

Call for Volunteers! SAM Community Dig 29 August to 1st September

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To launch Scottish Archaeology Month 2011 [Archaeology Scotland](#) is holding a community excavation in East Lothian from Monday 29 August to Thursday 1 September.

The excavation is being carried out by kind permission of [National Trust for Scotland](#) at Newhailes, a late 17th Century property on Newhailes Road to Musselburgh. The excavation will explore the remains of the Shell Grotto and artificial pool and cascade within the gardens of the property.

The excavation crew will consist of a core team of professional archaeologists from Connolly Heritage Consultancy, National Trust for Scotland and Archaeology Scotland and recruits from the local area.

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Archaeology Scotland is now taking bookings for anyone interested in taking part in the excavation. Places on the dig are open to anyone 18 years of age or over. No previous experience is necessary and training and equipment will be provided free of charge; however, places are limited so pre-booking is essential!

The dig will culminate in a fantastic day of activities at the official launch on Thursday 1st September when you can experience a Viking encampment, learn about Geophysics and take part in hand-on workshops and estate tours. There will even be a mini-dig for children who are a bit too young to get in the trenches!

Scottish Archaeology Month is a month-long festival of free archaeological events which takes place every year around Scotland. It is supported by Historic Scotland and with [Doors Open Days](#) is Scotland's contribution to European Heritage Days.

For more information on how to get involved or to book your place, contact Dr Mags McCartney

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