



Newsletter August 2020

MAINDEE FESTIVAL Welcome to the August Newsletter

Saturday August 22nd is our first ever virtual Maindee Festival... 3 hours of online performance, poetry and music between 2pm and 5pm. The Sofa Share Wales crew will be curating this different festival event from Maindee Library, there's a chance to see the beautiful flower giants, enjoy a special Maindee sunflower cupcake, and have a cuppa (proceeds to Maindee Library). But please keep your social distance. **For details of how to access Maindee Festival online contact: fez.miah@gmail.com or call/text Fez on 07760 625117. Follow us on Twitter @MaindeeFestival or on FB: Facebook.com/maindeefestival for more details.**

The festival committee has been trying to bring a smile to Maindee by giving out and planting sunflower seeds, which should be coming into flower later this month. Look out for their beautiful blazes of cheerful yellow in the car park, outside the library, and dotted around front gardens.

During the last week of August from **Saturday August 22nd** giant flowers of all descriptions will be dotted around Maindee for **Petal Power Maindee Festival**. You will also notice that the back of your newsletter is a beautiful sunflower designed by Newport artist Andy O Rourke. Please unfold it and put it up in a front facing window (if you can) so even if you haven't been able to grow a sunflower you can play a part in creating a blooming lovely Maindee.

If art & craft is your thing we have a whole host of amazing on line art and craft workshops to take part in from August 13th to August 21st so you can decorate your house and garden for the last week of August.

Community House, Eton Road

Closed but still building stronger, caring community together!

We are hoping to reopen the building for adults in a limited, safe way - trialing 2 groups in August & more in September (under Welsh Senedd advice). Sadly, for the foreseeable future, we can't let children & young people in. Look out for new posters on the windows and on Facebook when Citizens Advice Surgeries might start in August. Contact us if you are lonely or curious or if you could volunteer in admin, maintenance, caretaking or as a trustees' advisor. **Call/message Ingrid on: 07976 267367 or email: CHER@ideasuk.co.uk | www.communityhousemaindee.org**

Community Youth Project workers at Community House are helping young people and their families with outdoor activities and meeting basic needs over the summer. *Contact Sarah or Zenia:* • if you, or someone you know, is struggling and would like one-to-one support or doesn't have much food at home • If you're between 13-25 and would like specific LGBTQ+ support **Sarah: 07746440761 sarah.miller@etonrdch.org , Zenia: 07746439992 zenia.hamid@etonrdch.org**

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The digital haves and have-nots



The internet has been a big help for families with schoolchildren at home during lockdown. But not every child in Maindee has been able to benefit from this. One East Newport primary school reports that 28% of their children have no suitable devices or internet at home. Another school has a worse position with almost half (46%) of their children having no home access.

A group of East Newport organisations have now got together to try to tackle this shortfall. Wastesavers and Medrau Maindee Makers will be converting old laptops into chromebooks (the devices of choice for schools) and a fundraising campaign is being developed to pay the internet connection costs for up to 200 children.

Want to help? Great! Mail info@maindee.org or ring 01633 309443 if you have a spare laptop or can make a donation.

Maindee flower petal power workshops

Material project packs will be provided for participants registered on to these workshops. Enough materials will be provided for participants to make at least one flower during each session but you will need some tools from home to complete (i.e. ruler, scissors, hole punch, jars). Workshops will be delivered over Zoom unless otherwise stated - participants need access to a free basic Zoom account in order to take part in these sessions.

Children under 12 will need support of an adult. For information on how to book a workshop please email festival@maindee.org or phone/text 07515 455134

**THURSDAY 13th AUGUST
10.00-11.00 > Paper Straw Tulips with Karen O'Shea** | With your free project pack and a few recycled materials from around your home, make beautiful paper straw tulips to decorate your home.

13.00-14.00 > Stained Glass Window Paper Flowers with Karen O'Shea | Let the sun shine in with these gorgeous stained glass window paper flowers. Children will need adult supervision due to craft knives / scalpels being used, and the need for precise cutting.

16.00-17.00 > Paper Cala Lilies with Karen O'Shea | With our petal-power activity packs, make one or more paper cala lilies to put in a small vase or glass. Great for a window or on the table in your home.

**FRIDAY 14th AUGUST
10.00-11.00 > Flowers in pots with Marion Cheung** | No previous making or art experience necessary. Using recycled plastic pots, tin cans or small terracotta pots, we will decorate them with bright colours and fill them with flowers, customised and decorated with paper, paint, collage and found materials including pom-poms, buttons, wool, etc.

