



Friday 8th September 2023

Hi Folks,

Welcome everyone to this week's Roundup. We hope you are well and have been enjoying this week's lovely weather!

This week, we've got a reminder about our upcoming Garden Party, an overview from the Scottish Fundraising Conference, and Kiltwalk and Garden Updates.

Garden Party - Friday 22nd September!



A reminder that our **Garden Party** will be taking place on **Friday 22nd September** from **2.30-5pm!**

We are looking forward to us all getting together as a team and celebrating our lovely garden as we move into the harvest season. You are welcome to bring along some food to share if you can - but we're sure we will have plenty to go around!

You can RSVP by [clicking here](#) or get in touch with [Sarah](#) for more details. There's also a sign-up sheet on the front desk, in case you want to see what others are bringing. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Scottish Fundraising Conference

This week, Emily (Fundraising Manager) spent two days in Glasgow at the Scottish Fundraising Conference. It was a fascinating (and tiring!) couple of days, with sessions focussing on individual giving, developing successful corporate partnerships, opportunities and challenges of digital fundraising, legacy fundraising, the importance of brand development, and strategies for small charities.

If you would like to hear more about the event or our own fundraising plans, or would like to get involved with helping with fundraising, please **let Emily know!**



Monday Lunches at the Hibernian Community Foundation - can you help?

Some of you very kindly volunteer on a Wednesday to support the Community Lunch Club at Easter Road with our partners at the Hibernian Community Foundation. For the next month or so, they are looking for some extra help on a Monday - could you help? It would be on a Monday lunchtime from around 12pm to 2pm at Easter Road (the Hibs Stadium). The shifts have been added to RotaCentral starting from Monday 11th, so you can either sign up there or let Janet know if you would be able to help out.

Kiltwalk - Sunday 17th September



Just over one week to go! Susan, Janet, Jane, Luke, and Emily are getting ready to walk a combined 90 miles on Sunday 17th September!

It really helps us if you can share our social media posts about the Kiltwalk to get the word out and help with fundraising - please do share with your networks if you can!

We're aiming for an ambitious £5k fundraising target as a team, so the more you can [share our link](#) the more chance we'll get there.

News from the Garden



“Hello from the hot and sunny Garden! Lovely weather this week has been helping the last of the tomatoes to ripen up. We've cropped lots of Kale, some lettuce, and courgettes which we will give out on Friday to people that come for the free lunch.

Our wee robin pal has been keeping us company, and there's been loads of butterflies and bees enjoying the wild flowers and nasturtiums.

Next week we are going to sow some neeps and other winter veg that will go into the polytunnel once the tomatoes etc are finished. Fingers crossed for some more warm weather to keep everything growing happily - autumn will be with us soon!”

Once again, thank you for all your support this week and wishing you all a wonderful weekend!

[Mike](#), [Janet](#) & [Martin](#)

P.S. Do please let us know what's on your mind by email at et@emptykitchens.co.uk or just come and have a chat.

THE NOTICE BOARD

Volunteer Services & Rota Central

Shift availability is now live for September and October for all departments.

Gardeners and those considering coming along, please note that the Monday & Thursday shifts will continue all the way through September.

We will again be attending the annual **Volunteer Edinburgh Volunteer Fair** and would welcome your support on the stand if you have an hour or two to spare. Sarah, our Volunteer Coordinator, is leading the day so let her know if you are interested in coming along either when you are on site next or drop her a note

sarah.hutchison@emptykitchens.co.uk The date: **Wednesday 13th September**. The venue: **St Paul's & St George's on York Place**.

If you are not receiving the Wednesday rota email or you are but the role(s) are not the one(s) you signed up for, do let us know.

Let us know if you wish us to add or remove roles, have any volunteering or shift queries or problems with Rota Central or are leaving us.

Contact us via the WhatsApp channel (07918 121606) or to **Volunteer Services** at volunteer@emptykitchens.co.uk Our **Volunteer Coordinator**, Sarah, can be contacted on sarah.hutchison@emptykitchens.co.uk

Health & Safety

Thank you all who were on site when we conducted the recent practice evacuation drill. The evacuation went well and two more are scheduled for the early autumn.

Our focus on handwashing continues.

Please remember to not take whites and aprons into the bathrooms, and leave them inside before heading out to enjoy the garden on the fine days.

If stepping outside for a cigarette or vape, can we ask that you distance yourself from the building - there's plenty of space on the greens for example, and certainly away from the kitchen windows.

Board of Trustees

If you are interested in attending future Board meetings (the next one is on 19th September) do let the Secretary, Sam, know.... sam@emptykitchens.co.uk

Membership:

We always welcome new applications to be Empty Kitchens Full Hearts Members! As a Member, you have oversight of what we do, you'll influence strategy, and be voting on matters of constitution and governance including electing our Trustees. Members' meetings take place approximately twice a year, so we hope it's not too big a commitment! You can always come and talk to us about it if you'd like to know more before you apply...

Registration forms are available from the Welcome Desk. New Membership applications will be reviewed at the next Board meeting in September.

Kitchen Assistant Programme

We have more places available for our **Kitchen Assistant Programme!** The programme is run in association with Edinburgh College (Granton) and offers the opportunity to develop practical kitchen skills in a supportive environment with us in Granton, alongside taking an accredited course '[Introduction to Cookery and Hospitality Skills](#)' at the Edinburgh College Granton Campus.

The course at Edinburgh College involves a time commitment of 2-3 days (a maximum of 16 hours) per week for 6 months, starting on **August 28th 2023**.

Alongside this, we ask for a commitment of approximately 2-3 shifts (four hours each) per week here with us, but there is flexibility about the days of the week on which these hours take place.

If you know somebody who would be interested, please get in touch with Mike. The programme is supported by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Content Corner:

- BBC Radio 4: [The recent UN summit focused on the global food system](#)
- BBC Radio 4: [Ultra-processed foods](#)
- BBC Farming: [Lauriston Farm](#)

