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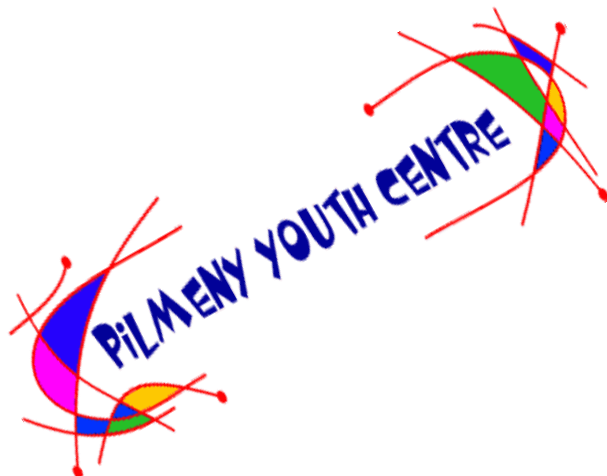


Pilmény Playgroup



June 2011 to June 2012

Funded by



The Noel Buxton Trust



The Volant Trust

Playgroup Application to The Noel Buxton Trust – Key Comments

There were a number of young parents with children aged 0-3yrs who found it difficult to engage with local agencies and the youth centre facilitated a number of "taster" sessions to test the feasibility of a possible new group dedicated to this provision. The "taster" sessions, held in October and November 2008 were a huge success. On evaluating and reviewing the sessions it was abundantly clear that there were a number of parents who attended that were in need of such a project. A broad section of the community was very keen to attend any newly established group, especially those who were new to the community. Young parents from Eastern European, Thai, Spanish and British Minority Ethnic communities were particularly keen. The youth centre was very lucky to attract funding from the Moffat Charitable Trust and established the new group which commenced in January 2009 and provided forty-four weekly sessions up to December 2009. This funding stream has now ended; however, such is the success of the group and the need to continue this very important provision, which is now far greater than ever, the two support staff and the youth centre have made a decision to continue to facilitate the group until new funding streams can be found.





44 Buchanan Street, Leith, Edinburgh, EH6 8RF

Telephone: - 0131 554 0953

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www.pilmeny.co.uk

15 January 2010

The Secretary
The Noel Buxton Trust
PO Box 393
Farnham
Surrey
GU9 8WZ

Dear Trustees

Funding Application – Pilmeny Community Playgroup

Our youth centre was established in the Lorne/Pilrig areas of Leith, Edinburgh in 1984. Managed by a voluntary board of directors, who are committed to the provision of social and recreational activities, for children and young people in the community. Part funded by the City of Edinburgh Council the youth centre works tirelessly to obtain external funding streams to maintain the sustainability of its groups. The development of the youth centre social programme is driven by the ongoing needs of the local community. It was due to this ongoing need that in October 2008 our youth centre responded to appeals from young parents in our local community to establish a group which targeted young parents who were feeling socially excluded, and isolated from community activities. There were a number of young parents with children aged 0-3yrs who found it difficult to engage with local agencies and the youth centre facilitated a number of “taster” sessions to test the feasibility of a possible new group dedicated to this provision. The “taster” sessions, held in October and November 2008 were a huge success. On evaluating and reviewing the sessions it was abundantly clear that there were a number of parents who attended that were in need of such a project. A broad section of the community was very keen to attend any newly established group, especially those who were new to the community. Young parents from Eastern European, Thai, Spanish and British Minority Ethnic communities were particularly keen. The youth centre was very lucky to attract funding from the Moffat Charitable Trust and established the new group which commenced in January 2009 and provided fort-four weekly sessions up to December 2009. This funding stream has now ended; however, such is the success of the group and the need to continue this very important provision, which is now far greater than ever, the two support staff and the youth centre have made a decision to continue to facilitate the group until new funding streams can be found. The support staff will work unpaid until funds can be found.

