

Town history woven in art

By Sarah Roger
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THIS Saturday sees the culmination of three years of work between Christine Borland and Deveron Projects with a special showcase event.

Throughout the three years Christine has worked on Flax (2019-21), Flax Turns (2021-2022) and Foundation Cloth (2022) – all touching on Huntly's history in the linen trade.

This Saturday's event, called Flax Turns Foundation Cloth, will be a celebration of each of the projects, featuring performances, talks and a special display from Huntly's Scottish Country Dancers.

Throughout the project, Christine, together with many brilliant collaborators, has grown, processed, spun and woven flax into linen.

These communal experiences of growing and hand-working flax have brought together a myriad of connections between ecology, heritage, learning and archiving.

From remote growing of flax in allotments and gardens across the country during lockdown, to a huge celebration of flax at the



Christine Borland's Deveron Projects work called Flax is coming to an

Huntly Hairst in 2021, the project has taken the town's heritage as a centre of Scotland's linen trade during the late 18th century as a starting point to reveal complex and still-present histories and relationships.

Flax Turns Foundation Cloth will be taking place on Saturday,

September 24, from 10am to 6pm in the OAP Hall, with tickets free but limited.

To book your ticket, or to find out more information about the programme and the projects, head to www.deveron-projects.com/events/flax-turns-foundation-cloth/



Enjoying the sunshine during one of Christine Borland's talks.

Also from Deveron Projects in the next few days is the monthly Food Chain cookery workshop in Square Deal, taking place on Monday, September 26, from 6pm to 8pm.

This month, the art organisation's Erasmus Intern Dina Salimi will be sharing how to cook Fesenjan – a Persian chicken stew with pomegranate and walnuts.

The dish originates from her home country of Iran and reminds her of her mother's cooking and her father's home city of Saveh in the north of Iran, which is famous

for its pomegranates.

"Whilst we cook our Fesenjan all together, we'll learn about the current protests happening in Iran in which many women are fighting for their equality and freedom," said a spokesperson. "Come along to show your support for Iranian and Kurdish women and to learn how to cook a delicious favourite dish of Dina's."

To book your space email jess@deveron-projects.com. For more details visit the website www.deveron-projects.com/square-deal/whats-on/food-chain-fesenjan



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