

KIRKY NEWS

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ISSUE No 23
MARCH
2008

New crossing cause for concern

The Scottish Government decided in December that a second Forth crossing would be a bridge to the west of South Queensferry. But you may not be aware that the road is planned to run south through the areas of Humble Farm and Overton Farm to join the M9 west of Kirkliston. The route to and from the north will also link to the B9080 (Kirkliston to Winchburgh road).

The preferred route will be developed in more detail in 'early 2008', but potential route details are on the Transport Scotland website at www.transportscotland.gov.uk

Kirkliston Community Council will be meeting other local councils to consider the impact. It will then make representation to Transport Scotland, Councillors and MSPs. It is not yet clear what the planners will do to seek local opinion or when the next chance to object formally will be.

A cleaner Kirky

The new Kirkliston Environment Group have already completed several clean-ups across the village, removing huge amounts of litter.

A special mention must go to Eva Wallace in P2 at Kirkliston Primary who came up with the winning logo design for the group. Well done Eva!

There are two more clean-ups coming up soon: 15 March outside Kirkliston Nursery and 19 April starting from Maitland Hog Lane; meet at 10am. If you are interested in knowing more about the group, or would like to help out at future events, contact Iwan Thomas, Park Ranger, on 07990 787026 or park.ranger1@btconnect.com.

Finally, keep your eyes on the community garden at Manse Road. Just before Christmas, children from Kirkliston Nursery planted 1,000 bluebells. They should be making an appearance shortly...

Libraries4YOUth project

The Libraries4YOUth project to improve library services to teenagers and young adults in Kirkliston is now well under way.

A new Teenzone will be completed at the end of April and will feature additional computers, games consoles including PS3, X-Box 360 and Nintendo

Wii, an i-tunes facility and an incentive-based teenage reading scheme.

Two groups are learning film-making skills and aim to produce short films which will be screened at the Filmhouse in July. There is still scope to join the film-making sessions on Friday afternoons.

A Comic Strip and Cartoon Masterclass will take place in the library on 1 April, 2pm to 3.45pm. The class will be led by Kev Sutherland, who has worked on *The Beano* and *Viz*, amongst others. Suitable for 10+ years, reserve a place by contacting the library in person or on 529 5510.

Under fives storytimes

The library would like to hear from parents/carers who would be interested in attending storytimes at the library. What would be the best time or day?

Jeff moves on

After 11 years at Kirkliston, Jeff Balfour has moved on to Balgreen Library. Staff and library customers would like to thank Jeff for his huge contribution to Kirkliston Library.

Gala appeal for memorabilia

The Gala Committee are appealing for photos, film, dresses – anything to do with the Gala. To mark the Gala's 80th anniversary, the Committee are hoping to have a memorabilia day and coffee morning on 7 June at the Church Centre.

Great care will be taken of any items borrowed and will be returned to you after the day. If you can help, contact Margaret Mayer on 07525 646826.



Beginner's Piano Tuition

Piano instruction for beginners (under 18s) is available, my home or yours. Come along and learn, one-to-one lessons in a relaxed and enjoyable style.

Contact Ella on 07800 974145

Please email news, views and announcements to kirkynews@hotmail.co.uk, call 333 3586 or write to us at Kirky News, c/o Kirkliston Community Centre, 16-18 Queensferry Road, Kirkliston EH29 9AQ.

Scouts are back

Calling all boys and girls aged between 10½ and 14. Would you like to learn something new and have fun at the same time? Why not try scouts? Meet every Friday evening from 7pm to 9pm during term time at the Scout Hut on Newliston Road. For more details call Peter on 333 0799.

Easter Sunday Service

Kirkliston Parish Church and Bellevue West Community Church are holding a joint open air service in Allison Park on Easter Sunday, 23 March, at 3pm. Hot dogs and refreshments will be served at the end of the service.

New Christian Action Bus for local youngsters

Kirkliston Church have recently purchased a van and modified it to become a Christian Action Bus (cab). The van will give youngsters the opportunity to take part in activities such as scripture reading, listening to music, wordsearch and craft activities. Initially the bus will go out one evening a week, stopping off at various locations. The first outing will be at the Easter service in Allison Park.

Blue Light Disco

The next Blue Light Disco will be on 15 March at Thomas Chalmers Hall (Kirkliston Church Hall).

Queensferry Churches Care in the Community

Queensferry Care is looking for volunteers to visit people in their own homes and offer a friendly ear. Training provided. Please phone Lorna Russell at the Haven on 331 5570 or email mail@qccc.org.uk. Forthcoming events include a ceilidh in Kirkliston Bowling Club on Saturday 10 May 2008, 7pm til midnight. Tickets £8, including two-course supper, available shortly – look out for posters, or reserve tickets on 331 5570. 12 May, annual charity golf tournament at Dundas Parks Golf Club. Further information available soon from the Haven or from Rob Keating.

News from Kirkliston Community Centre

Quiz night – eight teams took up the annual Quiz Challenge on 8 February. Although a closely run thing, the shield was once again won by The Mouldy Old Cheesetowners. Congratulations to everyone for a great night.

Quite a performance – more than 50 people enjoyed the amusing one-act play, *Rubbish*, by Cecilia Rose on 14 February, performed by the Citadel Arts Group. The play was specially written for an older audience.

Kirkliston Community Centre

Annual General Meeting – this year's AGM will be held at the centre on Monday 26 May at 7pm. All welcome.

Kirkliston 0-4s – drop-in group for parents/carers, Mondays and Wednesdays, 9am to 11.30am.

Senior youth club – Wednesday evenings, 7pm to 9pm for S1 to S3. Cost 50p.

Computer classes – broaden your skills by joining the free and easy computer classes starting in April on Tuesday afternoons and evenings.

Safer surfing course – new course for parents of nursery and primary school children starting in April covering safe internet and mobile phone usage, games/sites on the internet for children, types of internet sites and things to be aware of when children use chat rooms.

Everyday reading, writing and numbers – provides the chance to brush up reading, writing and/or number work or if you just want to keep up with what your kids learn at school.

If you are interested in any of the above courses or if there are any other classes, groups or events you would like the centre to put on, drop in to see Anne, or phone 333 4214.

Happy retirement Aileen

Aileen Kells is retiring from the Community Centre this month after 21 years. Staff, committee and users of the centre will miss her very much and wish her a very happy retirement.

Thank you to departing *Kirky News* editor

Thanks to Yolande for editing and laying out the last few editions of the *Kirky News*. We wish her and her family all the best in their new home.

If you're interested in helping with layout, editing and proofreading, please contact Anne at the Community Centre on 333 4214.

Readers' letters

Dear Editor,

The new bus link from Livingston to Ocean Terminal via Kirkliston can cut journey times significantly, making it possible to beat the traffic jams into Edinburgh! However, the service may be withdrawn due to insufficient demand.

Nordi Bus 603 stops on Station Road and travels to Ocean Terminal via Barnton and Queensferry Roads. It is a quick and pleasant journey useful for anyone who works in east Edinburgh/Leith. The service also stops at St John's Hospital on route to Livingston. You can use the 'One Ticket' travel pass. Timetables are available from Kirkliston Library, Post Office and Newsagent.

If the bus becomes more popular, the four-times-a-day service may become more frequent. Go on - give it a try!

James Coyle, Kirkliston