

# KIRKY NEWS

Website: [www.kirkliston.org](http://www.kirkliston.org)

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## "TWO MANY" SCHOOLS ??

The Community Council, the School Board and Cllr Longstaff are amongst those who have previously expressed reservations about the proposed development with 610 houses on the North edge of the village. Rory Davies, Chairman of the School Board, now writes: - "The intention is to create a new school in the development with about 1 class per year, and also retain the existing school, with about 2 classes per year. The catchment areas for the two schools would divide the enlarged village into East and West, and we agree with the Community Council in opposing this. Our unanimous view is that a second school as proposed would divide the community, whereas a single school would help to integrate the old and new parts of the community. We believe that in this, the city-based Council has not given enough consideration to the village nature of Kirkliston. If a second school is genuinely required, the Council should consider alternatives to the normal 1 or 2 classes per year. For example nursery and younger primary pupils could be on one site and older pupils at the other. With sensible start/finish times, and Safe Routes to Schools families with pupils at both schools would be able to manage. We have taken every opportunity to press this argument with the Council, by making representations to the initial enquiry, and by sending a delegation to the Council meeting in April. We were disappointed that this has so far appeared to fall on deaf ears.

You can find the current proposals ("North Kirkliston Development Brief – Draft for Consultation") at the Library, or by searching the Council website ([www.edinburgh.gov.uk](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk)) for "North Kirkliston Development". The proposals are becoming more detailed (and less changeable) by the month, so please have a look at them and comment individually and as organisations. However, the opportunity to comment on the present plans to Sarah Hartop (469 3934) or by email or post, expires very soon and time is fast running out. The deadline for written submissions is 18 August so you must take any action **NOW!** You can also contact Cllr Longstaff at 529 4974 or [john.longstaff@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:john.longstaff@edinburgh.gov.uk). Although the Council has not been as active as it should have been in telling us about this, "ye ken noo"!

## FROM THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Kit Campbell of Campbell Associates presented a paper on Allison Park. He informed the Council they had been asked by Miller Homes to assess the extent to which it may be necessary to provide complementary sports facilities in the event that the Company decides to seek to develop the football pitch at Allison Park for housing. Kit Campbell explained that the park is owned by Hopetoun Estate but leased to Edinburgh Council, and that the lease was due for renewal or expiry in the near future and that Hopetoun was considering its options, one of which is to seek to sell the site to Miller Homes for development. The Community Council agreed with one of their conclusions that there could be a loss of amenity as a result of a housing development on land that is part of an established area. Kit Campbell's 22 page report is available for perusal in full at the Council Offices.

The Council also expressed their disappointment at the repeated failure of police officers to attend Council meetings. While they appreciated that it was not always possible for an officer to attend in person, it was felt that a written report should be made available to the monthly meetings.

### *Come and Try*

#### **REIKI MASSAGE THERAPY RELAXATION TECHNIQUES**

Saturday 26 August 2006  
10 am – 4 pm  
Taster Session Day

**KIRKLISTON LEISURE CENTRE  
0131 333 4700**

£6 for a 20 minutes session  
Book early to choose your time

## AIRPORT DROP IN SESSION

We have been given another chance to learn more about the latest plans. Information will be available at the Community Centre on Wednesday 16 August between 7 and 9 pm. Come along and speak to those in the know!

## COMMUNITY CENTRE UPDATE

**Young People:** The Senior Youth Club for people in S1- S3 will restart on Wednesday 23 August from 7-9 pm. The cost will be 50p.

For a week in the holidays, primary aged children came to drama workshops to do a "Play in a Day" and gave excellent performances of their plays in front of an audience of parents and other family members.

For the older young people, there has been a joint programme for Kirkliston, South Queensferry and Ratho Station of "Adventure Unlimited" which has been a variety of sessions of outdoor activities, an evening trip on Maid of the Forth and Multisports at the Leisure Centre.

**Open All hours:** Open All hours had a break over the summer and will be restarting towards the end of September. Look out for local advertising for the start date.

**0-4 Drop-In Parent and Child Group:** The group had a two week break in the summer and will restart on 16 August. It is held Mondays and Wednesdays between 9 and 11.30 am. It is a place to play with your children aged 0 to 4 and meet other adults.

**Community Learning:** The computer courses for beginners will restart in September and those who have put their names down for a course will be contacted once the times of them are arranged.

In June, 16 people attended and passed the two day course on Food Hygiene, learning how to handle food and cook food safely.

We are planning a course on "Everyday reading, writing and numbers" starting end of September. The course can be wide ranging, from eg "how to help children with homework" to "understanding or writing letters" to "filling out forms etc". If you are interested in this course, a first aid course, or the computer courses please ring Anne or Aileen at the centre on 333 4214.

In May, the centre won a scanner in the draw for completed evaluation forms at a Silver Surfers Open Afternoon. To use it, do contact the Centre.

In June, we held a very enjoyable Fruity Friday afternoon, when everyone enjoyed smoothies and healthy snacks kindly provided by the Edinburgh Community Food Initiative. The children who came were shown how to plant an apple tree in a pot and how to sow seeds.

## NEWS FROM QCCC

Without commitment and enthusiasm of our volunteers QCCC would not have been able to grow and develop and it was great to express thanks and celebrate Volunteers' Week with a social evening, which proved tremendous fun.

Currently, we have vacancies for Volunteer Befrienders. As a befriender, you would be matched with an older person who is socially isolated. We would arrange for you to visit this person in their own home on a weekly or fortnightly basis. You can expect all necessary training, on going support, expenses and be part of a friendly team. **Interested?** Speak to Lorna on 331 5570. If you know of an older person who would benefit from the Befriending Service, call Liz or Lorna.

A Leap of Faith was taken by six volunteer abseillers when they braved the Forth Bridge on 9 April. The event raised in excess of £3000. Currently there is one place remaining on a second abseil arranged for October. If you would like an opportunity to experience abseilling and could raise a minimum of £100 in sponsorship contact Evelyn on 331 5570. To abseil, you need to be at least 16 years old, (age 18 and under would need parental consent).

## LIBRARY NEWS

**School Holidays** are drawing to a close but there is still time for children of all ages to join the Reading Mission at the Library. Register there for a "Top Secret" reading mission pack and rise to the challenge of reading 6 books by 2 September to receive a personalised certificate, a medal and a special secret agent's invisible ink pen. Every child completing the challenge will also be entered into a prize draw with prizes including family tickets to Dynamic Earth, Deep Sea World and Odeon, Wester Hailes.

Our regular Storytimes for under 5's continue on the last Saturday of every month from 10.30 -11am. We have a small number of regular story lovers but would really like to welcome some new faces at our next Storytime on Saturday 26 August. No need to book a place, just turn up!

Librarian Roy Drury, is participating in this year's Pedal for Scotland sponsored cycle ride from Glasgow to Edinburgh on Sunday 27 August in support of the Leukaemia Research Fund. The route brings riders through Kirkliston. If you spot him give him a cheer and a wave. If you would like to sponsor Roy you can do so online at [www.justgiving.com/roydrury](http://www.justgiving.com/roydrury) or simply hand over your donation at the library.

The adult readers' Book Group continues to provide monthly evenings of interesting chat and discussions. They are currently reading "Labyrinth" by Kate Mosse, and will meet to exchange views on this book on Wed 30 August at 7.00 pm. Forthcoming titles include "Perfume" and "The Mermaid and the Drunks".