

KIRKY NEWS

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MORE HOUSES?

You can't help but notice that the North Kirkliston housing development has begun in earnest and, love it or loathe it, the noise, mess and disruption will be with us for some time to come.

As part of the initial plan, an area of ground was set aside within the development for a new primary school. A wide range of local groups, including Kirkliston Community Council (KCC), fought against the building of a second school and instead campaigned for an extension to the existing Kirkliston Primary. This campaign was successful, and work will hopefully begin on the extension in the near future.

However, the developers would like to take the area of land no longer needed for the new school and build more houses on it – another 60 to 70 in addition to the 610 already being built. KCC are totally opposed to this, and are campaigning for the land to be ring-fenced for community use – for example a park or a new community centre – something of benefit to the whole village.

The developers have organised a series of exhibitions in the Library (March 11, 12 and 14) to publicise their plans. KCC urgently asks you to stop by the Library, view the plans, and tell the developers what you think. 610 houses in a village the size of Kirkliston represents an enormous over-development and will almost double the size of the village overnight. A further 60 to 70 simply takes the biscuit. Kirkliston is already choked with traffic for large parts of the day and the extra 1,000 plus cars that the North Kirkliston development will bring to the area will only make things worse. Please do what you can to let the developers know of any opposition to this proposal – and make sure that you fill in a response sheet so that your views are recorded.

Community Council meetings are also a useful way of making your voice heard. Open to all, they take place the last Tuesday of every month, usually in the Library. Please be aware that the March meeting will be at the Community Centre.

Further updates will be published on KCC's website at www.kirklistoncc.btik.com

DORCAS CHRISTMAS LUNCH RESCHEDULED

The annual Dorcas Christmas lunch was one of many events that had to be cancelled or postponed due to snow at the end of last year. Supporters will be pleased to note that instead, there will be a special charity lunch on **Tuesday 5 April** from 12noon in the Church Centre. Costing **only £7.50 for three courses plus tea and coffee**, this is definitely a date for your diary.

COUNCIL SURGERIES' NEW VENUE

Please be aware that Cllr Norman Work continues to hold his 'surgeries' on the second Monday of the month but the venue is now across the road in the Library.

He would also like it to be known that plastic bottles and household batteries are now on the list of items for kerbside collection. Further information is available from the council website (www.edinburgh.gov.uk).

KIRKLISTON COMMUNITY GARDENING ASSOCIATION

With the collapse of the greenhouses during the severe winter weather, the Garden Club is being wound up and the members would like to thank all who have supported the plant sale over the years.

GET READY FOR SWITCHOVER

In June 2011 the traditional, analogue TV signal will be switched off and replaced by a new, stronger digital signal – the process known as digital switchover. Digital UK, the independent government agency in charge of this process can offer free, impartial advice to help residents get ready for this process. Visit the Digital UK website at www.digitaluk.co.uk or phone **08456 50 50 50** for more information or look out for their leaflet dropping through your letterbox this spring. Eligible older or disabled people can get practical help to switch to digital TV from the Switchover Help Scheme. The Help Scheme is run by the BBC and can be contacted by phoning **0800 40 85 900** or visiting www.helpscheme.co.uk

KIRKLISTON CHILDREN'S GALA DAY UPDATE

The draw for the 2011 Queen and court has now taken place and the new Queen Elect is Kelsey King. Congratulations go to Kelsey and all the new court. Full details of the 2011 court can be found at www.kirklistongala.co.uk

Ellen Mavor will be crowning this year's Queen. Ellen has been asked in recognition of the service and contribution she provides to the village as well as an acknowledgment of the very kind donations and support she has given to the Gala Day for many years.

Planning for the Gala day is now well underway with some different bands and acts booked and a number of fundraising events are planned over the next few months.

Saturday April 2: Race Night & Disco, Newliston Arms, 7.30pm. Tickets £3 from Louise McLeod or Lisa Mackay **07747 813966**.

Tuesday April 19: Easter Coffee & Craft Morning, Community Centre, 10am to 12pm. Teas/coffee and home baking for adults while the children have a chance to make some easter crafts.

DOES KIRKLISTON HAVE TALENT??

The Gala Committee is considering holding a **Kirkliston's Got Talent** event. Depending on the number of entries, there would be a series of rounds with a public final taking place during civic week and the winning act performing live on stage on Gala Day.

Anyone who has a talent of any sort is encouraged to take part. There are no age restrictions so everyone is welcome. Before the event is organized, all interested acts need to register. Application forms can be found on the website (www.kirklistongala.co.uk) or you can call Lisa on **07747 813966**.

NEXT EDITION

The deadline for announcements and news articles for the next Kirkly News is May 20 2011. Please email your copy to kirkynews@hotmail.co.uk

NEW COURSE FOR WORKING IN A CRÈCHE

Are you interested in working with children? Then this **Introduction to Crèche Work Course** could be for you! A free, eight-week, informal course, with crèche, will be running in May/June in Kirkliston. The course looks at basic child development, the importance of play and working in a childcare environment. If you are thinking of starting work after having your own children or you want a change of career or perhaps you just want to learn something new, this course could be the first step. More details on time, dates and venue to follow. For information call Melinda Peto on **0131 339 5351**.

