

JOHN MUIR EARTH, PLANET, UNIVERSE

INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

In 2019, the Climate Emergency prompted the Friends of John Muir's Birthplace to seek to work together with other groups in Dunbar to focus on Muir's role as an environmental activist and campaigner and his relevance for our situation today.

Since then, COVID-19 has changed everything.

The exhibition was always intended to be a catalyst to a series of events and activities in conjunction with other local groups and projects.

The pandemic is helping us to understand the ties that bind us on a global scale, the fragility of our economic systems and how vulnerable they leave so many people. Recovery from COVID-19 must create a better, fairer society.

Designed before the pandemic, many of the themes being explored in the exhibition are even more relevant now. More than ever, we find ourselves with a unique opportunity to reflect on what is important and what sort of future we want to create.

We are collaborating with Sustaining Dunbar to ask 'What if?' questions to spark people's imaginations for a positive vision for the Dunbar and East Linton ward in the context of the climate emergency and our desire for a just and equitable community that values wellbeing for all.

The goal of the 'What If' project is to: inspire a plan for community-led action for Dunbar and district to be *"a home to thriving people, in a thriving place, while respecting the wellbeing of all people, and the health of the whole planet"*.

In this way, the exhibition is just the beginning....



Friends of John Muir's Birthplace would like to acknowledge the assistance of

Liz McLean and Duncan Smeed
Emma Westwater of Source Design
Heather Christie for What if illustration
Sustaining Dunbar

To learn more about What If project please visit our website:
www.sustainingdunbar.org/projects

Sustaining Dunbar is a 'Community Development Trust', which supports and nurtures local projects that serve the community of Dunbar, East Linton and the surrounding area.

To find our more please visit: www.sustainingdunbar.org