FORTHLINES

EDINBURGH & EAST LOTHIAN

EDINBURGH SHORELINE · EDINBURGH SHORELINE ·

This project is the passionate response of an incredible 183 different people to a part of the Forth coast that is special to them.

A long storyline of enmeshed memories and visions of the Forth has emerged, linking the Fife, Edinburgh and East Lothian coasts, biodiversity, people and communities. All the squares contain the line of their bit of coast, and they all join together. See if you can spot it in each square.

*"It is hard over a life **time not to be aware of coast erosion and increased beach** pollution."*

"Taking part in a climate crisis awareness raising campaign feels humbling."

Many people have focused on the coast's local history and wildlife, its beauty and diversity and the many species and memories that have been and are still being lost.

While frustration and anger can also be seen in many pieces about marine and intertidal pollution, there is also heartfelt hope for the future.

"My piece is about the future when the sea levels may rise and land disappear. I hope that seals are still able to happily bob around in the sea despite our attempts as humans to destroy their natural habitat."

"I decided that the beach was where my heart and soul combine with the force of nature."

"A wonderful coastline – lets look after it."

1

Fiona Hendrie

A walk along John Muir Way was the initial inspiration and I wanted to feature John Muir's writing. My love of maps that you find at the beginning of books shaped the design.

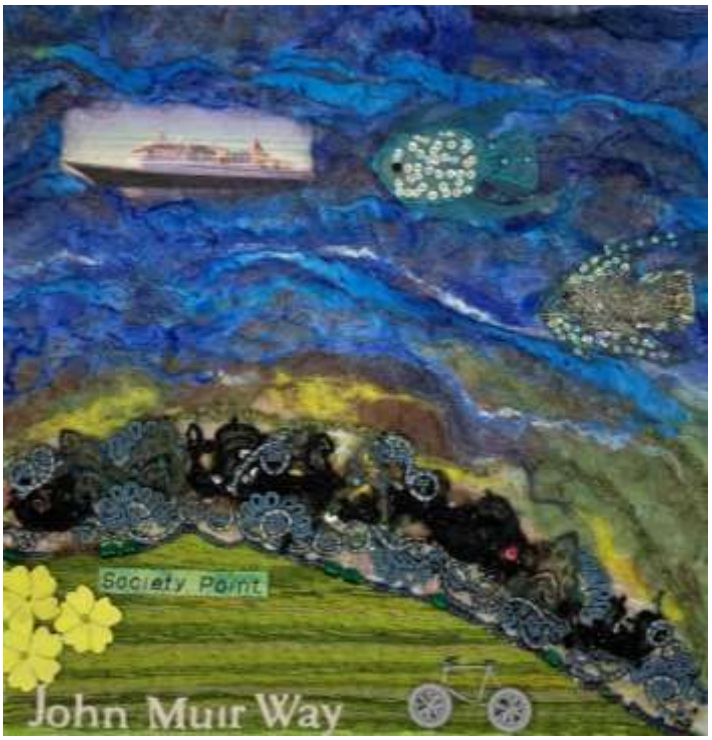
TEA AND COFFEE DYE, FABRIC PAINT, EMBROIDERY

2

Jo Avery

I often start my day with an early morning walk along the coastline. It's very quiet then and I feel so calm walking along the beach.

COTTON, LINEN, FELT, AURIFIL, COTTON AND WOOD THREAD, HAND EMBROIDERY



3

Dorothy Morrison

This is a raised beach area with interesting rocks and many oyster shells. The primroses were blooming and the woodpeckers busy drumming in the trees.

100 YEAR OLD TRIMMINGS FROM MY GRANDMOTHER'S TREASURES, FELT, PVA, INKJET, BEADS

4

Saskia Gavin

I imagined the sea bed as it might be now, fairly barren and how it might change with the introduction of a few more growing things, becoming less and less regular, providing niches and possibilities for small things to shelter and grow.

5

Kristen Hubert

I was struck by the choppy waters and the juxtaposition of the less than affluent housing and the activities available for the more affluent.

DENIM JEANS SCRAPS, QUILTING COTTON, STITCHING

6

Marysia Holmes

This square depicts the coastline from Port Edgar (boats and anchors) eastwards.

QUILTING FABRIC, PAINTED DECOVIL SHAPES, PAINTED ORGANZA, DECOVIL

7

Karen Murray

Society Point was a popular bathing spot in the mid nineteenth century. The shoreline has wonderful geological features.

FABRIC TIE-DYED WITH TEABAGS, FABRIC PAINTS, EMBROIDERY, BUTTONS TO ADD SPARKLE

8

Pat Swan

Archaeology uncovered the earliest known domestic houses in mainland Scotland, which provide evidence of the exploitation of the Forth coastline some 10,000 years ago.

OLD RUSTED NAPKIN, HAND DYED ORGANDIE, VEGAN BANANA YARN, FOUND POTTERY

9

Margaret Burgess

A pleasure researching the 11th Century Queen Margaret Ferry (The Binks), Port Edgar and the now derelict Naval Base and Priory Church.

THE CHERRY TREE USED 6 DIFFERENT SHADES OF PINK. FRENCH KNOTS ARE INCREDIBLY LABOUR INTENSIVE!

10

Madeleine Shepherd

The Forth Bridge is fantastic piece of engineering. Its shapes & colour have dominated the area for well over a century.

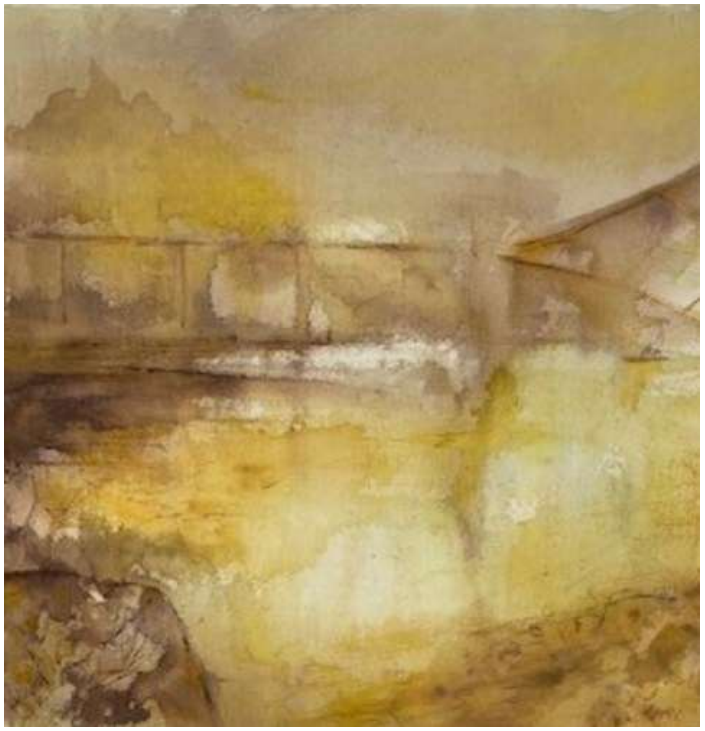
CYANOTYPE PRINT ON COTTON MUSLIN, RANDOM SPOT STAMPING. ARCHIVE PHOTOS DIGITALLY PRINTED ONTO SILK, RED WOOLEN YARN

11

Soraya Young

Remembering a mud walk at Long Craigs, seeing crabs and enormous jelly fish and hearing the sound of the birds in the woods.

