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Autumn 2016

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Welcome!

HELLO and welcome to the first edition of Bearsden and Milngavie Connect.

Brought to you by the Herald and Times Magazine Group, this small but mighty magazine aims to celebrate the best the area has to offer. Packed with feel good news and features, Connect prides itself on being a champion of the best things that happen in our community.

From local success stories to news of fundraising events, there is something for everyone to enjoy. However, we wouldn't be able to do it without you and want you to be as involved as possible. If you have a tale to tell, an event to share or simply want to tell us what you think of the magazine, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Interested in advertising?

Hand delivered through letter boxes, Connect is the ideal platform to reach families in the heart of our community.

Our sales team is on hand to offer bespoke multi-media support to help you tell our readers what you do best.

And what's more, they're also happy to help with competitive advertising rates in our sister Connect titles – offering you the chance to reach people across the country.

Now all that remains to be said is we hope you enjoy this offering and we look forward to working on the next

Happy reading, Team Connect



Fundraisers swing into action for St Margaret's Hospice. Turn to page 14 for more

Contacts

Editorial

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A celebration of success



*Bearsden Academy students were pleased to attend the event.
Image from East Dunbartonshire Council.*

YOUNGSTERS from across Bearsden and Milngavie were recognised at the council's annual Celebration of Achievements Awards.

More than 130 talented pupils from East Dunbartonshire's eight secondary schools, as well as Campsie View School and Merkland School, were put in the spotlight for the ceremony in Boclair Academy which was held to shine a light on young people's achievements.

Hundreds of guests attended the inspirational event to mark the achievements of young scholars.

Pupils' achievements spanned more than 20 sports including rowing, skiing, netball, karate, taekwondo, golf, table tennis and football, a range of outdoor

activities such as climbing and orienteering as well as debating, cooking, music, dancing, singing, acting, charity and community work.

The annual Celebration of Achievements Awards Ceremony is organised by the council's Education Service.

Councillor Maureen Henry, Education Committee Convener believes that this type of event is significant for everyone involved.

She said: "Recognising achievement and rewarding hard work is crucial to young people's development and this event is a wonderful way of doing both those things.

"We have many young people in our schools whose achievements deserve to be

celebrated and by running this event we give their families and friends an opportunity to share in their success and pay tribute to their efforts.

"Once more the list of achievements is simply amazing. Hours of practice and training have helped these young people become prolific in their chosen field; be it sport, the arts, music or dance. They all deserve applause with a special mention to those who are involved in volunteering and fundraising for charities.

"Well done to everyone who received an award tonight. I wish them every success in the future with whatever activities they pursue out with their school lives."



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—
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MILNGAVIE, G62 8NP
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Wednesday 9 November
9.30am - 11.30am



Our Nurseries at Kelvinbridge and Milngavie take children from the age of 3.
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www.theglasgowacademy.org.uk

Bearsden & Milngavie Connect

A little help getting into THE FESTIVE SPIRIT

WHETHER you'd like to admit it or not, the (extended) Christmas countdown has begun.

But before we despair that the festive season is upon us again already, why not get excited about the upcoming Christmas-themed activities soon to be taking place?

One to take note of in the diary, this year's Mugdock Country Park Christmas Fayre and Light Switch on will be taking place on Friday 25 November from 5pm, with the courtyard lights turning on at 6pm.

Embrace your festive spirit and enjoy a night filled with Christmas treats at Mugdock Country Park. Whether you're seeking some traditional shopping to get ahead with your gift buying or you're looking to relax with family and friends, head along to this Christmas evening for an unmissable night.

An event for all ages, visitors will find Santa's Grotto, carol singing, face-painting, arts and crafts and much more. No booking is required with organisers advising to simply turn up.



You Can Help Them This Winter

The **RSPB** is asking people to top up their bird feeders and provide fresh water and shelter for wildlife in their gardens during the frosty weather.

