

## **River, an artwork for Dunpender**

**East Lothian Council Arts Service** commissioned four artists, on behalf of the Dunpender Community Council, to create an artwork for East Linton, with funding from Miller Homes as part of the **Percent for Art Policy**.

Joel Baker (mosaic), Kate Henderson and Anita Pate (glass) and Robin Wood (wood) are four artists who live locally and were selected by a working group from Dunpender Community Council to collaborate on the new public art work for the public park in East Linton. The artwork has been constructed from Douglas Fir, cast glass and pebble mosaic.

The artwork consists of three wooden standing stones; the tallest around seven feet, placed within a circle of pebble mosaic and stonework which refer to the flow of the River Tyne. A seat is formed between two of the standing stones, which are aligned to catch the Summer Solstice sunrise and sunset. Each standing stone has its own title ***River***, ***Settlement*** and ***Inspiration*** and this reflects the area, allowing the artists to create imagery for the glass work and feed into the marks for the wood and patterns for the pebble mosaic.

### **River**

The imagery is drawn from the passage of water rushing, foaming and cascading along the riverbed, turning the mill wheels. Pools of calm, contrast with the rush of currents while stone shapes are picked up from the mosaic. The artist used an intense blue that sparkles, ebbs and flows around falling bubbles within the glass.

### **Settlement**

All around East Linton is evidence of ancient settlement. There was a Roman Horde of silver found on Traprain Law, burial cists at the Knowes and reputedly the King's grave was marked by the Loth Stone. This area is anchored by the influence of agriculture also represented in the imagery.

### **Inspiration**

The achievements of three famous sons of the village are celebrated here. Imagery is drawn from the technical drawings of John Rennie, the inspirational engineer behind such great projects as London Bridge and the Crinan Canal. The Millwright and Inventor of genius, John Meikle's Threshing Machine literally changed the farming industry forever - cogs, belts, ropes and pulleys create a tension and excitement in this piece. Reference is also made to the work of landscape artist Robert Noble RA. especially his paintings of the Tyne, *The Lynn Jaws* and *After the Spate* together with tall willows and apple blossom completing the picture.