

Friends of Corstorphine Hill

Newsletter No 9, August 2001



YOUR Help is Needed NOW

There has been much activity on the hill this summer, particularly in the Old Walled Garden. Work to turn the overgrown area into a Woodland Walk for the community is progressing. The aim is to provide a pleasant environment, to allow those not able to explore the hill to be able to appreciate a representation of local plants and to offer educational opportunities for all ages.

A huge amount has already been achieved both in relation to the physical work done and in the procurement of grants. Trees and foliage have been cleared. The layout of paths is beginning to take shape. Most of this has been done by the committee and volunteers, but much more needs to be done before the BBC Beechgrove Garden team come to film in mid-September. The project will be one of the series of Community Gardens the Beechgrove are featuring this Autumn.

We want to be proud of our garden and our efforts.

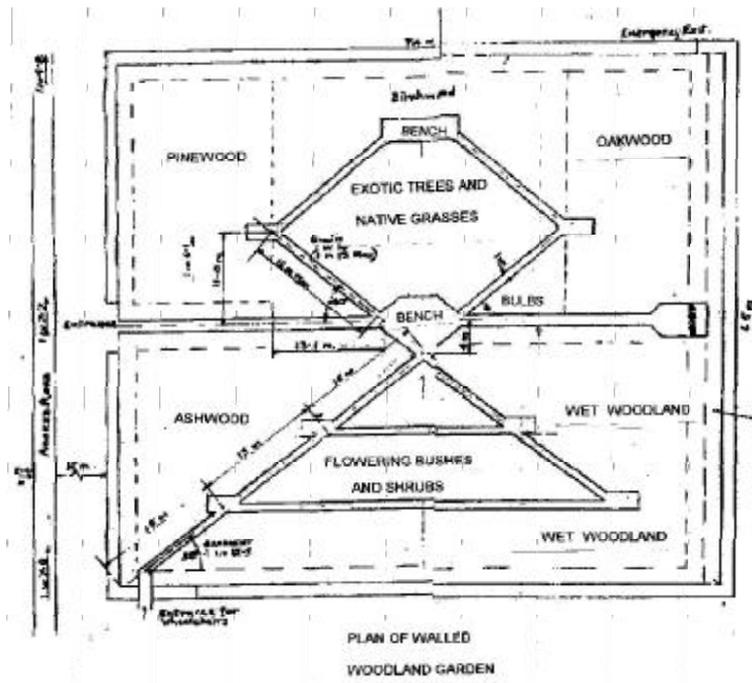
Where is the Walled Garden?

It lies just off Clermiston Road. Between the roundabout for Queen Margaret University College and the Clerwood bus terminus, take the gated road uphill towards Corstorphine Hill Tower. The Walled Garden is 100m up on the right.

What can you do?

First and foremost, help is needed in the garden. We will be there every Thursday, Saturday and Sunday afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m., from now until the filming. Tasks include constructing gravel paths and edges, clearing ground, preparing soil, tidying-up, planting of trees, shrubs and flowers, and building walls and fences. Come and join us for an hour or so and see what you could do. Above all, **be involved** – it is your project, for your community.

What is the plan?



This outline shows the general shape. The outer sections nearest the walls will be planted with native trees such as pine, birch, ash and wet woodland species. These areas will be undersown with appropriate plants. The upper central diamond-shaped area will have a few exotic trees undersown with native grasses. The lower central triangular-shaped area will be mainly shrubs.

What will happen for the filming?

The Beechgrove team will be filming on **Thursday the 13th and Friday the 14th of September**. From what has featured in earlier programmes, we know that, as well as filming work in the Walled Garden, the team will be looking for people to ask questions on problem plants or gardens, for gardens to visit, and for other items of local horticultural interest. Bring your ideas and suggestions along to the committee in the Walled Garden.

How will you know what is happening?

See details on noticeboards, come to the Walled Garden, visit the website www.corstorphinehill.org.uk, or telephone Eddie Price 539 1088, Eddie McLennan 539 0836, or Les Hutcheon 334 3832.

Other activities

Corstorphine Hill Tower will be open on **Sunday afternoons** on the **12th and 26th of August** and on the **9th and 23rd of September** and also on **Saturday the 29th of September** as part of the Doors Open Day organised in Edinburgh by the Cockburn Association. We need three members on duty for every opening, from 2 to 4p.m. If you can help "man" the Tower on one of these dates, please contact Willma Mullen, telephone 317 1385.

Walks have been arranged on the following Sundays, starting at 2 p.m.

19th August - Flowers - meet at Clermiston Road North car park

2nd September - Geology - meet at Clermiston Road North car park

16th September - Botany - meet at Cairnmuir Road car park (part of Scottish Biodiversity Week)

30th September - Fungi - meet at Clermiston Road North car park

Talks and meetings will be arranged through the winter months. The first, on the **25th of October**, will reflect on the past year on the hill, particularly the Beechgrove Garden Project. The first of our special interest lectures will be on the **22nd of November**. For details of walks or talks, contact David McAdam. Telephone 539 1060.

Friends of Corstorphine Hill

Registered as a charity No SCO28842.

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