

Kirky News

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SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

The Dance club restarted on 7th January and meets every Tuesday from now till **31st March, 7.30pm - 9.30pm** in the Thomas Chalmers Centre.

Tickets for the Spring Dance, which is scheduled for **Saturday 21st March** with dancing to Ewan Galloway's Band, are available on club nights.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Since 2005 when the school won Queensferry Rotary's first-ever school Quiz, Kirkliston Primary School has consistently done well. This year is no exception with the team of four winning last month's round and now moving forward to the Edinburgh area final to be held at the school on **2nd April**.

SANTA CARES

Carol Findlay, the PR and Fundraising Coordinator for Queensferry Churches' Care in the Community attended the recent meeting of the Community Council to be presented with a cheque for £850. This sum was raised through the collection taken on Santa's Christmas Eve visit to the village. A big thank you to all who helped raise this incredible amount.

QCCC

Volunteers are being sought to help out at Ratho Community Centre for the Live, Laugh, Lunch Club held on every third Thursday. No experience is required as training will be given and it is an opportunity to meet new people and support vital services for older people in the local community. Telephone Lorna on 0131 331 557 or contact lorna.russell@qccc.org.uk

DISCOVER THE CANAL

The Edinburgh & Glasgow Union Canal is a wonderful local feature meandering from Fountainbridge past the village, through Winchburgh, where a new marina is planned, to Linlithgow and the Manse Road Basin, the home of the Linlithgow Union Canal Society (LUCS), then on to the Wheel at Falkirk.

LUCS is a very friendly organisation run entirely by volunteers operating a variety of boats, some of which offer trips of varying durations while others are available for self-drive hire from an hour up to a full day.

There is a cosy tea room with a log burner stove and the only canal museum in Scotland.

Besides offering boat trips and refreshments, people are more than welcome to join as members or to help with crewing/maintenance of the boats and maintenance of the premises including areas of garden, hanging bas-

kets and planters. The tea room and museum are always looking for helpers too.

To learn more, go to www.lucs.org.uk or call in to the basin on any Wednesday or Saturday morning. Bring the kids, or even the dog with you, and one of the volunteers will be pleased to show you round.

COLOURS FOR WOMEN

Colours is a charity set up and directed by Debbie Stark from Kirkliston, a counsellor working with individuals and couples, helping them experience spiritual and emotional freedom.

On Saturday June 20, 2020 from 1.00-5.00pm, celebrate ten years of Colours with afternoon tea and a little bit more, to be held in the Community Church. For further information and tickets www.coloursforwomen.co.uk.

SWI (THE RURAL)

The Rural has had a busy year so far with preparations well ahead for the Federation Show at the end of March when it's hoped some trophies will be winging their way to Kirkliston.

Betty Hamilton will share her vast knowledge of the history of Kirkliston at April's meeting with that night's competitions being a Decorated Boiled Egg, a Chocolate Chip Cookie and Flower of the Month. The May meeting is the AGM, so there will be no competitions but, instead, surprise entertainment. This year the annual outing (to New Lanark) has been delayed until 26 May so get your name down before it is too late.

BEST FOOT FORWARD

Gayle Hoy is running in 3 marathons over 7 weeks, including the Edinburgh event on 24th May, to support Elliot, a local boy, who has Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. Follow and subscribe on Facebook at Gayle's 3 Marathon Challenge.

COMMUNITY CHURCH

The Community Church welcomes you to join in their events and services.

Two services are held on **Sunday mornings at 9.30 and 11.30** with crèche and children's groups.

Saturday 21 March Big Breakfast - 09.30. Free breakfast (though donations welcomed). Sign up at www.kirklistoncc.com or Big Breakfast on Eventbrite. **Mon 6 April - Fri 10 April Easter Holiday Club from 10-12.00.** Sign up at Eventbrite for fun, games, crafts & Bible stories. £1 per child per day (£2 max per family).

Easter Sunday: Craigies Farm 06.15am for Easter Sunrise with Kirkliston Parish Church.

Easter Sunday Family Service 10.30 at 70 Main Street.

