

KIRKY NEWS

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LEISURE CENTRE UNDER THREAT

Edinburgh Leisure are facing significant funding cuts from Edinburgh Council and, as a result, they are looking at cutbacks. The closure of Kirkliston Leisure Centre is rumoured to be an option. The Kirkliston Community Council petition collected over 1,000 signatures opposing the closure. This petition has been presented to Edinburgh Council. More information about the campaign can be found on the KCC website: www.kirklistoncc.btik.com

LOCAL LAD ON TOP FORM

While most sports enthusiasts were embroiled in the World Cup in South Africa earlier this year, a young Kirkliston sportsman had his mind on a different ball game. 22-year-old Gavin Watt of Newmains Road, a member of the Scottish international volleyball team, was in Andorra, participating in the qualifying stages of next year's European Championships.

Scotland finished top of their group, earning them a place in the finals next March.

Watt's talent with the national side and his club, City of Edinburgh, has not gone unnoticed. After an invitation to travel to France recently (where volleyball is much more popular and regularly attracts large audiences), the former Queensferry High pupil left in September to start a new professional career with the Amiens club, near Paris.

KIRKLISTON FLOWER SHOW

The Kirkliston Community Council 39th Horticultural and Craft Show, aka the Flower Show, was held at the Kirkliston Community Centre on Saturday 4 September 2010.

The committee and helpers spent much of Friday evening and Saturday morning arranging the exhibits, so that once entries closed they were ready for the judges. Committee members then began the arduous task of recording the judges' verdicts and processing them into prize lists and envelopes of prize money. Later, key people were invited to lunch at the Newliston Arms.

The show was opened to the public at 2.30pm by Lynn Paterson, Headteacher of Kirkliston Primary School, following which, aided by Councillor Norman Work, she presented the prizes. Although there were slightly fewer entries than the previous year's record, the judges were impressed by the overall standard of the exhibits, in particular from the nursery and primary schools. The photography sections for various age ranges were strongly supported from three years old upwards.

Thanks to numerous sponsors who as usual provided prizes and financial support, entry to the show was free. Trophy winners were:

Community Association Plate: highest overall points in show – Robert Brechin

John Drysdale Memorial Trophy: runner-up to CAP – Irene Whittaker

Community Council Rose Bowl: flowers section overall points – Tom Milne

DB Marshall Trophy: vegetables section overall points – Robert Brechin

Charters Cup: industrial section overall points – Irene Whittaker

Community Council Art Cup: art section overall points – George Gowans

Committee Quaich: craft section overall points – Aleisha Chalmers and Corine Maxwell

Community Council Figurette: photography overall points – Peter Marsden

Maurice Pearce Memorial Cup: best exhibit in flowers and vegetables – David Buchanan

Youth Club Trophy: youth section (ages 14-18) overall points – Aleisha Chalmers

Junior Cup: junior section (ages 8-13) overall points – Samantha Tulloch

Mackie & Brechin Cup: childrens' section (up to 7) overall points – Sean Maxwell and Gracie Wallace

GET IN ON THE ACT

Following on from the very well attended public meetings in May this year, Kirkliston Community Council agreed to set up five working groups to look at the big issues; HGVs, housing developments, buses, the Forth Replacement Crossing and the local council offices. Four of these groups are now up and running, but they are looking for members of the community to join the Lorries working group. The first meeting will be held in the Community Centre at 7pm on **Tuesday 5 October**. All welcome. For more information, contact mark_elder@tiscali.co.uk

FAREWELL TO ANNE

For the last five years, Anne Patterson has been a mainstay of the Kirkliston Community Centre. With many years' experience in youth work and health promotion and education, Anne worked hard organizing classes and overseeing facilities.

It was with some surprise that many learned that the youthful-looking Anne had reached retirement age. She will be sorely missed but we wish her much happiness in her well-deserved retirement.