PAINTED BONDAWEB, TRAPUNTO QUILTING, PAINTED/DISTRESSED LUTRADOR, WOOL, VILENE. WOOD DYED SCRIM. FELT, STITCHING



12

Sarah Knox

I explored this shoreline for 2 days, then made several paintings refining my memory and feelings for this stunning place.

INKS ON CALICO

13

Alan Brown

For a city dweller, crossing the Almond and entering Dalmeny Estate is magical. There is a hidden beach there to which my mind often returns.

Pheasant and wood pigeon feathers. It would have been herring gull but I couldn't find enough. Gold foil from a packet of smoked salmon

14

Kathryn Bailey

Fishery Cottage the hub for salmon fishing in the Forth until the 1950's **Salmon jumping free now from commercial nets.**

Painted and dyed vilene, calico, silk, velvet, Embroidery silks and cotton thread

15

Marianne Kellett

An area I walk nearly every day on the Dalmeny Estate. The views are breathtaking.

YARN AND FABRIC, SHINY THREAD, LACE

16

Jennie Loudon

Ripples in the water as the tide goes in and out and how the height of the tide relates to the phases of the moon.

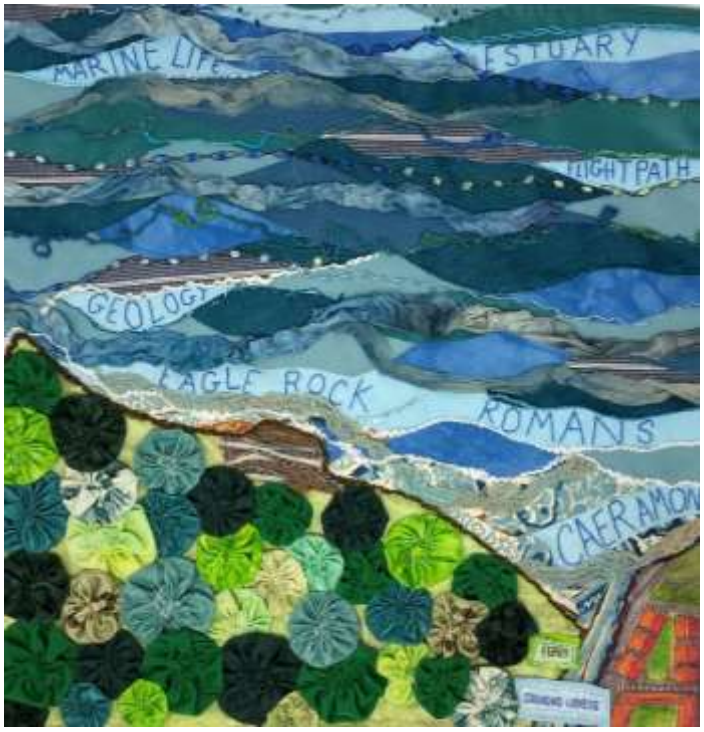
DYED STRIPS OF FABRIC, STITCHED. INKS, PAINT,. COUCHED HAND MADE SILK STRING AND METAL LEAF

17

Karen Chambers

The sea sorts what it receives and deposits where it decides. Here, millions of cockle shells and sea-borne shoes, ancient and recent.

ACRYLIC AND LINO PRINTING

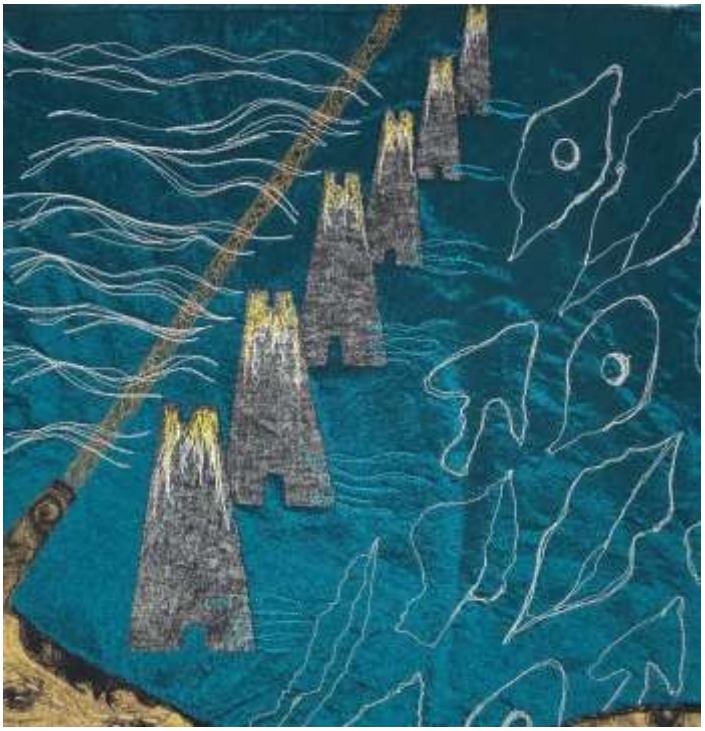


18

Leona Thomas

The old Brythonic name for Cramond – Caer Amon – tells of celtic tribes who settled here. Remains of a Roman outpost fort, Eagle Rock, Crammond Lioness, the old rowing boat ferry, now gone.