13.00-14.00 > Butterflies and bees with Marion Cheung | Using templates or your own design, design your own butterflies and bees to stand alone in pots using recycled materials.

**SATURDAY 15th AUGUST
15.00-16.00 > Art Clwb Flower Power workshops with Naz** | Art Clwb #createwithnaz on Facebook Live @ SofaShareWales. Create your own flower inspired art work using recycled materials and send



in your artwork to be part of our community gallery. One entry chosen by the public will win an arty goodie-bag, the owner becoming Art Clwb's featured artist of the week! www.facebook.com/sofasharewales

**SUNDAY 16th AUGUST
14.00-15.00 > Wet felting with Lynney-Lainey-Loo** | Make a beautiful flower whilst learning how to create felt from sheep's wool with soapy water. A great family friendly workshop. Young children can take part in this workshop with adult supervision.

**MONDAY 17th AUGUST
18.00-19.30 > Needle felting with Lynney-Lainey-Loo** | An introduction to needle felting, where we will make a fabulous flower brooch.

**TUESDAY 18th AUGUST
16.00-17.00 > Rainbow flowers and Jar with Naz** | Create flowers out of tissue paper and recycled paper to decorate your window. Colourful, creative and fun. The joy of these flowers is that they will last and need no watering, just love.

**WEDNESDAY 19th AUGUST
18.00-19.00 > Create wire, tissue paper and collage flowers with Marion Cheung** | Construct flowerheads with an underlying wire structure. Tissue paper and other found materials are added to make a



colourful display.

**THURSDAY 20th AUGUST
16.00-17.00 > Frida inspired flower headdress with Naz** | Create flowers out of tissue paper and recycled paper to wear as a headband inspired by Frida Kahlo. Learn simple folding and cutting techniques to create your own flowers.

Reopening Llyfrgell Maindee Library+

It is hoped that plans will be in place to reopen the library at the start of September. To ensure a safe and secure environment for volunteers and library users, a number of changes need to take place. Use of hand sanitiser, disposable gloves and face coverings will be part of the 'new normal', as will increased cleaning and surface sanitising procedures. **The management board are also considering:**

- A change to opening times
- A change to the layout of the building: using the kitchen as a reception and limiting the number of computers in use at any one time
- Introduction of contactless payment

As soon as we know more, you'll be the first to know!



Back to Nature

During this lockdown period many of us have had time to notice and appreciate nature that surrounds us whether it's in our gardens, local parks and greenspaces. Perhaps we've slowed down enough and had time to reflect on just how important nature and wildlife is for our mental wellbeing particularly during these testing times.

Maindee is not overly blessed with natural green space or recreational areas generally. However, with your help we can transform the walkways, verges, streets and parks

into something much attractive and deserving for the people of Maindee!

We want to create pocket parks, orchards and allotments, community gardens, more street trees, and make spaces that allow nature (and us) to thrive. Even the scruffiest of corners can be transformed into something more imaginative... The more people get involved the more that we can achieve collectively. Perhaps you have ideas or projects that you'd like to make happen within the neighbourhood?

Please do get in touch if you want to join us on our mission to 'Green Maindee'. Greening@maindee.org or call John on 07947 359703



A New Garden for Maindee Primary School Walkway!

The public walkway between the school and football ground has been in need of a little love for quite some time. Recently, a small group of volunteers have transformed one particularly neglected area prone to littering into an attractive, low maintenance community garden. The planting scheme was designed to be able to cope with prolonged periods dry weather for our changing climate. In time we are keen to transform this corridor into a more welcoming and inviting space to wander through.



Maindee Primary School

Since the last newsletter we have been continuing to support our pupils with distance learning and also provide support to families. Since 29th June we have been engaging in sessions to catch up, check in and prepare for a return to formal schooling. It has been wonderful to hear the children around the school. We have been busy preparing for the new term and are ready to welcome back all of our pupils in September. We are working on ensuring that we increase the amount of digital devices we have available in school and were fortunate to have had a donation from Jehu Group to buy equipment for September. We are looking forward to September and seeing how much all our pupils have grown since we closed in March.

Join the Maindee Library family!

We are always looking for new people to help out in Llyfrgell Maindee Library, or look after the green spaces around Maindee.

Some volunteers help for a couple of hours every week; others get involved when we have newsletters to distribute or events to promote. Some just come along for a giggle and a natter – that's why we call it a family! Please get in touch if you would like to be involved in anyway.

Contact admin@maindee.org or phone 01633 309443

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