Our Application

If our appeal was successful, we would ideally, like to re-establish the group from April 2010 until March 2011 meeting twice weekly (Tuesday and Thursday 9.30am – 11am both days) for forty four weeks, provide educational and play space for children aged 0-3yrs. Also, to promote healthy lifestyles for parents and children with an aim to constructing a pathway to alleviating personal deprivation and personal well-being.

Core Costs			
Group Development Planner	£10 per hour x 4 Hours per week	= £40 x 44 Weeks	£1,760
Group Support Worker	£08 per hour x 4 Hours per week	= £32 x 44 Weeks	£1,408
Development Cost e.g.			
Venue Hire - Advisor Costs			
Refreshments etc			£590
<i>Project Finance Management</i>		<i>£20 per week x 44 Weeks</i>	<i>£880</i>
<i>Project Admin Support</i>		<i>£16 per week x 44 Weeks</i>	<i>£704</i>
			£5,342



Project Costs include “In-Kind” provision recorded in Red above totalling £1584

Our application to the Noel Buxton Trust is to cover the core running costs totalling = £3758

The ‘hidden challenges’ for our communities young people can be borne out by the statistics recorded by the Community and Constituency Health Profiles published by the Scottish Public Health Observatory:-

- a) the proportion of 15-year old boys that are likely to survive to age 65 in the Pilrig area is **12%** less than the Scottish average
- b) the rate of teenage pregnancy is **44%** higher in Pilrig than the Scottish average
- c) Alcohol related hospital admissions are **22%** higher in Pilrig than the Scottish average
- d) Drug related deaths in Leith and North Edinburgh is **69%** higher than the Scottish average
- e) Hospital admissions for suicide and deliberate self harm are **24%** higher in Pilrig than the Scottish average

If our application was successful, it is hoped that the early intervention and the promotion of health lifestyles and personal well being, beginning with the children in our area, would go a long way to giving them a platform and the best possible opportunity of ensuring a pathway to healthy living.

Yours Sincerely

Bryan Maughan
Youth Centre Manager





THE NOEL BUXTON TRUST

Registered Charity No 220881

www.noelbuxtontrust.org.uk

P O Box 393 Farnham GU9 8WZ

Bryan Maughan
Pilmeny Youth Centre
44 Buchanan Street
Leith
Edinburg EH6 8RF

Application Reply

13th May 2010

Dear Bryan Maughan

I am delighted to be able to tell you that the Trustees, in response to your letter of 15th January, have agreed to make Pilmeny Youth Centre a grant of £1500 a year for two years towards the costs of your young parents group and their playgroup for 0-3 year old children.

I enclose our cheque for £1500 for the first year's grant for which we would appreciate an acknowledgement. The grant for the second year will be available in May 2011, on receipt of a request from you, confirming your continuing need for our support and reporting on the use made of this year's grant. Any grant not claimed within three months of the due date will lapse.

We wish you all the best with your work and hope that you will continue to keep us in touch with your activities and progress.

Yours sincerely

Ray Waters
Ray Waters
Secretary



TRUSTEES: Richenda Wallace (Chairman), Katie Aston, Simon Buxton, Brendan Gormley, John Littlewood (co-opted), Joyce Morton, Emma Ponsonby (co-opted), Jon Snow, Jo Tunnard (Vice-Chairman). Secretary: Ray Waters.

Christmas 2010

Children enjoy Christmas at Pilmeny. Dads' & Partners also Enjoyed the occasion





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Award acceptance Letter

Ray Waters
Secretary
The Noel Buxton Trust
PO Box 393
Farnham
GU9 8WZ

25, May 2010

Dear Ray

AWARD TO PILMENY YOUTH CENTRE - £1500

May I on behalf of the youth centre staff and directors, and especially the Pilmeny Playgroup parents and children, pass on our sincere thanks to The Noel Buxton Trust, and Trustees for their marvellous generosity on awarding the playgroup £1500 towards playgroup running costs.