FABRICS, SARI SILKS, WOOL, SCRIM, EMBROIDERED LETTERING, SUFFOLK PUFFS, TRAPUNTO AND HAND COLOURED DETAILS

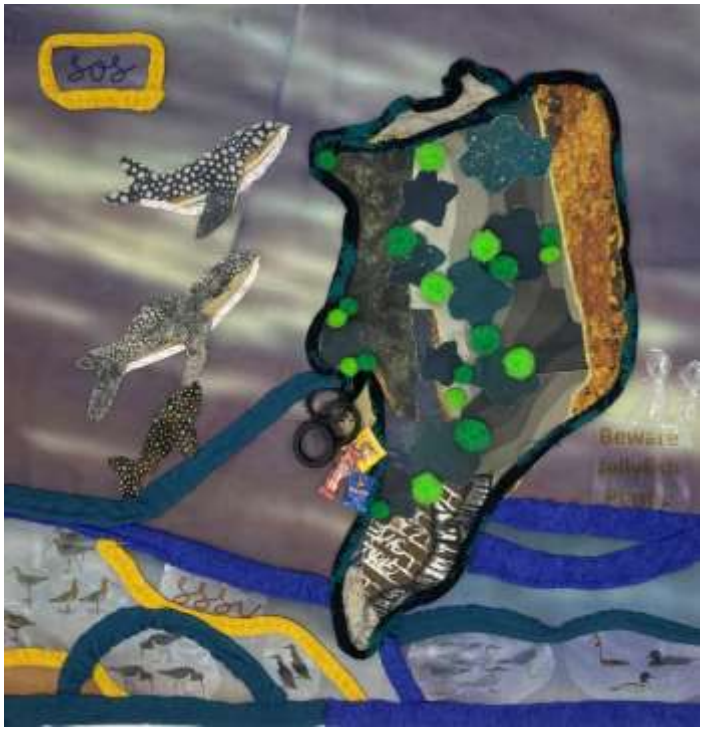


19

Ali Webster

I was surprised by the amount of charcoal on the beach. Could it be from the coal industry, brought by the River Almond?

FREE MOTION EMBROIDERY, UPCYCLED JEANS



20

Rosslyn Clowe

Cramond Island is bitter-sweet to visit - graffitied buildings and litter but a Site of Special Scientific interest - important for a huge variety of birds.

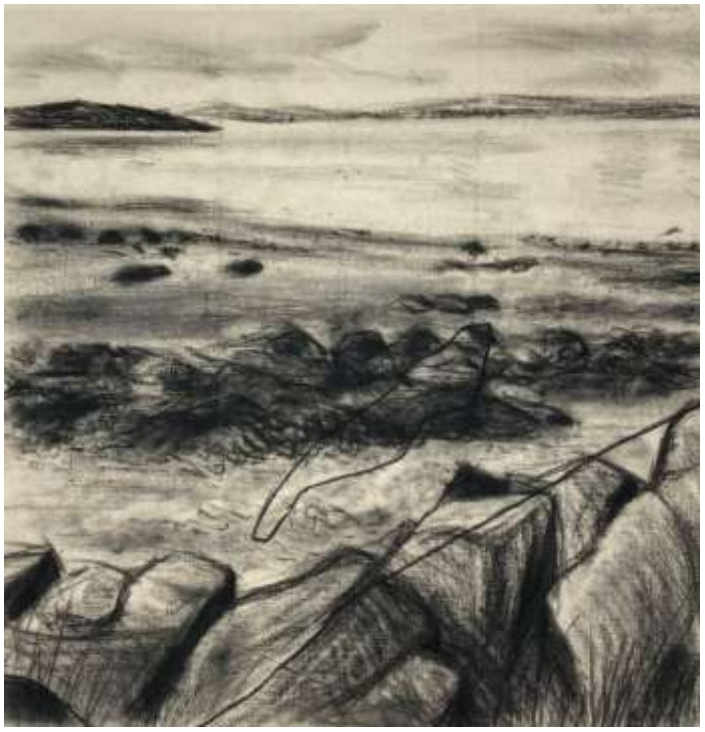
MAINLY RECYCLED REMNANTS OF MATERIAL FROM HOME, SOME DOLLS HOUSE CRISP BAGS, AND MY HUSBAND'S LEGO TYRES

21

Jay Kirkland

Inspired by research suggesting flawed data was used to support a recent decision to increase flight paths from Edinburgh Airport. Decisions based on flawed data can have serious public health and safety implications.

ACRYLIC PAINT, PROCREATE APP FOR DESIGN, PRINTED HEAT TRANSFERS



22

Natalie Wingate

Beach stone covered in seaweed merges the intrusive manmade world with the natural world.

COMPRESSED CHARCOAL, TONER AND INK WASH ON CALICO

23

Karen Chambers

Royston beach was a beautiful local swimming spot until dumping was allowed on it. An angry square. Desolate. Ugly. Sad. An industrial history depository.

LINO PRINTS, APPLIQUE, SEWING

24

Kirsty Lynch

25
Wardie Bay Wild Swimmers

Colin, Christa, Vari, Katy, Amy, Phillipa, Sandra, Susie and Tanya

We were inspired, among the unique flora and fauna that act as a life support system for so much wildlife.

EACH CONTRIBUTED AN ITEM OF CLOTH; SWIM SUIT, RUBBER SWIM HAT, OR SHORTS EMBELLISHED WITH THEIR OWN IDEAS

26

Ian Marshall

While the most noticeable features here are the numerous boats and the large lighthouse, there are also many seabirds going about their lives even though this is an area which is used very heavily by people.

FINE LINER PENS AND WATERCOLOUR PAINTS

27

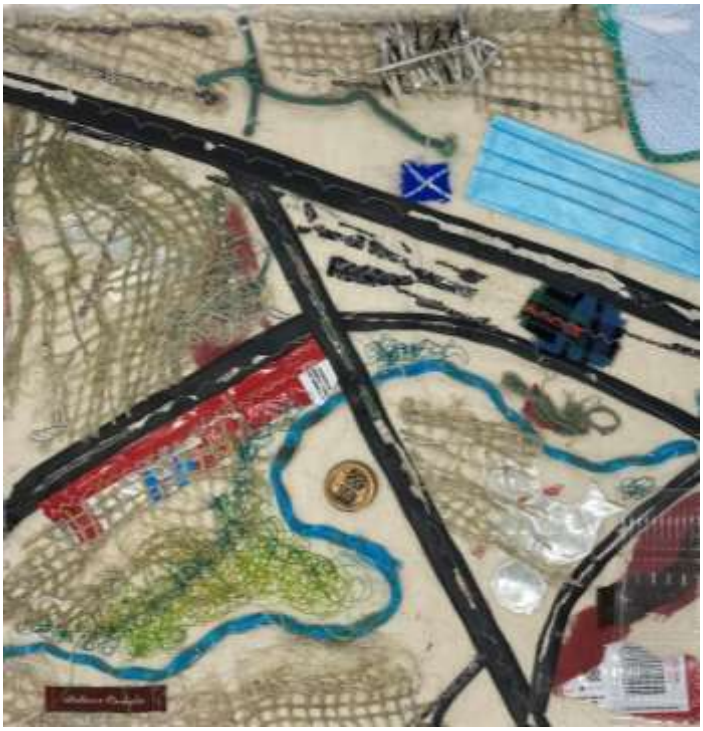
Anabel Cano

28

Sharon May Black

Reflecting Leith Docks, I wanted to create layers in my piece to reflect the layers of the sea and land.

