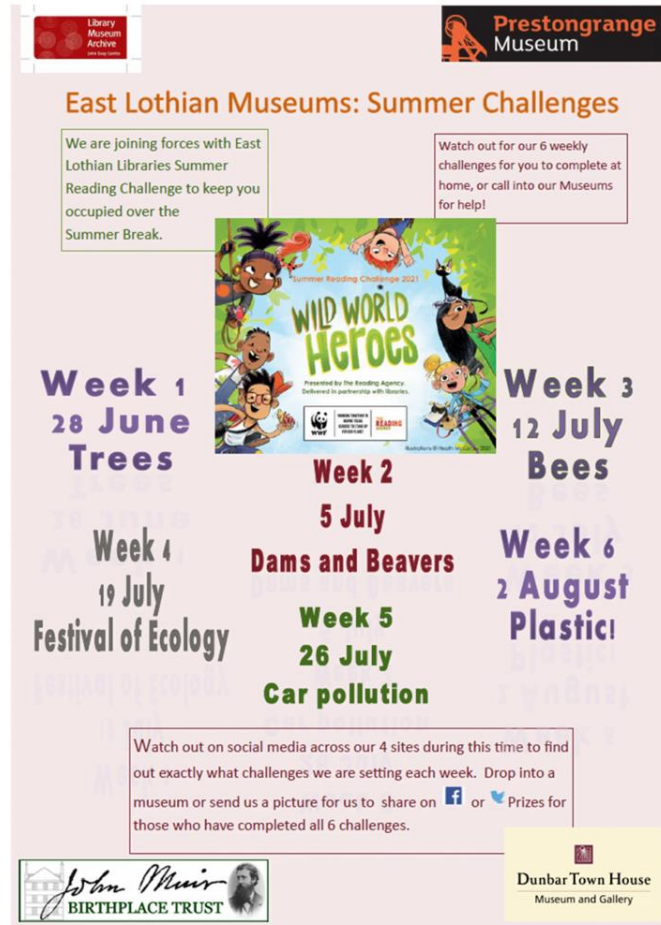
[muirbirthplacefriends.org.uk/2021/05/indoor-exhibition-john-muir-earth-planet-universe/](http://muirbirthplacefriends.org.uk/2021/05/indoor-exhibition-john-muir-earth-planet-universe/)



# June & July 2021

## Summer Challenge – Week 1

Monday, June 28, 2021 - Sunday, July 4, 2021



The poster features logos for Library Museum Archive, Prestongrange Museum, John Muir Birthplace Trust, and Dunbar Town House. It lists six weekly challenges: Week 1 (28 June Trees), Week 2 (5 July Dams and Beavers), Week 3 (12 July Bees), Week 4 (19 July Festival of Ecology), Week 5 (26 July Car pollution), and Week 6 (2 August Plastic!). A central graphic for 'WILD WORLD HEROES' is also present.

**East Lothian Museums: Summer Challenges**

We are joining forces with East Lothian Libraries Summer Reading Challenge to keep you occupied over the Summer Break.

Watch out for our 6 weekly challenges for you to complete at home, or call into our Museums for help!

**Week 1**  
28 June  
Trees



**Week 2**  
5 July  
Dams and Beavers

**Week 3**  
12 July  
Bees

**Week 4**  
19 July  
Festival of Ecology

**Week 5**  
26 July  
Car pollution

**Week 6**  
2 August  
Plastic!

Watch out on social media across our 4 sites during this time to find out exactly what challenges we are setting each week. Drop into a museum or send us a picture for us to share on  or  Prizes for those who have completed all 6 challenges.

**John Muir BIRTHPLACE TRUST**

**Dunbar Town House**  
Museum and Gallery

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/summer-challenge-week-1/>

# July 2021



© 13 Jul 2021 News

## Donate Online!

We have made it even easier for you to help us spread John Muir's word! You can now donate safely and securely online to help develop new permanent displays in John Muir's Birthplace. We are currently planning a redisplay of our legacy exhibition on the top floor of the building, bringing the story right up to date. Donations can be made [here](#). All donations go directly to the **John Muir Birthplace Charitable Trust**, who are responsible for the permanent exhibition and maintenance of the building.

Entrance to John Muir's Birthplace is free, and we rely on grants and donations for the ongoing development of our displays. Like many similar institutions, our donations have been severely affected by closures in the last year due to the pandemic, every donation makes a difference.

# February 2022

## Water-way; Following the Papana Water to Belhaven Bay

Saturday, February 26, 2022 - Sunday, March 27, 2022



An exhibition of paintings and poetry included in a limited edition book by Anna Davis with a film by Eric Fernandez-Baca Manning.

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/water-way-following-the-papana-water-to-belhaven-bay/>

# August 2022

## What's so special about bogs?

Monday, August 1, 2022 - Sunday, August 28, 2022

What's so special about bogs? We're very excited about our new peatlands exhibition from the [John Muir Trust](https://www.jmbt.org.uk) which promises to provide all the answers!

The exhibition is open from 1st – 28th August, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1pm-5pm. As always, admission is free!

Take a virtual squelch around their fun guide to peatlands. Discover more about this slow-growing, water-packed ecosystem that's fast becoming recognised as an amazing collector of carbon and rich archaeological sites, and home to unique species of wildlife.