The temperature is expected to plummet over the next few weeks with ice and snow spreading across the country, and birds that have benefitted from a mild autumn will begin to struggle as the weather changes. Our 20KG bags of wild bird seed mix contains black and striped sunflower seeds, sunflower hearts, husk-free oats, kibbled maize and wheat and it's especially appealing to robins, finches, house sparrows and blackbirds plus all those capable of using feeders.

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A NEW controlled pedestrian crossing to serve the Bearsden Community Hub is set to be installed on Drymen Road.

Work is well underway to construct the £3m Community Hub, which is based on a reconfiguration of the Burgh Hall site on Drymen Road.

An independent transport engineering consultancy was appointed to consider a range of crossing types and locations around the site of the Hub. Following the recent decision

by the Council's Development and Regeneration Committee, a new Puffin Crossing is to be installed on Drymen Road north of Kirk Road to serve the new facility, which is due to open in early 2017.

Councillor Alan Moir, Convener of Development and Regeneration, said, "I was pleased that the committee was presented with the opportunity to consider the independent feasibility study.

"The safety of pedestrians and motorists is of paramount

importance and we know that this can be quite a busy road to cross. The installation of a new Puffin Crossing is excellent news for the local community as it will provide a safe place for pedestrians to cross to access the new Community Hub, which is sure to be very well-used when it opens next year.

"Puffin Crossings are 'smarter' than the old style Pelican Crossings and make it easier and safer to cross roads without causing unnecessary delays to traffic in the area."



The Kip McGrath Education Centre Bearsden/Milngavie is based in the Milngavie Enterprise Centre in Ellangowan Court Here our team of qualified teachers caters for students from Early Primary through to N5 and Higher in both English and Maths.



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Parent review

My son has been attending here for just over a year. He's grown in confidence with his school work and is really enjoying it. He says it helps him tremendously. He feels more able to put up his hand in class and answer questions because he knows the answers - this is all down to attending one session per week at Kip. Just the other night he was saying he hoped I would never take him out. He doesn't need to worry there because he'll be going right through until he finishes his schooling. I really can't be more thankful that I found out about Kip McGrath for my son. I can't recommend it enough!
Michelle Berwick

To book a **FREE** assessment or for further information call: **0141 955 2141** or **07341 274325** or email bearsdenmilngavie@kip-mcgrath.com

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LOCAL artists and craftspeople have the chance to showcase their work by applying for a stall holder spot at the monthly Milngavie Makers Market.

Set up earlier this year by American artist, Jessica Stafford Cameron, the market provides a spot to showcase the wealth of talent in the area. Held in Milngavie Town Hall, there are three upcoming markets taking place before the end of the year,

offering the perfect opportunity to buy quirky Christmas gifts.

A chance for shoppers to support local makers whilst finding individual gifts, the next market will take place on Saturday 5 November from 11am-4pm. The following one will take place on Saturday 3 December, and again on Saturday 17 December.

Selling everything from art, crafts, fashion, soap and other items from local makers, over 30 stalls means buyers will be spoilt

for choice.

With the Town Hall lying across the street from Milngavie train station, its ideal for locals and visitors from further afield.

Those wishing to apply to be a stall holder can email milngaviemakersmarket@gmail.com with examples of work. Submissions will be reviewed and a selection will be made to from a range of diverse and high quality products.

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Tee-mendous time for all at charity golf tournament



Hospice' supporters swung into action

SUPPORTERS from Bearsden, Milngavie and the surrounding areas swung into action for St Margaret of Scotland Hospice earlier this summer at the first ever Open Golf Competition.

More than 30 teams, made up of 120 participants, took part in the fundraising event with some players travelling from far away as Crieff, Aberdeen and Bristol to Clobber Golf Club in August.

Organisers said there was a spirit of friendly competition to the Texas Scramble tournament, which was followed by a raffle and silent auction, including prizes of golf lessons, fourballs at various clubs, a meal for four at Bi Bi's in Partick, rounds at high-class venues including Trump Turnberry in Ayrshire and Archerfield Links in North Berwick, East Lothian (worth well in excess of £500).

A hospice spokesman said: "We'd like to thank all the golfers who came from far and wide.