ART MATERIALS, SEWING MATERIALS, PRINTING TECHNIQUES, ACRYLIC PAINT, BRUSHO AND TEXT



29

Nathalie Cortada

Leith Docks' incredible **history. Centuries of trade and mixing cultures and still teeming with otters, grebes, terns. Now densely industrial, and completely inaccessible.**

FOUND DETRITUS OF MODERN LIFE, NON BIO-DEGRADABLE, ENDANGERING WILDLIFE - SEA LITTER, BICYCLE INNER-TUBES, VIDEOTAPE, FOIL, CRISP PACKETS

30

Elise Gibbons

Leith sands a hugely popular beach for over 150 years with horse racing and all sorts of recreation. Now polluted and inaccessible.

SCOTTISH TWEED, IRISH BAWNEEN, FABRIC SCRAPS, FELT, INK, WATERCOLOUR

31

Judith Anderson

Emperor penguins were brought to Edinburgh Zoo in 1913 from the South Atlantic on a whaling ship owned by the Christian Salvesen Company based in Leith. Christian Salvesen was my great great grandfather.

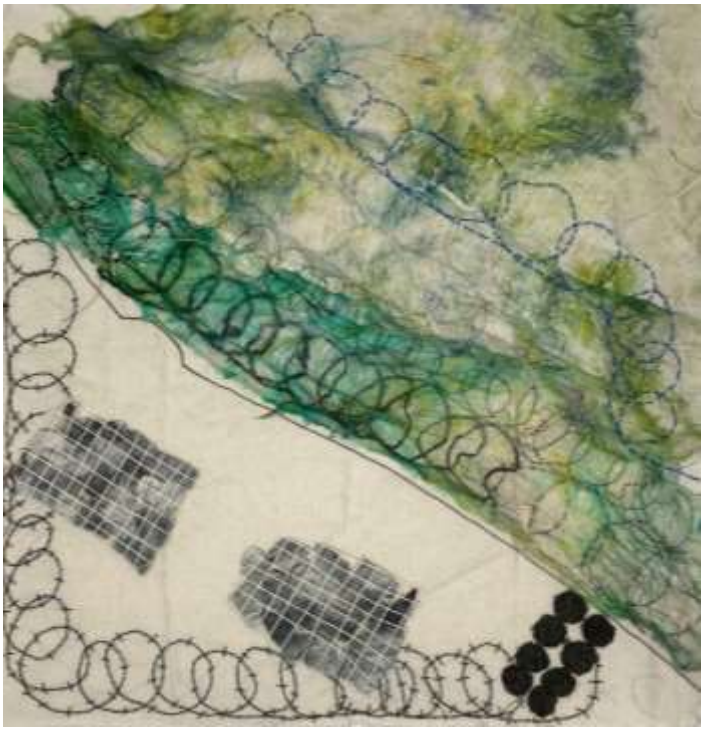
OLD LEITH MAPS ON PAPERBACKED COTTON, WORDS ON TISSUE PAPER AND PICTURES ON ORGANZA

32

Jill Cameron

The wee island is being shaped by the pounding of the waves. Taking part in a climate crisis awareness raising campaign feels humbling.

INTERIOR DESIGN SAMPLES, THREADS



33
Saskia Gavin

I walked the sea side Seafield path, and was very taken with the shape of the barbed wire squirls so I used this shape. I was going to embroider bacteria found in sewage in the sea, but found, in fact, the sea.

FELT, SOME DYED SILK, WOOLS AND THREADS

34

Jennie Loudon

The westernmost end of Portobello beach - popular with walkers and a surprising number of hardy sea swimmers

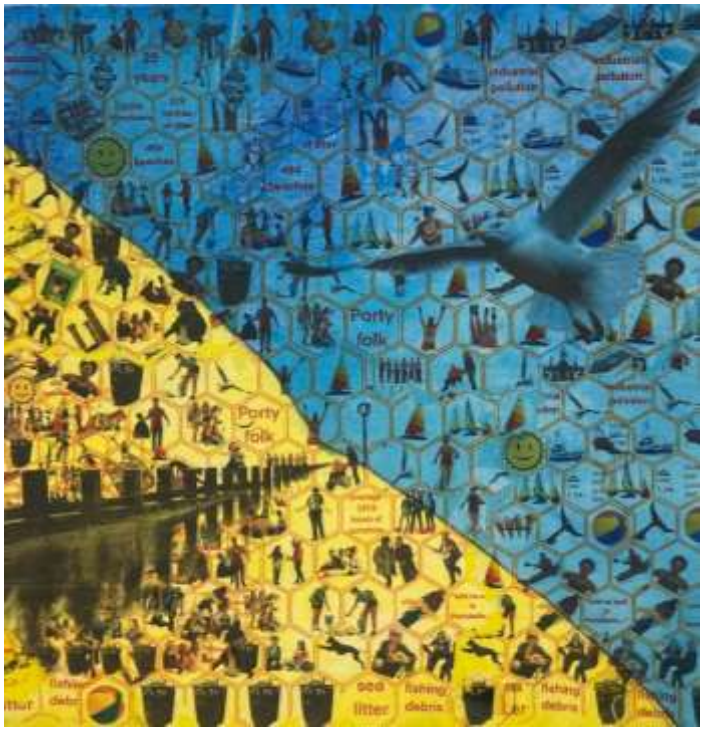
COTTON AND SILK FABRICS, DYED, STAINED AND STITCHED WITH SLIGHTLY SCULPTED, STITCHED PEOPLE (AND DOG) APPLIED

35

Elaine Wallace

A place of great solace during my many early morning walks during covid restrictions. I noted the enduring need for humans to mark our presence as seen in the street art on the prom; “I was here”.

HAND SEWN FABRIC SCRAPS, PEN AND FELTING TECHNIQUES REPRESENT LAYERS OF THE HISTORY OF THE PLACE



36

Jay Kirkland

Sea-litter research inspired the depiction of people, places & creatures caught like litter in a discarded net draped over the sea and shore.

ACRYLIC PAINT. TINY DIGITISED IMAGES APPLIED THROUGH HEAT-TRANSFER PRINT PROCESS, PLASTICISED MEDIUM.

37

Nicky Sanderson

I decided that the beach was where my heart and soul combine with the force of nature.

