

Kirky News

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VIP VISIT

Santa says he has heard all the boys and girls in Kirkliston have been very good, so he's looking forward to visiting them this year. He's busy planning when he'll be coming round the village, and he'll let us all know before he arrives.

DEAR EDITOR,

What has gone wrong with the City of Edinburgh Council? I have been a ratepayer here for over fifty years and have never had to tolerate so much poor service and inefficiency from our local authority. I know money is tight, but my complaint is about the official incompetence, from long delays in maintenance work to missed deadlines, broken promises and a lack of urgency in several departments. At first this was put down to a major overhaul of CEC administration, but the problems persist. Our Community Council obviously feel the same frustration, as they invited the recently appointed Chief Executive of CEC, Mr Andrew Kerr, to their October meeting. There, he outlined the City's intentions for the future but was left in no doubt of the exasperation in Kirkliston at the lack of communication, let alone action, from the City Chambers. I hear that he has already responded, so more power to his elbow!

A cheesed-off Cheesetowner.

CHRISTMAS IN KIRKLISTON GROUP

The festive lights and decorations are now organised locally. The City Council cannot guarantee funding, but donated 20 lights. Christmas in Kirkliston has raised almost £14k towards the costs of decorations. It has bought 5 more decorations, and paid for extra connections on Path Brae. There should now be twenty five lighting units, the Christmas Tree at the Newliston and the Curtain of Light at the War Memorial. See Facebook for more details.

Thanks are due to all individuals who have contributed, and also the business sponsors: Edinburgh Airport, Almond Neighbourhood Partners, South Queensferry Rotary Club, Kirkliston Community Council, Mackie & Brechin, Masonic Lodge Kirkliston, Kirkliston Community Centre, Robert Bennie & Sons, Newliston Arms, Kirkliston Community Church, Specialized Signs, Four Ways.

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sun 17 Dec Family Carol Service at 15.00 and a Carol Service at 18.30.

Sun 24 Dec Joint Christmas Eve Service at Kirkliston Parish Church at 18.30.

Mon 25 Dec Christmas Day Service at 10.30.

PARISH CHURCH

Dec 15th (Fri) Tear-fund Concert 7.30pm

Dec 17th (Sun) Nativity Service 10.30am

Dec 19th (Tue) Service for the bereaved 7pm.

Dec 24th (Sun) Christmas Eve 10.30am
Family Service (both Churches together) 6.30pm

Watch Night Service 11.15pm

Dec 25th (Mon) Christmas Day Service 10.30am

NEW CARE HOME

To be opened 12th December at 28 Wellflats Road, this will offer a home for life for 5 adults with complex health needs in a secure, comfortable environment with many modern facilities. The development has also resurfaced Wellflats Road, which previously was badly damaged. To be managed by the family run organisation Redcroft Care Services, it is currently recruiting for experienced or aspiring Healthcare Assistants. Call **0131 441 1232** or e-mail your cv to redcroft@blueyonder.co.uk

A LITTLE LOCAL HELP

Whenever you need to buy a plastic bag in Tesco Queensferry before 1st January, you can vote in "Bags of Help" to decide which local charity will benefit. QCCC is very pleased to have been chosen as one of the charities for December. Their "Facilities for all Abilities" project aims to update the day care centre The Haven at South Queensferry. The other candidates, Blood Bikes Scotland and Community Centre refurbishment, are also worthy of your support.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Queensferry Photography Group are holding a silent auction to raise funds for Queensferry Care in the Community. Just go along to South Queensferry Library, by Dec 11th, and fill in a bid slip, or email FerryAuction@Outlook.com

RURAL

The 2017/18 Session of SWI (The Rural) is well under way. The Calendar Girls are to be in action again in West Lothian, the January Meal is already planned and, of course, Crafters are busy with entries for the West Lothian Show. To find out more, come along to the Community Centre on the second Tuesday of the month at 7p.m. - except January.

CONCERTS

The Rotary Club is holding their annual carol concert in the Parish Church on **Tuesday 12th December** at 7pm. Tickets are £2 for adults and children are free.

Queensferry Community Brass Band (which rehearses in our Bowling Club) and choir Ferry Blend are joining forces for a Christmas concert on **Sunday Dec 17th**, in Queensferry High School at 2pm. Tickets are £6, available on the door or from members, and primary school children are welcome free.

GALA 2018

The draw to choose the Queen and court will be held in mid January. The Gala Committee are also planning a special afternoon tea as part of the 90th year celebrations. Look out for more details in the new year.

VILLAGE HALL ASSOCIATION

The site in Manse Road has now changed hands and will be taken over by the Village Hall Association in the new year. They have already received a grant of £12,174 from the National Lottery which has enabled them to have the essential test bores done, and they will be back in touch with the Lottery around February. The project has also qualified for some help from the Aviva Community Fund.

COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

The Country Dance Club are unfortunately not holding a Hogmanay Ceilidh this year. Look out for next year's programme of events.

SOMETHING FOR THE YOUNG ...

The Kirkliston Coaching programme now offers (times depend on age and level) from age 5:

Wednesday - Gymnastics (from 4.15pm).

Thursday - Trampolining (from 4pm).

Saturday - Gymnastics (9am - 12 noon).

Please contact the Centre on

info.klc@edinburghleisure.co.uk or 0131 333 4700

... AND THE YOUNGEST

The Playgroup at Kirkliston Leisure Centre has spaces available Monday to Friday. Children can start any time after their 2nd birthday, but it's never too early to add your details to their waiting list! Please email them at kirklistonplaygroup@outlook.com or send a private message via their Facebook page.

ENJOY THE BEAT

The Kirky Samba Girls meet up in the Community Centre on Thursdays (during term time) from 7.30 till 9.00, and now have a new tutor. Throughout this year they have been fundraising for more kit, and are now looking forward to lots of gigs with their new drums, tambourines, shakers and go-bells etc. Following the success of their Quiz Night in September, they are holding an Afternoon Tea on **3rd February** from 3 pm to 5 pm in the Thomas Chalmers Church Centre, and would love to see you there. Tickets will be available at the Community Centre.

NOT JUST A CLOCK?

Next time you pass the Community Centre, look up! For many years the Glendinning Clock has watched generations of Kirkliston school children from the east gable of the village's old primary school on the Queensferry Road. It was erected in 1912, with funds gathered locally, in memory of Alex Glendinning, who died in an accident during a horse race at Oatridge. He was apparently very popular, had leading roles in almost all the local institutions of the time (including the Cricket Club!) and was also active in Scottish politics and national farming institutions. Various local streets are named after him or his farm, Newmains. So it's not "just a clock"!

WELCOME NEWS

The airport's Community Fund has just awarded a generous grant of £7000 to help with the renovation of the fire-damaged pavilion at Allison Park.

KEEP SAFE!

We all know that "Electricity can kill". Yet according to trade body SELECT, it seems there is a disturbing number of "Electricians" who are not properly trained and qualified, and who may leave invisible problems behind them. You should ask to see the qualifications of any tradesman you employ, and they should be happy to produce them as a mark of their professionalism.

MARKET SUCCESS

The annual KPSA Xmas market on **Sat 25 Nov** raised over £3000 for the school. Some of this will be contributing towards new toys and games to be used during "golden time" - all the pupils are excited while making their wish lists.

REUNITED

We seem to have lost contact with some potential helpers. Please do keep in touch.

TALK TO US

What interests you? What would you like to see in Kirky News? What's happening in your part of the village? Please tell us and we'll try to include it. Deadline for copy for the Spring 2018 edition is **11th March**.



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