

Kirky News

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SHOE BOX APPEAL

155 shoeboxes have been filled by members of the Parish Church with essential goods and sent via Blythwood Care as gifts for people who are poor or destitute in Eastern Europe and Asia. Lots of people in the village and further afield have supported the Kirk's effort to help over the last 16 years knowing that, for many, this will be the only gift they receive at Christmas. Thank you to all who helped in this magnificent effort.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY

Queensferry Care are planning a new service in Kirkliston by starting up a Lunch Club in early 2019 to provide an opportunity for older people to meet, catch up, have a bite to eat and spend time together. This service will be led by a staff member but 5 volunteers are needed as well so, if you have time to give and enjoy helping, please contact Lorna.russell@qccc.org.uk or Tel 0131 331 5570.

HOLISTIC THERAPY

Susan Watson, a Kirkliston resident, has recently been appointed to the board of directors of the Scottish Hypnotherapy Foundation. She has been offering free Mindfulness workshops to Brownies and Guides in Kirkliston and the surrounding areas and has opened a local Facebook page through which she can be contacted. Susan is currently supporting reducing bullying in schools and the workplace. Find Susan at: www.facebook.com/susanholistickirkliston or contact 07946381886 or perfect.solutions@counsellor.com

UPDATE ON FIRST BUS

An update was finally received by Councillor Lang, the chair of the recent public meeting with First Bus. Frankly, it failed to properly address some of the key issues which were raised by residents. For example, it was said that inspectors had been regularly monitoring the punctuality of services over the last few weeks but there was no information on what had been observed or concluded. Nor was there an adequate explanation for the problems which continue to prevent the correct information from appearing on the real time screens. Also there was no update on the possibility of added frequency given the overcrowding that was seen on certain services and there were no updates on the ticketing issues, including the differences between the cash option on the buses and the mobile app.

Councillor Lang does not consider the response to be good enough. He is going back with these and other questions and will update everyone as soon as he gets some proper answers.

SCOUTS

The Group has now submitted their planning application for approval in principle for the new hall and are hoping to receive a decision early in the new year.

SWI (RURAL)

The SWI (Rural) continue to meet in the Community Centre on the second Tuesday of each month but, because of new staffing arrangements, the Committee has been asked to vacate the Hall by 8.45 p.m. With this in mind, the meeting time has been brought forward to 6.30p.m. This will not suit all Members, but, following discussions with the Community Centre Committee, it appears to be the best solution on offer. If you cannot be there for 6.30, please come when you can and join the meeting. Any business missed will be passed on and you will still be in time to enjoy the speaker or demonstrator for the evening. To try to speed things up, it has also been decided that Members should bring their own cups/mugs. In December, Jess Smith will entertain with Travellers' Tales. The Competitions are a Mocktail, a Potholder (any craft) and Flower of the Month. In January, the belated Christmas Meal will be Lunch at Conifox. Make sure you have your name on the list!

GATESIDE

The new Gateside Hub has been completed on the inside and is looking great but, unfortunately, there are problems getting the drains completed and the Hub has been told it could take 6 months to fix. A picnic area with tables will be provided next summer.

KIRKY KRAFTERS

Kirky Crafters would like to say a big thank you to those who supported their craft sale this year. They raised the sum of £1900 which was donated to Kirkliston Parish Church. At the same event, Jenny Dinwoodie sold knitted poppies which raised £75 in donations for Poppy Scotland with a poppy drawing selling for £25 which went to Erskine Hospital.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

The next session of KSCC starts on **Tuesday 8th January** from **7.30pm - 9.30pm** in the Thomas Chalmers Centre and will continue on till 2nd April. As ever, anyone wishing to come along, either, because they are interested in country dancing, or even just to see what it is all about and have a go, will be made very welcome. On **Saturday 2nd March** the Spring Dance will be held from 7.30pm with Deirdre Adamson's Band providing the music. Tickets will not be available until next year but enquiries should be made to the secretary on **01506 854325**.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

As the number of children in the village continues to grow, the City of Edinburgh Council agreed at their last committee meeting to undertake a statutory consultation to seek the community's views on options for future primary school accommodation. This includes the option of accommodating early primary years alongside a new, bigger, school and nursery. The parent group (KPSA) and local councillors are closely engaged with the council on this and would encourage everyone to become involved when the consultation opens.

In October the primary school said goodbye to Deputy Head Teacher, Dorothy Fowler, who retired after 20 years of service. The children were all involved in providing a great send off, dressing up in country and western outfits with some, extra-special, prepared routines. It was a most enjoyable morning and the Primary wishes Dorothy all the very best in her new found leisure. A new Deputy Head has been recruited: Mr Jude Moyer, who is presently teaching at Gilmerton Primary School, is expected to start at Kirkliston in January.

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Kirkliston Community Church will welcome you along to their events and services over the Christmas period.

Sunday Services Two services are held on Sunday mornings at **9.30 and 11.30**. All are welcome and there is a Crèche as well as groups for children.

Sunday 16 December 11.00 Family Carol Service

Sunday 16 December 6.30 Carol Service free with tickets via Eventbrite. All are welcome.

Christmas Eve 6.30 Joint service at the Parish Church - Kirkliston Churches Together

Christmas Day 10.30 Come along to a short service celebrating Christmas Day.

ALLISON PARK

The saga of Allison Park (owned by Hopetoun Estates but leased by Edinburgh City Council) continues with the decision to demolish the fire damaged pavilion. Complaints by residents of all ages about vandalism and debris collecting in the park and adjacent areas are on the increase so the community wishes to know what the plans are for the park's future.

RUN FREE SECURE

A new service for dog owners is to be found north of the village on the Queensferry road. Run Free provides a safe and secure dog walking field where you can take your best friend to run free off the lead. Find out more at: run-freedogfields.co.uk

FRIENDS OF PIKES POOL PARK

A few years ago, Dean Schmid and his volunteers did sterling work to rescue the lovely woodland Pikes Pool for the village but it is now in need of further TLC so it is good to learn that a new group, Friends of Pikes Pool Park, has been formed to remedy this. FPPP are delighted that

access is now complete from the old Distillery site with a path and bridge across the burn ensuring a safe route into Pikes Pool Park. Many thanks are due to Edinburgh Council and Tesco for their support and to Kirkliston Community Council for providing the final funding needed to ensure the project could go ahead.

Their future plans are to see this unique, local asset improved, maintained and protected. If you would like to be involved contact friendsofpikespoolpark@gmail.com or Facebook: [@FriendsofPikesPoolPark](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofPikesPoolPark)

PARISH CHURCH

Sunday Services Two services at **10.15am** in the Church and **11.30am** in the Hall followed by lunch

Wednesday 12 December 12 noon 'Rejoice' Christmas Service for the young at heart in the Church Centre

Thursday 13 December 7pm - Commemoration service for those who have been bereaved

Sunday 16 December 11.30am Nativity (one service only) followed by coffee and bacon rolls

Tuesday 18 December 2.30pm. A Carol Service will be held at the Sheltered Housing, Kirklands Park Gardens

Thursday 20 December 9.15 & 10.30am

Primary School Christmas Services all parents welcome

Christmas Eve 6.30pm Kirkliston Churches Together

Christmas Eve 11.15pm - Watch-night service

Christmas Day 10.15am All age service - Bring a gift to show

30th December 10.15am - Thanksgiving for 2018

SEASON'S GREETINGS.

The Kirky News Committee wishes everyone a Happy Christmas and a Good New Year with a special thank you going to the 45 volunteers who deliver each issue to your door. We are truly grateful for their invaluable help.

DATE FOR COPY

Please submit all articles for the next issue by 1st March

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