"Many thanks, too, to Clobber Golf Club for their hospitality, the condition of the course and the generosity of the members.

"We are also grateful for the support we received from the local and wider business community.

"Despite the trying conditions, it was just a fantastic day. We are delighted to say the club have agreed that this is now going to become an annual event."

For more details visit www.smh.org.uk.

Bearsden & Milngavie Connect

CALLING ALL WRITERS

AS we launch our first edition of Bearsden and Milngavie Connect, we're on the hunt for local people keen to contribute.

If you live locally and have something you think other readers would find interesting, then we want to hear from you. Perhaps you're part of a community organisation and are eager to spread the good work of the group, or maybe you volunteer and think others might want to get involved too.

It could be that you think an issue within the community needs a spotlight, or want to show off a talent. Whatever you'd like to write about, we encourage anyone to get in touch.

No previous experience is required and we welcome suggestions. Bearsden and Milngavie Connect will be published approximately every three/ four months.

To get in touch email

nicola.brown@newsquest.co.uk

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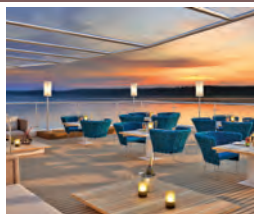
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Bearsden & Milngavie Connect

ADVERTISING FEATURE



East Dunbartonshire Libraries

East Dunbartonshire Libraries are launching a new Children's and Families' programme this autumn, so there's never been a better time to check out what they have to offer.

For Early Years there are more Bookbug sessions for babies and toddlers, with a greater choice of days and times. With the Bookbug Library Challenge a great way to encourage sharing stories from birth, a new 'Bookbug Borrowers Club' will also start soon.

Story Stars sessions – which include songs, rhymes and drama games focussing on one wonderful story – are for families with pre-school children, and now running weekly. A brand new Sensory

Stars session for parents and their 0-13 month-old babies is being introduced – come along for some chilled out sensory play and to meet other Mums, Dads and grandparents.

For children starting school, Read Write Count is a national campaign aimed at P1-P3 aged children, which is all about helping children's literacy and numeracy skills at home, in a fun and easy way. To give you more ideas, we are offering Family Shine Sessions on a Saturday afternoon, which have stories, Lego and Minecraft to 'help them shine'.

For children interested in gaming and coding, East Dunbartonshire Libraries are also offering new

Minecraft and Code Clubs. Children aged 8 and over can bring along their Minecraft-loaded device to meet other builders and share hacks, while Coders aged 9-11 who want to learn more about Scratch, HTML, and Python now have their very own Club. But books and reading haven't been left on the shelf – we are still offering monthly Chatterbooks sessions, for children who love books, games ...and chatting!

For more information and how to book, go to: http://www.edlc.co.uk/libraries/library_services/children_families or get a What's On guide from your local library.

EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE CULTURAL SERVICES


Try something new this autumn!

- Visit an exhibition – the Lillie Art Gallery has year round displays
- Express yourself – our new arts development programme is underway
- Learn with your library – find out more about your tablet or iPad
- Explore our range of library activities for children and author events for adult audiences
- Get digital – check out our free eBooks, eAudiobooks, eZines and now comics too

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All aboard the community transport bus



Pictured from left are Councillor Alan Moir, EDCT project officer Michelle Synadinos, CTG Operations Manager Isabel Stringer and driver Jim Gallagher.

OLDER people in Bearsden and Milngavie are being invited to take advantage of a handy community bus service.

The transport initiative will take passengers from their front step to the top of the shops, organised by East Dunbartonshire Community Transport (EDCT) who arrange trips every week for the over 60s to local shops and beyond.

All minibuses are fully accessible and can collect people from their own home - ideal for those finding it difficult to use public transport. Carers are also welcome along.

The bus services run on a Tuesday and Thursday to local supermarkets and cost £5 for a return trip.

On a Friday, there are trips to shopping centres and towns

further away. To register or find out more, call 0845 605 5955.

In addition, EDCT offer low-cost, accessible minibuses available for hire to non-profit making groups. It is funded by Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT), with support from East Dunbartonshire Council.