M.D. BAKE OFF

Kirkliston's Great Scottish Bake-Off Coffee Morning in aid of Muscular Dystrophy UK, supporting a local family, took place on Sat 7th March in the Parish Church Centre. Local bakers responded to the challenge with cakes showcasing Koalas, Turtles and S'mores plus Somewhere Over the Rainbow, Pokemon Party and Geode. The judges had an immensely difficult decision but, with cakes tasted, the winners were announced.

Adult Class:

1st Jude Stevens, 2nd Louise Young, 3rd Sara Barrie

Juniors:

1st Jessica Alton, 2nd Oliver Mackay, 3rd Mara Smyth

An amazing £1475 was raised for the charity so a big thank you to the village for its support.

PIKE'S POOL

How many Kirkliston residents know about or have been recently to our local park to see the sculptures and brass rubbings that Friends of Pikes Pool have had placed there. Indeed, the sculptures are amazing and well worth the trek. Set against the natural beauty of the park area with its grass, trees, pool and stream how lucky we are to have such a treasure on our doorstep.

PUT OUT TO GRASS

On 1st March a presentation was made to Rob Brechin on his retiral after 18 years as Church Treasurer. Rob, the retired vet, has served in many roles in the village over the years, and remains our editor.

FARMING

Gus Seed, our local farming correspondent, writes

'Hopefully Spring will bring a change to the weather for, since the 23rd of September, farming has experienced such a continuous, prolonged period of wet weather that, as a result, autumn planting was so difficult that there has been a shortfall in winter crops sown. Because of this you will see lots of fields in the local area being planted in the next two months with either spring malting barley for the whisky industry or spring oats for porridge. Spring, too, is a time when farmers begin feeding their winter crops of wheat and oilseed rape with nutrients to get them to green up and begin moving through their growth cycles. You will notice our big red sprayers and fertiliser spreaders putting on various liquid and solid fertilisers. These are safe products, similar to those you would feed to your garden plants, just on a bigger scale. Now that Brexit has been confirmed and we are leaving the EU, farmers ask for your support by buying British produce in the supermarkets. In Britain, farmers produce food to some of the highest standards in the world, driven by what the British consumer wants. To avoid selling our environmental standards down the river by importing low welfare, low standard, GM, non-traceable food, please BACK BRITISH FARMING!'

CONGRATULATIONS

In our last issue we featured Dalmeny Cars' entry for the Scottish Taxi, Private Hire and Chauffeur Awards. They have just won the award for Small Company for Scotland 2020. Well done and thanks for all your support.

PARISH CHURCH

Easter services

Sunday 5 April Palm Sunday **10.15am** in the Church and **11.30am** for Sunday Connections in the Centre

Thursday 9 April 7.00pm Maundy Thursday Service

Friday 10 April 12 noon Good Friday Meditations

Friday 10 April 7.00pm Good Friday Service

Sunday 12 April 6.15am Sunrise Service at Craigies

Sunday 12 April 11.00am Easter Family Service

CAN YOU HELP?

The Parish Church has been in Kirkliston since the 12th Century supporting the community through many turbulent times including two World Wars. It is the focal point in the village and provides a welcome home beacon for the many air travellers flying in to Edinburgh Airport. This year KPC is facing significant repair bills for its buildings, the Manse, the much-used Thomas Chalmers Centre and the Church itself including restoration and preservation of the oldest part of the building, the Norman Arch. Fundraising activities kick off with an abseil from the Forth Road Bridge on **10th May**. Volunteers are still needed to join the team. If jumping from high structures is not your thing, can you support the team at www.justgiving.com/kirklistonpc or be a 'Friend of Kirkliston Parish Church' with a one-off donation?

THE KIRKY NEWS AGM

This will be held in the Community Centre on the **19th May at 7.00pm**. All are welcome to join in.



Menu includes salads of the week, fresh fish and chips, traditional pub grub and delicious puddings.

For anyone needing or offering help in the crisis, there is a new Facebook Group:

Search for "Kirkliston - Local help during COVID-19"

Or go direct to www.facebook.com/groups/211918693222004/