

### Juniper Green 300 Reflection 3

What surprised you about the year? Where do I begin? Perhaps with that rendition of the psalm! Some people were surprised to find out how old their house is and that they were then able to find out about its history; some were surprised to find out that there is a place called Baberton House! Others were amazed to find out what lay behind 14 garden walls in August thankfully only partly in the rain; or to see an otter in the Water of Leith, or the kingfisher. Perhaps the most surprising thing of all was the extraordinary response from so many people to the whole event: the many individuals who were willing to tell their stories of growing up in Juniper Green and these fascinating stories can be found on the website; the huge number of people who wanted to come to the history talks or wanted to walk round the village to learn more about its history and nature.

What made JG300 special?

Everyone will have their own memory of the year, but here is a selection of some:

- The whinny of the horse at the beginning of the Gala Day
- The entire gala day, bathed in sunshine, the only dry and sunny Saturday in June!
- The person who discovered in the exhibition that the telephone on display had been in their best friend's house
- Art in the Park, watching children recreate bronze age pots
- People who hadn't met for a long time sharing childhood memories
- Sharing memories of the War with children from the school who seemed to be fascinated by it all.
- The ceilidh last night
- 2 otters on the Water of Leith reported again very recently.

Over and above all of these special personal memories, it was made special by the fact that so many people took part in the events, people of all ages. JG300 has been an event which has allowed people to make new friendships; it has been a time in which people have worked together to produce events; it has been a year in which some have become part of the community in a new way. The people have made Juniper Green 300 such a good year!