Welcome to Newbattle Abbey Crescent

Wildflower Meadow
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This leaflet is distributed by the committee of the Newbattle Abbey Crescent Residents Association (NACRA).

We hope it will not only welcome you but also help to introduce you to this area.

The aims of NACRA are to provide information and represent the views of the residents to local authorities on issues that affect the whole of the estate. NACRA also works to facilitate in the provision of social occasions such as the annual bonfire night.

We invite an annual subscription of currently £3 to enable this work to be carried out. We also ask for a £2 subscription to enable NACRA to provide local snow clearing of junctions and road within the estate.

You can keep up to date with NACRA on our website and by opting into our email news-flash service and electronic Newsletter distribution.

Our website is www.newbattleabbeycrescent.wordpress.com
Our email address is nacra.committee@gmail.com

Other Local Information
Midlothian Region
www.midlothian.gov.uk

Eskbank and Newbattle Community Council
www.eskbankandnewbattlecc.com

Esk Valley Trust
www.eskvalleytrust.org
An introduction to our history.

Newbattle Abbey Crescent is a much admired parkland development built in an area with a long history.

The land was sold by the Marquis of Lothian to the Tyneside Land and Property Company in 1968 before being sold on to John T Bell and Sons Ltd (later Bellway). Until the 1930’s, when the land was taken over for use by the Army during the Second World War, it was the home of Newbattle Golf Club founded in 1880.

The name of course is derived from nearby Newbattle Abbey founded in 1140 by a group of Cistercian monks from Melrose Abbey who were given a charter by David 1st. King David also founded the other great Border Abbeys of Kelso, Jedburgh and Dryburgh.

The origin of the name is ‘new botel’ or new settlement as it was a “daughter” of Melrose Abbey. It took nearly 100 years for the Abbey Church to be completed when it was dedicated to St Mary and consecrated by the Bishop of Moray in 1234. The immediate environs of the Abbey were surrounded by a wall – the Monkland Wall that can still be seen coming down from Eskbank to the Abbey gates. The two main sources of trade for the monks were extracting coal from the outcrops exposed on the banks of the South Esk and salt panning at Prestonpans.

In 1385 the Abbey was burnt by Richard II, rebuilt and burnt in 1544 for the second time by Hertford during the ‘Rough Wooing’ of Henry VIII. Princess Margaret Tudor stayed at Newbattle in 1503 crossing the South Esk at the Maiden Bridge built by the monks in the late 15th Century. During her visit to the Abbey James IV of Scotland visited her just prior to their marriage.

The last Abbot of Newbattle, Mark Kerr, turned Protestant in 1560 and expelled the monks. His son, also Mark, was given the Abbey lands and created Lord Newbattle in 1591. The property remained in the Kerr family until 1937 when it was given along with the grounds by the 11th Marquis of Lothian (a title created in 1701) to be used as an Adult Education Residential College.
King George IV visited Newbattle in 1822 on his tour of Scotland encouraged by Sir Walter Scott and in his honour the King’s Gate was built and an avenue of trees planted – the King’s Lines. The King’s Gate can be seen at the West pedestrian entrance of the estate leading off the A7 while the remnants of the King’s Lines can still be seen along the main driveway of the Crescent. In recent years NACRA planted new trees along the driveway to safeguard this heritage.

The King’s Gate

Little remains of the original Newbattle Village which was never very large and near the entrance to the Crescent can be seen the old Sun Inn (17th century) with the sun symbol still visible on the gable end. The sun is one of the heraldry marks of the Kerr family. The Inn was the first stop outside Edinburgh on the old Edinburgh – Carlisle road. When a new road (now the A7) was built in the 1820’s, the Sun moved to its present situation at Lothian Bridge and the old inn became a dwelling house.

The old bridge beside the present Newbattle road dates from the 16th century. The present Newbattle Church was built in 1727 to replace an older one behind the Monkland Wall opposite. Beside the church was the manse, now Newbattle House. It is thought that the manse of the original church now known as Archbishop Leighton’s House was behind the Monkland Wall. Robert Leighton later Archbishop of Glasgow was minister of Newbattle from 1641-53.
NAC Services
A mobile library comes on a Tuesday at lunchtime.
A fishmonger from Port Seton visits the estate every Thursday around lunchtime.