KIRKLISTON ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Kirkliston Environment Group (KEG) are planning to have their first litter pick of the season on **Saturday 16 October**. Please meet at 10am at the Pavilion in Allison Park where they plan to tidy up the Millennium Woodland area. KEG are also planning to plant springtime bulbs again this year on **Saturday 23 October**. If you would like to come along, please meet at 10am in the Path Brae area.

KIRKLISTON LIBRARY

Space Hop

Large numbers of children had great fun taking part in this year's Summer Reading Challenge. As well as getting various goodies in return for reading six books, children enjoyed events on a space theme.

Teenage Event

Young people attended an event on Digital Music Production in the library, which was very successful.

Chatterbooks

Our children's book group has resumed after the holidays. As a result of the group's first meeting in the new term, there is a fantastic display of "Mythical Creatures" in the children's area.

Book Festival Author

As part of the Edinburgh International Book Festival's Outreach Programme, Kirkliston Library will host a visit by the author Lucy Coats, attended by an invited audience of local schoolchildren.

Bookbug Sessions

Rhyme and story sessions for under 3s and their carers (formerly known as Rhymetimes) continue to take place in the library on the first Tuesday of the month, 1.45pm to 2.15pm, and on the third Friday of the month, 10.30am to 11am. Just come along!

Book Group

The group meets on the last Wednesday of the month, 7pm to 8pm. New members welcome.

Library Link

The Library Link service is a free fortnightly Friday morning minibus collecting anyone who has difficulty getting to the library because of disability or infirmity. Have a cup of tea and a chat, with time to choose books and CDs. For more information please contact the library on **0131 529 5510**.

RELOCATION RELOCATION

Work continues to progress relocating Kirkliston Local Office services jointly within the library. Up-to-date designs are now available in both the library and the local office.

Local representatives from the Community Council and Kirkliston Parish Church have joined the Project Team to look at making the changes as effective as possible. Other members of the Project Team include Margaret Meechan, Karen McKay, Ewan McCormick and Eleanor Gaw from the West Neighbourhood Team.

The West Neighbourhood Team are keen to make sure that local residents know they will still be able to access the current range of Council services, including making payments for Council Services (rent, council tax etc), reporting faults and making enquiries as well as making use of the different library services.

You will be still be able to register births, deaths and marriages, however there are no plans to conduct weddings. Storage will be kept for Santa's sleigh and the history group, as well facilities for the local gardening club. The West Team lead for this project is **Margaret Meechan**. Contact her on **0131 529 7440** or at **westteam@edinburgh.gov.uk**

DORCAS LUNCHES

The Dorcas lunches have started again and take place every Tuesday in the Parish Church Centre from noon until 2pm. The organisers hope to see you there – whether you come for the first time, or are a regular, you can be assured of a warm welcome.

NOT YOUR CUP OF TEA?

The fortnightly Tea Dances held at Kirkliston Leisure Centre have proved a big hit with enthusiasts from all over Edinburgh, West Lothian and even Lanarkshire. Yet only four local residents take part. The Tea Dances take place on the first and third Thursday of each month from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Join in ballroom, modern sequence and line dancing, or just come along to listen and tap your toe to the amazing big band sound of Duncan McBain. Tea, coffee and biscuits provided. Cost £2.50.

EASY LIKE SUNDAY MORNING

What better way to shake off the stresses of the week than with two hours' stretching and relaxing at the Sunday morning yoga class at Kirkliston Leisure Centre. A small class size ensures plenty of individual attention but if numbers cannot be maintained, this valuable class may prove unsustainable.

KILOMATHON

The Kilomathon, a 26.2-kilometre road race between Ingliston and Fife, is coming through Kirkliston, resulting in several road closures on the morning of **Sunday 3 October**. Unfortunately, this will impinge on the Parish Church's Harvest Thanksgiving service, while an error on the official route map could cause extra problems for everyone in the Boland Estate.

GAS TO GATESIDE

Gateside residents are delighted to see that work has finally started on the long-awaited and eagerly anticipated mains gas supply to the estate.

If you have anything to include in the next (Christmas) edition of the Kirky News, please email the information to **kirkynews@hotmail.co.uk** by **13 November**.