

IVS International Voluntary Service

Young people across Edinburgh secondary schools help the city

Over 80 young people from 7 secondary schools have teamed up with the Waters of Leith Trust as volunteers, helping clean up Edinburgh's popular 25 mile long waterway.

For the past 3 December weekends, groups of young people from Leith, Drummond, Trinity, Broughton, Craigmoynton, the Royal High Schools in Edinburgh and also Auchterarder High School in Perthshire have been cleaning paths, walk-ways, creating drainage to help stop flooding and been working in the woodland to maintain local wild-life. The group have been directed by Emily and Charlotte, Water of Leith Trust staff.



Volunteering along the river has been the culmination of coming together weekly, in mixed school groups, to take part in the International Voluntary Service's "Fighting for Peace," programme. This is a 14 week peace education, global citizenship and volunteering programme. In Fighting for Peace, young people from different schools are brought into the same classroom for the first time and with the help of the IVS Team they explore a variety of Peace Education topics including peace, conflict, human rights, cultural diversity, environmental sustainability, global citizenship. Through volunteering, young people discover the value of citizenship and care for wild-life and so groups of 20+ young people helped sustain winter homes for natural habitat along the river, as well as provide a clean space for Edinburgh citizens to enjoy.



IVS's Fighting for Peace programme enables young people to talk to each other about issues that are important to them, aiming to contribute to a culture of peace, knowledge and understanding among young peers. This approach embodies the International Voluntary Service's ethos of tackling social discrimination and prejudice by bringing diverse individuals together to work and learn how to positively contribute to the local community.

Contact

Helen Wass-O'Donnell, Development Director, helen@ivsgb.org 07885979026 or as below

International Voluntary Service

Volunteering for Peace and Social Justice

Thorn House, 5 Rose Street, Edinburgh EH2 2PR

t: 0131 243 2745 e:info@ivsgb.org www.ivsgb.org

Registered Charity no.275424 England & Wales; Charity Registered in Scotland SC039585 Company Limited by Guarantee