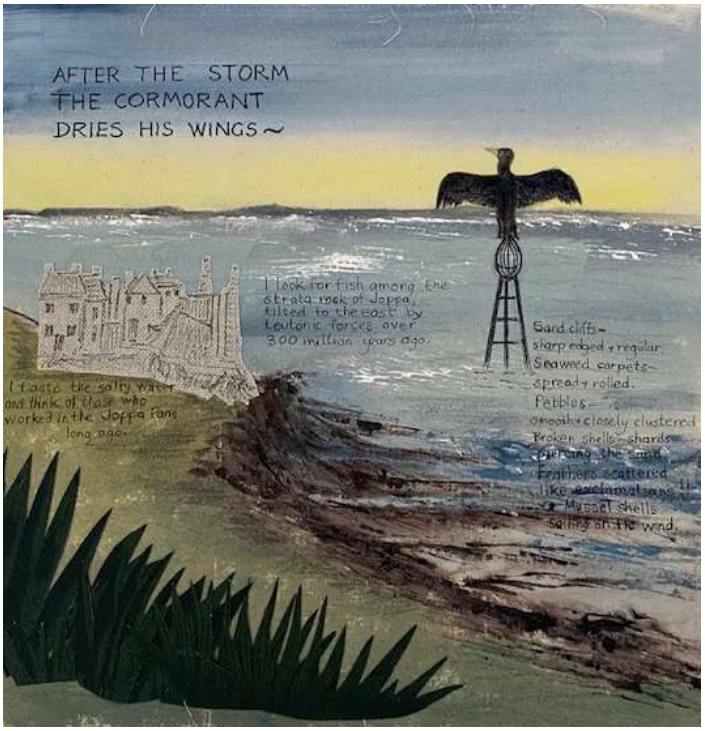
CALICO PASTED TO A PLASTIC SHEET, POWDERED PIGMENTS, INK, ACRYLIC PAINT MIXED WITH SAWDUST, PEAT AND CORNSTARCH

38

Mary Walters

I spent nearly every day of lockdown walking the Joppa shoreline, taking inspiration from the endlessly breaking waves.

RECYCLED TEXTILES, MELTED PLASTIC BAGS, PHOTOGRAPHIC DECALS AND SURVEYORS' MARKING TAPE



39

Elma McLaren

The cormorant dries his wings and looks for fish among the strata rocks of Joppa, tilted to the east. Tectonic forces over 300 million years ago.

40

Ursula Wright

Musselburgh - long know for it's harbour, mussel beds and fishing. I noticed the sea was many colours and set out as strips.

COTTONS AND FABRIC
PHOTOGRAPHY

41

Lesley Reid

42

Donald Scott

43

Kathleen Wilson

The ash lagoons in Musselburgh, a haven for wading and sea birds. An industrial wasteland given back to nature.

FABRIC, FREE MOTION EMBROIDERY AND HAND STITCHING

44

Tracy Burgess

The health benefits of getting outdoors to visit nature has been a lifeline for many people during lockdown.

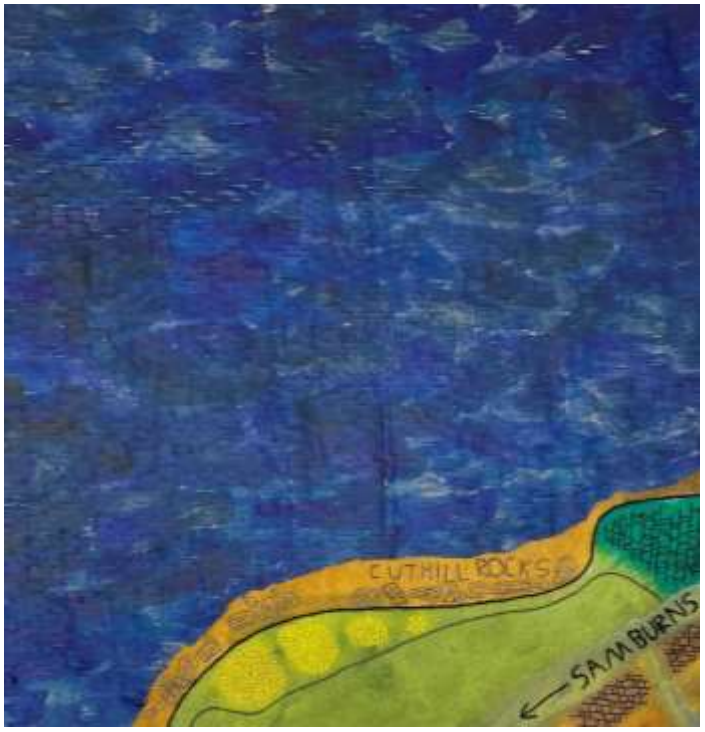
PAINTS IN SPRAY BOTTLES LAYERED OVER FOR THE BACKGROUND WITH A LITTLE HAND STITCHING

45

Jude Nixon

North Berwick Witch Trials, 1590-92, with Euphame MacCalzean, a wealthy landowner burnt at the stake with allegations of witchcraft.

SEAWEED FROM THE SHORE PRINTED ON WENZHOU RICE WITH PIGMENTS AND SIZE. INKS



46

Sally Cross

The Cuthill Rocks line the shore, a name associated with medieval places of assembly where minor disputes were settled.

BROWN PACKING PAPER, ACRYLIC PAINT, EMBROIDERY AND SEWING THREAD

47

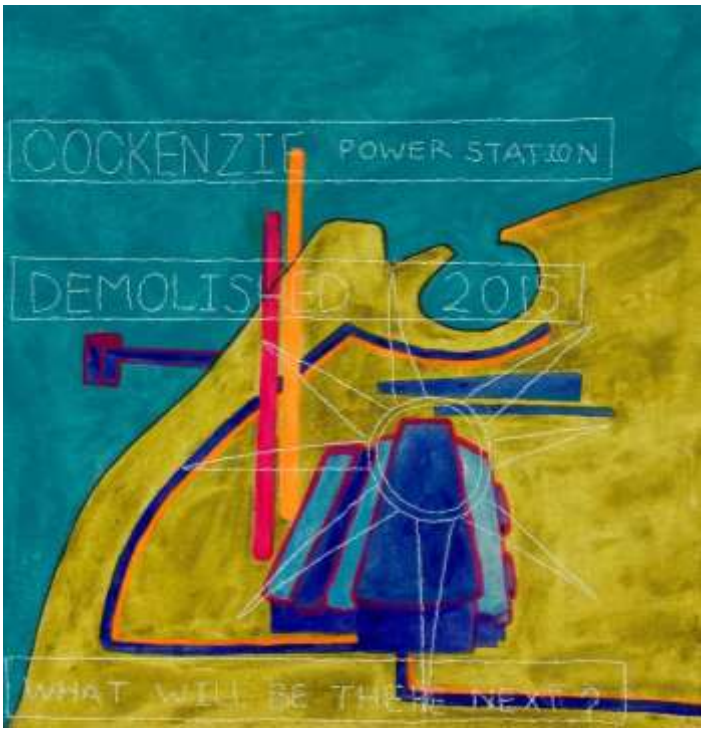
Morag Edward

Prestonpans shoreline is where it's rich history is exposed – salt pans to pottery to coal. Its past is worn away by waves, its future is underwater.

