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Kirky News

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Post Office

Although our item in the last Kirky News prompted a response from people interested in running the post office, by January our branch was perilously near to closure. Les Mitchell was so concerned that he arranged a meeting of various parties involved at which the Post Office representatives insisted that any facility would have to be within a retail outlet. Following this meeting, Raz agreed to continue providing the service meantime but he can only do so if he gets more business to cover his extra wage bills. Make no mistake -- more support from the community is essential if we are to keep a post office here!

Sight Checks

Local resident John Cross started to see "floaters" - small pieces of debris that float inside the eye. He said: "I had occasionally seen a floater before when I was reading - it would move as my eye moved - but this time there were five or six of them and my eye felt slightly dodgy." He went to his optician and was referred to an optometrist the same day. He, in turn, sent John straight to the Edinburgh Eye Pavilion, where tests were conducted resulting in him being admitted the same evening. Two days later, after an operation to re-attach his retina, he was told that, if it had not been for the speed with which his condition was recognised, he might have lost his sight. Thank heavens", John said, "everything is now fine. My advice to anyone who feels they have a problem with their eyes is to head to your optician right away. They are the ones who know."

Village/Scout Hall

Kirkliston Village Hall Association was awarded £56,500 from the Scottish Land Fund (created by the Big Lottery) to help purchase land at Manse Road, pay for legal fees, architect and project manager. They also hope for future lottery funding once the building plans have been reviewed with the expectation of applying for planning permission by the middle of this year.

The Scout Group continues to fund raise with the recent 'bag pack' at Tesco raising £1100 and continues with a race night in the Bowling Club on 25th March to which all are welcome. Get your tickets from **Pam Hull - 0131 333 1570** or by email - pamalmondhill@gmail.com. Also twenty one volunteers are abseiling from the Forth Bridge on the **28th of May** to raise much needed funds for the project.

QCCC

On **Friday 31 March 7pm-10pm**, an Indian Masterclass Exclusive cookery class will be held at Edinburgh School of Food and Wine, Newliston. It should be an evening of lively foodie chat along with plenty of delicious tasters and a glass or two of wine. For tickets at £40 each, **contact Carol on 0131 331 5570** or carol.findlay@qccc.org.uk

Is abseiling on your bucket list? Register for the **Rotary event on Sun 28th May**. Minimum sponsor amount is £145 for QCCC, who will provide refreshments, T shirts and lots of support on the day. Visit www.rcsqsales.org.uk/register/qccc-registration

Country Dance

The Scottish Country Dance Club is now into its spring session with dancing every Tuesday evening from **7.30pm to 9.30pm till April 4th**.

A dance, to Lindsay Weir's band, will be held on **Saturday 11th March** in the Thomas Chalmers Hall, tickets £7. The AGM, the final Tuesday evening meeting, will be on **18th April** and will be followed by dancing from 8pm to James Coutts' Band.

Memory Research

Kirkliston resident Dr Michael Craig, a memory researcher at Heriot-Watt University, is looking for volunteers to join a new research project funded by the Alzheimer's Society.

The project is due to start in Spring 2017. Volunteers would be asked to perform a memory test, whereby they would be presented with a set of photos and later tested on their recall as well as being asked to perform some other tests to assess their memory. To take part you should be aged 60 years or older with no known memory problems, brain injury or diseases on your medical record. The research will take place in a single session lasting one hour at Heriot-Watt University. Time and travel expenses will be reimbursed.

To volunteer for the research project or for further information **contact Michael at m.craig@hw.ac.uk (preferred) or phone 0131 451 8009**.

Christmas Lights

Edinburgh City Council backed out of providing Kirkliston with illuminated lights at Christmas and it was only due to the valiant efforts of the Gala Day and Community Council that we had lights. To ensure we have lights in future years and to extend them to other parts of the village a new group has been formed to raise funds and to oversee the project.