Over-60s shopping trips run every Tuesday from your door to Tesco, Waitrose or Dobbies Garden Centre in Milngavie for £5.

Councillor Alan Moir, Convener of Development and Regeneration, said, "I would encourage people to use these great transport services at the heart of their communities.

"EDCT can pick you up at your home and take you to and from the shops - you can also take along a carer if needed.

"It's a fantastic service and I would urge as many people and groups as possible to find out more. EDCT provides a range of valuable transport services in East Dunbartonshire - helping to keep non-profit community and voluntary groups moving.

"As an authority we are delighted to support EDCT and hope as many people as possible benefit as a result. Ensuring people have opportunities to get out and about - reducing isolation, improving inclusion and also helping the local economy - are all priorities."

For more information on services provided by EDCT call 0845 605 5955, e-mail booking@ctglasgow.org.uk or visit www.ctglasgow.org.uk



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For the very best advice
on the Bearsden property
market, speak to your local
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We are pleased to report that the residential property market continues apace within the popular districts of Glasgow, particularly Bearsden and Milngavie, following the UK's Brexit vote. Indeed statistics compiled by Dr John Boyle, Head of Research at Rettie & Co., show that there is in fact a significant imbalance of demand over supply, especially amongst properties up to £400,000 in value.

For an up to date appraisal of your property, without obligation, please contact Rettie Bearsden LLP on 0141 943 3150.



Jonathan Riley
Managing Partner



James Durward
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Bearsden & Milngavie Connect

Animal lovers urged to be aware of where to find help



BEARSDEN and Milngavie residents concerned about animal welfare in their community are being urged to make sure they call the correct number for help.

The call comes as the Scottish SPCA (SSPCA) has released research which reveals 31 per cent of Scots are calling the wrong animal helpline.

A recent study has shown that although 69 per cent of people would call Scotland's animal welfare charity if they discovered an injured or distressed animal, 25 per cent of people would contact the RSPCA and 6 per cent per cent would contact other

organisations.

Chief superintendent Mike Flynn said, "Although awareness of our helpline has increased by an incredible 283 per cent since 2009, and last year we received an incredible 240,000 calls, it is concerning that some people would contact the wrong organisation if they come across an injured or distressed animal."

He continued: "You should call our helpline if an animal is in danger or distress or if you need animal welfare advice.

"If someone calls the wrong telephone number it will delay rescues and could cause animals more suffering.

"By making our animal helpline your immediate point of contact for any animals in distress it will help us save more lives.

"All calls to our animal helpline are in strict confidence and can be made anonymously if necessary."

Figures also reveal that in 2015 inspectors and animal rescue officers were able to help over 80,000 animals thanks to the people who contact the SSPCA with concerns about animals in distress.

Anyone with information about an injured or distressed animal should contact our animal helpline on 03000 999 999.



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Bearsden & Milngavie Connect

What's on

Now that the chillier weather has kicked in and crunchy leaves scatter the pavement, thoughts turn to how best to enjoy the autumn season.

From a folk night to family library event, there's lots happening in the local area to keep all ages entertained. So grab your diaries and prepare to jot down some important dates, as we've rounded up some of the best upcoming events.

EVENT: Quiz Night

Date: Every Monday

Location: The Station pub, Bearsden

Time: 9pm

Cost: Free

What's on: Test your general knowledge and unwind after a long day with this weekly interactive quiz. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and last place, plus there's a chance to win the rollover jackpot.

EVENT: Open Evening

Date: Sunday, Wednesday 2 November

Location: The Music School of Douglas Academy, Milngavie

Time: 7pm

Cost: Free

What's on: Children with a passion for music should head along to the Open Evening at the Music School of Douglas Academy in Milngavie. For further information, contact 0141 955 2365.

EVENT: Chris Wood

Date: Saturday 19 November

Location: Milngavie Folk Club

Time: 7.30-10.30pm

Cost: Free

Chris Wood will be bringing his fiddle playing, guitar strumming and singing/song writing to Milngavie. An uncompromising writer whose music reveals his love for the unofficial history of the English speaking people. With gentle intelligence he weaves the tradition with his own contemporary parables.