Bin days are currently Blue bins/red boxes and Grey bins/Brown bins alternate Tuesdays early morning
Food waste is collected weekly early Friday morning.
Basically Tool Hire on Newbattle Road beside the bridge gives a 50% discount to NAC residents.

Local shopping
The area is well served by supermarkets and within the immediate area you will find Tesco at Hardengreen, The Cooperative in Newtowngrange and Morrisons and Lidl in Dalkeith.
Our nearest convenience store is Eskbank Trading Past on the Lasswade road from the Eskbank roundabout.

There is an ironmonger in Newtowngrange Main Street and a DIY/ironmonger in Jarnac Court, Dalkeith.
A little further afield there is ASDA, Sainsbury and IKEA at Straiton Retail Park near Loanhead as well as several well-known High Street names.

Local Garages
W&J Short Bonnyrigg Road for repairs, fuel, car and van hire.
A car repair shop is located opposite the Sun Inn at Lothianbridge.
There is a bike repair shop in Station Road Newtowngrange, Mutts Cycles, (0131 629 3350).
Facebook page (facebook.com/muttscycles)

Local Transport
First Bus X95 service stops at the main entrance going into Edinburgh via Eskbank and on the bridge on Newbattle Road going to Galashiels, Selkirk, Hawick and Carlisle.
Timetables can be obtained at www.firstborders.com or 01324 602 200
Lothian Buses service 29 stops on Dalhousie Road (A7) near the King’s Gate. Travel to Edinburgh via Tesco (stop opposite the gate) or to Newtongrange and Gorebridge (stop King’s Gate side of the road). Timetable details from www.lothianbuses.com/timetables

The Borders Railway is now operating from the station at Hardengreen (park and ride access by the Edinburgh College entrance). Timetable information - www.scotrail.co.uk or www.scotborders.gov.uk

Midlothian Explorer Service 527 operated by Prentice Coaches 01620 822620. Information from www.visitmidlothian.org.uk/explorer-bus

Local Churches
Church of Scotland
Newbattle Parish Church (includes Newtongrange) www.newbattleparishchurch.org

Baptist Church Dalkeith www.dalkeithbaptist.org.uk

St David’s Roman Catholic Church Dalkeith www.stdavidsdalkeith.co.uk

Scottish Episcopal Church (Anglican) St Mary’s Dalkeith www.stmarysdalkeith.org.uk

Hall/Room Hires
Kirkbank Centre at Newbattle Church
Newbattle Abbey College

Local Media
Midlothian Advertiser and Edinburgh Evening News.
Black Diamond FM 107.8 www.blackdiamondfm.com

Food and Drink
We are well served by a variety of eating places in Dalkeith and the surrounding area. Our two local restaurants are The Sun Inn at Lothian Bridge and the Justinlees Pub and Restaurant at Eskbank.
Places of interest nearby

Dalkeith Museum
Located in the Corn Exchange [www.dalkeithcx.org](http://www.dalkeithcx.org)

Scottish Mining Museum Newtongrange
Guided tours of the Lady Victoria Colliery.

Newbattle Abbey College [www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk](http://www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk)

Cousland Smiddy Trust
There has been a working smiddy in Cousland for 300 years. The forge has a tenant blacksmith. The cottage hosts a collection of local history. [www.couslandsmiddy.co.uk](http://www.couslandsmiddy.co.uk)

Rosslyn Chapel Roslin 1457
Featured in the Da Vinci Code [www.rosslynchapel.com](http://www.rosslynchapel.com)

Roslin Castle 14 –15th Century and Roslin Glen with Riverside walks

Dalkeith Palace (former home of the Duke of Buccleuch and owned by the family) The house is not open to the public as it is currently an overseas campus for Wisconsin University but there are nature trails and walks within the Palace grounds The park contains remains of the old Caledonian Oak Forest. [www.dalkeithcountrypark.co.uk](http://www.dalkeithcountrypark.co.uk)

Melville Castle 1788 former home of Lord Melville, now a hotel

The Collegiate Church of St Nicholas Dalkeith 1420
Now St Nicholas Buccleuch Parish Church

Crichton Castle 15th and 16th Century near Pathhead. Owned by Historic Scotland

Crichton Church 16th Century near Pathhead [www.crichtonchurch.com](http://www.crichtonchurch.com)
Dalhousie Castle – now a hotel.