<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/whats-so-special-about-bogs/>

# November 2022

## Leaves of Auchencraw: Meet the Artist drop-in

Sunday, November 6, 2022 / 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

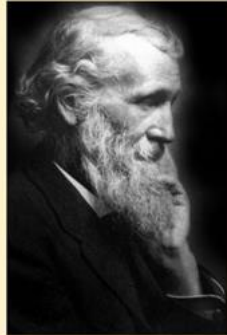


We'll be hosting two free drop-in meet the artists sessions with the fantastic Sarah Wakefield of [Leaves of Auchencraw](#).

Do come along to chat to Sarah about her work and her process – and maybe even witness some book binding in action!

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/leaves-of-auchencraw-meet-the-artist-drop-in/>

# January 2023



Holt-Atherton Special Collections.

December 2022 to January 2023

**COME AND BE COSY**

**Exhibition**

**Reference library**

**Family crafts**

**Wherever a Scotsman goes...**

**John Muir and Robert Burns**

Open Wed to Sat 10am to 5pm and  
Sun 1pm to 5pm (last admissions 4.30pm)

**ADMISSION FREE**

John Muir's Birthplace  
126 High Street, Dunbar, EH42 1JJ

museumseast@eastlothian.gov.uk  
01368 865899

 **East Lothian Council**



R Burns, 1759-1796. Bequeathed by Colonel William Burns 1872

**Wherever a Scotsman Goes... John Muir and Robert Burns**

**Sunday, January 1, 2023 - Tuesday, January 31, 2023**

**FREE**

Discover more about the relationship between John Muir and Robert Burns with our January exhibition.

We've set up a reading nook with craft activities and reference books to keep our wee and big visitors entertained!

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/wherever-a-scotsman-goes-john-muir-and-robert-burns/>

# June 2023



## *Sea Flora*

**Sara Dodd**

**12 June - 30 July 2023**

**John Muir's Birthplace**

**126 High Street, Dunbar, Scotland, EH42 1JJ**

**Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1-5pm**

**Admission Free**



### **Sea Flora**

**Monday, June 19, 2023 - Sunday,  
July 30, 2023**

We will be hosting this fantastic exhibition from Sara Dodd until the 30th of July. Open from 10am to 5pm Monday to Saturday and 1pm-5pm on Sundays. Admission is free as always.

Sara works with Scottish seaweeds creating original organic pressings and prints that celebrate their intrinsic beauty, colour and light.

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/sea-flora/>



# May 2023

## Stormy Seas Scotland pop-up



We are delighted to be hosting a pop-up from Kirsty at Stormy Seas Scotland in our shop. Kirsty is a local jewellery maker whose designs are all inspired by her love of the sea and nature surrounding Dunbar. We particularly love that the resin she uses is a by-product of the oil industry. By using it to make jewellery it is kept out of our oceans.



<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/2023/05/19/stormy-seas-scotland-pop-up/>



# August 1<sup>st</sup> 2023



Susan Gabarino (centre of photo), of the John Muir Association in Martinez, met JMBCT Trustees Liz McLean and Duncan Smeed at the Birthplace during her visit to Dunbar.

The Wee Books Susan's holding were donated by the Friends of John Muir's Birthplace to mark the occasion and to celebrate the links between JMA and FoJMB.

# August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023



By uncanny coincidence the day after Susan Gabarino's visit, the Mayor of Martinez, Brianne Zorn, and her family arrived in not-so-sunny Dunbar for an informal celebration of the twinning between Dunbar and Martinez. After a visit to the Birthplace, Dunbar Community Councillors Pippa and Alasdair Swan (photo left) joined the group and led a tour round the town and harbour areas. After the tours the visitors enjoyed a buffet lunch in the Council Chambers of Dunbar Town House. Mayor Zorn then presented a gift bag of various Martinez-related items. The following week Brianne sent the following e-mail message:

*I wanted to thank you all again for meeting with us last week. We are back in Martinez treasuring our memories of Dunbar! I promise that we will be reaching out again soon to set up more meetings and exchanges to reinforce our twinning. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any ideas!*

Brianne



# August 2023

## Flax Futures

Saturday, August 5, 2023 - Thursday, September 14, 2023

### Flax Futures



**Their Walks, Twilight Talk, Flax Chats, and Demos** run throughout the programme, evolving with the help of guests from across East Lothian. Dates and times are posted as individual entries [on Eventbrite](#) and on their social media @journeysindesign.

Where does flax and linen meet local resilience and climate change? Find out as [Journeys in Design](#) co-design their exhibition and events across East Lothian.

The flax plant, traditionally processed into linen, has been grown for generations in Scotland. Today, flax plays a part in contemporary moves to support local resilience and tackle climate change.

[Flax Futures](#) from [Journeys in Design](#), explores this exceptional potential, with new and engaging designs and initiatives on show, from Scotland and beyond.

**Their Exhibition and Events** focus on future heritage, community resilience, soil health, sustainable textile production and material innovation.

<https://www.jmbt.org.uk/event/flax-futures/>

23<sup>rd</sup> August 2023

The start of the next 20 years...

With many thanks to all those that  
have contributed to the  
achievements of the past 20 years