PRIMARY COLOUR WASHES, INKED DETAIL

48

Julia Muszynski

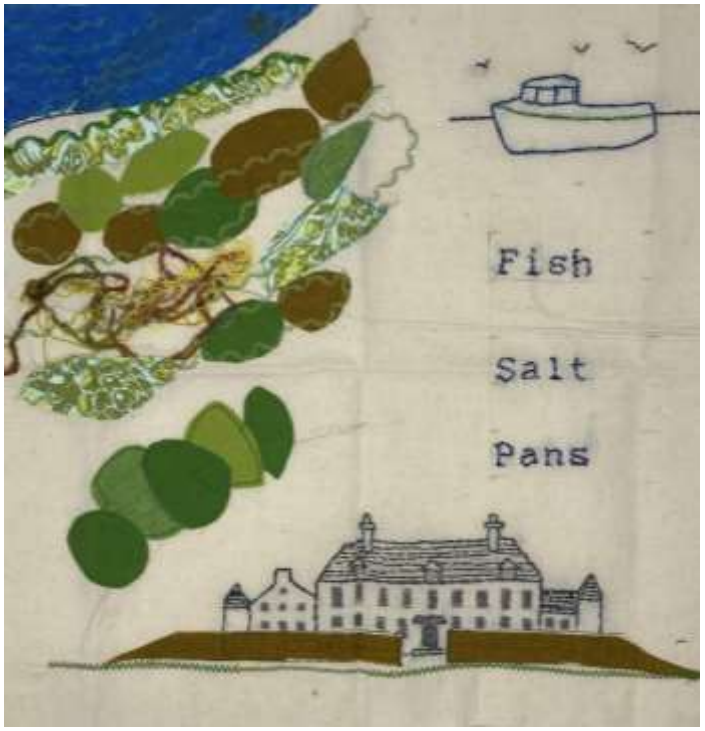


49

Jenny Haslam

This area has lost so much of its industrial heritage and potential work that it's **so important that some good comes to this cleared site.**

ACRYLIC PAINT AND WHITE EMBROIDERY THREADS



50

Vivienne Swan

Wandering around and discovering wild flowers and the context of the fishing heritage.

SHOT COTTON AND DIFFERENT EMBROIDERY THREADS, WOOL, AURIFIL THREAD, MACHINE STITCHING

51

Garvald Textiles

Our group gathered leaves which they used to print on fabric we had previously naturally dyed.

FABRIC PRINTED USING INK ON LEAVES, SASHIKO EMBROIDERY AND EMBROIDERY INCLUDING FRENCH KNOT AND LAZY DAISY STITCHES, DISCARDED FISHING NET

52

Leslie Chapman

Happy memories of family holidays. Steeped in history, a surviving medieval collegiate church remains.

WOOL, THREADS, SCRAPS OF TARTAN/TWEED CLOTH, MERINO WOOL, FELT SCRAPS. A MIX OF FELTING, APPLIQUE, HAND EMBROIDERY AND FREE MOTION EMBROIDERY

53

Garvald Textiles

Inspired by the cyanotypes of seaweed created by 19th century photographer Anna Atkins.

CYANOTYPE FABRIC PRINTS OF SEASIDE FLORA AND FAUNA, STITCHED TOGETHER USING SASHIKO TECHNIQUES. VINTAGE EMBROIDERY FABRIC

54

Garvald Textiles

We researched the different types of seaweed and shells gathered.

FABRIC PRINTED USING THE CYANOTYPE METHOD. THE STITCHING IS INSPIRED BY JAPANESE SASHIKO. DISCARDED FISHING NET

55

Sam Banister

I love being near water. It is a dynamic force that draws you in. Constantly moving, changing, breathing. It commands respect.

HAND PAINTED FABRIC, LEFT OVER SCRAPS, CHIFFON, FREE MOTION DRAWING / STITCH

56

Sheila McDonald

The murmuration of Arctic knots. Their magical dance has kept me sane during winter lockdown.

PAINT, PAPIER MACHE, SCRIM, GLITTER, COPPER, VITREOUS ENAMEL, FINE SILVER FOIL

57

Colette Murphy

I represent the different colours and tones in the sea. I used denim after learning about its environmental impact - the volume of water required to make jeans.

OLD JEANS, SCOTTISH LINEN OFFCUTS AND TWO SASHIKO STITCHES

58

Gillian Sandilands

The area is important for nature conservation and recreation and the balance is finely struck.

AN UPCYCLED DUVET COVER, A SCARF, FABRIC OFFCUTS, APPLIQUE AND HAND EMBROIDERY

59

Margaret Studley

The sea and shore act, for me, as an ever-changing comfort blanket. It is hard over a lifetime not to be aware of the erosion of the coastline and the increase in pollution on the beaches.

REFLECTING SAMPLERS AND COLOUR TO DENOTE DISASTER IN ANCIENT JAPANESE TEXTS. THE JAPANESE REPAIR TECHNIQUE OF KINTSUGI, WHERE GOLD IS APPLIED TO ENHANCE REPAIR.

60

Frea Webster

During lockdown, people have become more aware of their surroundings, which offers some hope.

SCRAPS OF FABRIC AND TISSUE PAPER, PAINTED WITH GOLDEN FLUID ACRYLICS, KOZO FIBRES, INKTENSE PENS

61

Maggie Le May

Research showed this is an interesting geologically area and many fossils of the carboniferous era can be found here.

Clay moulds to create the fossils from latex, The sea is painted on wet strength tissue, Sandpaper, green pan scrubbers, stitch, glued paper layers, and painted paper

62

Maureen Shepherd

I visited on a very grey day and the tide was fully out. Not a bird in sight. I concentrated on the golf course. A large part of the coastal land on both sides of the Forth is dedicated to golf.

Felt, tissue paper, bondaweb, hand stitching, modpodge, Golden fluid acrylic paint. recycled dyed scrim

63

Liza Green

64

Janet Kilkerr

I love the oystercatchers that nest each spring on the salt flats and tidal salt marsh.