In addition, the decision to award a similar amount (£1500) from May 2011 is a magnificent gesture.

I had the good fortune of informing the playgroup this morning of the Noel Buxton award and carefully read the letter to the group. It took a short time to sink in, but the overwhelming excitement generated by such good news was a great start to the day.

Debbie and Sharon our play workers, who have worked tirelessly since January unpaid, are planning to create a 'homemade' thank you card at a future playgroup session, with all the parents and children contributing their personal thank you greeting's. I'll be delighted to forward this when complete.

Once again, many thanks to The Noel Buxton Trust for their marvellous generosity.

Yours Sincerely

Bryan Maughan
Youth Centre Manager



For
details and to book
a place
call
0131 554 0953
or email
dmlh@live.co.uk



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Parent & Baby Group

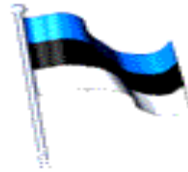


www.pilmeny.co.uk for details

Pilmeny Playgroup and its welcome for the parents and children of many cultures
The flags below represent the Nationalities of the parents and children who attend or have attended The Noel Buxton Trust funded PYC Playgroup 2010 - 2011



Vietnam
1 Family



Estonia
2 Families



Poland
3 Families



Nepal
1 Family



Latvia
2 Families



Indonesia
1 Family



France
1 Family



Australia
1 Family



Canada
1 Family



Iraq
2 Families



Singapore
1 Family



Sweden
1 Family

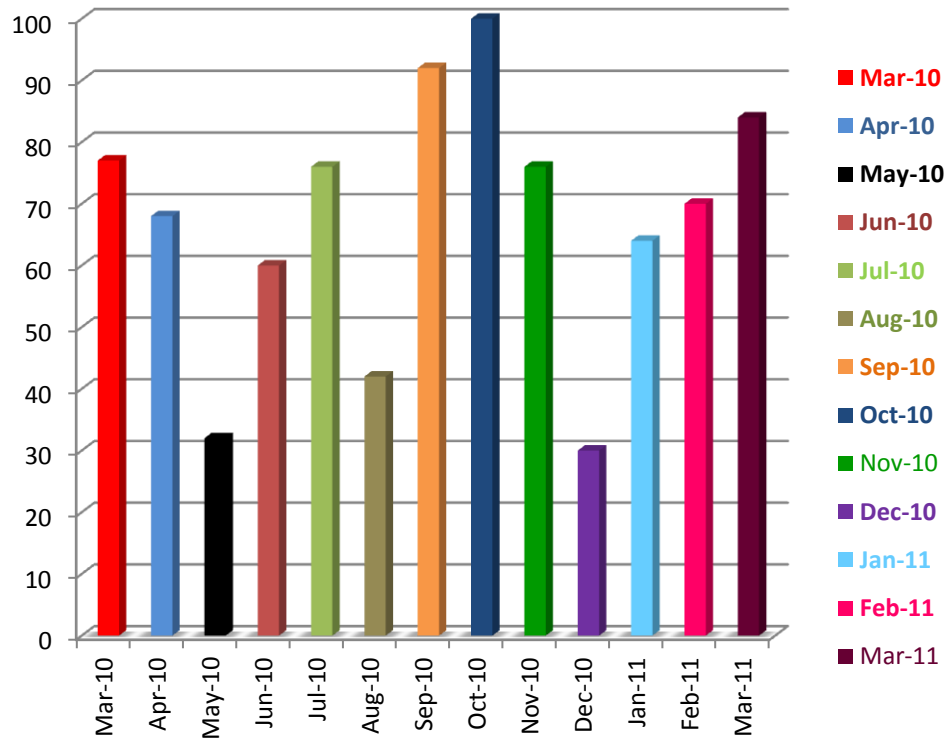


United Kingdom
16 Family



Romania
1 Family

Attendance Stats re Playgroup from March 2010 to March 2011



A positive reflex from the playgroup success is the occasional attendance by fathers of children. This development tends to prove that the environment nurtured at the playgroup is very welcoming and fathers' feel comfortable attending.