KIRKLISTON LEISURE CENTRE

Kirkliston Leisure Centre is opening its doors earlier for gym users from April for a trial period. The gym will be open from 7am, Monday to Friday. All other facilities will be available from 9am as usual.

The Leisure Centre is also waiving the joining fee for new members on the weekend of **April 2** and **April 3** and **any existing members who refer a friend will receive one month free (available throughout April only)**.

After the success of the February trampolining camp, another will run in the second week of the Easter Holidays, Monday to Friday, 10am to 12noon.

Due to demand, another trampolining session will be added to the programme from April on a Thursday from 4.30pm.

The popular half term **'play any sports for £1 between 12noon and 3pm'** will run again in the Easter Break.

GATESIDE TENANTS' & RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Gateside Tenants' & Residents' Association is holding its next meeting on Wednesday **9 March 2011** at Kirkliston Library from 7.30pm to 9pm. Come along and support your community. For more information, go to **www.gateside.btck.co.uk**

IN MEMORIUM: HAZEL BOX

More than one generation of Kirklistoners will have fond memories of Hazel Box who recently passed away. She was popular with both pupils and parents in her long career as infant teacher at Kirkliston Primary School.

KILOMATHON SCOTLAND

Thousands of runners will charge through the streets of Kirkliston as the second Kilomathon Scotland takes place on April 17 2011. The metric marathon race, run over 26.2km or 16.3 miles, starts in Ingliston and takes competitors over the Forth Road Bridge and back. Some 2,000 runners competed in last year's inaugural event which generated a wonderful atmosphere thanks to the support of the neighbouring community, with many local runners taking part. Entries are still available for as little £5 for those teaming up with official charity partner Cancer Research UK. There is also a half-kilomathon, and a 2.6km mini-Kilomathon for youngsters, making it a great day out for the whole family.

Entries for the chip timed event are still available until April 14.

For further information please visit the website **www.kilomathon.com/?scotland**

WINE AND CHEESE EVENING

The **KIRKY NEWS** editorial team hosted a wine and cheese evening at Kirkliston Community Centre in late February. The event was to say a big thank you to all the deliverers who do a sterling job getting the **KIRKY NEWS** to your door. We would like to thank Scotmid for their generous donation in support of what turned out to be a very enjoyable evening.

FORTH RAIL BRIDGE ABSEIL JUNE 19 2011

QCCC is a voluntary organisation providing day care and home support services to older people and those with dementia in the Queensferry, Kirkliston and Ratho areas.

Queensferry Rotary are organising an abseil and have given 60 places to QCCC. It is hoped this event will raise £10,000 to support their work with some 300 vulnerable adults and their carers.

Would you like to join the abseil team and help QCCC reach their target?

This is a unique opportunity to abseil from one of the world's most iconic landmarks.

For more information and to book a place either for yourself or a group of friends, email **david_wp52@hotmail.com** or **tel 0131 331 5570** (leaving a message for Janet Wemyss).

COMPUTING CLASSES

The Library will be running computer classes for beginners starting shortly. For details, call **0131 529 5510**.

BOOK GROUP

The Library Book Group continues to meet on the last Wednesday of every month from 7pm to 8pm. New members are always welcome.

BOOKBUG

Free story, song and rhyme sessions for babies, toddlers and pre-school children in the Library on the first Tuesday of every month 1.45pm to 2.15pm and the third Friday of every month 10.30am to 11.00am.

CHATTERBOOKS

New session of Chatterbooks for P4s and P5s starts in the Library in April. Limited spaces available, so please contact the Library if interested.

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. It is a friendly and social morning with an opportunity for chat, refreshments and time to select books or music. If you or your friends/family would benefit from this service please get in touch with the Library on **0131 529 5510**.

Reflexology is both an art and science that has been in use since ancient times. It is a holistic non-invasive therapy based on the principle that the hands and feet represent an entire map of the body. Pressure is applied to either the hands or feet in conjunction with soothing strokes to help the body maintain its homeostatic balance.

It is a very relaxing therapy benefiting various conditions whether related to physical emotional or mental stress. Reflexology assists in removing blockages and toxins, restoring balance throughout the body, as well as promoting improved circulation and energy levels. It may assist in nervous system conditions, digestive complaints such as IBS, endocrine imbalances such as PMS, respiratory problems as well as general aches and pains. It aims to strengthen the immune system making us less likely to become ill and can help fatigue and insomnia.

Maternity Reflexology may help expectant mothers deal with minor ailments and often helps labour to begin at full term. For more information about reflexology visit my website

www.reflexologyfeetfirst.co.uk or take advantage of my £20 special offer. **Tel Lisa on 07837793232**