COTTON, VOILE, MACHINE AND HAND EMBROIDERY

65

Nathalie Cortada

I use recycled and unconventional non precious materials to create three-dimensional objects.

I let the materials guide my work through an almost hypnotic state to create texture.

66

Annie Milazzo

My square includes all my family's favourite things about this part of the coastline including Tantallon Castle and the Bass Rock.

ACRYLICS, COLD TEA, SHELLS FROM GULLANE BEACH, APPLIQUE, FABRIC

67

Sonia Wilson

Inspired by an imaginary stained glass window in the 9th century Church of St Andrew in Gullane, abandoned after sandstorms filled the church.

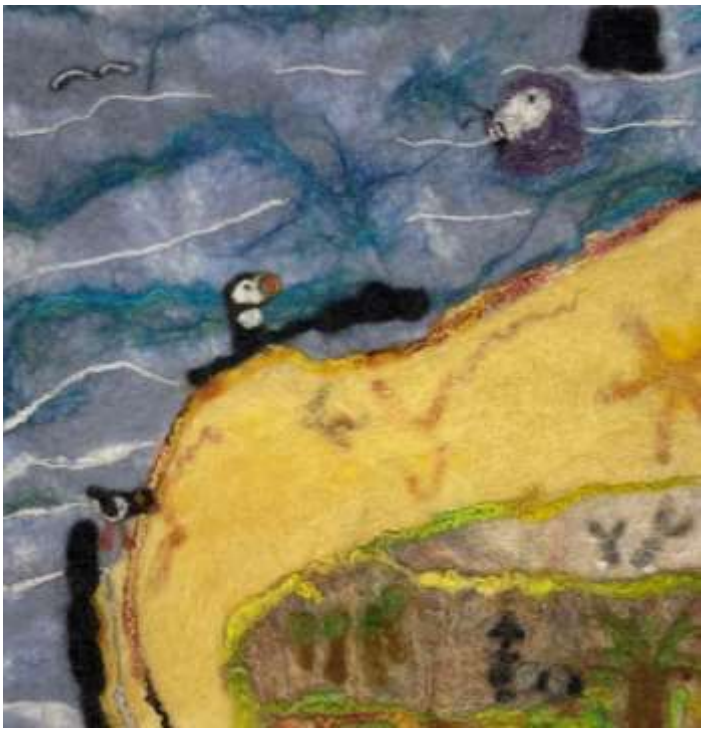
ACRYLIC PAINT, INDIAN INK AND EMBROIDERY THREAD

68

Jennie Loudon

I reflect the wave patterns in the sand, the blowing, shifting sand of the dunes, the bleakness of the golf course and the busy grid of the village.

PAPER, ECO-DYED COTTON AND STITCH



69

Judith Batson

An opportunity to give something back after reaping so much pleasure from the shoreline and beaches over many years.

MERINO WOOL USING TECHNIQUE OF WET FELTING AND NEEDLE FELTING

70

Juliet Flockhart

When my grandchildren visit they are always on the beach, rockpooling, swimming, picnicking. It is a great recreational lung.

COTTON QUILTING, APPLIQUE, WADDING, FREE MOTION QUILTING

71

Suzanne Trew

Inspired by the islet of Eyebroughty and the contrast between the texture of the rocks and the sea The islet is a bird sanctuary.

FUSIBLE WEB, ACRYLIC PAINTS. MACHINE EMBROIDERY, WOOLLEN FELT PEBBLES, HAND EMBROIDERY

72

Teresa Scott

A great diversity of terrain, natural history, and human heritage captured my imagination in ways similar to my home waters of Puget Sound, where Native Americans have lived since ancient times.

BATIC FABRIC FLANNEL STITCHERY AND TEXTURAL EMBELLISHEMENT

73

Louise Shields

This coast has been a big part of my family life. Wonderful memories of fun family times, including our own 'loony dook' on New Year's day.

FELT, BEADS, OLD CASHMERE JUMPERS, EMBROIDERY THREAD

74

Janet Shepherd

75

Anabel Cano

Reflecting the natural beauty of this area and the huge significance of golf in Scotland.

QUILTING AND HAND EMBROIDERY. TEXTILE COLLAGE, MIXED MEDIA

76

Jenny Findlay

My imaginary version of what it feels like to swim in the sea at Yellowcraigs. Whenever I think of here I think of the wonderful flora: grasses, echiums sea and golden sand.

SCREENPRINTING, PAPER STENCILS, PIGMENT FABRIC DYE PASTES, TORN PAPER AND GRASSES FROM MONO PRINTS OF ACTUAL GRASS

77

Maggie Morrison

This square was made using foraged plants and kitchen dyed calico. What a joy to do!

ROLAM STITCHED BY HAND WITH SHIBORI AND KANTHA INFLUENCES.

78

Nicky Sanderson

I found out about the wreck of HMS Ludlow, built as a steam-powered destroyer in Philadelphia in 1917. Her demise was caused by RAF target-practice

ACRYLICS, MONO-PRINT TISSUE PAPER, CORNSTARCH, OIL PAINT AND PVA

79

Susan McEwan

The sky and sea are a multitude of greys, blues and whites, the palette warmed by the colour of the sand.

Muslin with withdrawn threads, plastered then painted. Painted scrim, sawdust, dyed and machine-stitched felt

80

Sue Reynolds

The skies are amazing at any time of the year and there are always lots of Topper Boats bobbing around.

Layered fabrics, silk tops, wool. Machine and hand embroidery

81

Wendy Irvine

Inspired by fun family trips to this stunningly beautiful historic town, beautiful beaches, fun boat trips to the Bass Rock, ice cream and shopping.