Vogrie Park near Gorebridge. Riverside and country walks

**Sport and Leisure**
Ageing Well Activities for 50+
0131 561 6506 or [www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/200158/ageing_well](http://www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/200158/ageing_well)

Newbattle Golf Club
[www.newbattlegolfclub.com](http://www.newbattlegolfclub.com)

Newtongrange Star Football Club
[www.newtongrangestar.net](http://www.newtongrangestar.net)

Dalkeith Thistle Football Club
[www.pitchero.com/clubs/dalkeiththistle](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/dalkeiththistle)

Dalkeith Rugby Football Club
[www.pitchero/clubs/dalkeithrugbyclub](http://www.pitchero/clubs/dalkeithrugbyclub)

Lasswade Rugby Football Club
[www.pitchero/clubs/lasswaderugbyclub](http://www.pitchero/clubs/lasswaderugbyclub)

Dalkeith Tennis Club
[www.dalkeithtennis.co.uk](http://www.dalkeithtennis.co.uk)

Midlothian Indoor Bowling Club Dalkeith
0131 660 3223

Newbattle Bowling Club
0131 663 0728

Dalkeith Bowling Club Ironmills Park
[www.dalkeithbc.com](http://www.dalkeithbc.com)

Buccleuch Bowling Club Kings Park Dalkeith
[www.pitchero/clubs/buccleuchbowlingclubdalkeith](http://www.pitchero/clubs/buccleuchbowlingclubdalkeith)
Dalkeith Floral Art Club
Meets on third Thursday evening in the Masonic Hall Bonnyrigg
www.safas.org.uk/Dalkeith

Dalkeith Singers
Meets Thursday evening at 7:30pm in the St Nicholas Buccleuch Church Hall.
www.dalkeithsingersonline.org.uk

Rough and Ready Choir
Meets in Newbattle Abbey College at 5:00pm on Wednesdays
www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk

Seranata Women’s Choir
Meets on Thursday’s 7:30 – 9:30pm in the Kirbank Centre
Newbattle Church
Contact morag.sherriffs@gmail.com

Newtongrange Silver Band
www.newtongrangesilverband.com

Dalkeith Arts Community Group
www.dalkeitharts.org

Midlothian Camera Club
www.midlothiancamera.org

Dalkeith Photography Club
www.clubs4uk.co.uk/photography/midlothian-dalkeith-photography-club.html

Dalkeith History Society
www.dalkeithhistorysociety.org

Midlothian World History Society
Meets Second Tuesday evening at 7:30pm
in St Nicholas Buccleuch Coffee shop September - April
Organisations
Dalkeith Scouts (12th Midlothian St John’s)
St John’s Kings Park Church Hall
www.midlothianscouts.com/groups/12th

Dalkeith Boy’s Brigade
1st Dalkeith Boy’s Brigade
Fridays in St Nicholas Buccleuch Church Hall
www.1stdalkeithboysbrigade
www.facebook.com/1st-Dalkeith-Boys-Brigade

Girl Guides
www.girlguidingmidlothian.org.uk

Really Useful Contacts!

Community Police Officer: call 101

Lawfield Estates (owners of the land around the edge of estate, at King’s Gate, and along the river, regarding things like trees overhanging gardens, hazards on the river bank): Davidson & Robertson Rural: 449 6212

Planning Permission (special conditions apply to the estate because it’s a conservation area and it takes up to 2 months to complete): 271 3302 or development.management@midlothian.gov.uk

Forestry Commission Scotland
(for Lord Ancrum’s Wood): John Ogilvie, 07877- 822525

Flooding from the estate’s mains drainage systems: contact Eric Todd (on the estate) in the first instance 663 4781

Bus Shelter condition and information boards: Travel Team 561 5445, or ptu@midlothian.gov.uk

Refuse Collection, bulky uplifts, special collections, street cleaning: call 561 5284
Recycling Helpline: call 561 5284

Roads, Potholes, Pavement, Street Lights: call 0800 232323

Dog Fouling: call the Environmental Warden, 271 3555

Lady Lothian’s Woods