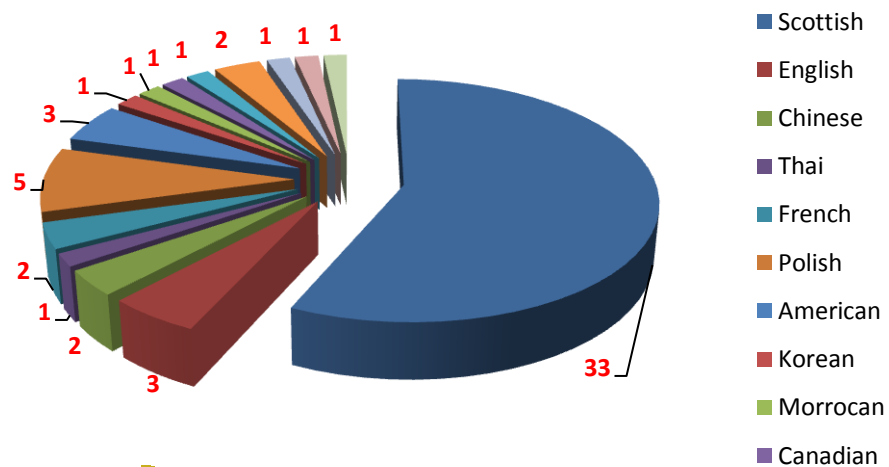
The provision of a welcoming, learning and in a socially, informal environment, and the high attendance levels, has proved there was a desperate need for establishing a local "connection centre" to promote social inclusion for young parents who felt isolated. A high point in the project content was the interaction of children and parents who had recently moved onto the locality and who spoke English as a second language. The parents and children have benefited greatly, and engage fully in the playgroup programme. On average 13-16 parents and children are in attendance at each session



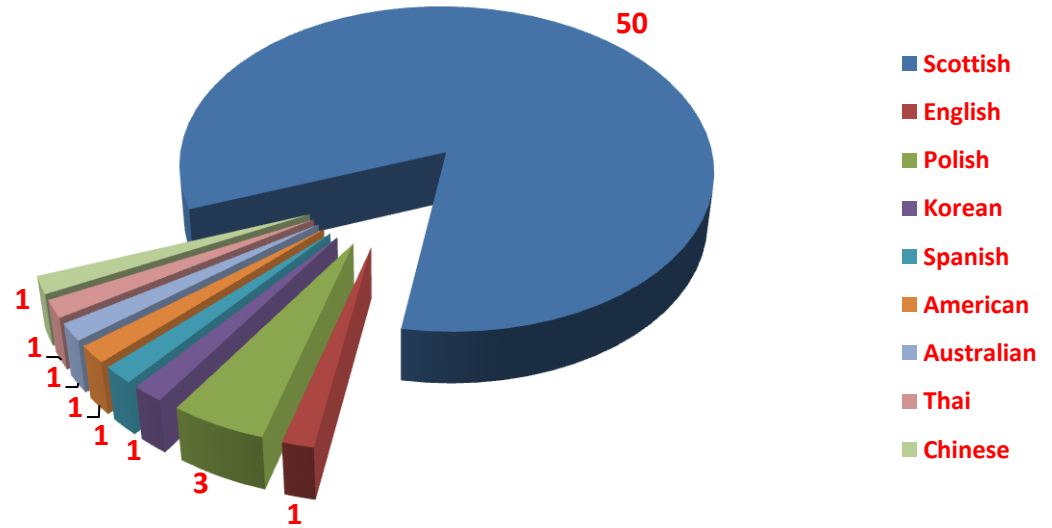
Nationality of Parents/Carers registered with Playgroup from March 2010 to April 2011

A key element of the playgroups target was to encourage and promote a welcoming environment for the many families newly resident in the local area. The variety of cultures and the differing views on parenting skills was a refreshing topic of conversation among attendees. Social skills developed by all playgroup users was a fundamental element of the groups success and the integration of children was a major positive in developing language and communication skills. The playgroup also plays an important role in widening participation with additional local activities.