FREE MOTION EMBROIDERY, UPCYCLED SEA ITEMS DEPICTING POTENTIAL POLLUTION THAT MIGHT HARM THE SEA LIFE

82

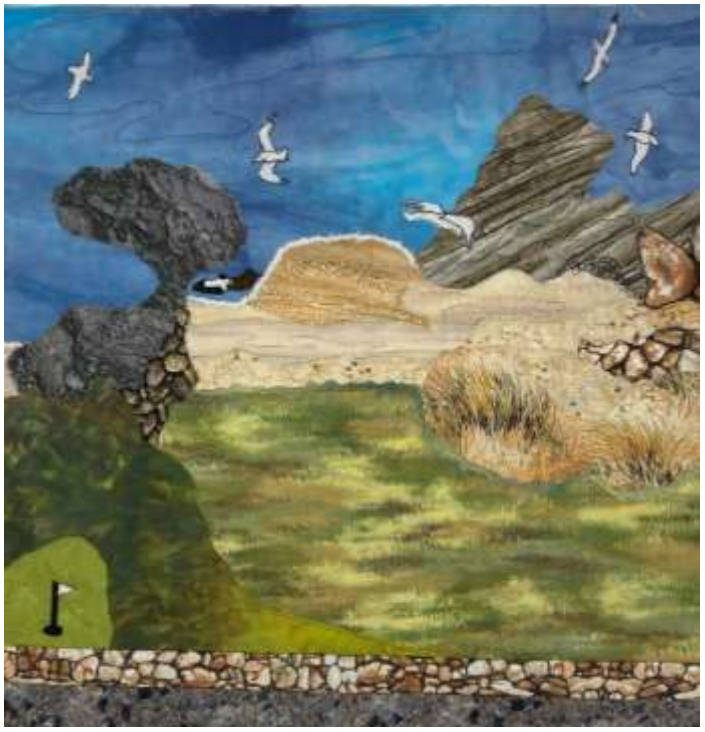
Julia Dunbar

Inspired by childhood seaside trips, I was grateful to learn about the local ecology and wildlife at the Scottish Seabird Centre.

THREADS, STONES, FELTED WOOL, PAINTS

83

Pamela Veale



84

Joanna Maguire

85

Ali Webster

Some of the finest rockpools I have visited are along this coast – a wealth of sea creatures and seaweed, colours, textures, dynamic and intricate ecosystem.

WET FELTING AND NEEDLE POINT FELTING, FREE-MOTION EMBROIDERY AND FABRICS

86

Leonie Alexander

The thing about the sea is that you can't really tell what's going on under the surface. Seascapes can look beautiful even if the marine system is degraded.

OIL PASTELS, SCRAPS OF MATERIAL, ALUMINIUM DRINKS CANS DUMPED AFTER USE, SUPER GLUE

87

Jo McNamara

Electric bluebell woods, fallen castle stones and shoreline stranded bird wrack.

ACRYLICS AND INK

88

Sitar Rose

Seacliff with fantastic geology, a great example of a shore platform formed by wind and wave erosion in the carboniferous age. At one end the smallest working harbour in Scotland.

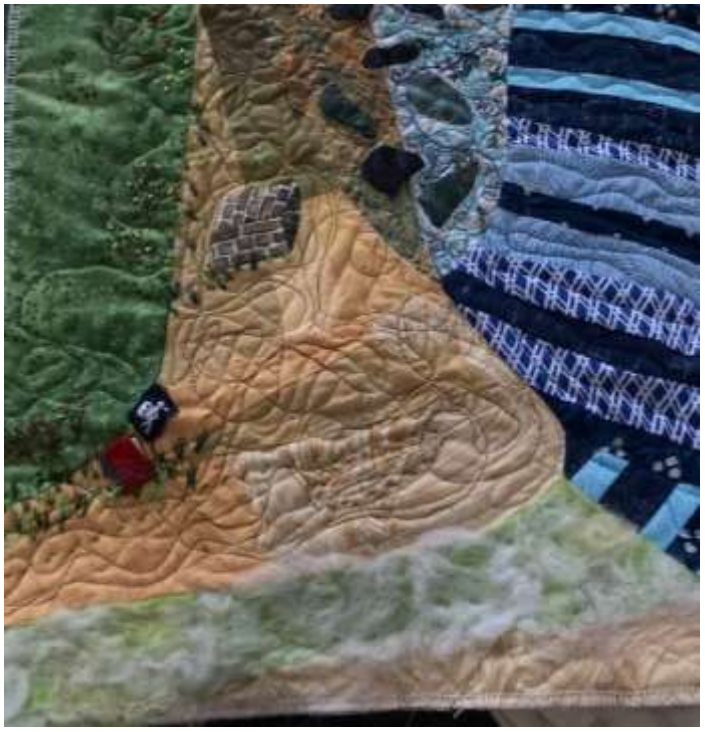
EMBROIDERY, SCRAPS, SEAWEED AND SHELLS FROM SEACLIFF

89

Jay Kirkland

Mention of Jupiter and Saturn by Roddy Martine. The Pagans of Scoughall, influencing Robert Louis Stevenson and less romantic stories about the negative impact of ghost-gear and underwater sonic /seismic activities on marine mammals.

ACRYLIC, WATERCOLOUR PAINTS DIGITAL COLLAGE



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Susan Prior

Scoughall's link to Robert Louis Stevenson who spent time there as a child, inspired the child's plaything. The anti-tank block fallen onto the beach, exposing brickwork beneath concrete, add a different history

FABRIC, THREAD

From all walks of life ....

Potter

Rock Pool Guddler

Butterfly Spotter

Theatre Prop Maker

Teacher

Mellow cyclist

Community Midwife

Father

Wild Swimming Group

Hospital Worker

Great great granddaughter of Christian Salvesen

Dressmaking Teacher

Landscape Artist

Grandmother

Disabled Student Teacher

Metal Smith

Marine Biologist

Dental Hygienist

Textile Artist

Research Scientist

All wanting to make a difference....

Environmental Animator

Learning Disability Group

Lego Fan

Lawyer

Keen photographer

Retired Music Teacher

World Traveller

Documentary Filmmaker

Finance Person

Playgroup Teacher

Print Maker

Retired Music Teacher

We worked with people at end of life and with people living with dementia

Family

Born in the USA

Daughter

Bi-cultural Archaeologist

Russian Graduate

Interested in learning more about each square?

You can explore more of the story of each square, its crafter, and their approach by visiting our website:

Edinburgh Shoreline Project

We considered printing paper copies of the leaflets that people could take home from the exhibition, but were concerned about the amount of paper and ink used, and the message about looking after our planet – especially as we expect many thousands of visitors during the 10 week exhibition run.

Instead, please enjoy learning the stories of each square using the exhibition polly pocket guides. We then offer two options for when you are back home:

Access the summary exhibition leaflets to read, print or download

https://edinburghshoreline.org.uk/forthline-project-rbge-exhibition-leaflets/

Read the full stories behind the squares, including how each was made, and info about the creator

https://edinburghshoreline.org.uk/forthline-project-watch-our-art-work-take-shape/

Interested in getting involved in our next projects?

We can offer two options

Volunteer to get involved in the Restoration Forth Project

https://edinburghshoreline.org.uk/restoration-forth/

Volunteer to get involved in our '100 species' science and art project

https://edinburghshoreline.org.uk/100-species/

With huge thanks to the incredible artists and crafters who contributed to this exhibition

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Botanic Garden
Edinburgh