Easter at Parish Church

April 9 'The way of love' Palm Sunday 10.30am

April 13 - Holy Communion 'Love in the dirt'
Maundy Thursday 7pm

April 14 'Suffering Love' Good Friday 7pm

April 16 Easter Sunday Sunrise Service 7am
'He is risen'

Service at Craigies Farm, then bacon rolls and coffee

April 16 **Easter Sunday 10.30am**
'Everlasting Love' Family Service

SWI

The Rural continues to meet in the Community Centre on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

February was a milestone when the entertainment was provided by the Rural's very own Calendar Girls. Sorry if you missed itthey were spotted and have their first booking!!

All attention is now on the forthcoming Federation Show at the end of March.

In April Billy Carruthers from Binny Plants will give advice and ideas for all gardening enthusiasts and perhaps encourage others to love their gardens too. May is the dreaded AGM but, in Kirkliston, this is always a fun evening and there is never a shortage of volunteers wanting to help for the aim of Kirkliston Rural is to support members and have fun.

Santa Donations

At last month's Community Council meeting a cheque for £500 was presented to David Pomfret of QCCC. This represented the £468.86 collected during Santa's Christmas Eve sleigh ride, rounded up by the Council. David thanked everyone for their generosity, and outlined how the money would be used to provide invaluable care in our community

Alzheimers Fundraising

Laura Storrier along with her fiancé John, his sister Kathleen and partner Daniel, recently organised a fundraiser night at the Clermiston Inn on behalf of Alzheimers. They were motivated by John's father having been diagnosed with early onset dementia at the very young age of 49. The event, with many raffle prizes including signed footballs and shirts and a speaker from the charity, was a great success and raised over £1500 for Alzheimer Scotland - enough to keep a dementia café running for over two years! Laura, who works for the Scottish Ambulance Service, said: "I feel it is important to get more recognition for Alzheimer Scotland as many don't understand its effect on families unless they have experienced it personally. Dementia is brutal for both the person suffering from it and for their families."

Gateside

The Tenants & Residents Association is holding a Medium Night with Avril Melvin and her friends in the Newliston Arms on **Fri 28th April at 7.00pm**. Tickets are £5 and can be obtained from Paul Vaughan or other committee members.

Community Church

Saturday 18 March 09.00 Big Breakfast Seminar - Breakfast followed by a seminar on 'Make-believe Or Reality? Does Christianity Make Any Sense In The Modern World?' Tickets are free on Eventbrite.

Monday 10 - Friday 14 April. 10.00 - 12.00

Easter Holiday Club - for P1 - P7 children, this year has a superhero theme. Play games, tell jokes, sing songs, hear bible stories, eat snacks and have lots of fun! There is a £1 cost per child per day which can be paid on the day. Sign up via Eventbrite.

Sunday morning service at 11.00 - All welcome with groups for children - crèche for babies and toddlers. 'Toddlers' is on every Thursday (term times) morning from **9.30 - 11.15**. Parents and carers and their children are made to feel welcome for a time of play, refreshment and song.

The Cafe is open **10.00 - 12.00** every Friday during term time. Come along for a friendly welcome, delicious homemade scones and bacon rolls.

Drain Repair

Hurrah, the broken drain cover in Kirklands Park Crescent has finally been fixed!

KEG in Crisis

The remaining scheduled litter picks for the spring are on **8th April** at Path Brae and **13th May** at the Library car park starting at **10am**.

However, after a decade of weeding, bulb-planting and litter picking, Chairman Rob Brechin and Secretary David Batty need to take a well-earned break. Sadly, this means the group will have to close if new organisers cannot be found. Could you lead or help? If so, contact Kirky News or David at dsbatty@btinternet.com.

Meanwhile, a huge "thank you" is due to Rob and David whose efforts have made Kirkliston more attractive for residents and visitors alike.

Come on Board

The Kirky News AGM will be held at **7.00pm on Tues. 9th May** in the Community Centre. All are welcome. Interested? Come along and join the team.

Copy Deadline

for the Summer issue is **Friday 5th May**