EVENT: Ann Cleeves reading

Date: Wednesday 23 November

Location: Milngavie Library

Time: 7-8.30pm

Cost: £4

What's on: Ann is making a welcome return visit to East Dunbartonshire. Author of the TV series "Vera" and "Shetland", she will let the audience into the world of adapting the written word for the small screen and explain how she researches the procedures for her novels. Online booking is advised.

EVENT: Family "shine" Bookbug sessions

Date: Saturday 26 November

Location: Milngavie Library

Time: 2-2.45pm

Cost: £1.50 per family

What's on: A new session aimed at making children happier and more confident, and to 'help them shine'. Find Lego vs. Minecraft fun for children aged 4 – 8 years and their families.



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Bearsden residents to give it their best shot at new club

A NEW badminton club is set to swing into action in Bearsden.

Ahead of next year's TOTAL BWF World Championships in Scotland, BADMINTON Scotland will launch a series of new junior and adult badminton clubs.

The Community Participation Club (CPC) initiative aims to provide opportunities to play club badminton regardless of age or ability and will form a key part of the World Championships legacy strategy.

And the first is set to get underway at Allander Leisure Centre in partnership with East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture

Trust (EDLC).

Anne Smillie, chief executive of BADMINTON Scotland, said: "This is a really exciting time for badminton in Scotland with only a year to go until the World Championships but just as important as the event itself is the legacy it will leave.

"We hope to use the World Championships as a vehicle to inspire as many people as possible across Scotland to join a local badminton club and I'm delighted to be able to launch the first of our Community Participation Clubs at the Allander Leisure Centre.

"East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture have been very

receptive to the Community Participation Club initiative and we appreciate the support they have provided in aiming to grow and develop badminton within the community".

Councillor Anne Jarvis, chair of EDLC Trust, added: "This is great news and a terrific sporting chance for everyone to pick up a racket and get involved in badminton.

Anyone interested in getting involved with the club at the Allander Centre should contact John Farr on 0141 578 8437. Alternatively, they can e-mail John.Farr@eastdunbarton.gov.uk.



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Bearsden & Milngavie Connect



Are you aged between 14 and 25 years of age and interested in making a difference to your local community and representing your peers on a national level?

If so, standing for the upcoming Scottish Youth Parliament elections may be the opportunity you are looking for.

The Scottish Youth Parliament elections are held every two years and will next be held in March 2017. Nominations officially opened on 19 August 2016 and the deadline for the return of Expression of Interest Forms to the Scottish Youth Parliament team

is 31 October 2016.

Council Leader Rhondda Geekie is encouraging young people in East Dunbartonshire to get involved. She said: "The Scottish Youth Parliament was established in 1999 and since then it has given young people a voice to campaign decision makers to effect change.

"It is an excellent opportunity for young people to become involved in a variety of exciting and educational activities and I would encourage anyone who is passionate about making a difference in their community to put themselves forward for this

fantastic experience."

"Recently, the Scottish Youth Parliament has been campaigning to raise awareness of children and young people's mental health. Built on the success of the Votes at 16 campaign, and campaigned for 16 and 17 year olds to have the vote in all elections and referenda in the UK."

To register an interest in participating as a candidate or to find out more about the Scottish Youth Parliament visit www.syp.org.uk. All registrations must be completed online by 5pm on Monday 31 October 2016.

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Milngavie Fraser Centre – 10am-12pm

Address: Douglas Street, G62 6PA

TUESDAY

Milngavie Fraser Centre – 10am – 12pm

Address: Douglas Street, G62 6PA

WEDNESDAY

Milngavie Fraser Centre – 10am-12pm

Address: Douglas Street, G62 6PA

Milngavie Clinic – 1pm-3:00pm

Address: North Campbell Avenue, G62 7AA

THURSDAY

Milngavie Community Centre & Library – 10am-12pm

Address: Allander Road G62 6PA

FRIDAY

Milngavie Fraser Centre – 10am-12pm

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