The role our community plays in promoting integration from families of all cultures starts with toddler or playgroup provision. The engagement between parents and children helps us to build solid community foundations. The playgroup targets and outcomes are seen as an investment in our communities future.



Nationality of children registered with Playgroup from March 2010 to April 2011



Playgroup Developments - March 2010 to April 2011

A number of activities were undertaken with children being key to the programme activity content.

- **Mini Movers** - A session was held with a local children's entertainer. The content of the session was aimed at encouraging children to achieve body suppleness and light exercise edited to their specific age needs, ending with a fun sing-along session.
- **Gym Nippers** - A session aimed at movement and flexibility for both children and parents
- **Tumble Tots** - A "Taster" session was held by the local authority partner, Edinburgh Leisure, allowing the children to appreciate the values of gentle exercise
- **Jo Jingles** - Music and movement sessions aimed at connecting with children through music and sound
- **Sponsored Buggy Walk** - A sponsored buggy walk was held in August 2010 in order to raise funds to re-enforce the costs of developing the playgroup programme. A total of £438 was raised
- **Student Placement** - The youth centre and playgroup partnered the local high school, Leith Academy, and worked towards a placement provision for young women within the high school who expressed a preference for pursuing a career in childcare. A six week placement programme was agreed with students attending a minimum of twelve sessions. Two students have currently been placed in the playgroup environment since September 2010. The "hands-on" experience gained has proved invaluable in giving each student an entry level experience on the practical issues involved in child care environments and was able to then decide on subject choices to achieve this. We hope to continue with the student placement programme.



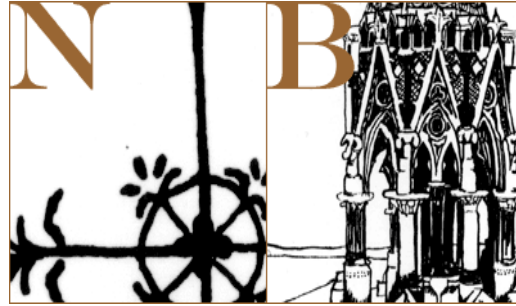
Benefits and Outcomes

- Promotion of an informal facility which allows parents and children to engage in social interaction
- Provision of a safe and friendly group session area allowing informal attendance
- Provision of socialisation skills for children aged birth - 2 through entry level educational toys
- Promotion of parent/carer interaction allowing first time parents to share medical and social concerns relating to development of parenting skills
- Informally providing a personal insight into differing cultures of the diverse nationalities attending the playgroup
- Local interest in the groups development being shown by local health professionals
- Local agencies - Multi Cultural Family Base, Early Years and Health Visiting teams making contact enquiring about possible placements for parents/carers requiring playgroup support
- Positive benefits to the wider community

Future Development

- To work towards funding and supporting an additional day/sessions in order to accommodate agencies requiring particular placements which may necessitate provision of specialist programme sessions.
- To offer "tasters" in up skilling for parents wishing to develop additional employment skills e.g. IT - Catering/Hospitality - Childminding etc. Engaging with agencies offering opportunities to provide hour long sessions at the youth centre.
- To investigate possible partnership with employment agencies to possibly engage staff trainees which will allow the playgroup to examine its expansion plans
- To identify and "tweak" the weekly programme and adopt a more stimulating sessions activity for children aged 2+

Our Thanks to



The Noel Buxton Trust

Kindly Funded the projects
Playgroup Planner Core Costs



**Women's
Fund** for Scotland

Via

The Volant Trust

Additional funds to cover
playgroup development costs



scottish
community
foundation

Additional funds to cover
play worker costs



For providing "In Kind"
Financial Governance